**2011 NEISA Fall Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

**October 29, 2011**

1. The Meeting was called to order by Commissioner O’Connor at 7:03pm
2. The following Executive Committee Members were in attendance: Mike O’Connor, Ben Lamont, Matt Lindblad, Brian Gracey, Mark Zagol, Jeff Bresnahan, Frank Pizzo, Justin Assad, Jared Dunn, John Mollicone, Brad Churchill, Iris Xu (proxy for Reguli Granger). The next people were also in attendance: Matt Cohen, Brian Swingly, Nick Ewenson, Massimo Soriano, Ken Legler, Dave White, Greg Koman, Zack Leonard, Alex Rudkin, Amanda Callahan, Steve Sammis, John Storck, Mike Saldi, Matt Largess, Ann Walt-Stallings, Lilian Gong, Alden Reid, Dan Rabin.
3. Additions to the Agenda
4. 2012 Stu Nelson venue change to discussed with Schedule Changes (section 6C)
5. Commissioner O’Connor reported that we will be adding 4 teams as Associate Members at the Annual Meeting: Holy Cross, Plymouth State, UMass Dartmouth and Sacred Heart. Colby College will be moved up from Associate to Provisional status.
6. Treasurer’s Report (Bresnahan). Mr. Bresnahan reported that NEISA has caught up in the bill collection process. Hiring the professional bookkeeper was a very good move. We could not have fixed the billing process with her. We may need additional help to with re-establishing our non-profit status. He also suggested that when we transition to another Treasurer, that person should work in conjunction with the current Treasurer for at least one year. This will make the transition more efficient, and we will be less likely to fall behind in billing again.
7. Old Business
8. Performance Ranking Committee Chairman Swingly urged everyone to be vigilant about checking their team’s scores each week to ensure that each team is counting their highest score of the weekend. He also stressed that teams be careful not to judge the system’s accuracy/efficiency until the end of the season. The system is intended to rank the teams for an entire season. He also suggested that we should observe next year’s data before we make any more changes to the system. This year’s data is strange because we have had such unusual weather with an inordinate number of regatta cancellations. The committee encourages people to provide feedback on the PRS via email to Brian Swingly. The slate of regattas that will be counted in the PRS for Fall 2012 will be published prior and approved at the Annual Meeting in December.
9. Special Projects: Website and Techscore. Matt Lindblad asked that he be provided information the new teams, so they can be added to the TechScore database. He also requested that people provide him with any feedback on the new version of TechScore
10. Ken Legler immediately provided some feedback stating that the program needs to provide a way to score and report team race regattas. He was assured that the TechScore people are working on that currently. He stressed that TechScore does not need to score the races; it just needs to report the results with RP data.
11. There was no update on the new website. Our Webmaster was not present. He has changed jobs, thus we need to find a new Webmaster. Jared Dunn from Brandeis has offered to help. Justin Assad stated that he does not have time to work on the website in season. It will be a top priority in the off season. The prototype is almost ready. We have not paid the developer as of yet. Alden Reid asked if we could outsource the website to a professional developer. Matt Lindblad asked if we could use the ICSA platform. Assad and Bresnahan both feel that we need to hire a professional developer.
12. Schedule Changes/Issues
    * 1. Justin stated that we want to give our schedule changes to the other conferences ASAP. There will be a conference call later in November with the ICSA Intersectional Coordinator to ensure that every conference is aware of any changes prior to the scheduling process in December.
      2. Proposal to change the name of the Wick/Shrew Trophy to the Emily Wick Trophy. So moved by Mark Zagol; seconded by O’Connor. **Vote: passed** (all in favor)
      3. BDCCC will be sailed with 3 divisions in 2 fleets; FJs and Fireflies (spring #8)
      4. Assad made a motion to change the berth allotments for the Schell and Urn to guarantee the hosts get a berth: Schell from top 18 in PRS to top 17 from PRS + host; Urn change from top 12 Women’s Teams from PRS to top 11 + host. Motion was seconded by Brian Gracey. Zagol is opposed to this motion because it does not allow enough NEISA teams in the Urn. Churchill asked if the host of NE’s gets an automatic berth. **Vote: passed** (6 in favor; 4 opposed)
