

**Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
Harrisburg, PA – May 23, 2017**

I. CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE

Chairwoman Norton called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. May 23, 2017. The following were in attendance:

President David Soltz – Bloomsburg University (by conference call)
President Karen Whitney – Clarion University
President Marcia Welsh - East Stroudsburg University
President Fred Walker – Edinboro University
President Michael Driscoll – Indiana University
President Ken Hawkinson – Kutztown University
President Francis Hendricks – Mansfield University
President Jem Spectar – University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown
President Mary Finger – Seton Hill University
Interim President Barbara Lyman – Shippensburg University
President Cheryl Norton – Slippery Rock University
President Chris Fiorentino – West Chester University
Steve Murray, Commissioner

President John Anderson – Millersville University provided his proxy to President Soltz
President Geraldine Jones – California University provided her proxy to President Driscoll

II. REVIEW/REORDERING OF AGENDA

No Reordering of Agenda Items took place

Mr. Murray informed the Board that upon review of the annual conflict of interest disclosure statements, there were no conflicts of interests among Board members in their conduct of business with the PSAC and their role as Directors. (Statements on file with PSAC Office)

III. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

MOTION: (Welsh) That the minutes of the May 2016 and September 2016 meetings be approved as presented.

SECONDED: (Driscoll)

MOTION PASSED

IV. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Mr. Murray presented the Board with a written report highlighting the events of the past year for the PSAC and his office.

V. DIVISION II PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL REPORT

The Board reviewed a document provided by PC representative Dr. Michael Fiorentino which was the "take-aways" from the April 2017 Division II Presidents Council Meeting

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Advisory Council Recommendations

1. Ratification of Consent Items

The Board reviewed the Consent legislative items approved previously by the Chair, endorsing her position for immediate adoption.

MOTION: (Driscoll) To ratify the Consent package of recommendations (Attachment A)

SECONDED: (Welsh)

MOTION PASSED

2. Consideration of Controversial Items

a) MOTION (Welsh) That the PSAC Swimming Championship be conducted on a Wednesday through Saturday format during the week the championship is typically scheduled.

SECONDED (C. Fiorentino)

MOTION PASSED

B. Football Practice Guidelines 2017

The Board reviewed and discussed NCAA recommendations, waivers and guidelines related to changes to football preseason practice. The Commissioner recommended that the Board pass legislation that would require mandated days off during the preseason based upon the NCAA's recommendations.

MOTION (Whitney) That PSAC Member Institutions sponsoring Division II Football employ the NCAA Sports Science Institute's Recommendation of one (1) day off from practice every seven (7) days of practice following the initial five-day acclimatization period of 2017 Football practices

SECONDED (Welsh)

MOTION PASSED

C. PSAC Scheduling and Impact on Budgets

The Board engaged in a brief discussion regarding conference scheduling, particularly on team sports that are currently operating as non-divisional. The Board asked the Commissioner to work with the Athletics Administrators Championship & Competition Committee to review what options might be possible for consideration.

VI. FINANCE REPORT

The Board reviewed the report for the 2015-16 Financial Audit

The Board reviewed the proposed application for the Division II Strategic Initiative Grant Program

The following motions were considered:

MOTION (Welsh) That the Board of Directors approve the draft summary of the PSAC's application for the 2017-18 annual Division II Strategic Initiative Grant program.

SECONDED (Driscoll)

MOTION PASSED

MOTION (Finger) That the Board of Directors accept the Proposed 2017-18 Budget for the league. The Budget proposal includes annual dues of \$19,000 (no increase).

SECONDED (Hawkinson)

MOTION PASSED

MOTION (Lyman) That the Commissioner be empowered to transfer surplus funds from the Conference's Primary Account with Jersey Shore State Bank to the Conference's Reserve Account with M&T Bank to begin the 2017-18 Fiscal Year with approximately \$130,000 in the Primary Account.

SECONDED (Spectar)

MOTION PASSED

VIII OLD BUSINESS

A. Strategic Plan Review

The Board reviewed an annotated version of the Strategic Plan that included updates and notes of progress. The Commissioner has begun the process to develop a new Strategic Plan as the current run ends with this fiscal year (2016-17). A draft plan will be ready for review at the Board Retreat in September 2017

IX OTHER BUSINESS

A. Selection of Officers & Executive Committee

President Norton, serving as the "Nominating Committee", proposed the following slate of candidates for the Executive Committee of the PSAC Board of Directors

Chair – Dr. Marcia Welsh

Vice Chair – Dr. Karen Whitney

Treasurer – Dr. Michael Fiorentino

At-Large- Dr. Mary Finger

At-Large – Dr. Chris Fiorentino

Secretary (ex officio) – Steve Murray

Recommendation passed by acclamation.

