

**NEISA Executive Committee Conference Call Minutes**  
**January 14, 2016**

Action Items:

- 1.) Hosts should send out emails before every event to clarify report times and expectations. These emails should be sent both to team contacts as found on the NEISA Scheduling google sheet and to the NEISA email list.
- 2.) The ICSA procedural rules committee is going to clarify ICSA PR 14.b.iii
- 3.) Interested hosts should submit bids for backup sites for Coed New England Championship by Feb exec conf call.
- 4.) NEISA Competition Committee should review and modify our NE championship contingency plan in light of the ICSA's stance on no-shows for rescheduled championships.
- 5.) Ad hoc committee is reviewing our NEISA Rules and Regulations, with the goal of submitting a finalized version for review by the conference by Feb 1, and then calling for adoption on the Feb Conference Call.
- 6.) Commissioner is going to review and rewrite the rule regarding presence of a graduate or post-undergraduate representative at all NEISA Regattas.

Motions:

- 1.) Amend Annual Meeting Minutes to reflect change in Entry Fee cost proposal in Treasurer's Report to: Teams 1-7 increase of \$300, 8-13 increase of \$200, 14-16 increase of \$100.
  - a. Passed with none opposed
- 2.) Direct ICSA eligibility committee to address student eligibility and change it to reflect 8 semesters in 5 years with no more than 4 spring or fall semesters/seasons
  - b. Passed with none opposed
- 3.) To not charge out-of-conference teams to attend NEISA Team Race events.
  - c. Passed with none opposed
- 4.) To eliminate 10-year rule on hosting ACCs
  - d. Passed with required 16 votes

Minutes:

1. Call to Order (Assad)
  - a. Roll Call of Executive Board (online) (Assad)

2. Approval of Annual Meeting Minutes (Assad)
  - a. Need to make sure meeting minutes accurately reflect what happened
  - b. Reid: Proposal 2 - Entry Fee cost proposal in Treasurer's Report was incorrect**
    - i. Should be: 1-7 increase of \$300, 8-13 increase of \$200, 14-16 increase of \$100**
  - c. Assad: Motion to amend minutes to reflect change in fee costs and approve them
  - d. Mollicone: Is it per semester?
  - e. Reid: Yes, billed semi-annually
  - f. Assad: Motion to amend minutes as Alden pointed out and accept them**
  - g. Seconded
  - h. Motion passes with none opposed**
  
3. Commissioner's Report (Assad)
  - a. Re-incorporating NEISA in MA
    - i. Have submitted reports from past 20 years but were denied b/c have been unincorporated since 2012
    - ii. Filling out forms to revive corporation
  - b. Alex Rudkin will give procedural rules update later in meeting
  - c. Changed Report Times
    - i. Hosts must communicate in advance what the report times are and what to expect at the venue
    - ii. Include all the information usually covered in competitors meeting in email sent prior to event
    - iii. Non-NEISA teams are a little apprehensive about not knowing exactly what is going on
    - iv. Legler: Every regatta should have an NOR sent out by Wed. every week so there is no confusion
  
4. ICSA Mid-Winter Meeting
  - a. 7-8 NEISA reps, great coaches symposium
  - b. Coaches should try to go every few years, good way to share with and learn from others
  - c. All-American Crews
    - i. Added 10 Honorable Mention Crews in addition to 20 All American Crews
  - d. National Championship Semi-Finals
    - i. End decision: sail until deadline, don't stop at race limit
  - e. Women's Champ
    - i. Expanded to 32 teams

- ii. Should benefit NEISA
- f. Match Racing
  - i. Will use test rules for 2016 Championship, NEISA should use those test rules at 2016 NEISA Championship
  - ii. Changed format
    - 1. Eliminated Gold seeding round robin
    - 2. Priority put on sailing quarter- and semi-finals
    - 3. Cut races from finals and semi-finals before cutting from quarter-finals
    - 4. Lots of variability between 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> in quarter-finals
- g. 2016 Nationals Update
  - i. Friends of College Sailing Night at San Diego Yacht Club
  - ii. No coaches on water
  - iii. Concerns about intermingling of parents and sailors on dock
    - 1. Will have roped-off area for competitors & officials only
    - 2. Orange fencing and wristbands
    - 3. Student-led teams can give wristbands to parents who will act as coaches
- h. 2017 Nationals
  - i. Chicago, sailing at southern end of Monroe Harbor
  - ii. At least one fleet of Z420s
    - 1. Discussion on use of sta-masters
    - 2. Should have answer by annual meeting
- i. 2018 Nationals
  - i. NW Conference may not be able to host
    - 1. Should have firm answer by next meeting
- j. Gary Jobson retiring from ESPN
- k. Eligibility
  - i. Past motion often misinterpreted
  - ii. Currently calculated by years, not semesters
  - iii. 4 year block, not 8 semesters over 5 years
  - iv. Competing in a single race uses eligibility
  - v. Does NEISA want it to go back to 8 semesters in 5 years?
  - vi. O'Connor: Since when has this been a rule?
  - vii. Changed in 2013 Annual Meeting, minutes didn't accurately reflect what was proposed
  - viii. Weidenbacker: What do we need to do to change rule and do so quickly?

