



Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association of North America, Inc.

2023 Winter Meeting

Saturday, January 14, 2023

8am PT, 9am MT, 10am CT, 11am ET

Hybrid Meeting

Zoom: <https://odu.zoom.us/j/92237943022> / Meeting ID: 922 3794 3022

In Person: Swaner EcoCenter, Park City, Utah

1258 Center Dr, Park City, UT 84098

Doors open at 8:30AM

Meeting Minutes

Action Items

1. Tom Donahue will reach out to Chubb to explore opportunities for a collective insurance policy, as it may present a better rate.
2. The All-Academic Sailing Team Committee will look into sending a notification to each coach of the nominations received for their team.
3. The All-Academic Sailing Team Committee agreed to give an earlier, longer submission period a try with the caveat that transcripts are still necessary.

-
- I. Call to order (Anna Morrow), 11:13AM EST
 - II. Roll call (Clarke)
 - A. [Board Member Roll Call and Voting Sheet](#)
 - B. [Non-Board Member Attendance](#)
 - III. Additions to the agenda (Clarke)
 - IV. Approval of the Consent Agenda
 - A. [2022 Annual Meeting Minutes](#)
 1. **Motion to approve (Higgins), seconded (Reeg) - passed by unanimous consent**
 - B. [2022 Financials](#)
 - V. [Executive Director's Report](#)
 - A. Reed provided an overview of the season, observations from regattas (and National Championships), provided a recap of engagement with sponsors, and highlighted the selection process. Please refer to the linked report for

more details.

VI. President's Report (Brindley)

- A. Thank you everyone who shared their knowledge and practices and assisted in bringing Reed on board. It's important that we listen to Reed and his input as an outside professional on ways to improve ICSA.
- B. This was a successful fall with 190 regattas on TecScore and situating ourselves for a full season, which is a testament to what we've done to preserve college sailing. We recognize the challenges in schools and across the country, including the transference of institutional knowledge. While we knew this would be the case, we may not have prepared well enough but we are continuing to grow this part of the sport, especially regional and fundamental teams. We had great championships in the Fall at SDYC and ODU - the winners are representative of elite sailing.
- C. Another big aspect which everyone should peruse is the ICSA tab on sexual harassment and violence, generated by our Task Force. There is the opportunity to continue work on this, but we now have processes in place, with Libby Reeg as the ICSA liaison and advocate. Huge thank you to all the members, and Mackenzie Berwick for spearheading this!
- D. Our new sponsors are an exciting opportunity and there has been great interest for involvement. We encourage everyone to keep using Starting Line and Marlowe as vendors for your programs as ICSA receives a portion of the revenue from College Sailing purchases - \$8,400 in the course of approximately 6 months. Discussion ensued about adding a "deals" tab for teams/coaches. Thank you to Bob Adams and Zim for their support this week.
- E. Mitch thanked everyone for their support during his last year in this position.

VII. Treasurer's Report (Donahue)

- A. This year was solid from an operations point of view, at approximately break-even with \$128K in and \$122K spent. There were some 2023 expenses paid and money for the meeting was received, given the meeting is in January. The total equity is \$263K. The dues increase resulted in a total of \$105K. The net regatta entry fee is a tremendous contributor for National events - with ICSA keeping \$5,700 which includes a few donations. Revenue from sponsorships was \$10,452K. As we now have an Executive Director, the half-year of salary and associated expenses _____. **[Recording - now have ED, have half year salary and associated expenses, total operating \$122K, operating of \$6500]**
- B. Like the rest of the market, our investment account is down by \$32K, but it's important to remember that we do not use this for operations but as a rainy day fund, i.e., the pandemic. Additionally, the account was up the 3 previous years.
- C. A question was posed regarding the future of dues increasing and in response, it was shared that it'd be healthier to have regular increases to keep up with inflation

and rising operating expenses. Funding from sponsors went a long way in the past ie tescores.

D. In conference reports, which are due February 1st, please include financial health information such as challenges with dues payment processing and areas which need ICSA help.

