NEISA Executive Committee Conference Call Meeting Notes
April 10th, 2019

Action Items

1. **NEISA Specific Action Items**
   a. Everyone to let Frank Pizzo know if you are looking to change interconference berth allocations
   b. Assad to create meeting or group for discussion regarding competition committee’s suggestions on team racing imbalance

2. **NEISA Action Items involving the ICSA**
   a. Assad to ask Danielle and Sheri to see if we can raise the entry fee for NEISA teams competing at Nationals

3. **ICSA Action Items**

Motions

1. Motion to approve March meeting minutes
   a. Mike second
   b. Passed unanimously

Next Call: Wednesday, May 8 at 11:00 AM

Meeting Notes:

I. **Call to order**
   A. **Roll Call**: Justin Assad (Commissioner), Paige Clarke (President), Brian Nelson (Vice President), Ryan Mullins (Treasurer), Frank Pizzo (Schedule Coordinator), Fran Charles (Boats & Safety, Matt Linblad as proxy), Brian Swingly (Special Projects), Greg Wilkinson (Competition Comm), Diana Weidenbacker (N. Region Rep), Mike O’Connor (C. Region Rep), John Mollicone (S. Region Graduate Rep), Matt Galbraith (S. Region Undergraduate Rep), Maia Agerup (At Large), Skip Whyte (URI), Caroline Patten (UVM), Emmet Smith (Tufts), Matt Linblad (MIT), Amanda Callahan (RWU), Taylor Martin (Maine Maritime), Zack Leonard (Yale)

II. **Commissioner’s Report - Justin Assad**
   A. I will give an update on the National Championships during the National Championship report later on.
   B. Other than that, we’re charging ahead with the season - We had a fantastic team racing championship at Conn, and we have the Women’s Team Race National Invite and the championships at MIT and Bowdoin coming up.
C. It’s important to pay your NEISA bill right away to pay for Nationals expenses right away, we’ll be using some of that money to pay for the expenses before the sponsorship money comes in. We’re in good shape, I reviewed it Ryan and Aldin, but we want to get those paid right away so we have a comfortable cushion (in case we need it).

D. Questions?
   1. None

III. Scheduling Coordinator’s Report - Frank Pizzo
   A. If teams are looking to change any of the interconference berth allocations, we need to figure that out ASAP, I know a couple regattas (President’s Trophy at BU and the Rudkin at Eckerd) are looking to do that. Just let me know as soon as possible.
   B. Check the schedule to ensure the boats you’re planning to sail at your event are reflected correctly, I know we had an issue with that this spring with the BDC. Just make sure we have the right boats listed so it’s accurate on the NEISA/ICSA calendar.
   C. We approved a different scheduling penalty for late drops at interconference regattas. If your team drops a NEISA interconference regatta, its a 2 place penalty drop in the scheduling ranking. I think some teams have not been aware of that, or maybe they forgot - I thought I’d just take this opportunity to remind people of that.
   D. Other that, continue to check over the schedule, I have made mistakes in the past and there is a ton of movement.
   E. I’m happy to answer any questions you may have.
      1. Amanda Callahan, RWU: How does giving out invites to the Rudkin work?
         a) Pizzo: In terms of selecting them, or how we do it?
         b) Callahan: As an in-NEISA Eckerd type regatta, what do we need to do to make ISCA happy?
         c) Pizzo: Let’s connect offline and bring it to the group.

IV. Old Business
V. 2019 National Championships
   A. Assad: John, can you give an overall update and I’ll go over trailering boats?
   B. John Mollicone, Brown: Sure. We got a lot of information out to ISCA that should be updated on the Nationals website any day now - logo, a lot of information regarding the event, information about the exclusion zone, in terms of practicing before the event. The NOR will go out most likely before the end of next week, as well as what boats will be used for the semifinals, finals, what
divisions, which regattas, etc. All of that will go out next week - I know over the past six months we’ve been giving small updates, so let me know if you have any questions about anything.

C. Questions?

1. Pizzo: I have a billing question - are we going to get a nationals bill from ICSA and a separate NEISA bill for covering the boat movement? What is the plan?

