Empire 8 SID Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2013
St. John Fisher College

Alfred: Mark Whitehouse
Elmira: Don Sherman, Nick Zwald and Stefan Waters
Hartwick: Chris Gondek, Dave Heberger
Houghton: Jason Mucher, Nora Duffy
Ithaca: Joe Gladiziewski, Anna Cooper, John Enright
Nazareth: Joe Seil
St. John Fisher: Norm Kieffer, Jeff Rahmlow
Utica: Gil Burgmaster, Laurel Simer
Empire 8: Janelle Zera

Excused: Stevens Institute of Technology

Meeting opened at 10:05 am.

Yellow: voted items
Red: Action items

1. **Meet and Greet**
   Janelle welcomed everyone to the meeting, including several new faces in the group.
2. **Directory update**
   1. 2013-14 SID Directory (attached)
   2. If you have any admin or head coaching changes send them to Janelle.

3. **Webstream – E8tv/EZstream**
   1. How is everyone doing this and what can we do to make it better?
      Game tape exchange – better information for coaches on how to access film. SIDS getting a lot of questions regarding how to send out/download DVD.
      EZstream has not reached out to the SIDs yet for 13-14 season. (also ask about access for officiating access).
      All schools have interface for scoreboard overlay with video?
      Clock/timing overlay (using statcrew is tough because clock is always off). Fans need to see the amount of time remaining.
      Better quality of video/streaming (RPI's seems to be flawless).

4. **Live Stats** –
   1. Alfred will be starting live stats in 13-14. SIDs are encouraged to have links more prominently available on their sites.
   2. Houghton was concercned with the cost of Live Stats and was encouraged to look into the Statcrew Live Stat version where an FTP site/sport directory is required.

5. Social Media
1. Division III Recruiting and Social Media Handout (attached)
2. Instagram – most schools are doing this. A quick way to share photos/video.
3. Janelle will create a list of everyone's Twitter handle to share with SIDs.

6. YouTube
1. The conference has set up an Empire8 account. E8 will be posting videos from pre/post championships, highlight clips, POW selections. This is a new adventure and we will be starting slow. We may ask schools to upload a video or two on occasion (interview with Player of the Year, highlights of beating national ranked team, etc…).

7. Promoting the conference
1. Reminder that SIDs should be linking to E8 stories (especially All-Conference) and using the conference hash tag #E8 and twitter handle @Empire8
2. SIDs requested that any all-conference release or award be sent with a 12 hour notice prior to it going live on the E8 web or social media so they have time to prepare a release. They felt the local media was getting the scoop before they were or coaches would hear about the news ask/pressure them with question about why it wasn't on their school site/news feed yet.
3. SIDs requested that POW selections be sent as a list with a notice that full release to follow after (sometime POW wasn't released until 4 or 5 on a Monday – keeping SIDs waiting around).
4. SIDs requested that a calendar for All-Conference release dates be sent out so they can plan accordingly and to avoid more than two releases in the same day.

8. SIDEARM update
1. XML upload: For SIDEARM schools that have been using XML stats already, all you need to do is upload the file after a match as you have been and it will auto-push to the conference site. If you haven't used this feature yet, when adding a score in the results section, click on the 'Browse' button in the XML Box Score section and once you find it, click 'Upload XML'. Also, the XML File sharing system will work with this as well, so when you play a match at a SIDEARM school, when they upload their XML file, it will push to your site and then to the conference site without any extra steps needed. *The most important item when generating your XML files is that they contain the NCAA code for your team and your opponent. This is how the SIDEARM system knows which teams competed and ensure that no duplicate games are entered.

2. E8 Scoreboard: http://empire8.com/scoreboard/ (this will show all games on a select date with school logos, opponents and links to live media coverage.

3. Nexus syncing
   1. With all schools using a SIDEARM website the setting has been set to always push information for a result or date/time change to the conference site. *However this doesn't work for pushing from school to school.
   2. Nexus syncing will NOT work when adding a game or deleting a game. Only those that are in the system and have an ID # associated to them. So if you add a game or delete from the schedule – let Janelle know so the conference site can be updated as well.
   3. Volleyball may be a challenge with so many tournaments and TBA opponents.
   4. If a game is postponed, and you enter PPD or mark as postponed it will push to the site or if you change the date/time to the new day it will change the conference site, but if you mark as postponed and then add in a new game for the new date, the new game date will not show up – Let Janelle know.
   5. Sidearm is also working on having media coverage links push to the conference site (Live Stats, Video, Audio). A lot of times those links are made available last minute.