- E. A discussion ensued about the potential benefits of collective negotiation for insurance with companies like Gallery and Chubb. Across the board, insurance has been increasing, including non-maritime, individual rates.
1. **Tom will reach out to Chubb to see if there is an opportunity for a better insurance rate**, based on collective purchasing power. The suggestion was for all teams to purchase through one program, channeled by the ICSA.
 2. Individuals suggested: using the rationale that college sailing typically has low claims, reaching out to race officials for their perspective, and ensuring clarity that ICSA liability covers on the water but requires additional language for on land coverage. ICSA policies and procedures with insurance apply for all levels of conference events.
 3. Further discussion was paused until the MCSA proposal later in the agenda.
- F. The 2022 and 2023 budget were approved during last year's meeting, to ensure ICSA would be able to cover the Executive Director salary.
- G. Our bookkeeper, Donna, has been doing great work for ICSA and we are very grateful.

H. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report (Brindley), seconded (Higgins) - passed with 13 in favor and 2 not voting

VIII. Secretary's Report (Clarke)

- A. Please reach out to secretary@collegesailing.org with any comments, questions or concerns.

IX. Hall of Fame Selection Committee Report

- A. Conference appointments are handled by Commissioners. The existing deadline is as is because there needs to be sufficient time to consider the submissions.
- B. Nominations are submitted to the Committee, compiled into a document and then discussed during a Zoom - but not the individual nominees,
- C. There was discussion of changing the process - as consistency with the guidelines is important. There is the opportunity to do so.

X. Standing Committee Reports

A. All-Academic Sailing Team (Dan Thompson)

1. 188 sailors were honored last year. The Committee feels the GPA threshold is correct and [**recording- big boats comment**].

2. Academic success is good for sailing programs and there are a number of sailors that are talented on the water and in the classroom.
3. There was a glitch with some nominations getting stuck online. Next year the Committee will send a notification after the nomination is submitted and before the notice is sent out.
4. It was asked, if functionally possible, for coaches to be notified when a nomination is submitted as some teams have sailors submit for themselves. The Committee shared it's easiest to just send a notification to the email used to submit the nomination, but will **look into sending a notification to each coach of the nominations received for their team.**
5. After receiving feedback that the nomination period is fairly late and a request to open submissions earlier/keep it open later, the **Committee agreed to give an earlier, longer submission period a try with the caveat that transcripts are still necessary.**

B. All-America Selection Committee (Burman)

1. As Ian's term limit expired, he offered his assistance as necessary for the transition but believes it's functioning well and thanked everyone for their discussion contributions over the years.

C. Championship/Competition Committee (Higgins)

1. In the selection process, all conferences are represented and able to report out on the fairness of the process. While the Committee understands that it will likely never be "perfect" and make everyone happy, the avenue for change is to bring proposals to the Board and meetings.
2. There was a situation this fall where the lack of conditions created a situation for Match Racing Nationals. A skipper was selected through automatic selection, but a different skipper/team competed at the event. As such, the Committee advanced a proposal on Match Race eligibility to provide greater clarity. The old conditions were moderately clear that skippers qualified for events and this language is viewed as clearly capturing the old intent.

3. Motion to include match racing eligibility language for the National Championship conditions (Higgins), seconded (Brindley)

- a) Discussion ensued with comments sharing that a lot of Committee members had assumptions that the intent was clear - that the invitation goes to the skipper. During the selection process vetting, the philosophical discussion that this may impact other disciplines came up as well, but this is not of concern. The general sentiment is that ICSA should follow World Sailing's treatment of Match Racing in which skippers get grades. This will go into conditions for the National Championships.

b) Motion passed with 14 votes (1 not voting)

4. Motion on a proposal for the general requirements for Conference

Championships and AQ Selection (Higgins), seconded (Brindley)

- a) Discussions ensued about the connection between this proposal and MCSA's on AQ berth allocation.
- b) For context, before the current selection committee organization, there was language whereby a conference did not have berths allocated. Comments were made regarding the length of time for which a team doesn't have berths, the application of this to Match/Fleet/Team Racing. With respect to jurisdiction, general support was given to the Competition Committee. The majority of participants agreed that all disciplines could be reviewed.

