

Minutes
Middle Atlantic States Collegiate Athletic Corporation
Sports Information Directors Meeting
Wednesday, May 2, 2007
Wilkes University, Wilkes-Barre, PA

Present: Ken Andrews (MASCAC), Joel Cookson (Juniata College), Scott Crispell (College Misericordia), Derek Crudele (Widener University), Scott Frey (Messiah College), Jim Henry (FDU-Florham), Katie Imes (MASCAC), Jon King (Alvernia College), Matt Levy (Delaware Valley College), Cotton Mayer (Lycoming College), John Seitzinger (Wilkes University), Braden Snyder (Lebanon Valley College), BJ Spigelmyer (DeSales University), Andy Viano (Manhattanville College), Joy Zazzera (Arcadia University), Bob Ziadie (King's College)

Excused Absence: Jeff Feiler (Albright College), Ian Showalter (Elizabethtown College)

The meeting was called to order and roll call was taken at approximately 9:30 a.m.

Item 1 – Approval of previous minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting that was held on May 3, 2006 at Wilkes University were approved.

Item 2 – Deadlines for coaches to vote on all-conference teams (John Seitzinger, Wilkes University)

John Seitzinger of Wilkes felt that there should be a penalty enforced on coaches who neglect to vote or vote late on all-conference teams. He noted that such delays in voting holds up Katie Imes from releasing the all-conference teams, which in turn holds up SID's from releasing their all-conference press releases in a timely manner. Katie also pointed out that sometimes coaches don't fill out their ballots correctly, and that they can be difficult to contact when trying to obtain a correct ballot. Ken Andrews noted that he would be interested in an online system that would only accept a ballot when it is filled out correctly. Matt Levy of Delaware Valley felt that athletic directors should be copied on e-mail notifications that are sent to coaches regarding the all-conference process.

OPERATIONS DEFEATED THIS MOTION 0-5:

A motion was made to fine coaches who are late in any step (nominating, reviewing, nominating) of the all-conference nominating and voting process and was passed by a 9-1 vote.

A motion was also made by Ken Andrews that tennis coaches should not be able to nominate a tennis player for an all-conference team unless all of his or her teammates who played at a higher flight are also nominated. The motion was denied by a 5-5 vote.

Item 3 – Head shots for Players of the Week (Katie Imes, MASCAC office)

Katie has requested that SID's e-mail her a head shot of their Player of the Week selections to include on the MASCAC website. She asked if this would create extra work for SID's. Braden Snyder of Lebanon Valley mentioned that sometimes he might not have a head shot of a freshman early in the season before his photos are taken. BJ Spigelmyer of DeSales suggested in such cases that Katie could use the school's logo instead. The SID's agreed that when they have a Player of the Week, they will send a head shot of that student-athlete to Katie.

Item 4 – Statcrew roster format (Katie Imes, MASCAC office)

Katie Imes said that she would like to have all of the Statcrew rosters uniform in appearance. Joel Cookson of Juniata noted that in last year's meeting, a motion was passed to have all rosters listed last name first, first name second, but that some SID's forgot to submit their rosters that

way in the fall. Ken Andrews noted that team IDs in Hy-Tek swimming rosters have not been consistent.

A motion was made to submit Statcrew rosters first name first, last name second, and team IDs should be the full name of the school (e.g. Lebanon Valley College). The motion was passed by an 8-2 vote.

Item 5 – Statcrew upgrades and Livestats (Ken Andrews, MASCAC office)

Ken informed the SIDs that they will be reimbursed for all Statcrew upgrades and the purchase of the Statcrew Livestats software through the NCAA Technology Grant.

OPERATIONS APPROVED 6-0:

A motion was made to make it mandatory for SIDs to run Livestats for football starting in the 2007 season, and preferably for basketball. The motion was passed by a 7-3 vote.

Item 6 – Championship golf coverage, location, and structure (Ken Andrews, MASCAC office)

Ken noted that he doesn't feel as if it is necessary for the host SID to attend the championship for sports such as tennis or swimming, but that he would like for the host SID to attend the golf championships. He feels as if the plan of having a different SID handle golf every year has not worked well for SID's who are not located close to the recent championship golf site, Shawnee on Delaware. John Seitzinger of Wilkes feels like other spring obligations make it difficult for a SID to travel far from their school to cover golf. He thought that when the MASCAC schedules the host SID for golf, it should make it mandatory that that school does not host any home events that weekend. Jon King of Alvernia College felt as if it is not necessary to have a SID attend a golf championship and that the host SID could arrange to have the scores called in over the phone. John Seitzinger of Wilkes said he thinks the SID should attend the golf championship. He doesn't feel as if the handling of results should be a coach's job, and that coaches aren't expected to do so in other sports. Ken Andrews mentioned that he would reimburse SID's for lodging expenses involved with staying overnight at the golf championship site.