2. Assad: Good question. What I’m envisioning - and Ryan you may be able to weigh in here - is a registration fee for Nationals, like we always do, paid the same way as it always is on the Nationals registration website. We’ll have an additional assessment for the NEISA teams that have qualified (as we discussed).
   
   a) Ryan you may have to weigh in and see if this is possible - If it’s helpful for teams to have us send out this assessment in May right after New Englands are done rather than tacking it onto the Fall bill as it may be a separate budget for some teams, we can try to do it earlier.

   b) Ryan Mullins: I don’t see any issue with that, but I can talk with Aldin to make sure there are no logistical issues I’m missing.

   c) Assad: To bring everyone up to speed, we’re pretty confident that number won’t be close to that $1,000 per berth estimate; Obviously we’ll have to see when it’s all said and done, but we’re anticipating a number more like $300 per berth. So at most, if you qualify for all three regattas, it’ll be something like a $1,000 assessment - A little less scary than I originally thought, now with some quotes in hand we can see it will be a lot more reasonable.

   d) Assad: Can we get some feedback? Would people want that bill in May, or wait until September? I think the only issue would be the additional charge for bookkeeping, but I don’t know if that’s a significant charge or not.
      
      (1) Brian: If it were just included with the registration, I think that would be cleaner; Just charge NEISA teams more for the registration.

      (2) Assad: Let me look into that and see if we can do it that way. Good idea.

      (3) Pizzo: We would prefer to have it before July 1, just because of the fiscal year.

      (4) Assad: That definitely makes sense. I’ll talk to Danielle and Sheri and see if we raise the entry fee for NEISA teams.
D. Boat Movement

1. Assad: Looks like it will be much less expensive than initially expected. BU will likely be the team that steps up to help us move Conn’s boats - Maia might be able to bring us up to speed. Brown will be moving their boats.
   a) Maia Agerup, BU: Yes, we’re willing to help out, but it depends on our post-season schedule. I’ll get back to you, but I’m sure we can rally enough people to help you.

2. Assad: Perfect, that will be a huge help! I think it’ll go relatively smoothly. Jeff and the Conn team will help get their boats ready, making sure the rigs are down and moving them to the top of the hill. I think that will go smoothly as well. I think we have the boat movement piece nailed down which is a big relief, and other than that all the parts are in place. John and I have been working with the organizing teams and SailNewport to nail down the small details. We’re pretty excited about the way we think it will go down.

3. Any questions, or suggestions you’ve seen from other National championships, things you want to see done differently? We definitely want to be open to feedback - just tell us as early as you can so we can be on top of the small details to make it the best event NEISA can put on.
   a) Mike O’Connor, Harvard: I have a question about Team Race Nationals - I just wanted to confirm Kyle is going to be the PRO and I’m going to be the regatta chair?
   b) Assad: I think that’s correct, John and I are nailing that down. Kyle will be there either as PRO or assistant PRO, but he’s planning coming to help so we’ll definitely have him.
   c) Mollicone: Kyle is willing to do whatever we want to do. You guys give it a little more thought. We’ll have a call soon, but I think either way he’s happy to be course manager, PRO, it doesn’t matter to him. Whatever you guys want to do.
   d) O’Connor: Okay, and am I in charge of recruiting umpire boats?
   e) Mollicone: Nope! All you guys have to do is run the races and supply a few of your team members to help out. Brown will have a few people to help out as well. You don’t have to worry about the umpires or powerboats or anything - everything will be set up for you.
   f) O’Connor: Ok, thank you!
   g) Assad: We’ve had a bunch of commitments from NEISA teams to help with powerboats for that. John and I have had a lot of success
with teams volunteering boats, so we’ll send an email reminding teams of their commitment and to see if there’s anyone else who can help. We’ve got another inflatable company that wants to help with a lower level, in kind sponsorship, so I think we’ll be in really great shape from a powerboat standpoint.

h) Mollicone: One more thing - I don’t think we’ll have to charter a single boat from SailNewport, which is great. There’s a chance we might need one or two, but all of the [help from other teams] is saving us a lot of money. I definitely want to thank Amanda, who’s done a lot of work in putting together all of the umpires and judges, and confirming all of the housing for them. I definitely want to thank Amanda because she’s done a lot of work.

i) Assad: Definitely, thank you again Amanda. The housing is coming in at under 75% of the initial budget we allocated for it, so that’s also helpful for the bottom line. We’re psyched about that.

VI. Team Racing Competitive Imbalance

A. We had a discussion about team racing competitive imbalance a couple years ago, and at the midwinter meeting we weren’t able to get movement on it because we didn’t have a motion to discuss on the table. We want to move forward with some sort of motion to discuss for the annual meeting.

