CORA Annual Technical Meeting Agenda

Sunday, November 4, 2018 at 9:30 am

Jericho Sailing Centre, Northwest Room

1300 Discovery St., Vancouver BC

The purpose of the technical meeting is to discuss issues surrounding racing, development of the sport of outrigger, promoting and facilitating both individual and club members and to allow input from members into the operational aspect of CORA's mandate. It is not a substitution for the AGM although some line items will have overlap with AGM topics.

1. **Welcome and Roll Call**
    1.1. Board Members in Attendance: Nicole Cherrington, Jill Kelly, Erik Ages, Ron Chin, Marianne Pilon, Lynda Roberts, Grace Morrissette, Graeme Galves, Rob Varnel, Paul Pilon, Don Mulhall, Jonathan Wilkins

    1.2. Board Members Absent: Leanne Stanley, James Hill

    1.3. Members in Attendance: Melisa Tang Choy (FCRCC), Jan Chavarie (Jericho), Cindy Wright (ORPC), Adriana Mossinkoff (FVDBC), Scott Borle (Harrison FVDBC), Tara Loo (Lotus), Barb Alley (Lotus), Melisa Tang Choy (FCRCC), Launa Maundrell (PRCC), Sue Milligan (Powell River)

    1.4. Member joining by phone: John Bohaychuk, Neil Martindale, Roberta Martindale, Steve Hugens (all from Leduc)

2. **2018 Race review and scheduling of 2019 events**
    2.1. Don gave a review of the 2018 race season highlights and participation. 21 of 27 CORA clubs participated in a CORA sanctioned race this past year. CORA members were invited to offer some feedback about the races. There was some discussion about race placement recognition, prizes, food, etc. differing in standards race to race. It was also noted that the race schedule was very crowded. Rob gave an overview of the framework for minimal standards for hosting a race.

2.2. Race sanctioning forms are now submitted on automated digital form. (Communications team to add V12 dropdown.)

2.3. Proposed 2018 race schedule (attached below minutes) was reviewed to check for conflicts or questions (e.g., confirmation for format, distance and CORA Cup status). Draft schedule will be updated by Communications team on the website and is subject to change: https://www.canadianoutrigger.com/races/schedule/

2.3.1. Erik will change March Madness to show as taking place Mar 30 and 31 and add a note for club reps requesting CORA Cup status.

2.3.2. Marianne will connect with VCKC to get them to work with Erik to change Wake Up the Gorge to Apr 5-6, instead of Apr 26-27

2.3.3. VYPC has applied for the Nationals race on Apr 27-28 to be recognized as CORA Cup Sprints. There was discussion that a Nationals ought to take place when all Canadians are on the water. The challenge is that the distance races make for an already full calendar from spring to fall, and there were not other applications. Rob recommended a committee is established to further discuss these ideas. Leduc mentioned interest in putting together an application to host Nationals Sprints in another region. As 2019 applications for this year have already been collected, it might be best for Leduc to propose a race for 2020.

2.3.4. Duel in the Desert has applied for CORA Cup status for the BC Interior race. Approved, no competing applications.

2.3.5. Duel and Switchblade are both proposed for May 11, but are likely not to attract the same participants, so both races are accepted onto the calendar as submitted.

2.3.6. FLCC River Run and Jericho are both proposed for May 25. Jericho is usually held on this weekend historically, and the date fits in with the Sailing Centre schedule. Jericho really wants the date and is less interested in CORA Cup status than the date. FLCC chose this date due to tides, melt and how it affects the river. CORA members have an appetite for new races. Moving one of the races to the next weekend means there will be three race weekends in a row (Jericho, River Run and Island Iron). FLCC agreed to move their event to April 20th, though Graeme mentioned this will conflict with Easter weekend for some paddlers. FLCC will be a CORA Cup race and Jericho will recuse themselves from being considered for a CORA Cup race.

2.3.7. It was proposed that CORA set the Nationals date first, then offer clubs a set list of potential CORA Cup weekends for which they can apply to have their race as a CORA Cup race.

2.3.8. Jul 20 VOS made a manual entry of a race application for a Chase-down race.

2.3.9. Distance was not included in all race applications and Erik is following up so that there can be a complete listing posted on the CORA website calendar.

2.3.10. Around Bowed Island and Island Changes are both proposed for Jul 27. Island Changes may offer a dry change option to increase participation. The date conflict, should both races be held on the same date, might hurt Island Changes more. The races may attract different kinds of paddlers for each one. It was recommended that CORA should sanction both races, and motion carried.

2.3.11. Regarding date conflicts, it was proposed that for next year the proposed races and their proposed dates are made visible to race host clubs so that they can begin to mitigate ahead of time. It would also be helpful for club representatives to be

present at the Technical meeting to offer their rationale for selecting certain dates so that conflicts could be worked out at this meeting in person, if not ahead of time.

2.3.12. Races proposed for Sep 21: Classique d'Automne in Montreal (pending COMMOC becoming a CORA member), Nationals Battleship Iron in Port Alberni, and Lotus Poker Paddle in Burnaby. The Montreal race will not compete for attendance with the other races. It is thought the other two will also not be in competition for attendance by the same group of paddlers and should both be sanctioned without working to alter dates.

2.3.13. Regarding CORA Cup Nationals (distance), both applications (Harrison Lake and Port Alberni) are from communities located on a lake rather than an ocean. Offering Nationals in Harrison makes it logistically easier for clubs to the east of lower mainland to attend. Harrison conflicts with Victoria Dragon boat Festival. Harrison was approved to host Nationals.