- ix. Assad: **Motion to direct ICSA eligibility committee to address student eligibility and change it to reflect 8 semesters in 5 years with no more than 4 spring semesters?**
- x. Seconded
- xi. Discussion
  - 1. Mollicone: No more than 4 falls as well?
  - 2. Legler: People used to try to do more than 4 championships
- xii. **Amended: 8 semesters in 5 years with no more than 4 spring or fall semesters/seasons?**
- xiii. Seconded
- xiv. Passes unanimously**
- l. Substitutions
  - i. Committee will look to clarify restrictions on substitutions between regattas
- m. Billing out-of-conference teams for TR regattas
  - i. Should we bill out-of-conference teams to attend NEISA TR events?
  - ii. Passed at ICSA level
  - iii. Legler: Won't MAISA start doing the same thing to us? Will this be a net loss?
  - iv. O'Connor: If we're willing to bill our own teams, why wouldn't we be willing to pay to go to MAISA?
  - v. Assad: I think we would be willing to pay to go there
  - vi. Mollicone: Stanford/MAISA/SAISA teams are paying a lot of money to come here, we want them here, and we're charging them more? We travel down there all the time and they don't charge us. Seems unfair to make them pay even more to come to our events
  - vii. Weidenbacker: This would likely just add to negative sentiment about NEISA
  - viii. Assad: Motion to not charge out-of conference teams to attend NEISA Team Race events**
  - ix. Seconded
  - x. Passed unanimously**
- n. Women's Sailing rankings increasing to 20 teams
- o. Created ad hoc committee to develop womens sailing in ICSA
- p. Championship Contingencies
  - i. NEISA uses resumes
    - 1. Should use sail-offs when possible and then resumes
  - ii. ICSA will allow NEISA to no-show interconference events in order to re-sail conference championships

1. Ex. If TR NEs gets blown out and we want to make it up the next weekend, teams going to both Navy Spring and TR NE's can drop Navy Spring and go to make-up TR NE's
  2. Would be a known allowance
- q. Singlehanded Championships
- i. Can bring own personal control lines to national championships
- r. Allocation of Berths
- i. In particular for Coed and Team Racing
  - ii. Directed Competition Committee to look at berth allocation
  - iii. Currently is fair, but we want to maintain a fair competitive balance
- s. Mollicone: Rig Tuning
- i. Rig tuning at inter-conference events was brought up
    1. People thought could only adjust rigs at Navy and Yale
    2. It is actually hosts' prerogative
    3. Applicable to venues with sta-masters (ex. Dartmouth, Brown)
- t. Mollicone: Substitutions at Schell/Urn at Coast Guard/Conn
- i. What is the rule?
  - ii. Assad: In PRs under substitutions, poorly written rule about sailing 2 regattas at same time.
    1. ICSA procedural rules make it look like someone sailing for 2 teams at one regatta, but can't do that. Some debate at ICSA meeting to clarify, procedural rules committee asked to make more clear
  - iii. Mollicone: In past, women could run from MIT Urn to Harvard Schell and sail in both. With rotations this spring, it's even more possible
  - iv. Legler: Shouldn't be used at minor events b/c is an advantage to large teams. But for two events on one day, should be allowed
  - v. Swingly: We have taken advantage of that in past, but shouldn't do it. If you sail a regatta for a day, you should be locked in. We need to have discussion before Schell/Urn because could be used to get unfair advantage
  - vi. Mollicone: Do we have next conference call before next ICSA executive meeting? This could be agenda item for next conference call because is pretty big topic. Goes into issues of student-athlete safety
  - vii. O'Connor: People will want to sail different regattas on different days. Best interest of student-athletes could be to allow them to go to different events each day (academics, etc.)
  - viii. Weidenbacker: Would like to see discussion on coaches list about pros/cons of issue. Want sense of what other coaches are thinking.

- ix. Schreyer: Sailors should be able to sail in one place Saturday and one place Sunday, shouldn't restrict it
- x. Assad: Maybe restrict it at inter-conference and conference championship level. Let's get conversation going on coaches list.
- xi. O'Connor: Injuries are a factor, don't want to tie our hands with a poorly-written rule
- xii. Assad: Could have exemptions for injuries instead of hard and fast rules

## 5. Scheduling Coordinator's Report (Pizzo)

- a. Report Times
  - i. Trying to update NEISA schedule to make it clear
  - ii. Let us know if you have any questions
- b. SAISA Changed Regatta Dates
  - i. Not well communicated
  - ii. Major changes that were approved at midwinter meeting
  - iii. Check your schedules to see if you are affected and need to make changes
- c. Assad: Hosts, please get in touch with Frank and confirm when your events will begin each day

## 6. Championship host updates

- a. Swingly: Team Race New Englands at Coast Guard
  - i. FJs only
    - 1. 420s will be at Conn. College for Wick Trophy that weekend
    - 2. Nationals are in FJs only
    - 3. Will likely use 24 boats, everything is tuned evenly
  - ii. Umpire crews
    - 1. 8 confirmed umpires as of today
    - 2. Goal: 12 both days, 14 on Sunday
    - 3. Chief Umpire is Peter John, Assistant is Colin Smith
    - 4. Plan: 2 boats with 2 umpires each per race for first two rounds
    - 5. More umpires per race as there are fewer teams left
  - iii. Report time will be 9:30 on both days
  - iv. Competitors only zone at Jacob's Rock
    - 1. Exclusively for coaches and competitors
    - 2. Warn parents and spectators that some areas will be restricted
  - v. Legler: Whole rock? Or parts of the rock?
  - vi. Swingly: Just parts of rock. Probably half of the roof or something
- b. Leonard: Womens New Englands at Yale
  - i. Report Time
    - 1. Do people want 9:30 or 10:30 Saturday report time?

