

NEISA Meeting Minutes
April 12 2017

1. Motions:
 - a. No motions

2. Call to Order:
 - a. Roll Call of Executive Board
 - i. Roll Call of Executive Board Online
 - b. Attendance
 - i. Executive Board: Assad, Coakley, Welsh, Pizzo, Swingly, Wilkinson, Weidenbacker, Mollicone, Paige, Morin, Lynn, Schwerdtfeger, Morin, Astiz
 - ii. Member Schools: Bresnahan(Conn), Levin (MIDD), Lynn (BC), Whyte(URI), Legler (Tufts), White (Fairfield), Lindblad (MIT), Kalin (MIT), Leonard (Yale), Thompson (Dartmouth), Callahan (RWU), Hendrickson (UConn)

3. Commissioners Report:
 - a. Assad: We will hold off on the March Meeting Minutes. We are up and running and things are moving smoothly. Thank you for Tufts for hosting a great New England's. It was a great event and we are looking forward to the championship events coming up. Lots of good stuff on the table. We are close to finalizing the fall of 2018 schedule. We just need to finalize the b level events. We think it will be a huge improvement. Once when we get the A b and C level events locked down well add the invites. That's really it. Any questions?
 - b. Whyte: Is there a working draft that we can see?
 - c. Assad: Yes
 - d. Wilkinson: What is this?
 - e. Assad: The new schedule for fall 2018.
 - f. Wilkinson: Have we approved March meeting minutes?
 - g. Assad: No

4. Scheduling Coordinator's Report:
 - a. Pizzo: We have had some scheduling changes. The central series at Tufts is more than likely going to be one day. There have been a lot of moving parts. Just firmed up the three teams from the dinghy tournament. To talk about the fall stuff. I think it is smart for the conference to rethink our spring. Big picture MAISA is making a shift. Our schedule is very heavy in the early spring. Which is an issue for us because we cancel events often early in the season. It is something to think about. I've been in touch with host because three regattas will need new hosts. These regattas include the Emily Wick, Fritz Trophy. We want these events to be in the same boats they are already hosted in. I don't think there is a whole lot of stuff. Anyone have any questions?
 - b. Assad: So, everyone knows we are looking for hosts for the Wick and the Fritz. These are great regattas in our season. We want to though maintain the laser

performance sailboat continuity. We want to be sailing these events in boats raced at nationals

- c. Legler: We use to host the fritz but then there was a scheduling conflict. So, we hosted it at Harvard and it went very well. If Coast Guard can continue hosting the wick that is important.
- d. Assad: I agree.
- e. Leonard(Zach): We will take the wick. We could possibly be able to do the fritz but that is not preferred.
- f. Pizzo: Zach let's talk offline.

5. North Undergrad Regional Rep:

- a. Allie: Overall most teams are stable and the ones that are not are growing. Many teams are having a frozen lake issue. I will go through a quick break down of the report online. There are two schools looking to get new boats. Overall, pretty good progress throughout the conference and northern region. If there is anything specific I can answer them
- b. Assad: UNE is growing with a five-year plan to build a boathouse.
- c. Allie: UNE has a lot going for them. They just hired an assistant coach.

6. Central Undergrad Regional Rep:

- a. Assad: Unavailable

7. Southern Undergrad Regional Rep:

- a. Gibbs: Mainly a lot of teams have not been sailing due to high winds and cold weather. A lot of the smaller schools are struggling since their leaders graduated. It is something we are seeing across the board.
- b. Assad: Anything notable?
- c. Gibbs: From what she gave me it doesn't seem that way.
- d. Assad: Okay great.

8. Undergrad President:

- a. Coakley: We have been working on the undergrad handbook. Thank you to everyone who helped out. If anyone has any questions, please let Kevin know.
- b. Legler: Kevin may you send me a copy please I am writing a book about college sailing?
- c. Assad: Ken it is online.
- d. Coakley: The concussion aspect is going well. I have reached out to a bunch of coaches to research the concussion protocol on each team. In general, remove them for the water and have them go to a trainer and don't have them return until they get back.
- e. Wilkinson: What are we going to do with this concussion stuff?
- f. Coakley: We would only use it as a recommendation for developing teams. It would be a source of information for developing team.

- g. Wilkinson: There are a lot of public research that we should refer people to. We should only be providing links. I don't think NEISA should be involved if we don't have doctors involved.
 - h. Coakley: That is a good Segway. We are only doing surveys. We want to find a way to get doctors involved. Would NEISA be interested in creating an opportunity for doctors to be involved?
 - i. Leonard: We might be getting into an area that we might not be insured for.
 - j. Coakley: That is why we want to get these doctors involved because then we would fall under the research study route umbrella.
 - k. Leonard: It is an interesting one. If you went a few years you would see variations in the amount of concussions.
 - l. Bresnahan: From a small division school. You go to a trainer. Kevin, I think you are more looking to create guidelines for people. A lot of the small school's latch onto information.
 - m. Assad: To help redirect this our target was more to figure out how concussions occur and what is done. I would like to say we are in a pretty good spot. Kevin has done a great job with this. We are looking for tangible evidence for the conference. IM curious what we're seeing as concussion incidents?
 - n. Coakley: I'll send everything out. We have a lot of teams with numerous amounts of concussions. This should not be something we sweep under the rug.
 - o. Leonard: Does your data break it down into the class of boat.
 - p. Coakley: We have to be careful in regards to HIPPA.
 - q. Wilkinson: How does this compare to other sports?
 - r. Coakley: We will look further into that
 - s. Wilkinson: It is important for us to gauge this.
 - t. Bresnahan: I think there are a bunch of different things going on. We should reach out to lower levels to see how US sailing would approach it.
 - u. Leonard: I think we are being way to general. In youth sailing we do see a lot. We need to look at venue also in all this. Because of the frequency might cause greater problems. Or are there different types of boats cause greater harm.
 - v. Paige: I like the idea of data specific incidents. Would we be able to get drills regarding what causes it more frequently?
 - w. Coakley: Right now, there is no data. In regards to waiving rights it is not that simple.
9. Old Business:
- a. Match Race New England's:
 - i. Assad: We are struggling to find the host. This host only wants to host if they have a berth in the event. We want to allow this host. Only 3 berths form harm and four from pine.
 - ii. Welsh: Who's the host?
 - iii. Assad: The host is Coast Guard
 - iv. Swingly: It's not if we are allowed a berth then we will think about it. Just to comment we do allow a host to the Schell and Urn.

