**Minutes of the 2011 CODA Annual General Meeting**

**Lunenburg Yacht Club**

**Lunenburg, Nova Scotia**

**23 August 2011**

Attending: Refer to attendance list.

Opening: With quorum established, the 23 August 2011 AMG of CODA was called to order at 18:41 hours at Lunenburg Yacht Club. Cyrille Vittecoq chaired the meeting. Carolyn Caldwell was recording secretary.

1. **Minutes of the 2010 AGM – Hamilton, ON**

It was moved (Peter Lyall) and seconded (Scott Collinson), that the minutes be accepted as presented.

1. **Business arising from the Minutes**

There were no outstanding items.

1. **Reports of the Officers**

**President**

Cyrille introduced executive members of the Board and Executive and reviewed the 2010-2011 Accomplishments. After the elections held in October, the Board agreed on more formal and regular meetings which were held monthly and minuted by Tanya Chamberlain. The Board set up committees based on the By Law changes approved at the 2010 AGM, including the International (Teams) Committee and By Law Committee. The By Law Committee will continue to pursue incorporation to make the association more up to date with association standards. The Registrar had successfully implemented smart forms as a move toward online fee renewal. The Treasurer role was successfully established and implemented. The Association has an improved link to the International Optimist Dinghy Association. There have been an increased number of sailors representing Canada at international events with improving results. Finally, there has been a set of objectives established by the Board for the Association for 2011-2012 (see slide).

**Class Registrar**

Huburt Bourque presented the 2011 statistics vs. 2010 (see slide). He explained the enhancements to the registration process and is planning further progress toward online membership renewals for 2011. He expressed concern that, based on the information available from sail registrations, families are not investing in boats. The average age of CODA membership is 12. The mode is also 12 years. The membership is split into 4 large groups in 4 provinces (BC, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia) but there is little elsewhere in the country. A comment arose that the statistics are swayed by the location of the Canadians each year.

**Treasurer**

Peter Lyall presented the Treasurer’s report. The association has $16,618.51 in assets. The revenue is made up of annual fees but the activity in the accounts is mostly a through put as a result of the international team fees that have no net effect of the finances of the Association.

**International Team *Report*** *(Tanya, this item was not on the order of business but I had notes from Cyrille’s presentation. In addition, in the By Laws, Committee Reports is listed as an item that shall be on the order of business).*

Cyrille presented the committee’s report. CODA sent a total of 26 registrants for 20 sailors to 4 international events. The association is still not sending a full complement of 11 sailors to the South American Championships. CODA could have sent 14 sailors to the North Americans but we did not have enough girls available to send. We have successfully sent 4 sailors to the Europeans but the event proves very expensive for families to attend. We have however, had at least 2 sailors in each event this year in the top 100 places and positions have increased consistently each of the past few years. For 2012 the events are:

South Americans, March 29 – April 4, 2012 Buenos Aires, Argentina

North Americans, TBD Mexico

Europeans July Lignaro Sabbiadoro, Italy

Worlds July 10 – 21, 2012 Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

**Secretary**

Tanya Chamberlain reported (via skype) that consistent with the goal of more formalized reporting of CODA activity, she took a course on Roberts Rules of Order and minute taking.

1. **Provincial Reports – to be tabled**

**British Columbia**

Teddi Orenstein reported that the province’s strength was their significant participation in events, the low cost of holding events and the travelling training program that the province offered. They have good depth in the fleet but lack intensity at the top of the fleet at the national level. The families are looking at more north/south sailing, taking in more advanced regattas in the US, to challenge their sailors and increase the strength at the top of the fleet.

**Ontario**

Carolyn Caldwell noted the increased number in competitive optimist programs around the GTA and Golden Horseshoe of Lake Ontario. In addition this year sailors had come from north of Barrie for the annual It’s not Easy Being Green regatta held by Port Credit Yacht Club. Also of note was the interaction between coaches and the number of coaches in Ontario who were bringing significant years of racing, coaching and maturity to the sport.

