

International Model Power Boat Association

Annual Board Meeting Minutes Thursday, July 16, 2019

- Phone Conference •

Present:

President, Matt Schofield (V)	District 13, Doug Smock (V)
Secretary, Lynne Rupley (NV)	District 14, Mike Schindler (V)
Vice/Past Pres, Chris Rupley (V)	National Gas Director, Matt Schofield (V)
District 2, Tom Kelly (V)	National FE Director, Mike Ball (V)
District 4, Dave Halverson (V)	National Records, Brad Schafer (NV)
District 5, Nick Hartdegen (V)	National Tech Chair, Rick Grim (A)

Absent:

Treasurer, Mike Chirillo (NV)	National Safety, Robin Stebbins (A)
District 1, Luc White (V)	National Scale, Joe Wiebelhaus (A)
District 3, John Otto (V)	National O/B, Bob Kensill (A)
District 6, Larry Conrad (V)	Ntl. Tech Review Hydro, Don Ferrette (A)
District 7, Jim Nissen (V)	Ntl. Tech Review Mono, John Finch (A)
District 12, John Crouch (V)	Other Past Presidents (NV)
National Nitro Director, Mike Betke (V)	

(V= Voting Executive Board; NV= Non-Voting Executive Board; A= Board Advisor position)

CALL TO ORDER:

President Matt Schofield called the Annual Meeting of the Board to order at **8 p.m. ET / 7 p.m. CT**. The Secretary took roll call.

PREVIOUS MINUTES:

The minutes of June 19, 2018 Annual Meeting & March 13, 2019 Special Meeting were submitted for approval.

MOTION by VP Chris Rupley to waive the reading and accept the minutes as presented. **SECOND** by D4 Dave Halverson. **Motion carried without dissent.**

TREASURY REPORT:

Mike Chirillo had a family issue, but Profit & Loss for 2017-18 fiscal year distributed. (*attached*). Final Adjusted figure was \$5,950.34 profit, so a good year. Secretary stated that Fiscal year Nov. 1, 2018 through Oct. 31, 2019 will be much tighter and projects a slight loss. Several multi-year expenditures were paid this FY. Details of expenses can always be found in *Roostertail* if questions.

MOTION by D2 Tom Kelley to accept the Treasurer Report. **SECOND** by D5 Nick Hartdegen. **Motion carried without dissent.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President, Matt Schofield, noted the members lost over the previous year: Dick Loeb and Priscilla Tyndall of D12, Tom Driver of D1, Chuck Young of D4 at end of last season. This season: Chris Blaker of D1, Ricky Turner and Richard Stahl of D2, Diane King of D4, and very recently Bobby Lewellyn of D13. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and friends, and they will be missed at the ponds and races.

Insurance will expire December 31. Our agent has worked very hard on behalf of our organization to obtain quotes and coverage. Members were reminded to keep safety practices a priority. Question about what the organization might do to help obtain coverage was asked. Secretary noted that the policies are customized since there is no off-the-shelf product that meets our needs. Other policies would cover race events only, not club functions. Lowering

the coverage amount has been suggested as a way to save on premium, but it does not save a significant amount. This year's insurance premium increased by \$2,500.

The general state of the organization was discussed. IMPBA currently has 39 sanctioned clubs at 49 pond locations. North Coast Pond Hoppers merged with Cleveland Model Boat Club of D2 (Performance merged last season). Rochester has found a test pond location and is working toward holding sanctioned events again. The former Nitro Ducks have reorganized as First Coast Model Boaters at the Jacksonville, FL pond. Quad Counties did not renew. There are only 50 events confirmed sanctioned as of today's date. There are a few tentative still on the list. Still a decrease from past. We did have Gas Nats at Baltimore and Nitro US-1 Internats in Huntsville this season. Several events cancelled due to weather issues, or low sign-up numbers. Membership is currently 925, down about 50 members as compared to this point last two seasons. More will join for Late Season, so hope to get closer to the 1,000 mark.

