

**Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Minutes  
Harrisburg, PA – May 21, 2019**

**I. CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE**

Chairwoman Welsh called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. May 21, 2019. The following were in attendance:

President Geraldine Jones – California University  
President Dale-Elizabeth Pehrsson – Clarion University  
President Marcia Welsh - East Stroudsburg University  
Interim President Michael Hannan – Edinboro University  
President Michael Driscoll – Indiana University  
President Ken Hawkinson – Kutztown University  
President Rob Pignatello – Lock Haven University (by conference call)  
President Daniel Wubah – Millersville University  
President Jem Spectar – University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown  
President William Behre – Slippery Rock University  
President Chris Fiorentino – West Chester University  
Steve Murray, Commissioner  
Will Adair, Associate Commissioner  
Carlin Chesick, Associate Commissioner

President Laurie Carter – Shippensburg University provided her proxy to President Welsh

**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: (Wubah) That the minutes of the May 2018 and September 2018 Retreat and Executive Committee meetings of December 2018 and April 2019 be approved as presented.

SECONDED: (Fiorentino)

**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 was provided and update of the Division II President's Council by representative Dr. Michael Driscoll including updates on Proposed Legislation, the Board of Governors Independent Members, and Sports Wagering concerns.

**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: (Wubah)

**MOTION PASSED**

## ***2. Consideration of Controversial Items***

MOTION (Pehrsson) To adopt as conference policy the “Severe Weather – Heat Policy” as presented. (Attachment B)

SECONDED: (Hannan)

**MOTION PASSED**

MOTION (Jones) That the PSAC conduct its 2020 through 2022 Baseball Championship at Slippery Rock University’s Critchfield Park.

SECONDED (Pehrsson)

**MOTION PASSED**

## **B. PSAC Policy Adoptions**

### ***1. Work Stoppage Policy***

The Board reviewed proposed changes to conference policies regarding Work Stoppages

MOTION: (Spectar) To approve the “Policy for the Continuation of Practice and Competition in the Event of a Work Stoppage” (Attachment C)

SECOND: (Hawkinson)

**MOTION PASSED**

## **C. Membership Issues**

### ***1. Bylaw Changes***

Following conversations during the 2018 Board Meeting and 2018 Retreat, the Board asked Commissioner Murray to recommend changes to the PSAC Bylaws regarding membership obligations.

MOTION: (Hawkinson) To Approve the recommended changes to the PSAC Bylaws with an effective date of July 1, 2019

SECOND (Wubah)

**MOTION PASSED**

## **Section 3.7 Admission to Membership.**

An applicant for membership shall provide a written expression of interest to the Board and shall submit any information reasonably requested by the Board. The Board will make an independent determination of the applicant’s suitability for membership based on the Board’s review of the application and its own fact finding. The Board may elect Members at any meeting.

- a) At the time of acceptance of an offer of membership, an institution must provide an initiation fee of three times the amount of the most recent Conference membership dues.
- b) Any new member of the conference (accepted after July 1, 2019) must agree to membership in the Conference for a period not less than seven fiscal years from the time of admission to the Conference. Failure to meet the seven-year requirement will result in a fine of five times the annual dues at the time of notification of intent to withdraw, in addition to any exit fee defined in Section 3.9. **After the initial seven-year requirement has been met, Section 3.9 Withdrawals becomes effective.**
- c) Any new member with Associate status will pay dues at a rate of one-eighth of the current membership dues annually and will subscribe to all membership requirements, including withdrawal notifications and fees (prorated to the Associate membership fee structure)

Section 3.9 **Withdrawals.**

Any Full Member or Associate Member wishing to withdraw from the Conference must give a written notification prior to the withdrawal. The notification shall be sent from the President of the Member to the Chair prior to May 1 with respect to its membership intentions. A Member providing three or more years notification of intent to withdraw will pay an exit fee of two times the membership dues at the time of notification. A member providing two years notification will pay an exit fee of three times the membership dues at the time of notification. A member providing one year or less will pay an exit fee of four times the membership dues at the time of notification. Withdrawal shall not relieve the Member of any outstanding obligation to the Conference.

