

MISSA Meeting Minutes
Saturday, November 12, 2011
Chicago Yacht Club / Monroe

Meeting Called to Order: Matt Dubois at 5:35pm.

Team Roll Call: Arrowhead, Badger, Benilde-St. Margaret's, Blake, Breck, Detroit Country Day School, Evanston, Gen Lake HS, Grand Haven, HS, Grosse Ill, Grosse Pointe, Hinsdale, Kettle Moraine, Lake Forest High School, Lake Forest Academy, Loyola, Minnetonka, New Trier, Oconomowoc, St. Francis, St. Louis Park, Spring Lake, Culver Academy, Traverse City SW., Traverse Central, Walter Payton, Wayzata, University of Chicago Laboratory Schools, Francis Parker HS, Brother Rice.

Board members present: Matt Dubois, Martha Kinzel, Chuck Lamphere, Todd Duffit, Jim Sorbie, Sharon Garber, Cappy Capper and past Board Members, Don Shea and Jeff Hudson.

Presidents Report: Matt Dubois Welcome to all. MISSA is undergoing growing pains – which is actually a good thing. In the past 10 years, MISSA has more than doubled in size, from less than 25 registered schools in 2001, to more than 50 registered schools this fall. While this is a great testament to the growing popularity of high school sailing, especially in the Midwest, we are outgrowing our current organizational structure, are also outgrowing our current schedule (it is now feasible to have well attended regattas in all three regions of the district on the same weekend), and some believe that we have outgrown our current qualifying process for well attended regattas and qualifiers.

We have a lot to cover today and want to be sure we hear from everyone. A knowledgeable group of long-standing MISSA volunteers, including Sharon Garber, Cappy Capper, Don Shea, and Jeff Hudson have worked many long hours in putting the ideas and proposals attached to this email together, gathering information, and giving valuable input, so that MISSA can move forward in a fair and progressive manner for all the schools in our district. I am in their great debt for the time they have dedicated in putting these proposals together, and I wish to express my sincere thanks to them.

Matt Proposed Bylaw changes:

1. The first bylaw change should be the simplest – the bylaws currently refer to three MISSA Regions – the East, Middle, and West. Since we have been referring to the “middle” regions as the “central” region for many years, this bylaw change will simply make that change official.
2. The next bylaw change will ask that the annual meeting be moved from the Mallory qualifying weekend in the spring, to the Great Lakes Championship weekend in the fall. This makes sense in two very important areas – with the meeting at the Great Lakes Championships, always held in Chicago, and being

basically in the center of the region, it allows for the easiest opportunity for the most school representatives to attend, from a purely location standpoint. When the meeting is held in conjunction with the Mallory qualifier in either the East Region or the West Region, representation from out of region schools seems to become very limited, making for a meeting which is not truly representative of the entire district. Second, from a participation standpoint, more schools are represented at the Great Lakes Championships weekend, especially with the addition of the second regatta being held at Columbia Yacht Club in conjunction with the GL Championships, allowing more schools the chance to attend and be represented. So it has just seemed to make sense to many of us to make the Great Lakes Championship weekend the date of the annual meeting. This bylaw change would just make it official.

3. The last time we had an election, it was at the fall meeting two years ago, yet the bylaws allow for elections only at the spring meeting – in addition, elections are supposed to be held every two years, but it has been at least two years since our last election, without an election scheduled for this coming weekend – which would be out of compliance with our bylaws in any case. The proposed bylaw change remedies this, by stating that elections are to be held in conjunction with the annual meeting and stating that the election will be held in even numbered years. 2012-2014 etc.

Cappy Caper made a motion to pass all three and Hunter Ratliff seconded the motion. Vote taken and all 3 passed.

The slate will stay the same until Fall 2012.

President: Matt Dubois ISSA Rep.

District reps:

VP East Todd Duffitt

VP East Jim Sorbie

VP Central Joey Harris

VP Central Chuck Lamphere

VP West Sharon Garber ISSA Rep.

VP West Lynne Gehlin

VP West Cappy Capper

VP Treasurer Central Martha Kinzel

MISSA Web Site/Marketing Sharon Garber

MISSA Coaches Committee

Cappy Capper --- Chairman

Hunter Ratliff

Gordy Bowers

Treasurer Report: Martha Kinzel reported we have Total Assets of \$9,160.99
We still have some teams who are ending on their registrations.

Profit and Loss Statement for January 1-November 12, 2011

- MISSA Income: Membership Dues: \$8,635.00
- ISSA portion of dues: - \$4,515.00
- Total MISSA Dues \$4,120.00
- Expenses:
- Web Hosting \$718.37
- Total Expenses \$718.37

- Net Income \$3,401.63

Website / Marketing Report: Sharon Garber reported that she can only post NOR's that have been approved by the President of MISSA. All coaches and regatta hosts need to send in a brief regatta reports, photos and the final scores of the regattas at least by Tuesday 5:00 after the regatta.

We will be converting our Website to Word Press which will cut down the cost of the site for the future. Please use the site to find out all the information for the District.

ISSA is in the process of creating a new website and Team Registration system due out in 2012.

