

ACA Competition Council Ocean Racing Committee Meeting Agenda Thursday, June 12, 2025

Last Revised: June 12, 2025

Conference Call Information

[GEOFF TO ADD]

1. Session Commencement

- a. Time: 00:00pm Eastern / 00:00pm Pacific
- b. Attendance
 - i.
- c. Pre-Read Materials
 - i. [May 23 ORC meeting minutes](#)
 - ii. [ICF ORC Questionnaire](#)
 - iii. [ACS Rubric, v2.1](#)
 - iv. [2025 Worlds Requirements](#)
 - v. [2025 Continentals Bulletin #1](#)
- d. Call for [Additional Topics](#)
 - i.

2. Session Goals

- a. Vote: Approve May ORC meeting minutes for distribution
- b. Vote: Approve ACS Rubric, v2.1

3. Current Initiatives

- a. Community Representation
 - i. Organizational Representation
 1. International Representation / [ICF](#)
 - a. ICF ORC has issued a [questionnaire](#) for NFs to complete



- b. Matt: Check rulebook revision window
 - c. Geoff: How can ICF help ACA grow membership?
 - i. Can we get a shout-out in an ICF newsletter?
 - ii. Can we include ICF events in an ACA newsletter?
 - 1. Content from other NFs,
 - iii. How about an all-competition ACA newsletter?
 - 2. Continental Representation / [COPAC](#)
 - a. MolokaBRA has been approved as Pan Am host
 - b. [First bulletin](#) has been issued
 - 3. National Representation / [ACA](#)
 - a. [ACA Safety, Instruction, and Education Council](#)
 - i.
 - b. [ACA Regional Activity Council](#)
 - i.
 - c. [ACA Paddle America Clubs](#)
 - i.
 - d. ACA Competition Council
 - i. Competition Council meeting, Thursday May 29th
 - 1. Best session so far – group was very engaged
 - 2. Topics included: Overview of canoe poling discipline, fundraising presentation by Freestyle, data competition data aggregation/analysis by SUP, Competition organizer services/benefits by Staff.
 - ii. Next meeting Thursday, July 24th
 - 1. Topic: Competition Council newsletter
 - e. [ACA CC Ocean Racing Committee](#)
 - i. Approve [May meeting minutes](#)
 - 4. Regional / Local Community Representation/Engagement
 - a. Matt: Local weekly race series has started, a few downwinds with Boston-area paddlers, Blackburn Challenge planning, Bay State Games planning, surfski show-and-tell at local club newbie workshop
 - b. Jesse:
 - c. Greg:
 - d. Geoff:
- ii. Member Representation
 - 1. Member Identification ([ACA Competition Member Tracking](#))
 - a. Metrics/KPIs
 - i.
 - b. 2025 Member Drive
 - i.
 - c. Athletes



- i.
 - d. Coaches
 - i. Matt working with Competition Council Coaching Committee to identify + post “Licensed Coaches” @ [AmericanCanoe.org](https://www.AmericanCanoe.org)
 - e. Organizers
 - i.
 - f. Dealers/Outfitters
 - i. Should we consider creating resources for dealers/outfitters?
 - ii. Google group, dealer listings @ [USASurfski.com](https://www.USASurfski.com)
 - iii. Might make lining up boat rentals for competitions easier
 - iv. Should this only be for dealers/outfitters who are ACA members? (would immediately exclude Patrick...)
 - v. Matt: Set up Google Group – ORC members provide contact info for dealers/outfitters
- 2. Member Communication
 - a. One-Way Communications
 - i. [ACA Ocean Racing Page](#)
 - 1. Matt: Post past minutes
 - 2. Matt: Update National Team Info for 2025 (Cnts, Worlds)
 - 3. Matt: Update officer titles for ORC members
 - ii. [ORC Email Newsletter #7 \(Spring 2025\)](#)
 - 1. Trying to get out the Spring newsletter before Summer arrives
 - iii. [USASurfski.com](https://www.USASurfski.com)
 - 1. Worlds Updates
 - 2. Continentals Updates
 - 3. Nationals Updates
 - 4. National Series thru June 10th
 - 5. Matt: Put Members Cup category on homepage!!**
 - iv. [USA Surfski Facebook Page](#)
 - 1. 118 likes (+6), 209 followers (+6)
 - b. Two-Way Communications
 - i. [USA Surfski Community Facebook Group](#)
 - 1.
 - ii. [ACA Ocean Racing Networks](#) (Google Groups)
 - 1. Have sent a few emails to Networks over past few weeks
 - 2. Call for Worlds/Continentals participants
 - 3. USOPC coaching resources
- b. Competition Promotion/Production
 - i. [International Competition Calendar \(ICF\)](#)
 - 1. Level 4 / Basic International Events
 - a. Madeira Ocean Challenge - Portugal - October 4-5 2025



