**Inboard Racing Commission**

**Meeting Minutes**

**National Meeting – Detroit, MI**

**January 22-24, 2015**

**Call to Order:** Meeting of the Inboard Racing Commission was called to order at 10:30 am EST.

***Roll Call:*** Attending: Mark Weber-Chairman, Sandy Cody-Inboard Administrator. IRC Members: Bert Henderson, Dave Shaw, Kim Liddycoat, Sean Bowsher, Jim Codling, Russ Dodge, Bob Schellhase, Julian Rucki, Scott Schatz, Jeff Bernard, Kent Henderson, Jim Sechler, Thom Heins, MaryAnne Wilson, Corey Peabody, Dave Rankin. ITC Deputy Commissioner: Rich Falcinelli, Todd Liddycoat, Ann Fitzgerald, Gene Defalco.

Not Present: Mark Wheeler, Matt O’Conner, Marty Hammersmith, Gordon Jennings. IRC Deputy Commissioner: John Shaw, Bobby Kennedy.

***Moment of Silence***

**Cha*irman’s Address:***  Chairman thanked the Commission for their time. Inboard budget will be submitted to APBA. Thanked Ann Fitzgerald and Kim Liddycoat for all their hard work on the Inboard Banquet and awards. Dave Shaw will announce and Sean Bowsher will do the video presentation at the Inboard Banquet. Inboard banquet is sold out, no tickets available.

***Approval of Conference Call Meeting Minutes, December 8, 2014:*** Motion to approve Meeting Minutes by Julian Rucki, seconded by Kim Liddycoat. Motion passed.

***Referee Report*:** Dave Shaw gave report. 60 people have already passed the Referee test. East Coast needs more referees, other parts of the country doing well.

***Inspector Report*:** Bill Thompson gave report. Things went well last year. Inspector test should be completed shortly

***Rookie of the Year*:** Kelsey Best won the Kyle Bement West Coast Rookie of the Year. Katelyn Shaw won the East Coast Rookie of the Year. Kelsey and Katelyn both will be present at the Inboard Banquet to receive their award.

***Technology Committee*:** Sean Bowsher gave report. IRC will not be paying for live streaming at Inboard events this year due to the cost.

***Safety Committee*:** Jeff Bernard gave report. Same Committee as in the past 4 years. Torso life jackets need to be inspected and updated. Driver with a concussion will not be able to race until he or she is cleared. Any capsule manufactured after October 2013 must update capsule paperwork and send a core sample to Jamie Auld for testing. 3 capsule manufactures have been approved Bert Henderson (all classes), Dave Kidd (class 4 capsules) and Claude Bergeron. Proposed rule changes 2015-001, 2015-002, 2015-015, 2015-020, starting procedures and 5 litre rules recommended not passing these rules. Proposed rule change 2015-014 recommended passing rule. APBA website and rule book remove old capsule documents.

***Spec Boat*:** Jim Sechler gave report. Paul Price did a great job. Not running well goes about a half lap then shuts down, installed new fuel pump but problem still exists. Currently believe there is either an open ground or a map sensor that is causing the ECU to shout down as cycling the ignition switch clears the code and the engine re-fires.

***Inboard Equipment Inventory*:** Inboard Office will contact person in possession of equipment and update list of all Inboard Equipment. If in possession of Inboard equipment contact the Inboard Office.

***J Stock Hydro Report:*** Report given by Robin Shane. Boats went to 3 Region 4 Inboard races and will be going to outboard races in Region 4 this year. Boats need to be gone over and repaired if necessary. Would like to have the boats go to different Regions around the country. Dave Shaw stated that the J Stocks and Inboards have different race courses, asked to purchase 2 radios for communication.

***Split Commission:*** President Wheeler stated that the Board of Directors was approached by the Flatbottom classes and they are asking to split the Inboard Commission between Inboards and Flatbottoms. Going to form a Committee but nothing will happen this year.

**Inboard Poster:** Ann Fitzgerald gave report. This year’s poster is larger with 12 participates, income $5,350.00. Will do rack cards this year and hopes to ship them in early February. Posters will be shipped by the end of January, need to have posters distributed to race sited and Regions.

**Hall of Champions:**  Dave Shaw gave report. 4 nominee’s this year, top 3 going into the Hall of Champions which is Dan Kanfoush, Tom Thompson and John Shaw.

