

International Model Power Boat Association

2013 Telephonic Board of Directors Meeting

February 20th, 2013

7:00 PM Central Time

MINUTES

Present:

President, Chris Rupley
Executive Secretary, John Equi
District 1, Luc White
District 2, Tom Kelly
District 3, John Otto
District 4, Paul Bychowski
District 5, Paul Traufler
District 12, Don Ferrette
District 13, Doug Smock
District 14, Mike Schindler
National Record Director, Doug Smock
National Gas Director, Chris Rupley
National Fast Electric Director, Chris Harris
National Nitro Director, Don Ferrette
Past President, Kevin Sheren
Past President, Bill Zuber

Absent:

District 6, Larry Conrad
District 7, Jim Nissen

DRAFT COPY

President Chris Rupley called the meeting to order. Chris then asked the Secretary to take a roll call. Secretary determined a quorum was present for the meeting. The minutes of the September 12, 2012 Mike Hemric meeting were accepted with a motion by D2 Chris Rupley, and seconded by D4 Paul Bychowski; voice vote approval. PP Bill Zuber had a question concerning who else was involved in the violations and received an answer

Treasurers Report - Secretary read the report sent by IMPBA Treasurer Brian Schymik. As of Jan 1, 2013 our checking balance is \$25,785 and the money market savings if \$15,209. The total income for calendar year 2012 was \$49,803. Comparison was included by Brian for Jan 1, 2012; at that time the checking was \$19,575. (This year was \$6,210 more). CD savings was \$14,200 (this year was \$1,009 more). He commented that our PayPal costs for the online activity was \$921.07. But 447 users paid that way which came to about \$2.00 per online registration. Our taxes are paid quarterly and are current for IMPBA employees, John and Judy Equi. Secretary added that the other PayPal account we have has \$2,329 in it. As of Feb 11, 2013 we have \$35,781 cash available.

D1 Luc White joined the meeting.

Chris Harris, our Fast Electric Director asked the Secretary about the cost for our 2013 general liability insurance. Last year it was \$15,953; this year it is \$13,568. The cost was lower due to changes in the number of clubs, races and members. D4 Paul Bychowski offered the motion to accept the Treasurer's report and D1 Luc White seconded.

President then calls for district reports.

DISTRICT REPORTS

D1 - Luc told us that it was winter, but his clubs are getting busy for next season. He has good news for IMPBA. He is signing up another new club in this French speaking area for a total of three clubs in the Quebec region. Overall, everything is doing well in the district. Membership is up.

D2 - The clubs are still working on getting their club sanctions in to the office. Their schedule was established last year by Chris Rupley, but there will be a few minor tweaks in it. His clubs are working with the pond owners to get race dates squared away. Things are on schedule. Past President Kevin Sheren requested that Tom Kelly send his officers information (FE Director, Scale Director) for the website. Tom has also been gathering all the new officers for the various D2 clubs to send to Kevin. Per Kevin's request, all changes should be sent at one time.

D3 – There is not much going on in the clubs in John Otto's district as of this meeting. He has heard that Andy Brown was planning a Hydro race in South Georgia. John did sign Andy's club registration. That's about it.

D4 – Paul Bychowski's district is on track; they will have their usual 10 races, plus 2 new races from the D14 group. The 12 races will create a really busy year.

D5 – Paul Traufler's district has a record trials scheduled for April 1 thru April 3, then the Gene Taylor/John Hall Memorial race May 17 thru May 19. The next event is a record trial in October and the final Turkey Day record event in November. The Voodoo club in Kenner, LA applied for club membership and will be having an event in late October, the 2013 Nitro Nationals. The Huntsville club will start running in about 2 weeks.

D6 – Absent

D7 – Absent

D12 – Don Ferrette reports that it is still wintertime in his district and everybody is in the building mode. They have a district meeting coming up early next month to decide dates of events; otherwise it is real quiet for now.

D13 – Doug Smock announced his clubs are ready to rock. Their first race is scheduled for Feb 23 in Sycamore, GA with 172 boats for the (SOWEGA) Grand Prix Club.

D14 – Mike Schindler's members are conducting two races in District 4, one in Johnston City, IL and the other in Mount Vernon, IL. A few weeks ago, about a half dozen district members went to Marion, IL which is near Johnston City, to a boat show and placed 10 to 12 boats on display. Thousands of people were at the boat show and came by the display. Quite a few visitors had R/C boats and with a bit of luck maybe there will be a Johnston City club this time next year. Everything is alive and well in the district. There is a new Irwin Cup race conducted by Greg Hahn in Muncie, IN. The Hobart, IN race looks like it will be a three day event. Everything in the district is going well.

