

NEISA Executive Committee Conference Call Minutes
April 11, 2016

Motions:

- 1.) Motion to approve March 2016 Executive Committee Conference Call Minutes
 - a.) Passed with none opposed

Action Items:

- 1.) Reach out to Quinnipiac and discover status of their team
- 2.) Send in any suggestions for student-led team handbook
- 3.) Reach out to small, student-led teams
- 4.) Make sure that the scheduling document reflects the report times for events you are hosting. Contact Frank Pizzo if there are any discrepancies
- 5.) Contact Frank Pizzo before May 1 about NEISA interconference regatta changes. This is a firm ICSA deadline, so any changes to hosting events for next year must be finalized by May 1
- 6.) Contact Justin Assad if interested in joining committee that will be looking at term limits for NEISA commissioner and standing committees

Minutes:

- 1.) Call to Order (Assad)
 - a.) Roll Call of Executive Board (online) (Assad)
 - b.) Attendance
 - i.) Executive Board: Assad, Lynn, Coakley, Reid, Pizzo, Weidenbacker, Mollicone, Gershunny, Welsh, Paige
 - ii.) Other: Taylor Martin (Mitchell College), Quentin Chafee (JWU), Jeff Bresnehan (Conn College), Dave White (SHU), Ken Legler (Tufts), Alex Levin (Middlebury), Jacqueline Berlin (Northeastern), Amanda Callahan (Roger Williams)
- 2.) Reports of Officers, Boards, and Standing Committees
 - a.) Commissioner's Report (Assad)
 - i.) Corporation
 - (1) Revived as a corporation
 - (2) Thank you to Alden Reid, Bobby Martin, and Stan Schreyer
 - (3) Beginning 501(c)(3) paperwork

- ii.) New England Sailing
 - (1) Congrats to Brian Swingly & CGA for hosting NEISA Team Race Championship
 - (a) Well run event
 - (b) Lots of umpires
 - (2) 10:30 reports times
 - (a) Mostly positive reviews
 - (b) Frank will discuss further
 - (c) Will look to analyze in May conference call
 - (3) Amherst College
 - (a) Looking to revive sailing club
 - (b) Mike O'Connor working with them
 - (4) Student-Led Teams
 - (a) Hannah and Jade working with them
 - (b) Making sure people on those teams are on NEISA email list
 - iii.) Nationals Berths Allocations
 - (1) 4 Team Racing berths
 - (2) 11 Womens berths
 - (a) Working to increase womens sailing has worked
 - (b) More participation at womens events
 - (3) 9 Coed berth
 - iv.) Questions?
 - (1) Ken Legler: Are any other teams coming on like Amherst?
 - (a) Assad: No
 - (2) What about Quinnipiac?
 - (a) Assad: We need reach out to them. I think Zach and Yale have been working with them. Last I heard, they have an up and coming club but they can't compete in a collegiate league so they can't join NEISA.
 - (b) I'll reach out to my contact there and see if we can maintain positive momentum there
- b.) President's Report (Hannah Lynn)
- i.) Handbook
 - (1) Working on creating handbook for student-led teams
 - (2) Basing it off template from MAISA
 - ii.) Reaching out to new teams
 - (1) Charlie Welsh: Working at getting in touch with teams and seeing if we can get them more involved

- (2) Assad: Great, the biggest key is to get 2 representatives of each club on the NEISA email list and having a connection with other students
- (3) Assad: We have names and emails for some teams from NEISA Annual Meeting, we'll forward those to undergrad reps
- (4) Weidenbacker: Ryan can listen but can't speak because he's in the library. He has not reached out to anyone but the UNE team (student-run) hasn't had kids looking at the Google doc. After speaking with the coach, we're hoping the coach says to the kids that they have to be keeping up with the emails and scheduling. They're getting half a dock and have had a good showing at a few events this spring.
- iii.) Assad: Process to joining NEISA can seem daunting
 - (1) Good to reach out to them and help with process
- c.) Scheduling Coordinator's Report (Frank Pizzo)
 - i.) Report times
 - (1) Please keep me in the loop about report times
 - (2) Scheduling document needs to be accurate
 - ii.) May 1 - Deadline for NEISA Interconference Changes
 - (1) Firm deadline
 - (2) Get in touch with Frank
 - iii.) Scheduling Document
 - (1) Lots of information on there
 - (2) Everyone should look at it
 - (3) Most questions can be answered by the info on the doc
 - iv.) Ken Legler: Wesleyan Invite, UConn Invite
 - (1) Some difficulties with mute button
 - (2) UConn Invite
 - (a) Team showed up to lake, expected 420s
 - (b) No boats there! No one else was there!
 - (c) Went to Avery Point and sailed FJs
 - (d) In last race, everyone flipped
 - (3) Wesleyan Invite
 - (a) Is this happening?
 - (b) Should send out an NOR
 - (c) Need directions and specific details on where sailing will occur
 - v.) Assad: Deviating from report time on scheduling doc
 - (1) Can technically change report time on NOR, but very confusing

- (2) Please try to keep report times at the times that were listed at the beginning of the season

