

5/6/15 NEISA Conference Call

Action Items:

- Coaches should review Frank Pizzo's In-conference draft proposal that was sent out by email
- Plan to change scheduling date for 2015-2016 Championships
- Continue reaching out to smaller teams and working on bringing them up to full NEISA membership
- Coaches should also review John Mollicone's proposal to move Team Race New England's to a later date – eventually a full vote will be held
- Further discuss Amanda Callahan's plan to mix team racing and fleet racing at lower-level 3 division regattas

Minutes:

7:17 Old Agenda Items Approved

7:18 Diana Wiedenbacker asks to add report on new teams, which Assad explains that it is under regional rep reports

7:19 Assad moves to add a discussion about the format of events like the Oberg

7:20 Commissioner's Report (Assad)

- Ice is gone
- Smaller events are going well
- A lot of women's teams added
- Moving forward with 501(c)3
- Increasing outreach to athletic departments and club sports organizations

7:22 Judge Coordinator's Report (Assad)

- Hard to get umpires and coach boats for the Friis
- Marchiando had 4 umpires on Saturday, 3 on Sunday
- TR New Englands had fully staffed umpires
- Supplied 2 Umpires for the Staake
- The host should search for judges first and then contact the judge coordinator
- Umpire compensation change helped increase levels of umpires at events
 - Surcharge for participating teams
 - Working on a plan for Match Racing in the fall
- Amanda Callahan: need more than 8 Umpires for TR New Englands
 - Lost New England judges because it was the same weekend as a CA Keelboat regatta
- Making Judge Coordinator's judge database available to everyone to make search more streamlined? (Greg Wilkinson)
 - Ken Legler: must develop a culture where alumni should come back and help with events as soon as they graduate

7:30 Scheduling Coordinator's Report (Frank Pizzo)

- Number of late drops in the spring
- Need people to look at what black point penalties mean in the scheduling spreadsheet because it is the source of a lot of schedules

- The specifics of some of the events got lost in the transition to a new scheduling google doc
- Pick the host for New England's the spring before
- Brian Singly suggests we start thinking about next year's host now
 - Suggests that we match ICSA scheduling
 - Don't have to do championship scheduling in December
- Singly asked whether there were calls scheduled over the summer
 - Assad says there are no scheduled
- Assad asks if scheduling should wait until Schell Meeting
 - Ken Legler says before the end of October, but after May
- Franny Charles says doing it earlier helps people know things early so they can plan to host if venues need to be changed
- Assad: Frank Pizzo will put a proposal together to vote on changing championship scheduling to earlier in the year
 - Diana Wiedenbacker: the sooner the better
 - Ken Legler suggests no later than April 15 to allow changes to be made for Interconference events before May 1
- Frank Pizzo will put something together to change scheduling time for the 2015-2016 season
 - Include rules on scheduling
 - Detailed analysis of who has hosted what when, to confirm eligibility
 - Ken Legler has a spreadsheet with all of this information

7:43 Regional Reports

- Diana Wiedenbacker: The North
 - Franklin Pierce has 3 sailors, intend to enter 2 entry-level events, scrimmaging with UNH
 - UME is doing well
 - Bates will be continuing next fall
 - Colby has not had a team for a while but there is student interest although student organization is difficult there
 - Focusing on small start-up teams and faltering teams
- Assad: simple process to register with NEISA, ensuring that they register before their first event
- Diana: put together a document for teams that have no idea what they are doing to start up their teams and get involved
 - Assad: we have put something on the website about this
- Ken: there is a small boathouse at Franklin Pierce in Rindge, NH, where he once found himself on a windsurfer 30 years ago
 - They used to have UNH's old larks, but they "disintegrated" because larks only last 25 years
- Central Region: No Update
- South Region
 - Johnson & Wales is moving just down the road from Edgewood YC, looking for a full time varsity sailing coach, taking it much more seriously, looking to buy a fleet of 18 420s in the next two years

- More outreach in Connecticut and Providence teams to get to Coast Guard women's regatta
- Roger Williams new sailing facility is opening soon
- Diana: Fairfield needs some support hosting regattas, difficulty hosting the Priddy
- Ryan from Sacred Heart: shares facility with Fairfield, difficulties with identical sails, etc.
 - Assad: we are here to help and want to make them full members in the next few years
- UConn has a new site on a lake near campus, old Harvard larks, just bought 6 used 420s from NK
- Assad: outreach from established programs is important for bringing more teams to full membership

7:54 In-conference Draft Proposal (Frank Pizzo)

- Sent out information to the coaches list today
- Email did not go through properly, but some people got it
- Want to discuss this on the email thread before having a full, productive discussion
- Plan to spread out berths more
- Each event that the host has, the last spot is reserved for the host, but they have to pick the event as soon as the first 7 spots are filled
- Guidelines for cohost areas
- Ken Legler: People currently feel like they are not getting as much as they deserve, so it's good that we are changing this
- Pizzo: if we go to the draft, some berths are drafted, others are performance ranking-based, which is very confusing
- Legler: NEISA has gotten much more competitive in the last few years
- Pizzo: Shift away from sail-in berths
- Zack Leonard: changing rules for hosting

8:04 John Mollicone

- Moved Team Racing earlier in the season, so people feel rushed preparing for TR New Englands
- Proposal to move TR New Englands from week 10 to week 12 or 13

8:07 Motion to discuss Mollicone's proposal to move TR New Englands

- Is this possible for 2016?
- Have to shuffle things from weekends 11 and 12 in order to move team racing later in the season, although moving things is possible
- Zack Leonard: if we move things, we have to coordinate with ICSA because no matter how we schedule things, the spring always feels short to do fleet racing and team racing
- Too difficult to schedule for 2016
- Pizzo: I want to move TR New England's to a later weekend, but we have to coordinate with MAISA for attendance and umpiring reasons

- Zack Leonard: when team racing and fleet racing are mixed together, there isn't really any good fleet racing in the spring because teams are focusing on team racing
- MAISA and SAISA have different climates so it is difficult to coordinate regattas with them
- Diana: Can't do just fleet racing in the fall and team racing in the spring because some teams don't have large enough squads to put together full team race teams in the spring
 - Hurts people who go abroad
- Franny Charles: supports fleet racing in the fall only, and having strong teams focus on team racing in the spring, while still providing fleet racing opportunities for the smaller teams in the conference
- Ken: Important to provide sailing at every level, so you can put fleet racing champs in the fall and team racing champs in the spring while providing lower level fleet racing all year around
- Zack Leonard: women's teams don't team race, so it is difficult to have team racing only in the spring
- Assad: Assuming no changes in the ICSEA, any comments on moving New England Team Race?
- Zack Leonard: this vote is irresponsible
- Amanda Callahan: we should make the conference work for us
- Ken Legler: Can't make this work for 2016

8:32 Motion to vote on the proposal to move Team Race New England's from Week 10 to a later weekend in the spring, either Week 12 or 13

- Not enough people for an official vote, so there is a straw vote
- Assad: there is overwhelming support to make changes in the way the championship series works

8:38 Clarification of Participation of Second Teams

- Assad: we will wait on this until the fall

8:39 Amanda Callahan: Update on

- Teams need to develop team racing more at lower level regattas
- Create regattas with fleet racing one day and team racing the other day
- If you're already sending 3 skippers, this can be done without much difficulty
- Ken: more one day events and fewer two day events because people have a hard time sailing both days

8:42 Commissioner Assad calls for adjournment

8:44 Adjournment