If there is a mistake on the website please do not hesitate to let Matt Dubois or myself know about it. Rather than talk around the district and speculate why something is or is not there.. Just let us know..

ISSA Report: Don Shea thanked Matt for his work as President and explained that the district would need 54 teams before we can add additional spots for Mallory or Baker Nationals.

Region reports:

East: Growth and many new teams has reenergized the east. Welcome to new team Detroit Country Day School. Detroit had a great Halloween regatta and Michigan State Championships for both Single and Doublehanded .

Central: has been very busy this fall.. hosting both High School and College Singlehanded Championships. Great job to all who help and worked the regattas. The Cressy Qualifier was a well run regatta in super conditions.

West: Minnesota: Growth in team sizes made for us to create a Conference Regatta series held one a week. Very successful for all teams. Gets more kids on the water competing. Called Conference regattas so all levels can sail. Not just Varsity. The Singlehanded Minnesota State Championship had a great turnout and White Bear hosted an excellent regatta.

Wisconsin: The Great Oaks Qualifier went very well. Many teams competed. Would like to continue hosting the event.

Old Business:

A. Cressy Report: Missa Qualifier and Nationals report. Martha Pitts reported there were 17 Lasers and 30 Laser Radials who sailed at the Qualifier. Great conditions and a successful regatta. Cressy Nationals had Sailors from all over the country the Virgin Island and Florida kids got cold. Mitchell Kiss from MISSA won the Laser Radial Championship. First time MISSA has had a winner!

B. MISSA Schedule was reviewed for Spring 2012 and Fall 2012.

C. Coaches Committee Cappy Capper reported he has had a meeting with all the coaches in the District. Will make proposals later.

D. Mixed Teams: Matt reviewed the policy that all mixed team requests must go through him for approval.

New Business: Proposals and Great Oaks regatta

1. Proposal for the MISSA Ranking System:

Cappy Caper moved to accept this Coaches Ranking System and was seconded by Kate Fredrickson.

The current ranking system is not as reflective of team depth as the coaches would like it to be. At a coaches' meeting held at the Fall Colors Regatta in Minnesota, a proposal for a new, more widespread ranking system was formulated.

Proposed Structuring:

- Only eligible coaches may rank teams
 - o Must be officially registered as a coach with MISSA
 - o Must run regular team on-water practices
 - o Must regularly attend regattas
- Rankings
 - o Each coach lists and submits those they would consider the top 20 MISSA teams in order
 - o Coaches should take into consideration
 - _ Team attendance and performance at events
- Weighing in order, from highest to lowest, Midwest Championships and National/Intersectional Regattas, Varsity District Events (ie Fall Colors, Halloween Spooktacular), "open" events
 - _ Rank school performances over individual performances
 - o Should be submitted by a chosen date (Nov. 20, 2011 this fall)
 - _ Preseason, midseason and final season rankings should be tabulated for each high school season
- Benefits of system
 - o Reflects depth of teams
 - o Mimics current, effective collegiate ranking system

- o exposing sailors and coaches to national standards
- o Widespread input placing the opinions and responsibility of ranking across the district
- Online submissions can be sent to anyone willing to tabulate responses
- o For the first rankings, WCSC has placed a form at wayzatasailing.org/missa-team-ranking-form. In the future, a form can be placed on the MISSA website itself
- Points will be assigned to each vote as listed below:

Place voted Points

1	100
2	90
3	80
4	70
5	60
6	55
7	50
8	45
9	40
10	35
11	31
12	27
13	23
14	19
15	16
16	13
17	10
18	7
19	4
20	1

- o Rankings will be tabulated and points will be compiled. The top 20 teams receiving the most points will be found remaining teams receiving points but not making it into the top 20 will be listed as “teams also receiving points.”
- o Results of rankings will posted on the MISSA website

The discussion from coaches varied from.. I would not know who to vote for because I do not see all the teams to I think this is a great proposal.

Jeff Hudson gave a report about the current ranking system we are using which promotes participation in all regatta. He expressed his concerns that the voted ranking will not promote regatta participation and could become a popularity contest.

Sharon Garber discussed that the other ISSA districts have abandoned the voting because it was based on popularity and not results.

A Friendly Motion was made by Cappy Capper to run the existing MISSA ranking system along side the Coaches Rankings.

The final proposal voted on had Both Ranking Systems up on the MISSA Website. The Coaches rankings are to be reviewed at the Spring or Fall 2012 meetings to see what the group thinks about them again. **Vote passed.**

2. Proposal for the MISSA Great Oaks Championships:

Kate Fredrickson moved and seconded by Allison Prange and Zac Hernadaz.

The current MISSA Great Oaks format, an A and B division regatta, does not mirror the structuring of the National Great Oaks Championship, a one division event. Additionally, the separate east and west qualifiers favor the centrally located schools, allowing them to choose the less competitive of the two events to qualify.