Section 14. 6 **Discipline.**

A Member's non-compliance with championship participation rules or participation in mandated regular season competition shall be grounds for probation, suspension, termination, or other disciplinary action approved by the Board or by the Commissioner pursuant to Board-approved policies. Suspension or termination of a Member is subject to Section 3.10.

**D. Serious Misconduct Rule Discussion**

The Board reviewed a draft policy regarding the prohibition of participation in the league by student-athletes who have pleaded guilty or been convicted of serious crimes. While the Board believes the Conference should continue to discuss, educate and review this issue and its ramifications for the member institutions, it was not generally supportive of entering into a conference-wide policy on this issue.

**VI. FINANCE REPORT**

A. Finance – Dr. Fiorentino

The Board reviewed the report for the 2017-18 Financial Audit

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

The Board reviewed the final projected 2018-19 Budget and a proposed 2019-20 Budget

The following motions were considered:

MOTION (Fiorentino) That the Board of Directors approve the draft summary of the PSAC's application for the 2019-20 annual Division II Conference Grant program.

SECOND (Wubah)

**MOTION PASSED**

MOTION (Fiorentino) That the Board of Directors accept the Proposed 2019-20 Budget for the league. The Budget proposal includes annual dues of \$22,000 (No increase)

SECOND (Jones)

**MOTION PASSED**

MOTION (Behre) 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 2019-20 Fiscal Year with approximately \$100,000 in the Primary Account.

SECOND (Fiorentino)

**MOTION PASSED**

MOTION (Behre) That the Commissioner, in consultation with the Chair and Treasurer, be empowered to move no more than \$150,000 in the M&T Bank Reserve Account to a set of ladder certificates of deposit.

SECOND (Wubah)

**MOTION PASSED**

B. Audit Proposals

The Board reviewed Audit proposals presented by Boyer & Ritter and LeAnn Plessinger

MOTION: (Fiorentino) To engage the firm of Boyer & Ritter to provide the PSAC's Audit for the fiscal years 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 at fees not to exceed \$6,500, \$6,700 and \$6,900, respectively

SECOND (Wubah)

**MOTION PASSED**

**VIII OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Strategic Plan Review**

The Board reviewed updates of the Strategic Plan 2018-2023

**IX OTHER BUSINESS**

**A. D2CCA Officiating Program**

The Board reviewed the Division II Conference Commissioners Association "Comprehensive Officiating Improvement Strategy" and passed the following Resolution

**RESOLUTION**

*Whereas, the National Association of Sports Officials 2017 Survey confirmed a crisis-level shortage of officials within the United States amateur sports competition in most all sports; and*

*Whereas, the 2017 NASO survey highlighted an aging population of current officials in addition to a record high starting age of new officials; and*

*Whereas, few other national amateur sports organizations have taken the initiative to improve the shortage of officials; and*

*Whereas, as Division II member we have direct access to one of the greatest sources of potential future officials in our own student-athletes;*

*Now, therefore, be it*

*Resolved, that the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Board of Directors unanimously supports the D2CCA Comprehensive Officiating Improvement Strategy, including the requirement of all head coaches within Division II to promote officiating as an avocation to their graduating seniors and those have exhausted their eligibility.*

**B. PSAC Slate of Candidates for Management Council**

MOTION: (Behre) That the following slate of candidates be submitted to the NCAA as the PSAC's candidates to serve on the Division II Management Council from 2020 to 2024

Athletic Director: Dr. Karen Hjerpe, California

SWA: Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg

FAR: Dr. Rich Zumkhawala-Cook, Shippensburg

SECOND (Fiorentino)

**MOTION PASSED**

**C. Selection of Officers & Executive Committee – President Driscoll**

Dr. Welsh asked Dr. Driscoll to serve as the Nominating Committee for the Executive Committee.

MOTION: (Driscoll) To accept the following slate of candidates for the PSAC Board of Directors Executive Committee for the 2019-20 Fiscal Year.

