

ACA Competition Council

Ocean Racing Committee Meeting Agenda

Friday, December 20, 2024

Last Revised: December 16, 2024

Conference Call Information

Microsoft Teams

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Meeting ID: 273 681 191 485

Passcode: zT7HF3na

1. Session Commencement

- a. Time: 05:05pm Eastern / 02:05pm Pacific
- b. Attendance
 - i. All four of us! (Quorum)
- c. Pre-Read Materials
 - i. [November ORC meeting minutes](#)
 - ii. [2025 USA COR National Championships RFP](#)
 - iii. [2023 USA COR Annual Report](#)
 - iv. [2024 USA COR Annual Report](#)
- d. Call for [Additional Topics](#)
 - i.

2. Session Goals

- a. Vote: Approve November ORC meeting minutes for distribution
- b. Vote: Approve 2024 USA COR Annual Report for distribution
- c. Vote: Approve 2024 USA COR Annual Meeting for production/announcement



3. Current Initiatives

a. Community Representation

i. Organizational Representation

1. International Representation / [ICF](#)
 - a. Ocean Racing Technical Committee Update
 - i. Matt: December 13th call w/ Marian Sarbu
2. Continental Representation / [COPAC](#)
 - a. Difficulty translating continental materials to English
3. National Representation / [ACA](#)
 - a. [ACA Safety, Instruction, and Education Council](#)
 - i. NTR
 - b. [ACA Regional Activity Council](#)
 - i. Annual Meeting
 - c. [ACA Paddle America Clubs](#)
 - i. NTR
 - d. ACA Competition Council
 - i. Disciplines are getting organized + involved
 - ii. January 7th
 - iii. Coaching Committee - Intro video ready in January
 - e. [ACA CC Ocean Racing Committee](#)
 - i. Approve [November meeting minutes](#): Unanimous Approval
 - ii. December: (S)elect officers by end of year
 1. Chair: Matt Nomination
 2. Vice-Chair: Greg Barton Nomination
 3. Secretary: Geoff Pearson Nomination
 4. Treasurer: Jesse Nomination
 5. Slate Vote: Unanimous Approval!
 - iii. December: [Annual Report](#) for Comp Council, BoD, National Office
 1. Ship it!
 2. Link in Winter newsletter
 3. Post at USASurfski.com + AmericanCanoe.org
 4. Abridged sections @ Facebook, etc.
 - iv. December: Annual Meeting webinar for USA COR Community
 1. Punt to January, focus on 2025 kickoff in addition to 2024 lookback
 - v. 2025: Expand the ORC!
 1. Need to work out timing of ORC meetings to be more conducive. Proposed: 7pm ET / 4pm PT, still Fridays, reschedule as needed.
 2. What about USLA liaison position? ORC is supportive of this.



4. Regional / Local Community Representation/Engagement
 - a. Matt: Went on a downwind with a group of Boston paddlers
 - b. Jesse: Tampa season just getting started – community still recovering from storms. Jesse + Omar working on rebooting community. Also consider Urban Kai.
 - c. Greg: Winter in PacNW, Bellingham is going out, some going to Baja (Jonas!)
 - d. Geoff: Southeast Florida training squads have agreed to hold a joint race series Jan/Feb/Mar. SS1/SS2 categories will be included. Will be part of National Series.
 - i. Action: Matt will put this on the USA Surfski race calendar
- ii. Member Representation
 1. Member Identification ([ACA Competition Member Tracking](#))
 - a. Metrics/KPIs
 - i. 246 relevant ACA members (up from 242)
 - ii. 138 unique “ocean racing” ACA competition discipline members
 1. [59 active primary](#) (up from 58)
 2. [79 active secondary](#) (up from 77)
 - iii. [111 ACA “non-discipline” members](#) (no change)
 1. 58 competition members (no change)
 2. 53 individual members (no change)
 - b. 2025 Member Drive
 - i. January: Encourage existing ACA competition members to add Ocean Racing as primary/secondary discipline
 - ii. January: Encourage existing ACA individual members to switch to competition membership
 - iii. Exercise: How to connect with non-members?
 1. Competition Organizer Media Kit
 2. Increase Facebook followers
 3. Downloadable content (provide email to receive)
 - c. Athletes
 - i. 181/892 (~20%) National Series ACA members (no substantial change)
 - d. Coaches
 - i. 25 unique “ocean racing” coaches
 1. [6 primary tagged as coach](#) (no change)
 2. [21 secondary tagged as coach](#) (no change)
 - e. Organizers
 - i. [152 competitions](#) / [185 races](#) tracked (2024 total)
 2. Member Communication
 - a. One-Way Communications



