

ICSA Women's Committee Conference Call

Meeting Minutes

12.14.18

3:00pm

On the call: Danielle Richards, Justin Assad, Greer Watson, Charles Higgins, Amanda Callahan, Zach Leonard, Mitch Brindley, Andy Johnson, Allison Jolly, Shaan Shridhar, Margaret Houtz, Olivia Staruck

1. High school girls sailing promotion

Zach- Identified the need for more national championships within ISSA. We know that there are plenty of female skippers in the summer national and regional events, yet they are missing in ISSA competitions.

Danielle- Some reasons for ISSA not wanting to host a Girl's National Championships due to not wanting to have single gender competition at High School age. ISSA recommended that each conference can and most of them host regional Girl's championships.

Amanda- Referenced the current participation rates: (Attachment from 12.13 email)

Current Landscape for High School Girls Sailing

MASSA – NJ Girls Champs (1 division, 1 day, 17 teams last year) + VISA Women's Champs (1 div, 1 day, 9 teams last year)

MISSA – MN Girls State Tourney (1 div, 1 day, 15 teams last year)

NESSA – Herreshoff/NESSA Women's Champs (2 divs, 1.5 days, 16 teams + 3 qualifying events) + Linda Juliano W's Team Race Trophy (6 teams last year!)

NWISA – All Women's Regatta (2 divs, 1 day, 10 teams)

SAISA – SAISA Girls Champs (1 div, 1 day, 12 teams)

SEISA – I didn't find any girls/women only events

Andy- Spoke about the restrictions on public schools in Hawaii (not able to have HS teams), most of the best skippers in HI are women and are not able to represent due to this.

Mitch- Proposed dedicated semesters for Men's/Women's HS sailing which would create more opportunities for schools to have a complete schedule.

Shaan- Stated that having a women's championships would work better in the Fall for NW.

Charles- Plans on working with SEISA to create a HS women's champs.

*Some discussions about a similar trophy to Fowle Trophy for ISSA which would encourage a women's championship.

Discussion about whether ICSA should host an ISSA Women's championship, since ICSA assists with Baker, Mallory, Cressy etc...

Action item: Mitch to communicate with ISSA about reasons for ISSA Women's championships

- Will help ISSA grow (more skippers, more participation)
- Team racing depth
- There is single gender sailing at same age group (13-18) in US Sailing Championships, Optimist sailing (Girls nationals), Olympic sailing

2. Development of mid and lower level racing opportunities

Justin- Created the “Women’s Master Schedule” on google drive with women’s only events. Requested that everyone on the call to fill out accordingly for their conferences.

*Discussion about the option to have every additional berth that a team wants to be a Women’s berth, but it was noted that some conferences such as NEISA rarely have open berths in schedule.

Zach- Addressed the idea that some schools decide to send a lower ranking men’s skipper over a 3rd or 4th women’s skipper to a mid-level in conference. This occurs since opportunities are limited for men who can only compete in coed while women can compete in both women’s and coed.

Charles- Mentioned that most mid-level coed events are skippered by male sailors more often than females. Discussed ways to integrate more 2nd teams of women into the same events such as the Sugar Bowl.

* Discussion about how to add 2nd teams into the schedule. If there are open berths they should be only filled by women’s teams. Some conferences such as MAISA have already instituted this rule.

Danielle- Stated that MAISA and NEISA have a Top-9 event in Fall season and could probably add a Middle-9 event that would create berths for schools with developing women’s teams.

Shaan- Addressed the need for a way to identify which events(interconference) are the most skill level appropriate for NWICSA teams. Stated that most teams have limited budget and want to attend the event which will benefit them the most.

*Discussion about open berths in the Interconference schedule and which events need to be filled. References to Justin’s master schedule and where the berths are being filled historically. Previously the Interconference schedule was changed to have less berths for the non-host conference. Everyone in agreement that we are ready for a more diverse berth allocation.

3. Promotion of women's team racing-

To be discussed on next call during Winter Meeting