



LSC COUNCIL OF ATHLETICS ADMINISTRATORS MEETING

Sept. 25, 2012, via teleconference call

Those participating were:

Abilene Christian: not represented; Angelo State: Sean Johnson; Cameron: Jim Jackson, Kim Vinson; Eastern New Mexico: Jeff Geiser (Chair), Sara Hill; Incarinate Word: not represented; Midwestern State: Charlie Carr; Tarleton State: Lonn Reisman, Susan Burton; Texas A&M-Commerce: Judy Sackfield; Texas A&M-Kingsville: Ruben Cantu, Amanda Knight; Texas Woman's: Chalesse Connors; West Texas A&M: Michael McBroom; LSC Office: Stan Wagon, Melanie Robotham, Tommy Wright.

ACTION ITEMS

I. LSC ADVISORY GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

COMPLIANCE DIRECTORS (CAA passed unanimously as package – by consensus agreement)

- a. CONFERENCE GRANT INITIATIVE: The Conference Office will use 2012-13 conference grant funds to purchase a scanner for each institution's compliance office to make the process of submitting forms more efficient. This will allow all schools to submit NLI, violations, squad lists, eligibility reports and participation reports electronically in the same format. More information will be provided to schools this fall after the scanners are purchased.
- b. LSC COMPLIANCE FORMS: Reviewed the following compliance forms located on the Members Only section of the LSC website. Compliance forms are reviewed and updated yearly. No significant changes were proposed.
 - i. LSC Eligibility Report Form: No changes proposed.
 - ii. LSC Participation Report: Change instructions to read "list each semester in which a student-athlete was enrolled full-time followed...". This more accurately reflects what everyone is already providing.
 - iii. LSC Four-Year Transfer Form: Add the NCAA Division II logo to the header to avoid confusion with Division I schools. Also, add "if no, please explain?" to #6 with space to provide an answer.
 - iv. LSC Two-Year Transfer Form: No changes proposed.
- c. HARDSHIP WAIVERS: The conference hardship waiver application will be updated to improve the process. In addition to asking for more information on the application, schools will now be asked to provide final stats to show games played and student-athletes will be asked to sign a HIPAA consent form. Asked that compliance directors review the hardship waiver process with athletic trainers and staff each year and make sure everyone has the most up-to-date conference form.
- d. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Chair of 2012-13 LSC Directors of Compliance: Stacy Nordquist, UIW
Vice-Chair of 2012-13 LSC Directors of Compliance: Kurt Portmann, MSU *Compliance Directors passed unanimously.*

STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAA passed unanimously as package – by consensus agreement)

- e. MAKE-A-WISH: Reviewed the Division II SAAC initiative and conference goals. Goal will continue to be 100% participation with each school striving to raise a minimum of \$1,500. The group participated in roundtable discussions to share fundraising ideas and best practices. David Pillen (ACU) reported that Division II again raised more than \$400,000 for Make-A-Wish this past year.
- f. COMMUNITY SERVICE MONTHS (November and April): Reviewed the Lone Star Conference Community Service Month initiative. It was noted that the Conference Office will again make available a \$200 subgrant to encourage participation and help assist schools with community service project costs. One grant will be made available to each school in either November or April and must be applied for by the campus SAAC Advisor. The group participated in roundtable discussions to share community service ideas.
- g. SAAC CUP CRITERIA: The group decided to add an area to the SAAC Cup for "other charitable fundraising." There are occasionally situations where a SAAC will take on a fundraising project to assist a worthy cause in their local or campus community. This will allow those groups to earn SAAC Cup points for their efforts.
 - i. LSC Community Service Month Participation: Schools will receive 500 points for each SAAC-organized community service project they participate in during the November or April LSC Community Service Month.
 - ii. Make-A-Wish Participation: Schools will receive ½ a point up to \$1499 and 1 point (\$1500 and up) for every dollar raised for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Funds shall be donated to the NCAA national office on the required forms.

