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1. **Completed US Team Committee Election**

Fernando Silva’s term expired on the USTC expired on December 2018 and he planned to run for reelection. The call for nominations went out in October and Doug Jacobs was the only other nominee. Fernando decided to withdraw his name therefore Doug Jacobs has been selected to the USTC for a 3 year term ending December 2021.

2. **Soaring Magazine Articles About The 2018 World Gliding Championships**

The development of the Soaring Magazine articles about the 2018 WGCs from this past summer taken longer than originally planned. The article about the WGC in Hosin, Czech Republic has been written by Mike Robison and Garett Willat along with a cornucopia of photos which has been submitted to Erik Bick (Soaring Magazine Editor).

Jim Lee (Standard Class pilot) and Colin Mead (Team Captain) from the US Team who went to the 2018 WGC in Ostrow, Poland are putting the finishing touches on their article which will be submitted by the end of February.

3. **2019 11th FAI Jr WGC US Team Selected**

The 2019 Jr WGC Team had been selected this past November after running the selection process with the eligible Jr. Pilots and previous Jr. Team Captains (Garret Willat, Fernando Silva and John Good). The survey results were reviewed by the USTC and were accepted without any changes.

**The Team:**

Club Class: Daniel Sazhin (#1) and Noah Reitter (#2)
Standard Class: Micheal Marshall(#3) and JP Stewart (#4: Reserve Pilot)
Team Captain: John Good
Team & Captain Assistant: Richard Kellerman

The planning has already started with all pilots having solid leads on gliders, and a house to share for the entire team and crews. Pete Alexander had chaired two conference calls until John Good returned from the Australian Club Class Nationals where he crewed for Sarah Arnold. Pete has now passed off all Jr. Team Captain Duties to John.

The Team is in the process of finalizing their budget and fund raising activities. They are expecting to have fund raising activities at the following 2019 contests: Srs., Perry, Mifflin, Standard and Club Class nationals where the Jr. Pilots will be present.

**Contest Website:** [https://jwgc2019.hu/](https://jwgc2019.hu/)
4. US Woman’s Team Returns From The pre-WGC at Lake Keepit, Australia

Kathy Fosha, Sarah Arnold, and Sylvia Grandstaff flew the 38th Australian Club and Sports Class Nationals in Lake Keepit, Australia from December 31, 2018 to January 11, 2019 in Club Class as a tune up for the upcoming 2020 FAI Women’s WGC from December 31, 2019 to January 18, 2020.

Everyone found the experience very helpful in preparing for the upcoming 2020 Woman’s WGC. Sarah won Task #9. They are in the process of securing gliders and housing for the 2020 WWGC.

John Good crewed for Sarah Arnold and provided his wonderful daily reports which can be found on the US Soaring Teams Blog.

US Team Twitter Feed: https://twitter.com/SoaringUSA
US Team FaceBook Page: https://www.facebook.com/ussoaringteams/

Contest Website: https://wgc2018.pl/en/

Lake Keepit Soaring Club Website: https://keepitsoaring.com/?fbclid=IwAR37AJEnKDEX2LjwKY8WgcSWeBxF9HCOAnqEJdVzryVvuF1LNEFJB2trZNQ
5. The US Soaring Teams: Blog, Facebook Page, and Twitter Updates Continue
Melanie Nichols and her team at her Peak Digital Media company (https://www.peakdigitalmedia.com) and Leigh Zimmerman continued their wonderful support for the US Soaring Teams Blog (http://ussoaringteams.org), and US Team Twitter Feed (https://twitter.com/SoaringUSA) and US Team FaceBook Page: (https://www.facebook.com/ussoaringteams/) during 38th Australian Club and Sports Class Nationals in Lake Keepit, Australia (http://wwgc.com.au/)

6. 2019 US Teams Camps & Seminars
One of the goals of the US Team is to continually give back to the US soaring community and share our knowledge and experiences during our preparations, training, and racing at FAI WGC contests beyond our social media presence described above.

The following camps and seminars are currently planned:

Soaring with the Champions - Higher, Farther, Faster, Longer! :: Feb 2, 2019
Daniel Sazhin has put together this seminar to come and learn from the following speakers: Doug Jacobs, Michael Opitz, Karl Striedieck, John Good, John Bird and Daniel Sazhin as they share their insights on our sport.

