MAGAZINE OF THE INTERNATIONAL DN ICE YACHT RACING ASSOCIATION

RUNNER TRACKS

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**FEBRUARY 2023** 

MINUTES OF THE 2023 IDNIYRA ANNUAL GOVERNING MEETING A RACE TO REMEMBER BY CHAD ATKINS

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Cover Photo: Oskar Svensson S714, DN World Championship regatta on Lake Kegonsa, Madison, WI Photo by Cathy Firmbach



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RUNNER TRACKS is edited by IDNIYRA Secretary Deb Whitehorse

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#### AGM MINUTES

Minutes of the IDNIYRA 2023 Annual Governing Meeting



#### A RACE TO REMEMBER

Reflections of the last Gold Fleet race of the 2023 North American Championship by Chat Atkins US4487 Photos by Cathy Firmbach









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REPORT

FROM THE COMMODORE JODY KJOLLER US5435. TEMPERANCE. MICHIGAN. USA

he 2023 Gold Cup World Championship and The 2023 AGM went auite well. There was some North American Championship regattas are very good discussion throughout. There will be ongoin the books. It was a great, well-run event. I ing communications with IDNIYRA Europe to finalize some of these discussions. Three of the four proposals passed. Please refer to the meeting minutes for details

want to thank the Governing Committee, Mike Bloom, all the volunteers (too many to name), and our PRO, Pat Heppert, for their hard work.

Another huge shout-out has to go to our gracious There's still plenty of winter left, so keep your stuff hosts at the launch site, Springers. They opened up ready to roll. Central, Eastern, and Canadian regions for us on usually closed days and provided soup and still have championship regattas to run this season. chili on the ice. If you haven't been there, I highly rec-Hopefully, I'll see you there. ommend you stop in.



# NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

February Runner Tracks is a chance for a quick check-in during the height of the ice sailing season.

Cathy Firmbach's cover photo of Oskar Svennson downwind sailing with his feet around the mast is one of those unforgettable moments that will become part of regatta lore.

It was the last day of the World Championship, and the breeze was dying. Paul Goodwin US46 explained з

**IDNIYRA** Commodore Jody Kjoller US5435

Photo: gretchendorian.com

it best in his Facebook comment: "Light air stylin' demonstrated by Oskar Svensson in first place during the Gold fleet final race. At the Speed Symposium, he recommended getting your weight forward downwind, especially in light wind. He wasn't kidding."

Watch for the next edition of Runner Tracks in May for more photos, stories, and results from around the world of DN ice sailing. Deb Whitehorse US2366

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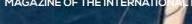
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# MINUTES **OF THE 2023** IDNIYRA ANNUAL **GOVERNING** MEETING

#### January 25, 2023

## MINUTES OF THE IDNIYRA ANNUAL GOVERNING MEETING

Held in conjunction with the 2023 DN Gold Cup and North American Championships Clarion Alliant Energy Hotel Madison, Wisconsin

## 1. Commodore Jody Kjoller US5435 called the meeting to order at 7:14 PM.

#### 2. ROLL CALL (DETERMINATION OF QUORUM)

Commodore Jody Kjoller US5435 Vice Commodore David Frost US5358 Past Commodore Bob Cummins US3433 Secretary/Treasurer Deb Whitehorse US2366

#### 3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Bill Bucholz US3314 motions to approve agenda. Paul Goodwin US46 seconds the motion. Motion approved

## 4. SECRETARY'S REPORT BY DEB WHITEHORSE US2366

Yearbook: Reordered pages for more userfriendly experience while using on the ice. Thanked Bob Cummins US3433 and Warren Nethercote KC3786 for their help with reordering. Sold 77 yearbook copies in fiscal year 2021-2022. Print on demand and online ordering working well.

<u>Runner Tracks:</u> Going well, always need content. Runner Tracks is a good to keep an archive of governing documents proposals and voting results. Set up a Runner Tracks Library page set up for easier browsing

<u>Website:</u> Going well, about 150 visits per day during the off season, more during regattas. 40k unique visits per year. Our website host, Acuity Creative, is responsive to any website technical issues.

