

**NEISA Executive Committee Conference Call Meeting Notes**  
**September 24, 2020**

Action Items

- 1. *NEISA Specific Action Items***
- 2. *NEISA Action Items involving the ICSA***
- 3. *ICSA Action Items***

Motions

1. None

**Next Call: TBA**

***Meeting Notes:***

**I. Meeting called to order at 11:00AM**

- A. Roll Call: Mike Kalin (Commissioner), Frank Pizzo (Graduate Secretary), Jack Valentino (Secretary), Taylor Martin (Scheduling Coordinator), Greg Wilkinson (BC), Mike O'Connor (C. Region Rep), Julia O'Connor (S. Undergrad Rep), Preston Anderson (At Large), Cori Radtke (Bowdoin), Doug Clark (CGA), Caroline Patten (UVM), Dave White (FF/SHU), Ken Legler (Tufts), Izzy Cox (Brown), Morgan TerMaat (Northeastern), Moose McClintock (URI), Matt Lindblad (MIT), George Hingham (RWU), Amanda Callahan (RWU), Justin Assad (Dartmouth), Franny Charles (MIT), Ali Blumenthal (Dartmouth), Brian Nelson (Undergraduate President)

**II. Commissioner's Report - Mike Kalin**

- A. Kalin: I followed up about Academic All-Americans and they're going to meet this week to discuss it. Other than that, there's nothing major to share.

**III. ICSA Update - Greg Wilkinson**

- A. Wilkinson: Eligibility hasn't been sorted. Spring hasn't been sorted yet. Match Race and Singlehanded Championships will be Weekend 14 if it happens. There was a coaches call yesterday and I think one thing that's emerging for Spring Championships is to just push them late. One major challenge is going to be that our competitions in sailing is technically a "tournament" with not one opponent but multiple attending opponents. We need to find a way to match protocols for traveling teams.

**IV. Graduate Secretary Report - Frank Pizzo**

- A. Pizzo: Some teams look like they might want to compete now. We sent out that CARA form to declare when you're using your 20-hour weeks, but if your team can compete against schools with similar testing protocols please email myself or Taylor. NORs are going to be incredibly important for these COVID-era regattas.

Only about three or four teams max are willing to compete right now, possibly early/mid-October. If you think you're one of those schools, please reach out to us and we can start that process. Schools before those competitions, according to Mitch, will have to submit a form declaring their host school is allowing them to compete or host this Fall.

- B. Wilkinson: I'll screen share and show people that form. Without this form [later sent through listserv after meeting], you cannot schedule.

**V. Scheduling Coordinator Update - Taylor Martin**

- A. Martin: Nothing major to share, just make sure you update the [google sheet](#) to declare your CARA 20-hour weeks.

**VI. NEISA TIDE Update - Preston Anderson and Izzy Cox**

- A. Anderson: Written update [here](#). We've added Joel Williams from Tufts as a Varsity Athletic Administrator. Our website has been updated and has gone through a pretty extensive update. We've had some turnover as . We're also introducing [three proposals](#) we're bringing to the Exec Committee today.
- B. \*Anderson introduces the proposals\*
- C. Cox: The website has had a lot of updates. We now have a directory with all the members and a spot on the NEISA leadership tab. We have mentions on other pages as well (ie: Start a Team, NEISA History, etc.).
- D. Cox: ICSA Affinity Groups are done with the soft launch and ready for launch. We've just completed our first data survey to be sent out to every ICSA sailor. MAISA and Pacific Coast have created their own TIDEs. We're also working on a Rule 69 clarification about how that rule encompasses racial, ethnic, homophobic, and other hurtful slurs. We're looking to raise awareness of how that rule works.
- E. Kalin: That all sounds great, thank you for the update. Preston, we can circle back now to the proposals you introduced.
- F. Assad: We might not need a vote since these proposals don't compel anything or change any bylaws.
  - 1. O'Connor agrees.
- G. Assad: I think these proposals are great. The one thing I might add is that you should make a list of what gear a sailor might need. New sailors should have a comprehensive list of things they might need to look for on the gear swap.
- H. Anderson: Can we use the NEISA social media?
  - 1. Kalin: Yes. I don't see a problem with that.
- I. Assad: Can you elaborate more on the affinity groups?
  - 1. Anderson: We spoke to Karen Anderson and she had great input on how to engage with affinity groups on campus that we typically don't engage in.

**VII. Team Development Symposium - Jack Valentino**

- A. Valentino: We got a great number of results from our preliminary survey and we saw a few early trends. We noticed that an overwhelming majority of respondents said they want to hear about “team culture” and “recruit retention.” We’re going to meet on Sunday to go over the nitty gritty and brainstorming panel members.

## VIII. Breakout Rooms

- A. **Legler’s room**: Talked about COVID restrictions at each school and Amanda Callahan’s sunfish regional regatta this weekend
- B. **Pizzo’s room**: Talked about getting sailors who can’t swim on the water. Talked about reaching out to affinity groups and reaching out to students in their spaces.
1. Callahan: Swim test is an absolute requirement, but it was really important to know that they can swim if they capsized. I’ve never had someone fail the swim test until recently and they met with the swim coach.
  2. Kalin: I remember there was a freaky story at the Dellenbaugh a few years ago where sailors got trapped under a boat.
  3. O’Connor: Frans point was that maybe swim tests are a barrier to sailing, but we should make them do their swim test with life jackets on because that’s what they’ll be wearing all the time anyways.
  4. Assad: I think the swim test might be inhibiting.
- C. **Assad’s group**: Talked with everyone about the status of our team. Greg made a great point that talking about how we should all educate ourselves on contact tracing. There’s an online course from Johns Hopkins that’s free online and Greg says it’s great.
- D. **Kalin’s group**: We talked about the Developing Team Symposium and Team Culture.
1. Callahan: Can we do a stray poll? How many coaches believe there will be some form of competition this Spring?
  2. \*Participants expressed hesitancy about widespread competition, but came to a visual consensus that there would be some kind of championships (likely Match Race or Singlehanded) in the Spring\*
  3. Wilkinson: If there’s going to be any championships, it’s most likely going to be a singlehanded one.
  4. Pizzo: We can talk about this all we want, but none of this is our decision, unfortunately.
  5. Wilkinson: There are a lot of weird things about sailing. We’re tournament-style, between Division I through III, and have a mix of Club and Varsity teams all at the same events.

- E. **Radtke's group:** Talked about how UConn is entirely virtual and looking to do fun virtual events. We talked about club v. varsity dynamics and it was good to learn about UConn.
  - F. **Lindblad's group:** I just wanted NEISA gossip, so we talked about NEISA gossip.
  - G. Martin: Does anyone know what their school is going to do for the winter?
    - 1. McClintock: We're canceling spring break I believe.
    - 2. Kalin: MIT is keeping sports low on the priority list, but more students will be on campus.
    - 3. Martin: I think we're canceling spring break and going on-line after then.
- IX. Meeting adjourned at 12:06PM**
- X. Next Meeting Time: TBA**