

## Great Texas Fleet – 2008 General Meeting

August 20, 2008

Andrew Burnard talked about what a great race the 2008 GT300 was and how it was also the most difficult race so far.

We discussed things that went well this year;

A highlight was how well the involved Team Managers handled situations with the Coast Guard.

Steve Piche talked about his discussions with other sailors at the Chicago-Mackinaw race and that there are several people interested in doing the race next year. He said that the overall thought among sailors from all over the U.S. is that the GT300 is one of the premier catamaran distance races in the country.

2008 Budget – this year's budget was a little tight, but we made a profit of about \$150 and have \$2000 in the bank.

Fleet Officer Elections – each elected officer was properly nominated & each nomination was seconded.

### 2009 GT Fleet Officers:

Commodore:	Andrew Burnard
Vice Commodore:	Lee Wicklund
Treasurer:	Mike Rohrer
Event Captain:	Terri Reuwsaat
Public Relations:	Melissa Burns

Mike Beuerlein talked about possibly downloading GPS tracks nightly from any teams that want to participate in a sort of daily tracking system of boats participating in the race. If you stayed for the after award ceremony presentation by Philippe, you would have seen some interesting tracking much like the Americas Cup.

Safety Safety Safety – this is a major focus area of the 2009 GT300:

We will be clarifying safety rules, more attention to safety is needed– ensure proper use of equipment, how and when you should use it.

Steve Foxall mentioned that they were unable to get a signal on their satellite phone when they attempted to use it while out on the water, but was able to get a signal on his cell phone. Stressed importance of getting the satellite phones delivered to your team a day or two before safety inspection day & making sure that it works properly

Discussed about satellite phone service providers & which ones may work better – Andrew started a discussion on the Google group to help draw together some information on which sat phone brands & providers are best.

Billy Richnow suggested having a safety committee that travels as part of the race committee and that the fleet pay for their accommodations at each stop of the race.

Andrew Tatton discussed having a dedicated Web person – and volunteered help when he could. He also brought up having web reporters during the race that could provide 15 to 20 updates each day of the race. If you are interested in helping let the officers know.

We also discussed a different web format for the Great Texas Fleet and race information. Sean Stevens had put together a Google Sites page as a possibility. Andrew Burnard said if someone is interested in putting something like this together & managing it to let the officers know.

Jennifer Sarabok brought up discussion about what we can possibly do to get teams back for the race each year. Andrew Burnard talked about targeting a certain area of the U.S., such as California & doing more to get cat racers from that area to participate.

Meeting went for about an hour and we had a good turn out by regulars and some new people.