

## February 9th Meeting Minutes:

### 1.Motions:

- a. Motion to approve January Executive Meeting Conference Call Minutes.
  - i.Motion Passes

### 2.Call to Order:

- a. Roll Call of Executive Board
  - i.Roll Call of Executive Board Online attendance
    - I. Executive Board: Assad, Coakley, Florio, Welsh, Reid, Pizzo, Wilkinson, Swingly, Weidenbacker, O'Connor, Astiz, Paige, Morin, Lynn, Schwerdtfeger
    - ii. Member Schools: Legler (Tufts), Levin (Midd), Thompson (Dartmouth), Whyte (URI), White (SHU/FF), Elson (UCONN), Leonard (Yale), Lindblad (MIT)

### 3.Commissioners Report:

- a. Utah Trip:
  - I. Coaches Colloquium:
    - 1.Assad: We were out there for the coach's colloquium. I just have to say that this one was the best I have been too. I have been to seven so far. Very well thought out and there was excellent discussion. It's a good thing to try and get to once every few years. It's a great way to stay together and create good ideas. Great, NEISA representation. We don't go out there for the skiing. There just happens to be great skiing out there. You can read through the notes on the website.
  - ii. Annual Meeting:
    - 1.Assad: First things first. Communications about the website. We are currently working on a new website. We want to put together weekly press information. There will also be a social component that will be handled by undergraduates. We talked about doing another all-American video. We will do it again this year but will make sure it is more prompt. Last year's video had many people concerned.
  - iii. Championship Committee
    - 1.Assad: The new championship rotation proposal was accepted. We will be hosting in 2019. Looking to put bids together for the spring meeting. We mentioned at the meeting we might need to split up and host at different venues. Everyone can see the championship reports. Spring nationals will be hosted by Charleston. Nationals will be sailed north of the Yorktown off and pier and ran out of the boathouse.
  - iv. Match Racing
    - 1.Assad: 2017 Match Race Nationals might be at St. Pete
    - 2.Wilkinson: Justin sorry to interrupt, St. Pete has withdrawn 2017 bids. Most likely will be at Charleston.

v. Stay Masters

1.Assad: These will not be adjusted on the national championship level. We need to be diligent about this. We need to be careful with standing rigging being adjustable. If you intend to have adjustable sidestays at your venue, please secure approval from the ICSA President well in advance of your hosting obligations. Do it earlier rather than later. If we inappropriately follow it some people might come after us.

vi. Procedural Rules:

1.Assad: Major update for 2017 has been released. Can find on the ICSA. It is under the meeting minutes. All changes should be found on the college sailing website.

2.Whyte: The website your referring to is collegesailing.org correct?

3.Assad: Yes

4.Assad: When looking at procedural rules check the date to make sure it is the most recent one.

vii. Dry suits and Wetsuits:

1.Assad: Needs to be specified on the inter-conference regatta. We as NEISA have gone through and marked all regattas where we think we need dry-suits.

2.Whyte: I got an email from Ian Burman. Informing everyone that it is dry-suit only at navy. Was there any conversation at the meeting about this?

3.Wilkinson: Well there was a lot of discussion however it is an institutional decision. If an institution says you need to wear this to compete in their equipment there is no way to get around it. What ICSA is telling hosts is that if you are going to require dry- suits then everyone needs to be informed. The bulletin from Ian is exactly what ICSA has asked hosts to do.

viii. Fall Schedule

1.Assad: Our new fall schedule was approved by ICSA. It was received peacefully in the country. Eighteen competition weekends have been passed. Discussion on this was a little spicy. So, we chose to pull the practice limit discussion. I know we have been trying to get it.

ix. Practice and Declaration Forms:

1.Assad: Practice and Declaration forms will be required at the upcoming spring national championship. We highlighted it as a weakness on our last call. ICSA will investigate all violations. Anyone who suspect a violation can inform the executive committee and that will be pursued anonymously.

x. championship Committee

1.Assad: Championship Committee will review the fowle trophy and make sure it is rated equally among the team race and fleet nationals.

They will try to update it so women are equal. The goal is also to equal Team Racing.

2. Wilkinson: Jumping back, we are trying to get the investigation part worked into the procedural rules. We are also working on eligibility rules. There are a lot of interpretations about both season limit rules and eligibility that have been passed down via word of mouth.

xi. Match Racing Weight:

1. Assad: Lots of discussion about this. We decided to go to world sailing limits and just follow them.

xii. ICSA Leadership:

1. Assad: I know we have had a lot of discussion about this. The tone at the colloquium was positive. Greg, would you like to discuss more.

