**January 10, 2015**

**BYRA Annual Meeting 2015**

**At Contentment Island**

Current membership is 51

Active members present: 18

Meeting was called to order:

Quorum – Twenty-five percent of the membership in good standing shall constitute a quorum. There was a quorum of members present as required by the By-laws (at least 13) to conduct business.

Steve Nash was welcomed as a new member.

**Minutes:** Motion made, seconded and voted unanimously by the membership to approve the minutes from 2014 without discussion.

**Reports by Officers:**

1. Commodore: Glenn Cliborne

He appreciates the efforts of those who helped in any capacity this year.

* The banquet was a great success. Please come this fall.

1. Treasurer’s Report: Bob Toone
* We were able to put @$2700 into reserves from both regattas.
* Goal is to increase membership to 59 members.
* Looking at buying beverages on sale or in bulk. Donations for snacks welcome.
* Looking to control expenditures on trophies, banquets.
* We may have a raffle in conjunction with Spring Regatta.
* We will have an entry fee for night race $10-$15 and pub race $10.
* John suggested a yard sale. We have discussed that option in previous board meetings. We can entertain that idea if someone would like to champion that idea.
* Bob suggested a 50/50 raffle routinely offered at races.
1. Fleet Captain’s Report: Mike Maloney
* Issued new handicaps, schedule, remaining awards from the Fall Banquet
* 2 changes to handicaps: Miss Virginia and Alarming
* Catalina 25 will compete in Fleet 4 – further discussion to come
* Both Harbor 20’s will be in Fleet 2 in 2015
* Schedule lists not only races but who is responsible for snacks and race committees.
* One more boat will be added to race committee with Jim Hull in order to have enough people
* Race courses may change for Fleet 3 and 4.
* We may start races later in the day.
* We will try to work with Visa on scheduling races.
* BYRA members are invited to participate In Frostbite or Spring series for @$80.
* Quantum Sails will run a clinic during the Lightning Moonshine Regatta at VISA. All BYRA members are invited free of charge.
1. Rear Commodore’s Report: Carl Perdue
* none
1. Secretary’s Report: Jim Schaible
* Facebook page – please send suggestions for posts to BYRA secretary Scot Podosek.

“Like” the page so that you will see BYRA updates in your newsfeed.

* Update your email address. Notify the BYRA secretary at scotpodosek@verizon.net and membership chairman Pete Phillip at phillip3511@aol.com with changes in personal contact information.
1. Member at Large Report: Scot Podosek

none

1. Past Commodore’s Report : Warren Theis

none

1. Quartermaster Report: Chuck Tunnell
* A label was added to the chase boat to remind passengers to wear life jackets and be tethered during operation of the chase boat.
* Updated the membership on condition of boats and needed repairs.

**Old Business:**

We are guests of Pelican Point. Please leave the facility as good or better than you find it. Drive slowly through the parking lot.

**Election of Officers:**

We encourage members to consider a board position for 2016.

Proposed slate of officers

Commodore: Pete Phillip

Vice Commodore: Chuck Tunnell

Secretary: Scot Podosek

Fleet Captain: Mike Maloney

Past Commodore: Glenn Cliborne

Quartermaster: Warren Theis (with the provision that Seth Oginz will unload and load the chase boat to assist the Quartermaster)

Treasurer: Bob Toone

Rear Commodore: Jim Schaible

Member at Large: Jim Evans

The slate was elected as proposed with no opposition.

**Non-Board Positions:**

Membership Chair: Pete Phillip

Web Master: Paul Triska

Sponsor hunter: Warren Theis

**Changing of the flags:**

2014 officers transfered flags to the new 2015 officers.

A plaque was presented to Glenn Cliborne as past commodore.

A photo was taken of the new officers for submission to the newspapers.

**New Business:**

1. Sailing Instructions Amendment:

PARAGRAPH 3C in BYRA Sailing Instructions:

CURRENT WORDING

Race Begins: Hoisting the class flag is the beginning of the fleet’s race. Race Committee cannot change the race course after hoisting the class flag except under paragraph H below.

PROPOSED WORDING

“Race Begins: A boat is racing from her preparatory signal until she finishes and clears the finishing line and marks, or retires, or until the Race Committee signals a general recall, postponement, or abandonment. Race Committee cannot change the race course after hoisting the class flag except under paragraph G below.”

Sentence 1 of the proposed wording comes directly from “Definitions” in the US Sailing Rules of Racing.

In Sentence 2, the reference should be to paragraph G, and not H as currently published.

Changes to racing instructions: passed with no opposition.

Engines must be turned off when preparatory signal goes up.

Clarification of Clearing the Finish line: Once over the finish line your vessel must be out of the way of any vessel still racing.

1. Fall Regatta Discussion
	1. We have been having difficulty getting skippers to commit to sailing in our regattas and a lot of signups happen on the last few days. As a club, do we want to continue to have two regattas a year?
	2. If yes, should we consider the following changes?
		1. Suggest we consider a late registration fee and we limit the number of trophies to the number of boats signed up 10 days before the regatta.
		2. Would we prefer a covered dish dinner instead of having it catered?

