

NEISA Executive Committee Conference Call Minutes
March 8, 2016

Motions:

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

Action Items:

- 1.) Send recommendations for club team handbook.
- 2.) Send out NORs well in advance before events to prevent confusion surrounding report times.
- 3.) Contact Frank Pizzo and Danielle Richards before May 1 if want to change any interconference regatta dates or berth allocations for next year.
- 4.) Look into exemption for students who miss seasons for co-ops to allow them to sail a full 8 seasons over 5 years.

Minutes:

- 1.) Call to Order (Assad)
 - a.) Roll Call of Executive Board (online) (Assad)
 - b.) Attendance
 - i.) Executive Board: Assad, Lynn, Coakley, Reid, Pizzo, Charles, Weidenbacker, O'Connor, Mollicone, Gershunny, Welsh, Florio, Lee, Paige
 - ii.) Other: Dave White (SHU/FF), David Thompson (Dartmouth), Jeff Bresnahan (Conn), Alex Levin (Midd), Rachel Bryer (URI), Ken Legler (Tufts), Jacqueline Berlin (Northeastern), Matt Lindblad (MIT), Tori McGruer (Northeastern)
- 2.) Approval of Annual Meeting Minutes (Assad)
 - a.) **Motion to approve minutes from February Conference Call**
 - i.) Seconded
 - ii.) **Motion passes unanimously**
- 3.) Reports of Officers, Boards, and Standing Committees
 - a.) President/VP's Report (Hannah Lynn)
 - i.) Engaging undergraduate reps
 - (1) Will get in touch with Jade Forsberg

- (2) Reps should divide up NEISA and get in touch with smaller teams
- (3) See what they would like assembled in the handbook
 - (a) Assad: What information is most critical for our student-led teams to have year over year?
 - (b) Ex. Having 2 team reps on the NEISA email list
 - (c) Looking for input from everyone else
 - (d) Regional reps should reach out to student-led teams
 - (e) O'Connor: Should be a segment on developing a relationship with a faculty advisor. In addition to 2 undergrads, there should be a faculty advisor/coach/grad on the list to stay updated
 - (f) Weidenbacker: Think about budgeting process, acquiring vehicles, find out how to keep abreast of anything to do with rentals and transportation
 - (g) Color code coed/womens/team race to help club teams easily understand schedule

b.) Commissioner's Report (Assad)

- i.) 501 (c)3 status
 - (1) Submitted final request
 - (2) Hopefully, this will make us incorporated again
 - (3) Will reconvene with Alden Reid once paperwork goes through to affirm that we are registered as a non-profit
- ii.) Rules and Regulations for NEISA
 - (1) Still a work in progress
 - (2) Mostly accurate, giving a final check
 - (3) Will put draft copy on website, everyone take a look
 - (a) Will be voted on at Annual Meeting next year
- iii.) Regattas have started up
 - (1) Mild winter
 - (2) In- and Out-out-conference sailing has begun
- iv.) NEISA Scheduling Document
 - (1) Teams highlighted in orange that don't have women's team
 - (2) NEISA is around 75% for women's team parity
 - (3) List is on 2016 Scheduling Document → Team Contacts Master tab at bottom

c.) Scheduling Coordinator's Report (Pizzo)

- i.) Scheduling Document
 - (1) Trying to make as readable as possible
 - (2) Should be up-to-date
- ii.) Good weather so haven't had to change event hosts

- iii.) Legler: New Larks will be ready March 18
 - (1) Will be ready for regatta
 - (2) Sailed at BU today and it was beautiful
 - (a) Assad saw a picture of that
- iv.) Report Times
 - (1) All events with 10:30 report times should be listed
 - (2) All championships will still have 9:30 report times
 - (3) Charles River teams should confirm that what is listed is correct
 - (a) Legler: Team Race Invite at MIT – Run by Tufts
 - (i) Start time should be 10:30 both days
 - (ii) Lose an hour Sunday morning due to daylight savings time
 - (4) Assad: Teams are making travel arrangements, so please check schedule if you are hosts to ensure accurate information
 - (a) Send out NORs early
 - (b) Important to prevent miscommunications or incorrect assumptions
 - (c) Mollicone sent out NOR early for Sharpe Trophy, great example
- v.) May 1st
 - (1) Deadline for changing interconference regattas
 - (a) Changes include dates, berth allocations, etc.
 - (2) Danielle Richards (ICSA) needs the info by then, hard deadline
 - (3) If NEISA wants to change championship structure and that requires moving interconference regattas, we need to act soon
 - (4) Weidenbacker: Some schools hampered by ability to sail after academic calendar is closed
 - (a) Assad: Competition committee is coming up with alternatives that may work. Once we have alternatives, we can vote on adopting a new structure