3. **CORA race sanctioning automated application forms**

3.1. Erik and Paul will work on a way to offer the CORA community visibility to the race applications received for the year after the present one.

4. **Leading up to the next IVF World Championships**

4.1. Report is attached at end of minutes, and Linda will verbally review again at AGM this afternoon.

5. **Review of 2018 grants and discussions of changes for 2019**

5.1. Report is attached at end of minutes

5.2. Ron gave a summary of how the grants were allocated.

5.3. For RME Open Call: the 4 clubs selected to receive remaining 2018 grant money were selected using criteria that considered how often over the past 5 years they had received RME grants or RME open calls, how to help newly established clubs get started, how to support equipment shared by multiple clubs, prioritizing repair over maintenance to get paddlers back on the water, supporting expenses that have already been paid for versus charges anticipated for future (which can apply for RME grants in 2 months <Jan>, etc.).

6. **Discussion of ongoing and new initiatives**

6.1. Coaching Resources

6.1.1. o IVF can help support paddlers get coaching and experience

6.1.2. o CORA lends support to coached clinics via coaching/clinic grants, advertising, etc.

6.2. Junior/Novice support update was given

6.3. Communications/website

6.3.1. The Comm team is aiming to be more pro-active in communicating with the CORA membership.

6.3.2. There are discussions underway about how to make the membership database live to club contacts. New database will need to force CORA individual members choose a club and age range.

6.3.3. It is proposed that race directors will have an online form on which to enter their race results.

6.3.4. There is an appetite for the CORA Home page to have new content (e.g., race promotion) refreshed on a more regular schedule.

6.4. Conflict of interest guidelines for CORA Board members

6.4.1. Ron and Jill completed the conflict of interest guidelines for CORA Board members and committee members to read, sign and subscribe to. Almost every Board and CORA committee member has signed the document, with a goal of 100% compliance by Dec 31, 2018.

6.5. CORA Board position descriptions

6.5.1. Jill and Nicole are updating and supplementing information available on the CORA website so that the membership will have greater awareness of what the CORA positions involve and what they contribute to the organization and community. It is hoped this will attract more involvement from volunteers and nominated directors.

6.6. New initiatives, discussions, issues or concerns initiated by the members

6.6.1. Leduc had a question about how clubs can get a copy of their CORA Club individual members that have registered for the year? At this point a direct request would go to Jan Chaverie. It is a manual process and clubs are asked not to request this list more than once a month.

6.6.2. CORA was asked if the organization is interested in buying a trailer available to its membership to bring outrigger canoes to paddling events. There is a trailer shortage.

6.6.2.1. CORA is interested, but it does bring about many logistical and expense considerations.

6.6.2.2. Clubs are encouraged to pool their resources to coordinate shared trailers, borrow/lend them, etc.

6.6.2.3. Another idea was to offer a CORA grant to clubs to purchase a trailer. (The grant money from and existing grant budget can be reallocated to this new grant.) Trailers can cost 10-15k, and some long-used trailers are not appropriate for carrying ultralights.

6.6.2.4. Clubs were encouraged to use the CORA Message Board to coordinate canoe trailering amongst clubs.

6.6.3. There is a great desire for more medals at CORA. However, many paddlers don't like medals. Some like consumables, other handy paddling paraphernalia, etc. CORA is attempting to share some recommended CORA Cup standards with race directors. There is a great desire for better race category recognition.

6.6.4. Staggered starts for Ultralights versus other OC6s. A CORA Committee will be formed to brainstorm how to help with well communicated, clear directions and safety standards at the start line and on the race course.

7. **Topic tabled for afternoon AGM meeting due to lack of time:**

    7.1.   Quick preview of the 2019 budget: will be covered at AGM this afternoon.

Meeting adjourned at **12:03 pm**

		Action items identified in CORA Annual Technical Meeting, Nov 4, 2018	
No.	**Assignee**	**Action Item**	**Due Date**
Tech 1	Comm team	Add V12 to dropdown options on automated digital form for CORA races	
Tech 2	Comm team	Update 2019 calendar with upcoming races, correcting date changes as minuted, confirming distances and add a notation for the CORA Cup races.	
Tech 3	Rob	Request for volunteers to form a committee to discuss how Nationals Sprints can be scheduled for a time when all Canadian teams are back on the water, given the overcrowded distance race schedule from spring to fall.	
Tech 4	Rob	Request for volunteers to form a committee to discuss an equitable way to address the instances when two clubs propose a race for the same date. Also consider an approach for when there aren't many other adjacent free weekends for one race to move to, without scheduling distance events in the same region multiple weekends in a row. This is especially important for the CORA Cup series.	
Tech 5	Erik or Paul	Related to item Tech 4, explore ways technology can show which weekends in the next year already have a race proposal in, well in advance of the Technical Meeting.	
Tech 6	Nicole	Add Membership database upgrades to standing agenda for director monthly meetings	
Tech 7	Graeme	Sign the Director Acknowledgement / Conflict of Interest form and return to Rob & Nicole	Nov 11, 2018
Tech 8	Ron & Jonathan	Initiate a discussion amongst the board members to determine if we should apportion some 2019 budget money to a trailer grant.	

Tech 9	Race consistency committee	Draft some recommendations to set a standard for race directors / hosts to reference and consider, when planning their event.	
Tech 10	Rob	Request for volunteers to form a committee to discuss how CORA can help make recommendations regarding well communicated, clear directions and safety standards at the start line and on the race course, particularly when there are Ultralights sharing the race course with Spec OC6s, etc.	