5. Motion to approve the PRO compensation and ICSA Spring National Championship entry fee increase (Higgins), seconded (Brindley)

- a) The Championship Committee believes \$500/day is an appropriate amount and to offset this, fees at each Spring National Championship - which includes Women's Team Racing - will be increased by \$75
- b) It was clarified that this is only for Spring National Championships but there is nothing wrong with volunteers being reimbursed at other events. Comments were also made that the \$75 fee may be low when you consider accommodations, meals, etc. and the added expenses, but this was also looked at last year. This will positively influence the quality of officials.
- c) This is intended to go into effect Spring of 2023.

d) Motion passed with 14 votes

6. Motion on officially naming Tulane as Host of 2023 Fall Singlehanded National Championships (Brindley), seconded (Reeg)

a) Motion passed with 13 votes

7. Updates and other items

- a) Discussion on Sewanka as the Fall '23 Match Race hosts, if it's not voted on today, it needs to occur ASAP - firm deadline by the end of the month calling for bids.
- b) Competition Committee will discuss the Fall '23 Match Race host and new conditions Sewanka to be discussed

D. Nationals Updates

- 1. ICSA Schedule dates for Spring Championships are correct: May 23 to June 2
- 2. 2024 Spring: NEISA is the host, realistic from Boston schools on the Charles. The date range is 5/20-5/30, with 5/23 as Harvard's graduation and 5/31 as MIT's, which were a factor given access/parking difficulties.

E. Communications and Website (Blumenthal/Chenard/Radtke)

1. The Committee was led by 3 co-chairs and presented analytics on social media/outreach/engagement.
2. There is a formal Google request form for social media coverage, as well as an outline of the standing campaign events. There is a freelance guide with templates.
3. There was a request for a motion for ICSA to fund a Social Media Freelance Position coverage at Premier Events. There needs to be due diligence, as this is a budget item and the revenue source needs to be identified. This was referred to the Executive Committee for further discussion. ICSA needs to fund a position to do this, because it's difficult to get volunteers for this coverage.

F. Eligibility (Griswold)

1. There were two eligibility cases - one of which was appealed one the question of should a student athlete that sailed in the 2021 ICSA Women's Championship be able to use a waiver for the Spring season. The decision was in turn reaffirmed.

G. Procedural Rules (McDonald)

1. There are existing changes that need to be made to the PR. If there are topics that touch on the rules, it's best if the Board can agree on the objective, and not get caught up on language recommendations.

XI. Ad-Hoc Committee Reports

A. TIDE Report

1. There was a report in April of 2021 and TIDE is doing a second round covering culture and demographics in February. They are requesting assistance with emails, and will use a Google Form to collect email addresses. This demographic survey is so important to have the data to show/present what is being done in the sport.
2. TIDE may be asking for a line budget item for the US Sailing Leadership Forum in the future, which may be a Spring proposal.

XII. Nominating Committee

- A. The nomination process has changed and we're getting to the point where everyone understands that each year, each conference will be asked for a list of names for all ICSA Standing Committees.
- B. It has been difficult getting sports administrators - please share any recommendations from your school/conference.
- C. There was a request that the group communicate clearly with club/varsity administrators and directors throughout the process, as well as those that have submitted names.
- D. A link to a Google Form goes out on March 22nd to each Commissioner, which is due April 22nd and then presented as the slate nomination 15 days before the annual meeting.

- E. This year, there are 2 positions for which nominations are requested: Treasurer, as Tom Donahue will be stepping down at the end of the year, and President. All board members have a one year term, and the President has a 6-year limit. For this position, the Nominating Committee is looking for a 2-3 year commitment.
- F. office expenses, no longer salary/stipend, approved previously
- G. Article X, Section 1 addresses the Standing Committee composition, and the Nominating Committee found two points of concern. A proposal was advanced to clarify the term - starting on July 1st and ending on June 30th.

H. Brindley: Motion to approve the bylaw changes in Article X, Section 1, paragraphs 3 and 4; seconded (Higgins)

1. Motion passed with 13 votes

- I. Dillon Paiva was reappointed as Chair, Kai Ponting; Adam Warblow; Ali Blumenthal; and Blaine Pedlow

XIII. Scheduling / Interconference Committee (Assad)

- A. The Committee advanced a proposal to have the ICSA schedule confirmed by November 15th, so teams can properly plan and make changes in circumstances where necessary.

B. Higgins Motion to move ICSA schedule is confirmed by November 15th, seconded (Brindley)

1. Motion passed with 13 votes

- 2. During the annual meeting, there will be a discussion about skeleton changes mid-May.

- C. The Season Realignment had some challenges and obstructions along the way. There are two options which will be presented, as the Committee is trying to get a sense of which direction ICSA would like to pursue.