Jeff Kent US3535 motions to accept the Secretary's Report. Colin Duncan KC5457 seconds the motion. Motion approved.

a. Approval of the Minutes of the 2020 Annual. Meeting (published in September 2020 Runner. Tracks)

Bill Bucholz US3314 motions to approve minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting. Colin Duncan KC5457 seconds the motion. Motion approved

#### 5. COMMODORE'S REPORT BY JODY KJOLLER US5435

It has been an honor helping to run this class of one-design class.

## 6. TREASURER'S REPORT BY DEB WHITEHORSE US2366

a. Report on Membership: As of January 25,
2023, currently 137 members
b. Distribution of 2022 Financial Report
c. Discussion of Accounts and motion to approve.
Warren Nethercote KC3786: We show a healthy
reserve fund which is a good thing for a non-profit organization.

Warren Nethercote KC3786 motions to accept the Treasurer's Report. Colin Duncan KC5457 seconds the motion. Motion approved.

## 7. VICE-COMMODORE'S REPORT, INCLUDING REPORT ON PERPETUAL TROPHIES.

Vice-Commodore David Frost US5358: World Championship Senior Trophy is missing. Most of North American Championship trophies are present and accounted for. Exploring process of duplicated World Championship fifth place and lower trophies so that they don't have to travel between Europe and North America. Exploring the first place World Championship Silver trophy.

Warren Nethercote KC3786 motions to accept the Vice Commodore's Report. Peter Johanson US5683 seconds the motion. Motion approved.

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#### 8. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Technical Committee Chair Jeff Kent US3535: It has been challenging year and the most efficient, enjoyable year we've ever had with regards to communication within the group. Many Zoom meetings where all Technical Committee members participated.

Runner plank testing decision was most difficult issue. Still need to enforce the testing. Continuing to find some issues with IceWise planks.

European Technical Committee member Tomek Zakrzewski P55 has been very helpful. Worked hard on Specifications rewrite.

Daniel Hearn US5352: How will our class develop rules defining invasive testing? We are applying a rule that doesn't exist. Curious how we resolve.

Jeff Kent US3535: We can write those rules in the Sailing Instructions. The Technical Committee came up with reasonable reply and action plan with the IceWise plank issues. Both the IDNIYRA and IDNIYRA European boards thought it was appropriate.



Daniel Hearn US5352: We can set aside current lceWise plank issue, the broader issue is invasive testing.

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- Jeff Kent US3535: Asks for feedback to help come with the best way to do this. We don't want to destroy everyone's stuff. We can't have illegal things in our class it's got to stop.
- Daniel Hearn US5352: Do we have an approximate timeline to deal with rules on invasive testing?
- Jeff Kent US3535: Doing our best to resolve it quickly. Hoping IDNIYRA Europe will address invasive testing during the IDNIYRA European Secretaries Meeting.
- Andy Allen: US5451: What's priority on this issue?
- Jeff Kent US3535: Extremely high, it's an ongoing issue.
- Warren Nethercote KC3786: Any thoughts of noninvasive testing like scanning?



Jeff Kent US3535: I deal with scanning on a regular basis. Very difficult to determine different types of material inside of laminates through scanning. Need to know what actual material is.

Daniel Hearn US5352: Invasive testing or scanning, the issue remains the same. As a class we do not have any rules governing such inspection. As class we must address that.

Jeff Kent US3535: The basis on this class is the honor system. The Specifications rewrite should help. Hoping we don't have to come to protocols for invasive testing.

Paul Goodwin US46: It's fair to point out that nowhere in the Specifications does it contain anything on how to measure a boat. The Technical Committee didn't enter into this lightly

Daniel Hearn US5352: Related to the topic, we also do not have any defined protocol of the impacts of violations. We haven't laid out what the consequences could be, that should be something we should look at, let competitors know what risk is.

Jody Kjoller US 5435: Working on adding a Rule 69. Working with IDNIYRA Europe for their Secretaries meeting so we can hopefully get this on the fall 2023 ballot.

Jeff Kent US3535: Working on a Hardwater rule 69. We don't have anything in EPIC Agreement or Regatta Management Agreement to make worldwide. We have to figure out where to insert rule. Likely will be for 2023 fall ballot.

