

VX One Class Association Meeting Minutes

Date: 5/9/16

Start: 4:05 p.m. EDT

Adjourn: 4:50 p.m. EDT

Present:

Chris & Julie Howell X
Michael Norris, President and Fleet #6 X
Tim Pitts, Vice President X
Beth Walford, Secretary/Treasurer and Fleet #8
Jeff Eiber, Chief Measurer X
David Guggenheim, Past President
Jay Harrell, At Large Board Member X
Jim Myers, At Large Board Member X
Donovan Brennan, Fleet #1
David Eve, Fleet #2
Jeff Progelhof, Fleet #4 X
Bob Maccini, Fleet #5 X
Brian Bennett, Copyright Holder

Agenda:

1. 2016-2017 Winter Series
2. 2016 NAC Update
3. 2017 NAC Location
4. Active Members by Fleet Report
5. Discussion on Fleet Membership Growth

Description:

Michael welcomed everyone to the call and hopes that we can have increased communications with the fleets and grow our Class.

1. **2016-2017 Winter Series** – Sarasota Sailing Squadron will host the 2016-2017 Winter Series on the following dates: November 19-20, January 14-16 (Midwinter Championship) and February 11-12. The Class will participate in the St. Pete NOOD the following weekend. The SSS posted event in April is tentative. Michael is working on the NOR for the Winter Series...look for that soon.
2. **2016 NAC Update** – The 2016 North American Championship takes place September 22-25 at Macatawa Bay Yacht Club in Holland, MI. The NOR and entry forms are posted on Yacht Scoring. Michael hopes to secure some housing...let him know if you desire housing. They will also post hotel information. 28 boats participated last year, and Michael expects 30+ this year.
3. **2017 NAC Location** – At the last Officers meetings, a proposal was accepted for Rush Creek Yacht Club in Texas to host the 2017 North American Championship. The likely dates are the end of October and will be confirmed/posted soon. Expect a great event!
4. **Active Members by Fleet Report** – Chris distributed via e-mail a list of VX One Class members dating back to 2013, noting the most recent year of paid membership. Michael noted a lapse of renewals, so let's work within the fleets to follow-up on any ownership changes and/or get them back into the membership. A secondary phase is to help our members become more active and visible. Chris asked Fleet Captains to advise him of any names on the list not currently listed with a fleet who are actually in your area and/or if you know someone listed who is no longer in the Class.
5. **Discussion on Fleet Membership Growth** – Michael said that his fleet has grown to nine boats. Ways he accomplished this: battle flags, printed materials with contact information, boat presence at events, word of mouth. Once the fleet gets traction, people start to jump in. Michael will forward his flyer. Kids really enjoy the boat, and they bring the parents in. Bob spoke about the Newport fleet, noting that their home base of Sail Newport is not conducive to marketing the boat in a club setting. A demo day would help bring the numbers back up. Boats are being built by multiple builders (with a lead time on delivery), and there is at least one VX One in the Newport area for sale. Bob wondered if we could work with North Sails to promote

the boat. Michael will talk to Ched Proctor about this idea. Jeff E. said he plans to have the boat at Edgewater YC on Sundays to take people out after their one-design races. On Wednesday club racing, he'll take the boat out. Hopefully they'll have about 7 boats at Cleveland Race Week. Jeff P. said their biggest challenge is finding boats for people who are interested. They have success taking people out in good breeze so it would be helpful to provide a used boat resource. Michael thought that as Fleets go through their membership lists from recent years, we can determine boat status and then either post the boat for sale or help the individual return to being active. Jeff P. sees a good mix of older and younger folks. He doesn't see a huge price difference in new vs. used boats so that makes it challenging for people to know which way to go (although Texas is not historically an area to buy brand new boats). Their fleet will discuss whether they would like to plan a demo day. Jim stated that he had success taking people out for racing and alternating at the helm. Even if the person is not a buyer, they may influence others. It's important to keep it fun and keep the social piece alive. Michael agreed that getting people out on the boat is vital, but suggesting rotating some crews to prevent the people in the back of the fleet from getting frustrated. Chalk talks are always helpful to those racers too.

Michael thanked everyone for joining the call, but hopes to have more fleets involved in future meetings.

Julie Howell

Action Items:

- Michael will forward his promo flyer.
- Michael will talk to Ched Proctor about a promotion with North Sails.
- Fleets will report updates on the membership list and discuss ways to grow their fleets.

Next Meeting: TBD