

President's Report US Sailing December 2, 2024

The first month of my term has been focused on the three priorities I identified that need to be addressed during my first 90 days as President. Following is an update on the activity within each area.

- The process of identifying and hire a new CEO is well underway. We signed a Letter of Engagement with Elevate Talent in November. Their team is led by Jeff Yocom and Liz Moulton. We issued a press release to inform the sailing community and to solicit applications with a deadline of December 13, 2024. During this time the Elevate team will be using their network to research and identify potential candidates. The Search Committee had a kick-off meeting with the Elevate team on November 18, they are in the process of interviewing each board member and several selected stakeholders to gather information on the characteristics and attributes we are prioritizing for our next CEO. The Candidate Brief and Job Description have been reviewed, edited and approved. We also reviewed the proposed timeline for the search which is estimated to have a duration of 12 weeks. Our goal is to identify the best candidate to lead our organization and while it would be nice to have the new candidate identified by early February the search committee will take the time needed to complete the job with the best outcome for the Association.
- The past four weeks have been extremely busy for our High-Performance staff. Marcus attended a conference at USOPC in mid-November. Maggie Shea also attended representing the Athletes. I traveled to Miami to attend both the ODP and Youth camps which took place November 22-27. It was a very good experience to observe the energy and enthusiasm that Rosie and Phil bring to their craft. The athletes were fully engaged, and the panel of world class guest coaches and sport professionals was impressive.

There were 49 athletes at the ODP Camp which was held at the Schoonmaker Center. This was our first ODP camp in 2 years. Rosie and Marcus started with a presentation covering the new tier system and what is expected of the athletes.

Phil Muller hosted the first Youth Development Camp of the new Quad during this same weekend at Miami Yacht Club with over 140 athletes attending. John Pearce was in Long Beach hosting a Youth Development Camp at Alamitos Bay YC at the same time allowing us to offer a similar program to youth sailors on both coasts

Jeff Rubin, trustee of the Schoonmaker Foundation was able to attend the opening presentation at Rosie's ODP camp and Bill Sleeman representing American Magic was able to spend time with Marcus and to get on the water with Rosie and Phil.

Mike VanDvke invited me to attend the Alamitos Bay YC Annual meeting on November 15. Mike and Commodore Ed Feo gave me a tour of our newly established training base at ABYC and the intended location of the international training village adjacent to the beach that will serve as the launch site. I also met with the leadership team at ABYC, made a brief presentation at the Annual meeting and had the honor of introducing Mike Schoettle, who was awarded his Olympic Gold medal this past July, which he had won in 1952 as an alternate on a 5.5 Metre. Mike and John Shadden gave a presentation to the members on the plans for the '28 sailing games in Long Beach. Lisa Meier, Commodore at Long Beach YC, invited me to a breakfast meeting on Saturday morning to meet her leadership team and to tour their club and review their renovation plans. I was also able to meet with Mike Galvin at the Port of LA to tour their Wilmington site where we are providing consulting services for the establishment of an Aquatics Center and the Boy Scout Camp in San Pedro where Sally Barkow is negotiating to rent space for storage of some of our equipment that cannot be stored in Long Beach. The membership at both clubs are cooperating to provide support for the games and the various events that will be scheduled in Long Beach leading up to the games. They are also enthusiastic about working closely with US Sailing to create and build a world class training facility in Long Beach.

• On November 25, Blaine Pedlow, Bob Kottler and I met to discuss the initiative to raise the funds to facilitate the purchase and implementation of our new technology system. We identified that we need to raise \$650,000 in cash to move forward with the purchase and implementation of the system and clear vision for another \$350,000 for the second year of implementation. To date we have pledges totaling \$300,000. Blaine and Bob are identifying several new prospects. We also discussed the concept of making an appeal to members of the President's Club and to use this revenue generated over the next three years to support this initiative.

It has been a busy four weeks with focus on these three important priorities. A few board members are fully engaged in working with and supporting our Senior Management team to keep the association running efficiently while we search for our new CEO.

Respectfully submitted,

Very G. Bears

Henry Brauer