

ACA Competition Council Ocean Racing Committee Meeting Agenda Wednesday, August 27, 2025

Last Revised: August 29, 2025

Conference Call Information

Meeting link:

https://teams.microsoft.com/join/19%3ameeting_NmNhNTIhNzEtNGFhYS00NGNkLWFmN2EtZWJmMT_E0ZDM3MDJm%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22d6c6f21e-b338-46a9-b9d1-8e10e118a57e%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22a35a1afd-e6cb-42c2-9d42-832f93587df2%22%7d

Meeting ID: 219 082 400 381 7

Passcode: ZW39KX9N

1. Session Commencement

- a. Time: 06:00pm Eastern / 03:00pm Pacific
- b. Attendance
 - i. Geoff Pearson
 - ii. Matt Drayer
- c. Pre-Read Materials
 - i. [July 31 ORC meeting minutes](#)
 - ii. [2025 ICF COR Rulebook Review](#)
 - iii. [Paddle Australia / AOCRA Integration Announcement](#)
- d. Call for [Additional Topics](#)
 - i.

2. Session Goals

- a. Vote: Approve July ORC meeting minutes for distribution



3. Current Initiatives

a. Community Representation

i. Organizational Representation

1. International Representation / [ICF](#)

a. ICF discipline rule changes

i. May-November

1. NFs should consult with stakeholders (athletes, coaches, organizers, officials)
2. Review [2025 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing rulebook](#)
3. Capture feedback/suggestions in the [2025 Workbook Sheet](#)

ii. December - March

1. NFs submit rule change requests to ICF ORC
2. Submission format currently unclear

b. Interesting email conversation with Marian Sarbu regarding [potential Paddle Australia / AOCRA integration](#)

2. Continental Representation / [COPAC](#)

a. COPAC ORC

- i. We need to get WAY ahead of next year's Pan Ams

3. National Representation / [ACA](#)

a. [ACA Safety, Instruction, and Education Council](#)

- i. SEIC Surfski:

b. [ACA Regional Activity Council](#)

- i. RAC Surfski:

c. [ACA Paddle America Clubs](#)

- i. PAC Surfski:

d. ACA Competition Council

- i. Next meeting Thursday, September 25th ([agenda/notes](#))

e. [ACA CC Ocean Racing Committee](#)

- i. Approve [July meeting minutes](#)

4. Regional / Local Community Representation/Engagement

a. Matt: Last month of local series, some downwinds

b. Geoff: Wednesday night series, hurricane season has arrived in FL

ii. Member Representation

1. Member Identification ([ACA Competition Member Tracking](#))

a. Metrics/KPIs

- i. Primary Ocean Racing Members: 89
- ii. Secondary Ocean Racing Members: 103
- iii. Additional Relevant Members: 155

