

Team Developments/Upgrades

Many NEISA teams at both the top and bottom of the performance rankings have made significant developments and improvements over the past year. At the NEISA Annual Meeting in December we welcomed Olin College as an Associate member, as well as upgraded the University of Maine, Amherst College, and UMass Boston to Provisional membership and upgraded Wentworth Institute of Technology to Regular membership. Several teams that have not sailed a women's team in the past are working to participate in women's events this coming year.

Brown University has built a new state-of-the-art facility at its venue, which it used to host the NEISA Coed Conference Championship last spring as well as the Women's Showcase Finals this fall. Bowdoin College has made upgrades to its facility and purchased a new fleet of Z420s. Bowdoin hosted the NEISA Women's Conference Championship this fall and will host the Coed Conference Championship this coming spring. The University of Vermont has also built a new sailing facility on Lake Champlain. Middlebury College has moved to Lake Champlain and has plans to buy new boats. The University of New England recently several FJs and has plans to expand their fleet further. Several other teams have made improvements to their facilities and are in the process of fundraising to buy boats or replace their current fleet.

Developing Team Symposium

We hosted our third annual Developing Team Symposium in December. Similar to past years, a panel of experienced NEISA coaches presented on a variety of topics, including recruiting, fundraising, team culture, and scheduling. Many leaders from developing and student-led teams were able to attend, and everyone had a lot of information and ideas to bring back to their teams. We plan to continue to host this symposium in future years in order to help smaller teams develop and increase the overall level of sailing in NEISA.

Developing Team Facebook Forum

This fall we introduced a Facebook group called the NEISA Developing Teams Forum. The purpose of the forum is to be a place where the leaders of the developing teams can communicate and share ideas with each other, as well as with the graduate and undergraduate leaders of the conference. The forum can also be used by new teams to search for resources such as boats and equipment. The group has begun to gain traction and our hope is that activity continues to increase, as we believe that this can be a very useful tool for the conference.

2019 Spring Nationals

NEISA is excited to host the 2019 National Championships in Newport, Rhode Island. (Justin Assad will discuss details in his report)