

## International Lightning Class Association

### Annual Winter Meeting

March 17, 2016

St Petersburg Yacht Club, St Petersburg, FL

Roll Call of Fleets: 12, 42, 50, 71, 126, 187, 196, 226, 228, 253, 262, 266, 303, 318, 329, 335, 412, 415, 488, 511, 514, 519, 521

President Lobos called the meeting to order at 10:16am.

Minutes of the Last Meeting. Bill Clausen made a motion to dispense the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and to approve them as posted on the website. Bill Mauk seconded. All approved. Motion passed.

**Presidents Report:** President Lobos began by announcing that he will be going to the Youth Worlds in Salinas and will act as the Class Representative aboard the Committee Boat. 9 Countries are expected and Ian Jones and Juan Rafael Santos are doing a great job in planning a terrific event for our youth. We had a great meeting with Bill Mauk and Tito Gonzalez in Miami regarding the upcoming Pan Am Games in Peru. Bill made some great suggestions that we should implement in addition to what we are doing. The participation in these games are vital to the health of the South American Fleets. Larry MacDonald is working on an Membership Initiative with the District Commodores that encourages membership support from the local District Level.

**Treasurers Report:** Todd Wake reported for Jim Crane. In 2015 the Class, not including our 3 funds finished up with a profit of \$3,300. While this looks good, there are some clouds on the horizon. For 2015 we \$111,000 in revenue and \$110,000 in expenses. We experienced a 16% decline in revenue at \$93,182, only by good stewardship, Laura matched our expenses to this revenue decline. For 2016 Jim and Laura created a budget projecting \$87,515 in revenue and \$87,400 in expenses. One major budget item excluded the budget is the annual yearbook (\$9,000). When looking at our numbers, even though our budget is balanced, our numbers across the board are declining. Member numbers, Fleet dues, sail and boat royalties are all getting lower. Memberships start at the Fleet level and a strong membership base helps to maintain our boat value. We all need to do everything possible to support and promote the Class. The Executive Committee is well aware of these trends and is constantly working on new initiatives.

Todd presented the 2016 Budget (see attached). Ian Edwards made a motion to approve the budget as presented and Dick Moyer seconded. All approved. Motion passed.

**Chief Measurers Report:** Bill Clausen (written report submitted):

2015 was a busy year for measurement. We had three major regattas with serious measurement. The crew at Buffalo Canoe Club did a masterful job of preparation for measurement of boats and equipment for the International Master and World Championships. It was a thorough and efficient measurement process. In August the WMJ's were held at Tawas Bay and again the measurement crew did a nice job under the direction of Bill Cabrall. In a short period of time all boats were efficiently measured. Thanks Bill! In October we did a efficient measurement in a small window of time at Southern Yacht Club for the North American Championship. Thanks Cal Herman and the crew from Southern Yacht Club! Thanks to all competitors who had boats and equipment measured and made corrections when needed! We are contemplating a change in the specifications for enlarging the area of the window in the jib. This will provide better ability to see boats on the opposite tack and make windward legs safer! Clausen added the Ched Proctor is used a prototype jib design with the enlarged jib window area in Miami.

**Nominating Committee:** Debbie Probst thanked the past volunteers for their service and if you haven't or have interest in volunteering please contact her.

**International Development:** Ian Edwards began by reviewing the previous developments in Greece. The amount of Lightning activity is very high, not only in Voula, but in all of Athens. A full listing of 2016 regattas are posted on the event calendar and overall this was a very successful initiative. We are working on new initiatives with Peru, a container with 4 boats is being planned. There are some sparks and talk from Italy but we don't have enough "legs on the ground" to make it take off yet.

**Classic Boats:** Bob Astrove announced that once again the Classic Get Together will be in Hammondsport in conjunction with the Champagne Regatta in Hammondsport, NY in June. This low key event has proven to be popular with our group. We are expecting at least 12 boats. We are planning a new event in conjunction with the Lake Norman Regatta April 23-24. Please refer any local people in your area with older Lightning's to our Classic Boat Chat Group.

**Boat Grant:** Matthew Schon announced 2016 is the 10th Anniversary of the Program. We will be looking into how to best celebrate this milestone. He attended the US Sailing Summit in February and made a presentation on the Boat Grant Program and it was a big hit! Over 50 people attended and this program is still very well received. The quality of this year's applications were very high. The Committee will be voting on the 2016 applicants in the next few weeks.

