

## 2020 Rhodes 19 Class Association Annual Meeting Minutes

The 2020 Annual Meeting of the Rhodes 19 Class Association was called to order at 7:06 p.m. on Wednesday January 13, 2021 by Class President Mike Lane. The meeting was held virtually over Zoom.

The President opened the meeting with a welcome. He reviewed the agenda and the protocols that would be followed to facilitate an effective virtual meeting. The President highlighted that voting would be conducted online after the meeting through a Google form rather than during the meeting with proxies. He then outlined the agenda which followed the prescribed agenda for the Annual Meeting:

- Call to order
- Verification of a quorum to hold the meeting
- Approval of minutes from last meeting
- Reports of officers and committees
- Setting of dues for next fiscal year
- Annual budget
- Unfinished business
- Proposed amendments to Constitution and/or By-Laws
- New business
- Election of class officers
- Adjournment

A quorum was established by Class Secretary Jeff Shoreman based on the proxies received and the over 50 members attending the virtual meeting.

The President then asked if there were any comments on the minutes from the 2019 Annual Meeting. With no comments, the minutes were added to the ballot to be formally approved by the membership.

The President then gave his report to the membership. He opened by acknowledging the passing of long-time Class member Scott Hale from the Rockport fleet. He went on to note the challenge posed by the pandemic and the fact that no Class sanctioned events were held in 2020. The President also, however, highlighted the strength of the Class as evidenced by the strong local turn out in many locations, the relaunch of Fleet 33 - Southport, Maine, as well as the increase in Class membership in 2020.

The President then noted that the Executive Committee had updated the guidance to host fleets for awarding the trophies at the National Championship regatta. The goal in clarifying the criteria is to more broadly distribute the trophies. He also thanked Class member Mike Hebert who coordinated an effort to collect and update the perpetual trophies. Going forward, the perpetual trophies will be held by the host club for the National Championship in the year leading up to the event before being passed to the host club for the following year's regatta.

The President then announced the Regional Vice Presidents for 2021:

- Peter Kovats – Midwest (continuing)
- Tommy Taggart – Gulf Coast (continuing)
- Mike Hebert – East Coast

The President thanked Jim Lidington for his years of service as East Coast Vice President.

The Secretary then gave an update on the membership. Membership numbers increased versus 2019 to 133 regular members and 8 associate members (up from 120 and 5 in 2019).

The Treasurer Tom Carville then gave an update on the Class's finances. The Class's total balance stood at approximately \$46,500. There was no revenue in 2020 reflecting the decision to reduce fees to \$0 due to the pandemic. Expenses were also down through the year. The Treasurer forecasted the Class's cash balance to be approximately \$45,500 in 2021.

Members raised several points of discussion around uses of the Class's cash balance, including:

- Programs to get more youth sailors into the Class
- Supporting or buying boats to be used by local Fleets
- Increasing the stipend for the host fleet of the National Championship to \$75/boat from \$50/boat.

A motion was raised and supported for the National Class to provide the National Championship Regatta with a \$75/boat stipend. This item was added to the ballot for a vote by the membership.

The President then asked the attendees to review several standing items of business.

The first was affirming the dues for 2020 and setting the dues for 2021.

A motion was made to set dues as follows:

- For 2020, Regular Member dues to be \$0 due to the pandemic and the lack of sanctioned events.
- For 2021, Regular Member dues to be \$35, unless Class sanctioned regattas are again cancelled, in which case dues will be set to \$0

The motion to set dues was supported and the item was added to the ballot for approval by the membership.

The President then turned to new business. The first piece of new business was the consideration of 3 changes to the Class by-laws. The following proposed changes were circulated to the membership ahead of the Annual Meeting and read by President Mike Lane:

#### Proposed By-Law Change #1

#### ARTICLE XII –REGULATIONS THAT APPLY AT SANCTIONED EVENTS

Change B 12.00.02 –

- **From** - The Person in Charge either a) must have campaigned a Rhodes 19 either during 25% of the current racing season within the territory of the fleet they represent, b) have been a Member of the Rhodes 19 Class Association for two consecutive years prior to the current year, or c) have been a past district or national champion. If the Person in Charge is not the Helmsman, then the Helmsman is subject to the same criteria.
- **To** - The Person in Charge either a) must have campaigned a Rhodes 19 either during 25% of the current racing season within the territory of the fleet they represent **as helmsman**, b) have been a Member of the Rhodes 19 Class Association for two consecutive years **immediately** prior to the current year, or c) have been a past district or national champion **as**

**helmsman, or d) not yet reached their 25th birthday by the first day of the regatta.** If the Person in Charge is not the Helmsman, then the Helmsman is subject to the same criteria.

### Proposed By-Law Change #2

#### ARTICLE XII –REGULATIONS THAT APPLY AT SANCTIONED EVENTS

Following B 12.00.03, add –

- Any ISAF Sailor Classification Category 3 sailor participating in a class sanctioned event either a) must have sailed a Rhodes 19 either during 25% of the current racing season within the territory of the fleet they represent, b) have been a Member of the Rhodes 19 Class Association for two consecutive years immediately prior to the current year, or c) have been part of the winning team (helmsman or crew) of a past Rhodes 19 district or national championship.
- Neither helmsman nor crew shall accept a payment or fee specifically for participating in a race.

