

***NESSA Annual Meeting Agenda  
5 November 2006***

**Attendance (47 people; 38 schools)**

**Regular Members - 29**

Barnstable HS – Andrew Nugnes  
BB&N – Tom Moscarillo  
Boston College HS – Mary Farrell  
Brandford HS – Jay Fernandes  
Cheverus HS – Sarah Helming  
Dartmouth HS – DJ Walsh  
Duxbury HS – Kit Sommer, Rob Kulclat; Don Faudree  
East Greenwich HS – Tom Assad  
East Lyme HS – Ted Sherman  
Greenwich HS – Evan Olmstead  
Hingham HS – Kim Doble  
Lincoln-Sudbury HS – Mark Sobkovicz  
Manchester Essex RHS – Marty Stephan  
Martha's Vineyard RHS – Doug Heil  
Mount Saint Charles Academy – Nancy Padley  
Moses Brown School – Leo Costantino  
North Kingstown – Matthew Largess  
Portsmouth Abbey – Aroline Seibert  
Rogers HS – Ross Weene  
Rocky Hill School – Kathleen Locke  
Sharon HS – Gary Werden; Bob Gaffney

St. George's School – Lisa Conway; Beth Holland  
St. John's Prep – Mill Mackinson; Charlie Newhall  
Tabor Academy – Rob Hurd; Chris Conley;  
MaryKate Moniz; Eric Hartell  
The Hotchkiss School – Roger Rawlings  
The Sound School – Michele Fucci; John Buill  
The Williams School – Clemmie Everett  
Xavier HS – Paul Hayes

**New Members - 9**

Barrington HS – Sam Sylvester  
Bishop Hendricken – Bob Adam  
Falmouth HS – Heather Goodwinn  
LaSalle Academy – Nancy Padley  
Naval Academy Prep School – Dean Balcirakis  
Portsmouth HS – Ryan Miller  
Providence Country Day School – Steve Robinson  
Saint Mary's - Bay View – Ned Murino  
Sandwich HS – David O'Hara

**Others - 1**

Mass. Bay League Rep. – Carl Zimba

**Call to Order by President Rob Hurd at 1030**

**1. Secretary's Report (Evan Olmstead)**

- a. Minutes from the November 2005 NESSA Annual Meeting were posted on the NESSA website in December 2005. Are there any questions, comments, or corrections at this time? Move that we waive the reading of the minutes and that the minutes from November 2005 be accepted:

**MINUTES FROM 2005 PASSED**

- b. Based upon by-laws (amended in November 2004), any regular member who has paid 2006-2007 dues and is in attendance has voting privilege for this meeting. That number stands at 50 as of October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

A New Member School may request a change of status from New to Regular Member if they meet the requirements as listed in Section I; Article C: Membership of the By-Laws. Sharon HS has requested such a change, and has met the requirements necessary for that change. **APPROVED AS A REGULAR MEMBER BY VOICE VOTE OF THE MEMBERSHIP.**

- c. Attendance was taken when you registered. Please make sure you signed-in so that you are on the official list.
- d. As of October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2006, NESSA has 50 paid members and 13 schools listed as "pending". There were 86 paid members for the 2005-2006 season. I expect our final membership numbers for 2006-2007 to be comparable. Per NESSA by-laws Section I, Article C, sub-section 3, schools that do not pay their dues by the annual meeting "may not appear in the annual official NESSA active Membership List and may not be eligible for all NESSA sponsored regattas." Schools that cannot abide by the organization's rules and regulation cannot expect to share in the benefits. Therefore, all members from 2005-2006 must have checks postmarked by December 20, 2006 or they will be declared ineligible for the NESSA championship regattas. The Secretary/Treasurer is offering this 6-week extension for those who have not paid their dues yet.

Members are being notified of this policy now. There will also be an email to the membership reminding all member schools that this is NESSA's policy.

