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LSC COUNCIL OF ATHLETICS ADMINISTRATORS MEETING

June 18-20, 2014, Hilton Garden Inn, Allen, Texas

Those participating were:

Angelo State: Sean Johnson, Christina Whetsel, Kevin Pepper; **Cameron:** Jim Jackson, Kim Vinson; **Eastern New Mexico:** Jeff Geiser (Chair), Sara Hill; **Midwestern State:** Charlie Carr, Venera Flores-Stafford, Kyle Williams; **Tarleton State:** Lonn Reisman, Susan Burton, Troy Jones, Casey Hogan; **Texas A&M-Commerce:** Ryan Ivey, Judy Sackfield, Sammy Morrone; **Texas A&M-Kingsville:** Scott Gines, Joe Biedron, Gary Zacher; **Texas Woman's:** Chalese Connors, Charollette Hunt, Jeff Bowerman, Ryan Maher; **West Texas A&M:** Michael McBroom, Stephanie Sumpter, Kent Johnson, Paul Sweetgall, Amanda Workman, Kit Strief, Derrick Peoples; **LSC Office:** Stan Wagon, Jay Poerner, Melanie Robotham, Tommy Wright.

ACTION ITEMS

I. LSC ADVISORY GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

BASKETBALL COACHES (CAA took action in separate votes, see below)

- a. **WOMEN'S ONLY - SCOUTING:** It was moved (A&M-C) and seconded (WT) to prohibit live scouting of conference games in women's basketball only. *Coaches passed unanimously.* **RATIONALE:** The current scheduling format creates several inequities, one of which has teams arriving to town Saturday and being able to live scout in advance of a Sunday game. **CAA moved (CU) and seconded (MSU) to support. Passed unanimously.**
- b. **WOMEN'S ONLY – START TIMES:** It was moved (TWU) and seconded (A&M-C) to require a minimum of 22 hours between start times for conference games in women's basketball only. *Coaches passed unanimously.* **RATIONALE:** Also aimed at relieving a burden associated with the current scheduling format. **CAA moved (CU) and seconded (WT) to support. Failed 3-6.**
- c. **TECHNICAL FOUL POLICY:** It was moved (A&M-C) and seconded (ASU) to remove head coaches from the policy. *Coaches passed unanimously.* **RATIONALE:** Chief among the reasons for this recommendation were: a) 14 or 16 conference games results in wide variety among teams in number of games officiated by non-LSC crews, which leads to inconsistency and possible double standards; b) inherent difference in expectations/purpose behind coach/official communications as compared to player/official communications; c) properly accounting for how indirect technical fouls impact a head coach; and d) no coaches have been suspended in two years under this policy. **CAA moved (A&M-C) and seconded (MSU) to support. Passed 8-1.**

GOLF COACHES (CAA passed unanimously as package – moved by CUI/A&M-C)

- d. **NEWCOMER OF YEAR:** It was moved (MSU) and seconded (A&M-C) to add a Newcomer of the Year award for both men's and women's golf, effective in 2014-15. *Coaches passed unanimously.*
- e. **MEN'S ALL-CONFERENCE:** It was moved (A&M-C) and seconded (CU) to adjust the men's all-conference awards such that five (5) players will comprise the first team, five (5) players on the second team and any remaining players who receive at least two (2) votes would be honorable mention, effective in 2014-15. *Coaches passed unanimously.*

BASEBALL COACHES (CAA took action in separate votes, see below)

- f. **FUTURE BASEBALL SCHEDULES:** The group reviewed and accepted the 2015 schedule. A 2016 schedule was presented, but the group asked the Conference Office to pursue other options. The Conference Office will present another option to the coaches via e-mail. **CAA moved (TAMUK) and seconded (ASU) to approve the 2016 revised schedule as presented. Passed unanimously.**
- g. **NCAA BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP:** It was moved (ASU) and seconded (WT) for the LSC to pursue the possibility of moving to a 64-team NCAA tournament field. *Coaches passed unanimously.* **RATIONALE:** Baseball should have the postseason access as other sports like softball, volleyball, basketball, etc, will provide more opportunities for student-athletes to experience the postseason, more at-large opportunities for deserving teams in strong conferences like the LSC. **CAA took no action. RATIONALE: Jurisdiction to recommend bracket expansion lies with D2 Baseball Committee, which currently has made such a request to D2 Championships Committee.**