Matt Levy of Delaware Valley mentioned that the current three-round format structure of the tournament makes it difficult to enter results into Golfstat. Ken Andrews suggested making the tournament 18 holes on each day. He also said that recent flooding over the past years at Shawnee has made the course unfavorable, although it is centrally located. He mentioned it would be ideal to have the host site close to the school responsible for hosting the championship.

Item 7 – Championship host expectations (Ken Andrews, MASCAC office)

Ken feels that it is important for parents to easily be able to locate things such as directions and hotel information for MASCAC championships. Ken asked the SID's who they think should be writing press releases for championship events – the MASCAC office or the host SID. Bob Ziadie of King's feels as if it is difficult for a host SID to write a release for a sport such as swimming that does not have statistics. Derek Crudele also felt as if swimming can be difficult because of multiple events. BJ Spiglemyer doesn't feel as if it is useful for him to write a press release covering other teams since his media won't run anything on other school's athletes. Ken mentioned that he would like to have championship previews posted on the MASCAC website. He suggested that the MASCAC send out requests for information to the SID's to assist the conference in putting together its championship previews.

Item 8 – Tennis and golf results reporting (Ken Andrews, MASCAC office)

Ken mentioned that it was brought up at a tennis coaches meeting that there has been irresponsibility in the reporting of tennis results on the ITA website. John Seitzinger of Wilkes feels as if this should not be the duty of the SID. Derek Crudele of Widener feels as if coaches should handle the reporting of results for coaches associations. Jon King of Alvernia mentioned

that the NCAA uses Golfstat to determine its championship selections. He pointed out that golf results can be tabulated using Statcrew as well.

OPERATIONS APPROVED 6-0:

A motion was made that at the MASCAC Athletic Director's meeting, the ADs push for golf and tennis results be submitted to the NCAA using Statcrew rather than Golfstat or ITA site. The motion was passed by a 10-1 vote.

OPERATIONS DEFEATED 6-0:

A motion was also made that each institution be responsible for how they will report their tennis results onto the ITA website and was passed by a 9-2 vote.

OPERATIONS SUBSTITUTED THIS MOTION FOR THE ABOVE, 6-0:

Unless other arrangement are made, the SID at each institution is responsible reporting their tennis results to the ITA website and their golf scores to the Golfstat site.

Item 9 – Football media day (Ken Andrews, MASCAC office)

Jim Henry of FDU-Florham doesn't feel as if football media day is useful since for him his media never attends the event. Ken Andrews and Matt Levy of Delaware Valley said they believe that is important to have all of the schools in attendance. Ken mentioned that last year there was a strong difference in what the SID's handed out at the media luncheon (some SID's brought media guides while others brought photocopied materials). Matt Levy noted that it can be difficult to have football media guides printed by early August. Ken said that he would be setting a date for the 2007 media day.

Item 10 – All-conference team structure for softball and tennis (Ken Andrews, MASCAC office)

John Seitzinger mentioned that all-conference teams are picked by position for every other sport. Braden Snyder of Lebanon Valley pointed out that softball coaches feel as if that doesn't work in their sport mainly since shortstops are better than every other position, and that more than two shortstops should be honored. **A motion was made to name the all-conference softball teams by position and was passed by an 8-3 vote.**

John Seitzinger feels as all-conference teams for tennis should be determined by flight. It was suggested that all-conference tennis teams be based on their finish at the MASCAC Tournament, but Scott Frey of Messiah pointed out that there are currently separate Commonwealth and Freedom all-conference teams and that the MASCAC Tournament is a combination of Commonwealth and Freedom players. **A motion was made to name the all-conference tennis teams by flight and was passed by a 9-2 vote.**

Item 11 – The MASCAC logo and name (Ken Andrews, MASCAC office)

Ken mentioned that several conference presidents are not happy with the MASCAC's current logo. He said the presidents would like it to include the year it was founded (1912), the names of its three current conferences (Commonwealth, Freedom, MAC), and the labeling of the conference as MAC. Ken stated that we are no longer the MAC but are the MASCAC. Ken pointed out that there are also two other conferences named MAC, and that he feels as if there are identity problems with the MASCAC's Commonwealth/Freedom/MAC alignment. Matt Levy of Delaware Valley expressed a concern that there is already a MASCAC. He feels as if current athletes and recruits know our conference as the MAC and said that is part of our heritage. He feels as if it's confusing to try to explain the MASCAC structure to people.

