**Meeting Agenda (9/13/14) – MCSA Executive Board Meeting**

**Meeting Information**

 ***Date:***September 13, 2014 ***Location:*** University of Wisconsin-Madison
 ***Time:*** 5:15pm ***Meeting Type:*** MCSA Executive Board Meeting
 ***Called By:*** Brian Tobelmann ***Facilitator:***
 ***Timekeeper:*** Geoff Pedrick ***Minutes By:*** Geoff Pedrick
 ***Attendees:*** Brian Toblemann, Emily Johnson, Kim Hu, Geoff Pedrick, Nicole Coleman, Andrew Fox, Laura Rozier (by phone)

**Minutes**

1. Survey Results- Laura
	1. In MCSA board docs folder (google docs).
	2. One survey about towing boats: which teams and how many, to try to help out smaller teams
	3. 18 responses. 8 said they could tow a total of 11 boats. This could help get a few more boats on the water at various events.
		1. Different teams have different towing policies. Some will only tow for themselves, or if they get an extra spot. Some have newer boats and don’t want to tow them. Also, different cuts of sails give different performance.
	4. Some of the major teams didn’t respond.
	5. Championship attendance
		1. Which regattas people went to, which they couldn’t, why?
		2. Need more people at women’s (standard issue)
		3. 5 of 17 teams said they had transportation issues. It’s hard to get to Minnesota.
		4. Some teams didn’t sign up because they had low numbers of people or championships were on finals, etc. Didn’t want to suffer penalty of losing the following the next year.
			1. As long as teams drop ahead of time (2w deadline), no penalty. Make sure they know that.
		5. Kim: For teams that are near each other (ex: Chicago-based teams), carpooling makes sense. Also, small teams won’t always know ahead of time who’s available.
2. Recruitment & Fundraising Tips- Laura, Geoff
	1. See Tips/Best Practices document.
	2. Goal is to send the document to the district. Some of the tips are pretty general, but things are still important.
	3. Some teams will do all of those things but still face size issues.
	4. Not everything listed is equally valuable. Perhaps rank some of the ideas, or make them more specific🡪more useful?
		1. Brian: Put some specific examples. How can you reach out to alumni? Monthly email to keep alumni in the loop
		2. Emily: Alumni regatta, to keep them sailing. Sail w/ current team members, build connections
		3. Nicole: For merchandise, you can put that under fundraising. Many people just want gear, even if they weren’t on the team. You see this a lot at Strictly Sail.
	5. **Laura** will add some specific ideas, may add an example email from NU’s past.
3. Team Search- Laura, Geoff
	1. Laura & Geoff have been working on adding teams to MCSA
	2. Iowa State: Already has a sailing club and we’ve been in contact since Spring
	3. Case Western: Laura knows someone there who expressed in starting a team
		1. Nicole suggests having them encourage John Carroll to rejoin. They could sail together, pool resources, etc.
	4. DePaul: UIC has talked to them about getting their program running again
	5. NDSU: They reached out to us, already putting things together for being a recognized organization by school. Interested in coming to Wisco Women’s.
	6. Also have some good leads from defunct schools. Hopefully get one or two back per year
4. Nationals Restructuring- Geoff
	1. Background given by Geoff
		1. Due to 11-day long Nationals, some coaches started developing a new schedule idea to keep kids from sailing so many days in a row
		2. New proposal splits the year into two “disciplines”: Fleet racing in the Fall and Team/Match racing in the spring. It also adds Women’s TR, so each season has two championship weekends at the end. This requires a lot of travel (which the 11-day idea was developed to alleviate).
	2. Nicole: was around during conversation of switching nationals last time. Voted on having semis with nationals b/c hard/expensive for teams to travel so many weekends. Lots of MCSA teams had to drop b/c couldn’t afford or take so many weekends off. Weird to take the idea and spread nationals across so many weekends
	3. Brian: Keep it in format of two events per season. If you’re sailing a Th-Su, you’re missing a lot of school already. Just make both events together and include both weekends (Sat-Tu / Th-Su? Gives a day off between).
		1. It would make more sense to do Coed TR w/ Singles and Match in fall. Then have Dinghy in the spring. Women’s and Coeds back to back (one full week).
		2. That would also give us only two conference championships in the spring, helpful for ice reasons.
	4. Women’s TR isn’t a necessary discipline. Unanimous agreement.
		1. Let’s start with more women’s TR events first? If memory serves: Bryson Women’s used to be a TR Sat / FR Sun event. But then they dropped the TR component of it b/c lack of interest.