SECOND: (Behre)

**MOTION PASSED**

Chair – Dr. Marcia Welsh

Vice Chair – Dr. Geraldine Jones

Treasurer – Dr. Chris Fiorentino

At-Large- Dr. Mary Finger

At-Large – Dr. Ken Hawkinson  
Secretary (ex officio) – Steve Murray  
Assistant Treasurer (ex officio) – Mr. Rob Pignatello

**D. Personnel Issues**

The Board met in Executive Session from 2:45 to 2:55 pm

**X DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**A. September Retreat**

The Board will conduct a retreat in September 22-23 2019 at Bald Eagle State Park, Howard, PA

**B. Future Meeting**

Tentatively set for May 19, 2020 in Harrisburg

**XI ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn at 3:00 pm

Submitted by:  
Steve Murray, Commissioner  
5/29/2019

**Attachment A**

**Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference  
ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS  
Fall 2018  
(10/26/18)**

**The Advisory Council reviewed the following recommendations and deemed all as CONSENT.**

- 1) To adopt the recommendations and proposals for changes to the Athletics Administrators governance, meeting structure and committee process for implementation beginning July 1, 2019 (Attachment A)
- 2) To conduct the 2019 PSAC Baseball Championship at West Lawn, PA at Owls Stadium  
(Note: due to contractual obligations with final year of contract with Point Stadium in Johnstown, the 2019 Championship will be conducted in Johnstown)
- 3) To conduct the PSAC Baseball Championship in a single-bracket, 8-team double elimination format
- 4) To change the language in the PSAC Operating Codes for all coaching staff limitations (except football) to allow for a total of 5 coaches and 2 volunteers

**Proposed Changes**

**1.4.1 Staff Limitations**

- a) 1 head coach
- b) 1 FT assistant coach or part-time assistant or volunteer
- c) 1 paid PT assistant or graduate assistant or volunteer
- d) ~~1~~ 2 volunteers
- e) ~~4~~ 5 TOTAL COACHES

- 5) To select Bloomsburg as the 2019 and Kutztown as the 2020 PSAC Cross Country host sites
- 6) That for the sport of Tennis, the PSAC adopt regular season team match format scoring in a "Play – Play" format and the conference team championship in a "Clinch – Clinch" format as a result of the ITA and Division II regulation changes.
- 7) That in the sport of Softball, the determination of home team in the first game of the championship round (only 2 teams remain) will be the choice of the undefeated team. In the event a second game is needed, home team will be determined by coin toss.

**No recommendations were deemed controversial**

**Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference**  
**ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS**  
Spring 2019  
(4/23/19)