B. I know I’ve talked with the competition committee folks about this a little bit, it seems a semi-final/qualifier format puts too much financial strain on the country, so we looked at some different ways to re-allocate berths for that event. We don’t have a full proposal right now for the conference, but we as NEISA want to vote to bring a proposal to that meeting. We’ll do that either virtually or during our May call. I think we need discussion to the table to get progress on that.

C. I wanted to open a discussion about it - I think what we talked about was going to 5 berths for NEISA and MAISA, the Northwest berth would be absorbed into the PCCSC, and asking the Northwest to qualify from the PCCSC. I can’t remember what the rest of the breakdown would be, but that was the discussion between Mike Callahan and I.

D. I wanted to open the discussion to the call to get feedback prior to putting together a concrete proposal. Thoughts?

1. Zack Leonard, Yale: Great short term fix, but I think we should streamline that proposal so that it could pass quickly. I think soon as during the Admiral’s Cup we should try to plan a meeting with MAISA and SEISA to talk about building a larger team race league that moves from south to north and rescheduling the whole spring season that way (including the
way teams qualify). While that would take 2 years to do, we need to do it now if we want it to be in 2 years.

2. Assad: Absolutely. The concept of a national league is one way to tackle this problem. Any other thoughts or discussion?

3. Skip Whyte, URI: It sounds like this proposal is going to evolve out of a group of close friends of the most competitive team racing teams. I can understand why it's being advanced that way, but for teams that have hopes of becoming more involved in team racing, I’m hoping whatever this proposal might be will be well circulated before to all NEISA teams before it suddenly appears as a proposal in the annual meeting.

4. Assad: Definitely. We’re not trying to pull wool over anyone’s eyes. We’ll do our due diligence in trying to present it as transparently as possible.

5. Whyte: The whole league concept is helpful from my perspective, but I want to know what exactly the league concept entails and how it affects teams who aren’t in the league.

6. Assad: Roger that. I think that’s a discussion to be had when we have a realistic picture - if we’re going to go with the league concept, there’s a 2 year development period to get it exactly right and to make sure it accommodates every team that aims to participate in the right way - and to make sure we know exactly what it looks like for the teams that don’t participate. No doubt about that.

7. Whyte: It sounds to me like this is fundamentally this is a scheduling item. Putting a proposal together for the annual meeting seems like a scheduling item as well; would everyone have an opportunity to vote on whether or not they support the proposal prior to it being announced at the annual meeting?

8. Assad: I think the proposal we intend to move forward with right now is just the reallocation of berths for the National championship, not a scheduling change.

9. Pizzo: Yeah, there is no way we’d be able to do a scheduling change during the May meeting.

10. Assad: I think in that regard we can trust our elected representatives to vote on it, but we’ll have a period for feedback open to everyone prior to voting for sure. I think the concept of a change to a league is a big picture change that will have a lot of runway before we get to take off on it. During that time, I think we’ll have plenty of opportunities to look at feedback - ultimately, I think it will be a scheduling vote.

11. Pizzo: When Danielle puts together the national berths allocations, it’s all based on full teams and provisional teams right? For team racing, it has
nothing to do with if your team has participated in team race regattas - how does that work, for team racing specifically?

12. Assad: The short answer is no. It’s the same as fleet racing, but different ratios - it’s based on the number of co-ed teams.

13. Pizzo: As opposed to blowing up the system (and I think blowing up the system is a good idea), in the short term, have we looked at the reality of other conferences? The Midwest is good example - they have 24 teams in their conference, but only 4 teams at their team race qualifier. Those are probably the only teams that have done a team race this year, and they’re getting two spots. It seems like there are other places to explore adjusting the numbers rather than just adding one more berth to NEISA and MAISA - I think that’s the minimum, based on what people are actually doing.

14. Assad: Definitely - 5 berths are better than 4, but it doesn’t solve the problem in my mind. I can look into that - I did do the numbers on that 2, maybe 3 years ago and it doesn’t benefit NEISA as well as you might think. There’s more minor team races going on than we know about, or give other conferences credit for. It’s tough because there are not that many berths on the table to take away, which is the real problem. I will look into it again, but if you think about it there’s already 8 for NEISA & MAISA, 2 for SEISA, and 2 PCCSC, which is already 12. That leaves SAISA, MCSA, and NWSCA 3 of the next 4 berths, and I think that we can’t just totally eliminate a conference; If you’re looking at equal representation, you’re looking at ¾ berths already. There’s not a lot of opportunity without fully cutting out other conferences. I mean that might be the right answer, but it takes time to get there.

15. Any other questions?

16. Assad: Greg I saw you joined the meeting - do you want to comment at all about discussion at the competition committee level regarding team racing competitive imbalance?

