

## **Quick Recap**

The meeting addressed proposals such as changing the signer for the NEISA Bank of America account to improve financial operations, modifying report times for certain regattas to save on costs, and managing exclusion zones for teams. Additionally, updates on projects, new tournament formats, and the selection processes for championships were deliberated to enhance the competitiveness and efficiency of NEISA events

## **Summary**

### NEISA Bank Account Change

David Thomason moved to vote on changing the NEISA Bank of America account signer to Donna Cafolla. The vote will be extended to email and voted on by the executive committee. This change was proposed to streamline the process of paying umpires and submitting documents.

### Debate on Later Report Times for Events

Frank Pizzo proposed the idea of having later report times for the Reed trophy at Bowden and the Coast Guard Alumni Bowl at Brown to save costs on travel and races. However, David Thompson expressed his disapproval, citing concerns about consistency. Justin Assad pointed out that they had used late report times for many regattas in the fall. Jeffrey Bresnahan supported the idea of later report times, but emphasized the need to differentiate between regular events and championships. Ultimately, the team decided to follow up on the topic later as no consensus was reached.

### Championship Exclusion Zones

There was an announcement on the issue of exclusion zones for teams practicing at venues once they've qualified for an event. Frank clarified that teams should not practice at Harvard and MIT until the selections are Boston. Frank stated that teams planning to practice at these venues should consult with the ICSA president, Greg Wilkinson.

### MAISA Project Progress

David reported that progress on the MAISA side of things was currently stagnant, with no concrete plans expected for the upcoming annual meeting of the ICSA. However, he mentioned that there were potential solutions for team racing, including improved scheduling and the creation of a league. David suggested that the ICSA could benefit from partnering with MAISA to form a group for summer work on team racing, as it is a time-consuming task requiring the right people. Justin added that the main sticking point with MAISA was their reluctance to change their National Championship weekend, as they see no significant advantage in shifting it.

### New Tournament Format and Logistical Concerns

The group discusses ideas for a new tournament format with three groups of six teams playing double round-robins, then reshuffling into new groups for more head-to-head competition. Concerns are raised about the logistics of running multiple concurrent events and the potential for ties after limited round-robins.

### Revising New England Championship Selection Processes

Justin brought up the topic that the New England Championship should not be named as such if many of the teams' top athletes don't compete due to the fact that they have already qualified for Nationals. By design of when selections occur, the competitiveness of the Championship has decreased. He suggested the NEISA Competition Committee should consider reviewing the selection process for the Fleet race Nationals automatic qualifiers. He also proposed a fleet race on weekend 12 combining bubble teams from across the country and that weekend 13 should continue to be the regional regatta. Johnny voiced similar concerns about the current method of team selection, suggesting it should be based on what makes sense for the Conference championship and the team race, regardless of whether it's held in the fall or spring. Jeffrey expressed concerns about the allocation of only 12 berths in the ACCs system. Justin suggested a solution similar to the New England dinghy tournament, where teams could qualify through a fleet racing ladder.

### ICSA Competition Committee Update & Nominations

Mike Kalin from the ICSA Competition Committee discussed various issues including the search for a parliamentarian for the selection process. Charles Higgins has agreed to take on the role, but this is his last year. The Committee has completed verifying and approving umpires for Team Race Nationals.

### 2024 National Championship Update

Matt Lindblad provided an update on the team racing event and recommended hotel contacts for booking rooms. Matt mentioned that umpires and livestreaming is all set up. He brought up this issue of what type of sails will be used. He mentioned that ISCA has sails they are supposed to use, but its whereabouts are unknown.

### TIDE and Crew/Student Leadership Awards

Frank discussed the new presentations being prepared by TIDE for the TIDE talk. They have been conducting outreach to make sure that NEISA has one representative from each school on the TIDE committee. Rebecca McElvain emphasized the importance of detailed nominations for the crew and student leadership awards. The deadline for nominations was set for April 17th.

### Addressing Regatta Strains and Humility

Jonathan Farrar expressed concerns about the running of regattas, noting that teams are often stretched thin due to their commitments. He emphasized the importance of adhering to the rules of the sport, and highlighted the need for coaches to instill humility and accountability in their teams. Jonathan also noted that disregarding rules and procedures could lead to a loss of respect for competitors and coaches. He ended his speech by looking forward to seeing everyone soon.