

# **MAISA Annual Meeting 2015**

## **Meeting Agenda**

December 6, 2014  
1PM

Call to order

### 1. Roll call

Michael Callahan (GTN) – Conference Commissioner

Bill Ward (SMC) – MAISA Graduate President

Jack Swikart (UPN) – MAISA Undergraduate President

Ian Burman (NA) – South Director

Max Plarr (CNU) – South Director

Dan Thompson (HWS) – North Director

Brian Clancy (HWS) – North Director

Scott Ikle (HWS) – Director-At-Large

Dan Winters – MAISA Scheduler

Also in attendance – Charles Higgins (ODU), Michael Collins (KP), Zach Runci (NYM), Morgan Wilson (NYM), Matt Newborn (VIL), Skip Kovacs (SJC), Johnny Norfleet (FRD), Alessandro Ambrosi (HU), Nina Heatfield (CNU), Richard Cremin (RIT), Rachel Pinkham (WM), Skip Swikart (UPN), Catie Hopkins (UPN), Taylor Niles (RUT), Joe Diller (CUA), John Pearce (GWU), Jay Spector (GWU), Ariana Bos (RIT), Elli Naor (RIT), Casey Brown (WEB), Kate Ranney (DEL), Megan McCreesh (DEL), Chelsea Wright (DEL), Chelsea Regan (DEL), Conor Waller (MD), Thomas Kibbe (MD), Joseph Crouse (MD), Jordan Ostrowick (MON), Giuseppe Licate (MON), Paul Stevens (MON), Jolie Roetter (AU), Alexina Beckley (AU), Harmon Rockler (SYR), Nick Pardini (SYR), Annie Eckmann (CNU), Michael Madigan (NA), Jason Rose (SBU), Cody Murphy (SBU), Avi Mayerhoff (SBU), Joseph Cristello (IUP), Philip Dorn (IUP), Karl Richter (IUP), Geoff Loffredo (SBU), Sam Patterson (UVA), Chris Craven (UVA).

### 2. Additions to the Agenda

### 3. Treasurers Report

a) MAISA Treasurer's Report for December 6, 2014

The association continues to be in good financial standing. The dues and regatta fees are at a level that allows MAISA to continue in a good financial position. I would not expect a need for any increase in the foreseeable future. As we are not at the year end, the final financial statement for the year will be presented in early 2015.

The spring bills for the regatta entry fees will be emailed to on or about February 1st. I encourage you to make arrangements to pay your bill as soon as possible.

### 4. Report from ICSA Standing Committees

a) All-American (Adam Werblow) – no report

b) Appeals - no report

c) Eligibility (Charles Higgins) – There have been many questions regarding eligibility and most answers can be found by reading the eligibility rules. The eligibility committee did grant an extra semester of eligibility to a sailor who was forced to leave school due to a concussion

d) Hall of Fame (Joe Sullivan) – no report.

e) Rules (Bill Ward) - no report

f) Communications (Brian Clancy) – no report

g) Afterguard – no report

h) Academic All-America (Dan Thompson) – Dan mentioned that everyone should pay attention to the deadlines and rules for the Academic All-America Team.

i) Championship and Competition (Scott Ikle, John Pearce) – No report.

### Old Business

1. MAISA Rules Proposals (Dan Winters)

A. 2015 Spring Ranking Rules

A motion was m/s/c to adopt the following rule.

- i. Teams 1 – 3 in both Qualifiers qualify for the America Trophy and will be ranked according to their place in that regatta.
- ii. All other teams in both Qualifiers will be scored as their place in their regatta plus the number of teams that competed in the America Regatta. The 4<sup>th</sup> place team in a Qualifier will be scored as 19<sup>th</sup> for the purpose of ranking.
- iii. Since both 6<sup>th</sup> place teams in the North and the South qualifiers would get the same points a tie exists. But this tie would be broken in the final calculations for the rankings in the fall.
- iv. Teams that didn't sail in their qualifier would get points equal to one greater than the last place team in the largest qualifier.