- e. Probations:
- a. The following schools have violated Article L of the By-Laws and are presently on probation.
    - i. St Mary's Academy (until 04-21-2008) – O'Day qualifier late cancellation
    - ii. George Stevens Academy (until 04-21-2008) – O'Day qualifier late cancellation
  - b. The following schools have been removed from probation because they served two years without further incident.
    - Nantucket HS (Until 10-09-06) – late cancellation from Fall Funfest
    - North Quincy HS (Until 10-09-06) – No show at the Fall Funfest
    - Casco Bay HHS (Until 10-09-06) – late cancellation from Fall Funfest
  - c. The following schools are not eligible for NESSA regattas for one year for a second violation of Article L while on probation.
    - none
- f. The NESSA e-mail list will continue to be our main source of information. Every school must have a contact on the list. Be sure to alert your school's IT people about the list as some people have experienced problems with their spam filters/junk mail blockers
- To send a message to the list: [NESSA@topica.com](mailto:NESSA@topica.com)  
To subscribe, send a blank email to: [NESSA-subscribe@topica.com](mailto:NESSA-subscribe@topica.com)  
To unsubscribe, send a blank email to: [NESSA-unsubscribe@topica.com](mailto:NESSA-unsubscribe@topica.com)  
NESSA will no longer conduct any mailings
- b. The Website ([www.NESSA-Sailing.org](http://www.NESSA-Sailing.org)) is working well. Please use it. Some fraudulent attempts have been made to add fake sailors to team rosters. We are discussing the problem with ISSA, and possible solutions. In the meantime, ensure that your team roster on the NESSA site is accurate.

#### **SECRETARY'S REPORT PASSED**

#### **2. Treasurer's Report (Evan Olmstead)**

- a. Balance in the account as of 1 July 2006 = \$6112.38
- b. Last Year – expenses exceeded income by - \$524.56
- c. In December of 2005 NESSA opened a new bank account with Bank of America. Many bills are being paid online. Due to the abundance of Bank of Americas in New England, this will ease the transfer of treasurer duties to new officers.
- d. The Treasurer recommends continuing the policy of charging a small regatta fee (\$10 per school to be collected at the Qualifying sites for the O'Day; non-refundable fee of \$15 for consideration for the NESSA Team-Racing championship; \$5 per sailor at the HEALY trophy) to cover website expenses, host-site expenses, trophies, and other expenses.
- e. FY2007 Budget is projected as balanced. Those wanting copies may e-mail the Secretary/Treasurer

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT PASSED**

#### **3. Vice-President's Report (Doug Heil)**

##### **A. 2006 Review**

#### **1. NESSA Fleet Racing Championship (O'Day Trophy)**

**April 22-23, 2006**

5 Qualifying Sites and Chairs:

- |                       |                                 |                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Tabor Academy (MA) | Tabor Academy/Rob Hurd          | 8 races/div, E 5-10kts    |
| 2. Sail Maine (ME)    | Cheverus HS/Jeff Cummings       | 6 races/div, E-SSE 0-6kts |
| 3. Ida Lewis YC(RI)   | St. Georges School/Roy Williams | 11 races/div, E 8-12kts   |

- |                               |                                      |                         |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 4. Community Boating Inc (MA) | Mass Bay League/Carl Zimba           | 8 races/div, E-NE 10kts |
| 5. Cedar Point YC (CT)        | Fairfield County League/Paul Myerson | 6 races/div, E 15-25kts |

### ***Qualifying Round***

5 sites with 9-12 teams per site, a total of 55 teams sailed a qualifying round across New England in varied conditions with winds from 0-25knots. 3 schools from each site advanced to the Championship. Thank you to each of our hosts for running quality races to qualify 15 schools in 1 day, allowing the finals to be run the following day.

*Advanced to Championship:* Milton Academy, Tabor Academy, Martha's Vineyard RHS, Naval Academy Prep School, St. Georges School, North Kingston HS, Cheverus HS, Hingham HS, Barnstable HS, Marblehead HS, Wellesley HS, Duxbury HS

### ***Championship Regatta***

The Hotchkiss School (CT) Lake Wononscopomuc-The Hotchkiss School/Roger Rawlings

15 schools sailed 8 races per division during a rain soaked day on Lake Wononscopomuc. Roger Rawlings and The Hotchkiss Team ran quality races using modified triangles and windward triangles with a downwind finish. Good sportsmanship, camaraderie on the water, and very few protests made for good racing. Thank you to Jon Pratt and Mike Best, who served as judges.

Tabor Academy was the NESSA Champion, winning the O'Day Trophy, and was the first to qualify for the Mallory. Also to represent NESSA at Nationals were Milton Academy (2<sup>nd</sup>), Naval Academy Prep School (3<sup>rd</sup>), The Hotchkiss School (4<sup>th</sup>), and Cheverus HS (5<sup>th</sup>).