### Proposed By-Law Change #3

#### ARTICLE XII –REGULATIONS THAT APPLY AT SANCTIONED EVENTS

Change B 12.02 –

- From - The minimum total crew complement per boat shall be three for all races.
- To - The minimum combined weight of all crew and helmsman shall be 425 pounds.

At the President's request, the members in attendance discussed each of these proposed changes to the by-laws in turn. The majority of the debate centered around the 3<sup>rd</sup> proposed change to the by-laws. During the meeting, discussion was held on whether the amendment could be modified prior to voting. Due to the notice requirement, the President communicated that modifying the proposed language was not possible. Alternative language, could, however, be distributed to the membership for consideration at any time in the future with proper notice.

Members in attendance asked the Executive Committee to consider an alternative to the weight limit amendment should the proposed amendment fail to pass. The framework for the alternative was as follows:

- The total crew complement per boat shall be 2 or more people
- At the registration for sanctioned events, each boat would need to declare its crew complement and maintain that same crew complement for the entire event
- Any changes to the crew complement would need to be approved by the event judge

The Executive Committee agreed to consider this alternate proposal.

Following the discussion, the 3 proposed changes to the by-laws were added to the ballot to be voted on by the membership. A change to the by-laws requires 2/3's of active members to vote in favor of the change. Voting is limited to 1-vote per sail number per Class rules.

The President then asked if there was any other business to consider.

- A question was raised and discussed on the rules regarding the mast crane.
- A question was raised on pooled insurance options.
- Members in attendance asked the Executive Committee to explore updating the Class rules to modernize the process of changing Class rules and by-laws.

The Executive Committee agreed to consider proposals to modernize the process to change Class rules and by-laws.

The President then reviewed the schedule of sanctioned events for 2021:

- Gulf Coast Championships, Southern Yacht Club, New Orleans, May 28-30, 2021
- East Coast Championships, Manchester Yacht Club, Manchester, June 4-6, 2021
- National Championships, Corinthian Yacht Club, Marblehead, August 16-20, 2021

The next order of business was the officer slate for 2021. The following slate of officers was added to ballot for approval by the membership:

- President – Mike Lane, Fleet 5, Marblehead (continuing)
- Treasurer - Tom Carville, Fleet 7, New Orleans (continuing)
- Secretary - Tim Dittrich, Fleet 5, Marblehead

Mike Lane then awarded the 2020 President's Trophy, recognizing Jeff Shoreman for his service to the Class.

The President concluded the meeting by thanking the Class officers and the membership at large for their participation and support.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55pm

A Google form ballot was distributed to all members for voting after the conclusion of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Jeff Shoreman, Class Secretary

## Voting Results

All votes were validated against the membership roster. Per Class rules, duplicate votes under the same sail number were not counted. The total number of validated votes was 95.

By-law changes require the support of 2/3's of the regular members to pass. In 2020, 88 votes represented 2/3's of the regular members.

## Ballot Items

Do you approve the minutes from the last meeting? The minutes are available for review on the class website (<http://rhodes19.org/class-association/annual-meeting-2/>)?

- **YES: 95**
- **NO: 0**
- **PASS**

Do you approve the proposed slate of class officers?

- **YES: 95**
- **NO: 0**
- **PASS**

Do you approve setting the 2020 class dues at \$0?

- **YES: 94**
- **NO: 1**
- **PASS**

Do you approve setting the 2021 class dues at \$35, unless Covid restrictions prevent running class sanctioned regattas, in which case 2021 class dues would be set at \$0?

- **YES: 95**
- **NO: 0**
- **PASS**

Do you approve establishing a stipend of \$75 per boat with a minimum of \$1,500 total for the 2021 National Championship?

- **YES: 91**
- **NO: 4**
- **PASS**

## Proposed By-Law Change #1

### ARTICLE XII –REGULATIONS THAT APPLY AT SANCTIONED EVENTS

#### Change B 12.00.02 –

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have been a Member of the Rhodes 19 Class Association for two consecutive years **immediately** prior to the current year, or c) have been a past district or national champion **as helmsman**, or d) **not yet reached their 25th birthday by the first day of the regatta**. If the Person in Charge is not the Helmsman, then the Helmsman is subject to the same criteria.

- **YES: 90**
- **NO: 5**
- **PASS**

Proposed By-Law Change #2

ARTICLE XII –REGULATIONS THAT APPLY AT SANCTIONED EVENTS

Following B 12.00.03, add –

- Any ISAF Sailor Classification Category 3 sailor participating in a class sanctioned event either a) must have sailed a Rhodes 19 either during 25% of the current racing season within the territory of the fleet they represent, b) have been a Member of the Rhodes 19 Class Association for two consecutive years immediately prior to the current year, or c) have been part of the winning team (helmsman or crew) of a past Rhodes 19 district or national championship.
- Neither helmsman nor crew shall accept a payment or fee specifically for participating in a race.

- **YES: 93**
- **NO: 2**
- **PASS**

Proposed By-Law Change #3

ARTICLE XII –REGULATIONS THAT APPLY AT SANCTIONED EVENTS

Change B 12.02 –

- From - The minimum total crew complement per boat shall be three for all races.
- To - The minimum combined weight of all crew and helmsman shall be 425 pounds.

- **YES: 29**
- **NO: 66**
- **FAIL**