

# ACA Competition Council Ocean Racing Committee Meeting Agenda Friday, February 23, 2024

Last Revised: February 20, 2024

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Conference Call Information - [Geoff to provide]

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## 1. Session Commencement

- a. Time: 00:00pm Eastern / 00:00pm Pacific
- b. Attendance
  - i.
- c. Pre-Read Materials / Homework
  - i. [USASurfski.com!](https://www.usasurfski.com/)
  - ii. [USA COR National Series](#)
  - iii. [ORC Meeting Minutes](#)
- d. Call for [Additional Topics](#)

## 2. Session Goals

- a. Approve all previous committee meeting minutes in preparation for publication

## 3. Current Initiatives

### a. Community Representation

#### i. Organization Representation

##### 1. International / ICF

##### a. New Connections

i.

##### b. ICF

i.

##### c. ICF ORC

i. Committee meeting recently held – submitted rules changes to ICF board for approval (no notable changes, per Michèle)

ii. Matt: Follow up w/ Michele re: specific changes (athlete facilitation)

##### 2. Continental / COPAC

##### a. New Connections

- i. Daryl Remmler (Think Kayaks)
  - b. COPAC Congress
    - i. New contact email address: [copac@copaonline.com](mailto:copac@copaonline.com)
    - ii. COPAC Congress was held this past weekend
  - c. COPAC ORC
    - i. Denis Simões (BRA) has been elected as chairperson.
- 3. National / ACA
  - a. New Connections
    - i.
  - b. ACA
    - i.
  - c. [ACA Regional Activity Council](#)
    - i.
  - d. [ACA Paddle America Clubs](#)
    - i. 2024 Club drive
      - 1. [List of clubs with COR programs/coaches](#)
      - 2. [ACA Ocean Racing Club Network](#)
        - a. 1/22: Brendan Nelson (RAC Affiliate Club Representative) provided 100+ emails to contact.
        - b. 2/2: Invitation sent to 105 PAC contacts (some bounces)
        - c. 2/3: Launched network
        - d. Currently 8 club members
  - e. ACA Competition Council
    - i. February 26th: Next scheduled Competition Council meeting
      - 1. Matt: Share invite w/ ORC members
    - ii. February 28th: Competition Council Panel Discussion
  - f. ACA CC Ocean Racing Committee
    - i. Meeting Minutes Approvals (to ACA public website)
      - 1. [July 2023](#)
      - 2. [August 2023](#)
      - 3. [September 2023](#)
      - 4. [October 2023](#)
      - 5. [November 2023](#)
      - 6. [January 2024](#)
  - g. USA Ocean Racing / Surfski Community
    - i.
- ii. Member Representation
  - 1. Identification
    - a. [ACA Competition Member Tracking](#)
      - i. Note: possible to tag same discipline as primary + secondary
    - b. 82 unique “ocean racing” competition members
      - i. [28 tagged as primary](#) (up from 27)
      - ii. [59 tagged as secondary](#) (up from 58)

- c. 21 unique “ocean racing” coaches
    - i. [4 primary tagged as coach](#) (up from 3)
    - ii. [19 secondary tagged as coach](#) (no change)
  - d. 11 ACA “regular” members participated in January National Series competitions – Michelle Flynn sent a message suggesting a switch to competition membership with primary/secondary ocean racing discipline – one person switched.
  - e. Will do the same for February competition participants.
2. Generation
- a. 2024 Athlete drive
    - i. Launched [National Series](#) experiment
      - 1. Seven races included in rankings to-date + lots more to come
    - ii. Launched ACA Ocean Racing Athlete Network (16 members)
    - iii. 1 new ACA competition ocean racing discipline member since last ORC meeting
    - iv. New Member Benefits + Perks
      - 1. Julian Norton-Smith / Paddle 2 Fitness Discount
  - b. 2024 Coach drive
    - i. Launched ACA Ocean Racing Coach Network (9 members)
3. Communication
- a. One-Way Communications
    - i. [ACA Ocean Racing Page](#)
      - 1. Continuing to add qualifier races
    - ii. [ORC Email #3](#)
      - 1. Delivered 1/26
      - 2. 74 (91.4%) recipients
      - 3. 58 (78.4%) opens
      - 4. 13 (22.4%) clicks
    - iii. [USASurfski.com](#)
      - 1. Published [National Series](#) pages
      - 2. Published [Member Networks](#) page
    - iv. [USA Surfski Facebook Page](#)
      - 1. Post 1/26: [Development Fund](#) Launch
        - a. Matt: Follow up w/ ACA re: tax receipts for donations
      - 2. Post 2/01: USA COR National Series Pilot
  - b. Two-Way Communications
    - i. [USA Surfski Community Facebook Group](#)
      - 1. No members yet...
    - ii. ACA Ocean Racing Networks (Google Groups)
      - 1. [ACA Ocean Racing Athlete Network](#)
        - a. 2/5: Launched (converted, really)
        - b. 2/7: Sent initial informational email (crickets...)
      - 2. [ACA Ocean Racing Coach Network](#)
        - a. 9 current members

- b. 1/31: Launched w/ ORC + 3 coaches
- 3. [ACA Ocean Racing Organizer Network](#)
  - a. 2/5: Launched

