



Thunderbird Sailing

January 2010

ITCA Annual General Meeting at CYC Seattle February 13, 2010

The International Thunderbird Class Association (ITCA) will hold it's Annual General Meeting on February 13, 2010 at the Corinthian Yacht Club (CYC) Shilshole Clubhouse from 1:30 PM to 4:00 PM. This clubhouse is located at 7755 Seaview Ave. NW, Pier V in Seattle, Washington. Come to the Seattle Fleet Awards Event at the same location starting a 6:00 PM. See notice in this letter.

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ITCA AGM Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of agenda
3. Approval of 2007 AGM minutes
4. President's Report
5. Vice President's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Secretary's Report Measurer's Report
8. Report on 2010 Internationals
9. Fleet Reports
10. Old Business
11. New Business
Vote on Specification Changes

Voting on Specification changes

A 2/3rds majority of members voting is required for passage of Specification changes. Sections 6.5 and 6.6 of the Constitution allow amendments to the constitution or specs to be submitted in writing if signed by 25 members in good standing for voting at the next Annual General meeting.

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International Organization

President : Dale Dunning dale@wallstreetclothiers.com	Fleet 2, Seattle	Water Torture	# 20
Vice President Sean Kane tbrd154@verizon.net	Fleet 5, Boston	Chikanery	#154
Secretary Sandy Pratt s.r.pratt@comcast.net	Fleet 2, Seattle	Falcon	#1177
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Measurement Chair Duane Emnott kalua262@yahoo.com	Fleet 13, Everett	Thunderbaby	#1266
ITCA Web Site= www.thunderbirdsailing.org			
ITCA Address—Thunderbird Sailing PO Box 1033 Mercer Island, Wa 98040,			

Newsletter Contributions are Welcome

Articles, photos, letters to the editor, from racers and cruisers are what makes it all work.

Contributions are welcome in any form. Mail them to the editor's home or email.

Sandy Pratt
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Available from the International

Wooden Thunderbird Plans—————\$50 U S

Keel Contour Templates on paper—————\$20 U S

From the Helm by Dale Dunning

We have passed through the darkest days of winter. Listening to the radio and hearing advertisements for the upcoming boat show is a sure sign that spring time and sailing season is not that far off. 2010 promises to be an eventful year for the Thunderbird class.

We have the upcoming AGM just around the corner. We are asking the membership to consider two new changes to the black book. First, we are asking members to consider allowing a loose footed main and the second issue would be to allow more modern materials in the construction of the Thunderbird genoa. As an added convenience, eligible voting members will be allowed to vote online before the AGM. Access will be through the www.thunderbirdsailing.org website.

The really big news for this year is the Internationals being hosted by the Toronto fleet. This is sure to be a world class event so make your plans early to participate. If you have never sailed in a championship regatta, you really should. The competition is much more intense than any other regatta but the fun and memories are also intense!

One final note, we are looking for someone to step up and replace Sandy Pratt as International Secretary. Sandy is already an honorary life member of the ITCA and it would take too much space to tell you all he has done for the organization. As tough as it is, we do need to find someone to fill his shoes. Please let me or any member of the board if you are interested.

I hope you all have a great 2010 sailing season!

**Proposal to Change the Specifications—Craig Burnell
Predator #1255**

Around September of last year I started looking into ordering some new sails. At the same time I picked up on discussions that were going around about considering string fiber (aramid, a Kevlar material) in the T bird genoa. Currently only Dacron (woven) and mylar laminate is allowed. Many people indicated we should consider allowing string fiber. The cost of these more modern technology sails is the same or very close to dacron. They hold shape better over time giving a performance and longevity improvement. The primary area of concern was not the changes themselves, but how to implement them in order to give time to make the adjustment. In a year with an International Championship any changes should be effective for the year AFTER that championship so as not to disadvantage anyone who has already ordered sails for the event.

As I spoke with my sail maker he also strongly recommended the ITCA vote to approve string fiber and also consider some other sail changes such as a loose foot and full length battens in the main sail. These are all more modern evolution of sail making today.

So I went about pushing the issues forward to try to get some discussion going and perhaps a vote for changes to be presented by the next Annual General Meeting.

