REPORT OF THE
NCAA PLAYING RULES OVERSIGHT PANEL
JANUARY 11, 2012

***ACTION ITEMS*.**

- **None.**

***INFORMATIONAL ITEMS*.**

1. **Welcome and Opening Remarks.** The charge and responsibility of the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP) were reiterated and the group was encouraged to be open to discuss issues and ask questions.

The review of informational items included some of the following topics: the NCAA Bylaw that established PROP in 2005; NCAA Conflict of Interest and Speaking Agent policies; the NCAA Championships and Alliances guiding principles and operating principles; and an overview of the playing rules process. Rosters of the secretary-rules editors, national coordinators of officials and playing rules committees were provided.

Review of the significant historical PROP actions noted several items that have refined the approach and guided the Panel.

2. **Action Taken by Panel.** The Panel took action on minutes, rules modifications for two sports, and gave directives for review of rules in two areas.

a. Minutes of the August 11, 2011 teleconference were accepted as written.

b. The sand volleyball modifications to the USA Volleyball Beach Rules were approved. These sand volleyball modifications were additions to the first group of modifications approved in March, 2011.

c. The NCAA Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee's request for an experimental rule to have a designated head umpire for each intercollegiate women's lacrosse game for the 2012 season was approved.

d. The Panel agreed to ask that each rules committee review its rules relating to game environment and sportsmanship in light of a significant effort to improve in this area by the men's basketball community.

e. The group asked staff to review all playing rules appeal/protest/forfeit procedures for future review and consistency.

3. Current Issues.

a. Equipment and manufacturer issues included updates on baseball and softball. Softball barrel compression testing will continue for 2012 in-season tournaments and expand in the postseason.

b. ArbiterSports is the central hub for officiating for eight sports (baseball, men's basketball, women's basketball, football, men's and women's ice hockey, men's and women's soccer, softball and women's volleyball) and is making plans to add men's and women's lacrosse next year.

c. An update was giving on current initiatives of the College Football Officiating, LLC and the Men's/Women's College Basketball Officiating, LLCs.

d. The group continues to monitor technology and its possible effects in contests.

4. Committee Reports. David Klossner reviewed several informational items from the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports report that were pertinent to the Panel's oversight. Major discussion topics included:

a. Field hockey eye protection recommendation on hold, and development of an American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) ball standard to be used in testing of the protection;

b. Data collection of concussion/head trauma in sports other than football;

c. Pole vault box collar and landing pad specifications are being developed by ASTM; and

d. Best practice module being developed for reintroduction of Division I football players after injury back into conditioning and training sessions.

The NCAA Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct report overview was given by Teresa Smith. The committee's main focus includes: 1) promoting sportsmanship and ethical conduct among student-athletes coaches, administrators and fans in intercollegiate athletics; 2) addressing violence prevention as a campus issue to promote a positive student-athlete experience; and 3) increasing awareness of the Sportsmanship Award nomination process and campus presentations of the award, as well as exploration of a corporate branded group award for campus activation of the RESPECT Campaign.

5. Future Planning. Sport liaison assignments and the conference call schedule for 2012 were determined. The next PROP meeting will be at the 2013 NCAA Convention in Grapevine, Texas.

LEGISLATIVE ITEMS.

1. Action Items.

- **None.**

2. Informational Items.

- **None.**

Committee Chair: Ted Gumbart, Atlantic Sun Conference
Staff Liaisons: Ty Halpin, Championships and Alliances – Playing Rules and Officiating
Rachel Seewald, Championships and Alliances – Playing Rules and Officiating
Teresa Smith, Championships and Alliances – Playing Rules and Officiating

January 11, 2012	
Attendees	Absentees
Shelley Appelbaum, Michigan State University	Jim Fiore, Stony Brook University
Tom Byrnes, Capital Athletic Conference Inc.	Larry Scott, Pacific-12 Conference
Jim Fallis, Northern Arizona University	Stuart Robinson, SUNY New Paltz
Dick Hack, State University of New York Maritime	
Ted Gumbart, Atlantic Sun Conference	
Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference	
Larry Marfise, University of Tampa	
Noreen Morris, Northeast Conference	
Alan Patterson, Conference Carolinas	
Other Participants: Joni Comstock, NCAA Greg Johnson, NCAA Ty Halpin, NCAA Byron Hatch, NCAA David Klossner, NCAA Heather Mesalam, NCAA Rachel Seewald, NCAA Teresa Smith, NCAA	