- iii. Conference SAAC Meeting Attendance: Schools will receive 250 points per person who attends Conference SAAC meetings. Participants must attend the entire meeting. Conference SAAC meetings are in November (Allen) and July (TBD).
 - iv. Campus SAAC Meetings: Schools will receive 100 points for campus SAAC meetings (a maximum of two per month). A formal agenda and/or minutes from each meeting should be kept on file with the SAAC Advisor.
 - v. SAAC Legislative Grids: Schools will receive 500 points for submitting their completed NCAA legislative grids to the LSC Division II SAAC representative (currently David Pillen at ACU) by the required due date.
 - vi. Other Community Service: Schools will receive 250 points for each SAAC-organized community service project they participate in outside of the November and April LSC Community Service Months.
 - vii. Other Fundraising Projects: Schools will receive ½ a point for every dollar raised by SAAC and donated to a charitable fundraising project (other than Make-A-Wish).
- h. **ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE:** Reviewed the LSC Academic Success Rate and graduation rate (student-athlete and student body) data. Discussed the need to improve and put a plan in place. The group participated in roundtable discussions to answer the following questions: What is the perception of student-athletes on campus in regards to academic performance? What can your athletic department or the Conference do to help in this area? Consensus was that the perception was different sport-by-sport, but that basketball and football had the worst reputations possibly due to the high number of transfers. Some ideas to aid improvement include: requiring mandatory grade reports during the year, a minimum GPA requirement, creating a student-athlete leadership council for academics, mandatory incoming student-athlete orientations on study habits, providing teams with a faculty sponsor for support, requiring schools to provide an athletic academic advisor that understands NCAA rules and the time demands of student-athletes.
- i. **PLAYER/COACH CONDUCT:** Reviewed some of the conduct policies being discussed by LSC coaches groups and athletics administrators as well as the new policy for basketball effective the 2012-13 academic year. The group participated in roundtable discussions to answer the following questions: Is there a problem with coach and player conduct in the Lone Star Conference? If so, what is causing this problem? What are some corrective actions? What are your thoughts on conference conduct policies and suspensions? Student-athletes agreed that some sports may have conduct issues, but that student-athletes, coaches, officials and fans all contribute to the problem. They also felt strongly that coaches should be controlling player conduct issues on their own teams. They agreed conduct policies may be necessary in some sports, but not across the board.

SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTORS (CAA passed unanimously as package – moved by WT, MSU)

- j. **INDOOR TRACK & FIELD ATHLETES OF THE WEEK:** It was moved (ASU) and seconded (WT) to select Athlete of the Week awards for indoor track & field. *SID's passed unanimously.*
- k. **GOLFERS OF THE WEEK:** It was moved (A&M-C) and seconded (TAR) to select Golfers of the Week during the fall season. *SID's passed unanimously.*
- l. **ALL-CONFERENCE RELEASES:** It was moved (ENMU) and seconded (A&M-C) to release all-conference teams on embargo two (2) hours before championship banquets. The information provided shall not be published until receipt of email from conference office following the announcement at banquet with a penalty of \$100 for violations. *SID's passed unanimously.*
- m. **FALL MEDIA DAY:** It was moved (ASU) and seconded (MSU) to release volleyball, soccer and cross country preseason polls/awards prior to fall media day to allow "own day" of media coverage for those sports. *SID's passed unanimously.*
- n. **PRESS BOX SEATING POLICY:** It was moved (ASU) and seconded (ENMU) to implement a press box seating policy that: "Lone Star Conference and member institution officials wish to maintain a professional working environment in the Press Box. Seating in the Press Box is intended for working media and event staff only. No children or spouses please. And absolutely no cheering will be tolerated." *SID's passed unanimously.*
- o. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** The following officers were approved for the 2012-13 and 2013-14 academic years.
Vice-Chair: Naveen Boppana, Texas Woman's. *SID's passed unanimously.*

SOFTBALL COACHES (CAA passed unanimously as package – moved by TWU, TSU)

