**MCSA Board Meeting Agenda**

November 12, 2016, 5pm

Flex Room, Macatawa Bay Yacht Club

1. Call to order/roll call: 1705
   1. Expected Attendance: Libby, Jacob, Jacob, Geoff, Nicole
   2. Virtual attendance: Brittany, John, Grant
   3. Expected Absence: Andrew
   4. Visitors: Northwestern, Wisco, Michigan, Michigan State, Marquette, GVSU, Hope
2. Approve [old minutes](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Pvt8AjIz0A7dwdJTQeK1EhlKtNQmELZusQ2058-9grE/edit?usp=sharing)
3. Board Updates
   1. Commodore
      1. Invite visitors to talk now so that they can leave early (if they’d like)
   2. Vice Commodore
      1. Talked to Hillsdale. Working on getting word out (and there’s some interest). Athletic dept. Is willing to grant club sports status once more interest
         1. Lake ~8min from campus. Good for practice, but probably not for large regattas
         2. Interested in attending practices with other schools, possibly attending regattas in the spring
         3. Hoping to launch own fleet next fall (2017) or spring (2018)
   3. Regatta Chair
      1. Match Race didn’t go as smoothly as desired (full report later)
      2. Everything is going well
      3. Evaluations aren’t getting done as much as we’d like. Grant hasn’t been pestering people about it. Is there a better system for getting feedback?
         1. Emma Biagioni had a lot. Is there a reason for that?
            1. Libby emailed people, wrote it on the whiteboard, texted everyone. Lots of bugging people until they get it done.
            2. Jacob recommends reminding all team leaders which events they attended and asking again for evals.
            3. Also need to have host school push the competitors, in addition to Regatta Chair. Can they have a computer on-site so people can do it before they leave?
         2. Do hosts actually look at feedback and make conscious adjustments?
            1. Michigan doesn’t, but Hope, Miami, and Wisconsin say they do.
            2. Usefulness varies from one team to another. Good when transferring from one board member to another, or if teams know they need to change things.
         3. Jacob recommends **bringing the penalties up again at Midwinters**, but also trying to pressure hosts to pursue evals on their own.
         4. Point penalty vs. price penalty
   4. Publicity Secretary
      1. Make sure next publicity secretary knows something at transfer time.
   5. Equipment Information Coordinator
      1. Nothing to report
   6. Special Interests Representative
      1. Do we want to make an MCSA ski trip?
      2. Keep it local. She’ll organize it and get the word out.
   7. Conference Commissioner
      1. Spring nationals rotation: MA/NE/SA/At-Large is being discussed
      2. Geoff thinks it’s a good system. Has merits over straight bids because it encourages non-power teams (more than a regular bid)
      3. It would make every non-power conference host every 16 years. That’s pretty infrequent. It could make more sense if it’s two at-larges?
      4. **Further discussion on email.**
   8. Treasurer
      1. Does Lawrence still exist? Libby contacted them and no response
      2. Reminder that Carleton, Grinnell, and Wittenberg were voted out.
   9. Interconference Coordinator
      1. Not present.
4. Old Business
   1. Trophy Case: Arrangements with CYC
      1. No progress since last meeting.
   2. Midwinters Plans
      1. Meeting hosted at UWM. Room is secured, but details aren’t available right now
      2. Banquet hosted at Marquette YC on Saturday night.
         1. ~$32/person + $750 room charge. So ~$6300 total.
      3. Harken is going to arrange tours for the people not in the meeting.
      4. Hosts are talking to Bill Goggins about potential speakers
      5. Gifts TBD. Reviews on glasses are mixed. T-shirts are positive. Other ideas on the table.
      6. Housing: UWM can host ~45 people. MRQ can host ~60
      7. Distances: MRQ to UWM is 15-20m. YC is ~10 from UWM, 15 from MRQ
      8. Funding - Do you want it to go through the MCSA?
         1. Yes. Nicole will work with the hosts and make sure payments happen.
   3. Bylaws and Procedural Rules Review
      1. Anything that needs to be reviewed must be submitted to the conference at least 30 days ahead of Midwinters.
5. New Business
   1. Regatta Reviews
      1. 2016 Match Race Champs
         1. **Geoff will send out more complete report.**
         2. Brad couldn’t do it anymore
         3. Fred took over later in the game. He got a PRO lined up but they had to bail last minute, lots of issues on Bayview end.
         4. Grant says that you’re not supposed to start a second round robin if you don’t think you’ll finish it. He thought it was the right call not to sail the second round robin given the conditions and time taken
            1. Geoff says: this is just for fleet races (MR follows championship conditions).
         5. There was a lack of communication partly due to no teams having VHFs on their boats. They did send boats around but didn’t do a great job.
         6. Jacob H was upset that there weren’t pairings sheets / they were incorrect.
      2. Timme Angsten Review and Plans
         1. Tabled.
   2. Regatta Plans for Next Year
      1. Potential Match Race Series
         1. Tabled.
      2. Harken Clinic
      3. General Scheduling
         1. More events later in the fall
         2. More event spreading
         3. More regattas overall?
   3. Future Nationals
      1. 2018 Singlehanded Nationals
         1. Hope/Grand Valley
            1. Parking lot is a great place to keep boats/trailers
            2. Can tow out to Lake Michigan or sail in the lake, depending on conditions

