

*Agenda for NESSA Annual Meeting
2 November 2003*

Call to Order at 1033 by President Roger Rawlings

Attendance (50 people, 39 NESSA Schools)

Regular Members (24 schools):

Barnstable HS – Jim Terkelsen
BB&N – Katie Gordon
Belmont Hill – Chris Zamore
Branford HS - Peter Brown
Brewster Academy – Lenny Cushing
Brunswick School – Kevin Baker
Darien HS – Kevin Baker
Duxbury HS – Mark Decollibus & Jim Dinneen
East Lyme HS – Ted Sherman
Fairfield Prep – Chris Samulowitz
Greenwich HS – Evan Olmstead
Hotchkiss School - Roger Rawlings
Lincoln-Sudbury RHS - Mark Sobkowitz
Martha's Vineyard RHS – Doug Heil
Milton Academy – Brent Jansen
North Kingstown HS – Matt Largess
Portsmouth Abbey - Aroline Seibert
Rocky Hill – Victoria Guck & Amy Guccione
Sandwich HS – David O'Hara
St George's - Roy Williams & Lisa Conway
St. John's Prep - Bill Mackinson & Charlie Newhall
Tabor Academy - Rob Hurd & Chris Conley
Williams School - Prescott Littlefield
Winsor – Wally Gleekman
Xavier HS – Paul Hayes

New Members (15 schools):

Barrington HS – Sam Sylvester
Bishop Stang – Heather Sanford
Chatham HS – Greg Kelly
Commonwealth School – Wally Gleekman
Dartmouth HS – Warren Hathaway & JD Walsh
Dover-Sherborn RHS – Elliot Lucil
East Greenwich HS – Cindy White Overton
Fairfield HS – Kevin Baker
Falmouth HS – Kathleen Burke
Hingham HS – Kim Doble
Manchester- Essex RHS – Marty Stephan
Nauset RHS – Warren Silver
Northfield Mt. Herman School – Elaine Parshall
South Portland HS – Scott Fox
St. Thomas Moore – Jason Naylor

Others (5):

Casco Bay HSS – Scott Fox
Mass Bay League – Carl Zimba (President)
New Bedford HS – Ian Duff
Portsmouth HS – Sam Healy
Westbrook/Old Saybrook – Hilary Loftus

1. Secretary's Report (Rob Hurd)

- a. There are 28 regular members who meet the voting requirements as stated in the by-laws. They are divided into two categories.
 - i. Those who can vote (25) They are: Barnstable HS, BB&N, Belmont Hill School, Branford HS, Brewster Academy, Brunswick School, East Lyme HS, Fairfield College Prep, Greenwich Academy, Greenwich HS, the Hotchkiss School, Lincoln-Sudbury RHS, Martha's Vineyard RHS, Milton Academy, Moses Brown School, North Kingstown HS, Portsmouth Abbey, Rogers HS, Sandwich HS, St George's School, St John's Prep, Tabor Academy, Williams School, Winsor School, Xavier HS.
 - ii. Those who can't vote (3) because the school has not paid their 2004 NESSA Dues. Darien HS, St Sebastian's School, Wellesley HS,

- b. There are 11 schools are eligible to be upgrade from New Member status to Regular member status. The schools that fulfilled the requirements as stated in the by-laws are: Rocky Hill School (RI), North Kingstown HS (RI) and Duxbury HS (MA). The Secretary/Treasurer puts forward Rocky Hill and North Kingstown for consideration with a full endorsement, but would like a discussion on Duxbury.

Rocky Hill and North Kingstown are evaluated to regular member status without objection or discussion.

NB: North Kingstown was brought up & approved as a regular member in November 2002. It was a clerical mistake to bring them up a second time.

Duxbury up to this point has had an exemplarily record, but they are about to go on probation for being a no-show at the Fall Funfest. Should NESSA, endorse their change of status regardless or hold their change of status request until they come off probation?

Discussion: Why did they not show up? Transition of coaches, poor communication, it was a mistake. Duxbury is sorry and trying to remedy the situation. Committed to fulfilling responsibility. The consensus of the group is that the two issues are separate. **Duxbury was elevated to regular member status without objections.**