Proposed Structuring:

- Hold one, one division, Great Oaks Qualifying event in the Midwest
- Create a rotation system for the annual location of the event opposite of that of the Cressy Qualifiers (ie one in the east and the other in the west)
- Encourage the running of an additional A+B division regatta at a separate location on the same weekend

Benefits:

- Simpler qualifier to run with one division resulting in a more quality event
- Eliminates the potential for central locations to choose one qualifier over another by providing only one regatta
- Quota spaces can be chosen based on the participation in one single regatta, allowing for a more straightforward qualification system
- Additional event allows for more opportunities for teams with larger rosters and encourages greater participation

Discussion: Oconomowoc would love to host the regatta and be able to send in a bid. **Vote: Motion Passed.**

3. MISSA Regatta Late Cancel Policy:

Martha Pitt proposed and seconded by Kurt Thomsen.

1. Entry deadline is one week prior to the regatta date - entry can be received via email, phone, or whatever the regatta organizers agree to and is posted in the NOR. If your team has committed to the regatta at that point, the regatta organizers will assume you are coming.
2. Each team will be allowed one late, last minute cancellation, per school year, without penalty (any team can have a last minute issue come up, requiring a last minute cancellation). If so, they must notify the regatta organizers as soon as they know they are not coming, so another team may be placed into their spot, if there is a waiting list for the regatta.

3. If a second incidence occurs, the team will incur a \$100 penalty, payable immediately to the regatta which they had to cancel from. This is to cover costs of food, trophies etc, that the regatta has incurred for that team. If the team does not pay the penalty, the MISSA Executive committee will be notified, and further penalties may be incurred by the team involved, including possible exclusion from future regattas, or sanction or suspension from MISSA for a period of time.
 4. If a third or further incidences occur, in addition to the financial penalty of \$100, the team will be reported to the MISSA Executive committee for further punitive action, listed above.
 5. If a team does not notify the regatta organizers that they are not coming to a regatta they have committed to attend after the one week commitment date, and simply doesn't show up, then they will be responsible for the entire entry fee for their team. Non-payment of the entry fee at this point will be reported to the MISSA Executive committee, for possible further action as listed above.
 6. Any team incurring a financial penalty or punitive action has the right to appeal the MISSA Executive committee for reduction or dismissal of any penalties incurred.
- Vote Passed.**

4. Proposal for MISSA State Single-handed Championships

Cappy Caper moved to adopt motion ad seconded by Mark Dunsworth.

Purpose: To create a regatta schedule that will support each of the active states within MISSA; Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio to host high school singlehanded state championships the weekend prior to the MISSA Cressy Semi-finals.

Why: Scholastic sports by nature have state championships as their pinnacle event, therefore, because sailing is not a traditional sport in the Midwest it would be more consistent with other spots sponsored by state high school associations. It would also allow for a broader group of students to compete in more local events that may or may not be moving on to compete in the Cressy.

How: If the 2012 MISSA Cressy Semi Finals were scheduled on September 22-23, each state within MISSA would host their state championships on September 15-16. All sailing centers and yacht clubs that host high school teams would agree to not host MISSA district events on this weekend. Each state could determine eligibility requirements and procedural rules.

Precedent:

Minnesota School Sailing (MSS) has been sponsoring a Minnesota single-handed state championship since 1999. The event has grown in numbers from a very humble beginning of 8 Lasers to an annual average of over 25 boats in three *divisions*: Laser Standard, Laser radial, and Laser 4.7. The eligibility rules have been flexible to support participation; we now include 7th and 8th graders. We have not allowed sailors from outside of the state of Minnesota to participate in order to be able to call it a true state championship. Please note that the event was a 2 day event in 2011.

Don Shea mentioned that to be a "True High School Regatta" it must follow the Procedural Rules of ISSA which does not allow for 7 - 8 graders.

Vote Passed.. But must be 9-12 grades.

5. MISSA Regatta Classification policy :

Proposal: All regattas sanctioned by MISSA will be designated as a Tier I or Tier II

Regatta: Tier I Regatta:

- Strict adherence to all ISSA Procedural rules
- Membership in MISSA Required
- 9-12th grade only participation
- MISSA Late Cancellation policy in effect
- No mixed teams allowed
- Possible limited entry list (limitation on number of entries allowed)

Examples: Mallory, Baker Qualifiers; Great Lakes Championships; Talbot regatta; Grosse Ile Invitational

Tier II Regatta

- ISSA Rules may be modified at Organizer's discretion
- Membership in MISSA encouraged – not required, at organizer's discretion
- 7th and 8th grade participation allowed at Organizer's discretion
- MISSA Late cancellation policy may be modified or deleted by organizers.
- Mixed teams may be allowed

Possible Examples: Fall Colors mixed team regatta; Lake Forest Halloween Spectacular; New Columbia Yacht Club Fall Regatta (at GL Championships); Colwell Memorial Regatta (Traverse City)

1. The NOR will state whether the Regatta is a Tier I or Tier II event.
2. A regatta may run a Tier I event concurrently with a Tier II event.

**Proposal tabled until next meeting upon further review of the ranking system.
No Vote.**

6 The Great Oakes regatta for 2011 has 2 extra slots and MISSA put a request in to ISSA for them. Hinsdale High School and Oconomowoc will be attending in additional slots awarded MISSA.

Adjourned at 6:50pm.