17. Greg Wilkinson, BC: Well the competition committee hasn’t done much of anything on it since the work we did last year that we brought to the Spring meeting. We brought ~6 different ways to do team race, and at that meeting those 6 ways were kicked back to the conferences. That was the end of the competition committee’s work on that until something comes back from the conferences. It’s all in the meeting minutes from last Spring.

18. Assad: Roger that - you came late, but we began this discussion by saying that we need to bring something to the ICSA from that list of ways.
19. Jeff Bresnahan, Conn College: I asked this question at the ICSA meeting because I was surprised nothing came back, but I reached out to Greg and the competition committee and he said what he just said, that the ICSA kicked it back to us to then come back to them with what we would like to see from the competition committee. I don’t know if you put together an ad hoc meeting, or a group or something like that, where we can look at what the competition committee said and go back to ICSA with what we prefer. We definitely need to present that at this year’s annual Spring meeting.

20. Assad: yes, no doubt. I’ll try to get cracking on that - I think we need to get moving on this call but I’ll try to get moving on that and communicate with the conference some of the options when we start getting them nailed down.

VII. 2019 New England Championship Updates

A. We’re through with the Team Racing Championship at Conn, and we’re moving on to the Reed at MIT. I know we’re familiar with racing there, but Matt if you could give us any updates on the Women’s New England Championship next weekend.

B. I think he’s on mute, or maybe left. Frank, do you want to give an update on coed?

C. Pizzo: Sure:

1. We are working hard to try to run the best possible championship we can. We have docks coming next week for 18 boats, and we have current docks for 18 boats. Those are getting installed next Monday and Tuesday, so there should be more spacing on our docks than was there for the Urn Trophy.

2. I reached out about powerboats, and we got a good response. I’m waiting to hear back from some local Yacht Clubs to see if we can source some boats locally so teams don’t have to haul their boats all the way to Maine, and I should have a better update on that in the middle of next week.

3. I think as many of you guys know who have been to our venue, it can be a really good place to sail; some of the land logistics are more extensive than other places in terms of where you can park the van and where you’re going to be - I think we’re going to get a big tent for outside of our boathouse so teams can be centrally located there in case the weather is not great. But we should be in good shape. I’m going to send out an email to some teams about bringing spare parts, so I’ll be following up about that.
4. As I said before, teams are welcome to practice at our place the Friday beforehand, just send me an email with when you’re planning on being around. It is Spring Weekend at Bowdoin, so Friday night and Saturday around campus will maybe be places to avoid, but it should be pretty good otherwise. Our venue is around 15 mins from campus, so it shouldn’t be a problem. I’m happy to answer any questions if anyone has any.

D. John Mollicone: I had a question about Women’s NE - are we going to MIT or Harvard? Are we using Harvard 420s and MIT FJs? What’s the deal between the BDC and Women’s New Englands that weekend?

1. Assad: Frank, you want to clarify that?
2. Pizzo: Sure; Women’s will be out of MIT with their FJ’s and Harvard’s 420s. I’m not sure if it’s a scenario where you show up to MIT and walk down the harbor, maybe Mike can clarify that. The BDC is going to be out of Harvard in the Harvard FJs and MIT Fireflies. Maybe Mike can clarify the logistics of this.
3. Mike O’Connor: I need to confirm with Matt, Mike and Fran, but I think we will try to move all of our 420’s to MIT the Friday before. We’ll keep all of our FJs at Harvard, but I think whatever division in the BDC that sails the Fireflies will just have to walk up to MIT to grab them and put them away there at the end of the day. I’m hoping we can move our 420’s up to MIT beforehand so things will run smoothly for the Women’s NE.
4. Mollicone: The BDC is going to be run in the Harvard area, and the Women’s will be in the MIT area of the river?
5. O’Connor: Correct.

E. Greg Wilkinson: Just a clarification/PSA: As teams start to qualify for nationals, everyone needs to keep in mind the restriction on your team once you qualify. You’re restricted in 2 ways: One, you’re not allowed to sail in Newport unless it’s an ICSA regatta between now and Nationals. The exclusion zone for that regatta will get published hopefully this week. It’s big, most of Narragansett bay - It’s pretty much from the mouth of Narragansett bay up to the southern end of Prudence Island. The second restriction if you qualify for Nationals is you can’t sail in Brown’s boats or Conn’s boats - including at Edgewood YC or at Conn - unless it’s an ICSA regatta from the day you qualified for Nationals until Nationals.

