

**WH&O National Secretaries Meeting
San Diego Yacht Club
September 11, 2014**

Vice Commodore Gweneth Crook opened the meeting at 5:35pm. Those in attendance were: Breno Bianchi- Brazil; Juan Restrepo – Colombia; Diego Figueroa – Peru; Sebastian Higuera- Ecuador; Brainard Cooper – USA; Luis Soubie- ARG; Chris Hains – Canada; Raul Rios Sr & Jr - Puerto Rico; Danielle Richards – USA; Jerelyn Biehl – SCIRA. ; Motoharu Nishii-Japan and Darien Pimental – CUB arrived near the end.

The minutes from the 2012 NS meeting were approved as previously circulated – Luis Soubie made the motion, seconded by Raul Rios; Motion passed.

Report of Officers:

Alex Juk: Gweneth read an email from Alex Juk, current General Secretary for the WH&O.

Now I will be director in my club and it will take a lot of my time.

I am happy with this time as western secretary I learned a lot of things and I met lots of new people. I am grateful to all sailors, thanks.

I did some mistakes something but I tried to work to grow up the communication between sailors. Also I tried to stimulate the young sailors to get in the Snipe.

I hope I have done something good for the class.

I suggest Luis Soubie as next westerns secretary.

Anyway I love the Snipe class and I am ready to keep as vice-secretary if NS wants.

Thank you for everything

Gweneth Crook further commented that the main challenge for the WH&O seems to be charter boats with the fees seeming to be the main issue in our hemisphere. Recently the World Masters were held in Japan and it was a fabulous event. Our Women's Worlds are in jeopardy due to low turnouts. Mixed championships are being proposed from Europe. There was some discussion of combining with the Masters to combine boat charters and crews.

Results from the WH&O questionnaire were discussed and will be forwarded to the Technical Committee to combine with European results for further discussion.

Country Reports:

Ecuador: Currently we are holding 3 races per day/ 2 days each month. 8-10 boats racing with the Lightning fleet to encourage more racing between the 2 fleets and sailors. The 2 fleets are Manta and Salinas with most of the racing in Salinas.

Peru: We have 10 brand new boats for the Bolivarian Games. There were 5 boats in a December regatta with Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. The Federation owns the boats and has not been assigning the boats to interested sailors. We hope that it will begin to grow more. The first local regatta is in 2 weeks and is the qualifier for the Bolivarian Beach Games in December. Sunfish, Laser & Optimist are the popular classes. Need to organize the 2 separate clinics.

Colombia: A Snipe clinic was held in January with 25 boats. We have 3 venues to sail in Colombia. The 2019 Pan Ams are scheduled for Lima.

Brazil: Big fleets and the South Americans were held recently in Porto Alegre helping to revive the fleet there. In Rio there are races every weekend with 15-20 boats. Not many women are sailing Snipes in Brazil.

Bahamas: Currently we have 12 boats with 6 active. The fleet is aging but there are more junior and women sailors coming in the fleet. The Winter Championship keeps our fleet going and everyone is invited. Housing is free, but getting the boats to the island can be difficult. The Nationals will be held the end of the month.

Puerto Rico: The Copa Olympica regatta is held annually and different classes are sailed. Most of the fleet are junior sailors. There are 15 boats in the fleet (from the 2010 NAs). We need to try to keep the boat inexpensive. Discussion of careful consideration of dates when selecting major events, especially Junior Worlds.

USA: Membership is over 100 from the previous year. We have many regattas with more than 30 boats.

Bids:

2015 North Americans: Hamilton, Canada will be the venue, hosted by the Guelph fleet. July 3-5 which will be a warm-up for the Pan Am Games to be held a few weeks later.

2015 South Americans: Mar del Plata, ARG March 27-April 5

2016 WH&O Championships: Both Rio and Ecuador submitted bids. The consensus seemed to be if Ecuador can provide 30-35 boats for charter it would be good to support this region of South America. It was also discussed that a round robin of boats may also be good. A decision should be made before the next South Americans in March with a decision for the new General Secretary for the WH&O to lead.

2017 Worlds: Interest from holding the Sr. Worlds in Canada/Buffalo Canoe Club & Jr Worlds in Miami.

2018 Women's Worlds & World Masters - N.A

2018 WH&O - Japan interested.

New Business

Luis Soubie presented a powerpoint with suggested changes to the WH&O Deed of Gift:

Registration & Allocation:

- 1) \$100 pre-registration payment
- 2) \$100 fine to national class who fails to register one pre-registered boat
- 3) No reallocation for future event if they fail to register more than one pre-registered boat
- 4) Sailor who pre-registers and fails to attend, is excluded from next similar event (excluding injury)
- 5) 7 spots to each country on initial registration

- 6) National qualification should end 6 months in advance. Mandatory for host fleet
- 7) Shorter registration periods;
 - 1) pre-register: 2 weeks, 5 months in advance
 - 2) reallocation: 2 weeks , 4 months in advance
 - 3) first come first served since end of reallocation. Not for host country

Charter boats

- 1) list of boats must be made public on the website at the moment of registration including 2 per country (24 boats) per Deed of Gift with 2 sections:

Proposal A:

- 1) 12 boats maximum: 5 years or newer
- 2) 12 boats maximum: 10 years or newer
- 3) List increased later with 12 additional boats to complete maximum of 36 boat requirement
- 4) No boat older than 15 years old
- 5) Host country sailors who raced the qualification must accept to charter their boats or not be eligible to qualify.

Proposal B:

- 1) 1 boat maximum 5 year or newer
- 2) 1 boat maximum 10 years or newer
- 3) 3 boats maximum 15 years

Price:

New to 3 years: \$1200
4-6 years: \$1000
7-10 years: \$800
11-15 years: \$600

- The local organization should retain 20% of the charter money to pay for transportation of far away boats.
- If a host country cannot supply enough boats they must help with \$1500 to any sailors that will bring his own boat from outside the continent.

Proposal C:

1. Boats must be competitive, ready to race, complete with current decal on hull and "full" status in SCIRA database for MDS. Insurance included in the charter fee or at owners risk.
 2. The order of national qualification must be respected when allocating charter boats and NS must be involved in this.
 3. Host country allowed 12 entries, but not extra entries until "first come, first served" is open.
 4. Countries that cannot guarantee this should not bid for the event.
- Raul Rios, Sr. suggested that the proposal be distributed to all NS for discussion.

Pan Am Games: Raul Rios encourages that each country needs to pressure their own Sailing Federations to support the Snipe or it will not be in the 2016 Games in Peru. Please make sure you contact them.

2015 Pan Am Venue: Chris Hains gave the venue details and also commented that the water is very deep and very cold. He brought several books on weather for the Games for everyone.

Discussion of concerns of variance from NOR & DoG for various events. And discussion of the master calendar trying not to conflict with school for juniors.

Elections:

General Secretary: Luis Soubie

Vice Secretary: Alex Juk

Meeting was adjourned 8:08pm

DRAFT