

2009-10 Winter/Spring VISA Meeting Agenda

The 2009-10 Winter/Spring Visa Meeting was held at NYCC at 6:00 pm on Jan , 2010.

Team Reports – Each team rep commented on status of team, coaches, fleet/team racing plans, goals, and problems. Team Rep added any issues to agenda

Summary of Issues for Discussion:

A. Scoring Fleets. Discussed the current scoring method – 9 boat fleet scoring and proposal to switch to 18 boat fleet scoring. Elizabeth and Tim to provide scoring comparisons of A1 and B1 9 boat scoring vs. 18 boats scoring to coaches, and a vote will be taken at a later date.

B. Gold/Silver team racing fleets. Last Fall the teams were separated into gold and silver for team racing. This procedure is recommended by ISSA Pres Tim Hogan with the belief that it would result in more rapid improvement in team racing. Members agreed to stay with last season's Gold/Silver format. Roll call for school's participation will be sent by Tuesday with answers on participation by Wednesday.

C. Race Committee. Each School shall provide one (1) race committee volunteer at each regatta and one(1) for JV if they participated in JV. The RC was formed from this group of volunteers. Spring JV races must have two chase boats committed to run a regatta. In the event that the volunteers could not decide who was to have what responsibilities, the VISA President designated who was to do what. Unrelated regatta hosts (e.g. W&M, ODU), at its option, provided a race committee. The regatta host (e.g., CCS, NYCC, etc) determined who could operate any regatta host boats and equipment.

Regatta Formats -

The current A/B Fleet format is proposed with no adjustments suggested. The current format:

1. We try to have at least 18 boats in each race.
2. Each School may enter an A1 and an A2 boat in each A race and a B1 and B2 boat in each B race. A1 and A2 will sail together but each group will be scored separately (using the finishing places with both fleets). B1 and B2 will sail together but will be scored separately (using the finishing places with both fleets). If at any regatta there are more than 9 schools, A-1 and B-1 will be filled completely and the schools will get a Bye in the A2 and B-2 fleets in the inverse order of the finish for the Spring 2009 season. Schools getting a bye will be scored the average of its actual A-2 or B-2 finishes at the regatta.
3. The combined scores will determine the winner of the regatta. However, the season standings will be based solely on the results of A1 and A2 (excluding B1 and B2). The purpose of this adjustment is to have the best skippers/crews in the same race in order to further improve quality of racing. The W&M Regatta will be just A and B due to the limited number of boats.
4. Substitutions will be handled in the same manner that we handled them last spring: An A1 and A2 skipper can move to and from B1 or B2 and back to A1 or A2 (whichever they had sailed in before) after any race. A1 skippers cannot rotate into A2, and A2 skippers cannot rotate into A1. B1 and B2 skippers can rotate into B2 and B1 and back freely. B1 and B2 skippers can also rotate into A1 or A2. However, once a B1 or B2 skipper sails in an A1 (or A2) race, the skipper cannot thereafter rotate to A2 (or A1): If a B1 or B2 skipper moves to A1, he cannot thereafter sail in

A2, and if a B1 or B2 skipper moves to A2, the skipper cannot thereafter move to an A1 race.

6. If there are less than 18 boats in either A or B divisions, schools may enter unofficial teams to fill any remaining boats. The unofficial spots will be shared on a pro rata basis and the race committee for each regatta will have to work out the fairest sharing system given the particular circumstances at the event.

The current Weekday Team Race Series format is proposed with the following adjustments:

The league conducts a team race series on weekdays in split into gold and silver fleets. Races to be held on the dates shown on attached schedule. The teams will be divided into silver and gold based upon last season's standings. The top Silver team from each round will move into Gold for the next round and the bottom Gold will move to Silver after each round. Scoring in Silver will equal all points earned in Silver plus 1.5 times any points earned in Gold. Scoring in Gold will equal all points earned in gold plus 10% of any points earned in Silver. A point is earned for each match that a team wins.

No changes are proposed to the definitions of matches and rounds. If a match is not completed on the day two teams meet, they will sail the match at the next mutually convenient opportunity. A "match" is a race (or a series of races) with an opposing team. A "round" consists of the results of each team completing a match (a race or an agreed upon set of races) against each other team. All races sailed on the same day will be considered part of the same match, unless the teams agree otherwise. Teams may begin a second round even though the first round has not been completed. For example, if Smithfield has sailed against Christchurch once, and these two teams are able to schedule a second match before the first round is completed (i.e. before all the teams have sailed a match against each other), the second match will be included in the next round. Also, teams are not required to sail the same number of races against all teams within a round. For example, CCS may schedule a match against NCS for round one and sail 5 races within that match, and it may schedule a round one match against Smithfield in which it sails only one race. For each round, each of the teams receives only one win and one loss per match, regardless of how many races are sailed in the match.

Each team will provide at least one volunteer to assist with the race committee for both the JV and varsity races when at NYCC. A coach may serve as a RC volunteer.

State Championship Regatta format – Fleet Race, A/B Format as adjusted above

Schedule – The attached schedule is adopted by the membership. The adoption of the schedule is for purposes of setting the goals for regatta dates, number of scheduled regattas, etc. The schedule will be adjusted to reflect changes in MASSA Schedule and to resolve Regatta Host conflicts.

Treasurer's Report- Jill Petrone

Adoption of dues/budget – No changes in dues are proposed. Dues are proposed at \$385 for the fall season. \$100 per school for the boat maintenance assessment fee fund. This sum covers VISA dues of \$285 (same as last season) plus MASSA/ISSA dues. Jill to provide invoices at meeting or soon after.