Pres Matt noted that clubs should be encouraged to hold their scheduled event-- even if the numbers are lower than they would like. Cancelling is worse for their race in the long run than holding a small relaxed event. Any exposure for the hobby is better than none at all. There have been complaints about conflicts with race dates extending to even those dates held outside a district. Matt stated this is unavoidable due to the fact that there are only so many weekends in a summer and only so many in the pool of racers we are drawing from. It takes years to build a larger race through consistently holding it, and doing a good job that makes racers want to return.

Rule Book updating and clarification process continues.

Matt thanked those who stayed on the board and all who have stepped up to take an active role. He also reminded the BOD to get their *Roostertail* submission turned in. It is set to publish in just under 2 weeks. Secretary needs submissions as early as possible.

DISTRICTS:

District 1 – President gave a quick overview in Luc White's absence. Lanaudiere Club in Quebec area, and Rochester clubs are not holding a sanctioned event, which leaves Northern Lights "Can-Am" and S. Tier "NY Series" races for D1.

District 2 – Tom Kelly reported that D2 attendance down slightly at races mainly due to weather. Rescheduling of early summer races resulted in three consecutive race weekends, which hurt attendance at all, and the third race at Motor City was cancelled. The D14 race held in D2 pond at Celina, OH was well attended. Transom Twister's "HydroFest" in Burton, MI is slated for August, and Oakland-Wolverine's "D2 Challenge" in Rochester Hills, MI is scheduled for September.

District 4 – Dave Halverson stated that harsh winter, and spring weather which produced record rainfall in the Chicagoland area, caused the cancellation of the Badger's club May race. Riptide's "Kenny Stang Regatta" went well, but sign-ups came late. Badger's 4th of July race had low turn-out, but the club made the decision to hold it, and it went well. The district has gained several new members which is one of the districts goals. They are also hoping to gain use of a quarry property which is large, and well-situated to potentially host a nats event. Dave is also looking to reinstitute a high-points series in the district.

District 5 – Nick Hartdegen congratulated the Huntsville MBC on another successful IMPBA Internats. Live drone-footage on facebook was exciting for those unable to attend. Voodoo MBC traveled to the Gas Nats at Fort Richie in Cascade, MD. The Baltimore Club did a fantastic job hosting, and D5 presence was strong. The Voodoo pond is in the process of being dredged which will increase the depth lost over past several years. There is a possibility of two new clubs being formed in D5. Nick is working with the boaters to encourage them to sanction with IMPBA. Rick Grim noted that the Internats went well, and a story and pics have been submitted for the newsletter. He thanked the secretary for her assistance throughout. Members showed up not current on membership even though they were contacted months prior.

District 13 – Doug Smock reported that D13 races continue to be well attended. He was disappointed that CMB cancelled a Grand Prix race where 84 boats were signed-up. AMB Grand Prix race had over 200 boats enter, 177 are still slated to race even though series has a 150 boat max. Fall Nats already has 309 boats signed up. Weather in this part of the country has been great.

District 14 – Mike Schindler noted the Sellersburg, IN, Quad Counties club has disbanded and will be disbursing their assets to two other RC boat clubs. Evansville (River City) races have gone well. Propwalkers' Madison, IN race also went well. Celina looks to have a good turn-out for their upcoming race. Upcoming are the S. Indiana PropNuts "Wine Run" in August, and the River City "Kohlmeyer Classic" in Evansville in Sept. The larger boats like

twins are not coming to the new Evansville location as it is not a large enough pond for some of those boat classes. Mike reported that attendance overall is good, however.

LSG Director – Matt Schofield reported that Gas classes continue to grow. The Baltimore club was thanked for a great job hosting the IMPBA Gas Nats. The race was well attended with close to 300 boats. Celina has put in a bid for the 2020 event. Matt noted that there is an issue with the Carburetors in the stock Zenoah engines. Members who ordered the 257 are receiving one stamped 1027. This renders the engine illegal under current rules. The manufacturer is stating these are the same carbs, just a different # stamp. **Matt will investigate further and BOD may need to take action to update stock engine rules.**

FE Director – Mike Ball reported that the D13 AMB Spring Nats has a good FE turnout, as do D13 Grand Prix races. The D2 Mid-Michigan FE club did not have good numbers for their “Michigan Cup”. They held the event, but as a 2-day race instead. There has been much discussion about rewriting FE rules. Most FE racers do not travel, which has added to the Districts having individual rule sets that suit the participants in each area. Having a National rule set may be a negative in this genre. Frequent technology changes further complicate the process. FE may well be the answer for clubs who lose ponds (decreased noise level). As a direct result of the spring special meeting discussion on 1/8th scale motor rules, the Motor List Tech Notice was implemented. Mike is disheartened that he had had zero response or input from the members. There has actually been a reduction in heats of 1/8th scale FE run since that action.