**Bruce Broussard Award:** Dave Shaw gave report. Biggest IRC award given out, this year’s winner is attending the Inboard Banquet. Last year points needed changed from 140 to 120. Would like to receive more nominations for this award.

**Technical Committee:** Jim Sechler updated the Commission on the Technical Committee work in 2014. Technical Committee 2015 proposal summary:

Proposal 2015-004 2.5 Stock Esslinger head – Dutch Squires - Passed

Proposal 2015-011 JSS bore size increase – Jimmie Stewart - Passed

Proposal 2015-017 Crackerbox bottom – Charles Doidge - Failed

Proposal 2015-023 JSS 350 Engine – Patrick Dender – Passed

* **Proposal 2015-004 2.5 Stock Esslinger head – Dutch Squires**
  + The Technical committee this proposal to be acceptable and the head could be used in the 2.5 Stock class if the IRC believes this is a good move for the class. We do however, believe that the implementation should be delayed to the 2016 season to give teams enough time to update their equipment if they so choose to. This should also give ACHA some time to see how the new rule works in the Canadian 2.5 Stock class and if any additional modifications to the rule are necessary.
* **Proposal 2015-011 JSS bore size increase – Jimmie Stewart**
  + The Technical committee approves this change.
* **Proposal 2015-017 Crackerbox bottom – Charles Doidge**
  + The Technical committee did not approve this based on prior rulings from Charles Strang on the subject, the way the proposal was written added uncertainty to what was and was not allowed on the bottom of the boats, and the fact that the Safety committee also thought it was not a good proposal.
* **Proposal 2015-023 JSS 350 Engine – Patrick Dender**
  + The Technical committee approved of the idea to implement the 350 into the JSS class however wanted to study the proposal further and attempt to align the rules more like the current 350 engine rules in the 5 litre class. If passed by the IRC the implementation should be for 2016 to allow teams enough time to update their equipment.

**Championship Bids:** MaryAnne Wilson stated the 2015 Waterford Summer Nationals will include the Jersey Speed Skiff class and the 2016 Waterford Summer Nationals will include all classes.

**Bid 1** –

Hampton, VA - 2016 -Eastern Divisionals, all classes invited. 1st or 2nd weekend in August, 2016 (dependent upon tides) will have actual date in 30 days.

**Motion made by MaryAnne Wilson and seconded by Dave Shaw.**

**Passed Yes 16 No 0**

**Bid 2** –

Spanaway, WA - 2016 Western Divisionals, all classes invited. September 10-11, 2016.

**Motion made by Jim Codling and seconded by Kim Liddycoat.**

**Passed Yes 16 No 0**

**Bid 3** –

Spanaway, WA – 2017 Summer Nationals, all classes invited. September 9-10, 2017.

**Motion made by MaryAnne Wilson and seconded by Russ Dodge.**

**Passed Yes 13 No 3**

**Bid 4** –

Hampton, VA – 2017 Eastern Divisionals, all classes invited. 1st or 2nd weekend in August, 2017 (dependent upon tides)

**Motion made by Kim Liddycoat and seconded by Jim Codling.**

**Passed Yes 16 No 0**

**Bid 5** –

Pateros, WA – 2017 Western Divisionals, all classes invited. August 26-27, 2017.

**Motion made by Kim Liddycoat and seconded by Jim Codling.**

**Passed Yes 16 No 0**

**Bid 6** –

Hampton, VA – 2018 Summer Nationals, all classes invited. 1st or 2nd weekend in August, 2018 (dependent upon tides).

**Motion made by Jim Codling and seconded by Bert Henderson.**

**Passed Yes 16 No 0**

**Bid 7** –

Spanaway, WA – 2018 Western Divisionals, all classes invited. September 8-9, 2018.

**Motion made by Kim Liddycoat and seconded by Jim Codling.**

**Passed Yes 16 No 0**

**2015 Committee List:**  Motioned by Jim Codling, seconded by Bert Henderson. Motion passed 16-0. The 2015 Committee List will be posted on the APBA website.

