

# PERFORMANCE HANDICAP RACING FLEET OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

## Regional Board Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2009

Attendance: President: Christopher Bennett, Vice President Eric McClure; Chief Handicapper: Cole Price, Judge Advocate: Steven Ernest; Rick Gorman (Area C); Robert Plant & Dan Rossen (Area D); Louis Holmes (Area E/F); Michael Roach (Area G) and Anita Cole, Fleet Secretary. Guest: former PHRF President: Rick von Heydenreich

Meeting began at: 6:24 PM

The minutes of the January 2009 meeting were approved with one revision.

### **New Business:**

Disciplinary Hearing: Dr Laura Schlessinger/Ken Kieding of STING s/n USA 55

A group including four members of the PHRF regional board and two area representatives met in closed session. The Judge Advocate addressed the board explaining the rules of the hearing. After the Judge Advocate finished the board asked Dr. Schlessinger's representative to come in.

The Judge Advocate introduced himself and thanked Ken Kieding for coming and invited him to address the board regarding the changes to STING. Ken addressed the board explaining the procedure he uses when Dr. Schlessinger buys a used boat. He takes it apart and redoes 'everything' to make it "right". He has all the hoses and tanks/bladder removed and replaced because they smell. The owner and racers never use the head. They only use a portable head. The cabin door came to them wrapped in bubble wrap and was put in a storage container during the refit and overlooked. He emphasized that the sink was not removed. They never use the sink so he missed seeing that the hoses connecting to the thru hull were missing and also the forward floor boards. He went on to say that he hires the work out but takes full responsibility for not inspecting STING thoroughly when the work was finished. He sincerely apologized for the problems he has caused. The board members asked questions. He was then excused and the board began a lengthy discussion of his statements.

No other representatives of STING or Dr. Schlessinger appeared. The board considered the written statements of Kenny Kieding and Robert B, Kieding.

One member stated that he had known Ken for years and was not sure he intended to cheat deliberately. Another member stated that he thought that it was unlikely that Dr. Schlessinger knew that the boat was not in its rated configuration based upon Ken's statement that he was responsible for the refit and Dr. Schlessinger just shows up to race. He is very scrupulous about "his boats" being spotlessly clean and ready to race. However, it was also pointed out that Ken is a J Boat dealer and as such should have known what was legal and what was not. After a very lengthy discussion and deliberation, the PHRF Judge Advocate explained to the members their options. 1) do nothing. 2) do nothing, but issue a stern warning, or 3) suspend the current racing certificates held by Dr. Schlessinger for WARRIOR and PERFECT.

### **Facts Found:**

- (1) Dr. Laura Schlessinger owned STING, USA 55. After signing an application the boat was issued a certificate from PHRF of SoCal.
- (2) Dr. Schlessinger purchased STING from another owner, not from the factory.
- (3) After purchasing STING, Dr. Schlessinger arranged for the removal of the holding tank, bulkhead door, and plumbing related to the sink.
- (4) Dr. Schlessinger entered STING in PHRF SoCal sanctioned events.
- (5) While racing in those events, STING had no holding tank, no bulkhead door, no forward floor boards and no plumbing connecting the sink to the thru hull.

(6) The condition of STING, as referenced in paragraph 5, violates Class Rule 7.

A motion was made and seconded to suspend the J125, WARRIOR's 2009 PHRF Certificates 7125 and 7125A and the J100, PERFECT's 2009 PHRF Certificate 7227 for a period of 3 months starting today.

The motion passed 4 to 2. As of today's date, February 17, 2009 the J125, WARRIOR's 2009 PHRF Certificates 7125 and 7125A and the J100, PERFECT's 2009 PHRF Certificate 7227 are suspended until May 17, 2009.

#### **Old Business:**

Clarification of Rule 5.5.6c in Appendix A and how it might be modified to allow a block for a tack line for asymmetrical spinnakers to be located in front of the headstay stem fitting to preclude interference with the bow pulpit. Rick von Heydenreich addressed the board and handed out a preliminary wording of the Rule change. The board discussed his idea extensively, but could not come up with a consensus so they tabled the discussion and asked Rick to work on the wording some more and report back next month. He agreed.

**Big Boat Alignment Report:** Chairman Robert Plant – Robert suggested and the board agreed to drop this alignment for now.

**Fast 40 Fleet Review Report :** Wes Selby, Review Chairman – Wes was not in attendance and as he, our former President and Chief Handicapper have not had a chance to work on the review, it too was tabled.

**J100 Fleet Review:** Last month it was noted by the Chief Handicapper that the review of the J100 Fleet was a first reading in October and that a second reading of those ratings was required. The Fleet Secretary was asked to invite the owners to attend tonight's meeting for a second reading of their ratings.

In October of last year the board members concluded from Rick Ruskin's report that there are definite discrepancies between the standard one design J100s and the PHRF rated configurations and that the boats were originally rated assuming that the spinnaker would be tacked to the bow, so it would not use a spinnaker pole.

The discussion ended with a decision to re-rate the boats. The ratings recommended and voted on M/S/P are as follows:

- PERFECT s/n 7227 from 87/81/81/ to 78/75/. No off the wind rating as the boat has no lifelines.
- WHOA NELLIE, s/n 7128 will be re-rated from 87/81/81/ to 72/66/. No lifelines.
- SEA NOTE s/n 7121 will be re-rated from 87/81/81/ to 78/69/66/.
- JUBELATION s/n 7627 from 87/81/81 to 81/78/ as it too has no lifelines.
- BRILLANT s/n 7169 - In a later email vote the board voted /81/75/72 for BRILLIANT.