Tow vs sail out depends on conditions. Sometimes it takes 30-40m because wind gets swirly, lots of tacking.

If sailing on Mich, would bring lunches out

West wind makes Mich very wavy.

Inland also provides some cover from the dunes if it’s very windy

Could also do some racing on one, some on another

* + - * 1. MBYC (not just MBJA) support the venture. PRO’s for recent events are on board.
        2. Many members have volunteered boats in the past, plus the range of RIB’s and Whalers that MBJA has.
        3. Very little traffic in the lake by November 1
        4. Travel - Grand Rapids has a good amount of flights, very reliable. Many connections, also. And you can also travel to Chicago or Detroit and drive.
        5. Hotels - There are many inexpensive places to stay in the area, plus the schools may be able to host.
        6. Spectating: There are some public parks down the inland lake where people tend to go watch. If outside, there’s a beach and piers where people can go.

Would someone be able to provide spectator boats? Probably

* + - 1. Northwestern
         1. Often host MCSA singlehanded championships, which have gone well
         2. Beach launch lets everyone get in and out very quickly
         3. Race course would be right off the lakefill
         4. Containers could be kept in one of a variety of places, depending on what the school wants at that time.
         5. Chicago is very easy for travel/flights
         6. Many hotels in Evanston and surrounding area. Possible to get deals b/c not a busy weekend.
         7. PRO - Long list of people, vague interest but hard to get firm commitments this far out
         8. Judges - Betsy, Geoff often help at MCSA championships (Geoff notes that those two options might not be suitable for Nationals)
         9. Often NU requires drysuits later in the season. Would that be in place for this event?

Maybe? Harder to wear a drysuit in a Laser, and water is warmer in Fall than Spring.

* + - * 1. Spectating: The lakefill and breakwall are very good and close to the sailing center. Some elevation helps on course perspective. Viewing from the sailing center itself isn’t great, though.
      1. Discussion: Both venues have promise.
         1. MBYC has good options for sailing either inside or outside, to make best use of conditions.
         2. NU has good viewing, good that they can get everyone in/out quickly.
         3. Parking lot proximity at MBYC is good.
         4. Spectating at Northwestern is easier (on-shore from various places), but spectator boats at MBYC alleviate that somewhat.

