

The Gulf of Maine Ocean Racing Association Minutes

November 19, 2008
2 Portland Square
Portland, ME

Present: Peter Price, Ren Drews, Gretchen Sullivan, Bob Norton, Duncan Wood, Randy Rice, Peter Garcia, Mark Waite, Ted Smith, Jody Cady, Peter Von Alstine, Carter White

Peter Price presided.

1. **President's Welcome:** Introductions were made for the attendees present. Peter Price wanted to offer a better environment for our meetings and suggested that there be no "sacred cows" in reference to the scheduling.
2. **Scheduling Issues:**
 - A. There was a proposal brought forward by Ted Smith to bring the PHRF Championships to Penobscot Bay.
 - B. The Boone Island Race in Saco and the SmuttyNose Regatta in Portsmouth were suggested to become part of GMORA sanctioned races. No motion was made to vote on the proposals.
 - C. Camden Yacht Club would like to have July 18th-19th as the weekend for the Camden Regatta. The first weekend in August will not work for them in 2009. Rockland was also discussed as a possible host in the Penobscot Bay Area. This issue was tabled until December Meeting.
3. **Regatta Promotions GMORA Sponsorship Program:**
 - A. Regatta Promotions has come up with a sponsorship program to benefit GMORA with some of the proceeds. The program does not cost GMORA anything out of pocket, aside from any mailings and printing that the board may approve. Any items that GMORA may need, must be purchased through Regatta Promotions at a fair market price. A vote was passed unanimously to allow the sponsorship program to go forward as is, with any further updates and details to be approved by the board.
4. **Educational Initiatives:**
 - A. There was a discussion about GMORA starting a seminar night. GMORA could also host a North U, racing seminar event open to the public. There was no vote on this proposal.
5. **Growth Initiatives:**
 - A. Randy Rice proposed that in order to grow the participation in the fleet, we would first need to target who it is that GMORA is trying to get out there and then come up with a plan to make it happen.
 - B. There has been growth in the smaller boats that are racing in the fleet. Tom Hall has helped to target cruiser boats by hosting clinics.
 - C. GMORA website is now managed by Regatta Promotions. Currently it is stagnant without much activity. The idea of creating a survey to send out to the membership was tossed out to target where energy should be directed.
 - D. Try to keep the costs of racing down so that costs don't become prohibitive.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gretchen Sullivan
Secretary