- c. Attendance sheet is being passed around the room. Please make sure you sign-in.
- d. As of 2 November 2003, NESSA has 62 paid members. There were 66 paid members one year ago. There are 22 schools from past years that are now inactive member. I expect we will see some re-enrollment, which should bring our projected 2004 membership to ~ 75 schools.
- e. The following schools have violated Article L of the By-Laws and are presently on probation.
 - a. Deerfield Academy (until 4-20-04) – No show at O'Day Qualifier
 - b. Notre Dame Academy (until 4-20-04) – No Show at O'Day Qualifier
 - c. Brooks School (Until 10-13-04) – Showed without a full team to Fall Funfest
 - d. George Stevens Academy (Until 10-13-04) – No Show at Fall Funfest
 - e. St Sebastian's School (Until 4-26-05) – No show at O'Day Qualifier
 - f. Stonington HS (Until 4-26-05) – No show at the O'Day Qualifier
 - g. Duxbury HS (Until 10-12-05) – No show at the Fall Funfest
 - h. Portsmouth Abbey (Until 10-12-05) – Showed without a full team at Fall Funfest.
- f. The NESSA e-mail list has been successful. Every school must have a contact on the list.
 To send a message to the list: NESSA@topica.com
 To subscribe, send a blank email to: NESSA-subscribe@topica.com
 To unsubscribe, send a blank email to: NESSA-unsubscribe@topica.com
 This year will mark that last time that NESSA will conduct any mailings
- g. New Website (www.NESSA-Sailing.org) and New ISSA on-line registration and directory. (www.highschoolsailingusa.org). If your school is not registered on-line, please do so BEFORE you leave the meeting.

2. Treasurer's Report (Rob Hurd)

- a. Balance in the account as of 1 July 2003 = \$5035.92
- b. Last Year – expenses exceeded income by - \$347.42. This was b/c I budgeted trophies expenses for three years over two and Moses Brown presented us with a bill for the annual meeting. For years, Moses Brown had covered the cost of our annual meeting out of their pocket. This year, they were unable to do so. The NESSA Treasurer actually increased over fiscal year 2002.
- c. The Treasurer recommends continuing the policy of charging a small regatta fee for the O'Day regatta. (\$10 per school to be collected at the Qualifying sites)
- d. 2004 Budget (Income: \$7910 Expenses: \$7910). A detailed copy can be obtained by e-mailing a request to the Treasurer.

3. Vice-President's Report (Jim Terkelsen)

a. 2003 Review

As winter weather approaches and thoughts of warm summer sailing fades, it is time to recount the past year in NESSA sailing. So many events, so little time in the calendar, one might wonder how NESSA continues to have several well attended and well run Championship events. The answer is simple. Our regatta's are managed and supported by the most willing coaches and volunteers I have ever worked with in sailing.

Consider for a moment the number of people and hours that are put into a Championship event even before teams arrive to compete. At each Championship there are at least 5-6 people who are taking scores, blowing whistles, driving boats, manning a computer or pointing you in the right direction. Take those 6 people, multiple by the number of venues and you have well over 60 people who have worked our Championships in 2003. Those 60 people begin meeting well before their event to make sure volunteers follow protocol, know the rules, answer questions and solve logistical problems. This is before the event! Then these volunteers work an entire day and sometimes into the night after the teams have gone home to ensure scoring is done correctly, check boats and finish putting equipment away. In the end, these volunteers, who haven't even sailed a race all day, have put in 10, 12, 14 hours a piece to make sure our Championships are top notch. What dedication by each of these volunteers!

This year I wanted to make sure I recognized and thanked each Regatta Chair, every volunteer you recruited and each host facility for time you spend preparing, running and finishing a regatta. Your help and dedication to New England sailing is invaluable and is a primary reason why we continue to be a leading district in high school sailing. I hope the regatta chairs will pass our thanks on to those who were involved in the

regatta at your venue. Many of those names never make it to a regatta report or are not highlighted for their tireless work.

The next time you finish an event and your team is rushing to get on the highway, win or lose, take a moment to thank the regatta chair and other volunteers for their hard work. Without their efforts, you wouldn't have a regatta to compete in. Winners are important, but volunteers can often go under appreciated. Thanks to each person who helped out at an event this past year and we look forward to working with you again as we head into the 2004 season.

b. NESSA Fleet Racing Championship (O'Day Trophy) – 2003

5 Qualifying sites and chairs

Community Boating	Carl Zimba (Mass Bay League)
New Bedford YC	Warren Hathaway (Dartmouth HS)
St. George's School	Roy Williams (St. George's)
Bristol YC	Aroline Seibert (Portsmouth Abbey)
Noroton YC	Kevin Baker (Fairfield Prep)

Qualifying Round – 10 teams per site with the top 3 from each site moving onto the Championship. A tough day of weather tested each of the regatta sites to complete their qualifying. Each of the sites were managed by the hosting school and there were many volunteers who blew whistles, moved marks, took results or kept kids dry at each of the sites.