2. Level 3 / Continental Championships
 - a. None currently listed
 - b. Matt: Email Marian re: Pan Am Continental Championships
 3. Level 2 / World Cups
 - a. [Eurochallenge](#) - Spain - May 1-3 2025
 - b. [La Run Ocean](#) - Reunion Island - November 10-16 2025
 4. Level 1 / [World Championships](#)
 - a. [2025 - Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa - October 17-19, 2025](#)
 - i. Need to identify people planning to participate
 - ii. Michelle Flynn has info re: uniforms – sooner vs. later
 - b. [2026 - Vila Joiosa, Spain - October 10-12, 2026](#)
 - c. [2027 - Tahiti - Date TBD](#)
 - d. [2028 - Cherbourg, France - Date TBD](#)
- ii. [Continental Competition Calendar \(COPAC\)](#)
 1. [Pan American Continental Championships](#)
 - a. 2025 - Fortaleza, Ceara, Brazil - August 22-31, 2025
 - b. Geoff + Matt to set up a conference call for interested paddlers
 - iii. [National Competition Calendar \(USASurfski.com\)](#)
 1. [2025 USA COR National Series](#)
 - a. 93 Races Completed YTD
 - b. 175 Race Projected EOY
 2. [2025 USA COR National Championships](#)
 - a. T-minus 30 days!
 - b. Matt has the latest participant list from Chris Hipgrave, will email non-members about Nationals opportunity/inclusion.
 - c. Medals
 - i. Just need to share age groups w/ Jed and we are good
- c. Athlete Development/Qualification
- i. [USA COR National Development Program](#)
 1. Q1 focus was National Series, Nationals, and figuring out Continentals/Worlds
 2. Q2 focus has been National Series and ironing-out Nationals, Continentals, and Worlds details
 3. Q3 focus will be National Series and Nationals + Continentals execution
 4. Q4 focus will be National Series and Worlds execution
 5. Unlikely to take on more in 2026 w/o adding new ORC members
 - ii. [USA COR National Series](#) (Status: External Pilot)
 1. [National Ranking Points \(NRP\) Rubric](#)
 - a. Current version: 1.4 (prev: 1.3)
 - b. No rubric changes since last meeting
 2. [YTD Series Metrics](#)
 - a. 430 Overall Athletes Participated YTD



- b. 1032 Overall Athletes Projected EOY
 - c. 127 Members Participated YTD
 - d. 305 Members Projected EOY
 - 3. Observations/Notables
 - a. On track to break 1000 overall participants! (2024 count: 892)
 - b. On track to break 300 member participants! (2024 count: 181)
- iii. [USA COR Athlete Classification System](#) (Status: External Pilot)
 - 1. [Athlete Classification System \(ACS\) Rubric](#)
 - a. Current Version: 2.0 (prev: 1.3)
 - b. Proposed Version: 2.1
 - i. Revises content for clarity
 - ii. Adds ACS Scenarios A9 + A11 (Gorge Downwind Champs)
 - iii. External Pilot status → Completed/Accepted
 - 2. [YTD ACS Metrics](#)
 - a. Athletes - 333 overall (202 members)
 - i. A: 7 overall classifications (3 members)
 - ii. B: 9 overall classifications (2 members)
 - iii. C: 20 overall classifications (11 members)
 - iv. D: 43 overall classifications (11 members)
 - v. E: 120 overall classifications (41 members)
 - vi. U: 134 overall classifications
 - b. Competitions
 - i. A: A1 (0), A3 (0), A5 (0), A7(0),
 - ii. B: B1 (1), B3 (0)
 - iii. C: C1 (6), C3 (1)
 - iv. D: D1 (3), D3 (2)
 - v. E: E1 (16), E3 (11)
 - vi. U: 24
 - 3. Observations/Notables
 - a. 21 N/A races YTD – some popular ones (Wild Buffalo, Carolina Cup, Vortex)
- d. Athlete Encouragement/Facilitation
 - i. [USA Ocean Racing National Development Fund](#)
 - 1. Current fund balance: \$290.00
 - 2. What to do with it?
 - a. Plastic ACA QR Code “join cards” \$70
 - b. Stickers for Nationals medals \$90
 - ii. Athlete Outreach
 - 1. National Team Recruiting
 - a. Worlds + Continentals
 - i. Worlds Interest: 0
 - ii. Continentals Interest: 3



- iii. There is bureaucracy to navigate
- iv. Logistics need to be figured out
- v. Who will be on-site team leads?
- b. Set dates for announcing the 2025 National Teams.
 - i. Probably should be right before competitions (post Nationals?)
- c. National Team?
 - i. What's our criteria?
 - ii. What's really in it for them?
 - iii. What do other countries do (UK, RSA, AUS, etc.)

4. Additional Topics / Parking Lot Items

a.

5. Actions/Assignments Recap

- a. Geoff
 - i.
- b. Greg
 - i.
- c. Jesse
 - i.
- d. Matt
 - i.

6. Next Session

- a. Friday, June 27th @ 5:00pm ET / 2:00pm PT

7. Session Adjournment

- a. Time (Eastern/Pacific): 00:00pm ET / 00:00pm PT (N minutes)