## B. 2015 Fall Ranking Rule

A motion was m/s/c to adopt the following rule

- i. Ranks from 1 to the last place team in the War are by their place in the War.
- ii. Ranks from 1 to the last place in the Luce will be one more than last place in the War plus their place in the Luce.
- iii. Ranks from the last place in the Luce to the last team to compete in a Fall Qualifier shall be one more than the last place in the Luce.
- iv. All others shall be two more than the last place in the Luce.

## C. 2015 No-Show Rule

After considerable discussion a motion was m/s/c to adopt the following rules governing no-shows.

For any No-Show in any season, that team shall be dropped one place (per no-show) in the subsequent scheduling rankings.

For the 2<sup>nd</sup> No-Show in a season that team shall be dropped from all remaining scheduled events for the season. They may add in to regattas at a later date provided there are still openings to the event.

For the 2<sup>nd</sup> No-Show in a season without prior warning to the scheduler and host by report time – that team shall be dropped to the bottom of the MAISA Scheduling Rankings.

## D. 2015 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Rule

A motion was m/s/c to adopt the following rule

Teams wanting to add a 2<sup>nd</sup> team to any event must so post to the alternate list and will be recorded in the order in which they are received. This includes the home team.

Prior to WTD any single team openings are filled from the alternate list as they occur. On the WTD any and all 2<sup>nd</sup> team openings are filled from the Alt. list with these priorities.

- 1) Home team,
- 2) Teams ranking below #10 and lower in the previous year's ranking, and
- 3) Any team(s) ranking from #1 to #9 in the rankings.

Unless withdrawn, all 2<sup>nd</sup> team requests will be *automatically* granted and any withdrawals must be within 7 days of the WTD or the team earns a No-show.

After the WTD any and all requests will be filled as they are received.

#### **E. Fall Season Confirmation Rule:**

After considerable discussion a motion was m/s/c to adopt the following rule

2. PRIOR TO Fall Week #2 all teams shall be required to provide:

- 1) Confirmation of two working e-mail contacts for the team
- 2) Assurance that they are signed up to the maisa-list
- 3) Confirmation that they intend to complete their Fall schedules via e-mail to both the Commissioner and the Scheduler

Confirmation of the schedule may be a simple e-mail to the Scheduler saying "TEAM \_\_\_\_\_ SCHEDULE CONFIRMED." All changes to the schedule shall be by separate e-mails.

Failure to comply with these requirements by weekend 3 of the Fall MAISA Schedule will result in that team being dropped from all Regattas they are signed up for in that season.

3. MAISA Women's Host Rotation (Scott Ikle) – Scott Ikle went over the new rotation for MAISA Women's and how we came to making SMC the host for the fall 2015 women's championship. Scott also told the group that NYM and KP would remain in the Women's hosting rotation.
4. Update of MAISA Information Bulletin (Mike Callahan) – Mike Callahan showed the group an updated version of the MAISA Information Bulletin and asked for any feedback on what the group wanted added to the bulletin.
5. New MAISA Website – need for content and updates from volunteers  
<http://colleges.nextmp.net/maisa/>

Commissioner Callahan showed the group the beta version of the new MAISA Website. After reminding the group that it was indeed a beta version and not official yet a request was made to include a link to techsore so teams can fill out RP information.

## New Business

### 1. Membership:

Reminder: Any school in Regular or Regular-Provisional status which has not participated in a scheduled regatta within the prior 4 seasons will be dropped to Associate Status and not included in the count of members to determine allocation of upcoming National Championships.

- a. Request by University of Buffalo to upgrade to Regular Member from Provisional Member was approved.
- b. Request by Syracuse to upgrade to Regular from Provisional Member was approved.
- c. Request by RIT to upgrade to Regular from Provisional Member was approved.
- d. Request by Gannon University to join MAISA as an Associate Member was approved. Their code is GAN.

