

ACA Competition Council

Ocean Racing Committee Meeting Agenda

November 24, 2023

Conference Call Information - Microsoft Teams:

[Geoff to provide]

1. Session Commencement

- a. Time 17:08 Eastern / 14:08 Pacific
- b. Attendance
 - i. Geoff Pearson
 - ii. Matt Drayer
- c. Pre-Read Materials / Homework
 - i. [ACA Competition Council Formation Meeting Notes](#)
 - ii. [COPAC 2023 Ordinary General Assembly Letter to NF Presidents](#)
 - iii. [ACA ORC 2024 ICF Competition Qualification Process](#)

2. Current Initiatives

- a. Community Representation
 - i. International / ICF
 1. New Connections
 - a. David Bugar - ICF Event Operations Manager
 - b. Annabelle White - Paddle Australia Sport Operations Manager
 2. [2024 ICF Competition Calendar](#)
 - a. Currently only 2024 World Championships (Madeira, Portugal)
 - b. No L2/L3/L4 competitions currently listed
 - c. 2023 had nine ICF competitions, starting in April
 - ii. Continental / COPAC
 1. New Connections
 - a. Sebastian Gomez - COPAC President
 2. COPAC Congress: Friday November 3rd
 - a. Minutes will be distributed after approval
 - b. Meeting on either Nov 18 or Nov 25 to discuss vacant committees/roles
 3. COPAC ORC
 - a. Committee currently has one new member (Argentina), but no chairperson

- b. Jesse has identified two candidates, one in Brazil another in Puerto Rico.
 - 4. [2024 COPAC Competition Calendar](#)
 - a. No 2024 COR events currently listed
- iii. National / ACA
 - 1. ACA
 - a. Still waiting to receive minutes / report-out from October board meeting
 - 2. ACA Competition Council
 - a. Reboot session scheduled for Monday, November 27th @ 7pm Eastern
 - i. ORC needs to prepare a ~2-minute presentation + presenter
 - ii. Review [agenda](#) and compile concerns / discussion points
 - 3. ACA Competition Members
 - a. Identification
 - i. 81 “ocean racing” competition members
 - 1. [28 primary](#) (up from 27)
 - 2. [53 secondary](#) (no change)
 - ii. Ocean racing clubs/programs
 - 1. 6-7 clubs identified with COR programs
 - iii. Ocean racing coaches
 - 1. One coach identified (Tod Cole)
 - b. Communication
 - i. One-Way Communications
 - 1. ORC Email #3: Aiming for beginning of January
 - 2. Will also invest in USA Surfski email list
 - ii. Two-Way Communications
 - 1. Google Group for 2023 ICF COR WC participants
 - a. Geoff: Ask Competition Council about team wear (across all discipline)
 - 2. We need to finalize the “brand” for 2024, before going public
 - a. Greg: Talk to Colin Simpkins and Michèle Eray about the ICF vision/brand
 - c. Generation
 - i. 2024 athlete drive
 - 1. Need to finalize [WIIFM](#) package for competition members
 - 2. Work with Kaycee on outreach/marketing campaign
 - ii. 2024 coach drive
 - 1. Connect with coaches who train COR athletes
 - 2. Offer WIIFM, marketing, support, NDP influence
 - 4. [ACA RAC](#)
 - a. Matt has access to RAC website
 - b. RAC has Facebook presence
 - i. [State Directors group \(private\)](#) (# members)
 - ii. State pages (eg, [MA](#), [FL](#))
 - c. RAC met on November 1st
 - i. Club Express Rollout

