

MODIFIED OUTBOARD RACING COMMISSION

January 25, 2018

1. The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Tom Sutherland.
2. Roll call was taken. The following commissioners were in attendance: Tom Sutherland, Alex Poliakoff, Alex Jennings, Jerry Davids, Karl Dyle, Jeff Williams, Eric VanOver, Mark Wheeler, Brian Palmquist, Jeff Scheffler, Bob Koschka, Gary Miller, Jasen Dircksen, and Daren Goehring. Hunter Grimes was excused.
3. Chairman Tom Sutherland administered the oath of office to all commissioners present.
4. Motion by Alex Jennings, seconded by Eric VanOver to approve the minutes of the 2017 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
5. The 2018 Modified Budget was presented. Motion by Eric VanOver, seconded by Jeff Williams to approve the budget.
6. Motion by Jeff Williams, seconded by Gary Miller to approve all the category appointments.
7. The Status of Existing Classes was presented. Overall the Mod category is at a plus 6. Discussion was held on status of the 350 Mod Hydro, 250 Mod Hydro and 750 Mod Runabout which all lost participation.
8. Chairman Sutherland announced that the new 125 cc Mod classes (both hydro and runabout) were approved by the New Class Committee and the Board of Directors. Members of the 125 committee gave updates on the program:
 - a. Gary Miller presented the program as it exists. Not a lot of motors in the country so have developed a relationship with the importer in Tacoma, WA who will inventory parts and motors. Jerry Davids will also inventory parts. The 125 Committee has committed to 20 motors. An additional 10 on their way to the states will be held by the importer. Motors can be purchased from anyone. Price of the powerhead currently is \$1800. Jerry will take orders, inventory the motors, and accept payment. Motors are expected to be ready about March 1 (arriving in the US in mid-February).
 - b. Jerry Davids will sell powerheads or complete motors. If someone wants a whole motor, they can send their mid-section to Jerry and he will put powerhead on it and put the gearfoot on free of charge. Jerry said he would do that for a while to get program off the ground. Gearfeet – we have 1 left (VRP) that commission purchased for \$950 each. Kamato Light can be purchased from Mike Thirlby. Adapter plate. Howard Pickerall put a ton of time into design work and Allen Brown is producing them. Must be purchased through Howard. Current price is \$300. Will also need a lower adapter plate (cavitation plate). Jerry already has a casting in place with Cliff for the 44 motors. Will modify that for the OMC and the Hot Rod mid-sections for the gear foot.
 - c. Jeff Williams discussed technical rules for the class. This is a full class eligible for records, high points, nationals, HOC points, etc. He will get the specific technical rules out within a couple weeks.

9. Prototypes

- a. 20 cu in Sidewinder in 350 MR did not happen
- b. 20 cu in Sidewinder in 400 MH did not happen
- c. Stock 102 Yamato in 350MR did run. Jeff Williams passed around scoring sheets. He said the motor was too fast and could not be restricted down enough.
- d. Jeff Williams presented a prototype proposal to allow the 15 cu in Mercury in stock configuration to run as a prototype in the 125 cc Mod classes for the 2018 season. Motion by Karl Dyle to approve this, seconded by Brian Palmquist. 8 in favor, 4 against. Motion passed.

10. Brian Palmquist reported on a single cylinder air cooled motor mounted on a Hot Rod tower 8 cu in putting out about 15 hp for a possible j engine.

11. Modified Awards for 2017

- a. Paul Kolb Award and the Bob Goller Award both were won by Austin VanOver
- b. Rookie of the Year – Scott Miller
- c. John Reed Service Award will be announced later.

12. Old Business

- a. Pipe Program - Jerry Davids reported that we only sold 1 exhaust kit last year. Jerry reported MORC owns one kit. He has 5 complete kits made and in inventory. Has 12-13 sets of parts, except for pipe. Jerry would like to move the pipe project's emphasis into a 350 project to help the 350 classes.
- b. Power Head Program – Gary Miller reported he is still looking for some good 80 powerheads but hasn't purchased anything yet.