## **2. NESSA Team Racing Championship (Mark Trophy)**

**May 20, 2006**

Vineyard Haven YC, Martha's Vineyard Martha's Vineyard RHS/Doug Heil

28 schools were ranked first thru last using a new format (50% computer rankings, and 50% executive committee) set forth by the NESSA officers. The top 8 schools were determined by awarding automatic bids to schools ranked 1-4 (St. Georges, Milton, Tabor, North Kingston), and to schools ranked 5-8 who had qualified for the Mallory (Hotchkiss School). Schools ranked 6-8, who had not qualified for the Mallory (Martha's Vineyard, Wellesley, Duxbury) sailed 1 of 3 "Wild Card" regional regattas on May 12, 2006, against schools ranked 9-14 for the remaining 3 berths. Portsmouth Abbey (12), Xavier (11), and Manchester Essex (9) won the wild card berths and advanced to the Mark Trophy.

MVRHS in conjunction with Sail Martha's Vineyard, Vineyard Haven YC, and Edgartown YC provided boats, facilities and race management in excellent Team Racing conditions for this years Championship.

*Qualifying Round:* A beautiful Vineyard day with 15-22 knot SW winds placed the course right off the Vineyard Haven YC dock and allowed for quality races and a quick rotation. 28 races were sailed by 1:00pm using a Digital N for a full round robin with numerous protests filed. After several hours of protest deliberation, Hotchkiss, St. Georges, Milton and Tabor were the 4 Top finishers and advanced to the Championship Round.

*Championship Round:* Perfect team racing conditions warranted completing the Championship round the same day after the Qualifying round. Racing resumed at 3:30pm with a nice SW 10-15 allowing the RC to complete 12 races for a double round robin by 6:30pm. Several protests kept competitors and officials at VHYC until 10:30pm. St. Georges School was crowned NE Team Racing Champs winning the 2006 Mark Trophy. Tabor Academy finished 2<sup>nd</sup> and Hotchkiss in 3<sup>rd</sup>. All 3 schools represented NESSA at the Baker the following weekend at Vineyard Haven YC.

Thank you to the MV team and volunteers for their race management, Jon Pratt, Brock Callen and Polly Brown who served as judges.

## **3. NESSA Women's Invite (Herreshoff Trophy)**

**May 13-14, 2006**

15 Schools traveled to Nantucket for 2 days of racing for the NESSA Women's Invite. 30-40 knots winds and rain kept the fleet off the water and no races were sailed.

#### **4. 2007 NESSA Single-handed Championship (Healy Trophy)**

**September 24, 2006**

Indian Harbor Yacht Club

Fairfield County Sailing League/Jonathan Nye

32 Radial and 16 full sailors sailed in overcast skies with winds fluctuating 7-18knots. Seven races were sailed in the Full Division and 6 races in the Radial Division.

Winning the Radial Division and the Healy Trophy was Elizabeth Barry (Greenwich Academy), followed by Brendan Faria (Providence Country Day), Peter Largess (N Kingstown HS), and Michael Moulthrop (St Margaret-McTernan). All qualified to represent NESSA and their school in the Cressy Trophy.

Qualifying for the Cressy Trophy in the Full Division were Alex Weiksnar (Greenwich HS), who also won the Healy Trophy, Cam Cullman (the Hotchkiss School), Alex Dolan (Naval Academy Prep School) and Gordy Lamphere (Tabor Academy).

Thank you to Indian Harbor YC, its staff and volunteers, who ran a grand event.

#### **5. Polar Bear Open**

**September 10, 2006**

Bowdoin College

Bowdoin Sailing/Brunswick, ME

The Fall 2006 HS Sailing season opened at the Polar Bear Open with a solid day of racing in Brunswick, ME. 12 schools sailed 6 races in Larks within points of each other. North Kingston finished 1<sup>st</sup> and was awarded the first berth to the Great Oakes Regatta. Marblehead, Duxbury and Fairfield HS followed. Thank you to Bowdoin for bringing back this popular event.

#### **6. Arnold Brown Invitational Regatta**

**September 17, 2006**

Vineyard Haven YC

Martha's Vineyard RHS/Doug Heil

12 teams came to MV in the spirit of Arnold Brown to race in the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Arnold Brown Regatta. It was a warm and beautiful day with light and variable winds from the E and ENE at 0-6 knots.