### 2. Wind Maximum at MAISA Championship Events (Brian Clancy)

## **Adopting a wind maximum for MAISA Championships**

### Current Wind Strength Rule: ICSA PR 18(g)

Wind Minimum - Races should not be started unless the Race Committee is satisfied that the wind strength in the starting area, and to the best of its belief on the rest of the course, is in excess of an average of three knots (3.45 mph) for a reasonable period before the start as measured using instrumentation and while not moving over the bottom or anchored.

**Problem:** The “sailable” higher end wind ranges at championship events is not consistent from year to year.

**Objective:** Define “Sailable” conditions.

**Proposal:**

If the conditions raise question as to whether it is “sailable” then the following procedure will take place:

- (a) 0900 - At exactly the scheduled report time The Regatta Chairman, PRO, Chief Judge/Umpire, and MAISA Representative will go out to the general course area to test the wind strength using an ANEMOMETER set to read MPH.
- (b) The ANEMOMETER will be held in a position to read the wind strength for a period of exactly 15 minutes.
- (c) If at any point during the 15-minute time period 0900-0915 the ANEMOMETER reads 30 MPH or greater then racing will be postponed for 30 minutes.
- (d) 0945 – A second reading for exactly 15 minutes will take place. If at any point the ANEMOMETER reads 30 MPH or greater racing will be postponed for 30 minutes.
- (e) This pattern will continue throughout the day of scheduled racing and the readings, along with further pertinent information will be posted to the official notice board.
- (f) If the 15 minutes of ANEMOMETER readings does not reach 30 MPH racing conditions will be considered “sailable”

**Exceptions:**

- (a) If the air temperature specifically measured using a THERMOMETER is below 40 degrees then the necessary wind strength to warrant a 30 minute postponement will be 25 MPH measured with an ANEMOMETER.
- (b) COURSE SET - If this process was conducted, sailboats will not leave the launching area until the course is set. Boats can be launched into the water, but cannot proceed to the racing area.

**Solution:**

This eliminates the ambiguity surrounding the decision process at the championships. It’s never easy for the host, MAISA Rep, or other coaches to actually make the decision of whether or not to go sailing.

This proposal allows teams to have a safety action plan in place for their own venue ahead of time and can specifically note what conditions will bring the plan to action. Furthermore the host venue can approve sailing through their respective administrators or waterfront directors ahead of regatta.

The question that many non-sailors will ask is, “how much wind would you race in?” and right now we cannot answer that question accurately. It’s time we come up with an answer.

Brian Clancy led a discussion on his proposal. Considerable discussion ensued. Many coaches expressed concern that they would feel pressured into going sailing even when they felt it was unsafe. Many mentioned how each venue is different and that 40mph and waves is different from 40mph and flat calm. There were also many who agreed that there should be guidelines and rules to govern the safety of events. The 2000 Prosser trophy was mentioned as an event that was potentially sailed in conditions that were too extreme and that we should avoid letting that happen again. Commissioner Callahan appointed a Committee to discuss the issue and bring a proposal to the Executive Committee. The Committee will consist of Brian Clancy, Chair (COR), Scott Ikle (HWS), Skip Kovacs (SJC), Alex Ambrosi (HU), John Pearce (GWU).

### 3. Awards

Commissioner Callahan reminded everyone that MAISA will be nominating someone for each award and that MAISA schools should start thinking about nominees.

A) Purrington Award (Senior Outstanding Contribution). Please start thinking about potential nominees from your team. This award is to be given to the graduating senior from MAISA each year who has made outstanding contributions to college sailing through his/her efforts, not only by competing, but in the promotion of the sport, by fostering sportsmanship among teams, maintaining quality of competition, and contributing to the overall performance of our conference. The recipient is not necessarily the best sailor in MAISA but embodies the selfless spirit of true competition and commitment to excellence in support of college sailing in our conference.

B) Lifetime Service - Recognizing a career of extraordinary service to college sailing, whether as volunteer or professional; one honoree per year; nominees must have passed their 60th birthday.

C) Graham Hall Award for Outstanding Service by a College Sailing Professional  
Recognizing organizers, administrators, advisors, or coaches who have served the best interests of college sailing at the club/team, conference, or national level; one or two honorees per year; nominees must have passed their 45th birthday.

