

## **Proposal to Shorten the ICSA Seasons:**

Out of Season Competition:

### **Match Racing:**

Match Race Nationals in early April (first or second weekend). Each conference can decide when they host their qualifiers.

### **Men's and Women's Singles:**

Eliminate the qualifiers that each conference runs and crown the top college sailor at Midwinters East the winner of men's and women's singles. Every four years, the champion will come out of Midwinters West.

This would be a bring your own boat event. (LP can potentially offer ICSA a different sponsorship or grants to get sailors to midwinters, etc.)

### **Fall Season:**

The fall season will be all fleet racing and will conclude with a coed and women's semi-finals. The top eight from each semi-finals from dinghies will qualify for the finals. The top nine from each women's semi-finals will qualify for the finals.

Having the semi-finals in the fall will drastically reduce the national championship week. Women's and Dinghy Nationals will stay take place at the end of the spring.

### **Spring Season:**

At the interconference level, the spring will be mostly team race regattas with a few fleet races interconference regattas as well. Each conference will likely have to add team race and fleet race events to the schedule.

The spring will have an NIT for schools that did not qualify for the national finals out of the fall Semifinals. This event will serve as a final qualifier for the remaining two spots for Coed and Women's Dinghy Nationals.

How teams qualify for the NIT:

12 Teams get invited to NIT based off conference population. This could amount to 3 NEISA, 3 MAISA, 2 MCSA, 1 all others (for example). Each conference can decide for itself how to allocate these berths. This could be determined by the top teams that did not qualify for semis - or top teams that didn't make finals, even if they attended semis - so an additional weekend of racing does not have to be used.

The last 4 berths could be awarded for finishes at two major fleet race interconference regattas. Presumably 2 berths given at each event. Maybe a good compromise is to have one of these events in the Midwest or west coast.

Thus ICSA has an 18 team event NIT and top 2 from the NIT make National finals.

1. Shorten the spring national championship week
2. Shorten the season of each individual team
3. Give teams flexibility of when they sail and when they take a break
4. Create more competition in a shortened format.

**Potential Schedule (Dates for 2015-2016)**

Oct 24-25 (Women's Conference Champs)  
Oct 31-Nov 1 (Dinghy Conference Champs)  
Nov 7-8 Women's Semis  
Nov 14-15 Dinghy Semis

Apr 23-24 (Conference TR Champs)  
Apr 30-May 1 NIT  
May 14-16 TR Nationals  
May 21-22 Women's Nationals - Memorial Day Weekend  
May 23-24 Dinghy Nationals

This schedule assumes that women qualify straight through without an NIT. It will force some teams out of conference more in the Fall than they have done. Conference TR quals vs pre-NIT regattas (if conferences hold another in the spring), the dates of each Nationals around Memorial Day, etc. can be tweaked as necessary from year to year.