

**Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference
STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
Teleconference – October 2, 2016, 11 a.m.**

Attendance: All institutions represented on call by at least 2 SAAC members. Cheyney was absent.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the March, 2016 PSAC SAAC meeting were reviewed and approved by Chris Pike and Katie Miller, SAAC co-chairs who were present.

PSAC Update: Commissioner Steve Murray gave a brief update on the PSAC legislation actions from the past year, including the new PSAC Sportsmanship Policy and moving to Divisions in Men's and Women's Soccer. The Board of Directors failed the soccer proposal. As a reminder, SAAC opposed moving to divisional play in M/W Soccer. PSAC Associate Commissioner and Conference SAAC Liaison Carlin Chesick spoke about the PSAC Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Snapchat social media efforts. SAAC members are encouraged to "follow" and "like" the conference social media sites. In addition, the group was updated on the "PSAC Network", a web streaming initiative to mandate webcasting throughout the PSAC over a several year process. The Presidents will vote on approving this initiative in the coming weeks. Finally, the PSAC logo is currently in its final rebranding stage and will be ready to roll out during the academic year.

Division II Legislative Proposals: A discussion was held concerning the 18 NCAA legislative proposals up for debate at the 2017 NCAA Convention in January. Most proposals directly impact student-athletes. Specifically, the group discussed proposals related to amending several financial aid bylaws, including only counting athletic aid toward team and individual limits, eliminating term by term awards, and the ability to increase athletically related aid at any time for any reason. Other student-athlete friendly proposals: permitting individuals to receive actual and necessary expenses from outside sponsors for outside competition, allowing individual sport athletes to accept prize money during the summer in their sport up to actual and necessary expenses, permitting try outs with professional teams at any time, permitting institutions to pay/waive pre-enrollment fees, amending the medical hardship waiver legislation, and amending the nonchampionship segment legislation. The PSAC is sponsoring a proposal that gives health care administrators (i.e. ATC, team doctor) the unchallengeable authority to determine medical management and return-to play decisions related to student-athletes.

Division II SAAC Update: Our National SAAC representative is Chris Pike, a football student-athlete from Gannon. Chris is currently the chair of the Division II National SAAC, but will roll off this coming convention as he finishes his term. Chris spoke about the Legislative SAAC Grids and encouraged comments to be submitted with proposals. He reminded the group that National SAAC will again vote during the business session this year. In addition, the Foundation for the Future grants from the National SAAC proposals will include funding for a SAAC summit and money to support Helper Helper, a community service tracking app. Chris also discussed current focus items of the National SAAC, including Mental Health Issues as a current hot topic, and time demands on student-athletes. As usual Make-A-Wish and Team Impact, which has a formal partnership with DII SAAC, were also discussed. Several of our institutions should be able to have a Make-A-Wish reveal on campus due to their fundraising efforts.

NCAA Strategic Grant Program: The SAAC reviewed the sub-grants provided to campus SAACs (\$500) and academic support (\$3,500). The SAAC members were informed how the NCAA issues grants and what steps are taken by their institutions athletic departments.

Strategic Planning & Sportsmanship: The conference sportsmanship award was discussed and reps were encouraged to have this as a monthly agenda topic at campus SAAC meetings. Sportsmanship award nominations are due May 5, 2017. The PSAC strategic plan is currently in its cycle for 2014-17. Presidents and the conference office will start to work on a new plan to implement this summer.

Conference SAAC Project and Make-A-Wish: MAW figures have not yet been released by the NCAA. The PSAC had full participation which is an annual goal. Week of Wishes will be held October 1-16, 2016. Schools were encouraged to submit money raised right after events and not at the end of the year.

Topics for Spring Meeting: A few ideas for the spring meeting included: Mental Health and Diversity Training on Social Issues.

Campus Issues Form: No issues were brought to the meeting.

Future Meeting Dates/Planning: The spring meeting will take place Saturday & Sunday, March 25-26, 2017 in Lock Haven.