MINUTES OF THE

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

DIVISION III MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Teleconference April 8, 2010

Participants:
Stefanie Baker-Watson, North Central College
Charles Harris, Averett University
Dale Knobel, Denison University
Shana Levine, Washington and Lee University, chair
Mark Majeski, Willamette University
Christopher Ragsdale, Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference
Diana Schwartz, Westfield State College
Rubin Stevenson, Frostburg State University
Azure Davey, NCAA
Katie Willett, NCAA, recording secretary

Chris Graham, Midwest Conference, 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 1:04 p.m. Eastern time by the chair, Ms. Levine. All members were present as noted above.

1. Review March 11 Teleconference Minutes. The committee reviewed the minutes from the March 11 teleconference. It was noted that the United Volleyball Conference needs to be changed to Midwest Lacrosse in item number four.

   It was VOTED

   "That the March 11 teleconference minutes be approved as amended."

2. University of California, Santa Cruz – Sports-Sponsorship Waiver. The committee reviewed a waiver request for sport-sponsorship requirements submitted by the University of California, Santa Cruz. It was noted that the institution sponsors 12 total sports, seven for women and five for men. The institution is looking for relief for the 2010-11 academic

year due to financial challenges. The institution indicated that it has been implementing roster management in recent years due to Title IX concerns that the athletics budget had been cut 10 percent, that an assistant athletics director position had been eliminated and student fees had been reduced all in an effort to address the financial situation. Additionally, the institution provided information detailing what steps would be taken to add a sport if necessary and rationale for the recent decision to drop the sport of men's water polo. The committee noted that the institution had demonstrated that financial hardship exists and that they are strictly enforcing roster management to monitor each dollar that is spent. The committee did indicate that it felt the institution has a large student population and feasibly could field a team. However, it was pointed out that the institution has a unique situation given its location and proximity to other NCAA Division III institutions and that overall it is sponsoring 12 total sports. The committee determined that this would be a one-year waiver for the institution to sponsor five men's sports instead of the required six and that the institution is expected to be in compliance for the 2011-12 academic year.

It was VOTED

"To approve the sport-sponsorship waiver request submitted by the University of California, Santa Cruz per NCAA Bylaw 20.11.3 for the 2010-11 academic year for the institution to sponsor five men's sports instead of the required six."

3. NCAA Division III Exploratory and Provisional/Reclassifying Application Deadlines. Staff introduced the concept of changing the application deadlines. Currently, the deadlines to apply for Division III membership (i.e., exploratory; provisional/reclassifying) is May 15 prior to the academic year in which the applicant wishes to begin the specific process. It was noted that the committee reviews all applications for Division III membership at its June in-person meeting. Each institution is informally notified following the committee's meeting of the status of its application, yet the formal, final approval is not granted until NCAA Division III Management Council meets in July. Staff noted the change would allow institutions an opportunity to further acclimate themselves and prepare for the provisional/reclassifying process prior to the start of the academic year. The committee inquired about the impact on staff workload with the change and it was noted that it would not have a significant impact on staff. Additionally, it was determined that the change in the deadline would start with the 2011-12 academic year.

It was VOTED

"To approve a change in the application deadlines for exploratory and provisional/reclassifying from May 15 to January 15."

4. Midwest Women's Lacrosse Conference Application. The committee reviewed a conference application for the Midwest Women's Lacrosse Conference. It was noted that the conference previously had asked for an extension on the application deadline, which was granted, and that the committee requested additional information demonstrating presidential involvement from the conference. Additionally, the committee asked that the conference complete the new conference application form. The committee noted that the conference addressed the concerns that were raised and properly demonstrated presidential involvement.

   It was VOTED

   "To approve the conference application for the Midwest Women's Lacrosse Conference."

5. Other Business. Staff shared that the first NCAA Convention planning session had taken place and that the committee needs to determine a date and time for the provisional/reclassifying session at the 2011 NCAA Convention. Staff suggested 4 to 5 p.m., Friday, January 14, which was supported by the committee.

   Clarification was provided on the June in-person meeting and travel schedules including timelines. Staff also noted the next teleconference will take place Thursday, May 13.

6. Adjournment. Ms. Levine concluded the teleconference at 1:33 p.m. Eastern time.

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