Daniel Hearn US5352: Are we also looking to address gray areas that have no performance effect on equipment?

Jeff Kent US3535: Yes, there's been discussion.

Warren Nethercote KC3786: When we went through reformatting the Specifications, we discovered that over the years, we've lost track of things by not changing rules but using interpretations.

Daniel Hearn US5352: How is the Technical Committee on aesthetics?

Jeff Kent US3535: Speaking for myself, the Speci-

fications should be enforced as they are written. Then try to look at logical intention. When it comes to fairings, I have no problems with fairings as long as they are part of structure and carry load.

Daniel Hearn US5352: Suggest we also consider aesthetics that make our crafts sexier.

Jeff Kent US3535: I told Peter Hamrak M53 that I agreed with some of what he did, but there's a way to do it. Use the process.

Paul Goodwin US46: Any question, drop a note to the Technical Committee. That's what they are for.

Daniel Hearn US5352 motions to accept the Technical Committee Report. Chad Atkins US4487 seconds the motion. Motion approved.

#### 9. NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR 2023/2024 IDNIYRA OFFICERS

a. Nominating Committee Report from Kent Baker US5219. The committee nominates: Commodore David Frost US5358 Vice commodore: Rob Holman US3705 Secretary/Treasurer: Deb Whitehorse US2366 Bob Cummins: Past Commodore US3433 b. Nominations from the Floor c. Motion to Close Nominations

Ken Smith US4137 motions to accept the recommendations of Nominating Committee as presented.

Warren Nethercote KC3786 seconds the motion. Motion approved. Will go to vote May 2023.

#### 10. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR NORTH AMERICA

There were no North American Technical Committee members up for re-election.

#### 11. NEW BUSINESS

a. Proposal from the T.C.: revise specifications. Section A: fuselage. Section B: runner plank

Ken Smith US4137: Suggested some recommendations to Warren Nethcote KC3786.

Warren Nethercote KC3786: I agree in principal

1) SAILS

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that there could be further changes but not trying to make substantial changes at this time. Could be something for a future ballot.

Paul Goodwin US46: We are discussing the Technical Committee proposal. The intent is not introducing any changes at all, simply to incorporate all Official Interpretations into the Specifications.

Warren Nethercote KC3786 motions to accept the Proposal from the Technical Committee. Colin Duncan KC5457 seconds the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

b. Proposal to amend the IDNIYRA Constitution Article VI and Article XII (Warren Nethercote KC3786)

Make the following changes to the IDNIYRA Constitution: ARTICLE VI - ELECTION AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS Change title to "ELECTION, RECALL AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS" Add a new paragraph, as follows, after the first paragraph of ARTICLE VI: The members may recall (remove from office) an Officer by means of an electronic ballot with a two thirds majority required for recall. Proposals for recall shall be submitted in writing to the Governing Committee and either a motion supported by two-thirds of the Governing Committee or written support of 10 percent of the voting membership of IDNIYRA is required for the proposal to be submitted to the membership for an electronic ballot. If approved by the membership, recall is effective immediately upon publication of ballot results

Change title to "ELECTION AND RECALL OF MEM-



BERS OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE" Delete "(See EPIC Agreement Article VI") and replace by: Article VI – TECHNICAL COMMITTEE of the EPIC AGREEMENT defines the structure, responsibilities and authority of the Technical Committee North American members of the Technical Committee shall be nominated and elected at the Annual Meeting for a term of six years. Should an Annual Meeting not be held, the election of a Technical Committee member may be appended to the annual electronic election of IDNIYRA Officers. A North American member or members of the Technical Committee may be recalled (removed from office) using the recall processes for Officers in ARTICLE VI of the IDNIYRA Constitution.

Paul Goodwin US46 motions to accept the Proposal to Amend the Constitution. Karen Binder US5630 seconds the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

c. Proposal to amend official specification B.3. Runner Plank (Bob Gray US65)

Bob Gray US65: Proposal is to help lighter sailors.

Warren Nethercote KC3786: Proposal would make for it easy for the home builder for reasonable cost. Might open the floodgates for composites

Daniel Hearn US5352: What are the potential downsides?

Bill Bucholz US3314: Makes a motion to accept Official Specification Amendment.