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2. **PROPOSAL FOR FOOTBALL FESTIVAL AND BASKETBALL TOURNEY TICKET REQUIREMENTS:** It was moved (ASU) and seconded (TAMUK) to require a minimum ticket purchase for participating schools at both the Football Festival and Basketball Championship, effectively immediately. Minimums would be \$10,000 per team in football and \$3,000 per team in basketball. **Passed 8-1.** RATIONALE: Participating schools stand to gain when these events are profitable, and holding each school accountable for a minimum share of ticket sales provides “skin in the game” when it comes to schools working toward the profitability of these events through ticket sales in local communities.
3. **MARKETING/EXTERNAL REVENUE ADVISORY GROUP:** It was moved (A&M-C) and seconded (MSU) to establish Marketing/External Affairs Personnel as a recognized advisory group within the Conference governance structure. **Passed unanimously.**
4. **NCAA PROPOSED LEGISLATION:** In a series of discussions and votes, the following action was taken relative to NCAA proposed legislation:
 - a. **SOFTBALL EQUIVALENCIES:** It was moved (TAMUK) and seconded (TWU) to pursue another conference to co-sponsor NCAA legislation to increase softball equivalency limit from 7.2 to 10.0. **Passed unanimously.**
 - b. **WEEKLY HOUR LIMITATIONS OUTSIDE THE PLAYING SEASON IN SPORTS OTHER THAN FOOTBALL:** It was moved (MSU) and seconded (A&M-C) to co-sponsor the Great Lakes Valley Conference’s proposed legislation to permit a maximum of two hours of team activities and/or skill instruction in sports other than football at any time outside of the declared playing season. **Passed unanimously.** RATIONALE: Consistency across sports, less confusing for coaches and compliance personnel, Life in the Balance friendly for coaches and training staff, and doesn’t increase total participation hours for student-athletes.
 - c. **REDUCTION OF CONTEST LIMITS, ADDITION OF CONFERENCE CHALLENGE EVENTS:** It was moved (ASU) and seconded (MSU) to pursue another conference to co-sponsor NCAA legislation that would bring about a reduction to the maximum number of allowable contests for all team sports but also add conference challenge event exemptions in those sports that – if scheduled – would effectively give teams the opportunity to play the same number of games currently allowed. **Passed unanimously.** RATIONALE: Aimed at solving the issue of creating non-conference, in-region competition. Premise is only a minority of Division II members has far-reaching scheduling issues like the LSC, and it’s unclear whether the membership will support expansion of conference challenge exemptions on its own merit. However, many across D2 might support in this light as it ensures no additional games and would either reduce games or help to solve the in-region, non-conference scheduling issue.
5. **MBB CONFERENCE CHALLENGE EVENT IN FRISCO:** It was moved (ASU) and seconded (A&M-C) to host a men’s basketball conference challenge event at Dr Pepper Arena in Frisco in November 2015. **Passed unanimously.** **NOTE:** Despite high arena costs, 7 of 8 AD’s showed interest in having their MBB teams participate pending additional discussion on funding the event, but the sense of commitment was up to \$10,000 per school, if needed, plus travel.
6. **ALLEN RENEWAL AGREEMENT:** It was moved (WT) and seconded (MSU) to support the renewal agreement with the Allen Event Center for the 2015 Basketball Championship. **Passed unanimously.**
7. **LSC/BALFOUR ACADEMIC AWARD:** Discussion about the LSC Academic Excellence Award presented by Balfour for 2013-14. Consensus was to recommend splitting the award each year between men and women with each recipient to receive \$2,500. Further, to determine using Team GPA’s for the academic year with each sport academic champion earning 5 points, runner-up 4 points, third-place team 3 points, and 1 point for all other teams with 2.00 Team GPA and above. Each LSC member institution’s points would then be added and divided by the number of LSC sports sponsored by that institution (by gender). Also, to include men’s tennis and men’s soccer (which are included in Commissioner’s Honor Roll on the basis of being Division II championship sports that LSC would sponsor with sufficient membership). Lastly, to request the LSC Compliance Directors establish guidelines for calculating Team GPA at their annual meeting on June 20.
8. **NCAA CONFERENCE GRANT REQUEST FOR 2014-15:** Discussion on conference grant request for 2014-15 resulted in the following suggestions:
 - a. SPO-1: Additional funds for Needy S-A Fund, Degree Completion Program and Academics Initiatives;
 - b. SPO-2: Expand stipends to attend programs at additional organizations like NACDA, CoSIDA, NAAD, etc.; Remove FARA stipends as those should be budgeted expenses by now; Remove Regional Rules stipends as those should be budgeted expenses by now;
 - c. SPO-3: Add support for MBB Conference Challenge Event in Frisco;