I suggested 4 changes.

I wanted to see the limitation on the number of spinnakers allowed to be carried on the boat removed, or at least increased. Since a new class spinnaker was allowed it did not seem to make sense to me to limit number to 2. Now you can have the new or the old spinnaker, and you may need a backup for each.

Allow string fiber in the genoa.

Allow a loose footed main sail.

Allow full length main battens.

The board of governors must unanimously agree to put forward any change proposals to be voted on. We did not get unanimous agreement on all, but two proposals were agreed upon and are now submitted to the ITCA for a vote. The timing for effective date has been set at Jan 2011 to give adequate time to plan a sail inventory.

I strongly encourage all voting members of the ITCA to vote for the change proposals. I believe they are an improvement to the sails, with nominal cost implications, good for the class.

Vote on Proposed Specification Changes

The ITCA Board of Governors has unanimously approved the following Specifications to be voted on by the membership for activation starting January 1, 2011.

Specifications
9.0 Sails

Change #1

Add allowance for a Kevlar type string fiber genoa

9.1.1 No material other than woven dacron shall be used in the mainsail and headsails, except that the genoa may, alternatively, be made of dacron (polyester) substrate/mylar (polyester film) laminate, woven and/or laminated ply of either polyester, HMPE or aramid may be used. No material other than woven nylon shall be used in spinnakers.

Change #1 Vote For _____, Vote Against _____

Change #2

Allow a loose footed mainsail

9.5 Mainsail

Delete section 9.5.3 in its entirety

9.5.3 The foot of the mainsail shall be attached to the boom by means of a track or slot and meet criteria listed in Section 7.7. A loose footed sail is not permitted.

7.7 Boom

Delete section 7.7.4 in its entirety

7.7.4 Provisions for fastening the foot of the mainsail to the boom shall be so arranged that the sail foot describes a straight line along the fore-aft axis of the boom. A grooved boom which retains the mainsail foot bolt rope is recommended.

Change #2 For _____, Against _____

Glenn Higgins Passed Away

HIGGINS, Glendon Gordon March 23, 1938 - January 10, 2010 Glen passed away peacefully with his family at his side at St. Charles Manor in Victoria, BC. Born in Moncton N.B. and predeceased by his parents, Reverend A.I. and Leona Higgins. He leaves his loving wife of 45 years, Sharron (nee Holdridge); daughter, Laurena (Drew) Olsen; son, Gordon (Phillippa Brown)

Glenn Higgins was the original owner of Thunderbird #1000 Freeway the first fiberglass Thunderbird built by John Booth. He raced and cruised in Freeway and had many Thunderbird friends. Glenn will be missed.

From the Secretary—Sandy Pratt

This is a request for each Fleet to prepare a report for the Annual General Meeting. Please email a copy of the report to me at s.r.pratt@comcast.net so I may include it in the report of the AGM.

Seattle Fleet Awards Event—by Derek Ormerod, Fleet 2 President, HussyII #953

The annual Seattle Fleet Award Event (formerly known as the banquet) is to be held Feb. 13th 2009 at the CYC Shilshole Clubhouse starting a 6:00 PM. All Thunderbird participants are invited.

Join us in celebrating the 2009 season and kicking off 2010 in style.

The evening will include:

- Pizza
- Beer/Wine
- Salad
- Fabulous Awards
- Good old fashioned ribbing
- Slide shows
- And surprise entertainment...

Tickets are \$20 for adults/\$10 for kids. (family and friends are welcome)

Please RSVP to me at dereko44@hotmail.com or 206 331-1738.

No Experience Necessary

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It was winter 2009 in cold and snowy Boston. Looking outside I was thinking about the season ahead. Could my old reliable crew make it out there, or would #154 be left hanging on the mooring most weekends? Let's see. Denis? We have been sailing together for 20+ years since high school. He has three kids, 7, 5, and 1 and a new house. How is Jeff doing? We have been sailing for 6 years together. He has two kids 8, 4 and a new house. Then there is Rob. He has been on the boat for nine years. He just bought a new house too... Are these guys ever going to have time this summer? Throw in the fact that our boys are 3 and 1, and maybe I will not have time either.