Not as many spectators at singlehanded vs. spring

* + - * 1. Housing, race official availability are comparable.
        2. MBYC has more access to motorboats than NU, good for getting coaches on the water
        3. Hope: 6, Northwestern: 0. **Hope is selected for November 3-4, 2018.**
    1. 2018 Spring Nationals
  1. Michigan State Issue
     1. Housing issues at Wisconsin (Midwinters) and Hope (Emma Biagioni)
     2. Wisconsin thing was mixed signals. They thought it would be a
     3. Hope - Derek, who lives nearby but isn’t on the team, came up for the party. He got in a fight with the host or something and broke a window. MSU recognized it was mostly their responsibility for it being their friend.
     4. Libby states they came with more people than they said, which was a problem especially for the house where they were staying.
     5. They were loud (MSU agrees) coming back from the party
     6. Basement smelling of urine can’t be confirmed or denied by MSU.
     7. Is non-competitors going to the party a recurring thing?
        1. MSU doesn’t think it’s recurring, but recognizes that it’s not acceptable. They reviewed the events of the weekend internally.
        2. They amended their constitution to forbid non-dues-paying-members from associating with the team during events.
     8. Do we need to take action or do we think that MSU is handling things appropriately?
        1. We agree that they are handling things and **we do not need to take action at this time.**
  2. MCSA Championship Bids
     1. Women’s
        1. Northwestern
           1. Good that it’s a central location (ex: Denison was far)
           2. Their strong male sailors would be available to help out with mark set and stuff, because they wouldn’t be sailing
           3. Safety boats: They have 3 at their sailing center. Many YC’s are around and can be solicited for extra safety boats.
           4. Flexible on dates.
        2. Michigan
           1. 1-year old fleet of 12 FJ’s
           2. Motorboat situation: 2 boats plus a RIB. Talking to area YC’s to potentially acquire another 1-2 boats.
           3. Cary-Price was successful
           4. Matt Graham, George, etc. can be judges. Ryan Seago also in the area, probably could be PRO.
           5. Prefer April 8-9, but can do April 1-2
           6. **Approved for April 8-9.**
     2. Team Race
        1. Wisconsin
           1. Umpires: Geoff asks how many they intend to have, who they are.
           2. Geoff advises Wisco that we ideally have two umpire boats per race
           3. Dates: Easter is April 16. Will that be an issue? It could limit attendance. Using their backup weekend could make for a good event, because teams will have practiced and
           4. **Approved for April 29-30.**
     3. Coed
        1. Northwestern
           1. Can’t do a 3-day combo, but pretty flexible on dates.
           2. They intend to use both vintages of their boats, consider them generally fairly competitive.
           3. Safety boats: They have 3 at their sailing center. Many YC’s are around and can be solicited for extra safety boats.
           4. **Approved for April 22-23.**
        2. Wisconsin (as part of TR combo)
        3. Board believes Wisconsin has run a strong event, and it has helped improve TR participation
     4. Spring Ideas:
        1. Dates: Easter is April 16. Will that be an issue for attendance? 1-2 people per team going home could be the difference between having a team race team and not.
        2. Could we do TR April 29-30 @ Wisco, Coeds April 22-23 @ NU, Womens April 8-9 @ Mich? Is that extra travel worth losing our backup date but avoiding Easter?
        3. The main reason we did a 3-day event was to increase TR participation. Doing it on Easter probably wouldn’t accomplish that goal.
     5. Singlehanded
        1. GVSU/Hope
           1. Refer to the 2018 Nationals notes
           2. Good relationships with local businesses for donating food for regattas.
        2. Northwestern
           1. Refer to the 2018 Nationals notes
        3. **GVSU/Hope approved for October 14-15, 2017.**
     6. Match Race
        1. Bayview YC
        2. Sheboygan
        3. Jacob B - Sonars (nationals boat) is a good thing @ Sheboygan. Variety in venue is good, too.
        4. Grant - BYC hosts big events all year, these circumstances wouldn’t be repeated. They know what they’re doing.
        5. This puts us with a lot of championships on the West. Is that worth
        6. Bayview: 1, Sheboygan: 5. **Sheboygan is awarded the bid for October 7-8, 2017.**
     7. Fall Fleet Race
        1. Northwestern
           1. They’ve hosted in previous years and it’s been successful
           2. Safety boats: They have 3 at their sailing center. Many YC’s are around and can be solicited for extra safety boats.
           3. **Northwestern is approved for November 11-12, 2017.**

1. Adjournment 1856