**Items determined to be Consent:**

1. That Marty Coyne (Bloom, Tennis), Al Modrewjeski (Clarion, Mbsk), Denny Douds (E. Stroud, FB) and Henny Hiemenz (WCU, Swim) be presented with the Coaches Service Award by the PSAC.
2. That Greg Knowlden (ESU) and Steve Roach (IUP) be presented with the Administrators Service Award by the PSAC
3. Motion to manage "of the week" awards
  - A) That for the sports of field hockey, soccer, and lacrosse that the PSAC Office honor two "of the week" awards in each sport in the form of "Athlete of the Week" and "Defensive Player of the Week" for each division of competition.
  - B) That for the sport of volleyball the PSAC Office honor a single "Defensive Player of the Week" among all four divisions of play in addition to the four "Athletes of the Week" already selected.
  - C) That in the sport of basketball, the PSAC replace the "Freshman of the Week" selection with a "Defensive Player of the Week" selection in each division of competition.
4. That in the sports of Soccer and Lacrosse, the All-PSAC selections consist of a first and second team in each division of 13 members each, plus an Athlete, Freshman, Defensive and Coach of the Year.
5. To extend the PSAC Officiating Agreement with Tim Ebersole as Coordinator of Basketball Officials for the 2019-20 season.
6. To enter into a five year agreement (through Fall 2023) with Kim Vieira as Coordinator of Soccer Officials for the PSAC.
7. To enter into an agreement with Wilson as the Official Ball of the PSAC for the sports of Baseball, Football, Basketball, Softball and Soccer.
8. That in the sport of volleyball each team must load their scoresheets and lineup sheets into the VidSwap video exchange program utilized by the PSAC.
9. That in the sport of volleyball each team must utilize Volleywrite to track scoring and libero rotations during matches.
10. That in the sport of women's soccer, the conference tournament single match times begin no earlier than 1pm and no later than 6pm
11. That in the sport of women's soccer, the conference championship include the top four seeds from each respective division. Quarterfinals played on Tuesday following the last Saturday of the PSAC mandated schedule with the #4 seed playing at the #1 seed and the #3 seed playing at the #2 seed within the respective division. The Semifinals and Finals will be played on the following Friday and Sunday at the highest remaining seed from alternating divisions each year. The Semifinals will include a crossover between the four remaining teams (2 from each division)
12. That in the sport of men's soccer, the conference championship include the top three seeds from each respective division. Quarterfinals played on Tuesday following the last Saturday of the PSAC mandated schedule with the #3 seed playing at the #2 seed, while the #1 seed within the respective division is byed to the semifinals. The Semifinals and Finals will be played on the following Friday and Sunday at the highest remaining seed from alternating divisions each year. The Semifinals will include a crossover between the four remaining teams (2 from each division)
13. Beginning in the fall of 2020, to eliminate the four additional mandated contests in Field Hockey at the beginning of the season where PSAC teams play each other.
14. That the PSAC discontinue the Individual Weight Class Tournament in the sport of Wrestling and determine the Conference Champion using the best won/loss record of the regular season dual match schedule
15. That the All-PSAC selections be determined by a vote of the coaches following the conclusion of the NCAA Division II Championships that would create first, second and third teams in each weight class. Additionally, to be considered for All-PSAC, a wrestler must have competed in at least 4 of the 7 regular season dual matches in the PSAC schedule.
16. That for the sport of women's basketball all-conference nominations, an institution may submit no more than 5 nominations.
17. That the PSAC co-sponsor NCAA Division II Legislation that would permit conferences that are in existence as of 2021 to be able to maintain a minimum membership number of 8 active members to be considered an active Division II conference.
18. That the 2019 PSAC Cross Country Championship be conduct on Friday, October 25, 2019 at Bloomsburg University
19. To adopt the Draft 4.0 version of the "PSAC Sportsmanship and Game Environment: Principles, Policies and Procedures" document as presented by the Conference Office for implementation with the 2019-20 academic year.

**Attachment B**

## Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Severe Weather – Heat

The PSAC has established the following policy to ensure the safety of its student-athletes in severe weather conditions. This policy is in accordance with the NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook, Regional Specific Heat Weather Guidelines, Korey Stringer Institute, and the National Athletic Trainer's Association Position Statement: Exertional Heat Illness.

To ensure their safety, student-athletes must have ample time to rehydrate and cool down in hot, humid weather. Heat-related illness could be prevented with additional breaks during contests. It is also recommended that shaded areas be established and decided upon prior to the contest when heat may become severe. The Heat Index shall be determined through assessment of wet bulb globe temperature (WBGT) which is a measure of the heat stress in direct sunlight and takes into account temperature, humidity, wind speed, sun angle and cloud cover (solar radiation). The WBGT shall be the only measure used for decisions regarding participation, breaks and alterations in start time of the event.

The host institution's Athletic Trainer/Medical Staff, based on the WBGT assessed by an electronic heat stress monitoring device at the specific competition site, shall have unquestionable authority to determine if conditions are defined as extreme or severe, and what precautions shall be undertaken. The WBGT will be monitored by the host athletic trainer and will inform the Head Official (and visiting AT) when precautions need to be taken prior to the start of or during the contest.

These policies shall apply to all PSAC Conference contests that occur between member institutions. It is highly recommended that each member institution adopt the policies for non-Conference competition that they host. In non-Conference competition, each institution is responsible for conveying the policies to the visiting team(s) prior to the contest.

The following WBGT guidelines are based on regionally specific environmental conditions and are supported by evidence.

