

Scientific Boating Safety Association
Meeting Minutes
UC Davis Bodega Bay Marine Lab
Bodega Bay, CA
December 10th – 12th, 2019

Members present: James Fitzgerald (UCD), Henry Fastenau (SBSA), Pete Dal Ferro (USGS), Tom Moylan (Cal Polly), Bob Wasno (Florida Gulf Coast University), Cliff Dean (Smithsonian), Greg Flederman (UCD), John Douglas (MLML), Eric Eisenhardt (UCD/SeaDoc), Steve Monk (HSU), Trevor Oudin (USC), Jackson Winn (MLML), Gordon Boivin (USC), Dave Benet (UCSC), David Bell (SFSU), Thomas Arklie (CSCF), Jason Felton (Cal Polly), Shannon Myers (UCSC), David Dann (UCD), Luke Robert (WA State Parks), Stewart Lamerdin (VIMS), Sara Souza (UC Berkley), Jason Herum (UC Davis), Justin Kautor (Monterey Bay Aq.), Steve Kennedy (UH-Hilo), Andrew Solomon (CSCF), Pete Lochl (OSU), Taylor Eaton (OSU), Aaron Garcia (USFWS), Kyra Mills (UCD-OWCN), Ross Turlington (LUMCON), Steve Neil (BML), Darrell Montague (CSU/OSI), Christoph Pierre (UCSB), Dave Osorio (CDFW). Total of 35 present with additional participation from those remoting in via Zoom.

12/10/2019 Meeting Day 1

1000 Meeting Begins. James F- welcome. Words from BBML director- Patrick, Dr. Gary Cher and Susan.

1037 Henry C. Fastenau Awards. 2019 recipients are Ramon “Marti” Martinez and Aaron Garcia.

1101 Member introductions

1230 – 1330 Lunch break

1340 Meeting resumes. James F - discusses SBSA training update. Highlights: Standard practice to setting an Organizational Member (OM) up as an MOTC provider. Discussion on MOTC training fees.

1410 David Bell - reports on SBSA statistics. Highlights: only half SBSA’s OMs are reporting stats, discuss obstacles to reporting stats, discussion on how SBSA could collect better stats from members.

Suggestions: Stuart L- Need to better define what stats are being collected and why. James F – stat collections used to put together annual report, some years not so important other years it is a vital way to communicate to leadership and justify support. Jason F –like AAUS self-reporting stats now can help if OSHA requirements show up in the future. Gordon B – Stats are important for justifying policy and standards, suggests SBSA should require OM’s to report stats to remain “active” members. James F: What are the obstacles to report stats? Luke R – some OM’s don’t know what their own stats are. Trevor O – it isn’t clear as to what counts as scientific boating, what are we collecting these stats for? Darrell M- We collect stats to collect data on successful programs and to share incidents / accidents.

Group consensus that the PayPal registration method worked well. Discussion on moving SBSA business meeting to better service our east coast members.

Action item: Clarify why SBSA is collecting stats and better define what stats are being collected for OMs.

Taylor E - reports on SBSA training award. Highlights: two recipients in 2018, one in 2019. Discuss how we can better advertise this scholarship opportunity and get more applicants.

Action items: establish a due date for SBSA Training Award application to encourage submissions. Better advertising.

1449 End discussion for the day, move to pool for cold water survival workshop.

12/11/2019 Meeting Day 2

0900 Begin Meeting. James F - recaps on the cold water survival workshop. Highlights: discussion on how the workshop was useful, importance of sizing survival suits, working with life rafts was useful.

0925 Darrell M – Bloop presentation. Bloop is a software developed to support scientific diving and boating. Gordon B- Blue Buddy Company is closing. James F called for a show of hand to gauge interest from group on using Bloop at the SBSA level and creating an opt-in fee in addition to member dues for OM's to use Bloop. 2/3 of room expressed interest in this.

Action item – SBSA BOD to consider making a deal with Bloop so OM's could opt in to use software. Take this to the board then poll the membership again with potential options in more detail.