The following Budget is proposed:

Fall 2009**Budget**

Operating Income	
8 Teams @ \$ 285.00	\$2,280.00

Operating Expenses

Trophies	\$800.00
G& W Trophies	\$100.00
Add'l Trophies (tie)	\$100.00
SCC	\$50.00
Regatta Host	\$1000.00
Misc.	\$230.00
Total Operating Exp.	\$2,280
Net Operating Income	0

Maintenance assessment fee balances were shown for each team.

Trophy List - The following Trophy List is proposed:

Fall Trophy List
2009

Noble Awards & Engraving Inc.
P. O. Box 372881
Satellite Beach, FL 32937

David Noble (e mail) dave@nobleawards.com (phone) 321-779-5222

Plaque of centerboard Half-hull w/sail plan
Painted Flying Junior on Mahogany plaque

VISA & Code flag “V”
Virginia Interscholastic Sailing Association
SPRING Season 2009

1ea.- 1st place 8x10
1ea.- 2nd place 8x10
1ea.- 3rd place 8x10

VISA & Code flag “V”
Virginia Interscholastic Sailing Association
SPRING 2009 – State Championship Regatta

1ea. 1st place 8x10
1ea. 2nd place 8x10
1ea. 3rd place 8x10

VISA & Code flag “V”
Virginia Interscholastic Sailing Association
SPRING 2009– JV Championship

1ea. 1st place 8x10
1ea. 2nd place 8x10
1ea. 3rd place 8x10

VISA & Code flag “V”
Virginia Interscholastic Sailing Association
SPRING 2009 Team Race State Championship

1ea.- 1st place 8x10
1ea.- 2nd place 8x10
1ea.- 3rd place 8x10

Recruitment of new schools – Pat Hilliard reported Nansemond Suffolk Academy will participate in the spring season. Granby is trying to put together a team. Captain Lobree is working with the Norfolk Naval Base to create a practice site.

Adoption of formula for determining which VISA teams will participate in MASSA events No change in formula will be proposed:

Visa Teams that pay the annual MASSA/ISSA dues and the season's VISA dues prior to the first regatta will be eligible to race in the MASSA regional championship events and qualifiers using the following formulas:

MASSA Fleet Race events (including qualifiers): VISA teams will be selected based on position obtained, using Low Point system, by adding the final position in each visa fleet race event sailed this season prior to the MASSA event. After we have sailed 3 fleet race regattas (and have 3 scores) teams get a drop. Ties will be broken in accordance with RRS A.8.1 and A.8.2. Performance in the last regatta sailed will be the final method of breaking a tie. Last fall's standings will be used to select teams if no VISA fleet race regatta is completed prior to a MASSA fleet race event.

MASSA Team Race events (including qualifiers): VISA teams will be selected based on position obtained, using Low Point system, by adding the final position in each visa team race event sailed this season prior to the MASSA event. Ties will be broken in accordance with RRS A.8.1 and A.8.2. Performance in the last regatta sailed will be the final method of breaking a tie. Last fall's standings will be used to select teams if no VISA team race regatta is completed prior to a MASSA team race event.

ISSUES to be raised with ISSA or MASSA – Opportunity for teams to raise any issues or ideas for District or National competition, etc.

PROCEDURES for resolving questions during season – Just a reminder of how we resolve issues during the season and an opportunity for teams to discuss.

We are governed by the minutes of our pre-season meetings, the ISSA Procedural Rules and the Racing Rules of Sailing. If an issue is not covered in our minutes or the rules, we follow our most recent precedent. After the preseason meeting, we can change the preseason decisions and the rules only by unanimous vote.

Protocol for resolving midseason questions and issues is an inquiry that roughly follows the following lines:

1. Did we make any special provision for this issue in a preseason meeting (Check the minutes).
2. Is the issue covered in the ISSA Procedural Rules as adjusted by MASSA. (Check the procedural rules and MASSA Adjustments)
3. Is the issue covered by the RRS? (Check the RRS)
4. Is the issue covered by a recent past precedent? (Think through what we have done in the past and if we have not addressed the issue, consider what others have done)
5. If the issue is truly not addressed by any of the foregoing, then discuss with the league president to determine if it is an issue better decided by the league officers, by a vote or by some other procedure.

Regatta Scores and Posting – Tim Spracher

Website – Tim Spracher -

Speakers, Clinics, Seminars, Socials – David Tunnicliffe in August Other Ideas?

Anyone want to volunteer to help line-up someone good this season for something either before or after a regatta?

Umpiring/Judges - We will continue the practice of using opposing coaches (together on same umpire boat) for umpiring team races. All coaches are urged to take the US Sailing Judges and Umpire courses, and to consider entering the certification process. We propose to continue using VISA Protest Hearing Procedures (copy attached) for fleet race protests.

New Business –

Butch will contact N.C. teams to invite their participation in scrimmage regattas.

Proposed and passed authorization to purchase up to \$2000 in equipment, these items were discussed:

Repair or replacement of starting sound system

Kattack or other GPS tracking system

Video cameras for start and finish

Waterproof box to store video cameras and GPS tracking system

Discussed Alumni Regatta and Rose Bowl proposed events. Alumni Regatta after the regular season, possibly in May or June. Rose Bowl format possibly around the Christmas break. More to come as these develop.