	5. More events this conference can have in the fall is best.
	6. Trying to finish before finals: Nobody thinks it’s a good idea b/c so many different schedules.
	7. Fox: current interconference schedule is all fleet in the fall, all team race in the spring. They see it as “easier to move one event than a full season.”
		1. But we could swap that, if we wanted to put TR in the fall. If the goal is to make Nationals better, people can put a little work in to redo the schedule.
	8. **GEOFF** will write up a modified proposal based on this discussion and send to board for comments.
	9. Other idea: move TR to first weekend in May? When semis used to be. It would force quals to 2nd weekend of April every year. Not much practice time.
5. Nationals 2017- Geoff
	1. Not economically feasible to host in Chicago. Wisconsin?
	2. New Buffalo has expressed interest in hosting. Providing location, marina. Just need to find boats. And the money to buy them.
	3. St. Joe YC is starting high school teams. They’ve raised a lot of money to start purchasing boats.
	4. Small towns (NB, SJ…) are often interested in hosting events b/c tourism dollars!
	5. **BRIAN** will reach out to YC’s, talk to Cappy about their boats.
		1. Minnetonka/Wayzata has 36 boats. But they’re 2014, so not w/in 2 years.
6. Clinic- Geoff, Brian
	1. Wisconsin’s board vetoed the clinic b/c boats get beat up, already hosting a lot of events. HS clinic the weekend after
		1. They *may* be amenable to doing Harken Clinic. Bill (Harken guy) does a lot w/ Wisconsin.
		2. **Brian** will bring this idea back to the board. Kim offers to help
	2. Geoff talked to Northwestern. They don’t want to host regattas that close together.
	3. Michigan wants to host Big Ten TR on October 25-26. **Geoff** will talk to Alex about doing it more as a JV/Clinic
7. All-Academic Team Criteria- Geoff, Brian, Nicole
	1. Nicole is on the committee. It is a headhache.
	2. She thinks academics are #1, sailing is secondary. But they get the All-America rating from Adam Werblow, then they get GPA and whatever else. So people always put ability under strong consideration
	3. Brian thinks best approach is minimum number of regattas, minimum GPA, and bam you’re done. Sailing ability/how you place should not matter.
		1. **Conference** level: 5 regattas total between both seasons, 3.7
		2. **National** level: 8 regattas total, two must be interconference, 3.7
		3. Can’t distinguish between school, major, etc.
		4. Grade inflation? This probably isn’t something we can legislate.
	4. Or we could do All-academic Team 1, size restricted, then All-Academic “Honorable Mention”
	5. Don’t need to limit the number b/c just a recognition
	6. This lets people from the smaller teams still qualify.
8. Strictly Sail/Midwinters Meeting- Nicole, Brian, Geoff
	1. Strictly Sail got moved up a week to Jan 14-18 (Jan 17th is the Saturday)
	2. One option is hosting with that event, but CYC is booked/closed
	3. Other option: Keep midwinters on the same weekend, but CYC Belmont is only 80
	4. Columbia inside can only hold 125. Can they heat their tent enough?
		1. **Kim** will check ColYC’s tent status for January
	5. Other hotels or restaurants will be minimum 10K in Chicago (CYC is only 4-6K)
	6. Options could include Northwestern/Evanston to see what costs are there.
		1. **Geoff** will investigate Evanston hotels
		2. **Laura** will work with NU team to investigate on-campus space/pricing
	7. Some venues may need to be financed by the team to get good pricing. Need to check it out.
	8. Let’s say keep it the 24th, look at alternative venues, dissociate from Strictly Sail. Maybe 2hr drive from Chicago? Northern Illinois/Indiana, SE Wisconsin, SW Michigan.
		1. Prospective locations: Wisconsin, UIC, Purdue, UIUC, Kalamazoo?
	9. Maybe start the meeting later (11am?), let people drive in that morning. Nobody really wants to be there for the seminars anyway, so condense the thing. Then people can stay over and leave on Sunday.
9. St. Joe’s Regatta Recap - Kim
	1. Lots of fun, they were really hospitable. More teams should have been there.
	2. A little lacking as far as rules enforcement, ICSA representation.
	3. It would be nice to partner with a team so they could handle the protests or related items. Hope/GVSU/WMU are all nearby.
	4. Nicole: A kid on MSU and a kid on WMU work there over the summer
	5. Fox: Could be a nice perk that someone who doesn’t have an easy facility could do some of the organization and the YC could handle the YC stuff.
		1. As GVSU gets more involved, that could be a good spot for them.
10. General Info- Nicole
	1. It was the New Buffalo stuff for Nationals. See 5.b
11. Adjournment 6:35pm