

ACA Competition Council Ocean Racing Committee Meeting Agenda Friday, April 26, 2024

Last Revised: April 26, 2024

Conference Call Information

Microsoft Teams meeting

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Meeting ID: 254 259 291 915

Passcode: wdZJ5W

1. Session Commencement

- a. Time: 5:05pm Eastern / 2:05pm Pacific
- b. Attendance
 - i. Geoff Pearson
 - ii. Greg Barton
 - iii. Jesse Lishchuk
 - iv. Matt Drayer
- c. Pre-Read Materials
 - i. [ACA ORC March 2024 Agenda/Minutes](#)
 - ii. [2024 ICF World Championships Bulletin #1](#)
 - iii. [ICF COR Coaching Manual \(2016\)](#)
 - iv. [Geoff + Jesse 4/24/24 Brainstorm Document](#)
- d. Call for [Additional Topics](#)

2. Session Goals

- a. Devise plan for coach development
- b. Devise plan to get the funding flowing
- c. Review Geoff + Jesse's document/ideas + determine actions

3. Current Initiatives

a. Community Representation

i. Organization Representation

1. International / ICF
2. Continental / COPAC
 - a. Matt: Have sent a couple email inquiries to COPAC ORC (meet + greet, Pan Ams) – no responses
3. National / ACA
 - a. [ACA Regional Activity Council](#)
 - b. [ACA Paddle America Clubs](#)
 - c. ACA Competition Council
 - i. April 29th: Competition Council meeting (8:30pm ET, [agenda](#))
 1. Matt is planning to attend
 - d. ACA CC Ocean Racing Committee
 - i. Geoff: Hayley Nixon
4. Regional / Community
 - a. Excellent regional race distribution in April
 - i. Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, Gulf Coast, West, Northwest
 - ii. Hawaii: M2M (small but mighty field, including Greg!)
 - iii. Florida: Skyway Challenge (Go Jesse!)
 - iv. Rhode Island: Narrow River Race (Matt...)
 - v. North Carolina: Carolina Cup (Jesse again! [The Paddle Channel!](#)?)
 - vi. Massachusetts: Run of the Charles (Matt again!)
 - b. Podcasts!
 - i. Jesse: K2N Paddle Pursuit Podcast (link?)
 - ii. Matt: Peak Paddle Performance Podcast ([agenda](#), [link](#))

ii. Member Representation

1. Member Identification ([ACA Competition Member Tracking](#))
 - a. 103 unique “ocean racing” ACA competition discipline members
 - i. [35 tagged as primary](#) (up from 30)
 - ii. [68 tagged as secondary](#) (up from 62)
 - b. 21 unique “ocean racing” coaches
 - i. [5 primary tagged as coach](#) (up from 4)
 - ii. [21 secondary tagged as coach](#) (up from 19)
 - c. [17 ACA “non-discipline” members](#) have participated in National Series competitions YTD (down from 22)
 - i. Outreach communications have led to increased primary/secondary discipline designations
2. Member Generation
 - a. 2024 Athlete Drive
 - i. New Member Benefits + Perks
 1. [Julian Norton-Smith / Paddle 2 Fitness discount](#)
 2. [Keystone Paddlers discount](#)


- b. 2024 Coach drive
 - i. Matt: Call #2 w/ Zsolt Szadovszki (4/24)
 - ii. When to begin work on the NDP coaching element?
 - 1. Host a USA ocean racing coaches' roundtable discussion?
 - 2. Topics could cover WIIFM, NDP, programming, selections, what doesn't work for coaches, etc.
 - c. 2024 Organizer drive
 - i. Competition Organizers: "WIIFM?"
 - 1. Inclusion in ACA competition calendar
 - 2. Inclusion in USA Surfski race calendar
 - 3. Inclusion in USA Surfski national series
 - 4. Inclusion in email newsletter publications
 - 5. Inclusion in Ocean Racing Organizer Network
 - 6. USASurfski.com website/social postings/mentions
 - 7. Event production/sanctioning guidelines/recommendations, upon request
 - 8. What else can we do today?
 - ii. Organizer Outreach (YTD)
 - 1. 150+ domestic competitions [currently tracked](#) (and thus, organizers)
 - 2. 117 organizers contacted YTD re: National Series participation
 - 3. 57 organizers have responded affirmatively
 - 4. 40 organizers have not yet responded
 - 5. 34 organizers remaining to be contacted
 - 6. Forwarded ORC spring newsletter to affirmed organizers
3. Member Communication
- a. One-Way Communications
 - i. [ACA Ocean Racing Page](#)
 - 1. Several updates published by Kaycee
 - ii. [ORC Email Newsletter #4](#)
 - 1. Spring issue delivered to primary/secondary COR discipline members on 4/25
 - 2. Highlighting Race Calendar, National Series, Athlete Classification System, Member Networks, World Championships, New Member Benefits, PPP Podcast
 - 3. Copies forwarded to networks, mailing lists, contacts
 - iii. [USASurfski.com](#)
 - 1. Published [Athlete Classification System](#) page
 - iv. [USA Surfski Facebook Page](#)
 - 1. 3 posts this month
 - 2. Multiple events added to [Event Calendar](#), with lots more to come
 - b. Two-Way Communications

- i. [USA Surfski Community Facebook Group](#)
 - 1. 0 group members
- ii. [ACA Ocean Racing Networks](#) (Google Groups)
 - 1. Networks are beginning to grow
 - 2. New [signup form](#) is available
 - 3. Very difficult to get contact info (email addresses) of ACA members for outreach/invitation to networks, etc. – must provide Michelle Flynn (ACA Membership Coordinator) with list of member IDs and message to send. She does this quickly, however.