After a no wind delay, 4 races were sailed in each division. Mrs. Brown, Arnold's wife and widow, watched the racing, handed out the Arnold Brown Trophy and posed for a picture with all the sailors.

As top finisher, Naval Academy Prep School won the regatta and the Arnold Brown Trophy, followed by North Kingston, Duxbury, Tabor, Northern Vermont HS Sailing Team, and Martha's Vineyard.

Congratulations to Martha's Vineyard for qualifying for the Great Oakes Regatta. MV was the top finisher of the schools that were eligible for this year's GOR.

#### **7. Casco Bay Fall Open**

**October 1, 2006**

A triangle course was set off of Fort Gorges with a separate Start and Finish line. Overcast skies with a perfect SE wind, 10-15knots, and light chop in the bay allowed for 5 races in A and B divisions. Races were run until 4:00pm with a lunch break for a fine cookout sponsored by Sail Maine (thank you).

Congratulations to East Lyme who won the regatta and qualified for the Great Oakes Regatta. Duxbury was 10 points behind in 2<sup>nd</sup>, then Southern Maine and North Kingston.

A good job by Sarah Helming, Jeff Cummings, and Sail Maine for hosting a fun and exciting regatta.

### **8. NESSA Fall Funfest (Gleekman Trophy)**

**October 8, 2006**

Community Boating Inc. Mass Bay League/Carl Zimba

Columbus Day weekend means the Fall Fun Fest on the Charles River, hosted by the Mass Bay League at Community Boating, Boston. Serving as a Great Oakes Qualifier, 20 schools sailed the Fun Fest for 4 races in each division in light and variable, 0-5knot breeze, shifting between the west and north. The Cape Cod Mercury's "leveled the playing field" and made this an exciting and "Fun" regatta. Temps were in the 70s, sunny with few clouds.

Northern Vermont HS Sailing Team won with Duxbury 16 points behind in 2<sup>nd</sup>. North Kingston followed with Southern Maine just behind. Sandwich HS finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the Fun Fest and was the top finisher among Great Oakes eligible teams to receive the final berth.

Hats off to Carl Zimba and the Mass Bay League for running the event and to Community Boating for opening their doors to NESSA.

<b>B. 2007 Season</b>
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Hosting a regatta is great opportunity to energize and strengthen a team, grow HS Sailing in the area, and do a service to HS Sailing and NESSA.

Any school/coach wishing to Host an event or Volunteer to Chair an event, should contact Doug Heil. New Regatta Chairs and Venues are exciting, encouraged and welcomed.

### **2007 Fleet Racing Championship (O'Day Trophy)**

**April 21-22, 2007**

***Qualifying Regatta's*** - Saturday, April 21, 2007

1 venue with 10 boats or more needed. Sites to be confirmed

1. Tabor Academy
2. Sail Maine, Portland, ME
3. Dartmouth HS, Padanaram, MA
4. Hotchkiss School, Lakeville, CT
5. East Lyme/ Williams
6. Portsmouth Abbey
7. Community Boating Inc, Boston
8. Duxbury Bay Maritime School/Duxbury HS

QUESTION: DO WE KNOW THE TIDE AT DUXBURY ON APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2007 AS A HOST SITE FOR O'DAYS?

ANSWER: YES, WE DO. THE TIDE HAS BEEN CONSIDERED.

***Championship Regatta*** – Sunday, April 22, 2007

Site Needed for 15 teams. Since the 2007 Mallory is in FJs, we are looking for a site with FJs.

Possible Site: Roger Williams University or MIT

### **2007 Team Racing Championship (Mark Trophy)**

Saturday and Sunday – May 19-20, 2007

Site needed for 8 teams. 18 boats

Possible Site: US Coast Guard Academy or Duxbury Bay Maritime School/Duxbury HS

### **2007 Women's Invite (Herreshoff Trophy)**

Saturday – May 12, 2007

Nantucket Community Sail, Nantucket, MA

Regatta Chair – Nick Judson

#### **2008 Single-handed Championship (Healy Trophy)**

Sunday – September 23, 2007 (tentative)