Activities will be modified according to the following guidelines when the WBGT falls into these respective ranges:

- 1) **< 82.0 WBGT ("Normal"):**
  - a) All contests can be conducted.
  - b) Be cautious of those not acclimatized to the conditions.
  - c) Add extra water breaks, when necessary.
- 2) **82.0-86.9 WBGT ("Caution"):**
  - a) Football / Men's Lacrosse:
    - i) The transition times following the 1st and 3rd quarters should be extended 2 minutes.
    - ii) Host site must have ability to cool student-athlete (ice towels, ice bath/cold submersion tubs, Polar Pod etc...)
    - iii) Water should be allowed on the field.
    - iv) Helmets to be removed for all contest stoppage (i.e. injuries, measurements, etc.).
    - v) Additional breaks are to be left to the discretion of the game officials, coaches, and medical staff collectively.
  - b) Soccer/Field Hockey/Women's Lacrosse:
    - i) Addition of water breaks will be left to discretion of the medical staff, collectively prior to the start of the contest.
    - ii) Field Hockey Goalie Helmets to be removed for all play stoppage (i.e., injuries, measurements, etc.).
    - iii) Host site must have ability to cool the student-athlete (ice towels, ice bath/cold submersion tubs, Polar Pod etc...)
  - c) Cross Country:
    - i) Water will be provided at the start/finish lines of the event and must be available at least 1 hour prior to the start to the event.
    - ii) Host site must have ability to cool the student-athlete (ice towels, ice bath/cold submersion tubs, Polar Pod etc...)
  - d) Golf:
    - i) Golfers will be encouraged to bring their own water to the course.
  - e) Tennis:
    - i) Addition of water breaks will be left to the discretion of the medical staff prior to the start of the match.
  - f) Softball/ Baseball:
    - i) Addition of water breaks will be left to the discretion of the medical staff prior to the start of the game.
  - g) Outdoor Track & Field:
    - i) Water will be provided at the event, at least 1 hour prior to the start to the event.



- ii) Host site must have ability to cool the student-athlete (ice towels, ice bath/cold submersion tubs, Polar Pod etc...)
- h) Non-climate Controlled Facilities:
  - i) An extended break between all contests will be allowed in the athletic facility. This decision is at the discretion of the medical staff.
- 3) **87.0-89.9 WBGT ("Extreme Caution"):**
  - a) Football/Men's Lacrosse:
    - i) A 5-10 minute break after the first possession change or at the halfway point of each quarter (7:30 mark) shall be utilized.
    - ii) Timeouts and the transition times following the 1st and 3rd quarters should be extended.
    - iii) Water should be allowed on the field
    - iv) Helmets to be removed for all play stoppage (i.e., injuries, measurements, etc.).
    - v) Host site must have ability to cool the student-athlete (ice towels, ice bath/cold submersion tubs, Polar Pod etc...)
    - vi) Shoulder pads will be removed at half time.
  - b) Soccer/Field Hockey/Women's Lacrosse:
    - i) A 5-10 minute water break will occur between the 20-25 minute mark of each half, when there is a stoppage of play and at the discretion of the head referee.
    - ii) Field Hockey Goalie Helmets to be removed for all play stoppage (i.e., injuries, measurements, etc.).
    - iii) Goalie pads will be removed at halftime.
    - iv) Host site must have ability to cool the student-athlete (ice towels, ice bath/cold submersion tubs, Polar Pod etc...)
  - c) Non-climate Controlled Facilities:
    - i) A 5-10 minute break between all contests will be allowed in the athletic facility.
  - d) Cross Country:
    - i) Water will be provided at the start/finish lines of the event, at least 1 hour prior to the start to the event.
    - ii) Host site must have ability to cool the student-athlete (ice towels, ice bath/cold submersion tubs, Polar Pod etc...)
    - iii) Shaded tents and/or ability to cool in an air-conditioned facility is recommended.
  - e) Golf:
    - i) Golfers will be encouraged to bring their own water to the course.
    - ii) If water is depleted, golfers have the ability to refill water when necessary.
  - f) Tennis:
    - i) Water breaks will be extended to a minimum of 3 minutes between each set.
    - ii) Ice towels will be available.
  - g) Softball/ Baseball:
    - i) Water and if available, sports drinks in each dugout.
    - ii) Ice towels will be available.
  - h) Outdoor Track & Field:
    - i) Water will be provided at the event, at least 1 hour prior to the start to the event.
    - ii) Host site must have ability to cool the student-athlete (ice towels, ice bath/cold submersion tubs, Polar Pod etc...)
    - iii) Athletic trainers should also remind track and field student-athletes to hydrate properly within 48 hours of the anticipated event.
- 4) **>90.0 WBGT ("Extreme Danger"):**
  - a) All outside contests must be postponed until conditions improve or be rescheduled.
- 5) All sports not specifically mentioned in the contest guidelines should follow similar precautions listed under each range.

