

## ICSA Coach's Colloquium and Midwinter Meeting Commissioner's Report

**\*\*NEISA Commissioner's Note:** We emphasized over and over our disappointment with rules being disregarded or changed, and this change in tone was prevalent throughout the week. As a result, I expect rules observance to be a major focus going forward, and we should take exceptional care to make sure that our hosting decisions and regatta management decisions fall within the PRs as written. We are at a sensitive time with regard to these in the ICSA.

Reps in attendance:

Assad (Dartmouth/NEISA)

K. Assad (BU)

Farrar (NU)

Florio (CC)

Klevan (CGA)

Levin (Midd)

Lindblad (MIT)

Lynn (BC/NEISA)

Pizzo (Bowdoin)

Thompson (Dartmouth)

Wilkinson (BC)

### 1. Colloquium notes:

- a. Wednesday: Topic: 5 year plan for college sailing
  - i. Consensus from most groups was that it is time for the ICSA to move forward in the areas of leadership and governance by hiring professionals to run the league.
  - ii. Discussion about the national championship block of days lent itself primarily to a remedy of split seasons.
    - iii. Also discussion of 2 consecutive years at the same venue for Nationals.
  - b. A straw poll found the entire room in favor a split season solution with fleet racing in the fall and team racing in the spring, though a few preferred Fall-TR and Spring-FR.
- c. Thursday: Topic: The Schedule
  - i. Discussion about the new fall schedule, once again discussion tended to lean toward Split Seasons as the most viable solution to the challenges our current schedule presents.
- d. Friday: the US Sailing ODP program and how to get involved.
  - i. Recruiting Discussion centered around 2 main points: transfers and recruiting rules.
    1. Transfers: There was considerable debate about the current rule (PR12.c.iii). A straw poll revealed 1 thought the current rule was too strict, 10 thought the rule was sufficient, 7-8 thought the rule

was insufficient. Such close numbers suggest further discussion and exploration is necessary.

2. Recruiting Rules: Significant discussion about practices that most felt should be implemented. There was discussion about actual rules vs. producing a guide of best practices and ethics. These included:
  - a. Consent to contact or the equivalent – coaches who know about potential transfer students speaking with current coaches about them, or students being released with permission to contact forms.
  - b.

### **Annual Meeting Notes:**

1. Discussion about Communications and Website: Considerable discussion about PR for NEISA and best ways to push content and traffic to ICSA Website.
2. All America Committee: Video will remain, but delivery date will be specific.
3. Championship Committee:
  - New Championship Proposal Adopted (SA-MA-NE-Alt conf)**
  - Bids will be due 2 years ahead of the championship, and the committee will require bids to have viable championship fleets in place when the bid is submitted.
4. Championship Reports  
(You can find these on the collegesailing website among the documents for the 2017 Semi-Annual Meeting)
  - 2017 Spring (Charleston):
    - Sailing from the pier just north of the bridge.
    - Should have new z420 Jlbs
    - Drop starters at the C of C boathouse in the morning, but avoid dropping alternates at the C of C boathouse to avoid congestion.
  - 2017 Singles (USF):
  - 2017 Match Race (USF?): May be in St Pete J70s. Charleston J22s may be another option.
  - 2018 Spring Nationals (ODU): Bid accepted from ODU, FJs and z420s.
  - 2018 Singles (MCSA-Macatawa Bay)
  - 2018 Match Race (Balboa YC): Governor's Cup 22s

**\*\*Sta-Masters will not be adjusted at National Championships. Hosts interested in having standing rigging adjusted must receive prior approval from ICSA President.**

5. Procedural Rules: Major update for 2017-2020, updated document available on the website with changes in red.

6. Drysuits/Wetsuits: should be accurate what regattas may require them on the ICSA Schedule.

**7. Fall Schedule Proposal went through.**

**8. Change to 18 competition weekends passed.**

9. ICSA Exec Comm will enforce the requirement for Practice and Declaration Forms at the National Championship.

10. ICSA Exec Comm will investigate any violations of Appendix A (Season Limits). Suspected infractions can be delivered to any ICSA Exec Comm member to investigate.

11. Procedural Rules committee understands the importance of timely updates, discussion on cleaning up the website so the correct edition of the PRs are accessible on the website. Also discussion about making the “date updated” on the cover more prominent, or changing the color of the cover page to make it easy to ensure people are using the correct rules.

**12. Championship Committee will review Fowle Trophy formula to ensure Women’s National Championship is weighted equally with Coed National Championship.**

**13. Match Racing Weight will match World Sailing.**

14. Process to investigate violations of Appendix A (season limits) clarified. Report potential violations to the ICSA Executive Committee, they will be investigated anonymously.

15. **Direction of ICSA Leadership:** During the weekend and at the Semi-Annual Meeting there was universal agreement that we need an overhaul of our governance at the ICSA National Level. A committee will be appointed to work on this with the goal of implementing term limits for the president and hiring outside employees to execute duties. I will fill the conference in over the phone on our next conference call.

16. **Competitive Imbalance at TR Nationals:** Competition committee will look into ways to get the most competitive teams sailing at the National Championship.

**\*\*Stipulations:**

- Need to have developmental pathways for smaller conferences
- Need to have ways for the smaller conferences to compete at the Nationals the instant they are competitively qualified to do so – needs to be a fluid, dynamic system based on competitive merit.