**Rule Changes: Proposed Rule Changes #1 thru #24 are posted on the APBA website under Resources, Category Inboard, Resource Type By Laws and Rules. Below is the vote of #1 thru #24 rule changes. Also posted on the APBA website under Resources is the voting record of each Inboard Commissioner.**

Rule 2015-001 – Failed - Yes 5 No 10 Abstain 1 - Motion by Scott Schatz, Seconded by Jim Codling

Rule 2015-002 – No motion made

Rule 2015-003 – Passed - Yes 13 No 2 Abstain 1 – Motion by Jeff Bernard, Seconded by Jim Codling

Rule 2015-004 – Passed- Yes 15 No 1 – Motion by Jeff Bernard, Seconded by Bert Henderson

Rule 2015-005 – Passed - Yes 13 No 1 - Motion by Dave Shaw, Seconded by Jim Codling

Rule 2015-006 – Passed - Yes 14 No 0 – Motion by Dave Shaw, Seconded by Jim Codling

Rule 2015-007 – Passed - Yes 13 No 1 – Motion by Dave Shaw, Seconded by Jim Codling

Rule 2015-008 – Passed - Yes 14 No 0 – Motion by Dave Shaw, Seconded by Jim Codling

Rule 2015-009 – Passed - Yes 14 No 0 – Motion by Dave Shaw, Seconded by Jim Codling

Rule 2015-010 – Passed - Yes 14 No 0 – Motion by Dave Shaw, Seconded by Jim Codling

Rule 2015-011 – Passed - Yes 16 No 0 – Motion by Dave Shaw, Seconded by Julian Rucki

Rule 2015-012 – No motion made

Rule 2015-012B – Failed – Yes 0 No 14 Abstain 2 – Motion by Jim Codling, Seconded by Julian Rucki

Rule 2015-012C – No motion made

Rule 2015-013 – No motion made

Rule 2015-013B – No motion made

Rule 2015-013C – No motion made

Rule 2015-013D – No motion made

Rule 2015-014 Part 1 – Going to Committee (class name change)

Rule 2015-014 Part 2 – No motion made (change number of boats in a heat from 10 to 8)

Rule 2015-015 – Failed - Yes 0 No 16 – Motion by Russ Dodge, Seconded by Kent Henderson

Rule 2015-016 – No motion made

Rule 2015-017 – Failed – Yes 2 No 13 Abstain 1 – Motion by Dave Shaw, Seconded by Julian Rucki

Rule 2015-018 – Passed – Yes 13 No 3 – Motion by Jim Sechler, Seconded by Kim Liddycoat

Rule 2015-019 – No motion made

Rule 2015-020 – Failed - Yes 5 No 11 – Motion by Julian Rucki, Seconded by Jim Codling

Rule 2015-021 – Failed - Yes 4 No 12 – Motion by Dave Shaw, Seconded by Kent Henderson

Rule 2015-022 – Duplicate of Rule 2015-021

Rule 2015-023 – Sent to Tech Committee to report back in 30 days to the IRC

Rule 2015-024 – Failed - Yes 0 No 16 – Motion by Dave Shaw, Seconded by Jim Codling

***Inboard Driving School:*** Successful driving school in Dayton, OH last year. Increasing the cost of the driving school from $400.00 to $450.00 in 2015, will offer a promo code in advertising that is worth $50.00 reducing cost back to $400.00 if used. Looking for different way to advertise driving school. Midwest boat at Tom Newman’s and the strut problem has been fixed. East Coast boat at Ed Thompson’s and needs a plan to complete. West Coast boat Jeff Bernard stated that they are done with the body work, one engine is ready and has trailer. Pateros and Spanaway race site have 3 students a day for each event. Scott Schatz stated that he still has an engine that the Driving School can have.

***Safety/Insurance:*** Ken Smith spoke to the Commission about concussions.

***EPIC Series:*** Ann Fitzgerald gave report. EPIC racing had a good first season with 4 events in 2014. Committee is Ann Fitzgerald, Thom Heins, Bert Henderson, Kim Liddycoat, Bobby Kennedy and Matt O’Conner. EPIC racing promotes participation in Regions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. 2015 is looking positive with 6 events on board. Website is EPICboatracing.com. The committee requested the IRC to match business dollars and sponsorship monies up to $5,000.00. Motion by Jeff Bernard, seconded by Julian Rucki, the IRC will take under consideration.

***MACH Series:*** Ray Dong and Tom Swindling gave report. Series is 31 years old, main goal is not performance but participation. 2014 payout was just under $14,000.00.