Need a site that can accommodate 50+ Lasers

#### **2007 Polar Bear Open**

Sunday September 9, 2007

Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME

Regatta Chair – Sherry Fowler

#### **2007 Arnold Brown Regatta**

Sunday September 16, 2007

Vineyard Haven YC, Martha's Vineyard

Regatta Chair – Doug Heil

#### **2007 Casco Bay Fall Open**

Sunday September 30, 2007

Sail Maine – Portland ME

Regatta Chair- Jeff Cumming

#### **2007 Fall Funfest (Gleekman Trophy)**

Sunday – October 7, 2007

Community Boating, Boston

Regatta Chair- Carl Zimba

#### **4. President's Report (Rob Hurd)**

The New England district continues to be strong both in numbers and participation. Last year, there were 85 schools in the region this spring, all active with support and recognition from their schools. This constitutes a high water mark for NESSA. My first year of high school sailing (spring of 1988), there were only about 25 schools in New England. While membership growth is not a key issue for the district, maintaining and continuing a positive liaison with our member schools is. It has taken some time, but many athletic directors and student activities heads have come to see the benefits of having a high school sailing team. Likewise, many yacht clubs and community sailing organizations have seen the benefit of opening their facilities to young kids in the spring too. While I don't see NESSA hitting 100 members anytime soon, it won't surprise me when it does.

On the water, we had a very active spring season, as described by Doug above. Not only did we host our own events, but we host two national championships in five months. That required a great deal of work, and both Doug Heil and Jonathan Nye should be congratulated for the excellent events they ran under very trying weather conditions.

The informal fall season of high school sailing was a success thanks to host sites like, SailMaine, Sail Martha's Vineyard, Community Boating, Inc, US Coast Guard Academy and Bowdoin College. It continues to be a popular training ground for many of our new programs. Schools are taking advantage of the nicer weather and warmer water temperatures to get new students interested before they have to consider purchasing expensive dry suits and other safety equipment for the spring. If I had the opportunity to advise Headmaster Lillard in 1930, I would have told him to pick the fall season for high school sailing, not the spring.

All in all, NESSA is strong and on good footing thanks to the officers, coaches and sailors in the district.

#### **6. Old Business**

- a. **Executive Committee:** In accordance with the By-laws, the NESSA president appoints the following members to the executive committee until further notice. Rob Hurd (NESSA President), Doug Heil (NESSA VP), Evan Olmstead (NESSA Secretary/Treasurer), Roger Rawlings (Past President), Carl Zimba (MBL President), Roy Williams (Past ISSA VP)
- b. **Nominating Committee:** In accordance with the by-laws, the NESSA President appoints a nomination committee of Roger Rawlings (chair), Carl Zimba, Kevin Baker

- c. **Awarding of the Stephan Leslie Sportsmanship award. SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD AWARDED TO MARTHA'S VINEYARD RHS AND COACH DOUG HEIL.**
- d. **Report on the 2007 Cressy (Fall 2006)** to be hosted by NESSA at Indian Harbor YC, Greenwich CT (Jonathan Nye)
- e. **Report from the ISSA Annual Meeting** in Newport Beach, CA Sept 24, 2006. (Roger Rawlings)
  - ISSUE ONE: STUDENT NAMES ON PUBLIC WEBSITE  
NESSA VOTED OVERWHELMINGLY THAT STUDENT NAMES SHOULD NOT BE LISTED ON THE PUBLIC DOMAIN OF THE ISSA WEBSITE BECAUSE OF SAFETY CONCERNS. IN FACT, IT MAY NOT EVEN BE LEGAL.
  - ISSUE TWO: THERE ARE SIGNIFICANT MEMBERSHIP REGULATION DIFFERENCES BETWEEN NESSA (WHICH REQUIRES SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR RECOGNITION) AND OTHER REGIONS (DO NOT REQUIRE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR RECOGNITION)
- f. **NESSA Coach's Symposiums.**
  - i. MBL clinic – April 2007
  - ii. Should we run an ISSA/US Sailing Level-3 High School Modulus this winter?
- g. **Baker Information:**
  - i. **Baker Tickets.** With the Baker scheduled for the Southern YC in New Orleans, LA. NESSA will be doing a group ticket purchase this year, if possible. Schools that apply for the NESSA teams do so with the understanding that they are responsible for purchasing 10 tickets from NESSA upon qualifying for the Baker.
  - ii. **Umpiring at the Mark Trophy:** We will attempt to use on-the-water umpiring for the mark trophy this year. In order to make that happen, we will need 4-6 coaches who do not have a team competing to help out for one or both days.
  - iii. **Expanded Selection Committee:** Presently, the executive committee makes the selection. I would like to add 3 more coaches to the selection committee. If you are interested, please e-mail Rob Hurd ([RSHurd@hotmail.com](mailto:RSHurd@hotmail.com)) by December 1, 2006.
- h. **ISSA Database:** Each coach should check their ISSA directory page. I have noticed with that there are student names listed that are bogus names. Each coach should send corrections to NESSA Secretary/Treasurer Evan Olmstead ASAP and monitor their page weekly. Also, ISSA has been discussing the importance of posting student's names on the ISSA website. If you have a strong opinion on this issue, please e-mail them to Rob Hurd ([RSHurd@hotmail.com](mailto:RSHurd@hotmail.com)) and Roger Rawlings ([rrawling@hotchkiss.org](mailto:rrawling@hotchkiss.org)).

