

May 11, 2016 Agenda
NEISA Executive Committee Conference Call

Motions:

- 1.) Motion to approve April Executive Committee Call Minutes
 - a.) Passed unanimously

Action Items:

- 1.) Get in touch with Justin Assad if interested in joining:
 - a.) Term Limits Committee (need Chair and a few members)
 - b.) Student-Led Team Handbook Committee (need 6 members)
 - c.) Growth in NEISA Committee (need a few members)
- 2.) Consider submitting bids to host Spring 2018 National Championships if Northwest Conference cannot host
- 3.) Send any contributions for Student-Led Team Handbook to Hannah Lynn and Jade Forsberg

Minutes:

- 1.) Call to Order (Assad)
 - a.) Roll Call of Executive Board (online) (Assad)
 - b.) Attendance
 - i.) Executive Board: Assad, Lynn, Coakley, Reid, Pizzo, Paige, Welsh, Florio
 - ii.) Other: Victoria McGruer (Northeastern), David White (SHU), Alex Levin (Middlebury), Taylor Martin (MCH), Ken Legler (Tufts), Quentin Chaffee (Johnson and Wales), John Cappetta (Bates)
- 2.) Reports of Officers, Boards, and Standing Committees
 - a.) Commissioner's Report (Assad)
 - i.) Great spring
 - (1) Good sailing at all championships
 - (2) Great job hosting by all
 - (a) In particular, Coast Guard for hosting Team Racing
 - (3) Lots of events at different levels of sailing
 - ii.) Thank You's
 - (1) NEISA Awards - Jen Lee

- (a) Been posting weekly awards online
 - (2) Tyler Paige - Scheduling
 - (3) Undergraduates
 - (a) Thank you for serving the conference
- iii.) Review of 10:30 Report Times
 - (1) Thought they were a big success
 - (2) Saved Dartmouth a lot of money
 - (3) What experiences did the rest of the conference have?
 - (a) John Cappetta - Bates
 - (i) Great, we've been on time for the first time ever
 - (b) Kevin Coakley - Harvard
 - (i) Reactions have all been positive. Students are getting a lot more sleep and are well-rested
 - (c) Tyler Paige - Tufts
 - (i) Been very well received
 - (d) Charlie Welsh - BU
 - (i) Whole BU team loves it
 - (ii) Now actually doing their homework again
 - (e) Alden Reid
 - (i) Nerve-wracking not to know which regattas applied
 - (ii) Why not change all regattas?
 - 1. Assad: Probably will stay flexible in the fall. Will bring it up with ICOSA but would like to institute the change for everyone
 - 2. Pizzo: Has worked well, everyone has been efficient. Maybe keep Championships at 9:30
 - (4) Coakley: NORs aren't consistently posted publicly
 - (a) Sometimes posted on Coaches email list, other times on NEISA open list, other times on TechScore
 - (b) Difficult to find for students who aren't on NEISA list
 - (i) Assad: Scheduling sheet should list all NORs on the Google Doc

- (ii) Have not consistently been emailed to conference though, we should try to improve there
 - iv.) Call for Committee Representation
 - (1) Term Limits Committee
 - (a) Looking for someone to head it up
 - (b) Looking for a few people to be on committee
 - (2) Club Teams Handbook
 - (a) Looking for 6 individuals to be on committee
 - (3) Growth in NEISA
 - (a) For getting new teams off the ground
 - (b) Get in touch with athletic directors and student life directors
 - (c) Looking for a few individuals to be on committee
 - (4) Get in touch with Justin Assad if interested in joining any committees
 - v.) 2018 National Championship
 - (1) Should be hosted by Northwest Conference
 - (2) May not be able to host
 - (a) Requirements for 2 fleets of Laser Performance boats
 - (3) If cannot host, will be able to submit bids for alternate host
 - (4) If interested in hosting Spring 2018 spring nationals, we could entertain that notion
- b.) President's Report (Hannah Lynn)
 - i.) Student-Led Team Handbook
 - (1) Mostly put together
 - (2) Includes fees, membership status levels, etc.
 - (3) Contact information for members of Executive Board
 - (4) Lots of topic headings that need to be fleshed out more
 - (5) Regional Reps are helping fill in more
 - (6) Looking to put together small committee to continually update
 - (a) Make changes as rules change
 - ii.) Undergrad Reps have reached out to teams around conference
 - iii.) Put together Google Survey to send to conference to get feedback
- c.) Undergrad Representative's Report
 - i.) Walter Florio
 - (1) Mitchell College
 - (a) 8 member team

