

International Model Power Boat Association

2007 IMPBA Telephonic Board Meeting

November 12, 2007

7:00PM Central Time

MINUTES

Present:

President, Bill Zuber
Executive Secretary, John Equi
District 1, Randall Thomas
District 2, Kevin Sheren
District 3, Glover Jeffcoat
District 5, Kelly Wilson
District 12, Don Ferrette
District 13, Represented by Jim Ragan
District 14, Bryan Schymik (also IMPBA Treasurer)
National Fast Electric Director, Randall Thomas
National Gas Director, Kevin Sheren
National Technical Chairman, Mike Schindler
National Record Director, Glenn Quarles
National O/B Director, Joe Knesek
Past President, Dick Jones

Absent:

District 4, Garrett Randall
District 6, Brian Nelsen (also IMPBA VP)
District 7, Ed Mest
National Scale Unlimited Director, Steve Ball
Past President, Pat Kelly

President Bill Zuber determined a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 7:01PM central time after the roll call.

A motion from Kevin Sheren, second by Don Ferrette, approved the minutes of the previous meeting.

Bill Zuber announced the results of the recent district elections, **Buddy Stone** won the election for District 7 Director, and **Bruce Jacobs** is the new District 14 Director.

Ballot 07-003 results, LSG LS Engine Classification Change:

			District	Vote	Power
D1 –	11 yes	2 no	D1 votes yes	2 votes	
D2 –	13 yes	15 no	D2 votes no		3 votes
D3 –	no ballots		D3 votes yes	1 vote	
D4 -			D4 votes yes	2 votes	
D5 –	36 yes	2 no	D5 votes yes	2 votes	
D12 –	16 yes	1 no	D12 votes yes	2 votes	
D13 –	2 yes	3 no	D13 votes no		1 vote
D14 –	12 yes	2 no	D14 votes yes	2 votes	
FE –	90 yes	25 no	FE votes yes	1 vote	
Gas Director			Gas votes yes	1 vote	
President			Pres votes no		1 vote
FE vote is based on membership popularity.			Total	13 votes	5 votes
Gas vote is based on majority.			LS Engine Change	Passes	

Bill Zuber asked a question and received an answer concerning the Gas Director vote.

Ballot 07-004 results, Engine Change (Remove Gas from Classes A Thru F)

			District	Vote	Power
D1 –	15 yes	5 no	D1 votes	yes	2 votes
D2 –	13 yes	13 no	D2 votes	yes	3 votes
D3 –	no ballots		D3 votes	yes	1 vote
D4 -			D4 votes	no	2 votes
D5 –	27 yes	3 no	D5 votes	yes	2 votes
D12 –	17 yes	0 no	D12 votes	yes	2 votes
D13 –	2 yes	3 no	D13 votes	no	1 vote
D14 –	15 yes	7 no	D14 votes	yes	2 votes
FE –	89 yes	31 no	FE votes	yes	1 vote
Gas Director			Gas votes	yes	1 vote
President			Pres votes	no	1 vote
FE vote is based on membership popularity.			Total	14 votes	4 votes
Gas vote is based on majority.					Engine Change Passes

Comment by Don Ferrette that this ballot only applies to the International regatta. Clubs can still run gas in these classes by placing a note on their race flyer. The ballot needed a clarification to this fact.

Dick Jones asked Kevin Sheren about the vote in District 2. Kevin went with the majority of the district.

Amateur Proposal - Don Ferrette who made the proposal and placed it on the table as a motion, explained that this is an IMPBA organizational decision, we have no concerns with APBA or NAMBA business. We should not have cash prizes in IMPBA, so he wrote the proposal. Kevin Sheren, Randall Thomas, offered comments. Randall seconded the motion, and mentioned that a real old copy of the Rule Book had words identifying IMPBA in the amateur rule. Further elaboration by Bill Zuber on this topic and mention of a rumor that there were clubs running for a cash prize at a separate event after a race. Brian Schymik mentioned that he has heard about this. Don says that this is a bad move and a problem under the sanction process. Dick Jones explained that the sanction and insurance are in play and that we need to add teeth to this rule. Don said that the “teeth” wording was already there as items “C” and “E”. Discussion continued by Don Ferrette, Bill Zuber, Dick Jones, Kevin Sheren, Joe Knesek, Jim Ragan, Glover Jeffcoat with many suggestions both pro and con. The final decision is to add an item F as follows;

F. Any club offering or allowing cash or monetary award during any sanctioned race, race or practice will have all sanctions and club registration revoked for a period of one year from the date of the offense by the Executive Board, should satisfactory proof be presented to it. A second violation will result in a club lifetime ban.

