

All,

I would like to propose that we discuss the idea of adding flags to the starting protocol. It will be a very simple addition that will make college races much more interesting and exciting for observers and easier for competitors. Consider the following:

- College programs have already taken several effective steps to make visual observation easier: large color coded numbers and pinnies. The spectators love it!
- Knowing when races are going to start makes it far more interesting for observers AND is essential for coaches.
- When the Procedural Rules were written, college programs were minimally organized with smaller fleets of boats without jibs. Everything was smaller and slower. Flags seemed like too much to ask for fledgling programs. We have come a long way! It is time to make our protocols as good as they should be while keeping them manageable for shorthanded race committees.
- In today's 18-20 boat fleets with luffing jibs, sound signals are often unheard and with longer starting lines, sound delay is significant. There is a reason why visual signals are the binding signals in other formats.

I suggest the following protocol for discussion:

- 4 flag system: I, X, P, 1st Repeater. Most programs already have I and X.
 - 3:00 minutes – I or P and 3 horns
 - 2:00 minutes - 2 horns
 - 1:30 minutes - 1 long, 3 short horns
 - 1:00 minute - 1 horn, I or P dropped
 - Normal 30, 20, 10, 5,4,3,2,1, Go horns
 - X or 1st Repeater as appropriate

This is EASY and does not require any additional personnel. A simple PVC tube to accept the flag staffs and a few flags is all that is needed. LET'S MAKE IT HAPPEN!!

Thanks,

Skip Whyte
Head Sailing Coach
University of Rhode Island Rams

MAISA Items for ICSA Meeting

1. Proposal that the Match Race weight limit be raised to 660lbs from 620lbs.
2. A competitor may compete in no more than 8 competition weekends per semester. This does not include competition in ICSA National Championships.
3. Proposal that the ICSA All Academic team requirements be changed to the following:
 - 3.1. To become a member of the ICSA All-Academic team a sailor shall have a min GPA of 3.5 (GPA for the year of competition – not cumulative) and have competed in at least 8 total College Sailing regattas.
 - 3.2. GPA for the year of competition – not cumulative.
 - 3.3. Regattas can be any regularly scheduled conference or ICSA interconference regatta or ICSA National Championship.
 - 3.4. The 8 regattas needed to qualify for the team can be sailed in one semester or over two semesters.
 - 3.5. All ICSA sailors are eligible regardless of class year
 - 3.6. There is no maximum number of sailors named to the ICSA All Academic Team
 - 3.7. No consideration should be given to competitive record.