Ron Sherry US44: Will be an advantage to the big-

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ger guy, all new planks will be thinner, could be an advantage.

Jeff Kent US3535: From composite point of view, will be making planks with 1" of thickness if proposal passes.

Ken Smith 4137: Don't see a need for a change.

Bernd Zieger G107: European builders are building light planks, see no reason to support this proposal.

Erin Bury US5397: Had to modify plank because plank was stiff. Supports the plank proposal.

Daniel Hearn US5352: The intent of proposal to enable home builder to create a plank economically for their weight. Would also unleash a completely different plank for builders. We don't want to approve something that will motivate the plank builders to change their construction to gain dynamic advantage.

Cooper Frost US5558: supports the proposal, creates better accessibility for home builder.

Ron Sherry US44: Can take any existing plank and plane it down to make it work for a lighter sailor.

Jeff Kent US3535 motions to accept the Proposal to Amend the Official Specifications. Cooper Frost US5558 seconds the motion. Motion defeated

#### d. Proposal to amend IDNIYRA By-Laws General 1(Jody Kioller US5435)

Wording from the 2023 yearbook: IDNIYRA BY-LAWS General 1) Membership dues are Twenty Five (\$25.00) dollars for individuals annually, payable before November 1 to the Treasurer.

Change wording to: General 1) Membership dues are Thirty (\$30.00) dollars for individuals annually, payable before November 1 to the Treasurer. Reasoning: All costs have increased. The IDNIYRA must adjust its membership dues accordingly.

Ron Sherry US44 motions to amend proposal to raise dues to \$50 Jody Kjoller US5435 seconds motion Motion passes unanimously Daniel Hearn US5352: Will novice regatta entries

#### change from \$52 to \$100?

Pete Johns US2366 motions to amend 4) Entries a) to change to one year association dues are paid. Chad Atkins US4487 seconds motion Motion passes unanimously.

Ken Smith US4137: How do we handle those who have paid two or three years dues in advance?

Warren Nethercote KC3786: That's a matter of administrative policy, if you paid your dues, you are grandfathered in at the \$25 rate.

General 1) Membership dues are Fifty (\$50.00) dollars for individuals annually, payable before November l to the Treasurer.

4) Entries a) The regatta is open to any member of the Association who has paid all current dues and who has mailed an entry form with entry fee prior to January I. Late registration at two times the normal fee will be accepted up to one day before the regatta. b) Novice entries: Novice DN racers may enter one or both regattas if one years association dues are paid. No other event registration fee will apply. A DN racer shall be considered a novice if that person has never belonged to IDNIYRA, or if their membership has lapsed five or more years. A novice must comply with all other entry requirements.

Paul Goodwin US46 motions to accept the Proposal to Amend the IDNIYRA Bylaws. Karen Binder US5630 seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

e. Proposal to amend the Epic Agreement. Article XI. Enforcement of the Specifications (Jody Kioller US5435)

Wording from the 2023 yearbook: EPIC AGREE-MENT Article XI- ENFORCEMENT OF THE SPECIFI-CATIONS The OFFICIAL SPECIFICATIONS shall be enforced in two ways;

1.Through a protest filed by any contestant, Judge or Race Committee member at the Gold Cup, European Championship or North American Championship Regattas against any competing yacht; or, 2.By the Race Committee measuring yachts during

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a regatta described in the CGDs, NIA rules, or the regatta Sailing Instructions. Change wording to: EPIC AGREEMENT Article XI- ENFORCEMENT OF THE SPECIFICATIONS The OFFICIAL SPECIFICATIONS shall be enforced in three ways; 1. Through a protest filed by any contestant, Judge or Race Committee member at the Gold Cup, European Championship or North American Championship Regattas against any competing yacht; or,

2.By the Race Committee measuring yachts during a regatta described in the CGDs, NIA rules, or the regatta Sailing Instructions.