D) Outstanding Service – Volunteer

Recognizing those who have volunteered their time, talent, or resources to advance the interests of college sailing at the club/team, conference, or national level; one or two honorees per year; nominees must have passed their 45th birthday.

### 4. ICSA Schedule/ season limit discussion Discussion (Mike Callahan)

How does MAISA feel about a potential to split seasons and potentially add women's team racing? What would the MAISA Schedule look like? Do we favor a shorter season? Nationals length – is it too long?

John Pearce (GWU) led a discussion on the need to shorten the season and the national championships and how this could be accomplished. There was considerable discussion about how MAISA would feel as a conference if the ICSA should change the schedule to have fleet racing in the fall and team racing in the Spring. There was concern expressed that so few teams actually compete in team racing and how they might be affected by a change. Commissioner Callahan took a straw pole to see who thought the season was too long. Most of the Varsity Teams agreed the season was too long. Most of the Club teams agreed that the season length was just right. One team indicated that they'd like to see a longer season. Commissioner Callahan then took another straw pole to see what teams were trying to qualify for the national championships and what teams were just competing with no goal of qualifying for the national championships. All of the Varsity Teams and a few of the club programs said they were trying to qualify for the National Championships.

The overall consensus was that teams would be amenable to a shorter season and a shorter national championships but there was no consensus on how to accomplish this task.

- a) A competitor may compete in no more than 8 competition weekends per semester. This does not include competition in ICSA National Championships. (Charles Higgins)

Charles Higgins led a discussion about limiting sailors to 8 events per semester. UVA spoke in opposition saying that they sail more events and that with a limited number of skippers this rule would hurt them. Scott Ikle brought up the idea of adding the ACC's, ACT's and PCC's to the list of exempt competitions. A motion was m/s/c to bring this proposal as written to the ICSA Winter Meeting for discussion and a vote.

##### 5. Singlehanded BYOB Proposal (John Pearce)

Starting in the Fall of 2016, the MAISA Men's and Women's Singlehanded Championship be changed to a open, Bring-Your-Own-Boat regatta. They would still occur on the current Faye Bennett and Carl Van Dyne weekends, and the host would be voted on at the previous year's MAISA Meeting. The Radial Open and Laser North/South/2nd chance qualifiers would be removed from the schedule.



John Pearce (GWU) led a discussion on the potential to make MAISA Laser Regattas BYOB. Both Navy and KP indicated that they would not be purchasing new fleets again and that their current fleet should last another five years. Ian Burman (NA) spoke about the need to run qualifiers as close as possible to the nationals conditions and having borrowed boats was the correct way to do this. Considerable discussion ensued over the benefits of not having a BYOB conference vs. the need to shorten the schedule and have one laser regatta instead of qualifiers. The proposal was withdrawn.

## 6. MAISA All-Conference Team

Appointment of Committee of seven members to be chaired by Ian Burman (NA). The following coaches were named to the committee – Max Plarr (CNU), Charles Higgins (ODU), Brain Clancy (COR), John Pearce (GWU), Dan Thompson (HWS), Michael Collins (KP). Ian Burman asked what awards should be given out in addition to the ones already approved. The conference voted to add the following awards

1. Crew of the Year
2. Sportsman of the Year
3. Coach of the Year

In addition to the coaches on the selection committee the three undergrad executive committee members were added to help determine the sportsmanship award.

## 7. Items for the ICSA Meeting

A) Match Racing Weight – MAISA will ask that the Match Race weight limit be changed from 620lbs to 660lbs.

B) ACC/ACT Berths and hosts –MAISA prefers that the ACT's be hosted in a central location so there is no travel to the farthest reaches of each conference. There was no consensus on the number of teams to be allowed at the ACT's but coaches encouraged each team that qualifies to attend the ACT's. The current number of 16 teams is ok with MAISA for now.