- p. **2013 LSC POSTSEASON TOURNAMENT FORMAT:** It was moved (ASU) and seconded (TWU) to recommend a format that includes practice and opening ceremony/banquet on Thursday, quarterfinal games on Friday at 11:30 AM (3v6), 2 PM (2v7), 4:30 PM (4v5) and 7 PM (1v8), semifinal games on Saturday at Noon and 2:30, and a championship game on Sunday at 1 PM. *Coaches passed unanimously. Note: Discussion on moving championship game to Sunday included making title game an "event", and not having teams play after semifinal games.*
- q. **PRE-GAME PROTOCOL:** It was moved (TAMUK) and seconded (WT) to adjust Operating code No. 10 to start pre-game warm-up 90 minutes prior to game time, using the following schedule. *Coaches passed unanimously.*
 - i. 90 Minutes Prior to Start: Visitors: Cages or On Field BP; Home: Field Available for Running/Throwing.
 - ii. 60 Minutes Prior to Start: Visitors: Field Available for Running/Throwing; Home: Cages or On Field BP.
 - iii. 30 Minutes Prior to Start: Share Field.
 - iv. 25 Minutes Prior to Start: Visitors: 7 Minutes Infield/Outfield.
 - v. 18 Minutes Prior to Start: Home: 7 Minutes Infield/Outfield.
 - vi. 11 Minutes Prior to Start: Clear Field for Grooming.
 - vii. 8 Minutes Prior to Start: Pre-Game Meeting; Umpire Bat Check.
 - viii. 5 Minutes Prior to Start: Announcements, Line-Ups, National Anthem.

- r. OFFICIAL SOFTBALL: Consensus agreement was to renew ball agreement with Worth, the official NCAA softball. Note: Coaches prefer free balls instead of mitt, which is currently in agreement, and stipulation that buy so many, get some free.
- s. FUTURE MEETING DATE: Consensus agreement was to conduct the next meeting on Monday, June 17, 2013.
- t. CONDUCT: It was moved (TSU) and seconded (ACU) to implement a conduct policy whereby the Conference shall issue a warning letter and conduct a review upon any coach being ejected. Coaches shall be suspended for the next regularly scheduled game after two (2) ejections. *Coaches passed 8-1.*
- u. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The following officers were approved for the 2012-13 and 2013-14 academic years.
Vice-Chair: Richie Bruister, Texas Woman's. *Coaches passed unanimously.*

CROSS COUNTRY/TRACK & FIELD COACHES (CAA passed unanimously as package – moved by MSU, TAMUK)

- v. INDOOR TRACK & FIELD MEET: After discussion of the challenges facing the Conference in the sport of indoor track and field, it was moved (ASU) to not sponsor a conference championship meet in February 2013 as planned. *Coaches motion failed for lack of a second.*
 - w. 2013 LSC INDOOR T&F MEET: Coaches reviewed last year's meet schedule and, by consensus agreement, adopted a meet schedule and operating code for the indoor track meet. Commissioner Wagon reported that Texas Tech doesn't foresee any problems for the dates of Feb. 23-24, and Bart Bradshaw has confirmed that South Plains Officials can work those dates. The LSC Office will coordinate top times and entries through Direct Athletics.
 - x. INCLEMENT WEATHER: It was moved (TSU) and seconded (MSU) to add the following policy to LSC Outdoor Track & Field Operating Code: "If the meet schedule is impacted by inclement weather, events will be started as possible through 11:59 PM, at which time coaches will meet to determine the best plan for any remaining events." *Coaches passed unanimously.*
 - y. ALL-CONFERENCE AWARDS: It was moved (TAMUK) and seconded (MSU) to change the method for determining all-conference performers for track and field such that individuals who placed first and second in each event would be recognized as all-conference, while also eliminating the possibility to earn all-conference via point total. *Coaches failed, 2-4.*
 - z. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: It was moved (TSU) and seconded (ASU) to elect Casey Kreger as Vice Chair for LSC Cross Country, effective immediately. *Coaches passed unanimously.*
2. **FOOTBALL FESTIVAL:** It was moved (MSU) and seconded (WTAMU) to commit to participate in the Lone Star Football Festival for three years (2013, 2014 and 2015). ***Passed unanimously.***

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

3. **COMMISSIONER'S DISCUSSION:** Commissioner Wagon provided the group with a brief update on membership matters and reported that Tommy Wright had accepted the position as Assistant Commissioner, effective Sept. 1, through partnership with Legends Sales & Marketing.
4. **CONFERENCE INITIATIVE REPORTS**
- a. **SENIOR WOMAN ADMINISTRATORS:** Melanie Robotham (LSC) gave a report on discussions from recent SWA conference calls.

Respectfully submitted,
Stan Wagon