

ACA Competition Council Ocean Racing Committee Meeting Agenda Friday, November 22, 2024

Last Revised: November 22, 2024

Conference Call Information

Microsoft Teams

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Meeting ID: 293 464 741 153

Passcode: vPdsBp

1. Session Commencement

- a. Time: 05:05pm Eastern / 02:05pm Pacific
- b. Attendance
 - i. Greg Barton
 - ii. Geoff Pearson
 - iii. Jesse Lishchuk
 - iv. Matt Drayer
- c. Pre-Read Materials
 - i. [October ORC meeting minutes](#)
 - ii. [November Competition Council meeting agenda/notes](#)
 - iii. [ORC Bylaws v2 \[Proposed\]](#)
 - iv. [USA Canoe Ocean Racing Rulebook \[Draft\]](#)
 - v. [2024 USA COR Annual Report](#)
 - vi. 2025 USA COR National Championships RFP [Pending Template Receipt]
- d. Call for [Additional Topics](#)
 - i. Geoff: USLA

2. Session Goals

- a. Vote: Approve October ORC meeting minutes



- b. Vote: Approve ORC Bylaws v2.0

3. Current Initiatives

a. Community Representation

i. Organizational Representation

1. International Representation / [ICF](#)
 - a. Ordinary Congress November 7-8 (Antalya, Turkey)
 - b. Ocean Racing Technical Committee Update
 - i. New ORC Chairperson Marian Sarbu
 - ii. Lots of (good) rules revisions for 2025
2. Continental Representation / [COPAC](#)
 - a. Nothing to report
3. National Representation / [ACA](#)
 - a. [ACA Safety, Instruction, and Education Council](#)
 - i. Nothing to report
 - b. [ACA Regional Activity Council](#)
 - i. Annual Meeting was November 12th (online)
 - ii. Jesse: Tons of states have State Director pages w/ similar branding – could be a way for ORC to increase awareness. Could share USA Surfski posts to State Director FB pages.
 - c. [ACA Paddle America Clubs](#)
 - i. Jesse: SDCKRT is gearing up for a massive Hanohano in 2025
 - ii. Jesse: Keystone is doing remote group workout assignments for development - MA community gets group workouts. Will be offering a coaching credential (a la NASTM, Westside Barbell, Crossfit).
 - iii. Matt: Schedule Jesse for an upcoming CC coaching committee session
 - d. ACA Competition Council
 - i. Matt: November 7th session report
 - ii. Jesse: Organizational restructuring?
 - e. [ACA CC Ocean Racing Committee](#)
 - i. Approve [October meeting minutes](#): **Approved!**
 - ii. Approve committee [bylaws](#): **Approved!**
 - iii. Approve [2025 rulebook](#) ahead of distributing Nationals RFP
 1. Not ready for approval yet
 - iv. December: (S)elect officers by end of year
 - v. December: Annual report for Comp Council, BoD, National Office
 - vi. December: Annual Meeting webinar for USA COR Community
 1. Matt; Share draft outline w/ ORC members and work w/ Kaycee to schedule session



- 2. Geoff/Greg/Jesse: Contribute talking points and sign up for section delivery (if desired)
 - vii. December: Expand the ORC!
 - 4. Regional / Local Community Representation/Engagement
 - a. Matt: Got to a local end-of-season race
 - b. Jesse: Hurricane aftermath, Florida paddling community has mobilized + come together in support of each other
 - c. Greg: Season winding down, Bellingham still going
 - d. Geoff: Interesting USLA discussions
- ii. Member Representation
- 1. Member Identification ([ACA Competition Member Tracking](#))
 - a. Metrics/KPIs
 - i. 246 relevant ACA members (up from 242)
 - ii. 135 unique “ocean racing” ACA competition discipline members
 - 1. [58 active primary](#) (up from 57)
 - 2. [77 active secondary](#) (no change)
 - iii. [111 ACA “non-discipline” members](#) (up from 108)
 - 1. 58 competition members (up from 56)
 - 2. 53 individual members (up from 52)
 - b. 2025 Member Drive
 - i. Encourage existing ACA competition members to add Ocean Racing as primary/secondary discipline
 - ii. Encourage existing ACA individual members to switch to competition membership (January 2025).
 - iii. How to connect with non-members?
 - c. Athletes
 - i. 178/883 (~20%) National Series ACA members (no substantial change)
 - d. Coaches
 - i. 25 unique “ocean racing” coaches
 - 1. [6 primary tagged as coach](#) (up from 5)
 - 2. [21 secondary tagged as coach](#) (no change)
 - e. Organizers
 - i. [195 domestic competitions](#) currently tracked (up from 184)
 - 2. Member Communication
 - a. One-Way Communications
 - i. [ACA Ocean Racing Page](#)
 - 1. September minutes posted
 - ii. [ORC Email Newsletter #6](#)
 - 1. 143 processed
 - 2. 136 sent