Championship Regatta

The Hotchkiss School Roger Rawlings (Hotchkiss)

Top 15 schools from the previous day qualification regattas. Hotchkiss School provided the boats, facilities and great weather for the Championship. Roger and his well-trained Regatta Committee produced another memorable event in the corners of Northwest Connecticut. The light and shifty winds forced sailors to be patient and consistent all day long. Congratulations to St. George's School for winning the 2003 O'Day Trophy.

c. NESSA Team Racing Championship (Mark Trophy) – 2003

University of Rhode Island Jim Terkelsen (Barnstable HS) & Scott Norris (Head Coach, URI)

Top 8 schools selected by resume based on criteria set forth by the NESSA Officers. University of Rhode Island provided boats, facilities, powerboats and island viewing of the racing. Jim Terkelsen was the Regatta Chair, but it was the work of Scott Norris and several URI sailing team members who kept the regatta moving. Scott and the college sailors were on hand for both days of racing to set courses, run the races and ferry sailors to and from the island. As always, the competition on the water was tight and the sailors conducted themselves with great sportsmanship. St. George's School won their second championship of the season by capturing the Mark Trophy title. Congratulations to St. George's on another well deserved Team Racing Championship.

d. NESSA Single-handed Championship (Healy Trophy) – 2004

Hingham Yacht Club Kim Doble (Hingham HS)

A new location for a NESSA Championship. This event is a 2-division event in BYOB lasers. Radial and Full rig laser are sailed with schools getting an automatic berth of 1 sailor in each division. Additional sailors have been accepted by submitting resumes. This year's event had 24 Full Rig sailors and 26 Radial Rig sailors. This has become a well-attended event due to the BYOB format. Kim Doble from Hingham HS was the Regatta Chair. He was able to get the services of the Hingham YC Race Committee to assist in running the races. In the Radial Division, Lexington HS, a new NESSA member was crowned the Champion. In the Full Rig Division, The Hotchkiss School finished in the top spot to be named Champion. Congratulations to both schools for their success on the water.

e. NESSA Fall Funfest (Gleekman Trophy) – 2003

Community Boating Carl Zimba (Mass Bay League)

The Fall Funfest has always been either a primer for spring or last sail in the fall for many schools. Once again, Carl Zimba and his crew, along with the support of Community Boating in Boston provided another Fall Funfest. A first come, first serve registration filled quickly as 20 schools competed for this years honors. Mt. Desert Isle High School from the coast of Maine sailed a great regatta and was crowned the winners. Congratulations on their 2003 Fall Funfest win.

f. 2004 Season

Any school wishing to host an event or volunteer to Chair events should contact Jim Terkelsen. New Regatta Chairs and new venues are always welcome. All of the NESSA regattas are in need of venues and chairs.

2004 Fleet Racing Championship (O'Day Trophy)

Qualifying Regatta's – Saturday, April 17, 2004 (5 venues needed)

Championship Regatta – Sunday, April 18, 2004 (Location: to be determined)

2004 Team Racing Championship (Mark Trophy)

Saturday and Sunday – May 15-16, 2004 (Location to be determined)

2004 Women's Invite (Herreshoff Trophy)

Sunday – May 9, 2004 (Location to be determined)

2004 Single-handed Championship (Healy Trophy)

Sunday – September 26, 2004 (Location to be determined)

2004 fall Funfest (Gleekman Trophy)

Sunday – October 10, 2004 (Location to be determined)

4. President's Report (Roger Rawlings)

- NESSA is fine, one of the strongest districts in the country.

5. ISSA Report (Kevin Baker)

- Report from the ISSA meeting in California.
- NESSA is completely different from the other 6 districts. Our formality and organization goes to the heart of what HS sailing should be.
- New England has about 15 million people and 80 teams. California has 33 million people and 80 teams. The South Atlantic district has 35 million people and 33 teams. Clearly, we have the most teams per people.
- Meeting Issues – the new website is one, fund raising is another. If you have ideas about how ISSA can better serve the schools that belong, please funnel them through Kevin Baker.
- Many YC and Community Boating Centers in NE support HS sailing. Please go back and thanks those people and organization for all the support they give to HS sailing in the area.
- Roger Rawlings presented a plaque to Doug Heil for his year of service on the ISSA board.

6. By-Law Changes.

- a. Article G, Section 2: Change "Dues shall be paid **at** the Annual Meeting" to "Dues shall be paid **by** the Annual Meeting."

Approved with out comment or objection.

