

MAISA Annual Meeting 2016

Meeting Agenda

December 5, 2015
1PM

Call to order at 1:08PM

1. Roll call

Michael J. Callahan, Commissioner, Sam Patterson (UVA) Undergraduate President; Ian Burman (NA) Graduate President; Scott Ikle (HWS) Director-At-Large, Dan Thompson (HWS) North Director; Johnny Norfleet (FRD) North Director; Charles Higgins (ODU) South Director; Max Plarr (CNU) South Director, Catie Hopkins (UPN) North Undergraduate Rep, Jay Spector (GWU) South Undergraduate Rep; Dan Winters, MAISA Scheduler – Associate Members – GAN (G), IUP (U), RUT (U), Provisional: SBU (G, U) Regular: CNU (G,U), Cornell (G, U by Proxy), Drexel (G), FRD (G), GWU (G,U), GTN (G), HU (G), HWS (G), LOY (G,U), ODU (G), SJC (G,U), SMC (G), NYM (G), SYR (G), KP (G), NA (G,U), MD (U), UPN (G,U), UVA (G,U), VIL (G,U), WM (G,U).

2. Additions to the Agenda

A proposal to end requirement for undergrads to be at meeting to be elected to positions on the Executive Committee

3. Treasurers Report

MAISA Treasurer's Report for December 5, 2015

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 2016.

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 (Ian Burman) – MAISA sailors named crew All-American – Katia DaSilva (GTN), Emma Ferris (NA), Mariah Leffingwell (SMC), Isabelle Luzuriaga (GTN), Gabriel Smith (ODU). All American Coed Skippers: Alexander Curtiss

(SMC), Esteban Forrer (ODU), Nevin Snow (GTN). All American Women's Skipper: Mary Hall (NA). Honorable Mention All American Women's Skipper: Nancy Hagood (GTN). Coed College Sailor of the Year: Nevin Snow (GTN).

- b) Appeals – no report
- c) Eligibility (Charles Higgins) – no report
- d) Hall of Fame (Joe Sullivan) – no report
- e) Rules (Bill Ward) – Bill Ward mentioned that the rules committee has gone through past meeting minutes to update the Procedural Rules. The updated Procedurals were not online at the time of the meeting.
- f) Afterguard (Brian Clancy) – no report
- g) Academic All-America (Dan Thompson) – Dan Thompson mentioned the new criteria for Academic All American. Commissioner Callahan mentioned that techscore now has a mechanism to track which sailors attended an event but did not compete.
- h) Championship and Competition (Scott Ikle, John Pearce) – no report
- i) Oracle Team USA Trip Report (Scott Ikle) – Scott Ikle told the group about his trip to Bermuda to learn about the Americas Cup technology, innovation and team practices.

Old Business

1. MAISA Spring Conference Championship Hosts – Should the host of America Trophy and MAISA Women's be required to have 36 boats? Commissioner Callahan opened discussion by asking whether the Conference preferred having its Spring Nationals Qualifiers for Coed and Women's Fleet Racing at venues with 36 boats or 18 boats. Considerable discussion ensued about what was better for the conference. Scott Ikle, Alex Ambrosi and Charles Higgins spoke against a move to 36 boats saying among other things that it was a burden to the host to be required to have 36 boats. It could hurt growth in the conference and it went against the principle of having our conference championships as closely aligned to Nationals as possible since the ICSA Semi-Finals was in 18 boats not 36. Commissioner Callahan and Ian Burman among others, spoke in favor of 36 boat venues noting that our last two coed conference championships were 8 and 6 races. The discussion quickly moved away from a requirement to have MAISA Spring Women's at 36 boat venues. The discussion focused on what to do with the America Trophy. A bid system was discussed but not favored. A straw poll was

taken indication the majority supported a 36 boat America Trophy. **Commissioner Callahan made a motion that beginning in Spring 2017 the minimum number of boats required to host the America Trophy will be 36. Teams scheduled to host the event that don't have 36 boats can petition the Executive Committee to host the event in 18 boats. The motion was m/s/c.** Commissioner Callahan said the MAISA Executive Committee will determine what the host rotation will be if a team decides not to host.