**Quebec**

Cyrille Vittecoq reported the they are looking at how the Sail Central will work for next year. It wil be the first time Sail Central has been established along with Sail East and Sail west. Sail Central will alternate between Kingston and Hudson Yacht club. Quebec has had good participation at local regattas and active clubs. Parents are considering more sharing of coaches in programs that are close proximity to make an increased calibre of coaching more affordable.

**Atlantic**

Jen Fraser reported that she will be on the Nova Scotia Yachting Association and President of COAST for next year. They are looking to build a stronger program at RNSYS. Many sailors aged out of Atlantic provinces and now there was a need to build up again from the younger age groups. There are now 7 clubs in the Halifax area with opti racing programs. They are holding spring and early summer clinics including a high level coach who trains other coaches. They have seen participation from Newfoundland and PEI attending 4 regular regional regattas. The challenges include the timing of regattas especially Sail East. They (COAST?) will be putting together efforts to attend more international events to challenge the sailors. The provinces are challenged to harness the learn to sail programs e.g. Chester into the racing programs. (They attend Optigam with 90 sailors but they don’t attend the Canadians just down the shore).

1. **Update of 2012 CODC – Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, BC**

Cyrille reported that these will be held at Royal Vancouver Yacht club. The weather is expected to be typically sunny with 8-10 knots of breeze. RVYC is known for its food. They have a large venue and this is expected to be good for a large fleet. Accommodation is available at the university a short drive away, Tanya is chair of the event. A question arose regarding the cost of this regatta for sailors from the east end of the country and if CODA had a policy to provide financial assistance for sailors from the opposite coast. Cyrille responded that CODA does not have such a policy, but that it does scrutinize the host club plans in order to keep the overall costs down.

1. **Location of 2013 CODC – Central Canada**

Cyrille reported that there has been interest from several Quebec clubs as the Canadians will move from the west coast in 2012 to central Canada in 2013. There is a template available for any clubs in central Canada that might be interested in hosting the event.

1. **Constitution and Bylaws Amendments**

By Laws: Cyrille identified that there were several outstanding By Law changes required following the 2010 AGM. With agreement from all in attendance, he outlined that he would review items 17 – 20 and then 21 which required more in depth discussion.

Item 17 existing clause:

17. In order to participate in any Provincial or Canadian Championship Regatta, you must be a member of CODA, or if not, of another National Optimist Association.

Item 17 proposed clause:

17. I In order to participate in any Provincial or Canadian Championship Regatta sailors must be a member of CODA, or, if not residing in Canada, of another National Optimist Association.

Item 18 existing clause:

18. Organizers of each Provincial Championship, CORK, the Canadian Optimist Dinghy Championship (CODC), CYA Sail East and West shall collect a levy of $10.00 per sailor to be forwarded to CODA.

Item 18 proposed clause:

18. Organizers of CORK and the Canadian Optimist Dinghy Championship shall collect a levy of $10 per sailor to be forwarded to CODA”.

*Wording was changed to remove the provincial championships and Sail East/West and Central. The $10 levy from regional regattas to CODA will apply only to the Canadians and CORK.*

Item 19 existing clause:

19. Mail-out ballots will be permitted for the purpose of changing CODA By-laws. A 2/3 vote will be required with a minimum of ten (10) responses. 

Item 19 proposed clause:

19. Mail-out ballots will be permitted for the purpose of changing CODA By-laws. A 2/3 vote will be required with a minimum of 20 percent of the membership.

Item 20 existing clause:

20. CODA Selection Rule for the ranking and selection of the World, European and North American Teams is as follows:  
     Team members to represent Canada at the IODA World, European North American Optimist Championships will be selected based on the results of one annual regatta, namely the Canadian Optimist Dinghy Championship (CODC) in the previous season of these three international events. The top 5 finishers will be invited to be part of the Worlds Team (no gender stipulation) the next 4 finishers will be invited to be part of the European Team (gender 3-1). The top 18 finishers will be invited to take part in the IODA North American Championship (gender: 15-3).