Lenny Shabes of JUBELATION as well as Ken Kieding of PERFECT addressed the board regarding the performances of their boats. Mr. Shabes also gave the Fleet Secretary a check to renew his boat for 2009 and handed in the One Design rules for the J100's as well. He asked for an OD rating for JUBELATION with a rating of /93/90/. He was excused as was Mr. Kieding and the board discussed their decisions from October. M/S/P to re-rate JUBELATION s/n 7627 as a one design with a rating of /90/87/ provisionally. All the other J100's will be rated as voted on in October of 2008.

**President's Report:** No report this month

**Vice President's Report:** Eric McClure gave a short report on how the arrangements are progressing and his recommendations about trimming the costs of the Regatta which were the largest expense for PHRF in 2008. Several board members volunteered to look into helping with tha.

**Data Systems Report:** No report this month.

**Area Reports:**

Area A: Not in attendance.

Area B: The Area C Chairman read the report from Area B as their representative could not make the meeting. The Area B board wants to make it known that they disagree with Regional's decision regarding the boom replacement on MAGIC LIGHT. They rated the BEN343, SEA FLOURISHES /144/147/147/.

Area C: The Area C Board rated the ESSE850 OLD MEN RULE, 69/60/54/.

Area D: The Area D board rated the BEN40.5 RAPID TRANSIT /96/90/90. They also heard from Chuck Brewer, the new owner of the J92S STING regarding its rating. They advised him to bring them more race results before they would consider a local rating adjustment.

Area E/F: The Area E/F representative advised Regional that they reviewed the information on a new custom COL40, YIPPEE KAI YAY, but tabled any decision on a rating until the boat is finished.

Area G: See their meeting notes on the Area G (San Diego PHRF) website.

**Provisional Ratings Review:** All boats rated provisionally in February and March of 2008 will be reviewed next month.

**Chief Handicapper's Report:**

1. IT'S OK, US7249 & 7349A (AND50) Lewis Beery– Request for Rating Review – Second Reading  
Last month the board voted a /-3/ for the new main taking the rating from /-45/-54/-54 to /-48/-57/-57 on certificate 7249 and from /-60/-63/-63/ to /-63/-66/-66/ on certificate 7249A. Also for the new main without using the spinnaker pole a /+3/+6/+6/ which includes the /-3/ for the new main which would take the rating on certificate 7249 only to /-42/-48/-48/. Then a /-12/-18/-15/ for the reaching jib which is 22% bigger. This changed certificate 7249A to /-60/-63/-63/. The board also voted to issue a new certificate, 7249C, at /-72/-81/-78/ for the new main plus the new Genoa. The ratings are to be provisional. The board voted M/S/P to keep the ratings as voted on last month.
2. VEGAS ESCAPE 56712 (BEN57) Larry Walters – Initial Rating  
Last month the Chief Handicapper handed out a spread sheet comparing this boat to others near its size. The discussion and vote were tabled as the board determined that they need more information and some pictures before making a rating determination. The owner sent an email correcting some of the original measurements on the application and some information from the Beneteau website. He confirmed that the boat is definitely a BEN57 not a 58. The PHRF Secretary handed out the information plus the photos of the boat. A rating of 42/39/39 was suggested but rejected in favor of a rating of 42/42/42/. M/S/P The rating is provisional for one year.
3. A LITTLE CRAZY s/n 45 (WWAB24) Robert Plant – Modification: New O/S AYSO and pole  
Robert addressed the board and explained that he wants a 2<sup>nd</sup> certificate for a new O/S AYSO, a tall hoist and undersized pole. Then a discussion began centering on the deltas. The Chief Handicapper suggested a /-9/ across for a 2<sup>nd</sup> certificate rating of /153/153/. M/S/P to issue a 2<sup>nd</sup> certificate to the boat at /153/153/ provisionally for one year.

4. RUNAWAY s/n 7388 (S&T36) Eric Lambert – Modifications: New O/S Spinnaker and pole  
The Secretary handed out the information provided by the owner on the modifications and the board discussed the information. It is a 24.4 % increase so the board voted M/S/P for a /-12/-15/-15/ rating change taking the rating from /132/126/123/ to /120/111/108.
5. DESPICABLE 2 s/n 7293 (ADMIR30) Bill Johnson – Request for Rating Review.  
The Secretary handed out the Request and the board began a discussion on how the boat has been raced and the races he has participated in. However there was not enough race data and information presented to make a clear determination. The secretary was asked to advise him that the board needs more race data.
6. MARISOL s/n 56443 (J124) Seth Hall – Request for Rating Review.  
The secretary handed out the Request and information sent in by the owner and a discussion ensued on the race results plus how the boat is sailed and her finishes. As the race data was not summarized and the hour was very late the board tabled the discussion and instructed the secretary to advise the owner to please use the instructions on the website as to how to present race data to the board. They would also like the owner to send in a summary of all the modifications made to the boat.

Adjournment: 10:51 PM

Respectfully submitted by PHRF Fleet Secretary, Anita Cole.

Note: The next meeting of the PHRF of Southern California Regional Board will be March 17, 2009 – 7 PM at ABYC in Long Beach.