- 1. For the split season option, progress was made to establish a realistic overview with competition weekends - and Weekend 0 as Labor Day. This would have 5-6 weekends of competition, and could have an Interconference Match Race on Weekend 6, Conference Championships on Weekend 7, Singlehanded's on Weekend 8, and 2-day Nationals on Weekend 9 **or** Conference Championships on Weekend 6, Singlehanded's on Weekend 7, Semifinals on Weekend 8, Nationals on Weekend 9, and Match Racing Weekend 10. It is difficult to contain the cost and minimize potential impacts without getting rid of Semifinals. The Committee will get financial information from teams in the next 4-6 weeks, which are important to fill out to give a sense of the priorities. These are a few variations the group has identified.

- a) On the compromise point, the Split Season group was filled with compromises.

- b) There is the Soccer 21st Century model to take D1 soccer to a 2 semester model, tennis is reviewing changes to do doubles in the fall / singles in the Spring.
 - c) Pending potential changes about the number of races, conference championships/semifinals could go over 3 days.
 - d) There was feedback about the Midwest struggling to start competing early in the Spring, West Coast school start dates.
 - e) The CSR Committee could consider recommending changes to the scoring, i.e. a different number of events to consider (6).
 - (1) Something taking seriously and trying to find solutions, compromises everywhere, making adjustments. The importance of equity and inclusion for all schools was emphasized. In that vein, it's important to think about the schools that currently have to stay late/past season. Additionally, the future and progress of the institution is a factor that should be considered. We are all trying to solve the same basic problem.
 - (2) In reality, this is a work in progress that has taken a while to put together.
 - 2. The Hybrid Season proposal is similar to what we currently have. It's important that the order of events aligns with their prestige.
 - a) It did seem that the Split Season was favored when it was brought to the Executive Committee. In 2008, there was the switch to make things more competitive and prioritize more sailing, and less traveling.
 - b) When having these discussions, we need to have a solution mindset. Discussion ensued about the perceived pro's and con's to each model, as well as the merits of having semifinals, such as seeing teams compete head to head.
 - 3. Brindley recommended the Committee submit a proposal well in advance of the Spring meeting to include a possible timeline.
- D. Team Racing
- 1. There was interest in the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee to look at the Team Racing schedule dynamic - and explore Weekend 13 for a Friday/Saturday and Sunday/Monday women's and open team racing weekend. This would also look at the frequency of events, the travel/cost logistics, and the potentially changing schedule dynamic.
 - 2. There was a straw poll to gauge interest in this being referred to a Committee or forming an Ad Hoc Committee. A survey of the financing will be created.

3. This could assist with treating both Nationals the same. Comments were made emphasizing the importance of not conflating a potential Team Race Nationals change with addressing the hybrid/split season format. This warrants further discussion and it was requested that creative options be further discussed in the Committee, Championship, Ad Hoc Committees.

XIV. Conference Reports

XV. Old Business

A. LaserPerformance Collegiate Cup/BUSA Tour (Higgins)

1. Review of ICSA funding support for travel and competition expense, with a suggestion of \$15,000
 - a) Every 2 years, send all star to US to tour, play against teams, supposed to have in 2021, COVID postponed, scheduling issues last year, pushed back one more year, trying to come up with robust plan
 - b) In all previous, roughly \$15K, discussion recently that going forward BUSA should be self sustaining either donations or otherwise
 - c) The BUSA tour committee hopes to have former tour members assist with planning, selecting teams, and finding this funding.

B. Sailing World Rankings (Thompson)

1. This continued to utilize the format of previous years with 5-6 permanent rankers spread between conferences/outside perspectives with 2 supplemental rankers.

XVI. New Business

A. Review of proposed new race conditions (Wilkinson)

1. The Championship Committee should review this side by side with the old conditions to make sure nothing important was dropped. The Competition Committee needs to make sure that everything is captured in the appendix, and the rules committee should go over part pre-appendix. Before the Spring season, the board needs to vote yes.
2. 7.1 establishes the mechanism to accept a berth. In the old General Conditions, berths were assigned and then assessed a penalty if a conference did not send a team with late notice. This should no longer be here because right now, berths do not go to conferences and there is therefore no penalty for the failure to compete.
3. 8.4 addresses breakdowns, and has been in the SIs for quite some time. We apply the PR breakdowns, so this would say that.
4. 9.3: Do we need a match race general intent format?
5. 10.5: This does not include the seeded group fall back plan, we haven't used it since going to 16 spots.
6. Appendix A: Championship Selection process
 - a) For race officials, there should be criteria for selecting the appropriate individuals - this is not a suggestion of specific

language, but ensuring there is sufficient experience running collegiate events of the caliber. This would likely be referred to the Championship, Rules, and Executive Committees before the Board.

