

Division I-AAA Athletics Directors Association
NCAA Convention - Nashville, TN
Saturday, January 12, 2008

Participants:

Lee Reed, Director of Athletics - Cleveland State University (President)
Jack McDonald, Director of Athletics - Quinnipiac University (First Vice President)
Gary Cunningham, Director of Athletics - University of California, Santa Barbara (Third Vice President)
Ken Kavanagh, Director of Athletics - Bradley University (Treasurer)
Judy Rose, Director of Athletics - UNC Charlotte (Secretary)
Don DiJulia, Director of Athletics - Saint Joseph's University (Atlantic Ten Conference Representative)
Peg Bradley-Doppes, Director of Athletics - University of Denver (At-Large Representative - Sun Belt)
Nelson Bobb, Director of Athletics - UNC Greensboro (At-Large Representative – Southern)
Pete Carlon, Director of Athletics - University of Texas, Arlington
Scott Street, Director of Athletics - University of Texas, Pan American
Mike Jacobsen, Director of Athletics - Utah Valley State University
Rudy Carvajal, Director of Athletics - Cal State Bakersfield
Allison Rich, Senior Associate AD - Cal State Fullerton
Kathryn Statz, Associate AD - DePaul University
Tom Hickman, Director of Athletics - Winthrop University
Janet Cone, Director of Athletics - UNC Asheville
Virmette House-Browning, Executive AD - Bradley University
Bill Maher, Director of Athletics - Canisius College
John D'Argenio, Director of Athletics - Siena College
Bud Haidet, Director of Athletics - University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
Lynn King, Director of Athletics - University of the Pacific
Drew Marsochello, Deputy Athletics Director - Boston University
Ellen Crandall, Associate AD/SWA - University of Hartford
Bob Driscoll, Director of Athletics - Providence College
Bill Hogan, Director of Athletics - Seattle University
Ron Cottrell, Director of Athletics - Houston Baptist University
Brad Hewitt, Director of Athletics - Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville
Mike Moore, Director of Athletics - IUPUI
John Stanley, Director of Athletics - University of Evansville
Michelle Meadows, Assistant AD/SWA - Longwood University
Troy Austin, Director of Athletics - Longwood University
Rick Mazzuto, Director of Athletics - Cal State Northridge
Sandra Taylor, Associate Athletics Director - Manhattan College
Lenny Kaplan, Director of Athletics - New Jersey Tech
Tracy Huth, Director of Athletics - Oakland University
Jeff Altier, Director of Athletics - Oakland University
Steve Potts, Director of Athletics - Lipscomb University
John Watson, Director of Athletics - Pepperdine University
Tim Hall, Director of Athletics - University of Missouri, Kansas City
Brian Teter, Director of Athletics - Texas A&M Corpus Christi
Rick Allen, The Compliance Group
Pat Manak, NACDA

1. Mr. Reed began meeting with introductions and reminded participants that approval of the **June 2007 minutes** will take place at the June 2008 meeting in Dallas.
2. Mr. Kavanagh provided a **membership and financial report**. He stated that as of this meeting, membership stood at 83 individuals representing 75 institutions and 8 of 9 conference offices. Mr. Kavanagh asked/reminded the Executive Committee to reach out to 4 or 5 of their conference counterparts and inform them of the membership benefits. **Financially, at the time of this meeting, the association had close to \$92,000 compared to \$72,000 at the same point in 2007.**
3. Mr. Reed introduced the topics of **Governance Issues and Legislative Review**. He reminded attendees that the association held three override votes for later in the Convention and reviewed the issues on the table; baseball, text

messaging and golf. The Board of Directors sent letters to the D1-AAA presidents encouraging them not to support the override.

Mr. Moore also reminded the group that the **baseball** voting had been split according to paragraph statuses. Paragraph A represented financial aid language, while paragraph B represented squad size. Mr. Reed mentioned that feedback had leaned to the support of financial aid limits, but that institutions wanted to maintain the freedom to have more participants in baseball.

Text messaging was also discussed. It is no longer allowed, however, there is talk of making it allowable again.