## 7. New Business:

### a. NESSA Team Racing Championship (Mark Trophy) format.

Background: Last year we ran an experimental "Wild Card" format. That was for one-year. This year the membership must decide to adopt this format or adopt another one, or we revert back to the old format by default.

**Proposal #1:** NESSA adopt the "Wild Card" format used in 2006 for the NESSA Team Racing Championship (Mark Trophy), for a period of three year (2007, 2008, & 2009).

<b><i>NESSA Team Racing Championship (Mark Trophy) – Wild Card Format</i></b>
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**Selection:** Schools will be ranked first to last using the criteria listed below. The field will be expanded to 12 schools in the following manner.

- The top 4 schools will automatically qualify for the NESSA Team Racing Championship (Mark Trophy).
- Schools ranked 5-8 who qualified for the Mallory Trophy will automatically qualify for the NESSA Team Racing Championship (Mark Trophy).
- Schools ranked 5-12 will participate in a wild card sail-off the weekend of the Mallory for the final slots at the NESSA Team Racing Championship (Mark Trophy). Format will be posted in the NOR.

### Computer rankings:

- 50% of a school's overall ranking will be tabulated by a computer program, plan J, tabulating points based upon three criteria.
  - One-third of the points are based upon winning percentage against NESSA schools

- One-third of the points are based upon winning percentage against “top 20” NESSA schools in 2006
- One-third of the points are based upon a “strength of schedule” formula that takes into account your opponent’s record and your opponent’s opponent’s record.
- 50% of a school’s overall ranking will be tabulated by the combined rankings of the executive committee as appointed by the NESSA president. The selection committee will rank all the schools that register properly, excluding their own, from first to last. If there is a tie in rankings, then the selection committee ranking will break the tie.

**Proposal #2:** NESSA adopt the two-division format for the NESSA Team racing Championship (Mark Trophy), for a period of three year (2007, 2008, & 2009).

<i><b>NESSA Team Racing Championship (Mark Trophy) – Two Division format</b></i>
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**Selection:** Schools will be ranked first to last using the criteria listed below. The field will be expanded to 16 schools in the following manner.

- The top 8 schools will qualify for the NESSA Division-1 Team Racing Championship (Mark Trophy).
- The schools ranked 9-16 qualify for the Division-2 NESSA Team Racing Championship.
- All bids to the ISSA nationals (Baker Trophy) will be awarded to the top finishers at the Division-1 NESSA Championship

**Computer rankings:**

- 50% of a school’s overall ranking will be tabulated by a computer program, plan J, tabulating points based upon three criteria.
  - One-third of the points are based upon winning percentage against NESSA schools
  - One-third of the points are based upon winning percentage against “top 20” NESSA schools in 2006
  - One-third of the points are based upon a “strength of schedule” formula that takes into account your opponent’s record and your opponent’s opponent’s record.
- 50% of a school’s overall ranking will be tabulated by the combined rankings of the executive committee as appointed by the NESSA president. . The selection committee will rank all the schools that register properly, excluding their own, from first to last. If there is a tie in rankings, then the selection committee ranking will break the tie.