4.) Old Business

- a.) Club Team Symposium (Assad)
 - i.) Will do on same day as scheduling and annual meetings in Boston
 - (1) Encourage club teams to attend
 - ii.) Working on developing handbook as resource for teams
- b.) Procedural Rules
 - i.) Handbook
 - (1) Please look over
 - (2) Let me know if anything is inconsistent or should be changed

- c.) Weidenbacker: Will symposium take place after annual meeting? After scheduling meeting? Club teams should be there for as much of meeting as possible, so shouldn't schedule simultaneously and force them to choose to go to one meeting OR the symposium
 - i.) Assad: We think all teams should attend Annual Meeting, so wouldn't consider having symposium at same time. Maybe have symposium in afternoon after Annual Meeting. Scheduling meeting in the week following

5.) New Business

- a.) Northeastern Inquiry about Eligibility (Jacqueline Berlin)
 - i.) Discussion regarding limit of 4 fall OR 4 spring seasons
 - (1) Impacts Northeastern students because students go on co-op
 - (2) Students don't sail for 5 spring or fall seasons to have extra championship seasons, that's how our academic schedule work
 - (3) Almost all Northeastern students do co-ops and can't sail during that semester, so inability to sail for 5 of one specific season causes them to lose opportunity to sail
 - (4) Would like motion to allow everyone to sail when possible to them
 - (5) Weidenbacker: In the 5 years that a student-athlete is eligible to sail, is taking a semester for co-op not the same as going abroad for a semester? Don't they still have that eligibility as long as it's within 5 years?
 - (a) Tor McGruer: I'm the Northeastern Captain, students go on co-op from January-June or July-December. You are locked into the schedule that you have and can't change from spring to fall co-ops. That is, you have to do all spring or all fall co-ops. Some students, for example, can only sail every spring because they do only fall co-ops. You end up losing multiple falls or springs, purely due to the academic structure.
 - (6) Assad: Jeff Bresnahan, what is the history of this rule?
 - (a) Bresnahan: We have had teams sail certain sailors for 5 national championships to gain a competitive advantage. This is not what Northeastern is trying to do, so it's a different issue. I think we should investigate this further because this is an academic issue. There may be an NCAA exemption for BYU students going on their "save the world trips", so I'll ask around the ICSA eligibility committee

about a similar workaround. This is a totally different case from why we designed that rule

(b) McGruer: We feel like this rule wasn't made with the intention of affecting student academic opportunities, but that is what it's doing. Thank you for considering this.

(c) Bresnahan: There is a case study with Little League Baseball. If he wants to play with his friends instead of the neighborhood next to him, he can compete but cannot participate in the Little League World Series. This could relate to allowing co-op sailors to compete for that 5th season but not a national championship. I'll look more into this and see about an exemption.

(d) Assad: One of the missions of college sailing is to learn and develop a love for sailing, so we should look into a workable solution for this.

(7) Charlie Welsh: How does this relate to the study abroad rule?

(a) Assad: Study abroad you generally go on once. If you go abroad one spring, you maintain eligibility for another spring season.

(b) Bresnahan: What is someone from Dartmouth goes to save the world for 2 semesters and wants that eligibility back? I think the issue is the curriculum and what they are forced to do, not what people choose to do.

(c) Assad: It's important to remember that the rule was voted into place by all conferences of college sailing, so we should give consideration before we change anything.

(8) Pizzo: If someone has gone to 1 national championship and has one semester of eligibility left, would they be able to compete in the spring again because they haven't sailed in 4 nationals?

(a) Bresnahan: The issue is the time clock, not the number of nationals someone has competed in

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

a.) Next meeting: Tuesday, April 12 at 7:00PM

b.) Motion to adjourn

i.) Seconded

ii.) Motion passes unanimously