Don Ferrette accepted this addition after a further lengthy comment session by several Boardmembers. The office will prepare it as a **voting ballot for the December Roostertail.**

Armband Use Report – Technical Review Chairman Mike Schindler inquired about the armband use experiment. Kevin Sheren gave a short report about the armband usage at the 2007 Gas Nationals. Don Ferrette mentioned that it worked great.

Regatta Comment - Dick Jones asked what happened at the event when a non-member entered the pit area. Bill Zuber explained what happened in detail, subsequent discussion by Dick and Bill followed.

Continued Discussion to Reduce the Regatta Race Radius – Don Ferrette explained that this was a hand and hand concern with the 07-004 Engine Change ballot. Enacting this change would allow any boats that are not designated US-1 to be able to race during the time of the Regatta. These boats should be allowed to race. District 2 had to eliminate events as well as District 12 this year since they fell within the existing rule of the 500-mile exclusionary circle on the map. We should allow these classes to run, we could run a Gas or Fast Electric event if boats of these types were not offered at the Regatta. Kevin Sheren, Don Ferrette, Dick Jones, Randall Thomas, Joe Knesek, Glover Jeffcoat, and Brian Schymik offered opinions with a final outcome of a 1-year trial as a revision to Section 2, Page E – 2:

SECTION 2 – Sanction Restrictions

No IMPBA sanctions will be granted the weekend prior to, or the weekend of the International Regatta, within a 300-mile radius of the host site of the International Regatta. Sanctions that do not offer any US-1 nitro classes will be exempt from the radius restriction.

Kevin Sheren offered the motion for action, seconded by Don Ferrette. Bill Zuber called for a voice vote and the change **was approved for a 1-year trial.**

Fast Electric Rule Changes – Randal Thomas explained that the rules have been in the works for over a year and a half. For 2007 the FE racers employed a very condensed set of rules to run with. Randall talked extensively with several people and came up with the fully revised FE rule set. The main reason for the revision was the utilization of a voltage-based system instead of the prior cell count system, which affected everything. He also added verbiage to eliminate known loopholes in the old rules. He petitioned for a 1-year trial period with records and archival of the old records. The new rule set was distributed to several select people for examination about a month. Glover Jeffcoat would like the FE people to vote on the rules instead of the general population, the people using the rules should have the say so. Joe Knesek, Kevin Sheren, Bill Zuber, Don Ferrette, Glen Quarles discussed the proposed rules. Kevin and Glenn would not like records during the trial period. A comment was offered by Bill to rename the FE special awards to recognized Fast Electric people like Ed Hughey, Jim Dunham etc. Kevin liked Bills suggestion. Randall accepted the “no records” during the 1 year. Kevin suggested a paragraph noting that records would not be allowed to be placed in the new rules during the trial period. Kevin made a motion to accept the FE rules with noted changes & Don Ferrette 2nds the motion. Bill Zuber called for a voice vote, and the changes are **approved for the 1-year trial** from March 2008 thru March 2009. A ballot will appear in the December 2008 Roostertail.

Reconsider Scale Unlimited Rule Changes – Don Ferrette explained that this has been in print for a while. He has received lots of positive feedback on it. If the hull is listed on the APBA Hull Roster, then the boat can be built. He informed us that Steve Ball, our National Scale Unlimited Director Steve Ball likes the changes. Brian Schymik is in favor of the inclusive rule and proposes we accept the rules, Kevin seconds and a voice vote follows. **Proposal passes** and will go out as a **ballot** in the December Roostertail.

