USSCA 2016 General Membership Minutes
Lewes Yacht Club, Lewes, Delaware
July 29 2016,

Thanks to Connie Miller and the Lewes Yacht Club for stepping up to the plate to host this year’s NA's!

Treasurer's Report
USSCA Treasurer's Report 2016 – Pat Manning

In 2016 the P&l for January through June shows $25,231 in Membership Dues which is an increase of $13,646 compared to the same period of time for the previous year. This increase reflects a conversion to a true accrual method of accounting for membership dues which recognizes income for only the current year and defers future years' dues received to the year for which they paid. In conjunction with our change in accounting method, the ISCA portion of all dues received, which is $12 per membership per year, is immediately expensed. This is the $8,424 in the expense category called "ISCA member dues". This is an increase expense of $8,424 over the same period last year because of the accounting method being used.

For the first six months of 2016, we had a Gross Profit of $28,358 and Total Expenses of $20,763 which is a net profit of $7,594, or a net profit of about $1,266 a month.

In 2015 we had Gross Profits of $26,939 ($24,260 from Membership Dues) and Total Expenses of $34,998 for a Net Operating loss of ($8,050), or ($671) a month.

According to Gail Turluck's Membership Report, we only had 638 USSCA members in 2015 (Down about 80 members from 2014). That means that each membership contributes about $38 per year to sustain our Class.

According to figures received from One Design Management, there are 705 USSCA members as of May 2016. Historically, as the year goes on, we may add 50 to 75 members for the rest of 2016. So for the rest of the year our revenues are greatly diminished while our costs to run the Class will remain at about $1,000 per month. Thus, we will eat up all of the $7,500 remaining profit we are showing as of June by the end of the year. We must find a way to generate more income and/or reduce expenses if we want to operate the Class at break-even.

As far as the Balance Sheet is concerned, our total Cash in Bank is $30,744 as of June 30, 2016. That is down $1,227 from last year's balance of $31,971.

The Sunfish Bible sales were discussed and it was noted that a profit of about $15 per book is expected in excess of fees for storage and shipping. It was suggested that the Bibles be made available at regattas to sell to participants. It was also suggested that they be made available to the regional representatives at a discount price for sale at events. Both activities are feasible and can be done, contact Betsy Schmidt or Vic Manning to discuss.

Class Office Report – Eduardo Cordero/Gena Rodgers
Gena and Eduardo have taken over the management of the class office, both ISCA and USSCA, following discussions in late April with Rich Chapman and Paul-Jon Patin. They travelled to San Diego in mid-May at their own expense to get on-the-job training with Sherri Campbell and web-master Jared
Wohlgemuth and started sharing ISCA and minor USSCA administration duties with ODM to ensure a smooth transition.

At Sherri Campbell's request, they immediately took over the administration of the 2016 world championship to include invitation lists, registration process, and NOR publishing, a couple of weeks before the official transition on June 15th.

Eduardo and Gena are looking at several ways to streamline processes and reduce expenses. In regards to printing membership cards the class spends about $0.47 per mailing piece, and is paying $400 - $500 per year to have these mailed to the members. On top of that, the class office mails about 1,500 membership renewal notices at the end of the year that cost up to $750. One of their goals is to have an on-line membership database where people can print out their own membership cards when they sign up or renew memberships. The Office will still take checks and be able to send out membership cards to those who prefer this.

They provided the following schedule.

**Schedule of Upcoming Major Regattas:** The Pan American Sailing Federation has published a tentative calendar of qualifying events for the 2019 Pan Am Games.

**SUNFISH-OPEN**

2017  South American/Caribbean Championship - Oct/Nov, Puerto Rico. 2 berths

2018  Midwinter Championship - Dates and venue TBD. 2 berths

2018  South American Championship - Dates TBD, Paracas, Peru. 3 berths

2018  North American Championship - Dates and venue TBD. 2 berths

2019  Midwinter Championship - Dates and venue TBD. 2 berths

The qualifying rules and conditions haven't been published yet, but it is their understanding that the Notice of Race will have be reviewed and agreed to 7 months before the event by the Pan American Sailing Federation.

**Measurer's Report**

Since the meeting last year, two challenges to our class rules have been made. The process to address challenges is for the class measurer to make an initial interpretation as to legality of the challenge. That decision is binding until the World Council either approves, rejects or modifies the interpretation, and then their decision formally becomes part of our class rules.

The first challenge was made in the summer of 2015 by a class member as to the legality of using digitally cut sail numbers. Rob's interpretation was presented and discussed at the last Advisory and World Council meetings in Paracas and the decision was that digital (square-style) numbers on the Sunfish sail did not pose a problem of clarity to race officials and that effectively they were as legible as the traditional Helvetica typeface. So, digital numbers are class legal.
The second challenge was made at this year’s Midwinter championship by a class member who in order to change the angle his daggerboard made with the hull, ground off roughly 3/8-inch of fiberglass on one side of the daggerboard trunk at the top end and added shims on the opposite side to keep the board angled in place. Rob’s interpretation was this was not compliant with the intent of class rule 3.1.8. This November, the interpretation will be presented to the World Council in Cartagena who will approve, reject or modify as they see fit. Until that time, grinding or otherwise substantially eliminating fiberglass from the daggerboard trunk to change the angle the board makes with the hull is not considered class legal.

Records of all challenges to the rules and World Council decisions from the past few years are available on the class website under "Rules & Measurement".

**Youth Coordinator**
Vicki has called over 200 clubs to discuss including the Sunfish in training programs with little success. She will call all of them again this year to try and raise interest in the Sunfish as a training boat.

**Master Events Coordinator**
Next year thanks to Chris Gates (Florida Rep) hard work the International Masters Regatta and Midwinters will be held at Charlotte Harbor Sailing: Sun, Mon, Tues; then Thurs, Fri, Sat. ending April Fools 2017. Our US Masters thanks to Clinton Edwards’s hard work, will be held the end of May or the first week of June at Gulfport Yacht Club in 2017.

**Women’s Events Coordinator**
The Women’s North Americans will be held at Menantic Yacht Club on Shelter Island, NY Sept. 16 - 18th. Melissa and Steve Shepstone are the Regatta chairs. Gail is in talks with a host for the 2017 and will announce this as soon as confirmed. If anyone is interested in hosting the 2018 Women’s NAs please contact Gail Heausler at gheausler@aol.com or 813-758-8484.

**Membership Discussion**
There was a lot of discussion at the meeting about how to grow the Sunfish class. The impact of US Sailing support to the class was discussed and it was noted that stronger support from this organization would help the class. Many suggestions were also put forward such as promoting the boat within your own club, inviting people to try out the boat, advertising, focusing on how simple the boat is to sail and letting people know that used boats can be found fairly cheaply and a huge investment is not needed to get started. It was noted that getting youths to try out the boat and enjoy it might also bring their parent into the class as it is very family oriented.