3.) Old Business

- a.) Club Team Symposium and Handbook (Hannah Lynn)
 - i.) Working off of a few templates
 - (1) Google Doc started
 - (2) Will send out to people and let them contribute
 - (3) Will be process before making it official
- b.) Northeastern Eligibility Inquiry (Bresnehan)
 - i.) New rule needs to be tested
 - (1) Doesn't look like Northeastern has exemptions for any other sports
 - (a) Slight problem
 - (2) Also applies to study abroad students, so opens up a can of worms
 - (3) Recommend that Northeastern sends me an official written request
 - ii.) Jacqueline Berlin: What should we write up?
 - (1) Bresnehan: Just that a same semester internship, due to this rule, will not allow you to make up that semester in the future because of scheduling.
 - (2) Write up what you presented last time and send it to the eligibility committee
 - (3) Trying to come up with the right rule for the ICSA
- c.) Team Race New Englands Date
 - i.) Have asked competition committee to look at it
 - (1) Nothing back from them yet
 - ii.) Could affect interconference regatta schedule
 - (1) So have to finalize this by May 1
 - iii.) Issues
 - (1) Umpires
 - (a) We are on the same weekend as MAISA team race championships
 - (b) Puts strain on getting umpires
 - (c) Successful this year, haven't been as successful in past years
 - (d) Conflicts with Baldwin Cup (4x4 team race in California)
 - (2) Team Race season is too short
 - (a) Moving Team Race New Englands to end of season might be better for determining best teams in our conference to represent New England at National Championship
 - iv.) Discussion?

- (1) Bresnehan: Championship is broken in many ways. How we select people to get into it is wrong, but the season isn't really too short. We have 6 weeks, so it would be nice to have more sail-ins and more rounds against each other. If we want to send the truly best teams, we should have multiple data points to qualify for championships. Keep date where it is, but have more sail-ins and fewer automatic qualifiers
- (2) Weidenbacker: I like Jeff's idea. Opens conference up to wild cards that have to get in through sail-ins. Proposal gives hope to teams that want to make championship and opens it up to more of NEISA
- (3) Ken Legler: You could just do more of your preparations in the fall and we have done well getting more umpires. Tufts grads are coming back to umpire at regattas because they realize how great it was to have umpires. John Mollicone mentioned too little time to prepare, but the solution may be to start TR preparation in the fall. Sail-ins require umpires, which could be a problem
 - (a) Still figuring out the mute button
- (4) Amanda Callahan: In favor of moving back date, doesn't matter if winters are icy or not. Team racing is the most fun we have in the spring and I'd like to spend more time doing it.
- (5) John Mollicone: Amanda and I proposed this last year, but this year wasn't as bad because it was a milder winter. However, we won't always have years like this. A lot of teams felt rushed and our conference puts a lot into team racing. At least 14 or 15 teams were trying to get into as many good team races as possible. If we can't get on the water until early March, it's really tough. We should try to mirror what MAISA is doing and they are further south. Having it later in the season doesn't mean it has to be the very last weekend, but we should look into having it later.
 - (a) Assad: Greg is looking to get a call scheduled to see about when we could move the date to
 - (b) We will likely need to have a special call/emergency session to decide this.

4.) New Business

- a.) Term limits for ICSA Presidents and NEISA Conference Commissioner (Bresnehan)
 - i.) We have so many qualified people and so many qualified different views, that it makes sense to continue to grow in different ways. We should not

have the same commissioners and presidents for 30 years. I would personally like to see a 6-year process, 2 years as the assistant to the assistant, 2 years as the assistant to the commissioner, and 2 years as the commissioners. This will give a learning period for the people coming down the pipeline and 3 people will be making decisions. Commissioners don't make decisions in a vacuum anyway, so this would allow for more transparency. I would like this for the ICSA, but we should do it for NEISA as well.

- ii.) Assad: I have a self-limit for this job and I think term limits are good things for these roles. I'm very supportive of what Jeff is talking about. We normally lead the way in NEISA and we could do the same on this front.
- iii.) At Newport Annual Meeting 2015, there was general consensus that term limits would be a good thing and a committee was asked to look into it. I'll ask ICSA for what they found
- iv.) Pizzo: Is that a recommendation? I've been to these meetings before and it seems like these things never actually change? What was the committee charged with?
 - (1) Assad: I'll have to review the minutes carefully, but there was a general consensus that there should be term limits and rotations in stand committees and committee roles. Committee was asked to look at time frames and to come up with recommendations. But I don't know what they'll be coming back with.
- v.) Bresnehan: I think a 6-year commitment with a 3-headed monster makes the most sense. You learn the ropes over time and then take over. 4-6 years is enough time to make substantial changes and help the organization. After that, we should rotate and get new blood.
- vi.) Legler: This would've been a bad idea years ago when there wasn't enough professional coaches.
- vii.) Bresnehan: ICSA is stuck and it's up to us to get them unstuck
- viii.) Assad: I rely on the input of other coaches and professionals when making decisions, and if they are in the pipeline before they have to take the job then they will be better equipped to do so
- ix.) Assad: Jeff, let's try to assemble a committee to look into term limits on committees
 - (1) If you're interested, please get in touch with Justin by email
 - (2) Bresnehan: Is there a uniform rotation for each committee?
 - (3) Pizzo: There are self-imposed limits for the awards committee, but I don't think there is anything official with every committee. There

should be because it prevents people from burning out

5.) Approval of March Meeting Minutes (Assad)

a.) Put off because did not have a quorum at the beginning of the meeting

b.) Motion to approve the March Meeting Minutes

i.) Seconded

ii.) **All in favor, motion passes**

6.) Announcements, Time of Next Meeting, and Adjournment (Assad)

a.) Next meeting: Wednesday, May 11

b.) Motion to adjourn

i.) Seconded

ii.) **Motion passes**