Item 20 proposed clause:

20. CODA Selection Rule for the ranking and selection of the World and Continental Championships (European, South American and North American) Teams is as follows:

a. Team members to represent Canada at the IODA World and Continental Optimist Championships will be selected on the results of one annual regatta, namely the Canadian Optimist Dinghy Championship in the previous season of these International events. The selection will be based on the number of spots allocated annually by IODA to Canada to each of these Championships, subject to gender rules when applicable. Allocation of spots will be made in order of finishing at the CODC subject to IODA rules and Schedules.

b. Exceptionally, the Executive Committee, directly or via the International Teams Committee may exercise its discretion to fulfill any International Team composition under the following conditions:

i. When the International Teams have not been filled based on 20(a);

ii. For exceptional reasons such as an injury preventing an eligible Canadian sailor to attend the CODC after being registered and paid.

c. Any sailor selected to fill a spot under 20(b) must have demonstrated that he has qualified and ranked in the top of half of other international events (including CORK or US qualifiers) in the year of the CODC.

d. For each International event, the Executive Committee or the International Teams Committee will set commitment conditions to be met by the selected sailors which may include but not be limited to commitment deadlines and the amount of deposits.

These items were moved, seconded and approved. *Tanya, my notes say that they were moved by the person sitting beside Wendy and seconded by the person sitting beside Jen. That is very unhelpful as you weren’t even there and if I can’t remember who these people are I don’t see how you could remember. Jen might be able to help you or if not, and the exec is ok, you have permission to use Keith and I.*

Item 21 existing wording:

21. Fleet Divisions (note: all as of December 31 of the current year):  
        Red: Aged 13, 14, & 15    
        Blue: Aged 11 & 12  
        White: Aged 10 & under   
        Green : Novice sailors in Optimist racing (see Green Fleet Guidelines)

Item 21 proposed wording:

21. Sailors competing in CODA sanctioned events shall compete either in the Championship Fleet or the Green fleet for novice sailors. Within the Championship Fleet, scoring shall be broken down into the following categories:

-Red fleet (for sailors aged 13, 14 or 15 as of December 31st of the year of the event);

-Blue fleet (for sailors aged 11 or 12 as of December 31st of the year of the event);

-White fleet (for sailors aged 10 or under as of December 31st of the year of the event);

-Overall (all Red, Blue, and White sailors scored as one group)

Where possible, the Green fleet will race on a course which is separate from the Championship Fleet. Rules governing participation in the Green Fleet are promulgated by the Executive Committee and posted on the CODA website.

The changes were moved and seconded. Objections were raised by the BC provincial coach Tina Moberg-Parker regarding white fleet sailing on the green fleet course. Her concern is to protect children whose parents insist on putting them into dangerous situations, whether or not they understand the degree of danger. Discussion ensued.

Upon voting the motion was carried (3 nay, 11 yay).

Cyrille requested that the concerns regarding the safety of sailors, particularly white fleet, be sent in writing to the Regatta committee, and copied to the By Law committee, who would look at recommendations to address this concern.

1. **Nomination and Election of Officers**

The following people are proposed by the executive or by the Provinces as required by the Constitution:

* + Measurer Peter Kelly (QC-PCYC)
  + Class Development Officer Terry Yuill (NS –RNSYS)
  + Provincial Vice Presidents:
    1. Quebec: Christine Auger
    2. Ontario: Tammy Coutu
    3. Nova Scotia: Gord Anderson
    4. BC: Teddi Orenstein

All positions were acclaimed.

1. **New Business**

Presentation by Sarah Case Moscrop, CYA: Sarah unfortunately had to leave before this item on the agenda. Cyrille presented the Long Term Sailing Development Program.

1. **Termination**

Termination: as all business had been completed Cyrille requested a move to terminate. Move to terminate C Caldwell, second K Richardson