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- d. SPO-4: Funding for membership consultant project (but don't forget separate funding available through Membership Fund);
- e. SPO-5: Fund a position in the Conference office; Expand NACWAA stipend to include any national convention; Stress opportunity for member schools to apply for internship funding; Add stipend to attend NCAA Diversity & Inclusion Forum; Increase funding to Women's Workshop to allow for coach-specific programming and possibly provide stipends to offset cost of attendance.

9. GAME OFFICIALS FEES:

- a. FOOTBALL: It was moved (WT) and seconded (TAMUK) to add a \$75 flat fee for one (1) alternate official, effective with the 2014 season. **Passed unanimously.**
- b. VOLLEYBALL: It was moved (TAMUK) and seconded (CU) to add language to clarify that hotel accommodations will be provided when an overnight stay is warranted. **Passed unanimously.**

10. 2014-15 CALENDAR: It was moved (ASU) and seconded (TWU) to accept the 2014-15 LSC Calendar of Events and Meetings with addition of an in-person meeting for Sports Info. Directors on Monday, July 27. **Passed unanimously.**

11. LSC OFFICE LEASE AND FRISCO: It was moved (CU) and seconded (A&M-C) to endorse the concept of moving the conference office to Frisco and support the Commissioner's pursuit of satisfactory terms. **Passed unanimously.**

12. LSC MEMBERSHIP CONSULTANT: It was moved (TAMUK) and seconded (ASU) to support requesting up to \$10,000 in NCAA Conference Grant funds, and also seek assistance from the NCAA Membership Fund, to employ a membership consultant to cultivate, present case statements, and recruit new members. **Passed unanimously.**

13. AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP LANGUAGE: The group took action to form an ad hoc committee that will review conference requirements as it relates to affiliate memberships (example: require use of Schneider Electric for weather monitoring). Committee to include Jeff Geiser (ENMU), Charlie Carr (MSU), and Stephanie Sumpter (WT).

14. LSC STRATEGIC PLAN: Scott Gines (TAMUK) led a discussion on efforts to revise the LSC Strategic Plan. He is working on draft for presentation at Presidents meeting in July and requested assistance to include Chalesse Connors (TWU), Ryan Ivey (A&M-C), Venera Flores-Stafford (MSU), Judy Sackfield (A&M-C), and Paul Sweetgall (WT).

15. VICE-CHAIR: It was moved (CU) and seconded (WT) to elect Judy Sackfield (A&M-C) as the group's vice chair, effective August 1, 2014. **Passed unanimously.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

16. COMMISSIONER'S DISCUSSION: Stan Wagnon expressed appreciation for strong showing of marketing and external revenue personnel during Wednesday's session. He also provided the group with updates from the Division II Presidents Summit in April and the Division II Commissioners meetings in June. This included notification that Division II will implement a study of conduct fouls beginning in 2014-15 in the sports of football, men's and women's soccer, and men's and women's basketball. He also advised of the importance of registering in a timely fashion for the upcoming NCAA Convention due to increased attendance from Division I members.

17. NCAA MANAGEMENT COUNCIL REPORT: Kim Vinson (CU) reported on her role as the LSC's representative to the NCAA Division II Management Council, encouraging all to utilize \$1,000 credit available on the Division II purchasing website. She noted a delay to the addition of marijuana testing to the NCAA's year-round testing program. She noted that many budget requests were submitted by various sports committees to Championships Committee regarding the \$100,000 budget increase available for 2014-15, and final decisions should be made in September.

18. D2 ADA REPORT: Sean Johnson (ASU) reported on his role as the LSC's representative on the D2 ADA board. He noted that there was board discussion on non-conference scheduling. He also shared the D2 ADA board expenditures.

19. FAN CONDUCT AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPECTATIONS: Discussion on fan conduct and game administration including discussing at LSC SAAC Retreat, establishing a fan code of conduct, holding a game administrator conference call prior to fall, winter and spring seasons, and conducting a survey. Consensus was to have conference office develop policy for implementation in the fall.

20. CAA LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS: Consensus was to accept the 2014-15 CAA Liaison Assignments as presented.

Respectfully submitted,
Stan Wagnon