

## MIDDLE ATLANTIC CONFERENCES

### VOTING DELEGATES MINUTES

DeSales University Center  
December 7, 2010

Ken Andrews called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM.

In attendance: Ken Andrews, Katie Imes, Brad McCarty, Rick Ferry, Matt Levy, Chuck Edkins, Frank Wolfgang, Jack Shafer, Shirley Liddle, Roger Kindel, Jenn Noon, Heidi Birtwistle, Matt Nadelhoffer, Dave Martin, Shirley Liddle, Brad Fields, Scott Coval, Jack Cole, Jerry Hammaker, Scott Kennell, Julene Fisher, Cheryl Ish, Addy Malatesta, Gracia Perilli, Laura Gingrich

The May 25-27, 2010 minutes were accepted 16-0.

Ken Andrews recognized Brad McCarty for his men's soccer national championship, indicated that the certificates for 2010 outdoor track were in envelope, expressed concern that SID's were being asked to facilitate basketball film exchange, and that the right side of the MAC certificates were to highlight the awardees accomplishments.

The upcoming MAC Centennial Celebration was the first topic of conversation.

Tim Flynn, and Steve Sheridan have been added to planning committee. Ken Andrews is going to ask Bill Manlove to also serve. It was mentioned that Kathy Tierney or Connie Kunda might also be helpful.

These dates were proposed:

In fall 2011 start publicity (uniform patches, game programs, announcements, etc.).

Kickoff the "year" at the MAC annual meeting at Fairleigh Dickinson-Florham on May 1, 2012.

End "year" at 2013 annual meeting.

These program components were discussed:

Use NCAA conference grant money if the program involves conference identity and integration issues.

It was suggested that the discussion center on the MAC Philosophy and Principles Statement.

The strategic plan encourages participation by various campus constituents; this would be an opportune time and agenda to engage those groups (admissions, student affairs, advancement, direct reports, presidents, athletic administrators, and FAR's).

One way to involve the 55 current and former conference members would be to host a reception at the NCAA Convention.

We would want to strategize national media exposure.

Have one day of community service for all MAC schools – maybe on April 6, Student-Athlete Day.

Develop floor/field markings, uniform patches, and other tangible identity pieces.

Presidents are interested in rolling out a “President’s Cup” that would include recognition for prowess in sports, academics, sportsmanship, and service. Group voted 11-5 to just use sports rankings after voting 11-5 not to sponsor this program.

What competitive events, sports festivals, all-star games, challenges (volleyball) and the like could we use to incorporate student-athletes into the celebration?

Would this be good time to start a MAC Hall of Fame? We could also have each school recognize former athletes and teams on Homecoming or another special day.

To help plan and implement this program, hire an intern, either through an NCAA grant or an increase in the MAC budget of \$1,250 per school. This person should be on board by early summer 2011.

Shirley Liddle and Dave Martin will serve as athletic representatives at presidents meetings.

Ken Andrews noted that the March voting delegates meeting will be at Lebanon Valley with Steve MacDonald in attendance.

Ken Andrews will ask members for NCAA/ECAC committee lists for posting on MAC web site.

The process for evaluating potential members was the next topic.

Share the MAC Philosophy & Principles Statement with each applicant’s president, direct report, and director of athletics.

The MAC Executive Director will collect data from EADA and IPEDS on all applicants and share with MAC membership.

A five person team will make a visit to the applicant's campus (proposed to include: Executive Director, two directors of athletics, and two direct reports for athletics).

Dave Martin and Ken Andrews will develop criteria for considering applicants that will focus on a "level playing field" comparison with our schools that include private funding, sport sponsorship (minimum of 16), finances, academics, geography, staffing, budgets, and facilities.

The group did not endorse any punitive moves against schools that drop sports, but would like to ensure that they do understand how their action impacts conference members. With a 16-0 vote, they agreed to allow schools to move from either conference (Freedom/Commonwealth) to help sustain AQ's.

Ken Andrews will ask Commonwealth members if they would consider moving to the Freedom in lacrosse. Assuming no internal movement within the MAC, these are possible affiliates:

Men: Montclair, Kean, Stockton

Women: TCNJ, Rowan, Montclair, Kean, Ramapo, Rutgers-Camden

To sustain the AQ in tennis, the men all set with Rutgers-Newark; the women's option is College of New Rochelle, but that appears to be unlikely.

Because of all the other things going on in the MAC, the group placed responsibility for implementation of the Division III Identity Initiative on each member school.

Although specified in the strategic plan as a conference function, the NCAA has a comprehensive listing of diversity, inclusion, and equity programs and resources. There is no reason to duplicate that program.

Ken Andrews has been asked to share with the president's reimbursements for searches that include minority and women candidates.

A discussion ensued about why the women's coaching symposium did not get any traction this year. The consensus was that the program is still viable but a number of forces diminished interest this year. Will we conduct this in 2011?

Ken Andrews mentioned the availability of funds to support minorities is profession development. Coaches cannot use these resources to attend coaching conventions and the like.

This motion was approved 16-0: as part of their role as supervisor of officials, Lois Pinto and Bert Butler (or their replacements) must submit a plan to enlarge their pool of officials. The conference has up to \$3,488 to support this effort. Residual funds will be assigned to recruiting tennis officials.

This motion was approved 16-0: offer Lois Pinto a two-year contract to be supervisor of officials in field hockey. For the 2011-12 seasons, officials will receive \$160. Lois will be compensated \$230 per school.

This motion was approved 16-0: offer Rich Kiernan a two-year contract to be supervisor of officials in men's and women's soccer. For the 2011-12 seasons, officials will receive \$175/\$135. Rich will be compensated \$450 in 2011 and \$475 in 2012 for covering both sports per school.