13. Committee Reports

- a. Marketing Report – Brian Palmquist presented members of the commission with the modified decals he had made. Tim Miller offered to have these stickers made at a discounted cost. Discussion was held on how to market them. Motion by Brian Palmquist make the same sticker order as now, seconded by Karl Dyle. Passed unanimously.
- b. Insurance Meeting – Eric VanOver reported the insurance company had very few incidents this year – 5 in total. There are still a lot of questions on how to handle the drones. Also, we need to be sure that the person signing for a minor release is the parent or legal guardian. They also want to make sure all the information is correct on the incident reports – names, contact info, insurance policy numbers, etc.
- c. Safety Meeting – Bob Koschka will report after their meeting on Friday.
- d. Inspectors will not meet until Saturday so there will not be a report from their meeting. However, Jeff Williams reported that we now have 2 new Modified inspectors – Kurt Romberg and Jack Deck.

14. Manufacturing Reports

- a. Tohatsu - Alex Poliakof reported they have 3 motors here for display, one of which is an 850 mod motor. These are put together with the Bass lower units which are available from Alex.
- b. Yamato – Jeff Williams reported the 321 Yamato is no longer in production. Will now be a 331 with a de-tuned head.

15. Championship Reports

- a. 2018 Summer Nationals – Moses Lake – report was given by Daren Goehring.
- b. 2019 Summer Nationals – Constantine, MI – report given by Jasen Dircksen.
Tentative date is June 19-23, 2019

16. 2018 Divisional Bids were received:

SE – Bush River, MD 5/6-7

NE – Whitney Point, NY 6/2-3

C – Constantine, MI 6/21-24

W – Seatak, WA 9/8-9

Motion by Alex Jennings to approve all divisionals, seconded by Gary Miller Motion passed unanimously.

17. 2019 Championship Bids

- a. Jeff Scheffler mentioned that they are still in negotiation with Wakefield on adding the 2019 Central Divisionals to the Stock/J nationals at Wakefield and may be putting in a bid at a later date for them.
- b. Karl Dyle motioned to bid for the Mod Winternationals and SE Mod Divisional for 2019. (First race would be winternational and second divisional) to be held in early April, seconded by Jeff Scheffler. Motion by Jerry Davids, seconded by Mark Wheeler to table. Motion passed.

18. Daren Goehring made a motion to waive the May 1 date for the 2018 Western Modified winternationals to be held May 5-6, seconded by Brian Palmquist. Motion passed unanimously.

19. 2018 North American Championships were awarded.

125CCMR – Constantine, MI (IOA race)

125CCMH – Kittanning, PA

200ccMR – Oshkosh, WI

200CCMH – Pell Lake, IL

250CCMR –

250CCMH –

350CCMR – Constantine, MI (IOA race)

350CCMH – Alexandria, KY

500CCMR – Alexandria, KY

500CCMH – Hillsdale, MI

750CCMR – Huntington, IN

750CCMH – Constantine, MI (MHRA race)

850CCMR – Alexandria, KY

850CCMH – Whitney Point, NY or Lock Haven, PA. Agreement was reached to award the 850CCMH North American Championship for 2019 to the west coast.

400CCMH – Huntington, IN

Motion by Jerry Davids, seconded by Mark Wheeler to award the bids. Motion passed unanimously.

20. Chairman Sutherland reported that in the past approved technical proposals were sent to the membership for approval. The Board of Directors did away with that in a meeting last week. We need to have our own rule to do this and we have to administer it and pay for it. Proposed rule was passed out to the commission.

Existing Rule 23: Change the name of Rule 23 to "Modified Rule Change Procedure"

New Rule #A: The following procedure shall be used to approve rule changes in the Modified category:

- A-1. Safety Rules and Administrative Rules shall be determined by the Modified Outboard Racing Commission and shall not go to ballot of the members.
- A-2. All racing members of record as of two weeks prior to the ballot going out shall be eligible to vote on racing rule and technical rule changes.
- A-3. Voting shall take place within three weeks following the approval of any rule change by the Modified Racing Commission.
- A-4. Once the voting is complete, approved rule changes will take effect 2 weeks after publication unless the Commission has stated a specific effective date.
- A-5. There shall be no rule changes between May 1 and October 31.