C. Personnel Issues

The Board met in Executive Session from 2:55 to 3:10 pm

X DATE OF NEXT MEETING

A. September Retreat

The Board will conduct a retreat in September 2017 at Bald Eagle State Park, Howard, PA

B. Future Meeting

Tentatively set for May 22, 2018 in Harrisburg

XI ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn at 3:15 pm

Submitted by:
Steve Murray, Commissioner
5/24/2017

**ATTACHMENT A
COSENT ITEMS**

Fall 2016 Consent Items:

- 1). That beginning with the 2016-17 academic year, the PSAC provide a plaque to regular season divisional or round-robin champions for team sports recognizing them for their accomplishments.
- 2). That the PSAC extend its agreement with Scott and Rose Atkinson to provide Volleyball Officiating Assigning Services for up to three years, renewably annually during that term. Additionally, the per game fee per official during that time period would be 2017-\$165 (line: \$75), 2018-\$175 (Line: \$75), 2019-\$175 (line \$80).
- 3). That in the event the team earning the PSAC's automatic qualification berth to the NCAA championships is unable to accept the berth for any reason, the PSAC will award the berth to the next highest finisher in the tournament or regular season, as applicable.
- 4). To amend PSAC Soccer Policies as follows:
 - 3.1.5 Tournament Policies - Suspended Games and Expiration of Time -- As the Governing Sports Authority, the PSAC has determined the following will take place if a contest is suspended (due to elements or other causes) during tournament play.
 - 3.1.5.1 If a contest does not start, it may be started at any time on the same day.
 - 3.1.5.2 If a contest has started but has not progressed to 70 minutes it may resume at any time on the same day. Under NCAA Rule 7.5, If not resumed the same day, it is considered a no contest and must start over to be played in its entirety.
 - 3.1.5.3 If a contest has progressed to a minimum of 70 minutes, it is considered complete. The team leading at the time of the suspension will advance.
 - a. If the score is tied at the time of the suspension the NCAA tiebreaker procedure of taking kicks from the penalty-kick line or spot shall be used to determine advancement once conditions permit.
- 5). To move the PSAC Baseball Championship to a double elimination format, with the exception being if the final two teams are both undefeated a single 9-inning game would determine the champion
- 6). That in the sport of Women's Lacrosse the PSAC move to **Open Exchange** as the film exchange platform in 2018
- 7). That in the sport of Volleyball, that the All-PSAC selections be named in an open format (no divisional alignment) with 10 players selected to a First, Second and Third team, respectively.
- 8). That in the sport of basketball, the host institution will have a window of 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm to determine its start time for a single game during the PSAC Quarterfinal Tournament games (doubleheaders will still be played at 5:30/7:30pm)
- 9). That the 2017 PSAC Soccer Scheduled be adopted as presented

Spring 2017 Consent Items

1. That following the initial three-year agreement with an officiating coordinator or organization that PSAC would be required to seek outside proposals for coordinator positions every 5 years, rather than the current 3 years.
2. That in the sport of men's basketball, the PSAC reseed during the Final Four of the Conference Tournament, to insure that the host team plays the lowest seed from the opposite division in the semifinals

3. That in the sport of basketball, to increase the number of players selected to the first and second team divisional all-conference awards from 6 to 7 athletes (12 to 14 total recognized)
4. That in the sport of volleyball, the home team wears dark at home and the visiting team would wear light or a contrasting color. If playing conference mandated matches on two consecutive days, then home is dark the first day/visitor light or a contrasting color the first day. Second day Home is light or a contrasting color /Visitor dark
5. That in the sport of volleyball, the requirement to use assigned line judges from the Officiating Coordinator only be applicable for mandated league play and non-conference dual match play. (regular season tournaments could be assigned by the host institution, if desired)
6. That for the PSAC Men's Soccer Championship Quarterfinals to start no earlier than 1pm and no later than 6pm.
7. That for the sport of Soccer, the PSAC follow the NCAA Pregame Protocol for all regular-season matches (per page 35 of the Rule Book).
8. To adopt the Mental Health Guidelines as written by PSAC athletic trainer mental health committee's with a goal to have in place by August 1st, 2018 at all member institutions
 - a. (See Attachment)
9. That Kutztown serve as host site for the 2018 PSAC Wrestling Championships on December 8.
10. That in the sport of tennis to stagger the start time of the men's and women's tennis championship matches between 9am and noon to insure additional coverage from officials during the title matches.
11. That in the sport of tennis to conduct the Singles/Doubles Championship in the Fall on a Saturday through Monday format (currently Friday-Sunday).
12. Annually, each institution's SAAC members should be certified for CPR/AED.

Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Mental Health Best Practices Checklist

1. **Clinical Licensure of Practitioners Providing Mental Health Care**

- A. Mental health care of student-athletes should be done in collaboration with the primary athletics health care providers (athletic trainers and team physicians) and the licensed practitioners who are qualified to provide mental health services.
- B. Formal mental health evaluation and treatment for student-athletes is provided **ONLY** by practitioners who are qualified to provide mental health services (clinical or counseling psychologists, psychiatrists, licensed clinical social workers, psychiatric mental health nurses, licensed mental health counselors, board certified primary care physicians with core competencies to treat mental health disorders.)
- C. Individuals providing mental health care to student-athletes have autonomous authority, consistent with their professional licensure and professional ethical standards, to make mental health management decisions for student-athletes.
- D. Individuals providing mental health care to student-athletes should have cultural competency in treating student-athletes from diverse racial, ethnic, gender identified, and other unique cultural experiences influencing help-seeking.
- E. Individuals providing mental health care to student-athletes ideally should have cultural competency in working with collegiate student-athletes, as evidenced by professional training related to athletics, continuing education courses related to athletics or other professional development activities or experiences related to athletics.

