

Winter Annual Meeting Agenda
International Lightning Class Association

St Petersburg YC, St Petersburg, FL

March 20, 2017

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call of Fleets
3. Minutes of the last meeting
4. Reports of Officers:
 - a. President's Report - Hugh Hutchison
 - i. Amendments passed at the Governing Board Meeting
 - Temporary Amendment (A) to the Document Governing - Re: 2017 NAC - Limited to 70 participants, first come first serve registration opening on June 15. You can register before your Districts, but your entry won't be complete until completion of your Districts.
 - Amendment (B) - Change to Plans and Specifications - Article V - Sails, Section 75; Main Sail number/letter/emblem layout - *Pending ratification from World Sailing.
 - ii. The Annual Meeting of Members will be held at the WJM's at Metedeconk River YC the beginning of August. We plan to hold a special meeting during the World Championship in Ecuador.
 - b. Chief Measurer's Report - Bill Cabrall
 - c. Treasurer's Report - Hugh Hutchison
 - d. Secretary's Report -
 - e. Vice Presidents and Committee Reports
 - i. North American Championships – Josh Goldman
 - 2017 - CYC, Wrightsville Beach (Sept 21-24)
 - 2017 - WJM's Metedeconk River YC (Aug 1-4)
 - 2018 - MBYC, San Diego (proposed July 23-27)
 - 2018 WJM's Pontiac Yacht Club (MI) August (TBD - likely Aug 3-5)
 - 2019 WJM/NA's Buffalo Canoe Club August (TBD)
 - ii. Southern Circuit - David Starck
 - iii. Atlantic Coast Championship (Mallet's Bay, Burlington VT- July 29-30) Brian Hayes
 - iv. ILCA FUND Report
 - v. Other reports

Other – Reference to attachments:

Treasurer's Report, Limbaugh Fund Report, Marketing Report, Boat Grant, 80th Anniversary Regatta

5. Charters ratified or revoked -
 - a. None at this time
6. Ratifications of Executive Committee Rulings
 - a. None at this time
7. Unfinished Business
8. New Business
9. Adjournment

Written Reports - Governing Board March 18, 2017

Treasurer's Report: Hugh Hutchison

The finances of the International Lightning Class Association remain on a sound footing. The year-end 2016 Profit and Loss Statement showed net income of just over \$8000. The Class budgets for a break-even financial plan and continues to approach its finances from a very conservative perspective. The year-end Balance Sheet showed total current assets of \$77,774 and total assets, including fixed assets (6 Lightnings) net of depreciation, and restricted assets held in the ILCA Fund, the Limbaugh Fund and the History Fund, of \$365,764. Current liabilities total \$2,019. Attached to this report are the year-end Profit and Loss Statement and the year-end Balance Sheet.

Certain entries deserve comment. Skipper and crew dues from North America, our largest single source of income, held steady for the year. We saw a strong resurgence in Skipper, Crew and Associate dues in South America, rising 65%, 72% and 237% respectively from the prior year. We are hopeful that the trend will continue with the World's scheduled to be held in South America this year. European dues were off slightly from the prior year.

Boat, mast and sail royalties fell notably from the prior year. We will watch this closely, and particularly sail royalties, to determine if this represents a trend or a single year phenomena. Other material changes reflect and can be explained by specific events such as the absence of a Yearbook and advertising revenue and certain regatta income (non-Worlds year). Overall, Class income fell by \$15,500, or 16%, from the prior year. Expenses, however, fell by \$28,483 or 29% from the prior year. The largest single reduction in expense was the decrease in the Yearbook expense.

The Class finances are somewhat complicated by the fact that the Class maintains several charitable funds that are directed to specific programs and overseen by separate committees. Nevertheless, the financial reports failed to fully separate the specific financial interests of each of the funds but accounted for them on a consolidated basis. This year we have revised our statements to provide a more accurate view of the financial interests of each of the separate funds. The current detailed report will allow us to more accurately track our overall financial picture.

For the current year, we expect to incur increased costs associated with the upgrade of our website and membership management system. The ILCA Fund has approved funds to help cover the initial investment of this the new system. However, the plan certainly is for the upgraded website to provide functionality that will enhance the collection of dues and provide other long-term benefits that will recoup at least a part of the anticipated investment.

We continue to encourage everyone who owns a Lightning or participates in our fleets or other Class activities to support the Class with the payment of dues. The income derived from this primary source will keep our finances strong for the benefit of all.

Limbaugh Fund Report: Matt Fisher/Kip Hamblet

In 2016, the Limbaugh fund granted \$3,967.49 to enable juniors and young adults to compete in events such as the North Americans, Southern Circuit and Junior Worlds in Salinas. In 2017, so far the fund is providing support for a former boat grant sailor to compete in the 2017 Worlds in Salinas. The current balance is approximately \$35,000. Although the fund cannot grant every request, we encourage members to have Lightning sailors under about 30 to contact the fund to that they can compete and enjoy events that they otherwise would not have attended.

