

**Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference
STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
Teleconference – September 24, 2017, 11 a.m.**

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

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the March, 2017 PSAC SAAC meeting were reviewed and approved

PSAC Update: Commissioner Steve Murray gave a brief update on the PSAC legislation actions from the past year, which included the swimming championships shifting dates from Thursday-Sunday to Wednesday-Saturday. The group was once again updated on the “PSAC Network”, a web streaming initiative to mandate webcasting throughout the PSAC over a several year process. The conference has several other initiatives it is working on, including launching a new website in October, PSAC Sportsmanship week during the fall, and continuing the emphasis on the new PSAC logo. In addition, the reps were told that the Athletic Administrators and Presidents will be reviewing moving to divisional play in the sports of M/W Soccer, Lacrosse, and Field Hockey. 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.

Division II Legislative Proposals: A discussion was held concerning the 5 NCAA legislative proposals up for debate at the 2018 NCAA Convention in January. Specifically, the group discussed proposals related to sports wagering, amending the awards legislation to account for inflation and allowing some flexibility for student-athletes to receive awards from outside amateur organizations, permitting football to start preseason practice three days earlier with the elimination of two-a-day practices, and permitting volleyball to start their preseason one week earlier in years when the D2 National Championship Fall Festival occurs, to account for a shortened schedule. The last proposal allows institutions located in Mexico to join the D2 membership.

Division II SAAC Update: Our National SAAC representative is Casey Monaghan, a women’s golf student-athlete from West Chester. Casey spoke about the Legislative SAAC Grids and encouraged comments to be submitted with proposals. She also provided input on each proposal from the National SAAC perspective. She provided the six goals National SAAC is focused on for the coming year: CPR certification, Helper Helper, Mental Health and completing modules from the Sports Science Institute, Sexual Assault and Social Justice Issues (It’s On Us), Team Impact and Make-A-Wish, and the SAAC Super Region Convention, which takes place this November for our Region.

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 4, 2018. The PSAC strategic plan is set to finish at the end of 2017 and therefore, the conference will work with presidents to develop a new Strategic Plan. SAAC will review during their March meeting.

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 September 30 - October 15, 2017. Schools were encouraged to submit money raised right after events and not at the end of the year. In order for schools to host a wish reveal they will have to raise \$10,000 as an institution. This is a jump from \$5,000 required over the past few years. Casey also informed the reps that every school has a Make-A-Wish fundraising webpage set up for them to assist. They can find these pages at ncadivii.wish.org.

Topics for Spring Meeting: You Can Play, Mental Health and Sexual Violence/Assault with Title IX training

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

Future Meeting Dates/Planning: The spring meeting will take place Saturday & Sunday, March 24-25, 2018 in Lock Haven.