This motion was approved 16-0: offer Larry Fetterhoff a two-year contract to be supervisor of officials in volleyball. For the 2011-12 seasons, officials will receive \$120/\$55. Larry will be compensated \$150 per school.

Ken Andrews will invoice each school for Denny Mader assigning fees. Assuming Denny remains as supervisor, Ken wants to change this procedure in the next contract.

Ken Andrews indicated that Bob Gallagher will be baseball supervisor of officials in 2011. His position was to be put out for bid, but Ken Andrews did not contact him until after the May 31 deadline. His position will be bid on in 2011.

Despite missing a few reports, the 2010 fall championships accounting is positive.

Ken Andrews indicated that gate receipts can be sent to him at any time.

Although the SID's would like the conference office to record results at golf, that will remain an expectation of the host. If the host or another SID cannot cover, the conference office will step in.

Because there is no reason to move from a MAC facility and if the weather is nice, sixteen courts are preferable to ten, this motion was approved 15-0-1: hold the individual tennis tournament at King's and Wilkes with Kingston as indoor backup.

Live stats are to be provided for all championships (also for all football and basketball games). The group asked that the SID's report games that are not covered to Ken Andrews.

Ken Andrews reminded the group of the first women's golf championship at Mountain Laurel with six (maybe five) teams. Stevenson will compete as an affiliate.

Ken Andrews highlighted the Widener baseball championship recognition as an example of a good way to promote the school and build relationships with alumni. He offered to attend any recognition ceremony.

Several gender equity initiatives were highlighted:

Ken Andrews will again compile EADA materials, but he needs each school's sport breakdowns.

As part of the strategic plan, by March 1 each school is to provide a one page summary on short and long term plans and progress regarding gender equity initiatives.

Another piece of the plan requires each school to sponsor a site visit by 2-4 MAC administrators within three years to evaluate gender equity at your school and submit a short report.

Ken Andrews mentioned a few game management concerns:

MAC banners and flags should be displayed at all venues (also Division III after you have purchased). He and others in the group noted that many of these items are stolen.

Equitable contest start times in basketball and soccer were discussed relative to the recent law suit. The MAC has held the position that this is an institutional decision, but that may no longer be adequate. If the women play first, they are more likely to miss classes and make it less convenient for their parents to attend contests. The group decided to maintain the status quo.

Because of an increase in the number of noisemakers at contests, each school needs to monitor and enforce this policy better. It is not fair to the schools that do comply if they have to deal with fans who think this practice is authorized.

Ken Andrews noted how social networking is creating different types of motivation for teams and how administrators need to monitor this behavior, particularly when the two teams meet or the visitors are coming or going from locker rooms. Members of the group also mentioned an increase in the number of inappropriate t-shirts, signage, and the like. Some schools have a dress code for travel that helps address this problem. With a 16-0 vote, the group established the NCAA championship rules on behavior and sportsmanship as the MAC standard.

The group supports the NCAA legislative proposal on earmarks 16-0.

Motion approved 14-1: use the coaches ranking to determine all-conference winners; if there is a tie, use the first place votes. The ranking is on a 5-3-1 scale.

The presidents asked that coaches participate in a financial aid workshop based on the NCAA report. The group did not think that this is feasible or educational and suggests that each school discuss Sue Gaylor's Power Point at a staff meeting. Even though coaches take the NCAA test, recruiting issues are not a major focus. The group asked Ken Andrews to highlight a few financial aid violations (packages given to parents by coaches, coaches appealing awards, coach relationship with financial aid personnel, etc.) at coaching meetings (conference calls).

With a 16-0 vote the motion to discontinue sending the sportsmanship letter to parents at the start of each season passed.

Since we have not conducted a MAC staffing survey since 2008, Ken Andrews will compile another data collection in spring 2011.

The MAC has not been involved in commercial and fund raising initiatives: no ads on web site, Executive Director not raising money, and vendors have not attended meetings. It was suggested that MAC staff members should share favorable relationships with vendors with other MAC members. If a threshold of interest emerges, a vendor could be invited to make a short presentation for those interested.

The MAC Office is missing a few *Fact Books*. Does anyone have any available?

Although requested by field hockey, this motion applies to all sports and was approved 14-0: Ken Andrews will determine the point of conclusion in each sport that allows for an “official game,” and how the sport rules determine restarting a “no contest.”

Despite concerns that other sports might make the same appeal, this field hockey motion was approved 14-0: hire a third official for championship games (\$75 for this service; full pay if they have to call the game) to help with penalties, substitutions, and injury or tardiness of one assigned official.

Ken Andrews confirmed terminating the NJAC Football Challenge in 2013 so schools can find their own non-conference game.

Motion approved 14-0: extend Game Tape Exchange contract for another year unless there are savings in a multi-year deal.

Motion approved 14-0: redo the 2012-14 football schedule to have rival games on last weekend (Albright/LVC, King's/Wilkes, DVC/Widener).

To help save money and lend consistency to play, the group voted 14-0 to have Ken Andrews survey soccer coaches about the type of ball they use and the number they order. Currently, schools are spending about \$25 on practice balls and \$70 on game balls.

Misericordia will host cross country in 2012 rather than Elizabethtown.

This motion was not voted on as only administrators are welcome at voting delegates meetings: because of the importance of sports information in the conduct of conference affairs, have an SID attend Voting Delegates meetings to represent the SID views. SID's could be invited to Operations if the agenda warranted such a move.

This motion was defeated 14-0: because most of our team sports are aligned with these two conferences, develop separate logos for the Freedom and Commonwealth Conferences to better promote their identity.

Ken Andrews indicated that the SAAC meeting centered on a group activity (team building) that was very successful, but the group did not have much time to conduct business. The October conference call agenda completed the unfinished business.

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 PM.