1. Mollicone: If we wanted to have a team come and sail at Brown in our FJ’s, which are not being used in Nationals, that’s fine right? It’s just the boats that we’re using for Nationals?
2. Wilkinson: Yes, the actual boats. The Edgewood facility is not in the exclusion zone.
F. Amanda Callahan, RWU: Just going to throw this out there, but Memorial Day Weekend Roger Williams would love to host some teams for practice, in case anyone is interested.

G. Assad: Thanks Amanda - feel free to hit her up offline about that. Any other updates?

VIII. New Business

A. 2020 Singlehanded National Championship

1. Assad: One thing I’ve been a little remiss about tackling is the 2020 Singlehanded National Championship. It’s intended to be hosted by NEISA, and my hope for that regatta - and I have a follow up call with Greg Fischer - is for it to be hosted in Miami at the US Sailing Center. I think we’re a little in flux with what’s going to happen with the Laser, but in general US Sailing is supportive of that effort and in my brief conversation with Greg, he seemed very encouraging in terms of being able to move it there and at least have some of their coach boats and maybe some regatta personnel to help run the event. So that’s the goal for that event. One thing we need is at least one NEISA team attached to hosting that event - So one head coach that is responsible for it, and usually that will including bringing personnel down to help with scoring and the logistics involved with running a championship regatta. I know we’re not going to have anyone come forward in the next 3 minutes, but I hope teams are thinking about it - If it’s likely your team will be at that regatta, or if we have a couple teams who expect to be at that regatta and want to co-host in terms of taking charge and making sure that everything is organized, that’s what we’d like to do with that event. So that’s what we’d like to do with that event.

2. Any questions, or anyone initially interested? Don’t all jump at once!
   a) No response

3. I will keep reaching out individually to teams likely to qualify about that. If we can’t do it then I think it just moves to the next conference, but it hurts our credibility as a conference when we can’t step up and host when it’s our turn, so I do think it’s really important for us to make a good faith effort to do that. And in my mind, it’s an opportunity to lead the ICSA in the right direction if we’re going to continue the Singlehanded Championships. The right way to do it is to do it somewhere warm.

4. Jeff Bresnahan: We’d love to do it, but we’d be at the bottom of the qualifying teams - what if we don’t qualify? That’s a hard ask. If we do qualify I’d love to be involved in the planning of it, but if we don’t qualify I’m not going.
5. Matt Lindblad: I might have missed this, but is there any thoughts in making this a BYOB regatta and expanding berths to be pretty much whoever wants to go?

6. Assad: I think that’s a pretty big change for this year. My hope is we move it to Florida, it goes smoothly, we do it there every year, and probably in 2 or 3 years could see that BYOB idea become a reality. Greg might have more insight on this from a championship committee perspective but that’s the way I’d hope for this to go.

7. Wilkinson: The hosting location is in flux year to year. It’s a little bit of a big deal for NEISA to host it outside of the geographical boundaries of the conference, but it’s not a big deal. The other thing - opening up of the event, changing the berth allocations - might be coming, but it’s not coming fast. It’s not being discussed, therefore it’s not on the agenda for this spring’s agenda, therefore it won’t happen for this next championship, and probably not the case for the next two championships at the pace things take. If that’s coming, it’s a ways off because nothing official is happening.

8. Mike O’Connor: One thing we need to be cognizant of if we’re going to sell this perennial championship in Miami to the other conferences is the cost of doing it there will have to be reasonable. I could see other conferences saying “when it’s our turn to host, we can’t afford to do it there, we’re going to do it in Michigan” - Greg is obviously key in that, but what do we think the cost will be?

9. Assad: Yeah and I need to nail the exact numbers with him - I had envisioned a scenario where it’s really minimal cost to the host. I think those guys have the powerboats and I don’t know if they envision chartering them or not, my hope is that they wouldn’t do it. We could move to paying an ICSA PRO to run it; everyone always talks about Ryan Davidson being a good guy for that, maybe he’d be available for it, maybe someone else. I think there’s some associated costs, but I don’t have enough data to talk intelligently about that yet. I need to talk to Greg first before I can give an update. But my hope is the cost would be minimal - no fees for facility usage, chartering coach boats, stuff like that.

10. Mike O’Connor: I think that’s the whole key to selling it at an ICSA level in terms of NEISA hosting outside of NEISA, and then charging the other conferences to do it. If it’s cookie cutter and doesn’t cost that much, the ICSA would be crazy not to host it there every year.