Then existing Rule A follows as new "B"

Motion by Alex Jennings, seconded by Jeff Williams to adopt the proposal. Eric VanOver motioned to amend the rule "shall" to "may" (first line), seconded by Gary Miller. Accepted by Alex Jennings and Jeff Williams. Motion by Jeff Williams, seconded by Eric VanOver to add: "except for Safety and Administrative rules". To the end of the first sentence. Amendment accepted by Alex and Jeff. Motion passed 11-1 opposed.

21. Proposal from Josh Kimble to require all Mod boats to have a paddle in them. Motion by Eric VanOver to accept the proposal, seconded by Bob Koschka. Motion failed 2-10 opposed.
22. Daren Goehring presented a request from Seattle Outboard Association for a loan of \$2,850.00 to help cover up-front costs for the 2018 Nationals. Motion by Jerry Davids, seconded by Karl Dyle to approve. Motion passed unanimously.
23. Proposal from Fred Hauenstein to eliminate the ban on coating pistons in the 200cc Mod classes. Motion by Jerry Davids, seconded by Mark Wheeler to accept the proposal. Motion passed unanimously.
24. Motion by Eric VanOver to add the 15 Mercury into the 200 classes as it is raced in A Stock. The purpose would be to serve as a method of attracting junior class drivers into Modified, seconded by Jeff Williams. Motion failed 6-7 opposed.

Meeting was recessed until Friday, 9:00 AM.

Meeting was reconvened Friday, 9:00 AM.

25. Proposal from Jeff Williams to not permit the 125cc Mod motors to step up into the 200ccMod classes but to step up into the 250ccMod classes. Motion by Jerry Davids, seconded by Gary Miller to accept the proposal. Motion passed 12-1 against.
26. Motion by Brain Palmquist to add the 13.2 cu In OMC (200cc Mod class motor) as a prototype in the 125 cc Mod classes. Seconded by Jeff Williams. Motion passed 12-1 against.
27. Karl Dyle requested the support of all racers at the 2018 Mod Winternationals in Jesup, GA.. Action on 2019 was tabled until Jerry and Karl can work out on either Jesup or Tabor City to be held in early April.
28. Motion by Jeff Williams to allow gear case changes where the race committee shortens the course. Rule to read: "In a class where multiple gear ratios are permitted, in the finals, after qualifications are complete, and the race committee changes the length of the course, it is legal to change gearcases in the inspection area. Both cases must be presented for inspection." Seconded by Daren Goehring. Motion passed unanimously.
29. Proposal by Daren Goehring to allow a 3 heat format to be used at a championship event. Motion by Daren Goehring to accept the proposal, seconded by Alex Poliakof. Motion failed unanimously.
30. Alex Poliakof made a motion to allow the Tohatsu in stock form to participate in the 750 cc Mod classes as a prototype, seconded by Daren Goehring. Following discussion, motion failed 3-10.
31. Jerry Davids made a presentation on the pipe project. He requested that previously allocated monies for the 500 pipe kit be re-allocated to the 350 pipe kit project. Commission unanimously agreed to do this.
32. Safety Meeting was reported on by Bob Koschka. Safety was overall very good in 2017. The safety committee presented a survey form they want to have used to get them statistical information on accidents. There was also a demonstration of an-air inflatable vest that when you go out of boat, inflates to prevent bucketing and fills in the open space around our necks to prevent injuries. He will be doing some further investigation on this.
33. Eric VanOver wanted to revisit the gear case change as it relates to records. After discussion, it was decided that this was covered under the General Rules so any proposal needed to be submitted to Race Management.
34. Brian Palmquist reported that the Revolution runabout molds have gone to Steve Roskowski and he has begun to build boats from them.
35. Fred Hauenstein introduced the President of UIM and the UIM General Secretary who were welcomed by the commission.
36. A brief discussion was held on the changes coming to APBA and the Modified commission.
37. Motion by Jerry Davids, seconded by Jeff Williams to Adjourn. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Williams