NESSA MEMBERSHIP DISCUSSION OF WHAT FORMAT TO USE FOR THE MARK TROPHY:

OPTION ONE: CONTINUE WILDCARD WEEKEND – MEMBERSHIP DISCUSSED VARIOUS MODIFIED FORMATS

CARL: NOT SURE WE SHOULD OPEN UP TO 16 TEAMS BECAUSE WE GET TEAMS WITH LOSING RECORDS

MARY: YES, BUT WIN/LOSS DEPENDS ON WHO YOU SAIL; RECORD NOT EVERYTHING

EMEN: THE MORE YOU OPEN UP THE MARK, THEN THE MORE YOU BENEFIT NESSA AS A WHOLE

EVAN: HAVE RANKS 8-13 SAIL FOR SPOT #8 FOR THE MARK TROPHY ON WILDCARD WEEKEND

OPTION TWO: HAVE A DIVISION; B DIVISION FOR MARK

EMEN: B DIVISION KIDS WILL NOT BE MOTIVATED; THAT’S THE CASE ON THE WEST COAST

CLEMMIE: CANNOT COMPARE EAST AND WEST COAST; MY KIDS WOULD SEE THAT AS A GREAT GOAL

MARY: LET’S TRY THE WILD-CARD WEEKEND AGAIN AS IT WAS LAST YEAR BEFORE WE TRY TO REDEFINE THE SYSTEM

RESOLUTION: MEMBERSHIP ADPOTS OPTION ONE WITH A SLIGHT AMENDMENT TO HOW IT IS WRITTEN ABOVE IN THAT IT WILL BE ADOPTED FOR THE 2007 SEASON ONLY (NOT 2007-2009 AS WRITTEN ABOVE)



## MOTION CARRIED

### b. Reports for the state directors:

**Background:** In May, I asked Nick, Matt, Jim, and James to organize a task force in their respective states. I was concerned that NESSA has no idea why certain states did what they did. I was also worried that there was not a point person to direct questions to.

The charge to each was (a) to act as a point person within the state and (b) to establish agreed upon rules and procedures for each state event. I do not believe that NESSA should dictate those rules, but I feel that every school in each state should be able to voice their questions, comments, and concerns and that the format used for an event with the title "State Championship" is agreed upon by all in the state.

Here are the reports:

- **Massachusetts (Nick Burke)**  
Response to State Championship Criteria –

I applaud NESSA's desire to provide a more formal standard for the State Championships in New England as it can only help all of our HS Sailors.

Admittedly I was caught behind the curve when I received Rob's email as I had not had the chance to contact fellow schools in Mass. and solicit their respective input concerning the Mass. State Sailing Championships. Despite this fact there are a number of points to be made that I believe will reflect that in many ways Massachusetts has had a format that has worked on many levels. Recognizing that it is not perfect, it is a model that I feel other states could benefit from.

**History** – For all but one of the past 30 years Massachusetts Institute of Technology has been the host school for the Mass. State Sailing Championships. MIT welcomed the HS State Championship at a time when the event outgrew its ability to be sailed at the available venues in Massachusetts. At the time the only condition that Hatch Brown insisted upon was that any school in Mass. is able to sail in the event regardless of their membership or affiliation with an association or league. Given an aggressive Collegiate Schedule, the available time that MIT was able to open their facility to the States was the Thursday and Friday Afternoon prior to the Memorial Day Weekend. Despite the weekday timing, the event has consistently seen between 20 and 30 schools compete for the trophy.

#### **Benefits –**

**Venue** – Having a venue that can accommodate a large number of schools with a consistent one design fleet.

**Consistency of timing each year** – Despite the fact that the Thursday/Friday arrangement may not be the ideal time to run the event, the fact of the matter is that all of the sailors whether they are actively involved in ongoing HS Sailing know when the event is and can plan accordingly.

**Open Access** – The fact that any school from Mass. can field a team has only helped build value and growth in Mass. HS Sailing. There are a number of schools that if it wasn't for the access to this one event each year, most likely wouldn't be registered active participants in NESSA.

I appreciate your time and consideration and welcome your input and ideas relative to what will work best for our sailors.

- **Rhode Island (Matt Largess)**

Rhode Island has a State Championship sailed every spring in mid May, this regatta was sailed at St. George's until the year 2000, when I took over from Roy Williams, it seemed like it was hard for him at that time of year with National Regattas to attend. He deserved some help.