- (b) Close to Conn College
- (c) Taylor Martin - Head Coach
- (d) Looking to expand program
- (e) 4 FJs, 3 Club 420s
- (f) Graduating a lot of seniors
- (g) Struggling to recruit for next fall
- (2) Providence College
 - (a) 40 sailors
 - (i) 20 considered "Active Racers"
 - (ii) Others are more casual, leisurely members
 - (b) Average 4 boats at each of 4 weekly practices
 - (c) Tim Manyard - Coach
 - (d) 5 FJs
 - (e) Try to host at least one regatta in the Spring
 - (i) Conn sailors said was well-run
 - (f) Put together executive board
 - (g) Expressed desire to have more integrated practices with larger teams
- (3) Fairfield University
 - (a) 18 sailors
 - (b) Depending on day, could have 8-12 at practice
 - (c) Share coaches with Sacred Heart
 - (d) Share 14 FJs (~20 years old)
 - (e) Good example of 2 teams practicing together to enhance overall level
- (4) University of Connecticut
 - (a) Could not get in contact with them
- (5) Wesleyan University
 - (a) 20 members on team
 - (b) Average 3-4 boats per practice
 - (c) 3 practices per week
 - (d) Run by Scott Taper - Head Coach
 - (e) On a lake in East Hampton, CT
 - (f) 12 FJs
- (6) Schools all want more integration with other teams
 - (a) Like model of Fairfield & Sacred Heart
- ii.) Charlie Welsh
 - (1) Finals are a busy time of year
 - (2) Amherst College
 - (a) Mike O'Connor is working with them

- (b) School is acknowledging them more
 - (c) Luke Haggerty is spearheading it
 - (3) Bentley
 - (a) Didn't have a coach
 - (b) Got a coach from MIT
 - (c) Practices are better organized in the spring than fall
 - (d) Went to a few regattas
 - (4) Wellesley College (Walter Florio)
 - (a) Called them accidentally when trying to get in touch with Wesleyan
 - (b) 15 member team
 - (c) Lot more participants at the beginning than at end of season
 - (d) 3 boats per practice
 - (e) Practice with Brandeis
 - (f) Held out of MIT Sailing Center
- iii.) We want to touch student-led teams and let them know we're here for them
- d.) Scheduling Coordinator's Report (Frank Pizzo)
 - i.) May 1
 - (1) Submitted a few changes, will hear back soon
 - ii.) Color-coordinate schedule
 - (1) Will work on that this summer
 - iii.) Ken Legler: Regarding next fall's New England Singlehanded Men's championship, are we considering moving it?
 - (1) Later in season so there is greater chance of wind
 - (2) Let sailors get chance to sail Larks at Hood Trophy before Team Race Championship at Tufts
 - (3) Some potential scheduling issues, but we have had it on different weekends in the past and it doesn't affect other conferences
 - (4) Anyone interested in moving Singlehanded Championship?
 - (a) Pizzo: Will have to check with the host. Their proposal was for that weekend, not sure if they can move the weekend.
 - (b) Bresnehan: "Jeff Bresnehan here, from the great state of Connecticut"
 - (i) Proposal was to host both Men's and Women's championship at same weekend
 - (ii) Mimics Nationals format

- (iii) Don't see reason to change it
- (c) Assad: Would be significant change to move it. We did put this up to bid last fall, so disinclined to change it unless we have a compelling reason to do so.
- (d) Legler: I like idea of both Men's and Women's Singlehandeds at the same event, but I wanted to put the idea out there. Yale wanted to move it later to get more wind, but they're not on the call to talk about it
- (e) Bresnehan: This is unbelievable. At what point will we be able to live with the decisions that we voted on? If you want us to pull out our bid for Singlehandeds, we'll do it. But I'm disappointed that we voted on this and now are trying to go back on it