b. Competition Promotion

- i. 2024 Ocean Racing Competition Calendar
 - 1. [2024 ICF Competition Calendar](#) (16 competitions)
 - a. 11 Basic International Events (Spain, Italy, Germany)
 - b. 1 Continental Championship (European)
 - c. 5 World Championships venues confirmed
 - i. [2024 Madeira \(POR\)](#)
 - ii. [2025 Durban \(RSA\)](#)
 - iii. [2026 Vila Joiosa \(ESP\)](#)
 - iv. [2027 Tahiti \(TAH\)](#)
 - v. [2028 Cherbourg \(FRA\)](#)
 - 2. [2024 COPAC Competition Calendar](#)
 - a. [2024 Pan American COR Continental Championships](#)
 - i. 29 August 2024 to 7 September 2024
 - ii. Fortaleza, Ceara, Brazil (BRA)
 - iii. Listing is no longer published??? (Suz Britt investigating)
 - 3. [2024 ACA Competition Calendar](#)
 - a. 11 upcoming events
 - b. Need to post more COR events (affirmed competitions/organizers)
 - c. No 2024 USA COR competitions (national cup series, national championships) currently planned
 - d. **Geoff + Jesse: 2025 USA COR National Championships Opportunity**
 - 4. [USASurfski.com Race Calendar](#)
 - a. 29 upcoming events
 - b. Will post more COR events soon (affirmed competitions/organizers)
 - 5. Additional Domestic Races
 - a. [PaddleGuru.com](#): 29 COR competitions currently listed (down from 30)
 - b. [SurfskiRacing.com](#): 10 COR competitions currently listed (down from 11)
 - c. [NewEnglandSurfski.com](#): 20 COR competitions currently listed, plus two weekly summer series (no change)
 - d. [SoundRowers.org](#): 14 COR competitions currently listed (no change)
- ii. 2024 [State Games of America](#) Partnerships
 - 1. [Bay State Games](#) (Massachusetts)
 - a. 4/1: Go-forward approval granted from BSG staff!

- b. Competition Date: Sunday, July 21st
 - c. Site permit submitted, registration launch May 15th
 - 2. [Sunshine State Games](#) (Florida)
 - a. Jesse and/or Geoff update
 - 3. [State Games of Michigan](#)
 - a. Matt discussed w/ Nick Murray
 - b. Potential 2025 paddling competition (adopt BSG model)
 - 4. [National Congress of State Games](#)
 - a. BSG staff is very involved with NCSG / SGA (Matt to explore further)
- c. Athlete Development/Qualification
 - i. 2024 ICF COR World Championships “Benchmark” Competitions
 - 1. These are no longer “qualifiers” for the Attestation of Competency (liability)
 - 2. Simply designations of competitions which align closely to ICF COR WC specs
 - ii. [USA COR National Development Program](#)
 - 1. [USA COR National Series](#) (Status: External Pilot)
 - a. Published @ [USASurfski.com](#)
 - b. YTD Stats:
 - i. 33 competitions completed (up from 16)
 - ii. 199 “Overall” paddlers (up from 107)
 - iii. 41 “Members Cup” paddlers (up from 29)
 - iv. 29 Female paddlers (up from 18)
 - v. 169 Male paddlers (up from 89)
 - c. [National Ranking Points \(NRP\) Rubric](#) Adjustments
 - i. No changes since last meeting
 - 2. [USA COR Athlete Classification System](#) (Status: External Pilot)
 - a. [YTD metrics](#)
 - i. 0 “A” classifications earned
 - ii. 0 “B” classifications earned
 - iii. 0 “C” classifications earned
 - iv. 0 “D” classifications earned (soon!)
 - v. 24 “E” classifications earned (up from 16 | 16 net-new, up from 9)
 - vi. 33 “U” base classifications (up from 24)
 - b. Athlete Classification System (ACS) Rubric Adjustments
 - i. Renamed “Classification Group” to “Classification Scenario”
 - ii. Scenario E2 added (25 unclassified finishers -> 3 E’s)
 - c. Discussion: How do we make it easy for people to access athlete ACS information ahead of races they’re considering?
 - i. Athlete ACS info is currently featured on National Series page
- d. Athlete Encouragement/Facilitation
 - i. [USA Ocean Racing National Development Fund](#)
 - 1. Current fund balance: \$50.00
 - 2. Action: Brainstorm inflow generation**
 - ii. [2024 ICF COR World Championships @ Madeira, Portugal \(September 30 - October 6\)](#)
 - 1. Currently aware of only four athletes considering participation

- a. Drayer [MA], Kalwick [HI], Leshar [MA], Murray [MI]
- 2.  2024 ACA ICF COR USA National Team Participation Requirements
 - a. [First bulletin](#) has been issued
 - b. Published updated information packet @ ACA site, USASurfski.com, and USA COR Athlete Network.
- 3. Logistical support
 - a. Transportation
 - b. Accommodations
 - c. Team Considerations
 - i. Team Leader role designation
 - ii. Team Presentation (hats, jerseys, name/flag decals)
 - d. Equipment
 - i. IN: [Nelo](#), Carbonology Sport (Senior category only), Elio, NK, Fenn
 - ii. MAYBE: Stellar (unlikely at this point), Epic (unlikely at this point)
 - iii. OUT: Think, Vajda
 - iv. UNKNOWN: Allwave, Kai Wa'a, Flow, Connect
 - v. Will include rental information in logistics section of requirements document once available
 - e. Jesse has a contact in Madeira

4. Additional Topics / Parking Lot Items

- a. Geoff + Jesse 4/24/24 Brainstorming Session

5. April Actions/Assignments Recap

- a.

6. Next Session

- a.

7. Session Adjournment

- a. Time (Eastern/Pacific): 7:12pm ET / 4:12pm PT