4. Nexus Image Access: this will give Janelle access to all images and galleries on the backend of a school site.
   1. To activate the function on the back end of your SIDEARM account go to Settings, select ICS account info, then Nexus image sharing and be sure true is typed in…NOT false.
   2. Concern was brought about the new main image size on the conference size being so large (700x560) and not compatible for resizing images available on the school sites (most SIDs resize images for their web, and gallery image DPI is lowered).

5. POW/Yearly Award nominations
   1. Deadline: 11am for football, 12noon for all other sports (As mentioned before Janelle will send out a heads up email list of winners – prior to the full release).

   Nominations will take place online at http://empire8.com/voting/
   Login is your first initial followed by your last name (i.e. bsmith).
Your password is your school mascot (all lower case and one word – i.e. goldenflyers).

Once logged in you will see a Nomination Section. Click on Nominate Players. Then select the award you are nominating for from the drop down menu. Click on the Nominate link to the right to begin the nomination for a player. A box will then appear that asks for personal information as well as Statistics. If you have been uploading the XML after each game, you should be able to click on the load from stats button to select the player you want to nominate. It will automatically fill in the name and the stats (currently the system will bring in cumulative season stats – but SIDEARM is hoping to have a weekly time period to select a date range for stats – otherwise you may have to manually type in the week stats or include that information in the additional comment section). You will then only need to provide class year and other supporting information. Once complete hit "OK". Then you will be able to edit/view the player nominated.

6. Schedules
    1. Should we have a time/date policy?
       It was agreed that p.m. and six digits for the date will be used (example: 3 p.m.   08/13/13)
    2. Doubleheader entry - you need to enter each game into the schedule as its own contest at least two hours apart.

7. Conference Website Redesign (hoping to launch by end of August)
   http://sites.sidearmsports.com/empire8/post/home1_5.html
       http://sites.sidearmsports.com/empire8/post/

8. Other
       Houghton asked if it would be possible to have their record against conference opponents show up on the standings without impacting the order (possibly done as an asterisk disclaimer).

9. **Stat Crew**
    1. NCAA What's New Handout (Attached)
       How to handle volleyball - stats do NOT have to be kept live in-game but a complete box score with stats for both teams DOES need to be compiled.
       Empire 8 Cross-over weekend – host is responsible for submitting full box scores.

10. **Sport Liaisons**
       In case Janelle needs a second opinion on a POW selection or am out of the office and can't view nominations and make a selection, the sport liaison will assist for the week by selecting and writing a release to be distributed to fellow SIDs.

       Sport Liaison's for 2013-14
       Field Hockey – Ithaca
       Football –Nazareth

Men's Soccer – Hartwick
Women's Soccer – Elmira
Women's Tennis –Fisher
Cross Country – Stevens
Women's Golf – Utica
Volleyball – Nazareth
Men's Basketball –Houghton
Women's Basketball – Alfred
Swimming & Diving – Elmira
Indoor Track and Field –Ithaca
M/W/ Lacrosse –Stevens
Men's Tennis –Fisher
Baseball –Nazareth
Softball –Hartwick
Men's Golf - Ithaca
Outdoor Track and Field – Utica

11. Record Books/Past Champions
1. The website features record books and some post-season record books for sports, however there is no telling when some were last updated (probably spring 2011). Janelle will send out PDFs or links for the record books to the SIDs to take a look at and see if any updates are needed.
2. Updated Records/ Past Team Champions and Individual Champions include:
   Cross Country
   Swimming & Diving
   Indoor Track & Field (Championship records only)
   Outdoor Track & Field (Championship Records only)
3. SIDs requested that the conference compile a sport file of year-by-year post-season tournament results (Ithaca said they have quite a bit of that information and will send it to Janelle as a starting point) and records against tournament opponents to be kept online for future reference.

12. **Championship Hosts 2013-14 (**hosting policy document on the admin site).
    http://empire8.com/sports/2012/11/27/GEN_1127120135.aspx

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.