2. Member Support

a. Athletes



- i.
- b. Coaches
 - i. Inquiry received from Annapolis, Maryland re: becoming a COR Coach – Matt gave them Jesse's email address.
- c. Organizers
 - i. Matt: New potential WIIFM opportunity
 - 1. [GeoTracks](#) (UK)
 - 2. Connected them with Chris Hipgrave (GGC)
 - 3. Matt will be receiving some trackers to test as well
- d. Dealers/Outfitters/Manufacturers
 - i. [Contact sheet](#) is now available
 - ii. ORC members provide contact info for dealers/outfitters
 - iii. Matt: Set up Google Group (TBD)
- 3. Member Communication
 - a. One-Way Communications
 - i. [ACA Ocean Racing Page](#)
 - 1. ORC meeting minutes
 - 2. ORC officer titles
 - 3. Copy revisions
 - ii. [ORC Email Newsletter #7 \(Summer 2025\)](#)
 - 1. Summer recap
 - 2. World Championships
 - 3. Continental Championships
 - 4. National Championships
 - 5. National Series
 - 6. Athlete Classifications
 - iii. [USASurfski.com](#)
 - 1. Worlds Updates
 - 2. Continentals Updates
 - 3. Nationals Update
 - 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 - 7 listed
 2. Level 3 / Continental Championships - 0 listed
 3. Level 2 / World Cups - 2 listed
 - 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. Greg will be attending as (currently) sole confirmed USA paddler
 - ii. Jesse has a contact interested as well – logistics are getting tough
 - iii. Michelle Flynn has info re: team merch – contact sooner vs. later
 - b. [2026 - Vila Joiosa, Spain - October 10-12, 2026](#)
 - i. Lots of interest in this event from paddlers @ the GDC
 - ii. We could potentially have a large USA contingent
 - iii. We need to start the marketing machine sooner vs. later on this
 1. Email newsletter
 2. Direct inquiries to ACS-classified athletes
 - 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. Dave Jensen attending as sole USA paddler
 - c. Sounds like he's good to go with hotel, transportation, and boat
- iii. [National Competition Calendar \(USASurfski.com\)](#)
1. [2025 USA COR National Series](#)
 - a. 118 Races Completed YTD
 - b. 185 Race Projected EOY
 2. [2025 USA COR National Championships](#)
 - a. Need to schedule a debrief with HOC
 - b. Need to send an official thank you letter to HOC
 - c. Need to add update to AmericanCanoe.org
 3. 2026 USA COR National Championships
 - a. Aim to send out the RFP in September to all known race organizers
 - b. Responses due back to ORC by end of October
- 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 was National Series and ironing-out Nationals, Continentals, and Worlds details
 3. Q3 focus is National Series and Nationals + Continentals execution
 4. Q4 focus will be National Series and Worlds execution, plus planning/prep for 2026



5. Unlikely to expand scope of development work in 2026 w/o adding 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. 525 Overall Athletes Participated YTD
 - b. 900 Overall Athletes Projected EOY (12/7*525)
 - c. 170 Members Participated YTD
 - d. 291 Members Projected EOY
 3. Observations/Notables
 - a. On track to exceed 2024 overall count (892)
 - b. On track to exceed 2024 member count (181)
- iii. [USA COR Athlete Classification System](#) (Status: External Pilot)
 1. [Athlete Classification System \(ACS\) Rubric](#)
 - a. Current Version: 2.1 (prev: 2.0)
 - b. Version 2.1 details
 - i. Revises content for clarity
 - ii. External Pilot status → Completed/Accepted
 2. [YTD ACS Metrics](#)
 - a. Athletes - 333 overall (202 members)
 - i. A: 7 overall classifications (4 members)
 - ii. B: 10 overall classifications (4 members)
 - iii. C: 23 overall classifications (13 members)
 - iv. D: 50 overall classifications (21 members)
 - v. E: 124 overall classifications (48 members)
 - vi. U: 143 member classifications
 - b. Competitions
 - i. A: A1 (0), A3 (1), A5 (0), A7(0) [2024: 1]
 - ii. B: B1 (1), B3 (0) [2024: 1]
 - iii. C: C1 (8), C3 (1) [2024: 2]
 - iv. D: D1 (5), D3 (2) [2024: 9]
 - v. E: E1 (24), E3 (12) [2024: 81]
 - vi. U: U (37) [2024: 100]
 3. Observations/Notables
 - a. 10 new races YTD
 - b. 32 N/A races YTD (no surfskis, cancelled events, etc)
- d. Athlete Encouragement/Facilitation
 - i. [USA Ocean Racing National Development Fund](#)
 1. Current fund balance: \$290.00
 2. What to do with it?



ii. National Team Recruiting

1. Worlds

a. 2025

- i. Greg Barton
- ii. Nick van der Meer

b. 2026

c. 2027

d. 2028

2. Continentals

a. 2025

- i. Dave Jensen
- ii. Several more people interested, but ultimately declined

b. 2026

3. Nationals

a. 2026

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, September 26th @ 5:00pm ET / 2:00pm PT

7. Session Adjournment

- a. Time (Eastern/Pacific): 07:15pm ET / 04:15pm PT (75 minutes)

