

REDHAWK REVIEW

APRIL COMPLETED ACTION PLANS

Goal: Build Quality Relationships:

To help improve department unity an ICA block of "staff" tickets has been established that each area within our department has access to for our ticketed sporting events. The objective of this action plan was to provide a forum, whereby staff members could interact and socialize with each other outside our normal work environment. This year at each of our four ticketed sports, ticket blocks were established to allow a certain number of ICA staff members to attend games with family members and co-workers. Our department, unlike any other on campus, has the ability to provide access to entertainment at no cost to our department members. For those who are ever interested in attending our ticketed events throughout the year are to contact the ticket office early in the week the event is to take place. Each staff member is eligible for two tickets and each staff member must assume the tax responsibility of those tickets. Tickets for staff are limited and based upon availability for the entire event.

Goal: Establish a Comprehensive Recruiting Support Structure:

In order to help establish recruiting standards to better serve all coaches, we are developing or purchasing recruiting software to help better organize, monitor, and service each other's program's database of prospective student-athletes. Recruiting software packages are becoming standard within athletic departments across the country. Currently our department is researching the possibility of purchasing recruiting software to help our coaches recruit and organize prospects more efficiently. Although we haven't made a decision on what software package we are interested in purchasing yet, much of the research is completed. Each program provided us input as to the items they keep track of and are important to them for the organizational aspects of recruiting. After we had a summary of needs from our programs we contacted potential companies to provide us demos on their products, giving our administrative staff an idea of what each company's capabilities are.

Jennie Gilbert, Josh Fenton, Jason Lener, and Jude Killy sat in on web-based demonstrations with Scoutware and CyberSports. In addition, Josh Fenton met with someone from a local company, RiverShark, who currently produces and manages our Women's Soccer recruiting database and communication portal. In the end RiverShark would not be able to provide the functionality and support structure for an entire department purchase. Scoutware and CyberSports are viable options for our department. Both of them offer flexibility with each sport program to adapt a database to the program's needs. In addition, each of them has a communication portal to email recruits through full-text graphical messages. A compliance reporting section is available, allowing our compliance office to receive standardized reports from each program. Each company has provided Josh a proposal, with a complete price breakdown of what would be included in the bundled purchase. The next step is to setup a web-based demonstration involving CyberSports and Scoutware with our coaches, allowing each program to provide input on each potential option. Please be on the lookout for information coming to you through email about participating in a web-based demonstration for these two products. Cost of each application is still being determined and will be forwarded to each sport program once it's obtained.

Goal: Establish Comprehensive Recruiting Support Structure:

New standards of recruiting have been established to better serve all the coaches. To contribute to these standards a database was created of potential resources on campus, listing their areas of expertise, which can be used during the on-campus recruiting process. In an effort to assist with the on-campus recruiting process with each of our programs we have started to develop a resource for coaches to use when identifying people to utilize in the on-campus recruiting process. This process started with a survey that was provided to each program, asking them to list the names and areas of campus resources they use during recruiting visits. The survey was broken into three sections: Internal/Athletic Department Resources, University Administrative Office Resources, and University Academic Office Resources. Our programs provided various internal athletic department areas that each of them use during the on-campus visit (i.e. training staff, strength and conditioning staff, ect...). Others provided us with useful information on how they involve the Financial Aid Office or the Engineering Department in their visits with PSAs. Once all of the information was gathered, it was inserted into one common spreadsheet that is meant to benefit all of our programs. The final document is complete and posted to the staff intranet site for everyone in our department to utilize as a resource during their on-campus recruiting process. If anyone has updates to the on-campus resources they like to use, please submit them to Josh Fenton at fentnjc@muohio.edu. Josh will update the master document on the intranet site.

Goal: Enhance the Student-Athlete Experience:

In order to enhance the student-athlete experience, we are promoting the overall social awareness and integration of our student-athletes. A plan has been developed for the increased involvement of student athletes with the Miami and Oxford community activities and area groups. Many requests come across the computer screen of athletes and coaches in our department to participate in a variety of community service and promotional activities for our athletic programs. The requests are all very worthwhile causes, which can help promote the awareness of our student-athletes to community service activities and/or help promote their own programs. In addition, the opportunities provide our athletes and staff members to have developmental experiences, which promote personal growth. Due to the are number of requests received by our athletes and coaches, the requests can seem frequent and overwhelming. To alleviate some of the time constraints felt by our student athletes the plan is to produce a depart-



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ment promotional calendar. This promotional calendar will spread out the number of activities across numerous months and all student-athletes.

On Monday, May 21, a group met to define a calendar and policy for our entire department to follow. The group consisted of an athletic administrator, RedHawk Council Representatives, Marketing staff personnel, and the CHAMPS/Life Skills office. The purpose of this meeting was to establish a minimum number of community service or athletic department promotional events that each sport program in our department needs to participate in. In addition, a master calendar of events was discussed. The calendar will attempt to spread out the number of events that student-athletes are participating in during the year. The goal is to provide our student-athletes with meaningful community service experiences and opportunities to promote their programs to new fans, while being conscious of time constraints. A draft plan is currently being worked on by the group. Once the plan is put together, it will be presented to the Advisory Council and Head Coaches for their input. Stay tuned for further information as the calendar and policy are finalized. If you have any questions or suggestions about this, please forward them to Jennie Gilbert at gilberja@muohio.edu.