3. By an official ruling of the technical committee.

Reasoning: This would allow the TC to implement testing procedures, and ban equipment that is widely known to be produced not in accordance with the official specifications. This would help ensure equipment is produced and distributed in complete compliance with the official specifications. When a concern of a specification violation arises, this change would allow the technical committee to





- swiftly enact a way to investigate, test, and implement procedures, along with banning or barring equipment.
- Warren Nethercote KC3786 motions to amend proposal
- "Such official rulings shall prevail as supplements to the OFFICIAL SPECIFICATIONS unless and until voided by a simple majority of the membership. Proposals for such a vote will be initiated in the same way a Specification Change Proposal is made, except that a ruling that is voided will be voided immediately after a vote that overturns it."
- Ken Smith US4137: Protesting a construction should not be limited to a national or continental championship.
- Jody Kjoller US5435: EPIC Agreement states "Any regatta."
- Daniel Hearn US5352: Interested in hearing feedback to help determine how to vote. Does this pro-



posal grant extraordinary authority to one element of our governance?

Jody Kjoller US5435: Warren's amendment adds constraints.

With Warren's amendment, it can be overturned after the fact.

Paul Goodwin US46: can you read the proposal as amended?

Jody Kjoller US5435: 3. By an official ruling of the technical committee. Such official rulings shall prevail as supplements to the OFFICIAL SPECIFICA-TIONS unless and until voided by a simple majority of the membership. Proposals for such a vote will be initiated in the same way a Specification Change Proposal is made, except that a ruling that is voided will be voided immediately after a vote that overturns it.

Colin Duncan KC5457: It's a cumbersome process, can't think of any other way.

Jody Kjoller US5435: With Warren's amendment, it can be stopped almost immediately. We can create a ballot fast, but not happening at regatta.

Karen Binder US5630 motions to accept Warren Nethercote's amendment to Jody Kjoller's proposal to amend the EPIC Agreement. Cooper Frost US5558 seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Warren Nethercote KC3786 motions to accept Jody Kjoller's proposal to amend the EPIC agreement. Karen Binder US5630 seconds the motion.

Motion passes unanimously.

#### Karen Binder US5630 Proposal

Karen Binder US5630: I propose a change/addition to IDNYRA sailing instructions to include: Registered racers for any IDYRA sponsored regatta may only utilize motorized kick sleds on the racecourse and in the pit area. No other motorized vehicles for any other registered racers are allowed. This allows for motorized kick sleds which are often used to assist the race committee as needed. They are far less noisy and disruptive.

My hope is this proposal protects the beauty and serenity of our regattas and protects IDYRA from liability, noise violations, and nuisance complaints from surrounding residents and/or ice fisherman. If more appropriate language is developed that supports the same goal, I'd fully support it. Someone asked my opinion about race committee using ATVs and I responded they are completely necessary for safety and regatta management. Just want to clarify that point.

Jody Kjoller US5435: This is not the appropriate time for this discussion as it is not on the agenda. This could easily be added to any NOR or SI at any time

12. Colin Duncan KC5447 motions to adjourn. Bill Buchholz US3314 seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously. Meeting is adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Secretary Deb Whitehorse US2366 International DN Ice Yacht Racing Association



Paul Chamberland US5700 & Ben Witman US5603 Photo: Will Johnston



PRO Pat Heppert flags Chad Atkins US4487 second place finish in the first race of the DN North American championship sailed on Lake Kegonsa in Madison, WI. Photo: Cathy Firmbach

# A RACE TO REMEMBER

REFLECTIONS ON THE LAST RACE OF THE 2023 DN NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP AND WHAT IT MEANT TO THE DN CLASS BY CHAD ATKINS US4487 PHOTOS BY CATHY FIRMBACH

irst, I have to give a huge shout-out to Daniel - Hearn US5252, who went above and beyond with fellow C Skeeter tuning partner and PRO Pat Heppert for going to equal lengths to get both the 2023 DN World and North American Championships in on Lake Kegonsa. Renegader Ron Rosten was also out helping and moving start lines daily! Don't forget Deb Whitehorse and the other 4LIYC members that made this 50th-anniversary event such a blast. Thank you all.

Once the Gold Cup was complete, many of our European friends decided to head for home, and more than a few North American competitors as well. Friday's one race in each fleet (Gold and Silver) was all worth it! Blowing up deep semi-sticky drifts in solid pressure was a race to be remembered!!

