The College of Charleston is excited to bid to host the ICSA Meeting, Afterguard Regatta, Women’s, Team Race and Coed Dinghy National Championships, May 14-25, 2018.

The event would be held out of the J. Stewart Walker Sailing Center, located in the Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina at 20 Patriots Point Rd. in Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464.

The list of Primary Contacts

**Sailing Center**
Office (843) 216 8450       Fax (843) 216 8165       sailing.cofc.edu

Greg Fisher  Director of Sailing  Office (843) 953-8252  Cell (410) 212-4916  Fishergv@cofc.edu
Ward Cromwell  Head Varsity Team Coach  Office (843) 953-5549  Cell (843) 324-4245  Cromwellh@cofc.edu
Ned Goss  Dock Master/ Off-Shore Coach  Marina (843) 216-8450  Cell (843) 270-2172  Gossep@cofc.edu
Mitch Hall  Assistant Varsity Team Coach  Office (843) 953-3679  Cell (727) 455-7907  Hallmr@cofc.edu

Sailing venue and the C of C Sailing Complex

The College of Charleston sailing venue is located on the Cooper River in the northwest corner of the Charleston Harbor, adjacent to the historic aircraft carrier, the Yorktown. We have 3 different sailing areas to choose from, depending on breeze and current. In the picture above we may sail in the far upper right corner almost under the bridge, in “the marsh”. In ideal conditions we will sail in center picture directly to the left of the Yorktown, in “The River”. We can also sail around the corner of the marina to the south (lower right in the picture) on “Crab Bank”, or to the south of the shipping channel in the heart of Charleston Harbor. We will utilize additional motor boats for coaches and extras to observe the racing from. Regular motor boat shuttles to the south end of
the marina, and the rest rooms, would be organized for convenience. Rarely do we find less than acceptable sailing in Charleston!

Meet the PROs:

Mitch Hall

Hallmr@cofc.edu

Mitch was the PRO for the highly successful 2015 Match Race Nationals held in Charleston. He is the assistant coach for the Cougars since 2011 and was a graduate of the University Of South Florida. Mitch has won the ICSA Sloop champs and the ISSA Singlehanded Nationals.

Ward Cromwell

cromwellh@cofc.edu

Ward is the head coach for the Cougars and a graduate of ODU where while a member, they won the National Championship. He has competed at all levels including an Olympic campaign.

Greg Fisher

fishergv@cofc.edu

Greg is the director of sailing at C of C and has sailed numerous one designs and championship events. Formerly a one design sailmaker for North Sails in Annapolis, MD.

Ryan Davidson

davidsonra@g.cofc.edu

Ryan was the co-pro of 2015 Match Race Nationals with Mitch Hall and was the captain of the Cougar Sailing Team in 2015/2016. He has done extensive racing in a number of disciplines and has also run a number of major events, including two major high school events, one of which was the the 2016 Mallory held at C of C in May 2016.

Meet the Chief Judge:

Steve Wrigley

stephen.wrigley@gmail.com

Steve has served both on and off the water in World Championships, North American Championships and National Championships for: J/24’s, J/22’s, Etchells, Melges 24’s, Farr 40’s and many other fleets as an International Judge, International Umpire, US Sailing National Umpire and US Sailing Senior Judge.

We anticipate utilizing the same talented group of umpires assembled for the 2015 Match Race Nationals.
Charleston weather in Mid- May.

Spring temperatures in Charleston Harbor can range from the mid 70’s to the upper 80’s but the month of May can provide some of the very best sailing conditions in Charleston. The water has not had time to completely warm up so we can usually see nice southerly winds in the 10-15 knot range. Frontal wind conditions are also a possibility. Of course here is the disclaimer: - once a predicted “normal” weather pattern is put to print it will never materialize!

Other sailors enjoy the sailing in Charleston

We would be remiss not to point out that the largest keelboat regatta in North America is held annually in Charleston. Charleston Race Week has grown to nearly 290 boats and attracts not only the best sailors in the world, but also some tremendous sponsorship. It would be our intention to benefit from the great support that the Charleston sailing community provides for major events.

- We have 18 new Z420’s as of September 2015 and 18 FJ’s that have been rebuilt and were new in 2012. We will have a new inventory of sails for the FJ’s.

Events hosting

We would anticipate hosting the annual meeting in the McAllister Hospitality Suite on campus Monday May 14th. We would cater by Tazhikis, a favorite restaurant in downtown Charleston. We anticipate the fee for the lunch to be close to $20/person. We would plan a dinner for each event at each of the three yacht clubs in Charleston- Carolina YC, James Island YC and Hobcaw Yacht Club.

The Women’s Semis would begin May 15th and the final day of the Coed Nationals would be Friday May 25th.
Hotels close by the Sailing Center

There are a number of different hotels close by the Sailing Center at Patriots Point of varying rates and amenities. Most offer nice discounts if College of Charleston Sailing is mentioned at check in. A sizable list is available. Of course the Charleston Harbor Resort, our “on site” hotel, often offers special rates for C of C events and November, of course, is a slower tourist time so deals are much easier to find.

Charleston- a travel destination

Voted numerous times the number one tourist destination in the world (true fact!), Charleston’s International Airport (CHS) is 25 minutes from the sailing center and nearby hotels. Inexpensive shuttles regularly run from the North Charleston airport to spots in Mt. Pleasant near Patriots Point. US Air, Delta and Southwest are just 3 of the most popular airlines flying regularly to the northeast and west.

Other valuable stops within 10 minutes of the Sailing Center

There are a number of great restaurants at all price ranges in easy access to Patriots Point and the hotels. Grocery stores, sub shops, car repair shops, marine supply, clothing stores, and of course, 2 ice cream stops all close by. The popular beaches at Sullivan’s Island and Isle of Palms are 10 minutes away from the sailing center.

Budget

We are in the process of creating a budget and generating sponsorship- though we anticipate tremendous support from our community.

Lessons Learned from 2015 Match Race Nationals

There were numerous areas we learned how we might better handle a major college event after managing the 2015 Match Race Nationals. Marketing and sponsorship would be a major priority in 2018.

Media setup and organization would be set in place much earlier- in November 2017- and one person would be assigned as sole media representative. A photographer from the college (knowledgeable about sailing) would be employed to ensure the proper photo coverage was achieved.

We look forward to the opportunity to host the 2018 ICSA Nationals!