- v. Bresnahan: You say there are no other options. There are pay options we can pursue. Why wouldn't we go somewhere like oakcliff or sail Newport.
 - vi. Wilkinson: Can we make a motion?
 - vii. Assad: We have a quorum
 - viii. Wilkinson: This is dragging and we need to get this done.
 - ix. Mollicone: I can look into the Sail Newport option but it will cost money.
 - x. Assad: Plan to vote on this in the May call. Let's have Coast Guard and Brown look into options. We'll take proposals for the may call. If we don't have anything then we will go by resume. John just wants a break from hosting this event. He can't do it again this year.
- b. 2019 National Championships
- i. Assad: I leave this on the agenda because we need to keep current on this. We don't have anyone eager to host all three championship not event one of the championships. Greg, I look for your feedback on this. My current thinking is that we are going to look for different hosts for each of the semis and finals so that any school with one fleet can host. Then finals would be in two fleets. Dartmouth is interest in hosting team race national championship. This is kind of where we are at. Greg, do you have any thoughts.
 - ii. Wilkinson: I think the best thing is to continue updating ICSA. The current criteria are what they want. But we are slowly realizing that is not possible.
 - iii. Legler: I think spitting up is a really cool idea. We have eighteen hosts.
 - iv. Wilkinson: ICSA is against it because it doesn't feel like a national championship. The desire is to keep everything in one spot.
 - v. Legler: I see that you want to keep semi's and finals together but do you have to keep all three events at the same venue?
 - vi. Wilkinson: I see what you're saying. The example that I have been using is St Mary's national a few years ago. For when teams look back and ask oh what'd you think of the nationals hosted at navy and some would say well our was hosted at saint Mary's.
 - vii. Legler: I suppose we can do three sites.
 - viii. Leonard: The women get short changed because we have to go to yacht clubs and they run poor regatta and get destroyed by the coaches prior to these events.
 - ix. Assad: The trick is finding hosts that have proven records. Greg is 100 percent right.
 - x. Wilkinson: I am just trying to explain the logic. Everyone agrees that this is way too big. I do think that so many two fleet venues. I wouldn't be surprised if people were like well if you have some many two fleet venues why don't you host that. I don't know how well ICSA would receive that.
 - xi. Bresnahan: It scares me when Greg says that nationals is too big. I think there are other venues. We should look into trucking boats to venues.

NEISA needs to understand that we will start losing berths if we don't find solutions. I am going to explore what the costs would be.

- xii. Assad: Jeff I hear you. I see us prepared to fight for berths in that level.
 - xiii. Wilkinson: The first step ICSA will take is dropping number of days and same locations. It would get broken up to allow it to happen.
 - xiv. Assad: We have the best venues to do this. We have the most professional staff in the country. Jeff, I appreciate that but I can assure you there are many committed to keeping the most competitive teams at the championship.
 - xv. Bresnahan: That is the issue a lot of the bigger teams are not affected. Unlike the smaller teams attempting to make it. We could maybe consider separating team racing and putting it in a different season.
 - xvi. Wilkinson: I want to be clear Jeff's opinion is not accurate.
- c. 2018 Fall Schedule
- i. Assad: The 2018 fall schedule is up and it is similar to what many people here think. We care about geographic spread. We want events with high level attendance but are the events that are self-selected at being great events. On each weekend, we will have our important neisa events. Any questions?
 - ii. Legler: Where is it?
 - iii. Assad: NEISA Website under agenda. Any thoughts?
 - iv. Legler: It looks pretty cool. Its big but cool. As long as we know where we are going so we can get housing.
 - v. Assad: Any other thoughts?
 - vi. White: Where is, this draft located?
 - vii. Assad: NEISA website. We are concerned about the moody and hood trophies.
 - viii. Wilkinson: Are the plans different for those two regattas?
 - ix. Assad: Yea I think we are looking at hosting the hood as a combined neisa only event. Then the moody as an 18 team interconference regatta hosted same weekend as the Danmark. Any feedback is welcome.

10. NEISA Awards Committee:

- a. Sailor of the year watch list
 - i. Callahan: That list will be out later today. Next week we will announce the whole women's team. We are waiting for ICSA to update their crew nomination forms. If they don't do that we are going to send out our own and we are going to need a fast response on those. Thank you to everyone working on getting the tech-score data back. The biggest thing coming up is coaches filling out crew nomination forms. Everything is based on results right now but we need people to comment on leadership. It is really important both coaches and teammates fill out the form.
 - ii. Assad: Thank you Amanda. That committee does a lot of work.

11. Next Meeting:

- a. May 11 at 11 am