      5. The Stu Nelson Trophy will be sailed at MIT in FJ’s and Fireflies to help commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the MIT sailing Pavilion. (fall #8)
13. Role of NEISA Representative in regatta management decisions
14. O’Connor stated that there are differing opinions on the role of the NEISA Rep at regattas. The rep should act as a liaison between the regatta chair and the coaches/teams. Swingly pointed out that the rep should also make sure that the Procedural Rules are being followed. Dan Rabin suggested that we need to create a document that defines the role of the rep.
15. New Business
16. Proposal to change the designation “intersectional” to “interconference” in reffering to regattas. So moved by Assad; seconded by Gracey**. Vote: passed** (all in favor)
17. Proposal to create guidelines for cancellation of regattas by hosts. (Assad)
    * 1. Assad made a motion to allow a host to cancel a regatta on the Wednesday before it takes place, if it has dropped below 4 teams; seconded by Gracey.
         1. Churchill said we should leave as is.
         2. Lindblad said we should be careful in cancelling regattas, because it could have repercussions with our bosses.
         3. Zagol suggested that we create a comprehensive set of guidelines for cancellation of regattas.
         4. Alden Reid suggested that we task the Competition Committee with drafting said guidelines.
         5. Assad amended his motion to charge the Competition Committee to write a set of guidelines that may include penalties for failure to adhere; seconded by Gracey. **Vote: passed** (all in favor)
18. Proposal to get ICSA to host Singlehanded Nationals in Miami on fall weekend 10 every year (Leonard)
19. Regattas would be open to all; BYOB with each conference receiving free charters for the number of qualified sailors. There are many boats available for charter. This would be a better chance for people to train for Laser sailing outside of ICSA.
20. A straw poll was conducted. It showed that most were in favor of this.
21. O’Connor proposed a motion to have the Competition Committee draft a formal proposal that could be brought to ICSA at the Midwinter Meeting; seconded by Gracey. **Vote: passed** (all in favor)
22. Proposal to host NEISA Singlehanded Championships for Men and Women on the same weekend (Bresnahan); seconded by Gracey
23. Lindblad stated that we have a rule prohibiting 2 conference championships on the same weekend.
24. Reid pointed out that the cost of charter boats would reduce the number of competitors.
25. Leonard stated that it will be difficult to rearrange the intersectional schedule to accommodate this change.
26. After some more debate, the motion was called to a vote: it failed.
27. Proposal to adjust the PRS for Women when regattas are cancelled. Motion withdrawn by Bresnahan.
28. Lindblad made a motion to have the Competition Committee draft a contingency plan for a situation in which a conference championship cannot be sailed; seconded by O’Connor. **Vote: passed** (all in favor)
29. Proposal to change the Time Limit Rule for NEISA regattas (Wilkinson)
30. O’Connor proposed the following motion on behalf of Wilkinson: All regattas should end at 3:00pm on Sunday or after 12 races, whichever comes later. There shall be no start after 4:30; seconded by Gracey
31. O’Connor expressed the opinion that we should leave the current rule as is. Legler said we should be trying to protect the student-athletes, but leave it up to the discretion of the RC.
32. Vote: motion failed (2 in favor)
33. Selection of host sites for the 2012 NEISA Conference Championships
34. O’Connor stated that no bids to host the Match Race Championship had been received. Mollicone said NYYC is a possibility, but we may have to be flexible with which weekend. Leonard said we should create a relationship with such a capable host and have it there every year.
35. Slate of host sites:
36. Coed Dinghies: Harvard (2 fleets of FJs)
37. Women’s: BC (2 fleets; 420s and FJs)
38. Team Racing: MIT (FJs with consolation in Fireflies)
39. Priddy:
40. Owen: Yale
41. NE Dinghy Tournament:
42. Match Race: NYYC/Brown (pending confirmation)
43. Men’s Singles: BC
44. Women’s Singles: Conn
45. Nickerson: CGA
46. Underdog: PC
47. Urn: Conn
48. Schell: Brown
49. Women’s ACC’s: Conn
50. O’Connor made a motion to accept the slate as proposed; seconded by Gracey.

**Vote: passed** (all in favor)

1. Assad suggested that teams outside of the top 18 be encouraged to attend the Underdog. Make it their fall championship. We need to rename it. All were in favor.
2. Date of NEISA Annual Meeting and Scheduling Meeting: 12/3/11 at MIT.
3. Adjournment: 9:10pm.