2. MAISA Umpire Committee -

How much should each of the following pay to help cover the costs of umpires – Hosts, Teams competing, Conference? Commissioner Callahan opened discussion on how MAISA can ensure we pay all the expenses of the umpires at the Team Race Challenge and Prosser Trophy. After some discussion a motion was made to **charge each team competing in the Team Race Challenge and Prosser Trophy an added entry fee of \$100. An amendment to the motion was made by Charles Higgins (ODU) that teams competing in both the Challenge and the Prosser Trophy will only be charged \$100 not \$200. The motion as amended was m/s/c.**

3. Potential MAISA Schedule Changes for Fall 2017.

Commissioner Callahan gave a presentation outlining the flaws in the current MAISA Schedule and showing a proposed solution for the 2017 season. The solution would involve no interconference regattas from weekends 1-4. Weekends 5-8 would have interconference competition and feature two weekends of ACC like events inviting the top teams from PCCSA, SAISA and MCSA. Commissioner Callahan noted that the proposed schedule would help spur in-conference competition by strengthening existing events, creating new events and combining existing events into series. Considerable discussion ensued and there was some disagreement about whether the season should end with a conference championship or an interconference regatta. The members present supported the idea of restructuring in principle.

4. MAISA Performance Ranking – discussion of potential MAISA Performance Ranking that would either replace or add to the current system to determine in conference schedule rank.

Jack Swikart (UPN) and Ian Burman (NA) gave a presentation on how a MAISA performance ranking would look. Jack Swikart gave a visual presentation of how a Performance ranking would have looked in Fall 2015. Jack modeled his ranking off the NEISA performance ranking. Many questions were asked of Jack and Ian

about potential flaws in the format and how this could change the way teams sail in MAISA. The group decided there was merit to looking into the Performance Ranking and would investigate the matter further with an eye to possible implementation in Fall 2017.

New Business

1. Membership Items

a. 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.

b. Request by Stony Brook to become Regular Member

A motion was m/s/c to approve Stony Brook as a regular member.

c. Request by Rutgers to become Provisional Member

A motion was m/s/c to approve Rutgers as a Provisional Member

d. Request by University of Rochester to become Regular Member

A motion was m/s/c to approve University of Rochester as a Regular Member

2. Awards – MAISA should nominate someone for each award

Commissioner Callahan reminded the group that as a conference we should nominate someone for each award. He asked the group to think about individuals in the Conference who fit the criteria.

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.

3. Removal of Two rules pertaining to hosting and scheduling

- a. Removal of “Scheduling Confirmation Rule” which requires teams with multiple no-shows to confirm their schedule prior to each season. Commissioner Callahan noted that No-shows are dropping in MAISA and that this rule is not always followed and no longer needed. **A motion was m/s/c to remove the Scheduling Confirmation Rule.**
- b. Removal of “Regatta Preparation Rule” which requires smaller teams to confirm that they are preparing to run their regatta properly. Commissioner Callahan noted that very few teams follow this rule and that it should be removed. **A motion was m/s/c to remove the Regatta Preparation Rule.**

4. Requiring all MAISA Teams to be on the MAISA Email List

- a. How can we ensure that all MAISA Teams and team leaders are getting MAISA communications? Commissioner Callahan and Scheduler Winters noted that it is very difficult to communicate with member schools when they aren't on the MAISA list. After some discussion Michael Collins (KP) recommended that MAISA ask that individuals who sign up for a Techscore account be automatically added to their conference email list.

5. Proposal to have ICSA PRs 12.a and 12.d rewritten as:

- a.) Academic Status : To be eligible to represent a college in competition, a student-athlete shall be enrolled in at least a minimum full-time program of studies at the college they represent, except as provided in PR 12(b), & 14(c).
- d.) A student-athlete who enrolls in a second baccalaureate or equivalent degree at the same institution or who has graduated and is enrolled in a graduate program of studies at the same institution is eligible provided the student-athlete has eligibility remaining within the applicable five year period. (Charles Higgins)

Charles Higgins (ODU) brought this question to the group for discussion. There was considerable discussion about the issue of letting graduate students participate in ICSA

regattas. Schools without graduate programs argued that it would disadvantage them. Others argued that the number of athletes this would affect would be minimal. Commissioner Callahan wondered if a compromise would be to not allow graduate students to participate in a National Championship but to allow them to participate in regular season events. Charles Higgins noted that there were no ulterior motives in the proposal and that it would benefit sailors who work hard and graduate early in order to pursue a graduate degree at their school. After more discussion a motion was m/s/f to bring the question to the ICSA Mid Winter Meeting.