Hello Craigslist!! Why not? They have an activity partner section. Does anyone out there want to sail? No experience necessary... What I love about racing smaller boats like the thunderbird is breaking in new crew is very easy. The new person is going to get involved right away. After just a few spins around the racecourse, they have seen or done every position on the boat. I've sailed on some bigger boat programs where someone that has been sailing for 5 years hasn't progressed beyond easing an outhaul downwind.

So did it work? Did #154 have a good year? The initial response was overwhelming. 15 people said "sign me up." That was in February and I promised all that I would stay in touch. April came along and the big news story in Boston was the search for the "Craigslist Killer." That is just great. A Med student in town used the web to lure a masseuse to a hotel room. Every night on the news was warnings about whom you may meet online. Along came May and a few brave souls stayed in touch. Claude was the first to make an appearance with sander in hand. I like this guy. Amy stops by with her boyfriend. I think he was making sure I wasn't an up to anything sinister. 16 year old Ross comes down for the first race with his dad. Parents cannot be too careful with their kids. He meets my wife Diane and me and lets Ross jump aboard for his first race.

I would say 2009 was a great success. #154 sailed every weekend that my schedule allowed. Between the new crew and the old, many weekends we were supplying crew for the competition. The best part about new crew is their desire to learn. They do not care that their sailing on a 50+ year old boat. They are on the water doing something new and having a ball. By the end of the year, their sailing skills were pretty darn good too. Therefore, the moral of the story is to search for some new blood anywhere you can think of. It just may work!

The Boston fleet is looking forward to 2010. We are hoping to make a strong showing in Toronto. We brought four boats west in 2001. We would love to see a few boats come east.

Sean Kane
#154 Chikanery
tbrd154@verizon.net





Pictures from the 2007 International Championships in Victoria B C Canada



INTERNATIONAL THUNDERBIRD CLASS ASSOCIATION
APPLICATION FOR NEW OR RENEWED MEMBERSHIP

Renewed Membership New Membership Date of Application _____
T'Bird fleet Membership: Fleet No. _____ (Enter 0 if not a member of a fleet.)

MEMBER INFORMATION

Last Name _____ First Name _____ M.I. _____

Membership type: (please mark applicable category):

Owner Co-Owner Crew Former Owner Building Other

Name of Spouse _____ Email _____

Phone (H) _____ - _____ - _____ (Bus) _____ - _____ - _____

Cell Phone _____ - _____ - _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip _____ Country _____

BOAT DESCRIPTION

T'Bird Hull Number _____ Sail Number _____ Boat Name _____

Hull Material: Wood Fiberglass Other (Explain) _____

Deck Material Wood Fiberglass Other (Explain) _____

Deck Design: Original Cruising Other (Explain) _____

Mast Material Wood Metal Other (Explain) _____

Rudder Design Original High Aspect Other (Explain) _____

DUES ENCLOSED:

ITCA \$20.00 US (or equivalent) \$ _____

Fleet members should submit dues to their local fleet
secretary, who will forward to the ITCA.

Individuals who are not members of a fleet may submit their dues with
this form directly to:

ITCA, PO Box 1033, Mercer Island, WA 98040, USA

International Thunderbird Active Fleets and Contact Persons

Fleet 1, Tacoma, Wa.

c/o Ed Josberger (253) 265-6282
Josberger@harbornet.com
2276 62nd Ave NW, Gig Harbor, Wa 98335

Fleet 2, Seattle, Wa.

c/o Jim Frazier 206-527-3934
jefrazier@hotmail.com
7738 31st Ave N E , Seattle, Wa 98115, USA

Fleet 4, Victoria, B.C., Canada

c/o John Edwards 250-519-0244
johndwards@shaw.ca
#20 4560 W Saanich Rd, Victoria, BC, V8Z 3G4, Canada

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c/o Steve Kavanaugh (617) 242-2064
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10510 34th Dr. SE, Everett, Wa. 98208

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2009 Pacific N W District
Champion Scooter skippered by
Duncan Stamper



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