Records Director - Brad Shafer reported that records were set at each of the three Record Trials this season so far. Results were posted and certificates mailed out. More are scheduled for fall. Tools used to tech the classes at trials will be discussed under new business. Moraine MM had a new location surveyed, but may not be holding the fall time trials.

OLD BUSINESS:

President gave a recap of the BOD actions since last year’s Annual Meeting. Details of these actions can be found in previous minutes and *Roostertail* Newsletters.

Vote Power figures for 2019 –(hand out attached.)

Board changes: Matt Schofield was elected President, D5 elected Nick Hartdegen, Dave Halverson was BOD appointment to fulfill remainder of D4 term, Brad Schafer was appointed as Record Director.

Rule Book updates for 2019 book (2018 Annual Mtg. / 2019 Special Mtg. / BOD email votes):

- **David W. Preusse inducted into HOF** (Executive session- 2018 Annual Mtg.)
- **Sec. K-Tech Standards - Weight updated to 30 lbs. for “all hulls” for 2019** (2018 Annual Mtg.)
- **Sec. I - LSG Thunderboat clarification – 1/8 in. overhang of ride pad** (BOD action –July 2018)
- **LSG Tunnel Class** (passed by membership vote after 1-yr. Trial.)
- **FE Two-Minute Start Clock Option** (passed by membership after 1-Year Trial)
- **Sec. N - History correction** – Missing LSG and FE US-1 winners were discovered (BOD action)
- **Sec. H – Nitro Scale Unlimited Consi clarification** (BOD action – Nov. 2018)
- **Sec. I – LSG Tunnel Class updated to 31cc max** (Mar. Special Mtg.)
- **Sec. I – LSG General Engine Rules** - “up to 2.196 cid (36.0 cc) max.” clarified allowing “bump up” (Mar. Special Mtg.)
- **Sec. K – Tech Standards** - updated to remove Para. 2. Protest After A Contest or Record Run, eliminated conflicting language. (Mar. Special Mtg.)
- **FE Scale Unlimited Motor Tech Notice** – remains in effect

1-Year Trial Rules – to be voted on by membership in December 2019

- **TLSG 64 Max. Displacement (Twin Gas Only)**
- **Optional Two-Minute Start Clock**

2020 Gas Nats approved by BOD for Sept. 10-13 in Celina, OH, hosted by Driftwood MBC.

Time Trial Tools List – Motion made at a March Special Mtg. to have Records Dir. and Tech Chair research tools used for time trials for possible inclusion as a suggested list in Rule Book. Findings to be presented under New Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Director elections: District 3, 7, 11, 12, 14 for terms to begin Jan. 1, 2020. Secretary will contact incumbent D3 and D7 directors not present tonight to determine if they wish to remain on Board. D11 is vacant, D12 members

nominated Fred Lumb, Jr. #15718 S, and Incumbent D12 John Crouch has declined to run. Incumbent D14 Mike Schindler stated he would stay on. A ballot for new directors (even unopposed races) will appear in September *Roostertail*. No ballot will be run for incumbents remaining for another term.

Tech Tools List – Results of research submitted. Brad (Records Dir) and Rick (Tech Chair) received response & input from all Record Trial sites. The host clubs responded negatively with regards to requiring specific tools. Matt stated this proposal is better suited to a suggestion list than a mandated one. The main issue that caused this discussion was resolved by looking at and updating the class rules to correct a flawed cc limit that didn't leave room for tolerances in measures.