Discussion: We now have to call everyone in the club to find out if they are coming. It is difficult to plan for dinners and trophies. Dinner and entry fees taken in were less than expenditures, but some of the sponsor fee was used to make up the shortfall.

Seth: Club members need to do more promotion. There was agreement that is promotes the sport and the club.

John Short: Could we cut banquet or do a pot luck? Perhaps do a banquet in summer?

Pete asked who will commit to be in Spring and Fall Regatta-everyone in attendance committed. Glenn: Give us your best count as soon as possible.

Bob: This is largely a social club. We do not want to lose that aspect.

Mike: It may be a good idea to offer t-shirts only to those who sign up by two weeks ahead. Don Shelton supported the t-shirt idea, thinks it will drive early action.

Jim: likes the idea to give incentive to folks to sign up early with t-shirt.

Scot: Pre-ordering t-shirt and including orders for crew is important to encourage proper ordering and no left-over t-shirts.

Don: suggests the idea of later regatta in Fall and earlier regatta in Spring.

Bob: Perhaps we should change venue for regatta-Move to different parts of the lake.

**Conclusion**: We will keep both regattas and change the Spring regatta to earlier in the Spring. Registrants after the deadline will not be guaranteed a shirt. Quantities will be limited to avoid overruns.

1. Fleet IV expansion for eligibility by boat length. We wish to expand the eligible fleets beyond the 27/3 rule. Recommended change to “Cruising boats 25 feet or higher are eligible to race in Fleet IV and should make application to the Fleet Captain.”

**After lively discussion the Fleet IV expansion proposal passed with 1 opposed.**

Bob: Perhaps we should combine Fleet 3 and 4 and perhaps adjust handicap.

Seth: If we can bring in enough boats- we need to keep it. We must do a better job recruiting members.

Mike: Regarding combined fleets, I looked into handicaps over the winter. A Fleet 4 boat would have won only 2 races if combined with Fleet 3. Keeping Fleet 4 is the best choice.

Pete: Last year the majority of the club weighed in that they do not want to adjust handicaps.

 Mike: We are trying to make each fleet competitive. We are not trying to give skippers an advantage by moving fleets.

Gary: We need more recruitment and training.

Jim: A mentoring program would be a great idea.

Pete: Have potential fleet 4 racers come sail with you to gain experience.

4. Jeff Karnes has not yet reached an agreement with PPYC regarding potential sponsorship idea for the Fall Regatta. A sponsor has not yet been confirmed for the Fall Regatta. Warren Theis will continue looking for a Fall sponsor.

5. Fleet Captain presented a draft schedule for 2015.

A motion was made to move BYRA Spring 3,4 to Saturday April 18. The motion passed unanimously. The motion offered by Steve Nash and agreed on by several VISA members-as it coincides with one of their races scheduled for April 18. Change was due to VISA Moonshine Regatta.

A motion was made to move the Spring Regatta to April 25, 26 BYRA 5,6 to May 9, BYRA 7,8 to May 16. The motion passed unanimously.

Banquet is November 14, 2015

Annual Meeting is January 10, 2016

A motion was made to move skippers meeting to 11:30 to start races later in potentially more wind. The motion passed with majority vote 7 in favor to 5 opposed.

1. The Treasurer presented the proposed 2015 BYRA budget. The budget was passed with no opposition.
2. As required by our by-laws, approval of dues for the coming fiscal year. Propose we keep the dues the same as last year. Continue the annual dues at $150 and allow a mid-year rate of $75 for first time new members joining after July 1st.

Dues were accepted by vote with no opposition.

1. Notified the members present of the Safe Boating Course. Effective July, 2015; anyone 50 years old and younger must have completed the safe boating course and have the certification card on their person to drive the club boats.  Classes begin in February at the Roanoke Boat Show and are available on line at [www.boatus.org/virginia/](http://www.boatus.org/virginia/) .
2. Discussion on the Configuration of Courses for Fleets 3 & 4. Should we make it a practice to add a shortened windward course marker for second start and sail twice around? There was agreement that alterations in courses should be tried so Fleet 3 and 4 can race longer, but still finish around the same time as Fleets 1 and 2.
3. SML Cleanup: A motion was made by Glenn Cliborne to use the committee boat to participate in the annual SML clean up. Precautions will be made to keep the boat clean and free of damage. The motion passed with no opposition.
4. Race Committee Boat Repairs: January 31 and February 21 are proposed work days for committee and chase boat. Meet around 11 am depending on weather. The carpet will be removed. The floor will be painted or sealed and then re-carpeted.
5. **Calculations of Handicaps**:
* There are 44 fresh water inland lakes handicaps.
* A rating: initial rating. Shown with date of inception and number of boats that meet it.
* B rating: For boats around for 1 year
* C: For boats that are established
* We have used B ratings from clubs with 1 or more boats sailing and all C ratings.
* Mike proposed using **all** A and B ratings of **inland fleets** to determine handicaps. We will need to determine how many observations on each boat to change rating.

A motion was made to investigate use of all A ratings and all B ratings in our handicap calculations.  Members will review results of investigation and decide whether or not to adopt.

The motion carried. 8 voted in favor, 1 opposed

1. Discussion on engines. A suggestion was made that there should be a minimum engine requirement for Fleets 1 through 4. This discussion was tabled.
2. There was a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.