Marketing Committee Update: Matt Fisher

In January Kevin Morin put together an article that was titled “**Checklist of what every District can do**”. We all know that fleets and districts maintain or generate activity through the energy of a champion or champions leading members to better participation. The Michigan District is an example of a district that has maintained a level of participation through the last 25 years while adjacent districts have struggled with numbers. Kevin is one of the champions in Michigan and did a great job of putting this list together with the help of fellow Class members that responded to a survey. It was posted on Facebook and the Class Website and received a lot of great feedback. It was picked up by different users, from small sailing clubs to Scuttlebutt. In early February the editor of Scuttlebutt referred to this list - and the Lightning Class in general - as a great example to motivate members to keep their districts active.

Bill Wiggins responded the following day (Feb 3) with a letter thanking Craig Leweck and outlined some of the upcoming activities and provided a link to a new streamlined domain that he created called ***Learnthelightning.com*** . This was designed for the non-member to briefly learn what the Lightning Class is about. We have links to the boat grant program, boats for sale, the calendar and the ‘Top 10 reasons to sail a Lightning’. This has been well received and is not at all to take the place of the Class web site but to allow potential Lightning sailors an avenue to find out a little more about the Class. It links to the class website also.

We are also working to try to get the ***Legacy Program*** operational within a couple months. There are 2 boats in inventory, and we need to make the application forms attractive and operational.

2017 Boat Grant Update: Matt Schon and Chappy Hopkin

This year the Boat Grant has taken steps to reorganize how all the processes are handled. We would like to welcome Chappy Hopkin as the new Co-Chair, stepping in for Will Brown. Will is still involved in the boat grant as a committee member. Chappy and I, with the help of Laura have taken a hard look at what is needed to make this program run successful. We are implementing the necessary process and help needed to keep this incredible program growing.

Of note, Mark Schneider has been a tremendous help this winter, storing the boats and helping Chappy get them inventoried. Robert Seidelmann has been hired to go over both boats and get them ready for the upcoming season.

We received several great applications this year and have narrowed it down to 3 extremely strong applicants. We are planning to announce the Boat Grant recipients soon. Interest in the Boat Grant starts on the local level. Please encourage young sailors in your local fleet to apply for the boat grant. We need to start generating interests in the program at the local level. If you are interested in helping the program in any way please feel free to reach out to Matt Schon or Chappy Hopkins. Thank you to everyone for the continued help and support of the program.

80th Anniversary Regatta Update:

The Organizing Committee for the 80th Anniversary Lightning Regatta, the Skaneateles Country Club and Fleet 1 are hard at work on the planning for the July 6 – 8, 2018 celebration of the Lightning Class, in Skaneateles, New York.

Our tentative Agenda is as follows:

July 6, Friday: Arrival and Check-In. Activities for sailors and their families are being planned both at the Skaneateles Country Club and the surrounding community. Sailing related clinics and on-the-water racing and daysailing activities are in discussion. Options are being explored for evening activities with broad appeal.

July 7, Saturday: Racing during the morning and afternoon. An evening reception and banquet is being planned for the evening at the Skaneateles Country Club.

July 8, Sunday: Racing continues in the morning with a family BBQ and awards presentation to follow.

July 9, Monday: The Organizing Committee is trying to organize a charity golf tournament at the Skaneateles Country Club for Monday, should sufficient interest exist. The charity's to benefit would be the Lightning Boat Grant program and the Skaneateles Historical Society (current home of Lightning #1).

This schedule and further details will be posted both on our Facebook (80th Anniversary Lightning Regatta) and the www.skaneatelescc.com as they become available.

Racing is planned to take place on three courses set on the northern third of Skaneateles Lake; one for the truly competitive racers, one for club racers, and one for the classic fiberglass and woodies. Trophy's will be awarded to each fleet with additional novelty awards to keep it interesting.

We have teamed with the Skaneateles Area Chamber of Commerce to help our guests arrange for lodging. There are significantly more options available in and around Skaneateles than during the 70th Regatta. However, we suggest making reservations early as July is high season in the Fingerlakes area. Camping may be an option and we'll post that information on both Facebook and www.skaneatelescc.com once we know the details.

While our core Organizing Committee membership hails from the Skaneateles community, we welcome volunteers from throughout the greater Lightning community. Should anyone wish to lead or assist in the organization of a clinic or activity for Friday, we'd love to hear from you. In addition, we'll be looking for plenty of volunteers throughout the weekend. Anyone interested in assisting in any way can contact us at lightning80th@gmail.com

Cordially,
Mike Yates, Lightning 378
80th Anniversary Organizing Committee Chairman
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