***Points Committee:*** Formed a committee for the question about receiving points for races held on the same weekend has a Championship event. Committee is Corey Peabody, Chairman, Kent Henderson, Julian Rucki, Scott Schatz and MaryAnne Wilson. Corey Peabody reported back that the vote was Yes 1 and No 4.

***Inboard Budget:*** Need a plan for the East Coast School boat. JSS engine $5,000.00. Grant program $8,000.00 with an April 2nd deadline for grant program. Discussion followed. Motion by Julian Rucki, seconded by Jim Codling. Passed Yes 15 No 1.

***Elected IRC Change to a 2 year Term:*** Bert Henderson suggested that an elected IRC member have a 2 year term instead of a 1 year term. Chairman explained that it would take a By Law change and that the Board of Directors would have to approve and change the By Law. Chairman suggested forming a Committee to work up a proposal to give to the Board of Directors. Committee consists of Bob Schellhase, Sean Bowsher and Rich Falcinelli.

***Summer National Points:*** Dave Shaw suggested that if a race is over 2,000 miles from a Summer Nationals event the race can award points on the opposite day of racing. Discussion followed. Motion by Dave Shaw, seconded by Thom Heins. Failed Yes 1 No 15.

***5 Litre as a legal 2.5 Litre mod:*** A 5 litre can run as a legal 2.5 litre modified. Discussion followed. Motion by Dave Shaw, seconded by Bert Henderson. Passed Yes 15 No 1.

**RULE 44 - 2.5 LITRE MODIFIED CLASS**

**44.1** Competing boats shall be powered by one internal combustion motor of the four-cycle type, utilizing any combination of engine/cylinder head.

**44.2 Engine combinations.**

**44.2.1** Boats using multiple overhead cams and**/**or more than 2 valves per cylinder must have a displacement not exceeding 146 cubic inches and no more than 6 cylinders. The weight minimum shall be 1225 pounds and the fuel shall be restricted to gasoline only. As an alternative, methanol may be used but the minimum weight shall be increased to 1325 pounds. Engines using methanol must use production blocks and head(s).

**44.2.2** Boats using engines with pushrods or a single overhead cam, no more than 2 valves per cylinder, and a displacement not exceeding 155.5 cubic inches, shall weigh a minimum of 1,225 pounds. Fuel shall be gasoline, methanol, or ethanol-based fuels.

**44.2.3** Boats using engines with pushrods or a single overhead cam, no more than 2 valves per cylinder, and a displacement not exceeding 166.0 cubic inches, shall weigh a minimum of 1,325 pounds. Fuel shall be gasoline, methanol, or ethanol-based fuels.

**44.2.4 Any boat meeting Rule 45 shall be considered legal within the 2.5 Litre Modified Class. This combination is NOT considered legal in the National Modified class.**

***Capsuled Flatbottom Experimental Hull:*** Scott Schatz addressed the IRC regarding an experimental capsuled Flatbottom hull manufactured in Australia. Would have them race with Pro Stock and Super Stock classes and run on the outside. If there is interest they would also be manufactured in the United States. Would have to change rule 40.17 adding and hull.

***40.17 Rule:*** Add and hull to the rule book. Motion by Scott Schatz, seconded by Sean Bowsher. Passed Yes 16 No 0.

**40.17** A participant will be allowed to run an engine **or hull** that does not meet the legal requirements of a particular class as a research vehicle for possible new engine **or hull** inclusion to the inboard category. The participant shall be a registered APBA owner and petition the Inboard Chairman, the IRC and the Tech Committee to allow him to run an alternate engine in a class. This petition request, if approved, shall have a maximum term of two years. At the end of this 2-year term, the participant must submit a request that the engine have inclusion as a legal engine configuration in that class or submit a request for an extension for further research. These experimental/exhibition participants will not be awarded national points or trophies. These participants will be counted as bona fide starters in the class. This boat will not displace any boat in an elimination situation because it receives no points, but will be given every opportunity to run at the referee’s discretion. This experimental participant will start in a position predetermined by the referee. Prize money and tow/show money will be awarded at the race director’s discretion.

The meeting was adjourned on January 23, 2015 at 3:55 pm EST. Motion by Kim Liddycoat, seconded by Jim Codling.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Cody

Inboard Administrator