Fast Electric Director – Chris Harris reports that things are looking good, especially in the south. The 172 boat race in D13 has close to 50 of them being electric. There will be double heats of them in almost every class, every round and also electric boats in the open classes. They are ready to go. Chris thinks it will be a good year.

Nitro Director – Don Ferrette reports there is nothing new, that it’s quiet right now. New engines are coming out and CMB is changing the big blocks again. Members are waiting to see pictures. Mr. Hobbs is planning to have a 67 coming out later in the year.

Gas Director – Chris Rupley informed the Board that the Charleston Model Boaters are doing the Gas Nationals this year. Registration opens up tomorrow. They have everything squared away. The event is in the early part of June, the 6th thru the 9th with John Knight and his crew.

Records Director – Doug Smock did not have any new records to report at this time.

Old Business – Chris called upon Past President Kevin Sheren to report on the Mike Hemric activity. The actual details were quite complicated, with opinions and concerns voiced by almost all Board members for about 20 minutes. Kevin received and read a letter from Mike where he acknowledged his errors and was sincerely apologetic. Board members considered the letter and ultimately reduced the penalties levied against Mike. Since this was the first test of the new IMPBA rules on such infractions, the precise wording of documentation to parties involved must be carefully examined for accuracy. Kevin offered a motion that Mike may re-apply for contest director status after the final two years of probation (May 13, 2015) and IMPBA membership after May 13 (this year). D12 Mike Schindler seconded. (NOTE: There were four individuals and two clubs involved). Additional discussion by Board members followed for several minutes. Secretary was instructed to take a vote:

D1 – Yes	D5 – Yes	D13 – Yes	
D2 – Yes	D6 – Absent	D14 – Yes	Proposal
D3 – Yes	D7 – Absent	FE – Yes	Passes
D4 – Yes	D12 – Yes	Gas – Yes	
		Past President – Yes	

Outcome – Mike Hemric can apply for IMPBA membership after May 13, 2013, and then he may re-apply for contest director May 13, 2015, after completing a probationary period of two years.

PROPOSALS

Sport 40 Strut Placement by D4 Paul Bychowski – D12 Don suggested this be sent out for a one year trial to let members evaluate any difference in performance. Don does not see any advantage. Paul mentioned that many racers are already running boats with the strut on the transom, but can’t race with those boats. Don also mentioned that this class is the only IMPBA Sport class that does not allow transom mounting. D14 Mike Schindler had comments. Kevin told the Board that we got a large club back by allowing them to deviate from rules and place the strut on the back per notice in their flyer. NAMBA members can’t race with us. The club was in D1. Tom Kelly, D2 Director explained how the Sport 40 class came into being, and how it would affect racing in his area. Considerable discussion ensued by Paul, Luc, Don, Kevin, & Tom. Don mentioned that at Hobart, California racers left their Sport 40 hulls at home since their struts were on the transom. Chris called for a motion, D1 made motion, D4, Paul seconded to offer the option for strut placement. Secretary proceeded to take a district vote:

D1 – Yes	D5 – Yes	D13 – Yes	
D2 – Yes	D6 – Yes (Per Email)	D14 – No	Proposal passes
D3 – Yes	D7 – Absent	FE – Abstain	for a one year trial
D4 – Yes	D12 – Yes	Gas – Abstain	
		Past President – Yes	

Sport 20 & 40 Proposal Resubmit by Paul Bychowski – Chris and Don commented that Paul did a really good job on it. Brian Blazer made the drawing. D2 Tom asked if existing boats that violated the rule would be grandfathered, and the answer was “yes”. Discussion by several followed, and then Kevin asked Paul how he wished the proposal to proceed. Paul wants it to go to the membership for a vote. Kevin made a motion to turn the proposal down (which automatically forces it to go out as a vote). D12 seconded. Secretary called for vote:

D1 – Yes	D5 – Yes	D13 – Yes	Proposal passes for ballot to go out to membership for vote
D2 – No	D6 – Y (Per Email)	D14 - Yes	
D3 – Yes	D7 – Absent	FE – Abstain	
D4 – Yes	D12 – Yes	Gas – Abstain	
		Past President – Yes	

Contacts for all District Directors – President Chris Rupley instructed everyone to check the website to insure the correct names are listed for district people. We also need to make sure the Roostertail has good data.