West Coast Jr. Camp & Contest :: March 22 - 24, 2019
Ben Mayes (ben@williamssoaring.com) and Thomas Greenhill (thomasvgreenhill@gmail.com) are putting this camp and contest together at Williams Soaring Center, Williams, CA. They put together West Coast Jr. Camp at Avenal Gliderport, Avenal, CA last September which was very successful with attendance of 15 Jrs.

East Coast Jr. Camp & Contest :: July 13 - 20, 2019
Will be held in parallel with the Region 3 contest this year. Plans are in their early stages lead by JP Stewart and Andy Brayer.

The USTC is also in the early planning stages for possible 3 Day mini-US Team Seminars before the 2019 15m and 18m Nationals.
7. US Team Financials

The US Team checking account balance as of January 31, is $17,700.68. Of this amount, $2610 is designated for the 2019 JWGC team, $3360 is owed for SSA’s NAA dues, and $6726.50 is designated for the women’s team ($6526.50 pre-WWGC, plus $200 WWGC).

Thanks to generous contributions at the Chilhowee Oktoberfest pancake breakfast, plus a $5000 grant from the Louis L Stott Foundation, the women’s soaring team raised a total of $6526.50 for the just completed pre-WWGC contest at Lake Keepit, Australia. This is an unprecedented level of support for a pre-world event, for which the three pilots are supremely grateful.

This year, the US Team found itself in the enviable position of having to choose a team from five junior pilots who placed in the top four of a 2018 national soaring championship. One of the podium finishers fell out of the running due to it being his first nationals, while the remaining four were nearly equally qualified. As always, funding is the major challenge. We would like very much to send all four to the 2019 JWGC in Szeged, Hungary. So far we have $19,518.22 in hand:

- $6210.67 - Junior Endowment Earnings (thru YE 2018)
- $2610.00 – Contributions thru 1-31-19
- $10,697.55 – 2017 Mozer Trust for winner Michael Marshall*
  - $0.00 – 2018 Mozer Trust earnings for winner Daniel Sazhin*
- $19,518.22 – Total in hand**

*According to the current Mozer trust Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU), the winner each year can use that year’s trust earnings for the next JWGC. If there are no earnings, such as happened in 2018 due to market fluctuations, there is no money available to that year’s winner. To avoid this situation going forward, the MOU is being reworked.

**We must realize that in this case, the 2017 Mozer Trust winner is the only one who can use that year’s earnings. So far, the remaining $8820.67 is all that is available for the other 2 selected and 1 reserve pilot, the team captain, and their crews.

A special fundraising effort will be required to continue the US Team’s tradition of fully funding its Junior World Gliding Championship participants.
8. 2019 US Team Committee Focus

1. Complete Soaring Magazine articles about the 2018 Ostrow, Poland and Hosin, Czech Republic World Gliding Championships.

2. Move all of the videos from the 2018 WGCs on FaceBook to the SSA YouTube channel working with Brienna Bick from the SSA Office.

3. Select the 2019 US WGC Teams:
   1. 3rd FAI 13.5 m WGC at Pavullo, Italy ~ June 15 - 30 June, 2019
   2. 3rd FAI Pan-American Gliding Competition at Ontario, Canada ~ July 29 - August 13, 2019
   3. 10th FAI Women’s WGC at Lake Keepit, Australia ~ November 28 - August 10, 2019

4. Select the 2019 US pre-WGC Teams (possibly 1 pilot per class):
   1. German Soaring Championship (18m, 20m 2-place, Open classes) at Stendal-Borstel, Germany ~ August 4 - 10, 2019
   2. International Championship Cup (Standard, 15m, and Club classes) at Châlons-Ecury sur Coole, France ~ August 4 - 10, 2019


6. Continue updating some sections of The US Team Handbook with the latest information which has been collected from the team pilots, captains and crews from the recent WGCs in Ostrow Poland and Hosin, Czech Republic. The handbook has not been completely updated since 2004.

7. Finalize the planning of US Team Training Camps and Seminars for this soaring season.

8. Continue to update the outdated sections of the US Team areas on the SSA website.