2. Wilkinson: We were directed by the board to start figuring out a better way to govern ourselves. ICSA has essentially grown up. We have set aside to pay individuals but also dues haven't gone up. We want to put together a small team to investigate what needs to change. NEISA wants the current president to be replaced. If we replace him though we might have the same situation because the board does not help the president. We don't have any staff. One thing that we need help with is, there seems to be a sense that we need outside influence that might be helpful. This person needs to understand college sailing but also college sports.

3. Assad: Thanks, Greg. I'd like to echo all that that that is all very accurate.

xiii. Competitive Imbalance at Team Race nationals:

1. Assad: We were already in the meetings for a long time. But essentially, the competition committee will find a way to incorporate and get the most competitive at team race nationals. We will create a pathway for smaller teams. Needs to be a fluid and dynamic system.

xiv. Questions:

1. Whyte: What was the conversation on the split season?

2. Assad: That was part of more of a discussion. That was a less formal discussion. Focused more on what do we want college sailing to look like in ten years. Have a team race championship in one season and fleet racing in another season. Took a straw poll and there was a positive reception. This is big change in the tone from the past few years.

3. Whyte: Of the team's present, how many of the one were not competing in team racing?

4. Assad: At least a few

5. Wilkinson: The majority of the coaches and the board discussion the majority of teams were involved in team racing. At least one of them was a service academy trying to make it so they can compete in nationals.

6. O'Connor: Justin, Mike here

7.Assad: Go ahead Mike

8.O'Connor: My question is about the stay master. Why don't people want to adjust them?

9.Assad: Greg, that was a championship committee vote do you want to talk about that.

10.Wilkinson: One of the reasons is because the pendulum has swung and essentially your question is answer when you said. What good are they because they are not very good. What I mean by that is the durability issues. Stay masters bend easily. When the bend everything is a little off. Mainly the mast isn't always in the middle of the boat. Some teams have come to the conclusions that with our substitution rules we should be changing people not rig tension. Championship committee says it needs to go all the way to nationals before the season level.

11.O'Connor: My big concern are teams that are up and coming not being able to substitute because they can't afford to get more people there. Unlike big established teams where they can get anyone there.

12.Assad: That summarizes the discussion right there. I'm sure the ICSA president will grant that.

13.Swingly: We have requested and have been approved.

xv. Final Thoughts:

1.Assad: Everyone needs to add NEISA Rules and Regs when hosting an event because a lot of our regattas are running off of them.

#### 4.Scheduling Coordinating Report:

a. Pizzo: We are about a month out from the first regattas of the season. The document has been updated a bunch. Some people were concerned about early season invites. If you see discreteness please reach out. If you are not going to sail the event, please let us know. We want those regattas filled. If we envision any changes in NEISA inter-conference events, please let me know.

b. Legler: In the future, we have a growing number of teams that want all women team racing. We need to add more events or more flexible with berths. I see a growing demand for women's team racing. Roger Williams is a great example. They are not in the two women's team racing events.

c.Pizzo: I'll make a note of that.

d.O'Connor: Is there a way to make it more considering?

e. Legler: Let's see if hosts can be more flexible.

f. Pizzo: I'm always interested in making events better. My only concern is other events disappearing.

g. Legler: We are guilty of that. We got into a team race and dropped a URI event because of it.

h. Pizzo: I'd rather examine this in the off season. I understand that there is growing interest for all women team race squads.

- i. O'Connor: Some of those teams should also send all women teams to coed regattas.
- j. Assad: That could be a solid solution

#### 5.Old Business:

##### a.2017 Match Race New England's:

i. Assad: Right now, at the last NEISA meeting, we talked about having that event hosted by either Coast Guard or Roger Williams through Bristol Yacht Club. Right now, we are looking into Bristol more because Coast Guard cannot host it. I want to keep that regatta on the agenda. Amanda is unsure whether or not she can pull it together. If people or teams have ideas, please step up.

##### b.2019 Nationals

i. Assad: We are looking for bids. If individuals are interested in hosting, please talk to Greg or I.

##### c.Questions:

i. Whyte: On the match racing, would that be privately owned J22's?

1.Assad: Unsure.

2.Whyte: Okay

ii. O'Connor: What about Marblehead?

1.Lindbland: Every time this comes up I think Corinthian would love to host this even. I think we are moving closer to running this event. We are about a year out from being able to host.