7. New Business:

- a. ISSA Team Racing Championship (Baker Trophy) in NESSA in 2006
 - If you have any interest in being the event chair for this event or have ideas for host sites, please contact Roger. The board has been discussing the possibility of US Coast Guard Academy, but nothing is written in stone yet.
- b. Change in Great Oaks qualifications - Report from the "Great Oaks" Committee
Discussion
 - ISSA board has proposed a changed to eligibility for the Great Oaks, opening it to any school that has not competed in the Baker or the Mallory in the past five years.
 - This opens the question as to how select NESSA teams for the event.
 - Board is hesitant to open another regatta in the fall, as it falls on the NESSA board, which is already working hard in their "season off."
 - Carl Zimba (Mass Bay League and CBI) - Fall Funfest may not be the best criteria.
 - Can we use the results from the CT Open and the Fall Funfest? Since each fall regatta has a format different from the Great Oaks, their results may not be the best indicator.

- Since the CT open is getting more competitive, only the top schools might be able to get into that regatta not the schools that might be eligible for the Great Oakes.
- How can NESSA encourage more schools to go? Should it be up to NESSA? If the regatta is good, schools will attend.

Conclusion:

- Taking resumes from those that are interested.
 - Regatta for only those that are interested and can go to the event.
 - Run a regatta in each state and allow one from each state to go.
- c. Moses Brown, despite what was earlier advertised, is fielding a high school team this spring. Check the ISSA website for contact information if you are interested in sailing against them.
- d. Two seasons (fall and spring).

Discussion

- How many schools field an official fall sailing program? By “official”, we mean daily practice with a coach and participate in regattas. About 13.
- Some people are using the fall season as a “learn to sail program” or a feeder program for the spring season. Some are sanctioned by the AD, some are not.
- In the other six districts, many of the teams operate outside of the preview of the athletic department. How many seasons does your school allow you to compete? Many only allow for a formal sport in one season, so they run a club season in the fall.
- Can those who have gained recognition from their school help those who are trying to gain recognition? What are some of the obstacles? Insurance, money from budget, continuity of coaches, draining kids from other programs, transportation, venues?
- Can NESSA supply a group of coaches to help new programs trouble-shoot with ADs or school boards? Roger would be willing to help. He has done it before.
- Should there be more fall regattas? It is nice that some other schools and colleges have stepped up and offered events. No need for NESSA to offer anymore.

Conclusion:

- The fall season seems to working well as a growth season. No reason for NESSA to endorse it or to restrict it in any way.
- e. New NESSA position. Judges and seminars coordinator.
- Roger announced that Prescott Littlefield (Williams School) has been appointed to the position
- f. A request from Casco Bay HS Sailing, a regional team, allowing them to attend NESSA regattas.

History:

- Agenda item in 2000. Outcome of discussion was that since ISSA and NESSA are organizations of schools, only school teams could join. NESSA represents HS sailing, not HS aged kids sailing. ISSA has not changed their opinion on this, so NESSA’s hands are tied.
- There are three types of events in NESSA.
 - NESSA championships – open to NESSA school teams only
 - NESSA promotional events (Women’s and Fall Funfest). Our policy has been to allow regional teams to compete if they are not taking away spots from NESSA teams.
 - Open Events (CT Open, Down East Invite, etc). Host school sets the eligibility rules for these events.
- Regional teams can help promote sailing in the area, but the goal is to get the program under the guidance of the high school athletic department or student activities head.
- It shouldn’t be that hard to find 4-6 kids in one school to form a team.

Discussion:

- Scott Fox was pushing for the Casco Bay Sailing Team to gain NESSA membership. There are 15 kids, but they are from 4-5 different schools.
- ISSA board feels very strongly that national championships should not drive participation in HS sailing.
- What happens when a school district allows its students to combine with another school in certain sports? According to ISSA, this can’t happen, but this is different from MIAA and other state rules. In MA, when schools combine to form a team usually it is because of size requirements, like hockey or football. Even when they do, they are not eligible for post-season tournaments.

- This is similar to the 2000 discussion, and ISSA was adamant that the rule does not change. In many ways, we mimic college sailing. You can't combine college teams, so why allow it at the HS level.

Conclusion:

- Roger, Kevin, and Roy will bring this issue up at the next ISSA meeting in June.
- NESSA will name a sub-committee to look into the issue more closely.

8. Old Business:

- a. Baker Tickets.** With the Baker scheduled for Annapolis, MD, NESSA will not be doing a group ticket purchase this year. Expect a return to the group purchase policy in 2005. Please be aware that the Baker is the same weekend as Commissioning at Navy.

9. Nomination Committee report.

Chris Zamore presented the following slate.

- President – Roger Rawlings (Hotchkiss School)
- Vice-President - Jim Terkelsen (Barnstable HS)
- Secretary/Treasurer- Rob Hurd (Tabor Academy)
- There were no other nominations.
- **The Slate was approved without objection.**

10. Meeting adjourned at 1218