## b. Competition Promotion

- i. Competition Organizers: “WIIFM?”
  - 1. ACA competition calendar
  - 2. 2024 ICF COR WC qualifying (sanctioned? recognized?) races
    - a. **UNRESOLVED - Geoff: Concern about liability for recommending qualifier races to athletes**
      - i. **Geoff to identify ACA legal contact to resolve this question**
  - 3. Inclusion in email newsletter publications
  - 4. USASurfski.com website/social postings/mentions
  - 5. Event production/sanctioning guidelines/recommendations, upon request
  - 6. Inclusion in Organizer network.
- ii. 2024 Ocean Racing Competition Calendar
  - 1. [2024 ICF Competition Calendar](#) (N competitions)
    - a. N Level 4 Competitions
    - b. N Level 3 Competitions
    - c. N Level 2 Competitions
    - d. N Level 1 Competitions
  - 2. [2024 COPAC Competition Calendar](#)
    - a. No 2024 COR competitions currently scheduled
  - 3. [2024 ACA Competition Calendar](#)
    - a. No 2024 COR competitions (national cup series, national championships) currently scheduled
    - b. Lots of community competitions now listed + more to come
    - c. [2024 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Championships Qualifying Race...](#)
  - 4. Additional Domestic Races
    - a. [PaddleGuru](#): N COR competitions currently listed (up from 10)
    - b. [SurfskiRacing.com](#): N COR competitions currently listed (up from 0)
    - c. [NewEnglandSurfski.com](#): N COR competitions currently listed
- iii. 2024 State Games of America Partnership
  - 1. [State Games of America](#) / [National Congress of State Games](#)
  - 2. Bay State Games (Massachusetts)
    - a. 2/3: Matt followed up on “new sport application” submission
    - b. 2/21: Matt call with Alanis Tirabassi Director of Operations for BSG
    - c. 2/22: BSG is on board! Surfski race being organized for end of July
  - 3. Sunshine State Games (Florida)
    - a. Jesse and/or Geoff update

## c. Athlete Qualification

- i. 2024 World Championships Qualifying (Sanctioned? Recognized?) Competitions
  - 1. N competitions have signed on to-date
    - a. [2024 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Championships Qualifying Race...](#)

2. Regional Representation
  - a. Current: Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, Great Lakes, Pacific Northwest, West Coast, Hawaii
  - b. Missing: Gulf Coast
- ii. USA COR National Development Program
  1. **Matt:** Publish NDP on ORC page and request community review/feedback.
    - a. This has been done, although as a collection of pages not as a single downloadable document
  2. USA COR Networks (Status: External Pilot)
    - a. Experimenting with Google Groups (free/easy)
    - b. Four networks launched to-date
  3. USA COR National Series (Status: External Pilot)
    - a. Published @ USASurfski.com
    - b. Stats:
      - i. N races included
      - ii. N "Overall" paddlers
      - iii. N "Members Cup" paddlers
      - iv. N Female paddlers
      - v. N Male paddlers
    - c. Adjustments
      - i. Course Length -> Fractional based on ICF Spec (12mi)
      - ii. Field Size -> Field Strength (Classification)
  4. USA COR NDP Classifications (Status: Internal Pilot)
    - a. Tracking via [2024 USA COR NDP Workbook](#)
    - b. N "U" classifications
    - c. N "E" classifications
    - d. N "D" classifications
    - e. N "C" classifications
    - f. N "B" classifications
    - g. N "A" classifications

#### d. Athlete Facilitation

- i. [USA Ocean Racing National Development Fund](#)
  1. Launched January 26th!
  2. Current fund balance: \$0.00 😞
  3. Need to brainstorm about generating inflows
- ii. 2024 ICF COR World Championships @ Madeira, Portugal (September 30 - October 6)
  1. [2024 ACA USA Canoe Ocean Racing National Team Participation Requirements](#)
    - a. Published February information packet, posted to ACA site, USASurfski.com, and Athlete Network.
    - b. Still waiting for first bulletin to be issued by [Associação Regional de Canoagem da Madeira](#) (ARCM)
  2. Logistical support
    - a. Transportation
      - i.

- b. Accommodation
  - i. Matt has researched and booked accommodations (whole family!)
- c. Equipment
  - i. Matt sent inquiries to all major surfski manufacturers
    - 1. IN: Nelo, Carbonology Sport, Elio, NK, Fenn
    - 2. MAYBE: Stellar, Epic
    - 3. OUT: Think, Vajda
    - 4. UNKNOWN: Allwave, Kai Wa'a, Flow, Connect
  - ii. Will include rental information in logistics section of requirements document once available

#### 4. Additional Topics

- a. Matt to fill in stats for above KPIs

#### 5. January Actions Recap

- a. **Matt: Follow up w/ Jed regarding Team USA uniforms / spirit wear / competition wear**
- b. **Jesse: Review [Athlete WIIFM](#) and add name to line items.**
- c. **Jesse: Review [previous ORC meeting minutes](#) ahead of approval for publication, add comments/suggestions.**
- d. **Geoff: Review [Athlete WIIFM](#) and add name to line items.**
- e. **Geoff: Review [previous ORC meeting minutes](#) ahead of approval for publication, add comments/suggestions.**
- f. **Greg: Review [Athlete WIIFM](#) and add name to line items.**
- g. **Greg: Review [previous ORC meeting minutes](#) ahead of approval for publication, add comments/suggestions.**

#### 6. Next Session

- a. Friday, March 22 2024

#### 7. Session Adjournment

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