Brad discussed the list. He noted acceptably accurate scales and decibel meters proposed were available on Amazon for under \$25. (Example: \$22 scale has an acceptable accuracy tolerance of 0.2 lbs.) Adapters that can be made for dial calipers might be a solution. Those tools were made for Huntsville and it is hoped they could be obtained for all sites. A vary accurate volt meter (tolerance of +/- 0.1mV) could run \$175. This is a key item for measuring FE. It was noted that the \$20 meters are rated with a tolerance of over +/-0.5 mV. Rick researched multiple brands. The point is to maintain the integrity of Records.

Discussion followed about cost and whether organization or clubs should bear. It was proposed that IMPBA might supply sets to timing sites and an additional set to be used at FE, Gas, and Nitro Nats and Internats if needed versus shipping sets around. This would basically be an addition to the timing sets (Flint, Eastern, Huntsville, plus spare. Cincinnati and Moraine own their own IMPBA certified equipment. Valdosta borrows Huntsville set) Question was raised as to whether adapters can be obtained. The original machinist is unable to do so at this time.

MOTION by VP/PP Chris Rupley to TABLE this Tools List discussion until a source and costs can be determined. **SECOND** by D2 Tom Kelley.

Motion to TABLE Tools List carries without dissent.

ACTION: Rick Grim and Chris Rupley will reach out to contacts to see if anyone has time to help with this project and get quotes for later BOD consideration.

Scale Unlimited Drive Dog Clarification – Proposal submitted to specify the amount of drive dog extension allowed in existing rule. Sec. H-Nitro Special Classes / II-Scale Unlimited Rules/ item D(7) addition of (a) to state maximum of one and one-half inches beyond transom for boats having documentation.

MOTION by D2 Tom Kelley to adopt this proposed clarification for immediate implementation. **SECOND** by D4 Dave Halverson. **Motion carried without dissent.** (*Notice will be published in August Roostertail*)

Gas Sport Hydro Canard Wing Proposal – Proposal to allow a Canard Wing not exceeding 4 inches and put LSG wording more in line with the Nitro Sport Hydro language. Sec. I-LSG / V-Specialty Classes/ B. Sport Hydro/ paragraph (2)(c.) additional language. Secretary attached a draft revise of the current Sport Hydro Hull drawing for review. BOD feels this presents no issues and could go before membership. BOD discussed the options and the best path to move proposal along.

Motion by D14 Mike Schindler to send this proposal for 2019 membership vote. **SECOND** by D5 Nick Hartdegen. **Motion carried without dissent.** (*proposal w/drawing will be published in Roostertail*)

Buoy discussion – VP/PP Chris Rupley discussed the current buoys and anchoring systems. They are damaging hulls because they aren't breaking loose when hit. The buoys are extremely hard. Discussion followed. Some clubs are having to change to other buoy systems that break away easier so they cause less harm. BOD determined it was best not to hit buoys.

Revisit of 1027 carb discussion – BOD members wanted clarified if the 1027 carb mentioned in the LSG Director report remains illegal as they may be seen at Time Trials. Additionally, other parts are possibly being swapped out by suppliers on motors ordered as "stock" Zenoah and some racers are not able to tell. Rick Grim has noticed an increase in this from the recent Internats and Record Trials. Pres Matt stated at this time the 1027 remains illegal. It remains the participant's responsibility to make sure their equipment falls within the rules. The 1027 issue will be investigated further as noted earlier. BOD will be contacted if additional action needed.

Novice racers at National events discussion – Question was if it is possible to dictate that participants at National level events must have run a certain number of District races. BOD members noted that drivers who exhibit an inability to handle the class they are entered in should be called off the course as the rules dictate. D14 Mike noted that even experienced racers who haven't read the rules make errors. Often racers are doing things allowed at club races that aren't allowed when IMPBA rules are enforced. Rick Grim noted that as CD he asks racers at drivers' meeting if this is their first event, then requires they have an experienced Pit Man on the stand to

help them. Our Single-Event insurance only allows other organization boaters in the hopes that this indicates at least some prior experience. Restricting this could be bad for organization growth.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, and no Executive Session required, a motion to adjourn the meeting was requested.

MOTION by D5 Nick Hartdegen to adjourn. **SECOND** by D13 Doug Smock.

Meeting adjourned 9:47 PM. ET.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Rupley,
Secretary

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