Voting Results for Current Ballots – John Equi, Chris Rupley – Secretary voiced the ballots received at the office vs. what each director received. Then after the received votes were tallied, these were converted to the individual voting power of each district. The results were:

13-001 – Passes	13-003 – Passes	13-005 – Passes
13-002 – Passes	13-004 – Passes	13-006 – Passes

All of the data will appear in the March Roostertail. There was considerable discussion about the 13-006 racing rule change by almost all directors.

NEW BUSINESS

President Chris Rupley appoints Tom Kelly for District 2 Director and would like to appoint Joe Wiebelhaus as National Scale Director and requested Board approval. Comments were positive for this non-voting position. Both were approved.

Dead Boat Points Proposal by John Knight – D13 Director Doug Smock asked for comments by Board members. D12 Don asked what Doug’s personal feeling was; proposal was a bit complicated. Comments ensued by Kevin, Don, Luc, John Otto, Bill & Paul Bychowski. Kevin makes a motion to send the proposal back to John Knight with changes to 50 points and a notation that buoy infractions by the disabled racer could result in zero points. Seconded by D14. (John Knight did agree with the 50 point revision and notation. **Outcome; It will go for a one year trial in 2013).**

Offshore Buoy Infraction Proposal by D13 Doug Smock – A discussion about this came up at a district race where a racer did not consider an offshore buoy a complete set of buoys. Discussion ensued by D2 Tom, Kevin, D14 Mike, D12 Don, D1 Luc, D13 Doug, with a positive outcome. Kevin offered a motion for a **one year trial**, D12 seconded. **Unanimous approval.** Then the discussion continued for several minutes. Secretary read the proposal but several changes were offered. Kevin suggested removing the word “referee” which was accepted by Doug. Bill Zuber suggested adding the word “turn,” to read as “when three turn buoys are cut” in paragraph B. All agreed to the change. Kevin also offered another suggested change: add the word “single” before the word “offshore” in paragraph B, it would read “striking a single offshore buoy”. Secretary then read the revised wording after concurrence from Kevin & Doug. **These three changes were unanimously approved for insertion in Doug’s proposal.**

Fast Electric Wording Problem by FE Chris Harris – Chris explained that when the new Fast Electric (FE) rules were voted in back in 2008 and went into effect in 2009, previous to that revision the only specialized classes were Tenth Scale Crackerbox, 6 Cell Enduro and 12 Cell Spec class Sport Hydro. The new 2008 rules added in tunnels, which in Fast Electric are really Catamarans and Outboard Tunnel. A problem became evident when racers attempted to set records with catamarans that were powered by twin motors. However, since these hulls are identified in specialized classes now, it specifies they can only have one motor which is not what these boats currently have. The twin motor catamarans are the fastest growing segment of FE boating right now. Chris does not believe the catamarans should be in the specialized classes and tunnel hulls have never been a specialized class. The specialized class used to be 1/8 Scale but it has its own class now. Chris wants to eliminate on page J-12 of the rule book the whole section that pertains to tunnels. There is an inconsistency with the rest of the rules because in every other hull type in Electrics for classes Q, S & T are allowed dual motors except for tunnels. D13 Doug agrees with Chris. Chris said that we should call the hull types as they are catamarans and tunnels. This change will not change any records; it's just a name change. Chris then answered several questions by Board members. D12 Don mentioned that if this is a technical change it can be accomplished now. Chris agrees. D2 Tom made a motion for the technical change, D13 Doug seconded. Discussion by many concerning the actual wording changes for Kevin to place in the rule book. There will be 5 hull types: Mono, Catamaran, O/B Tunnel, Hydro and Sport Hydro. This is how the technical change is worded in the motion which was restated: Delete page J-12 which received no objections and was pronounced **approved for immediate implementation.**

Chris then continued on to the second part of his FE change concerning the catamaran wording. Chris and Doug explained that on page J-2 add the word “catamaran” to the second column of the chart. The chart would list Mono, Catamaran, O/B Tunnel and Hydro. Doug pointed out that on page J-9, US-1 classes also need to be changed. Motion to approve is made by D2 Tom Kelly. D4 Paul Bychowski seconded. **Unanimous approval to go out for immediate implementation.**