MAISA discussed the current berth allocation for the ACC's. Scott Ikle asked that MAISA push for a new allocation of 8 MAISA/ 8 NEISA and 2 SAISA. Charles Higgins asked that MAISA keep the current berth allocation and mentioned that SAISA had not finished last at the ACC's in a few years and that 3 SAISA teams

makes the regatta more competitive. Commissioner Callahan agreed to take both proposals to SAISA and NEISA.

C) ICSA All Academic Team – Commissioner Callahan led a discussion on the all-academic team. He argued that ICSA is doing a disservice to its sailors by making the team so hard to make compared to other sports. After considerable discussion MAISA approved the formation of a MAISA All Academic Team. The criteria are as follows

To become a member of the MAISA 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.

- a. GPA for the year of competition – not cumulative.
- b. Regattas can be any regularly scheduled conference or ICSA interconference regatta or ICSA National Championship.
- c. The 8 regattas needed to qualify for the team can be sailed in one semester or over two semesters.
- d. All MAISA sailors are eligible regardless of class year
- e. There is no maximum number of sailors named to the MAISA All Academic Team
- f. No consideration should be given to competitive record.

MAISA also requests that the above criteria be used to determine the ICSA All Academic Team.

D) Transfer Rule – Commissioner Callahan led a discussion on the potential to have a rule that would limit the eligibility of a transferring sailor by one semester. After considerable discussion the Conference expressed its opinion that it did not support any rules limiting the eligibility of a transfer sailor and gave Commissioner Callahan the direction to oppose any rule at the ICSA level.

8. MAISA Racing Schedule – Any issues or concerns after the completion of the Live Draft (Dan Winters) – There were no issues at this time.

A) Proposal to have the Top 12 Women’s Teams from the MAISA Fall Women’s automatically qualify for the Spring Women’s to align with the qualification system for Coed sailing. The motion was m/s/c.

B) Proposal to have the MAISA Laser Qualifier be hosted by Navy so that it occurs at the same venue and time as the Faye Bennet. Commissioner Callahan spoke in favor of the proposal. Scott Ikle spoke about how the original hosting rule was adopted saying that the second qualifier was meant to be at the Van Duyne host. Michael Collins (KP) spoke against the proposal. A motion was m/s/c to approve the proposal as written beginning in the 2016 season.

9. Agenda additions – there were no additions to the agenda.

10. Appointing ICSA Committee Reps. The following individuals were appointed to the following ICSA Committees

A) Afterguard – Brian Clancy

B) All Academic – Dan Thompson

C) All American – Adam Werblow

D) Championships and Competition – John Pearce, Scott Ikle

E) Communication –

F) Eligibility – Charles Higgins

G) Hall of Fame – Joe Sullivan

H) Intersectional Schedule – Scheduler

I) Membership and Development – Max Plarr

J) Rules – Bill Ward

11. Election of MAISA Officers for 2015

Conference Commissioner – 2 years (Mike Callahan is eligible to be re-elected)

Mike Callahan (GTN) was elected as Conference Commissioner.

MAISA Graduate President – 2 Years (Bill Ward **is not** eligible to be re-elected)

Ian Burman (NA) was elected as MAISA Graduate President

North Director – 2 Years (Brian Clancy **is not** eligible to be re-elected)

Johnny Norfleet (FRD) was elected as North Director

South Director – 2 Year (Ian Burman **is not** eligible to be re-elected)

Charles Higgins (ODU) was elected as South Director

MAISA Undergrad President – 1 Year

Sam Patterson (UVA) was elected as MAISA Undergraduate President

North Rep – Catie Hopkins (UPN) was elected as North Rep.

South Rep – Jay Spector (GWU) was elected as South Rep.

12. Approval of expenses for MAISA Undergrad President and Commissioner to attend the ICSA Winter Meeting.

A motion was m/s/c to approve the expenses of MAISA Undergrad President Jack Swikart and MAISA Commissioner Mike Callahan to attend the ICSA Winter Meeting

13. Schedule of Executive Committee Meetings for 2015

The following dates were set for the MAISA Executive Committee Conference Calls for 2015. All calls begin at 12PM.

2/3/14

3/3/14

4/7/14

14. Adjourn meeting

Meeting as adjourned at 4PM