

1/15/15 NEISA Conference Call Meeting Minutes

3:01 Commissioner Assad (Dartmouth) led the Roll Call

3:05 Committee reports from the ICSA meeting

- Commissioner Assad reviewed the following details from the ICSA annual meeting:
 - New nomination forms for crews, more in-depth form, very important to have those completed
 - Werblow stepping down
 - Minimum 3.3 GPA, 7 regattas, Junior/Senior only for all academic
 - Championship Committee
 - Nationals Report
 - Alternates
 - Experiment with flags and report back to ICSA in spring
 - Table implementing additional funds for umpires
 - Match race
 - Investigation rotation of members to standing committee
 - Shorter national championship bloc
 - No All-Conference team
 - Matt Lindblad (MIT) (Chairman of All-Academic Team) suggested that NEISA could implement an all-NEISA team if we wanted to
 - Commissioner Assad clarified that while there is a nomination process for All-Academic Team, but no selection process, which means there is no cap on honorees
 - Commissioner Assad explained that there is no fall data for alternates so we may have to rely on the honor system for filling in those gaps

3:15: Commissioner Assad explained his conference call guidelines

- It is important to stay on the agenda
- It is necessary to stay on time to make sure the conference calls are manageable and end when they are scheduled to end
 - Often the meetings will be ahead of schedule, but sometimes we will need to table things for the next meeting if we run over
- He also plans to call for all opposed first for all motions

3:16 New Business: Commissioner Assad listed his 3 goals for this year as NEISA Commissioner. They are as follows:

- Make sure the website is running and a useful resource for the NEISA community
 - The website is functional
 - Slowly being updated
- Engage graduate and undergraduate representatives to support less developed teams and womens teams
 - Providing a bridge for those teams with regional reps
- Regain 503(c) status

3:18 Questions about new business

- Mike O'Connor (Harvard) suggested that Commissioner Assad put motions out through emails instead of during the call to save time

3:20 Mrs. Hurst is going to be moved to Harvard because they cannot host it that weekend at Dartmouth

3:20: In-conference Draft Investigation Committee (Frank Pizzo and Skip White) presented their research on the performance ranking and berth selection process in NEISA and explained some details of their proposal to change it

- The goal of their proposal is to equitably spread interconference regattas in the conference
- Sail-ins have been popular in the past
- However, getting rid of sail-ins would allow teams to know their schedule beforehand
- Talk to the performance ranking committee about increasing the level of certain in-conference regattas
 - Base it off of the ranking from original draft
- They explained that the current system works as such: Team 1-16 would sail in in-conference interconference, team 17-20 get a special standing (Teams 17-20 get first alternate status at Moody, Hood, etc.), and there is a slot held for the host
 - If there are more than 16 qualified teams, we should make space for them
 - Probably try to be consistent with drafting alternate spots instead of using performance ranking to fill alternate spots (easier for scheduler)
- Will come up with a proposal with a chance to amend it
- Diana Weidenbacker (UNH) asked whether draft procedures are better than sail-ins for bubble teams, and the Draft Investigation Committee explained that they were

3:31: Motion to amend minutes from 2012 (John Mollicone and Justin Assad)

- Commissioner Assad explained the old Motion to remove the 5-year rule for team racing because we do not have enough host sites
 - Did not remove it for fleet racing (women or coed)
 - Suspended motion on the floor via email from John Mollicone, seconded by Frank Pizzo, to amend the minutes to only remove the 5-year hosting restriction for NEISA team race championship
 - None Opposed, Motion Passes (3:36)

3:37: Change the 5-year restriction for all conference championships

- Michael O'Connor expressed his opinion that we shouldn't limit ourselves in choice of location because we should pick it based on what location best prepares sailors for the Nationals venue, and therefore we should abolish the 5-year rule for fleet racing as well
- There was a recommendation to create a shorter restriction period for conference championships
- Commissioner Assad explained that the rule was originally created because less developed teams were not included in hosting duties, therefore he is wary of removing the rule altogether
 - Want to prevent reverting back to original championship hosts
- A rule was proposed that a school cannot host back to back

- Skip White brought up the fact that since many schools are accumulating two fleets of boats, there is a possibility that school with only one fleet of boats will not get to host
- Proposal to create a new rule that is a shorter time span
- Commissioner Assad proposed a motion to abolish the 5-year rule (3:50)
 - Motion passes, 8-3
- Commissioner Assad explained that NEISA will abide by the decision at the last meeting, with BC as the host for the Women's National Qualifiers this year
 - Move forward with a new proposal at the next meeting

3:56 New Business: Diana Weidenbacker explained her work with less developed teams in Northern NEISA

- Franklin Pierce wants to start a team, received some donated 420s
- UME wants to expand regatta opportunities
- Plymouth State is in danger of losing its team
- Diana recommended that the committee put more information in "how to start a team" document
 - Address the number of people necessary per regatta
- Salem State is a central team

3:59

- Next Meeting is February 18th, 3PM
- No specific spring in-person meeting

4:00 Adjournment