MINUTES OF THE

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

DIVISION III MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Teleconference October 14, 2010

Participants:
Chris Graham, Midwest Conference
Dale Knobel, Denison University
Shana Levine, Washington and Lee University, chair
Mark Majeski, Willamette University
Christopher Ragsdale, Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference
Charlyn Robert, Nichols College
Diana Schwartz, Westfield State College
Rubin Stevenson, Frostburg State University
Stefanie Baker-Watson, North Central College
Azure Davey, NCAA,
Kristin Nesbitt, NCAA
Katie Willett, NCAA, recording secretary

Charles Harris, Averett University, was 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 1:03 p.m. Eastern time by the chair, Ms. Levine. All members were present as noted above.

1. Review September 9 Teleconference Minutes. The committee reviewed minutes from the September 9 teleconference.

   It was VOTED

   "That the September 9 minutes be approved as written."

2. Wells College – Sports-Sponsorship Waiver Request. The committee considered an appeal from Wells College of its decision to deny a sport-sponsorship waiver for the institution during the committee's September teleconference. It was noted that the institution was

deficient in meeting sports-sponsorship requirements for the 2009-10 academic year. The institution failed to properly sponsor five sports for males. The institution sponsored six sports for males, yet failed to meet sports-sponsorship minimums in men's swimming and diving and mixed golf due to a misinterpretation of the multiteam events legislation. The committee noted the institution had a system in place to monitor sport-sponsorship requirements at midyear, however it was done by one individual and the institution did not make full use of all available resources (e.g., NCAA academic and membership affairs interpretative hotline) until it was too late to rectify the deficiency.

It was VOTED

"To deny the appeal of a sports-sponsorship waiver per NCAA Division III Bylaw 20.11.3.8.9.1 (minimum contests and participants) from Wells College for the 2009-10 academic year."

3. New England Compliance Seminar Request. The committee was provided with an overview of the New England compliance seminar request. The commissioners of the eight New England NCAA Division III conferences requested that a one-day compliance seminar conducted by NCAA staff be made available to the membership in the northeast on a biannual basis and that it count toward the one in three year NCAA Regional Rules Seminar attendance requirement. The committee discussed the role of NCAA staff who would be conducting the presentations and also the cost savings associated with the request. Support for the concept was expressed by the committee.

   Discussion ensued about decentralizing and having more regional seminars biannually focused only on Division III. The committee noted that if the concept was approved it would impact the current structure of the Regional Rules Seminar. The committee acknowledged that the concept would allow more individuals to benefit from the educational programming and for the membership to be getting a consistent message. Items related to guidelines, thresholds and logistics were raised. The committee requested that additional information related to the concept be provided for review and discussion during a future teleconference or in-person meeting. It also suggested that the chair of the commissioner's association be included in discussions and that consideration be given to raising it at the NCAA Convention and also with National Association of Division III Athletic Administrators.

4. NCAA Division III Institutional Self-Study Guide Assignments and Guidance. The committee was provided with background on the NCAA Division III Institutional Self-Study Guide (ISSG) audit. Sixteen institutions were required to forward their ISSGs to the committee.

Nine institutions were selected to be audited due to for-cause purposes (i.e., institutions were late in submitting verification of ISSG completion). Seven other institutions were selected at random and represent 10 percent of the 2009-10 ISSG class. Staff provided direction to the committee, noting that a review should be done to ensure that the ISSG is complete and action plans were devised where warranted. Additionally, the staff noted that access would be provided to a secure website to review the ISSGs and that the committee should be prepared to provide feedback for the institution on the November teleconference.

5. Adjournment. Ms. Levine concluded the teleconference at 1:45 p.m. Eastern time.

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