3. 136 delivered
4. 101 opened
5. 14 clicked
- iii. [USASurfski.com](https://www.usasurfski.com)
 1. [2025 USA COR National Championships page](#)
 2. [Southeast Paddle Sports page](#)
- iv. [USA Surfski Facebook Page](#)
 1. 98 likes (up from 94), 182 followers (up from 175)
- b. Two-Way Communications
 - i. [USA Surfski Community Facebook Group](#)
 1. 0 group members
 - ii. [ACA Ocean Racing Networks](#) (Google Groups)
 1. 35 Athlete Network members (up from 35)
 - a. How to provide more value to these members?
 - b. Jesse: What about Club Express? Or WhatsApp, Slack, Discord – can/should ACA provide this communication framework for the USA paddlesports community?
 2. 12 Coach Network members (up from 12)
 3. 11 Organizer Network members (no change)
 4. 14 Club Network members (no change)

b. Competition Promotion/Production

- i. [International Competition Calendar \(ICF\)](#)
 1. Level 4 / Basic International Events
 2. Level 3 / Continental Championships
 3. Level 2 / World Cups
 - a. 2024 - La Run Ocean - Reunion Island (November 15-17)
 4. Level 1 / [World Championships](#)
 - a. 2025 - Durban, South Africa (October 17-19, 2025)
 - b. 2026 - Villajoyosa, Spain (Date TBD)
 - 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)
- iii. [National Competition Calendar \(USASurfski.com\)](#)
 1. 2024 USA COR National Series
 - a. 150 [competitions completed](#) (up from 140)
 - b. 180 tracked races (up from 175)
 - i. 18 tracked races in October
 - ii. 7 tracked races in November to-date (forecast: 7)



2. 2025 USA COR National Series
 - a. Planning to reach out to organizers in early December re: 2025 race calendar
3. 2025 USA COR National Championships
 - a. Currently waiting on receipt of ACA RFP Template – will include final RFP in December organizer communication.

c. Athlete Development/Qualification

- i. [USA COR National Development Program](#)
 1. 2025 Roadmap
 - a. [USA Ocean Racing Competition Rulebook](#)
 - b. [USA Ocean Racing Competition Organizers' Guide](#)
 - c. USA Ocean Racing Coaches' Guide
- 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 Metrics](#)
 - a. 883 ["Overall" paddlers](#) (up from 851)
 - b. 178 ["Members Cup" paddlers](#) (up from 172)
 - c. 164 [Female paddlers](#) (up from 159)
 - d. 718 [Male paddlers](#) (up from 691)
 3. Observations/Notables
 - a. 2024 National Series is winding down
 - b. 2025 Race Calendar is building up
- iii. [USA COR Athlete Classification System](#) (Status: External Pilot)
 1. [Athlete Classification System \(ACS\) Rubric](#)
 - a. Current Version: 2.0 (prev: 1.3)
 - b. No rubric changes since last meeting
 2. [YTD Metrics](#)
 - a. A: 7 total classifications earned (no change), 0 advancements
 - b. B: 10 total classifications earned (up from 9), 0 advancements
 - c. C: 15 total classifications earned (up from 12), 3 advancements
 - d. D: 32 total classifications earned (up from 24), 6 advancements
 - e. E: 178 total classifications earned (up from 153), 1 advancement
 - f. U: 128 current classifications (down from 129)
 3. Observations/Notables
 - a. No major rubric revisions currently expected for 2025.
 - b. Minor rubric revisions are expected for 2025, mainly field strength calibrations to guide classification ratios toward the following:
 - i. A: 2% (20 per 1000)
 - ii. B: 5% (50 per 1000)



- iii. C: 10% (100 per 1000)
- iv. D: 20% (200 per 1000)
- v. E: 30% (300 per 1000)

d. Athlete Encouragement/Facilitation

- i. [USA Ocean Racing National Development Fund](#)
 - 1. Current fund balance: \$290.00
 - 2. Jesse: Budget is enough for an entry-level Garmin device – could do a “sweepstakes” to raise money for National Development Fund – could at least break even.
 - a. Matt: Check w/ ACA about doing “sweepstakes”, etc
- ii. Athlete Outreach
 - 1. National Series Shout-Outs
 - a. Members Cup Participants
 - b. Classified Athletes
 - c. Letters? Certificates?
 - 2. Athlete Development Pathways/Programs (Local to Worlds)
 - 3. National Team Recruiting (WIFM?)

4. Additional Topics / Parking Lot Items

a.

5. Actions/Assignments Recap

- a. Geoff
 - i.
- b. Greg
 - i.
- c. Jesse
 - i.
- d. Matt
 - i. Schedule Jesse for an upcoming CC coaching committee session
 - ii. Check w/ ACA about raffles, sweepstakes, giveaways, etc.

6. Next Session

- a. Friday, December 20th @ 5:00pm ET / 2:00pm PT
 - i. Matt, Geoff, Jesse good for 12/20
 - ii. Greg to confirm

7. Session Adjournment

- a. Time (Eastern/Pacific): 06:40pm ET / 04:40pm PT (100 minutes)

