

Competition Committee Report December 5, 2013

The Competition Committee met on December 3. Committee Members Jeff Bresnahan, Fran Charles, Ken Legler, John Mollicone, Mike O'Connor, Brian Swingly and Greg Wilkinson were present in person, Zack Leonard joined the meeting by phone. John Storck was not present. Bern Noack and Matt Lindblad also attended the open meeting and provided valuable input.

The Competition Committee considered 4 issues and has recommendations for NEISA on each.

1. Scheduling issue 1 – scheduling Staake Trophy within the new ICSCA and NEISA spring team racing schedule
2. Scheduling issue 2 – NEISA berth allocation/scheduling rules for Spring Wknds 5-9 in the context of the new ICSCA and NEISA spring team racing schedule
3. Regatta Guidelines – Total # races; Saturday end times; duration of competition and limits on it; Report times
4. Transfer students and eligibility

After careful consideration, the Committee has nine motions to be voted on by the membership of NEISA. The motions are numbered and in bold italics below. It is the Committee's hope that this entire report (inclusive of all motions) is accepted. However, selected motions could be voted on separately.

Scheduling Issue 1

The Staake qualifies the final two teams for NEISA TR Champs. It is difficult to schedule in the new schedule. The Committee considered having the Staake on Wknd 8 or Wknd 9. The advantage to Wknd 9 is additional practice time to prepare for the qualifier. The advantage to Wknd 8 is the opportunity for all 12 TR NE-qualified teams to compete in a high level regatta (Marchiando) on Wknd 9. After careful consideration, the Committee recommends:

1) Staake scheduled on Spring Wknd 8. The top team at the Staake qualifies for the Marchiando; the second team is 1st alternate at Marchiando/into Marchiando if MIT is top two at Staake. (Marchiando berths are 10 +host +1 from Staake – 1st alternate very likely to get in)

Scheduling Issue 2

There is significant concern that under current NEISA regs (draft order and in-conference scheduling order) that all the major TR regattas in the shortened TR season (Wknds 5-9) will go to the top eight teams in NEISA. With no change to scheduling regs, second teams from top teams could displace ALL teams ranked 9+ from all major TR events.

The Committee conducted a mock draft and did find the concern to be valid. Teams 9+ got no major TRs while a variety of top 8 teams received two or more majors on 100% of the weekends.

Unfortunately, the Committee was unable to come up with a single change that would solve the issue in a way that maintained high quality competition while distributing berths fairly to a wider group of NEISA teams. Instead, the Committee came up with "scheduling rules" for each Wknd.

The Committee strongly suggests that motions 2-6 be accepted as one motion.

The berth allocation scenarios at the end of each weekend are essentially "worst case scenario" allocations. These allocations assume that every out of conference regatta listed below is drafted in the first two rounds, before any other event and that all 16 of NEISA's top 16 teams select every in-conference regatta listed below.

2) Wknd 5 (Bavier – 2 NEISA; Sharpe – 8 NEISA; Thames – 8 NEISA)

- ***Teams shall not schedule 3 or more of the events listed above***
- ***Teams shall not initially be scheduled in both the Sharpe and Thames (ok to be entered in one, alternate at another)***
- ***Berths for NEISA will go to 16 different teams (Teams 1-2 select Bavier; Teams 1-8 select Sharpe; Teams 9-16 select Thames)***

3) Wknd 6 (St Mary's – 2 NE; Wood – 8 NE; New Event – 8 NE; Jackson – 2 Invites)

- *Teams shall not schedule 3 or more of the events listed above*
- *Berths for NEISA teams will go 10-12 deep (Teams 1-2 select St Mary's; Teams 1-8 select Wood; Teams 3-10 select New Event; Teams 9-13 select Jackson and St Mary's alternate and we get 1-2 of those)*

4) Wknd 7 (Graham Hall – 4 NE; SNE – 7 NE; New Geiger – 8 NE)

- *Teams shall not schedule 3 or more of the events listed above*
- *Teams shall not draft the Hall and the SNE*
- *Teams scheduled for Staake (teams 11-16) get scheduling priority at Geiger – after Staake teams, rank order*
- *Berths for NEISA will go to 16 different teams (Teams 1-4 select Hall; Teams 5-11 select SNE; Teams 12-16 and Teams 1-2 select Geiger)*

5) Wknd 8 (Szambecki – 2NE; Friis – 8 NE; BC Regatta – 4 NE; Staake – 6 NE)

- *Teams shall not schedule 3 or more of the events listed above*
- *Berths will go to 16 different teams (Teams 1-2 select Szambecki; Teams 1-8 select Friis; Teams 9-10 and 3-4 select BC Regatta; Teams 11-16 select Staake)*

6) Wknd 9 (Marchiando – 12 NE)

- *First 10 berths awarded in rank order; 1 host berth; 1 Staake berth; 2nd Staake team is 1st alternate, likely to get in*
- *Berths go to all 12 teams in NEISA TR Champs*

Regatta Guidelines

The Committee considered several “regatta guidelines” and recommends the following:

7) On Saturdays, no more than 10 races in each division shall be sailed in NEISA Fleet Races. NEISA propose the same to ICSA for all fleet race regattas.

8) On Saturdays, no race shall be started after 6:00pm at NEISA Fleet Races. NEISA propose the same to ICSA for all fleet race regattas.

Transfer Students and Eligibility

Several recent transfers within NEISA teams have exposed the fact that [lack of] ICSA rules concerning the eligibility of transfer students is significantly out of line with NCAA rules – and, more importantly, not in the best interest of NEISA teams as a whole. Therefore, the Committee unanimously recommends:

9) New ICSA Eligibility Rule (to be written by Eligibility Committee), the intent of which is: Students who have started their “eligibility clock” per ICSA rules and transfer to another ICSA school shall be ineligible to compete in the season preceding their enrollment at the new school, or shall be ineligible to compete during the season in which they enroll in the new school.

Respectfully Submitted,

NEISA Competition Committee

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Jeff Bresnahan

Fran Charles

Ken Legler

Zack Leonard

John Mollicone

John Storck

Brian Swingly