Item 12 – New MASCAC Sportsmanship award (Ken Andrews, MASCAC office)

Ken announced that the MASCAC will begin naming a new Sportsmanship Award beginning in 2007-08. He said that each school will be responsible for nominating an athlete from each sport for this award.

Item 13 – Future of the MASCAC (Matt Levy, Delaware Valley)

A. Offsetting negativity of MASCAC in Landmark Conference stories

Matt feels that in future stories on the Landmark Conference, the academic reputation and other aspects of the MASCAC will be called into question. He wondered what ideas we could come up with to offset this type of negativity. John Seitzinger of Wilkes said that we need to come up with reasons why we're different from Landmark schools. He feels as if each MASCAC school has its niche, and we need to get that out. Ken encouraged each school to send the conference office positive stories on things such as academic all-Americans. John Seitzinger suggested the conference produce a one-page, glossy promotional sheet on the MASCAC. Matt Levy said it could include one or two bullet points on each school. Ken said it would be nice to know the percentage of MASCAC athletes who were named to the MASCAC All-Academic Teams and that that would make a good story. Ken also said the presidents could provide things such as retention rates.

B. More timely updates on the MASCAC website

Ken Andrews announced the MASCAC will be subscribing to a web service that allows the conference office to update scores and standings on the MASCAC website through the internet, making more timely updates possible. BJ Spiglemyer announced that his website provider – ICS – is offering to create a conference website for free if three of four MASCAC schools sign up with ICS. He said that the ICS technology is impressive and that it would make it much easier for the conference office to update its website. He also felt as if it would be better visually and would be professionally done. Jon King of Alvernia said that his website is also run through ICS and that it allows him to run live webcasting. Bob Ziadie of King's suggested that an ICS proposal be sent to the presidents of the conference.

C. Playoff scenarios

Matt felt as if the conference office should be sending the SIDs playoff scenarios for all sports. Ken Andrews said that it would take too much time for the conference to be responsible for providing every scenario, but that he doesn't mind having SID contacting him one-on-one to determine their scenarios. John Seitzinger feels as if it is most important for SIDs to know their playoff scenarios for basketball, since that draws the most media attention. Ken said the conference could provide basketball playoff scenarios, but encouraged SIDs to contact him with questions regarding other sports.

D. The new MASCAC Fact Book

Matt said he would like to have a new hard copy of the Fact Book after the four new schools join the conference in 2008-09. Ken said that he didn't feel as if it's worth the \$3,500 expense to have it printed anymore when it is available online. Derek Crudele of Widener mentioned that it will be out of date next season when certain sports' playoff formats change. Ken said that he will e-mail the SID's each time the Fact Book is changed online.

In an unrelated topic, John Seitzinger said that he feels that the SID's owe it to their opponent's SID to send them the stat file the day of the event.

Item 14 – Scholar-Athlete Criteria (Ken Andrews, MASCAC office)

Ken feels as if there is confusion regarding the all-region criteria in the selection of scholar athletes. He noted because several individual sports do not have the equivalent of that criteria, it brings into question the validity of the ranking system from sport-to-sport. He suggested making two different scholar-athlete lists – one for team sports and one for individual sports. John

Seitzinger of Wilkes said that in tennis, because there are not all-America teams, the highest honor should be NCAA qualifier.

OPERATIONS APPROVED 5-1:

Bob Ziadie made a motion that athletes should be eligible for scholar-athlete honors in more than one sport. It was passed by a 9-2 vote.

Item 15 – Timeliness of the MASCAC SID Meeting (Braden Snyder, Lebanon Valley)

Braden mentioned that the having the meeting during the first week of May makes it difficult for certain SIDs who need the time to prepare when they are hosting multiple conference championship events. Ken Andrews suggested moving it up anytime after the March ADs meeting. John Seitzinger noted that if it is held while the regular season is still in session, some SIDs might have home events that would prevent them from attending. He said that most schools do not have any games on the Wednesday during the first week of May, and that we need to have the SID meeting before the coaches meetings on the following Monday.

Item 16 – New business

Jim Henry of FDU-Florham has agreed to join the Football Player of the Week Committee, replacing Joel Cookson of Juniata. Matt Levy of Delaware Valley asked if the conference will name a football weekly honor roll again. It was determined that an honor roll will be named, and that it will include the top three athletes at any position.

Matt Levy of Delaware Valley asked Ken Andrews if the MASCAC is set with its current schools. Ken announced that Shenandoah could be joining the conference in 2008 for track & field, men's lacrosse, and field hockey. He also said that Eastern University and Marywood have sent inquiries about joining the conference, and that Maritime turned down an invitation to join the MAC in football.