Final Affirmation to Noise Rule Technical Change – John Equi wishes to insure that he understands the wording before this is placed in the 2008 Rulebook pages. John calls for comments. Glover Jeffcoat mentioned if a pictorial could be added to clearly show the suggested position of the sound level meter. Several directors liked the idea. Kevin told us that he would use a board to restrict readings to the perpendicular direction of the meter. Don likes the cubic foot box system. Dick Jones advised us that we should really be taking the highest reading. Discussion followed by Kevin Sheren, Brian Schymik, Bill Zuber, Don Ferrette. It was mentioned that this may not be the best solution, but is useable and does limit the noise level. Don added that the sound level will have to move lower in the future, and that we are going down the correct path. Bill would like the rule to remain as is for a year or two. Kevin makes a motion to accept the rule as it was written plus add a drawing to spot the location of the meter. Don seconds and Randall requests a brief description of what the drawing would look like. Kevin conveyed the details with concurrence by Don. A voice vote is unanimous for the **drawing to be included** with the updates.

Brian Schymik Suggested Changes to the Rule Book – Brian explained his reason to break the article VIII into separate paragraphs for clarity and easier reading. Kevin makes a motion to accept the changes, Don seconds. Bill called for a voice vote for Brian's improvements. It was noted that these are to be clarification to existing rules and will not require a membership vote. The board responded with a unanimous approval, and that the change will be included with the Rule Book updates.

Randall, Kevin, Brian, Bill, Don, and Kelly discussed Brian's proposal for US-1 to have a minimum of 8 boats entered and presented for the winner to be termed US-1. The group agreed to change page E-4, section 1, Requirements by adding a paragraph;

D. A minimum of eight (8) boats per class must be entered and presented for the winner to be termed US-1.

This was approved for a membership ballot. Update: This item was inadvertently overlooked and did not appear as a voting ballot in the December Roostertail. It can be placed in the March issue if the board agrees. Brian's #3 topic, noise issue concerning clubs cannot opt out of the noise rule was discussed by several offering multiple viewpoints. Topic was closed. Brian's #4 topic, elimination of Regatta grant money, but utilize it as a loan with full payback was voiced. The board decided to **remove the wording** from the Regatta Guidebook, which is the only place it appears.

Bill Zuber Suggested Changes to the Rule Book - Several board members had comments on bills changes. It was decided to leave the section 2 alone and utilize Bill's new wording concerning election timeframes in section 3. This goes out in the **Rule Book updates**.

Treasury Report – Brian Schymik explained the supplied financial report. Back in the years 2004 & 2005 we had some problems, and since then we have made excellent progress. I will tell you that the checkbook balance on the report for October does not show the monies we have in the money market account for the lifetime and the general fund. We have never had this money market amount since he's been involved with IMPBA. The big budget expense coming up will be for our insurance which is a huge chunk of our yearly revenue, nearly half. Our secretary has done An excellent job and has received a small raise this year that the Board approved, starting on November 1st. We had a charge from our CPA for \$2,250 for his services to take care of all the back tax paperwork since the year 2000. We have not heard from the IRS on these. We received a large file of copies of tax documents from the CPA that were submitted to the IRS. Kevin Sheren offered thanks for getting the job done. Bill, Brian, John Equi and Dick Jones voiced comments. John offered a detailed explanation concerning the insurance process. Dick inquired about having John include budget projections in the next financial report.

New Business – Kevin Sheren suggested doing a National Championship Regatta for four years and then a US-1 Regatta in the 5th year. Maybe we could promote the Regatta this way to get more clubs interested in hosting the event. Bill Zuber suggested putting it out on the International Waters website. Mike Schindler has been talking with District 4 about them hosting the Regatta as a District event at the Evansville site. Dick Jones is working on a list of personnel and numbers for the D4 group. Bill informed the Board that he had forwarded the Regatta guidebook to D4. Kevin said that the IMPBA Board has to be pro-active in lining clubs up for the Regatta. Don Ferrette, Joe Knesek, and Brian Schymik offered suggestions concerning the time required to conduct the event, classes, heats and numerous other details.

Randall Thomas told everyone that the Elmira New York club is considering placing a bid for the 2009 Regatta, but want a full year to examine it. He added that their pond is on the small size and could only run about 6 boats at a time. It would be difficult to run 6 twins. An obstruction on the pond would be removed to allow more turning room for fast boats.

Randall reminded the Board that several Directorships and the Presidency were up for elections in 2009.

Bill called for a motion to adjourn, Kevin responded and Don seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50PM CST