Gas Scale Rules Proposal by D12 Don Ferrette – Don mentioned that there was one typographical error in his proposal in the Engine and Boat Specifications, Number 5. It reads “engine must be a maximum...” it should read “engine must not exceed a maximum displacement of 31.00 cc...” He also mentioned that he is building one of these boats and knows of four or five others being built. IMPBA is behind the curve on this class compared to the other boating groups. Don has contacted those clubs and patterned this class after our 1/8 Scale rules. This is just a scale boat with a gasoline engine. He wants the rules tight. FE Chris Harris asked if these boats would run with 1/8 Scale Hydro, and the answer was no. These boats are larger (47 to 54 inches long). Don explained the conversion factor to the board: 1.8 inches to 1’0”. Tom in D2 asked about concealing the exhaust system. It is easily possible. D4 offered a motion for a one year trial and the Records Director added that there will be no records during the one year trial. Don agreed. **Unanimous approval with change as mentioned for a 1 year trial.**

Time Trials by Chris Rupley – Chris would like sanctions to be valid for 30 days before the event on the website instead of several months with approval. Kevin explained the historical reasoning. Bill Zuber likes 60 days. D14 had comments about the 60 days. Chris agreed to 60, then 45 days after listening to several comments. D1 Luc & Kevin made a motion to accept 45 days, D12 seconded. **Vote was unanimous.**

Secretary then asked about the time frame for implementation, since this was a racing rule change. Kevin agreed this was a racing rule, either in the racing rules or constitution, we should table this one. Chris agreed. **Outcome: Item is tabled, no action at this time.**

IMPBA Constitution Changes by Chris Rupley – Chris went over several of the changes, adding a National Nitro Director, a voting position; increase the President’s term to three years; when the term starts; ballots to the Webmaster for officers; proposed amendments, ballot deadline. Chris then called for comments, and there were none. **Secretary will place full pages with yellow areas in the Roostertail ballot. No Board vote is needed; this goes directly for member ballot.**

IMPBA By-Laws Changes by Chris Rupley – This one was also presented by Chris. He carefully read each change with comments received by many Board members. Several of his changes were revised after agreement by all. **Secretary will also place this By-laws change in the Roostertail for a ballot vote. It will include all yellow colored text.**

Internats Proposal and Date by Chris Rupley and Don Ferrette – Don explained that on the paperwork he received from the Voodoo club, the dates are stated October 24th thru Sunday, the 27th. The event must end with the Saturday night banquet and leave Sunday as a travel day. It has always been done that way. Don had been in contact with Carlo Catalanotto concerning the required end on Saturday and Carlo said the club could do it. Considerable discussion by several Board members followed with Kevin making a motion to approve the Nitro Internats October 23 thru the 26th. D14 Mike seconded. More discussion followed for almost five minutes. **A Board vote followed with unanimous approval to have Don get with Carlo to work it out. (We could help Carlo if they need manpower during the early weekdays).**

No Re-launch Discussion by Kevin Sheren – Kevin mentioned that in the past, when a boat was launched, you could drive it around a lap, then bring it in, adjust, restart and send it back out. This practice should be stopped since somebody may get hurt. The Board can say “yes” or “no” to this activity since it is a safety issue. One Director thought this practice was already outlawed; Kevin told him it was not. Questions by Bill Zuber concerning Team Marathon, D12 Don had a suggestion to state “no re-launch”. D2 Tom had questions. D1 and D14 had comments. **Final outcome; “Once a boat passes the entrance buoy, there will be no relaunch” wording will be added to the Safety section by Safety Director Bill Zuber. Also to be mentioned in the Roostertail.**

Internet by Chris Rupley – Chris explained that Kevin is doing about 90% of the changes on the website and would like to reimburse Kevin for his internet service or else hire someone to do it. That would be a lot of money. Right now Kevin is more than willing to do this task using wireless internet since he travels a lot. The costs would be around \$50.00 a month. D1 Luc made a motion to reimburse, Records Director Doug Smock seconded. **Outcome: Kevin’s internet bill will be reimbursed.**

Chris then mentioned that he asked Kevin Sheren to be the IMPBA Vice-President, but needs Board approval. D1 Luc offered a motion to approve Kevin as Vice-President, D2 Tom seconded. All approved.

Other New Business – Secretary was tasked to purchase wrist bands. Emails will be sent to clubs or Directors for quantity needed. Kevin suggests obtaining 5000 bright colored bands. **Outcome: Secretary will contact clubs for the quantity they need and send them.**

Kevin makes a motion to adjourn. All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 11:01 PM.