1000 Break

1030 Resume meeting with video from Ben Miner and presentation from Luke Robert on "MOTC Update".

1112 Aaron Garcia – Standards discussion. Aaron G is the point of contact for accessing updated federal MOTC training materials. Aaron suggests SBSA should be the keeper and developer of Field Teaching Aids for MOTC". James F – can we establish a small committee to help with collection and revision of training documents?

Action item: Establish a small committee to help with collection and revision of training documents to then share with all SBSA OM's. **Committee Volunteers:** Aaron G, James F, Luke R + Derik, Trevor O, Taylor E, Eric E.

Action Item: James F – SBSA will send a follow up email to OMs to make sure everyone has access to the most up to date version of the MOTC manual and teaching aids (v2015).

Discussion on MOTC training standards and course costs. Highlights – address clear minimum standards for pass / no pass and leave the rest up to the individual instructors. Minimum standards for MOTC instructors.

1152 James F – leads discussion on updated GAR model. Discussion on including an ACA paddlecraft instructor workshop at next SBSA meeting.

Action item: James F will poll membership to gauge interest in providing ACA paddlecraft instructor workshop at future SBSA business meeting.

James F- discussion on US Powerboating instructor course. 4 day instructor course to teach the 2 day powerboating course and gain liability insurance through US Powerboating. At least half the members present expressed an interest in this possibility by show of hands.

1203 Break for lunch

1302 Resume Meeting. Christoph P – presents on SUP standards developed at UCSB.

1331 Kyra Mills - presents on “Oiled Wildlife Care Network” and how they express a need for qualified boat operators to be part of their emergency response team.

1405 Break

1431 Resume meeting. James F- situational awareness + risk management workshop. Discussion on how BSOs can get people to share near miss experiences so others can learn from those experiences. Jordy reports on a personal case study from his recent paddling trip to Mexico. Highlights include, using the GAR model, plan to have redundant leadership on all trips, importance of communicating and post trip debrief meetings.

1603 James F- discussion regarding Conception boat fire. Highlights: review USCG bulletin, special considerations with today’s technology on boats focused on lithium ion batteries, look for upcoming regulation changes from USCG due to this fire. Stuart L – mentions “Safer Seas” a periodical by NTSB that discusses lessons learned from boating incidents on a yearly basis.

1615 Dave Benet reports briefly on Glacier Bay, AK dive fatality.

1636 James F discussion on CDFW boating incidents on Feather River.

Aaron Garcia reports on boating incidents recorded in the DOI Safety Management Information System. Highlights include, half of incidents reported involve boat trailering, others are mostly slip and fall injuries. Aaron G – are other OMs collecting incident statistics?

1647 James F – Institutional Risk Management Workshop. Collect ideas and feedback from OMs via sticky notes and will compile a list of challenges for discussion. Goal is to come up with solution orientated responses.

Action item: Andrew S – has developed an emergency checklist to share with SBSA.

1705 Dismiss for the day

12/12/19 Meeting Day 3

0900 Optional DoCal meeting Begins

1200 James F – closing remarks for SBSA Business Meeting. Afternoon USCG station tour and Reserve Hike activities.

Action item: Poll membership on moving SBSA meeting to October next year. Luke R and Will Love (UW) offered to co-host at Friday Harbor Labs, WA. Bob Wasno suggested hosting a future SBSA at Florida Gulf Coast University.

“Anchorage” Topics:

- Captain Requirements when working with students. Vessel designation?
- Compare procedures and maintenance practices with other OMs.

- Ways to improve communication between OMs. Share training materials, learning experiences, boating safety manuals. Potentially on the SBSA website?
- Instructor training- availability, MOTC, ACA, US Powerboating, reciprocity
- Chartering Boats- standards, regulations?
- Incident reporting and sharing lessons learned with OMs
- MOTC course rates?
- OM stats reporting
- Bloop cost – information opt in/out membership structure
- MOCC/MOTC teaching aid distribution / updates