MINUTES OF THE

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

DIVISION III MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Teleconference August 13, 2009

Participants:

Page Cotton, DePauw University
Chris Graham, Midwest Conference
Shana Levine, Washington and Lee University
Mark Majeski, Willamette University, chair
Susan Hoffman, State University College of Brockport
Diana Schwartz, Westfield State College
Rubin Stevenson, Frostburg State University
Azure Davey, NCAA
Katie Willett, NCAA, recording secretary

Christopher Ragsdale, Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference, Scott Miller, Bethany College (West Virginia) and Kristen Hall, Bard College 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 Mr. Majeski. All members were present as noted above.

1. Review June 22 In-Person Meeting Minutes. The committee reviewed the minutes from the June 22 in-person meeting.

   It was VOTED

   "That the June 22 in-person meeting minutes be approved as written."

2. John Jay College of Criminal Justice Probation Terms. The committee discussed acceptance of John Jay College of Criminal Justice's annual report and the concerns it identified from review of the materials. It was noted that communication from staff should

highlight the issues identified and that the institution is expected to address each of these in a comprehensive written report submitted to the committee by December 15, 2009 with a progress report provided not later than October 1.

3. La Sierra University Review. The committee noted that the NCAA Division III Management Council reviewed the appeal materials submitted by the institution as well as the NCAA Division III Financial Aid Committee findings. The Management Council recognized the appeal documentation could contain new information, and therefore did not support the Membership Committee's recommendation to remove La Sierra University from the membership; instead it asked that the committee review the appeal letter. Additionally, the Management Council indicated that an appropriate penalty for the institution may be the addition of two years to the provisional membership process (2010-11 and 2011-12) and a requirement to respond to specific compliance concerns as part of the provisional member annual report process.

   The committee reviewed the appeal information submitted by the institution and maintained its original recommendation that La Sierra be removed from the provisional process. The committee noted the institution was not ready for active Division III membership at this point and indicated that the institution has the right to re-apply for membership. It recognized that the appeal information explained how the institution is going to improve and that these were steps that should have been taken by the institution earlier in the process. The committee noted its charge and its role to uphold the standards established through the process to ensure that the best interest of the division are considered and proper education provided to those in the membership. The committee did discuss the fact that if deemed appropriate it does have the ability to provide credit for time served in the provisional process.

   It was VOTED

   "To recommend to Management Council that La Sierra University be removed from the Division III provisional process."

4. Massachusetts Maritime Academy Sports-Sponsorship Waiver. Staff discussed the process related to review of waivers and the involvement of committee members in this process moving forward. It was noted that committee members will be assigned to work with institutions that submit waiver applications. The expectation is that committee members, with guidance from staff when needed, will review the waiver application and obtain the necessary information for presentation to the committee. Shana Levine was assigned to work with Massachusetts Maritime Academy and shared that the institution would like to

use sailing as a women's sport to meet sport-sponsorship requirements. A request was made for the institution to provide charts detailing men's and women's sports as well as a plan moving forward specifically addressing the 2009-10 academic year. The committee noted it would wait to deliberate on the waiver until the requested information was provided.

5. Standing Appeal Teleconference Dates. Staff noted the number of appeals that are being seen and that when any information pertaining to the appeal is provided it is going to be deemed new information and will need to be reviewed by the committee prior to going before Management Council and NCAA Division III Presidents Council. As such, staff has established a teleconference schedule based on all Management Council and Presidents Council meetings. The committee reviewed the teleconference schedule developed for review of appeals and noted that if no appeals have been filed the teleconferences will be canceled. Staff asked that the committee look at their schedules to determine a consistent time and day to be used for the teleconferences. The committee indicated that it would prefer Tuesday or Thursday at 1 p.m. Eastern time.

6. NCAA Bylaw 20.8.1 (Eligibility for National Collegiate Championships). Staff updated the committee noting that steps had been taken to address the issue surrounding NCAA Bylaw 20.8.1 through a different avenue and no action was needed by the committee.

7. 2010 NCAA Division III Legislation. The committee reviewed two legislative proposals dealing specifically with the sports of baseball and softball and sport-sponsorship requirements. The proposals are intended to reduce the minimum game requirements from 25 to 20. The sponsoring conference felt the proposal would provide parity with lacrosse, additionally it noted this would give institutions a break on budgets and assist with the weather challenges that exist with these particular sports. It was noted that the committee needs to take a position related to the two proposals that would then be provided to the Management Council. The committee tabled the item to its next teleconference noting that the proposals are not yet properly sponsored and also that it would prefer to have more committee members present to discuss.

8. Campus Visits. Staff noted this as an informational item, sharing that the dates of the year-one and year-two campus visits for those institution in the provisional process have been scheduled.

9. Other Business. Staff indicated that there will be a number of waivers for review on the September teleconference. Additionally, the staff noted that the welcome packets for new active members will be delivered by the September 1, 2009 active membership date. The committee's next teleconference is scheduled September 10, 2009.

10. Adjournment. Ms. Hoffman adjourned the teleconference at 2:12 p.m. Eastern time.

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