- i. [ACA Ocean Racing Page](#)
 - 1. October minutes posted
 - ii. [ORC Email Newsletter #7 \(Winter 2025\)](#)
 - 1.
 - iii. [USASurfski.com](#)
 - 1. [2025 USA COR National Championships RFP](#)
 - iv. [USA Surfski Facebook Page](#)
 - 1. 98 likes (up from 94), 185 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)
 - 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
 - a. 2025 - Fortaleza, Ceara, Brazil (August 22-30, 2025)
 - i. Time to begin assembling the National Team
 - 3. Level 2 / World Cups
 - 4. Level 1 / [World Championships](#)
 - a. 2025 - Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa (October 17-19, 2025)
 - i. Time to begin assembling the National Team
 - 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. 152 [competitions completed](#) (up from 140)
 - b. 185 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 Championships
 - a. Contacted ~180 organizers of 2024 National Series
 - b. 10 have responded



3. 2025 USA COR National Championships
 - a. [RFP published!](#)
 - b. One proposal received
 - c. Deadline is December 27th
- c. Athlete Development/Qualification
- i. [USA COR National Development Program](#)
 1. 2025 Focus Area(s)
 - a. 2024 invested energy in paddler participation (National Series)
 - b. 2025 idea: virtual racing (need a better name)
 - i. Define applicable courses per region/state
 - ii. Submit scores 4x/month
 - iii. Management: Need an online form for people to submit tracks to ORC
 1. Could consider using a platform like Strava, Garmin, etc. to manage
 - iv. Collect participant contact info (emails) + bring into community
 - v. Can also consider an ERG series (similar to rowing, eg C2)
 - vi. Run this by Jed – confirm liability issues
 - vii. Define parameters/boundaries to avoid extreme behaviors
 - viii. Plan to have this solidified by Jan 17th ORC meeting
 - ix. Geoff to locate NZ article and share w/ ORC
 - 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. 892 [“Overall” paddlers](#) (up from 883)
 - b. 181 [“Members Cup” paddlers](#) (up from 178)
 - c. 165 [Female paddlers](#) (up from 164)
 - d. 726 [Male paddlers](#) (up from 718)
 3. Observations/Notables
 - a.
 - 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)
 - b. B: 10 total classifications earned (no change)
 - c. C: 15 total classifications earned (no change)
 - d. D: 32 total classifications earned (no change)



- e. E: 178 total classifications earned (no change)
 - f. U: 144 current classifications (up from 128)
 - 3. Observations/Notables
 - a.
 - d. Athlete Encouragement/Facilitation
 - i. [USA Ocean Racing National Development Fund](#)
 - 1. Current fund balance: \$290.00
 - 2. Sweepstakes concept approved by Beth – are we doing this?
 - ii. Athlete Outreach
 - 1. National Series Shout-Outs
 - a. Members Cup Participants
 - b. Classified Athletes
 - c. Letters? Certificates?
 - d. Annual Meeting?
 - 2. Athlete Development Pathways/Programs (Local to Worlds)
 - 3. National Team Recruiting (WIIFM?)

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. Matt: Share Annual Meeting draft outline w/ ORC members and work w/ Kaycee to schedule session (WIP)

6. Next Session

- a. Friday, January 17th @ 7:00pm ET / 5:00pm PT

7. Session Adjournment

- a. Time (Eastern/Pacific): 07:00pm ET / 05:00pm PT (115 minutes)

