

Minutes: MASSA Board of Directors Meeting, January 19, 2008
 Host: Andrew Cole, Annapolis Maryland

Attendance – Randy Stokes , Stovy Brown , Mike Sparks, George Linzee, Bill Schneider, Geoff Schneider, Andrew Cole

1. Director/Treasurer's Report

Treasury at time of winter meeting:						
01-02	02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08
\$1183	1380	1922	2463	2745	2880	2391.92

Although it looks like there was a significant decline in the bank balance, it actually was due to the fall 07 trophy purchase being made after last year's meeting. Compensating for this, the bank balance was about the same. Generally, the \$15 dues per school is just a bit less than needed to pay for the yearly trophies but there is enough in the bank to cover this for now. Other expenses: occasional copying and shipping of trophies to out-of-town schools. If, in the future, we incur additional expenses, we may have to raise the dues. e.g. trophy cost inflation, internet expenses (the current internet website is provided at no cost to MASSA), regatta support expenses.

League Totals	96-97	97-98	98-99	99-00	00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08
Northwest	1	0	2	2	3	3	3	5	5	6	6	4
Northeast	13	18	22	22	13	20	20	28	27	28	26	21
Central	11	10	12	15	14	11	17	15	16	17	17	17
Southern (VISA)	2	1	4	4	4	9	3	9	10	11	9	7
Total Memberships	27	29	40	43	34	43	43	57	58	62	58	49

Membership: Holding even but not growing

Resolved: To Increase Membership local leagues are encouraged to run more local events including simultaneous events and single handed starts – unanimous passed.

- link to national database on MASSA website
- sort league membership data
- investigate into getting an establishing dedicated MASSA website URL – unanimous passed
- investigate into getting an email list serve for main website (subscribe / unsubscribe) mailing list & ways to control it for league and massa
 - order trophies ahead of time to hand out at events
 - to include trophies for Cressy qualifiers
 - unanimous passed
 - can plaques sent to schools with members names to encourage school participation? – discussion postponed in the interest of time

3. ISSA Board report

- a. Andrew Cole is the legal advisor to ISSA, he discussed some of the latest projects, e.g. by-law modifications and will be getting copies of ISSA insurance to MASSA board members
- b. George: etc.
- b. Bill - national championships Upcoming ISSA National Championships to be held in MASSA: ISSA now places the responsibility for the organization, budget, support, etc. on the host district. Spring 2008: Mallories, May 10-11, at the Naval Academy, NORs have been posted but the Naval Academy will need some support from us for the actual event. ISSA will be holding a membership meeting on Saturday evening.

- c. In subsequent discussion, the MASSA BOD Resolved to request ISSA to not hold membership meeting during events since the focus should be on sailing not administration. In addition, they should not hold board meetings on racing weekends - Administration meetings should be held during the off season. – unanimously passed
 - d. The Cressy, next fall (2008), will be our responsibility. It will be held at Cornell since the Vanguard laser fleet will be there for the College Nationals the following week. Bill has been corresponding with Cornell and the date has just been established as October 18-19 and regular meetings/correspondence is being scheduled to discuss how we are going to provide assistance to Cornell (budget, umpires, regatta support people, judging, NORs, housing information, etc.) ISSA (Chuck Sinks) is now in the loop, but it appears to be mostly our responsibility.
 - e. The next National Championship to be held in MASSA is the spring 2010 Baker. We will need a host for this event. Randy proposes to look into hosting this event @ Norfolk collegiate, Stovy suggested National Sailing Center.
 - f. Resolved: any ISSA director elected by our district may be temporarily replaced by MASSA Board for the purpose of participating ISSA board meetings – unanimously passed
4. League reports, including Central's issues for the board:
- Randy – fundraising to buy new fleet for VISA. Looking to expand membership VA. Beach area. Stovy – central league – active core in Annapolis . southern MD and DC . could expand eastern shore central league recommendations: better massa reporting – rotating massa events – 2 events for qualifiers – 10day notification of attendance for massa events – JV definition – baker qualifier held in 420's – MASSA director to be in charge of events
George – membership about 26 – creating single handed and 7 & 8th grade events – NE sometimes has difficult travel, especially from Long Island area – they have 3 college sites to hold races
5. Scheduling and Operational Rules - passed last year (12/9/2006) – Do any need revising? Plus discussions of other relevant issues.

Existing rule -Duration of Events: "District Team Racing and National Qualifiers will be scheduled for a Saturday with Sunday reserved for racing if enough races can't be held on Saturday to complete an official regatta. District Fleet Racing regattas, other than a National Qualifier, will be held on 1 day only"

Resolved: The Baker Qualifier will be a 2 day event . The 1st day is seeded qualifiers using whatever local facilities to maximize participants with the goal of qualifying teams for the 2nd day. MASSA directors will work on detail procedure to implement this – unanimously passed

Resolved: Mallory Qualifier will be a 2 day event – passed: Randy & Stovy in favor, George Linzee opposed.

Resolved: For Mallory Qualifier races end 2pm on Sunday or the completion of 1 full round robin whichever comes first – unanimously passed

Resolved Cressy scheduled as 2 day event but can be completed in 1 day – unanimous passed.