I made a trophy and named it the Millennium cup we sailed out of the Newport Yacht club and Dan Neri became the PRO Chuck Allen ran race management, I called all the RI Teams with ISSA dues paid and we had a great regatta AB Fleet. The State Regatta was held at Newport Y.C. 2000 2001 2002 2003 we changed venue 2004 2005 to Roger Williams with Matt Lindblad as PRO as Chuck Allen setting the

Marks, the event moved to URI 2006 Joe Mello was the PRO and Chuck again on the water. It was a great regatta except St Georges was notified to late to attend because of studies. The 2007 Regatta is still a work in progress, but it has become a great day in RI High School sailing - a sport that adds a lot to our lives. I have also started the RI Woman's fleet Championship with the help of Kathleen Tocke it was hosted at Wickford YC IN 2006 with the trophy named the Neri cup in honor of Dan Neri and his family, the regatta was great fun and I hope it grows.

On Nov 18th Kathleen is running a State Laser Radial event at sail Newport we will keep you posted.

- **Maine (Jim Mondesette)**

No report was files, but there is a prize for the top Maine school at the Downeast Invite. Presently, there are only three HS teams in Maine, and two conglomerate teams that also compete.

- **Connecticut (James Perkins)**

Last year questions were raised on the selection process for the Connecticut State Sailing Championship. Why was it limited to 12 schools? How were the schools selected?

For the past three years the participants for the Connecticut State Sailing Championships have been determined on a first come first serve basis. Over those three years all schools that have applied in accordance with the NOR were accepted to participate. The average participation has been 12 CT schools. The biggest constraint in conducting any High School event is finding an event host. For the past two years the Connecticut States have had the privilege of being able to sail out of the USCGA. The USCGA as the host, has in the past requested that participation be open to outside of CT schools to help with recruitment. In the past this has not been an issue as we have not had to make that tough call of deciding who gets in (everyone got in).

In an effort to accommodate all 21 registered CT schools and meet the USCGA desire to open it to outside schools, this years selection will be slightly different. The event will be scheduled depending on the host availability for early May. The NOR will be posted no later than March 1. All 20 available slots will be reserved for CT schools on a first come first serve basis until March 31. Starting on March 1, any out of state schools that apply will be put onto a wait list until April 1. On April 1, any slots that have not been filled by a CT school will be filled from the list of teams waiting on the "first come" wait list.

**c. New Terminology for High School Events.**

In an effort to limit confusion, I would like event organizers to start using the following terminology when writing NORs and promoting their event. The idea is to make it easier for those deciding to attend what type of event is, to make it easier to promote our sport, and to more closely mirror the college game.

- **Open:** An Open Regatta does not follow ISSA Procedural Rules 1 – Eligibility.
- **Invitational:** An Invitational Regatta is open to high school teams only and follows ISSA Procedural Rules 1 – Eligibility.
- **Championship:** A championship Regatta is either (a) step to another level or (b) a season ending event.
- **Named Regattas:** Whenever possible, events should be called by their trophy name.

**d. Question. Has NESSA considered running a Women's/Girl's Championship:**

I think that the word "championship" is used too much. As stated above, a championship should be reserved for (a) step to another level or (b) a season ending event. Clearly, a girl's sailing does not fit either of these categories, yet. Unlike college sailing, there is no HS girl's circuit. There is also no ISSA girl's championship. Furthermore, once you add the word championship to an event, everyone gets "amped up" a little more. It is tougher to administrate. Finding a host site for an invitational event that is open to 12-15 schools is fairly easy. If you make it a championship, you have to open up registration to all 85 schools. Where do you hold the events? What are the criteria for qualification? Events, like the Herreshoff, that promote HS sailing are good. The more schools, leagues, and organizations that run them the more it helps grow our sport.

**e. Question. Can we seed teams for the O'Day Qualifying Regatta.**

I was asked if we could seed qualifying sites for the O'Day regatta. I am uncomfortable do this, as I do not think that the data exists to do that accurately. I also think it gives the sailors and coaches another thing to complain about if the qualifier does not go their way. There is an art to selecting a qualifying site. We all pick sites that give us the best chance for success. I have gone to CT for a qualifier. I know of a Cape team that selected going to Maine. I also know a coach who selects sites where he knows that the event will be run properly. Others will always select the closest site, while some coaches didn't care which site they go to or what other schools are there - they figure they have to beat the best at some point, why not on Saturday. The conclusion is that until we have an accurate pool of fleet racing data, I am more comfortable letting the coaches select qualifying site.

**8. 12:27 – Motion to Adjourn (Rob Hurd)**