2. **Procedures for Identification and Referral of Student-Athletes to Qualified Practitioners**

i. Mental Health and Catastrophic Emergency Action Plan (MHCEAP) that specifies:

- A. Situations, symptoms or behaviors that are considered mental health emergencies.
- B. Written procedures for management of the following mental health emergencies:
 - 1) Suicidal and/or homicidal ideation.
 - 2) Sexual assault
 - 3) Highly agitated or threatening behavior, acute psychosis or paranoia.
 - 4) Acute delirium/confusional state.
 - 5) Acute intoxication or drug overdose.
- C. Situations in which the individual responding to the crisis situation should immediately contact emergency medical services (EMS).
- D. Individuals responding to the acute crisis should be familiar with the local municipality protocol for involuntary retention, e.g., if the student-athlete is at risk of self-harm or harm to others.
- E. Situations in which the individual responding to the crisis situation should contact a trained on-call counselor.
- F. Identifying trained on-call counselors who will be able to provide direct and consultative crisis intervention
- G. Identify the appropriate chain of contacts for notification.
- H. The management expectations of each stakeholder within athletics during a crisis situation.
- I. Specific steps to be taken after an emergency situation has resolved to support the student-athlete who has experienced the mental health emergency.
- J. A procedure for reviewing preventive and emergency procedures after the resolution of the emergency situation.
- K. A formal policy for when student-athlete family members will be contacted in the event of a mental health emergency.

ii. Routine Mental Health Referral Plan that specifies:

- A. Situations, symptoms or behaviors that may indicate a possible nonemergency mental health concern.
- B. The licensed mental health professional to whom student-athletes with possible nonemergency mental health concerns should be referred.
- C. Who should be responsible for making the referral to a licensed practitioner who is qualified to provide mental health services.

iii. Communication about mental health management plans:

- A. MHCEAPs are provided to all stakeholders within athletics who work with student-athletes, clearly specifying each stakeholder's role in managing a crisis situation.
- B. Annual communication is conducted with all stakeholders within athletics who work with student-athletes about the importance of reviewing their role in all emergency action plans – specifically the MHCEAP.

- C. All stakeholders within athletics who work with student-athletes are provided with written instructions about the practitioners to whom student-athletes with potential non-emergency mental health concerns should be referred.
3. **Pre-Participation Mental Health Screening**
- A. Screening questionnaire(s) for mental health disorders are considered as part of the pre-participation exam and should be completed annually at minimum. However, it is the recommendation of this subcommittee that regular screens be performed as certain mental health conditions change frequently.
 - B. A procedure is established for when and to whom symptomatic or at-risk student-athletes identified through this screening process will be referred.
 - C. All decisions related to what approach will be taken to screening (including what screening instrument to consider and what responses or scores on this instrument warrant further follow-up) will be made by the primary athletics health care providers (athletic trainers and team physicians) in collaboration with the licensed practitioners who are qualified to provide mental health services.
4. **Health Promoting Environments that Support Mental Well-Being and Resilience**
- A. The primary athletics health care providers and the licensed practitioners who are qualified to provide mental health services to student-athletes meet on an annual basis and develop strategies for educating student-athletes about institutional procedures for mental health referrals and management.
 - B. All SAAC representatives and student-athletes receive information on an annual basis about:
 - 1) Signs and symptoms of mental health disorders and how to obtain mental health guidance from the primary athletics health care providers (athletic trainers and team physicians) and licensed practitioners who are qualified to provide mental health services.
 - 2) Programming about preventing and responding to sexual assault, interpersonal violence and hazing.
 - 3) Programming about peer intervention in the event of teammate mental health distress.
 - C. All coaches and faculty athletics representatives receive information on an annual basis about:
 - 1) Programming to support appropriate first response to emergency situations.
 - 2) Signs and symptoms of mental health disorders.
 - 3) The importance of, and how to, create a positive team culture that promotes personal growth, autonomy and positive relations with others.
 - 4) Information about sexual assault, interpersonal violence and hazing.
 - 5) How to encourage and support team members who are facing mental health challenges to seek appropriate management and referrals from the primary athletics health care providers (athletic trainers and team physicians) and licensed practitioners who are qualified to provide mental health services.
 - 6) The specific referral process that coaches should follow if they are concerned about a student-athlete's mental health.
 - 7) The importance of understanding and helping to minimize the possible tension that can exist in student-athletes about adverse consequences for seeking mental health care.

*Adapted from the NCAA Mental Health Best Practices Guide
Recommended for Adoption by PSAC ATCs February 2017*