11. Assad: I’ll keep working on that, and like I said I have a follow up call with Greg and I’ll report back to the committee. If everyone else can do
some thinking on their end if we have some good people to host it. I think it will be challenging for whoever the next NEISA commissioner is to take it on and organize it from afar without having a point person in addition.

B. Showcase 2020/2019
1. This is only here to make sure we elect hosts for the 2020 Showcase.
2. Pizzo: We haven’t done it for 2020.
3. Assad: Oh yeah, sorry, 2019. We’re working on berth allocations for that regatta. NEISA will hold onto 15 berths in co-ed and women’s, and I think MAISA is intending to give up a couple berths in women’s. I don’t know why I have it on here then, it’s just a discussion then.

C. Rudkin Team Race 2020
1. Assad: Frank, any updates on this event?
2. Pizzo: We got it sorted out offline.
3. Assad: Great - Amanda you had asked about invites. It’s our hope is that if that turns to an interconference regatta, which the rest of the country wants it to become, it does so with 6 or 7 NEISA berths. That’s our vision so it matches the number of New England teams who are already attending it.

D. Women’s National Team Race Invite 2020
1. Have not talked about potential hosts for that regatta, but we can tackle that in May. At some point I think MAISA will want that regatta to rotate their conference. As they do more women’s team racing - and as some of you may know, they had an event at St Mary’s that was successful - so as they become more involved we should be happy to share that championship with them. What I would like to do with that regatta, and my intention is to talk to Mitch and try to get his support in confirming the name, and making it an actual National Team Race invitational, and make it an actual interconference regatta rather than a promotional regatta. I think that will bring more legitimacy to that event, and make it a staple on the ICSA schedule. That’s open for discussion if anyone has any questions or thoughts.
   a) Pizzo: I don’t think it should move to MAISA until they are supporting it with more than one or two teams.
   b) Assad: No doubt about that, we’re not ready for that yet. But I think it’s important when we’re discussing offline, some of the MAISA coaches have brought it up like we refuse to move it out of NEISA - which is not the case. We’re happy to move it, once we’re getting support from other conferences. I think we need to be really vocal about that early and often.
2. Any other questions or comments?
a) Linblad: We need to nail down the proper weekend for that event because I don’t know it’s currently on the proper weekend. It’s great to try it the weekend before Reed, but currently some big teams are not going to it even though we moved it to try and accommodate other teams.

b) Assad: Yes, and I think that’s a good discussion to have. I don’t know what the best weekend for it is yet, I’m not convinced this one isn’t. This one’s better than the previous one, but it may not be the best. So this should be a discussion for sure.

3. Any other thoughts? I think it will be great to have discussion over the email list for any other dates or formats for that event. Frank, when do we have to get changes to Danielle, May 1st or the Annual Meeting?
   a) Pizzo: I don't know, I’ll have to check.
   b) Assad: It used to be May 1st, but yesterday she said in an email the Annual Meeting so I don’t know which it is.
   c) Pizzo: Yeah I called her about something else yesterday and she hasn’t gotten back to me.

E. President’s Trophy

1. Last note, and I think depending on where the Women’s National TR Invite ends up falling, the President’s Trophy was impacted this year and we will want to find a new home for the President’s Trophy if it stays on the same weekend. I think that’s part of the big picture in terms of the Spring schedule.

IX. Closing

A. Important reminder for everyone - our season limits. Every team should be keeping a close eye on their weekend count. In particular, if you could be having open scrimmages on weekends with other teams, you need to be aware that those count towards your season limits totals. I don’t know what appendix it is by heart, but I know we should be reviewing that carefully. We have 18 weekends total, and we don’t want anyone to have an innocuous Nationals practice while their students are not in school and not realize they are breaking the competition limits rules. I encourage everyone to review that and make sure you are judicious with your weekend count up to now and throughout the May time period.

B. Any other items or questions?
   1. Linblad: I assume Alumni regattas are exempt from season limits?
   2. Assad: I believe it’s one Alumni regatta per year is exempt. It’s written explicitly in the rules, but I’d encourage everyone to read the rules carefully and not rely on anecdotal leadership on that front.
C. Prior to the next call we will have some discussion about the Team Race Nationals via email for developing teams. I don’t like discussion on the main NEISA mailing list - we have lots of people on that list who are not team leaders or team representatives so we will try to have that discussion in the developing team email group and on the coach’s list.

D. The next call will be Wednesday, May 8 at 11:00 AM.

X. Meeting Adjourned