Existing rule -Backups for Mallory and Baker qualifiers: "If a full regatta can't be completed at the District spring fleet racing qualifier regatta for the National Mallory Championship, the backup selections for the Mallory would be based on the results of the District fall fleet racing championship. If a full regatta can't be completed at the final District spring team racing qualifier regatta for the National Baker Championship, the backup selections for the Baker would be based on the results of the District fall team (previous typo corrected) racing championship"

Discussion: no other reasonable alternatives, however,

Resolved: The teams eligible for selection based on the fall regattas shall be limited to the teams who qualified at the local league to attend the spring District Qualifier - unanimously passed

Proposed modification to the Allocation system for team racing events: Allocations for district team racing events will be based on the ratio of the number of teams in a league that have been actively team racing throughout the season, divided by the number of teams actively team racing in the district throughout the season. The League Directors will provide these numbers to the District Director by the Tuesday prior to the weekend before the District Team Racing Regatta to give the District sufficient time to calculate allocation numbers by the weekend before the District Team Racing Regatta. League Director will provide the names of the team(s) that will attend the District event the Monday before the event. Each league will be allowed a minimum of 1 team to attend the District Team Racing Regatta. If the District holds a semifinal preliminary team racing regatta to select teams to attend a final District Team Racing Regatta, the allocation system will apply only to the semifinal preliminary team racing regatta. Unanimous passed

Proposed changes to Mallory Qualifier allocations : Allocations for district fleet racing events will be based on the ratio of the number of teams in a league that have been actively fleet racing throughout the season, divided by the number of teams actively fleet racing in the district throughout the season. The League Directors will provide these numbers to the District Director by the Tuesday prior to the weekend before the District Fleet Racing Regatta to give the District sufficient time to calculate allocation numbers by the weekend before the District Fleet Racing Regatta. League Director will provide the names of the team that will attend the District event the Monday before the event. Each league will be allowed a minimum of 1 team to attend the District Fleet Racing Regatta. If the District holds a semifinal preliminary fleet racing regatta to select teams to attend a final District Fleet Racing Regatta, the allocation system will apply only to the semifinal preliminary fleet racing regatta. Unanimous passed

Resolved: For the purposes of allocations, active participation includes sailors that signed up for an event that was cancelled by weather or other major emergencies. Unanimous passed

Publicity Discussion – There was a suggestion that a new board member might be able to be responsible for this throughout the district.

Proposed: local leagues are encouraged to have a meeting post fall season to bring up issues that need to be addressed in the winter BOD meeting and a local leagues meeting to disseminate the results of the BOD meeting – unanimous passed

Proposed: Stovy to ask League coaches to put together a recommended NOR and SI for district events for the BOD to approve. Randy will bring up judging issues to USSailing Area C judge to improve umpire / judging quality and numbers. The BOD will take under advisement to improve the quality of District events. – unanimous passed

Existing Attendance rule: **“Team Attendance:** If a league-qualified team can not attend a district event, they must give at least 48 hours notice to their league director, the host league director, and the district director. If they do not comply with this, they will forfeit their qualification slot for the next district event for which they would otherwise be qualified by their league to attend. The District Director may waive this penalty for valid reason, e.g. if the team had no way of knowing that it was not able to participate in the regatta until too late.”

Proposed to change the attendance rule to read : **“Team Attendance:** A league must fill their allocated slots at a district event by the Monday before the event by notifying the host league director, and the district director. If a team drops out after that Monday commitment the team will forfeit their qualification slot for the next district event for which they would otherwise be qualified by their league to attend. The District Director may waive this penalty for valid reason, e.g. if the team had no way of knowing that it was not able to participate in the regatta until too late.” Unanimous passed

2008 Spring Schedule, District Events	
April 19-20	Mallory Qualifier - Central
April 26-27	Baker Qualifier - Southern
May 3-4 (SAT 3rd)	
May 10-11	Mallory Nationals, Naval Academy, will need support from us. Also: ISSA membership meeting Saturday
May 17-18	
May 24-25	Baker Nationals, Minnesota

2008 Fall Schedule, District Events	
Aug 30-31	Labor Day
Sept 6-7	
Sept 13-14	Provisional Date Cressy Qualifier
Oct 18-19	Cressy Nationals Cornell, will need support from us,
Oct 25-26	
Nov 1-2	District Fleet Racing Championship - Central
Nov 8-9	District Team Racing Championship - Central

In general, it was agreed that the Team Racing Championship should rotate between Central and Southern and the Fleet Racing Championship would rotate between Northeast and Central. The Cressy qualifiers would also rotate with Central hosting them this year (Fall, 2008) and Northwest next year. The rotations for the 2008 and 2009 would be:

	Spring Qualifiers		Fall Championships & Cressy Qualifier		
	Fleet	Team	Fleet	Team	Single-handed
2008	Central	South	Central	Central	Central
2009	NE	South	NE	Central	NW

Elections – Nominated: Bill Schneider – Director, Geoff Schneider – Assistant director, Andrew Cole promotion from Friend of the Board to “Esteemed Friend of the Board”, and Mike Sparks - At Large board member – unanimously passed.

Randy Stokes was recommended to be nominated as an ISSA BoD member if ISSA passes a proposal to have a 2nd member from each district.