



LSC BASEBALL COACHES MEETING

Tuesday, May 6, 2014, via teleconference call

Those participating were:

Angelo State: Kevin Brooks; Cameron: Todd Holland (Chair); Eastern New Mexico: David Gomez; Tarleton State: Bryan Conger; Texas A&M-Kingsville: Jason Gonzalez, Scott Gines (AD liaison); West Texas A&M: Matt Vanderburg; LSC Office: Jay Poerner, Melanie Robotham.

1. **NCAA BASEBALL COMMITTEE REPORT**: Kevin Brooks (ASU) and Jason Gonzalez (TAMUK) gave a report of their service on the South Central Regional Advisory Committee, explaining the criteria and process for determining regional rankings and postseason selection. Discussion focused on the current regional rankings and where the LSC teams stand.
2. **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.
3. **UMPIRES REPORT**: Reviewed the umpire assignments for the 2014 LSC Tournament. Asked coaches to continue evaluating via arbiter because the feedback is valuable. Coaches expressed some concern with the less experienced officials that were used this year (especially during Conference games) and their lack of communication with coaches.

It was moved (ASU) and seconded (CU) for the Conference Office to inquire with the LSC Supervisor of Officials about moving to a three-man umpire crew for Conference games only. The Conference Office will request a proposal so coaches can review the financial impact. **Passed Unanimously**

Rationale: There is too much ground to cover for a two-man crew. You have a back-up on site in case of injury or illness. Less fatigue should lead to less missed calls. Should increase professionalism.

4. **FUTURE CONFERENCE TOURNAMENTS**: Consensus was that continuing to allow the #1 seed to host the Conference tournament and giving the automatic bid to the tournament champion gives the Conference our best chance at getting another team in the regional.
5. **OPERATING CODE**: It was noted that beginning next year the Conference Office will only select one hitter and one pitcher of the week. The same nomination process will apply.
6. **BALL AGREEMENT**: The group reviewed the current ball agreement contract with Rawlings. Coaches expressed frustration over the lack of communication from Rawlings. Many have never heard from their Rawlings rep, some didn't receive their game balls in a timely manner, and a few never received their product credit. The Conference Office will reach out to our Rawlings representative about these issues and get the contact information for the regional sales reps. The Conference will request that the reps make contact with coaches, send out catalogues and establish a timeline for orders, shipping and product credit.
7. **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. **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.

Respectfully submitted,
Jay Poerner