



## THE COCKTAIL CLASS WOODEN BOAT RACING ASSOCIATION

### Executive Team Meeting Minutes August 26, 2025 7:15 pm

**Attendance:** Tara Carew, Commodore; Jeff Weeber, Treasurer; Lena Cantera, Secretary; Fred Allerton, Past Commodore; Tom Kerr, Safety Committee; Lou Linden, Marketing; Jim Schmicker, Board Member & Mystic RD; Art Gilbert, Board Member & Tides Inn RD; Al Barnes

**July Meeting Minutes:** Fred Motion to Approve, Lena 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved

**Treasurer Report:** Jeff Weeber

- \$7,506.06 in PayPal
- \$4,971.88 in Wells Fargo
- Liability insurance has been renewed with an increase of \$249
- IRS request information for member and non-member transactions and contributions for years 2022-2024 with a September 11<sup>th</sup> deadline. Committee agreed that actual revenue numbers should be sent in the future rather than budget figures

**2025 Race Recap:**

- Mystic Race: Jim Schmicker
  - Eleven boats and thirteen drivers were registered
  - Five engine classes overall
  - \$790 in expenses and \$790 collected
  - Pros: Protected and ample course area, venue access
  - Cons: Exhibitor viewing not good, lack of local boat participation, start location
  - Discussion on donating to Mystic Seaport development fund as a gesture of goodwill for hosting the event Committee discussed sending \$200-\$300 but will wait until Nationals financial figures have been submitted before making decision
- Nationals:
  - Nineteen racers registered
  - Weather was optimal for racing

- Awards ceremony was a success
- Round Robin format was experimented with at the end of the day. Challenges were met with scoring calculations and the complexity of scheduling and coordinating racers. Further discussion regarding whether this format should be in the future
- **TK Walker Memorial Tennessee Cup**
  - Race was cancelled due to lack of attendance
  - 4 known racers are no longer racing
  - There will still be a get together for anyone interested

### **Upcoming Events:**

- Small Craft Festival, St. Michaels Maritime Museum Oct 4-5: Al Barnes
  - Non-commercial sailing and rowing event
  - Limited vendor presence
  - Weekend Pass \$105
  - Al to send email with more details including logistics for boat participation, social activities, and Saturday night dinner
  - Anyone interested should register individually and encouraged to bring their own boat
- Sultana Downrigging Weekend, Chestertown, MD, October 30-November 1: Tom Kerr
  - Anyone who is interested in participating is welcome
  - Event is always well attended
- Tides Inn, Carter's Creek, Irvington, VA Oct 18<sup>th</sup>: Art Gilbert
  - Demo Race to be held with one motor class and potential of 6 racers
  - Confirmed racers – Art, Curt, Lou and Jack, Potential racers – Fred, Tara, Al
  - Fred to check with local Urbanna racers to see of potential participation
  - Discussion on whether a demo race would require permits or insurance (Jeff noting that insurance may not cover unsanctioned races)
  - Employee Parking Area will be available for trailer parking
  - Venue will supply support for moving and transporting boats and gear to staging area

## Old Business:

- **Bylaws:** Tom Kerr
  - Sent to law firm waiting on a date
- **Boats and Trailer Donation:** Fred Allerton
  - Trailer has been serviced
  - Existing documents (titles, registration cards, etc.) are being gathered. Fred is coordinating with Fred Bluefeld for a visit to a registration transfer agency.
  - Insurance company is requiring coverage for liability
  - Peter will be keeping the boats and trailer until further notice
  - Discussion still ongoing regarding best use for boats and trailer
- **New Treasurer Turnover**
  - Jim Schmicker has volunteered to take over Jeff Weeber's role as Treasurer
  - Ongoing conversation between the two regarding responsibilities and duties
- **Perpetual Awards:** Al Barnes and Tara Carew
  - Perpetual Regional and National awards were awarded at Nationals 2025
  - All awards and trophies were made and donated by Al
  - Agreement among the committee to continue the awards program in 2026
  - Execs to decide and vote on reinstating Sportsmanship Trophy
  - Tara reported while at Rock Hall she came across transom plaques from past National races that have not been updated in several years. She expressed creating or updating the existing plaques
  - Tara also brought up the disappearance of two significant silver trophies with Race Boats to top. She will touch base with Todd to see if he knows their whereabouts
  - Suggestion to create a list of perpetual trophies in order to track them better

## New Business:

- **Saranac Lake Race, Saranac Lake, NY:** Fred Allerton
  - Potential location for new race proposed by two local enthusiasts
  - Their interests, build boats, host a race and set up a boat shop in a downtown storefront where people can see Cocktail Class racers being built

- Suggestion to hold a demo race in September 2026, further discussion will be needed to coordinate with our race schedule
  
- **Lehigh Race**
  - Decision was made by the RD's for Lehigh to cancel the race in 2026 due to low attendance and logistical challenges
  - Over ten years seven to eight races have been run
  - There has been positive media coverage for past races
- **Website Overhaul and Planning Meeting**
  - Current website created in 2013
  - Committee agreed that the site needs modernization and simplification
  - Meeting to be set up and attended by Tara, Rick, Lena, and Connie (web-developer) to discuss our goals and how to achieve them.
  - Group agreed that addressing these issues now before the next race season is critical
  - Consideration will be needed in budget implications
- **Committee Retreat**
  - Plan for a retreat was discussed to consider topics such as race schedules, THH content creation, and website
  - Date of retreat will be determined
- **Marketing:** Lou Linden
  - Challenges in getting and creating content for THH
  - Possible source for content CLC

Meeting Adjourned 9:30pm

Next Meeting September 16, 2025