2. We're fine either way
  3. Mollicone: Do we want to keep the 9:30 report time for conference championships? Wasn't discussed at annual meeting
  4. Leonard: I think we should keep team races and New England championships as 9:30 start time. Most people want to get to New Englands early and will be willing to pay for hotels.
  5. Assad: Frank, please change the schedule to reflect that all New England Championships will have 9:30 report times on both days
- ii. Coach Boats
    1. Looking for 1 high-capacity boat to bring coaches out on water
    2. Swingly: We can bring one
- c. Assad: Coed New Englands at Dartmouth
    - i. Coaches on land
    - ii. Mild winter so far
    - iii. John Storck signed on as PRO
    - iv. Eric Storck as Chief Umpire but not confirmed yet
    - v. O'Connor: What is the backup plan if there's a bad winter?
      1. Assad: None yet, we should probably create one
      2. Should submit bids for backup site
      3. No 2<sup>nd</sup> place vote-getter because no one else submitted bids for New Englands, so need bids for backup
  - d. Womens Semi-Finals
    - i. Mollicone: With expansion to 32 teams, New England should end up with 10 spots

## 7. Old Business

- a. Procedural Rules (Alex Rudkin)
  - i. Went through old meeting minutes, changed format to be cleaner
  - ii. Tried to make document just the rules that NEISA should be following and leave ICSA rules in ICSA document. No "best practices" suggestions, just the rules and regulations.
  - iii. Competition committee, Rudkin does not yet have contingency plan, please send along
  - iv. Assad: Thank you to Alex, lots of work involved. Big boon once we can get it approved
  - v. Assad: Would like to form ad hoc committee to go over Alex's work and submit to conference for review. Any volunteers?
    1. David Thompson (suggested by Assad)
    2. Amanda Callahan
    3. Mike O'Connor

4. Skip Whyte

b. Non-Enforced Procedural Rules

i. "A graduate member must be at every regatta for safety. NEISA decided that 4 penalty points will be assessed for not complying with this rule."

1. Rule is totally unenforced
2. Only applies to the host
3. Swingly: Yes, you need someone there to run the regatta
4. Assad: Probably intended to be an adult, not necessarily an alum of that school
5. Weidenbacker: A little ridiculous to have a regatta run without a responsible adult there, puts people at risk without oversight
6. Assad: John and Stan, can you re-write this for the February meeting?
7. Legler: How about a minimum of 21 years old and not an undergraduate? As opposed to having to be a graduate
8. Callahan: This is a liability issue. Should we seek advice from General Counsel of universities to see how to protect schools and NEISA from liability?
9. Mollicone: Who has a good connection with their general counsel office? Probably not going to happen at Brown
10. Assad: For time being, will leave rule in effect for NEISA and will do more research into liability exposure
11. How is this enforced? What happens if you show up at a regatta and no graduate is there?
12. Leonard: Should send out an emailing reiterating the rule and telling everyone that it will be enforced. Breaking the rule should result in not being able to host regatta for a while, or something comparable to no-show penalty.
13. Assad: Let's come up with a re-write for this rule and bring it to the February meeting.

ii. **"A school may not host ACCs for 10 years after original host year and no school may host 2 in the same year (womens, coed, or freshmen)."**

1. **Assad: Motion to eliminate this rule**
2. Schreyer: Seconded
3. Assad: There are some weather-related considerations in NEISA, so we shouldn't tie our hands regarding who can host. When we have opportunity to create combined event, we are at the point where everyone is receptive to those ideas. There are other opportunities for other schools to host events throughout the year

4. This is NEISA rule, so MAISA could violate this rule and we would have no control over it
5. Mollicone: ACCs is only 3-4 times over 10 years, but there aren't that many venues that can host. Should we mirror it like we do for NEISA conference championships?
6. Leonard: How about you can't host ACCs twice in a row?
7. Mollicone: How about you cannot host the same ACC twice in a row?
8. Leonard: Can't host either championship back to back
9. Why do we even need a rule? Not many teams are clamoring to host these events, so if a non-traditional host wants to do it then they can just win the bid
10. Leger: It's getting late
- 11. Motion: To abolish 10 year restriction for hosting ACCs**
12. Seconded
- 13. Passes with 16 votes, reaches full quorum**

8. Club team symposium (Assad)
  - a. Will work with Jade Forsberg
9. Next meeting is February 18 at 4PM
10. Meeting adjourned at 5:20PM