**North American VP:** Josh Goldman stated that in 2015 we held the NAs in two different venues at different times (Tawas (Aug) and New Orleans (Oct)). Overall this plan was successful as it was a busy sailing summer with the Worlds at BCC in July. The New Orleans NAs brought out at least 15 first time skippers at a NAC. We might try this again, please pass along any comments to Josh. This year the NAs will revert back to our regular schedule with WJM held just prior to the NAs in August. We are looking forward to the hospitality at Rochester Yacht Club. New bids or interest are always welcome.

**Southern Circuit:** Terry Hamilton reported that the logistics in Miami this year were a little different from years past but next year looks a little better schedule wise. 17 teams are participating in the Mentor Program and a special Thank you to Nick Turney for organizing the program and to all of the volunteer mentors! Sponsorship was tight this year. Harken and Windrider Nickels Boat Works both stepped up as new sponsors! Thank you! After 5 years of chairing the Southern Circuit, Terry announced she was stepping down. The group gave her a hardy round of applause.

**Southern Circuit Review Committee:** Bill Cabrall was tasked by the Executive Committee to reignite a Southern Circuit Review Committee to make sure we are continuing in the right direction after recent changes to the format and increased pressures from host schedules and timing. The committee has been meeting prior to the Circuit and will conduct a survey at the completion of the circuit.

**Other reports:** see written reports attached from Lightning Labs: Joan & Gary Hurban, World Championships: Rob Ruhlman and Youth Worlds: Ian Jones

#### **Charters Ratified or revoked**

Fleet 52 - Rochester Yacht Club has been re-activated. Jim Barnash: Fleet Captain, John Newell: Co-Captain, Mark Sertl and Robert King are all current active boat owners.

#### **Ratifications**

The Governing Board ratified the Executive Committee's decision of the 1:1 ratio for the 2016 NAC at Rochester YC.

**Unfinished Business:**

Constitutional Clarifications and NOR and SI's Template are all still in need of further work before final considerations can be made.

**New Business:**

None at this time.

Ian Jones made a motion to adjourn, Dick Moyer seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned 6:52pm.

**Written Reports Submitted:**

**Lightning Lab's Report: Joan and Gary Hurban** : [jghurban@gmail.com](mailto:jghurban@gmail.com)

The Lightning Class is fortunate to have many talented skippers and crew who are willing to donate their time to help others and build the Class. Our job is to assist in lining up a coach, promoting the event, and giving advice to the fleets about how to run the clinic, when requested.

The following Lightning Labs were held during the 2015 season:

1. Southern Circuit Mentor Program - Miami, FL and St. Petersburg, FL - organized by Nick Turney and assisted by 12+ additional coaches.
2. VISA, Moneta, VA - coached by Allan Terhune at Moonshine Regatta
3. SSA, Annapolis, MD, coached by Geoff Becker at No-Gas Regatta
4. Tawas Mich., Post Racing Panel discussions lead by at the Skip Dieball at WJMs Championships

Lightning Labs requested during the 2016 season to date are as follows:

1. Southern Circuit Mentor Program - Miami, FL and St. Petersburg, FL - again organized by Nick Turney and assisted by 12+ additional coaches.
2. Virginia Island Sailing Assoc., Moneta, VA. Fri April 8th before the Moonshine Regatta - Coach to be determined Contact: Randy Beauchamp
3. SSA, Annapolis, MD, Fri May 8th before the No-Gas Regatta - Coached by Geoff Becker Contact: Joan and Gary Hurban
4. Ecuador During May, host location for Youth Worlds and Worlds next year. - Coach to be determined
5. Havre de Grace, MD June 11-12 - coach to be determined
6. Rochester, NY - NA's Post Race Panel Discussion - Leader(s) to be announced.

Fleets interested in hosting a lab are encouraged to submit a request as soon as possible, so that coaches can be arranged. We are also looking for people who are interested in coaching these events. Please let us know.

We are very excited to announce that videos of the talks given during the Mentoring Program at the 2015 Southern Circuit have been posted on you-tube. Thanks to Jeffrey Hayden for his help in editing and posting these videos, and to all of those who helped to run it, and are in the video!

To view them , go to [youtube.com](http://youtube.com), and search for "intlighthouseclass" or look for links on the ILCA Website. We will be posting additional videos to this site during this season.

**World Championship: Rob Ruhlman**

No written report but 2017 dates have been confirmed for Salinas, Ecuador. South American and Intl Master Championships Nov 17-21 and the Worlds Nov 21-25.

**Youth Worlds: Ian Jones** - please see pdf link below

[http://lightningclass.org/membership/meetingMinutes/2016/March\\_YouthWorldChampionshipReport.pdf](http://lightningclass.org/membership/meetingMinutes/2016/March_YouthWorldChampionshipReport.pdf)