2018 US Sailing Leadership Forum a Huge Success!

Thank you to US Sailing, and all the sponsors, speakers, industry professionals, volunteers, and attendees, who together helped make Sailing Leadership 2018 such a fantastic learning event!

Gowrie Group was proud to be a Platinum Sponsor of this event which took place in St. Petersburg, Florida earlier this month. The three day conference brought together 550 inspiring leaders from all aspects of the sailing community, including sailing education, yacht club and sailing organization management, race officials, marine companies, and industry professionals. More than 90 expert presenters and keynote speakers delivered engaging seminars on topics across six categories: New Trends in Sailing, Participation & Growth, Management & Operations, Technology & Innovations, Safety, and Takeaways for You.

Being an expert in risk management and safety, Gowrie was invited to present two seminars at this year’s conference. If you were not able to attend the conference, and would like to learn more about these topics, please contact us at burgee@gowrie.com. Gowrie Group, is one of the leading marine insurance agencies in the nation, and is also US Sailing’s insurance partner.

Junior Program Safety: Docks to Documents. Presented By: Kellie Crete, Gowrie Group’s Safety & Loss Manager and Whitney Peterson, VP of Marketing for Gowrie Group. Using visuals and real examples from sailing programs across the nation, this seminar taught attendees actionable strategies for how to make their own junior program safer for students and instructors. Safety topics included docks, fire extinguishers, documents & forms, electrocution risks, prop guards, safety plans, recommended instructor safety gear, and more. The focus was on learning to identify safety hazards and how to implement simple modifications and standards to improve the overall safety of facilities and programs.

Claim Stories, When Insurance Really Matters. Presented by Ed Gumbrecht, COO and President of Gowrie Group. We have seen a lot of claims at clubs and sailing organizations over the years. In this session, attendees, learned how to minimize the risk of having claims and what to do when facing a claim. The seminar covered a variety of claims including: fires, storms, liquor, medical emergencies, workers comp, towing & trailers, docks, trespassing, cyber, and more.

Burgee Program Safety Resources. Gowrie Group is proud to offer a comprehensive suite of safety materials and resources to all sailing organizations. Resources include Emergency Action Plan Template, Junior Sailing Program Safety Manual, Hurricane Response Plan, Safety Check List, and more. You can download these tools and templates from our website.

Whitney Peterson, Gowrie Group’s VP of Marketing, also currently serving as the Head of Junior Sailing at Sachem’s Head Yacht Club, shared, “It’s an honor to attend and sponsor US Sailing’s bi-annual Leadership Forum. We believe that investing in the knowledge sharing that happens at the US Sailing Leadership Forum is important because not only does it help makes make our sport better, but it helps makes sailing safer for all involved.”

As one of the nation’s Top-50 independent insurance agencies and the largest independent marine insurance group in the US, Gowrie Group provides total risk management services to individuals and organizations with complex insurance needs. Gowrie Group offers comprehensive insurance solutions matched with trusted advice and a commitment to service excellence. Gowrie Group’s portfolio of offerings includes commercial, marine, sailing organization, yacht, home/auto, and equine insurance, as well as employee benefits solutions and safety services. Gowrie is endorsed by US Sailing and is the manager of The Burgee Insurance Program, the only comprehensive insurance program developed to meet the unique needs of yacht clubs, community sailing programs, sailing schools, and associations. Nearly 1,000 sailing clubs, community programs, and sailing organizations in the United States are protected by The Burgee Insurance Program.

Gowrie Group’s 175+ professionals serve clients across the US from offices in Westbrook CT, Darien CT, Newport RI, Annapolis MD, and Marshfield MA. For more information visit www.gowrie.com, www.burgeeprogram.com, or call 800.262.8911.