

NEISA Executive Committee Conference Call Meeting Notes
August 12, 2020

Action Items

- 1. NEISA Specific Action Items**
- 2. NEISA Action Items involving the ICSA**
- 3. ICSA Action Items**
 - a. Wilkinson is going to follow-up with ICSA about the rules regarding eligibility for Fall 2020 sailors and the status of the possible exception being handed down by the ICSA

Motions

1. None

Next Call: TBA

Meeting Notes:

I. Meeting called to order at 2:01PM

- A. Roll Call: Mike Kalin (Commissioner), Frank Pizzo (Graduate Secretary), Jack Valentino (Secretary), Ryan Mullins (Treasurer), Taylor Martin (Scheduling Coordinator), Greg Wilkinson (BC), Diana Weidenbacker (N. Region Rep), Mike O'Connor (C. Region Rep), John Mollicone (S. Region Rep), Julia O'Connor (S. Undergrad Rep), Preston Anderson (At Large), Cori Radtke (Bowdoin), Doug Clark (CGA), Hollister Rhone (McGill), Moose McClintock (URI), Chris Lash (BU), Caroline Patten (UVM), Dave White (FF/SHU), Zach Leonard (Yale), Ken Legler (Tufts), Thomas Laskarzewski (UMass Amherst), Gary Hendrickson (UConn), Jeff Bresnahan (Conn College), Izzy Cox (Brown)

II. Commissioner's Report - Mike Kalin

- A. Kalin: Ryan Mullins is on the call, so maybe he can add to this. Our revenue is based on participation and we mostly spend money on umpires and major events. Our bank account, since neither of those is existing this year, seems to be fine and we see no need for admin fees.
- B. Mullins: That sums it up. It's a highly variable cost structure with very few fixed costs and for the foreseeable future, I think we're fine. But I'll keep you posted if we have any unnecessary or unexpected costs.

III. Scheduling Coordinator - Taylor Martin

- A. Martin: I have no update.
- B. Pizzo: We've heard from a lot of schools that were on the fence, but most are saying they cannot participate. Only a very small handful of schools can still participate (BC, Coast Guard, Conn College, Fairfield, etc.)

- C. Legler: What might a 2021 schedule look like if we can go back to regular operations? Would it be the same as the 2020 schedule?
1. Wilkinson: If there's spring sailing, there will be an effort to host Match Race and Singlehanded nationals, so that needs to be added to the Spring schedule.
- D. Weidenbacker: My concern is about students who take off a year and return and perhaps it's their fifth year. We then have an issue with eligibility and that this Fall doesn't count towards their eligibility. If a few regattas take place, how does that impact a few people's eligibility?
1. Kalin: The moment you set foot in a boat for a race, that's a season of eligibility right there. I'm not sure if there are any additional rules to make up beyond that.
- E. Pizzo: How is techscore going to handle everyone changing their graduation years?
1. Wilkinson: It's easier to change your graduation year now than years ago, and I'm pretty sure this season won't be a season of eligibility regardless of what people do or don't do.
- F. Kalin: Greg, can you explain what you mean? Is it an exemption?
1. Wilkinson: I'll look now but I believe it's an exemption that's being voted on or has been voted on.

IV. NEISA TIDE Update - Preston Anderson and Izzy Cox

- A. Anderson: We've been doing a lot of work. There's a written summary I'll put in the chat now [[linked here](#)]. We're still waiting to hear back from a few schools about their reps, but we've onboarded all of the others. We have three subcommittees: school outreach/recruiting, community outreach, and education. We have added three outside graduate representatives: Jennifer Dargon (Director Media Relations at CNN), Maris Thompson (Professor of Education at California University at Chico), and Yaya Ren (Cultural Anthropologist)
- B. Cox: We have an executive committee and we have those three smaller group subcommittees. Education subcommittee has begun working on the education program and it will be sent out to schools in the next month or so. They're also looking into ways to make this work over Zoom. The program this year will be recognizing that most teams will be remote. Our community outreach subcommittee is brainstorming situations that teams might encounter while partnering with community organizations. Our school outreach and recruiting subcommittee is working to make recruiting more accessible to high school sailors and junior sailors that may or may not be racing. They're also putting together templates for involving affinity groups on campus.

- C. Anderson: We've been focusing on a lot at the ICSA level. We've been focusing on affinity groups. We're trying to build a BIPOC and LGBTQ+ affinity group with a soft launch. A smaller group will introduce the group before it's rolled out to the larger ICSA community.
- D. Radtko: By the end of the week, you'll all receive an email on suggestion to make community outreach more accessible for your team. We've been meeting a lot with US Sailing and they have a dedicated representative that's been on our calls. We're also launching conference-level TIDE groups, like NEISA TIDE, starting next week.