- ii. Progress Report on National Safe Boating Week rollout for 2024
 - iii. P&P Revisions
- 5. [ACA PACs](#)
 - a. 2024 club drive
 - i. Build list clubs with COR programs
 - ii. Offer WIIFM, marketing, support
- 6. USA Ocean Racing / Surfski Community:
 - a. [SurfSki USA Facebook Group](#)
 - i. NOVEMBER ACTION: Greg to connect with Michèle about revising/clarifying messaging for group at WC's
 - b. ACA Paddlesports Facebook page
 - i. Need to schedule a series of posts for this page
 - ii. Work with Kaycee Maas on this
 - c. Websites
 - i. www.usasurfski.info (Michèle)
 - 1. NOVEMBER ACTION: Greg to connect with Michèle about revising/clarifying messaging for website at WC's
 - ii. www.usasurfski.com (Matt)
 - 1. Website has been updated to reflect relationship with ACA
 - iii. <https://americancanoe.org/competition/teams/icf-sports/ocean-racing-surf-ski/>
 - 1. Need to fix-up the ACA COR area for 2024
 - a. Members
 - b. Coaches
 - c. Clubs
 - d. Competitions
- b. Competition Promotion
 - i. Competition Organizers: [Identification](#) / "WIIFM?"
 - 1. 2024 ACA Competition Calendar
 - a. Calendar submission form isn't working properly
 - b. Matt troubleshooting with Kaycee
 - 2. **Action: Identify CA State Director to work with on competition identification**
 - ii. 2024 Competitions
 - 1. Currently [8 upcoming "surfski" events in PaddleGuru](#) (down from 12)
 - 2. Need to connect with the organizers for these races
 - 3. Highlight known races in Jan 2024 email newsletter
 - 4. Post full list of all known races on ACA website and/or USASurfski.com
- c. Athlete Qualification
 - i. 2023 Competitions
 - 1. ICF World Championships @ Perth, Australia
 - a. [ACA ORC ICF COR WC Qualification Checklist](#)
 - b. 12 USA athletes currently registered as of November 24th
 - i. 12 have been contacted
 - ii. 12 cleared by ORC

- ii. 2024 Planning
 - 1. Need to finalize [ACA ORC 2024 ICF Competition Qualification Process](#)
 - 2. Need to finalize list of “races that matter” + inform race organizers
- d. Athlete Facilitation
 - i. [2023 ICF Ocean Racing World Championships @ Perth, Australia](#) (November 30 - December 3)
 - 1. Seems like we’re doing a good job (“Shock and Awe”)
 - 2. COR apparently more relaxed than CSP (expected)
 - 3. Greg (ORC) and Michèle (ICF) both part of USA team
 - a. Michèle is Team Leader
 - 4. Google Group has been created to facilitate team + ORC communications
- e. Additional Initiatives
 - i. Jesse: Align local outfitters with race organizers to provide access to boats
 - 1. Will find out after November 11th for boat rentals, if viable, to support race organizers.
 - ii. 2024 State Games of America Partnership
 - 1. [State Games of America](#) / [National Congress of State Games](#)
 - a. Sunshine State Games open to COR competition
 - b. Matt to connect with Bay State Games (MA) org
 - iii. 2024 Strategy
 - 1. [ORC Strategic Plan \(Draft\)](#)

3. Additional Topics

- a. Matt + Geoff: Compile [CC ORC presentation](#) (2mins)

4. November Actions Recap / Assignments

- a. **Greg: Connect with Michèle to discuss clarifying messaging for “USA Surf Ski” FB group and “usasurfski.info” website**
- b. **Greg: Schedule a strategic discussion w/ Colin and Michele @ WC’s re: 2024 ocean racing topics, USA ocean racing, ICF alignment, coach development program/framework, etc.**
- c. **Jesse: Report on outfitter/organizer alignment initiative**
- d. **Action: Identify CA State Director to work with on competition identification**
- e. **Matt: connect with Bay State Games (MA) org**
- f. **Geoff: Set up a ORC Competition Council pre-meeting for 6:00pm to review 2-mins presentation**
- g. **Geoff: Set up a ORC [WIIFM](#) package finalization meeting for early/mid December ahead of next ORC meeting**
- h. **Matt/Geoff: Coordinate a meeting with ORC members and ACA membership decision makers (Beth Spilman, Michelle Flynn, Risa Shimoda, etc.) post internal ORC meeting for mid/late December, about approving the ORC [WIIFM](#) package proposal.**

5. Session Adjournment

- a. Time (Eastern/Pacific)