3.) Old Business

- a.) Club Team Symposium and Handbook (Assad)
 - i.) If you have any thoughts, please let me know
 - ii.) If want to help put it together, get in touch
- b.) Northeastern Eligibility Inquiry (Bresnehan)
 - i.) Northeastern needs to submit a proposal for us to send to the Eligibility Committee
 - ii.) We need a proposal in writing
 - iii.) Doesn't seem like there is compelling enough evidence to get exemption but if you put it in your own writing then there is a better chance
 - iv.) Tori McGruer: There was some miscommunication. Do we send directly to you or to the ICSA committee?
 - (1) Bresnehan: To me, and I'll get the ball rolling
- c.) ICSA Annual Meeting Agenda Items (Assad)
 - i.) Eligibility Directive regarding 4 Falls/4 Springs over 5 years
 - (1) Voted on at January meeting
 - (2) Would like to bring to ICSA meeting
 - ii.) Any other items you would like us to bring to ICSA?
 - (1) *Nothing*

4.) New Business

- a.) Team Race Drafting Rules (Pizzo)

- i.) Competition Committee rules from 2013 are good starting point, but we should make some changes
 - ii.) Wording is difficult and hard to implement from scheduling perspective
 - iii.) Could fix by drafting Team Race events
 - iv.) Currently using all fleet racing to pick team race regattas, which doesn't make much sense
 - v.) Worth looking into how we can do better
 - vi.) Sharpe becoming 8 NEISA teams & SNETR becoming 8 teams total so NEISA will lose some berths
 - vii.) Current rules could be tweaked
 - viii.) Recommendation: Task committee to look at amending rules and look into a team race draft
 - ix.) Assad: Will probably send this to committee in the fall and see if we can come up with a better system
- b.) Nationals Practice in Area of Venue (Bresnehan)
- i.) Taken aback by Danielle Richards email saying we can practice before nationals
 - (1) Listed 3 places where teams can practice
 - ii.) We had set of rules and now those aren't being followed
 - iii.) People practicing near where nationals are and that is a violation of an iron-clad rule
 - iv.) We need to know where practice venues are
 - (1) Larger and better-funded teams are at an advantage
 - v.) If you are within an hour of the nationals venue, spirit of the rule should be not traveling to nationals site to practice beforehand
 - vi.) We should say as NEISA that our rights are being trampled on
 - vii.) Pizzo: Last year, we had a few days between Women's and Coed and teams want to practice for those few days between. We went down to Coast Guard instead of sailing at Newport
 - viii.) Bresnehan: Cannot just be one person interpreting the rule. Make people announce this a year out. Say where you can practice or if there is no ability to practice in advance
 - ix.) Assad: Defining waters on which you can and cannot practice is key here. I agree that it's not fair and we'll bring it up at the ICSEA Meeting.
- c.) Time Change for Championships (Bresnehan)
- i.) Problems with Championships
 - (1) Only got one round robin at Team Racing, 4 races at Fleet Racing

- (2) Consider moving finish times back
 - (a) Maybe if there has been no racing on first day, extend
- ii.) Contingency Plans
 - (1) Changing from Performance Rankings to finishes at last Conference Championship (Ex. Schell for Fleet Race)
 - (a) All teams sailed top teams against each other
 - (2) Legler: There has never been an unsailed NEISA championship. We considered Performance Rankings for qualifier backup but should be looked at again.
 - (3) Bresnehan: Lots of people were interested in moving the finish time back at Fleet Race Championship 2 weeks ago. Should examine the rules from this year that weren't working and amend them before they come up again
 - (4) Assad: I think our contingency plan is as good of one as we can have right now, but if NEISA feels like Performance Rankings are not the best setup then we will look at changing it
 - (5) Pizzo: Extending until sunset or the finish time is ideal so you know the length of regatta and can plan accordingly
 - (6) Assad: Wasn't under the impression that a lot of people were interested in pushing back end time. Seemed like most people there thought it wasn't the right thing to do
- d.) NEISA Hall of Fame (Pizzo)
 - i.) Awards Committee would like to create one
 - ii.) Would be good to have some older coaches with historical perspective to help us honor the kids who we couldn't honor at an ICSA level for student leadership, etc.
 - iii.) Awards Committee is very busy, so hopefully someone else can take care of that
 - iv.) Assad: NEISA history book would be great for our sport
- 5.) Approval of April Meeting Minutes (Assad)
 - a.) Motion to approve the April Meeting Minutes**
 - i.) Seconded
 - ii.) **Passed Unanimously**
- 6.) Announcements and Time of Next Meeting (Assad)
 - a.) Next meeting: September 15th, 2016