7. Timeline for review: draft by February 10th, to meet the following week.
8. Entry fees for Nationals events: updating the schedule of fees.
- B. NEISA: ICSA Single-handed championship shall have no more than 12 races scheduled in total; there shall be no more than 8 races completed in a day.
 1. This is addressing single-handed championships given the comparatively lower rest/rotation time. This proposal was advanced to protect the athletes, following a situation last year.
- C. Proposal from NEISA: ICSA dinghy regattas shall have a maximum of 14 races scheduled.
 1. This applies to fleet races. There were comments from NEISA in favor of this proposal, with data to back it. However, if there are 10 races on Saturday, that only leaves 4 races for Sunday (at a high cost). Individuals were not in favor of changing the daily race limit. The rationale behind the 18 races was to ensure boat rotations, when there were large disparities with boat quality. It's important to remember that it's 28 - not 14 - races.
- D. Proposal from NEISA: All multi-day ICSA regattas shall have a 10 race per day maximum.
- E. Proposal from NEISA: All multi-day ICSA regattas shall have no warning signal after 6pm.
 1. The general consensus is that guidelines of X hours after the report time, there shall be no warning signal. First, best practices should be in place, and then there can be movement on this.
- F. Introduce legislation to create more concise "season" definitions
 1. See attached suggestions for season limits
- G. Proposal from MCSA: Direct the ICSA Championship/Competition Committee to investigate the standards that should be required for conferences to maintain, lose, and regain their AQ berths to nationals.
 1. In the new system, two conferences were merged into one and we reallocated berths.
 2. Discussion ensued around the question of: Are there benefits of a combined qualifier among any two conferences in order to meet the criteria for a conference to maintain their AQ berths? If so, what should a combined qualifier look like; any specific requirements or approvals needed?
 - a) AQs help with national representation. If there were to be combined conference qualifiers (ie SEISA and the Northwest), this could be cost prohibitive to many teams, although it would give more traditional conference championship participation numbers.
 - b) Do we know the criteria in determining discipline strength for AQs? No, but there are criteria and we can find out.
- H. Proposal from MCSA: Request the ICSA to investigate the liability coverages at

sanctioned events. Discussed earlier in the meeting.

I. Proposal from MAISA: Review of various procedural rules

1. Edit Foreword, Student Eligibility, Course Duration, Team Race Requirements – Part IV Section C 25.c, Team Race Requirements – Part IV Section C 25.c.3, Edit Team Race Requirements - Part IV Section C 25.d.1, Edit Team Race Requirements – Part IV Section C 25.g, ADD to Part VI Protests, Penalties, and Appeals, DELETE Appendix B Rules for Windsurfing Regattas, EDIT Collegiate Dinghy Class Rules 7.4. Means of Propulsion, RRS 42 7.4.1 K) ADD Collegiate Dinghy Class Rules 7.4 Means of Propulsion, RRS 42 7.4.3

2. Brindley motion to approve #1, 2, 3, and 9 of MAISA proposed procedural rule changes, seconded (Schaupeter)

a) Motion passed with 13 votes

J. SEISA Proposal: Grant SEISA an Automatic Qualifier for ICSA National Championships

1. What is the timing? Spring 2023

2. Higgins motion to grant SEISA an Automatic Qualifier for ICSA National Championships, seconded (Reeg)

a) Motion passed with 9 votes

K. Other Items to be discussed (based on Fall season experiences) – from Executive Director

1. Brindley Motion on Executive Director proposal to move to an open bid process for the Singlehanded National Championship Host Rotation, Seconded by Higgins

a) Motion passed with 10 votes

2. Effective now, to solicit bids for Fall '24
3. Would like to approve fall 24 and 25, for bids starting now and it's important to coordinate with high school sailing

XVII. Scheduling of Next Meeting & Adjournment (Undergraduate)

- A. Monday, February 20 in the evening for a board meeting
- B. Annual Meeting: May 22nd, at King's Point
- C. 6:07PM adjourned