V. CARA Limits and ICSA Eligibility Update - Wilkinson

- A. Wilkinson: I cannot find any eligibility notes about this Fall, but I'll follow up with ICSA about that. ICSA has been talking about non-college events that look like college events. Mitch is going to update these events about the requirements that school administrators sign off on team attendance. There were some talks about Varsity teams that we lost (GW, etc.) and US Sailing will put out a statement about the importance of college sailing. Match Race and Singlehanded Championships are possibly going to take place the same weekend during the Spring 2021.
- B. Mollicone: Will we still have an All-Academic Team this Fall?
 - 1. Pizzo and Wilkinson: I believe the ICSA Board voted against having one this Fall due to the grade inflation because of pass/fail.
 - 2. Mollicone: Dan Thompson said the committee was going to talk about it, but I'd love an update on that.
 - 3. Leonard: It's worth noting that pretty much every other league has given those out and we
- C. Kalin: There will be a 20-hour/week CARA (Countable Athletically-Related Activities) limit for four weeks and 14-hour/week limit beyond those four weeks.
 - 1. McClintock: We have a team of 55 kids and that really hurts a program that is set up the way we do. Without athlete involvement, our team gets scaled back proportionately. If the kids just want to go out, can they just go out on their own to the club they pay for to go sailing in an unofficial, unorganized way. No one is saying their kids don't want to sail, so why are we restricting their ability to sail? It's important to these kids to be able to sail with their time and do what they'd like to do while inside the bubble. I don't see the reasoning for limiting beyond what it's always been. They have more time now and 20-hours is fine, but URI is going to just open up the program in an unofficially unorganized team fashion to take the boats out. No one at the ICSA responds to my questions. I think this is a time for coaches to collectively let these kids back on the water

since they can't sail on the weekends. I just don't see the reasoning on cutting back on the hours if these sailors have more time on their hands and all want to go sailing? This is a great opportunity to make all the teams more competitive and build the lower ends of your team. Why is my state being governed by what other states can and can't do? We're going to have kids sailing anyways, so we might as well let them get coached.

2. Wilkinson: If anyone is having trouble getting answers from ICSA, don't forget to go to the five people on ICSA Board or Mike Kalin. The rationale for the restriction is because that's what it has been. The ICSA says that teams that can or cannot compete are all allowed four weeks of 20 hours. There is a chance for a four-week season, so there's a 20 hour limit on that and once all competition is impossible beyond that season then we reduce it to 14 hours because that's the 20 hours minus the six hours that are allocated to competition on weekends.
3. Legler: Why only four weeks?
 - a) Wilkinson: Our national competition got cancelled so we're in a non-championship season. So the non-championship seasons are usually less than four weeks in other sports.
4. Wilkinson: Those weekends are self-selecting (not required to be consecutive) and the earlier September 28th start date was based on an earlier assessment predicated on the likelihood that most NEISA teams would be competing this Fall. The Fall season is defined as August 15th to December 31st, so you used to be able to do 20 hours per week for those weeks. Now you have to do 14 hours per week, but you get four weeks that you can designate at 20 hours per week.
5. McClintock: Can sailors take boats out without a coach and go on their own?
 - a) Martin: You cannot do something that is team-led (ie: Senior's practice, Captain's practice, using team boats, using team gear, or under team-member direction to get on the water, or doing team-related drills)
6. Wilkinson: Any questions, revisit Appendix A in the NEISA procedural rules.

D. Kalin: Any suggestions for teams to maximize their teams and their time?

1. McClintock: URI is planning to do five days of sailing where each sailor can only sail three of those five days to keep them under the CARA limit.

E. Kalin: If Moose is running a seven hour long-race day, does that count as a collegiate three hour day or a seven hour regatta?

1. Wilkinson: It counts as seven hours because we're not in a championship season. The answer to that question is up to interpretation by each school's compliance office, so familiarize yourself with Appendix A.







































































VI. Developing Team Symposium - Mike Kalin

- A. Kalin: The idea is to be earlier in the Fall and more hands-on. The next best thing is to divide up the Developing Team Symposium into four, hour-long blocks that can be conducted over Zoom.
- B. Anderson: Is it worth doing a NEISA TIDE collaboration with the Developing Team Symposium about recruiting, etc.?
 1. Kalin: Some good collaboration there and I think that's a really good idea.
- C. When do we want to hold these meetings?
 1. Pizzo: NEISA TIDE has been holding their meetings at 8PM and it seems to bring a decent turnout. Operating during normal business hours doesn't seem likely since institutions are using that time to maximize school hours during the pandemic.
 - a) Anderson agreed.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 2:54PM

VIII. Next Meeting Time: TBA but likely in Mid-September

Not all participants logged into the Meeting Management spreadsheet, so attached below is a screenshot of the participants on the Zoom call.

	Jack Valentino (me)						
	Frank Pizzo (Host)						
	Michael A Kalin						
	Mullins, Ryan W						
	Caroline Patten						
	Chris Lash						
	Cori Radtke						
	DHW Phone						
	Diana Weidenbacker				John Mollicone		
	Doug Clark				Julia O'Connor		
	Gary Hendrickson				Ken Legler		
	Gregory Wilkinson				Moose		
	Hollister Rhone				Mullins, Ryan W		
	Izzy Cox				Preston Anderson		
	jcbre				taylor.martin		
	John Mollicone				Thomas Laskarzewski	