MINUTES OF THE

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

DIVISION III MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Teleconference September 10, 2009

Participants:
Page Cotton, DePauw University
Kristen Hall, Bard College
Susan Hoffman, State University College of Brockport
Shana Levine, Washington and Lee University
Christopher Ragsdale, Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference
Diana Schwartz, Westfield State College
Rubin Stevenson, Frostburg State University
Leah Kareti, NCAA
Katie Willett, NCAA, recording secretary

Chris Graham, Midwest Conference, Mark Majeski, Willamette University and Scott Miller, Bethany College (West Virginia) were unable to participate on the teleconference.

[Note: These minutes contain only actions taken (formal votes or stated "sense of the meeting") in accordance with NCAA policy regarding minutes of all Association entities. While certain items on the committee's agenda were acted on at various times throughout the meeting, all final actions within a given topic are combined in these minutes for convenience of reference.]

The NCAA Division III Membership Committee teleconference was called to order at 1:06 p.m. Eastern time by Ms. Hall. All members were present as noted above.

1. Review August 13 Teleconference Meeting Minutes. The committee reviewed the minutes from the August 13 teleconference meeting.

   It was VOTED

   "That the August 13 teleconference meeting minutes be approved as written."

2. Massachusetts Maritime Academy Sports-Sponsorship Waiver (Levine). The committee reviewed the waiver request from Massachusetts Maritime Academy to recognize women's sailing as a varsity intercollegiate program for sports-sponsorship purposes. It was noted that a similar request was approved by the committee previously and that 55 percent of the

females enrolled at the institution are participating in intercollegiate athletics. Additionally, the institution indicated it has plans to add women's lacrosse and the committee acknowledged that students are at sea over the winter term. The committee did question sustainability of programs and how many times it should be providing a waiver for situations such as this. It was noted by the committee that historically when institutions have added a sport it has drawn participation from student-athletes in other sports.

It was VOTED

"To approve the sports-sponsorship waiver request for Massachusetts Maritime Academy for the 2008-09 academic year."

3. Rivier College Sports-Sponsorship Waiver (Hoffman). The institution did not meet the sports-sponsorship requirement in men's cross country; specifically the team only had three meets where five runners competed. In its review, the committee noted that there was no core group of runners resulting in a lack of consistency and no commitment to the program was being demonstrated. The committee did acknowledge that there was a new cross country coach during 2008-09 who will be returning for 2009-10. However, the committee felt strongly that there were no extenuating or unforeseeable circumstances to warrant relief.

It was VOTED

"To deny the sports-sponsorship waiver for Rivier College for the 2008-09 academic year."

4. East Texas Baptist University Sports-Sponsorship Waiver (Hall). The committee reviewed a waiver request of sports-sponsorship requirements for the 2010-11 academic year. The institution asserted that its enrollment has been declining since 2004 and that the economic downturn has had a negative impact on the institution and resulted in financial challenges that have prohibited it from adding sports to meet the requirements. Specifically, the institution has a lack of facilities to support the addition of a sport and limited options for alternate venues. The committee indicated that the effort put forth and the study done by the institution to review the pending sports-sponsorship issue was not thorough enough. The committee noted that many institutions are facing the same challenges and it is not a unique situation and that the institution only focused on select sports and did not engage in a broad-based review. The committee also noted that the institution has time to rectify the situation prior to the August 1, 2010 effective date. It was determined that the committee would like to see the institution conduct a comprehensive sports-sponsorship study and that it would review the waiver again if the study resulted in compelling mitigation that prevents the institution from meeting the requirements. The committee did express appreciation for the trend data submitted related to enrollment at the institution.

It was VOTED

"To table the sports-sponsorship waiver request for East Texas Baptist University for the 2010-11 academic year."

5. NCAA Division III Membership Committee Waiver Review and Policies and Procedures. The committee reviewed updates to its policies and procedures. Specifically, staff noted the addition of duties for the committee pertaining to involvement in the waiver review process and presentation of waiver requests. To assist with this duty, staff provided the committee with a waiver review guidance document that was discussed. The committee indicated it was a useful resource and that it would be helpful for staff to include language related to the governance process for waivers including key dates as well as steps for appeals and also pointers on how to handle inquiries from institutions about the likelihood of a waiver being approved. The addition of appeals teleconferences in advance of each NCAA Division III Management Council and NCAA Division III Presidents Council meetings to review information being submitted was highlighted as another change in the policies and procedures.

It was VOTED

"To approve the Division III Membership Committee Policies and Procedures as presented."

6. H1N1 Virus Preparation. Staff noted Supplement No. 8 as an informational item that needed to be brought to the attention of the committee. Specifically, staff wanted the committee to be aware and tracking on the impact that the H1N1 virus may have and that it could potentially be seen as mitigation in a waiver request.

7. Other Business. Staff informed the committee that Michael Miranda, who was one of the contractors working with the sports-sponsorship audit team, had been hired full time at the NCAA and would no longer be working on the audit process. It was noted that staff is working on the contract given this change and would provide more information to the committee as needed. The committee's next teleconference is scheduled October 8, 2009.

8. Adjournment. Ms. Hoffman adjourned the teleconference at 2:04 p.m. Eastern time.

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