**Attachment C**

**Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference  
Policy for the Continuation of Practice and Competition in the Event of Work Stoppage**

**Purpose:** In the event of a work stoppage on a member campus or campuses, this policy will ensure that member institutions continue to conduct practices and competition in a manner that protects the health and safety of student-athletes and fulfills the mission of the Conference. This policy only applies during that period in which a work stoppage is occurring on a member campus or campuses.

**I. Resumption of Play/Required Number of Practice Days**

- A. If the **start** of practice is delayed for any reason, teams will be required to follow NCAA preseason acclimatization practice policies for the start of each respective season.
- B. A team will be required to practice 1 day for every 4 days of missed practice prior to any competition after the first five days of practice.

**II. Practice Guidelines**

- A. It is in the best interest of the student-athletes to continue to focus on conditioning. An institution should determine the best manner in which to conduct conditioning activities in a safe and monitored environment. The presence and availability of a certified athletic trainer for practices should be regulated by policies and practices already in place at the institution.
- B. Under no circumstances should the institution sanction the conduct of a “captain’s practice” led only by student-athletes.
- C. Institution’s **MUST** review Play and Practice Regulations, particularly required/non-required activities as well as daily and weekly practice/play hour limitations to prevent any NCAA violations.

**III. Cancellation, Rescheduling and Forfeiture**

- A. In the event conference mandated play is disrupted, the conference will not reschedule any missed contests.
- B. If two PSAC teams are mandated to compete on a given day and one of the teams is not available to play, the team available will be given a win and the unavailable team a loss in the conference standings.
- C. If two PSAC teams are mandated to compete on a given day and BOTH teams are not available, both teams will be given a loss in the conference standings. The conference would determine its conference tournament participants based on winning percentage.
- D. The PSAC will work with teams available for competition to find alternative competition, as needed.
- E. Game Officials will still be paid by the originally scheduled host institution in the event a contest they are scheduled to work is not played.
- F. The conference will not permit institution’s that have failed to make their team(s) available for conference mandated play to participate in NCAA tournament play in those respective sports. Section 14.6 of the PSAC Bylaws states that “a Member’s non-compliance with championship participation rules or participation in mandated regular season competition shall be grounds for probation, suspension, termination, or other disciplinary action approved by the Board or by the Commissioner pursuant to Board-approved policies.” In this case non-participation in the mandated portion of the regular season shall be considered a breach of this regulation and the disciplinary action will be non-participation in NCAA play.
- G. The conference will not permit institution’s that have failed to meet the NCAA minimum dates of competition for consideration for post-season play for a particular sport to seek a waiver from the NCAA for participation. NCAA Bylaw 18.4.2.1 (a) requires that to be eligible to participate in NCAA play, an institution must be “eligible under the rules of the member conference”. An institution that fails to meet NCAA minimum competition dates will be considered ineligible by the conference. For those sports with automatic qualification for the conference champion to the NCAA tournament, in the event a team that wins the conference tournament has failed to meet the mandated schedule, the conference will award its automatic qualification to the highest seeded team that completed its mandated schedule(2).
- H. Exceptions to this policy will only be at the discretion of the majority of the Board of Directors.

**IV. NCAA Eligibility and Waivers**

Member institutions and the conference will make every attempt to ensure the continued eligibility of student-athletes. Depending on the situation, the conference and member institutions may need to seek eligibility waivers for student-athletes. In the past, the NCAA has provided waivers for student-athletes that have reached hardships due to events outside the student-athlete’s control.

*Approved PSAC Board of Directors 8/8/2005  
Amended 9/19/2016  
Amended 5/21/2019*