6. Proposal from MAISA to have the ICSA Rules committee write a rule specifically addressing Eligibility Hardship Waivers. (Charles Higgins)

Charles Higgins noted that ICSA has no mechanism to deal with Eligibility Hardships. **A motion was m/s/c to ask the ICSA Rules committee to write a rule specifically addressing Eligibility Hardship Waivers.**

7. Proposal to have ICSA PR 12.c brought to the table for discussion. Is our current regulation restricting Financial Aid working to the best interests of the student-athletes? Does a sailor receiving aid from a school they could not get into without help break our rule or the spirit of it? Would allowing scholarships/moving toward NCAA allow more schools a better opportunity to grow their programs, particularly in the 5 smaller conferences (based on membership)? Should ICSA look into allowing Financial Aid based on sailing ability? (Charles Higgins)

This issue led to the longest discussion at the meeting. Charles Higgins (ODU) spoke in favor of allowing financial aid or scholarships for sailing. Scott Ikle (HWS) spoke against the proposal saying that Academic Scholarships were better and that Athletic Scholarships would increase cost and disparity within ICSA. Commissioner Callahan noted that Athletic Departments want to keep costs down and adding scholarships for sailing would in his opinion make sailing more expensive and that would hamper growth. Commissioner Callahan then asked the group if they agreed with the question posed by Charles Higgins "Does a sailor receiving aid from a school they could not get into without help break our rule or the spirit of it?" The members of the meeting who answered yes to the question were Charles Higgins (ODU) and Johnny Norfleet (FRD). The overwhelming majority of those in attendance did not want to see financial aid or scholarships added to ICSA.

8. Proposal to move the MAISA Club Champs off the MAISA Women's/MAISA Match race weekend, or if that cannot be done, then remove it from the schedule entirely. (Charles Higgins)

This discussion was tabled to the next MAISA Executive Committee Meeting.

9. MAISA All-Conference Team

Appointment of Committee of seven members to be chaired by John Pearce (GWU). Commissioner Callahan appointed the following members to the MAISA All-Conference Team

John Pearce, Chair (GWU), Ian Burman (NA), Zach Runci (NYM), Michael Collins (KP), Johnny Norfleet (FRD), Billy Martin (UPN), Charles Higgins (ODU).

10. Items for the ICSA Meeting

MAISA will bring the issue of Eligibility Waivers to the ICSA Meeting.

11. MAISA Racing Schedule – Any issues or concerns after the completion of the Live Draft (Dan Winters). Scheduler Winters noted that there were a large number of withdrawals last semester and that teams should pay attention to the alternate list. Ian Burman (NA) asked if regattas could be organized by type on the schedule. Scheduler Winters agreed to look into it.

12. Agenda additions

A motion was m/s/c to allow for election of undergraduate officers who are not in attendance at the MAISA Annual Meeting.

13. Appointing ICSA Committee Reps – Commissioner Callahan appointed the following individuals to serve on ICSA Committees.

- A) Afterguard – Brian Clancy
- B) All Academic – Dan Thompson
- C) All American – Ian Burman, John Pearce
- D) Championships and Competition – John Pearce, Scott Ikle
- E) Communication – Alex Ambrosi
- F) Eligibility – Charles Higgins
- G) Hall of Fame – Adam Werblow
- H) Intersectional Schedule – Dan Winters
- I) Membership and Development – Max Plarr
- J) Rules – Bill Ward

14. Election of MAISA Officers for 2015

North Director – 2 Years - Dan Thompson was re-elected.

South Director – 2 Years - Max Plarr was re-elected.

MAISA Undergrad President – Austin Powers (CNU) was elected

North Rep – Jessica Kurlander (SBU) was elected

South Rep – Shira Golub (GWU) was elected.

15. Approval of expenses for MAISA Undergrad President and Commissioner to attend the ICSA Winter Meeting. **A motion to approve covering the travel expenses for Commissioner Callahan and Undergraduate President Patterson to attend the ICSA Winter Meeting was m/s/c.**
16. Schedule of Executive Committee Meetings for 2016

The Executive Committee will have Conference Calls on the following days

Tuesday February 23 @ 12PM

Tuesday March 22 @ 12PM

Tuesday April 19 @ 12P

The Meeting was adjourned at 4:57PM