**Meeting Minutes (4/5/14) – MCSA Executive Board Meeting**

**Meeting Information**

***Date:***April 5, 2014 ***Location:*** Northwestern University  
 ***Time:*** 6:13pm ***Meeting Type:*** MCSA Executive Board Meeting  
 ***Called By:*** Brian Tobelmann ***Facilitator:***   
 ***Timekeeper:*** Geoff Pedrick ***Minutes By:*** Geoff Pedrick  
 ***Attendees:*** Brian Tobelmann, Alex Ramos, Laura Rozier, Emily Johnson, Kim Hu, Nicole Coleman, Geoff Pedrick

**Agenda**

1. Championship Venue Status- Brian Tobelmann, Emily Johnson, Alex Ramos
   1. Team Race – Moved from Wisconsin to Columbia. NU providing housing
      1. They’d like to have more motorboats. Have not yet contacted CYC.
   2. Coeds – For sure in Minnesota, venue depends. Minnetonka still icy. St. Croix another option, they’ll for sure be iced out. They would tow the Z420’s to St. Croix.
   3. Womens – Will be free of ice. Plan to hold on Baseline Lake because no appreciable gain in boat quality between there and GPYC.
2. 3-Day Championship Format- Andrew Fox
   1. He’d like to explore it more, turn TR/Coeds into a 3-day (Fri-Sat-Sun) event for S15
   2. Requires potential host to be efficient.
   3. Might overlap with finals? Look at school schedules (UM, eastern on one schedule, UW/UMN later, etc.)
   4. No board members were opposed to the idea.
   5. **\*Geoff will look at school exam schedules for feasibility.**
3. Midwinters Banquet- Brian Tobelmann
   1. Banquet hall at hotel? Nicole says they’re double the price. We spent ~$5000 this year at CYC. The year before was external and cost ~$10k
4. Nationals 2017 Update- Brian Tobelmann
   1. Need 36 boats. Really, two fleets of 18. Boats within each fleet need to be comparable.
   2. Most likely need teams to buy sets of boats. Wisco might be able to buy 18, NU might be able to buy 6. Find teams looking to get even 1-3 boats?
   3. Possible venues:
      1. Wisconsin just got a new facility. They have a huge parking lot they can rent out to keep boats ($10/day). Getting four new piers, have four ramps for launching. LP said it would probably be ~$3000 to ship 36 new boats to Madison. 🡪 Teams could pay for boats, UW would pay for transportation to Madison, teams pay for transportation from event
         1. Can boats be sold back to LP? Less attractive bid to ICSA if that happens
      2. Navy Pier? CYC, Columbia joint host? Use their boats, use floating docks to store them during the nights. Would need purchasing still, places to keep motorboats, etc.
         1. **\*Geoff will talk to CMRC about logistics similar to Match Cup**
         2. **\*Kim is going to talk to Columbia and CYC about their boat cycling**
      3. Michigan would have to host on St. Clair, have to use yacht clubs combined and who would be interested in buying boats together. Or St. Joe’s, MI? Other similar places also. Only problem there is getting/storing boats. But boat transport can be inexpensive w/in Midwest
   4. Suggestion made to purchase the boats after the bid is awarded, regardless of venue. Have them delivered one season ahead of time (Winter 2016-17) so they’re pretty new.
   5. How much do sponsors give? What is possible? Anything as long as it’s not a direct competitor of APS/Gill/Sperry. Each gives some monetary amount. ~$25000 total? Brian has done the math.
   6. Hotels can often do block deals on rooms. We wouldn’t need to provide housing but can help to give options.
   7. MCSA Foundation may be able to help? Or a “Nationals Fund” to which people could donate. Look into this.
   8. Write a letter to Glenn McCarthy (LMSRF Commodore) about putting a thing into the newsletter to spread the word around the region.
      1. **\*Brian agrees to write it, based on his UW letter**
5. Building Relations with Yacht Clubs – Nicole Coleman
   1. If we’re going to look at YC’s as likely partners for nationals, we should promote events that clubs put on for the MCSA. St Joe’s, DYC, etc.
   2. No specific plans set
6. Potential New Schools – Laura Rozier
   1. Geoff and Laura put together list of potential add targets. Near water, reasonably sized institutions. The two of them will work on letters to schools, club sports directors, etc. to encourage teams. Letter will come out to board for comments
   2. Robert Morris? Kim has info, they keep their old stuff at Columbia…they at least have funding, so that’s something. Tough to keep schools without funding around.
   3. Mcallister (St. Paul), Eastern Michigan (Ypsilanti) suggested by board members
7. Fundraising and Team Growth – Laura Rozier
   1. Laura sent a form out to teams asking a bunch of info
   2. She’s going to synthesize it into a single document, based on size or something, and say what teams have done that has worked well or not
   3. Towing boats, letting teams know which schools are nearby or going to regattas and how they can ask people to tow
8. ICSA Schedule Review- Andrew Fox
   1. Invite process: Agreed – conferences without provided berths first, with input from Host on which conference and school gets awarded the invites.
   2. Open berths to an event without invites: Agreed – email to ICSA list, berths awarded based on response order w/o conference quotas.
   3. Invite response time – Kim says two weeks after berths announced. It gives them time to plan. Often they’re announced over winter break, so people won’t be as responsive to emails. Then 3 days if offered another person’s spot. Rest of board in agreement.
      1. **\*Suggest 2w/3d timeline to ICSA.**
   4. Late-drop an in-conference Interconference event: Agreed on no extra ICSA penalty. For a variety of reasons, depending on team size and competition level.
9. Archival of MCSA Records- Brian Tobelmann
   1. Records in Dave’s basement. If they’re stuff we don’t need to reference, could put them in a storage locker. If we need to reference, can get ready-access locker or scanned pages ($0.10/page would get expensive though).
   2. Storage locker looks like easiest and cheapest option. If we find stuff we need to get scanned, then we can do that after.
   3. **\*Brian will investigate further.**
10. Friday Sailing in Chicago – Kimberly Hu
    1. Northwestern captains had the idea for doing Friday night sailing, starting in May(?) and going through the summer. Concerned about reimbursement if damage.
    2. They’ve been contacting schools, trying to get people to come out
    3. Definitely helpful for teams going to Nationals once their classes end
    4. **\*Board decides it would carry the same coverage as a normal regatta.**
11. Clustered School Events- Kimberly Hu
    1. Similar idea for schools elsewhere. Are there options? Are schools close enough?
    2. Brian suggests contacting a pinnacle school in the area, let them take care of logistics
    3. Also let them be open to members of the community. Helpful to develop connections, networking, etc. and keep people sailing 420’s during the off-season
12. Review Board Goals- Brian Tobelmann
    1. Brian
       1. Team race clinic in the fall? Alex is going to try to push Michigan toward it. St. Mary’s does one where they have coaching/judging on the water during the weekend.
       2. Could also do a fleet race clinic where there are a lot of coaches (one per two boats?) who can help people on a personal level during the sailing.
       3. Wisco talking about a TR clinic/regatta combo. Learning Saturday, racing Sunday. Try to create even teams based on first day coaching. Teams could just bring one boat, not have to worry about a full 3.
    2. Goals discussion turned into clinic discussion, filling the open weekends in Fall 2014.
13. Adjournment
    1. 7:25pm