#### 6.New Business:

##### a. Fall Schedule Proposal:

i. Assad: Was adopted by the group. There is a small group that is being put together. There is information on the site and we are looking for input so we can have the best racing but also honoring the hosts. Please look at the schedule online. We built it through A level, B level and C level. Please remember that NEISA weekends are 2,3,4 while the following are NEISA showcase events. We are looking for ways to have two a level events. Another priority is to keep our b level events big also. These are valuable events and the same for c level events. These are just ideas but we are mostly looking for feedback on all of this. If someone doesn't want to talk about it on the phone, please email either Frank or I.

ii. Legler: What is the difference between a coed showcase and a coed weekend inter-conference?

1. Assad: The deal here is the showcase events are seed 1-15 for NEISA. With weekend six the fifteen teams from NEISA are seeded and top 9 will advance to showcase 1 the finals on weekend 8 and the bottom nine will advance to showcase 2. Everything else is as it normally is.

2. Legler: So, weekend 5 and 7 are normal interconference.

3.Pizzo: There should be no other regattas the weekend of the showcase.

4. Assad: It'll make our B level events that weekend very strong.
- iii. Leonard: On the weekends, there are inter-sectionals we need to create more events to have extra capacity for more teams. I hear what you are saying about stronger B events but I feel the A- sailors are being left out. We need to essentially work harder to make these events better. Lastly, by going to eighteen weekends we are not giving anyone time off just based off the new schedule. In my opinion this new schedule does not allow for new sailors to make an appearance.
1. Assad: That's good feedback.
  2. Legler: Combined division is you get more sailing in less time. Teams need to host more often then. In regards to the best person on the team. I think this new schedule is great but will require more tweaking.
  3. Wilkinson: Zack, may you please find an ideal capacity weekend so that then we may work towards that. Also, may you please find a poor capacity weekend either that being to many events or too little. It is not hard to find the capacity and put it forward. If we get this information, then we can make changes.
- iv. Whyte: You have Danmark and Moody on the same weekend. What are you guys going to do about it because it'll obviously be a lower event.
1. Assad: The Moody and the Hood are great events in NEISA. We are looking to host on different weekends or doing combined divisions. A great example is the Danmark. We are going to try and move to twelve teams there.
  2. Whyte: If you have a superior event running parallel to another event I don't see how you are going to get around it.
- v. Whyte: How are you guys changing performance ranking formula?
1. Assad: We are going to finalize the schedule then apply it. Regattas will be impacted we are just unsure at the moment.
- vi. Weidenbacker: In the current spring schedule, we had discussed start times on Saturdays and mostly everyone has written it now. With the exception of the ones that say otherwise noted. I was wondering if those schools could send their start time to Frank so the schedule can be update.
1. Assad: If there is nothing in the box then it is 1030 on Saturday and 930 on Sunday.
- vii. Whyte: On the committee are any teams represented that are not top ten teams?
1. Assad: I think Stan and Jeff are on the list. Frank and I are though comfortable scheduling outside the top ten. We also have single fleet hosts on the committee.
- viii. If anyone has concerns and wants to reach out to either Frank or I, please do so. You can call either Frank or I or even do a conference call.

## 7. President's Report:

- a. Coakley: Hey guys first off I'd like to thank Nick Sertl for acting as a proxy. Fran mentioned back in December we have no data on concussions and I want to change that. I want to work with Doctors to create a system for reporting information essentially a google doc. That sailors and coaches can fill out post- concussion. We don't know what the effectiveness is of a helmet or no helmet. Our goal is to get viable data where we can begin making informed decisions. This is long term. My time will end before this has finished. Frank and Fran have volunteered if anyone else is interested please let me know.
- b. Assad: Thanks for putting this together. Please reach out if you have any interest.

#### 8.Next Meeting:

- a. March 9: 1400 Hrs.

#### 9.Relevant Notes:

- a. ICSA Coach's Colloquium and Midwinter Meeting Commissioner's Report  
[i.http://neisa.collegesailing.org/documents/2017\\_Report-ICSA\\_Coach%E2%80%99s\\_Colloquium\\_and\\_Midwinter\\_Meeting.pdf](http://neisa.collegesailing.org/documents/2017_Report-ICSA_Coach%E2%80%99s_Colloquium_and_Midwinter_Meeting.pdf)
- b.Fall Schedule Working Draft  
[i.http://neisa.collegesailing.org/documents/2018\\_Working\\_Draft\\_Fall\\_Schedule\\_.pdf](http://neisa.collegesailing.org/documents/2018_Working_Draft_Fall_Schedule_.pdf)
- c. Kevin Coakley
  - i. Email: kevincoakley@college.harvard.edu