It also reinforced a point that our good friend Jost Kolb G936 from Germany expressed that, as a class, we need to see these events through to the end. He talked about a Russian competitor that

- travels about five days each way in Europe to attend these continental championships and how throwing in the towel or leaving the event because of a forecast isn't good for our class or why we all do it and love the sport so much.
- What a day Friday was!!! Thursday night's snowfall was pleasantly light and fluffy and at the lower end of the forecast. We woke up to trees and branches dancing and the temperature reasonably steady from night to day. It looked promising to complete the North American championship. The day before, the wind died, and we ran out of sunlight.
- Those who stayed arrived at Springer's launch to find limited visibility from pulsing white out conditions and low-level haze on the lake. Chris Berger and Jost Kolb both took a few laps and determined with Pat that the surface of the course was sailable and we should hang tough for an hour or two to let visibility improve.

Around 10:30 AM. Pat decided we would try and start the Gold fleet first. Ron Sherry and Paul Goodwin gave a short safety speed chat about dealing with breeze and snow. Then it was time to get our thoughts, emotions, and breathing in order – this was happening! The breeze was still up, and runners were the easiest choice of equipment with Ronny's Composite Concepts 440c Bullnose Plates and Slipper Front.

When I considered buying those runners, Ron said, "You will thank me when you need them, even if it's five years from now." Thanks, Ron, for all three Slipper runners the day before as well; it's why we have plates.

The big question was, what were the drifts doing in texture and size? Can I stay lit with a speed sail, a soft top batten, or keep the power with a full sail? It was a mix with Matt Struble running an ABSS and, I believe, the rest of us running Power Gold or FO1. Matt doesn't really count since he could beat most of us strapped to some 2×4s powered by a napkin! He's a great guy, a natural sailor, and a polished competitor; great to have him back this vear!

Most of us took a rip up and down, and it would be some physical, exciting sailing with an emphasis on semi-clear goggles. Another snow line came through with some very solid pressure that left us all attending our boats

and not letting our sails beat themselves to death.

Then the "dry slot" appeared, as Deb refers to it. Pat called Gold fleet to the line. The flag is up, GO! With just a few quick steps, the sail eased, boat hiking as we jumped on the plank and stepped into the boat. We were off, tied by a string, a seesaw back and forth battle plowing and blowing through drifts with a few clear spots to gain speed up the course.

At the top, the right side had overstood by less, with US4, young Griffin Sherry, leading as he came off the one block he earned the day before. I



Jim Grogan US3 and Peter Van Rossem KC2766



was close behind and could sense Jost close behind with the left side boats blazing in under the darling mark (so glad to have these for races like this) and hunting us down. Now for the first turn into a steady line of oncoming traffic from the left. Griffin found his line, and I had to stay a bit higher to avoid a few boats.

By the time the snow cleared, we were just bouncing and hiking downwind, and it was all I could do not to start hooting and hollering. That is until a quick glance to leeward showed that Griffin had slid back in my window looking slower and mast straight; he looked ok. And POW, a huge drift exploded all over me! I wiped my goggles, and nothing happened.

Oh boy, all that snow on my face had made its way under and inside my goggles, leaving me with enough visibility to see the pits of the leeward mark. With compromised visibility, I was glad to have a thinned-out fleet as I cleared out enough frozen snow to see properly before another drift, hike, butt, and shoulders back to steady things out.

Another solid vein of pressure sent us into a gybe to the bottom mark, and around we all went. Quickly after rounding, this US44 guy (Ron Sherry) appeared to leeward, absolutely ripping, deep breath going fine, and by the time I looked over my left, another boat with red numbers reading US183 (Matt Struble) had just tacked, so off to starboard we went.

Damn, I was way overstood and bouncing off and through drifts. Reaching down had no advantage like it would on cleaner ice. Another few laps of the same exciting non-stop action, the North American championship was complete! PRO Pat Heppert ran a last Silver fleet race on top of that, making it three races in each fleet before the dry slot closed and more weather came in. A great way to end a memorable week. Congratulations to Matt Struble for his Gold Cup and North American win and the entire fleet for sticking it out and having the confidence to make it happen. There's plenty more racing left in the season if Mother Nature allows it.

Chad Atkins US4487



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