Mr. Reed asked for feedback on overriding the ban on text messaging. A response that it allowed institutions or coaches with limited resources an opportunity to recruit better and potentially outwork other recruiters. Another response was that young people can choose to respond/not respond to text messages. Mr. Kavanagh cited the desire to reinstate text messaging by some of the coaches at Bradley and asked about middle ground (i.e., in addition to restricted times in days, perhaps only if initiated by prospect). Finally, a comment that SAAC is strongly against text messaging and that the upcoming governance structure change would allow the issue to resurface again when technology allowed for better tracking and auditing of text messages brought consensus to the fact that this is currently an all or nothing issue at this time. Note: Current legislation addresses phone calls post-signing.

Golf legislation consisted of limiting participation to nine 3-day tournaments with a maximum of 54 holes or 24 total dates of competition. Mr. Reed asked for an informal show of hands for those who support the override. A majority of hands was declared with no objection. Mr. Reed cited institutions in regions of the country where the weather is a concern have had difficulty finding venues to play. Mr. Cunningham echoed that sentiment for institutions in mild climates as well, as golf courses are hesitant to forfeit the required amount of playing time.

Returning to **baseball**, Mr. Reed asked for an informal show of hands regarding the support of overriding limits on scholarships {no result was stated for the record}. Mr. Reed stated that **CAP** talked about transfers the previous night. Student-Athletes with a 2.6 GPA can transfer without APR/GSR penalty as it is deemed likely that they will graduate from their next institution. A 2.4 GPA was just as statistically likely to do so after transferring; however, college presidents preferred the 2.6 benchmark with a relief waiver to those with a sub-2.6 GPA. Mr. Reed also stated that the fourth-year data is reflecting progress toward meeting APR/GSR goals.

4. Mr. DiJulia asked about the **recent lawsuit out of California involving the NCAA**. Mr. Reed stated that the NCAA is close to settling that lawsuit in the next two months and has heard assurances that there will be no impact on athletics budgets. He noted that the NCAA is discussing the combination of the student-athlete opportunity fund, academic enhancement dollars, and the student-athlete fund as a way to provide greater flexibility in getting money in the hands of student athletes.
5. **Post-Season Play Opportunities:**
Mr. Reed introduced the topic of a pay-to-play tournament and asked if others had received similar information via fax from the Gazell Group regarding such an event (Collegiate Basketball Invitational). Mr. Kavanagh cited that with the NCAA taking over the NIT, the number of teams participating was reduced from 40 to 32. Mr. Reed stated that this group is trying to fill the void in post-season play. Details on this event are sketchy (16 teams, best of three championship round), but it's viewed as a potential alternative to the NIT.

Comments regarding this topic were varied. Shock was expressed, from a legislative standpoint, that organizations outside our structure can create such opportunities. It was conceded that coaches will want to play in tournaments such as this. However, it was asked how many teams in post-season is too many?

Mr. Kavanagh stated that as a membership, as witnessed with the NIT anti-trust lawsuit, we can't stop groups from creating these opportunities. It was asked if there would be any value to the D1-AAA creating a post-season tournament. Mr. Reed stated that it would allow the membership to control its own destiny.
6. Mr. Cunningham informed the group that there was nothing new to report on the **College Basketball Partnership**. Ms. Rose also serves on this body as a I-AAA representative.
7. Mr. Reed introduced Rick Allen from **The Compliance Group**. Mr. Allen was representing Chuck Smrt who had a prior commitment. The Compliance Group services the association with its monthly e-newsletter. If there are any suggestions to improve the newsletter please let them know. Additionally, Mr. Kavanagh reminded those in

attendance that **The Compliance Group is a good resource for our members for FREE initial information on topics from NCAA legislative matters to enforcement investigations.**

8. Ms. Statz (substituting for Chair Lenti Ponsetto) stated that the **Scholar-Athlete Committee** received 36 applicants last year, but would like the committee to discuss additional criteria on the athletics side – possibly post-season success vs. personal success. Mr. Kavanagh asked if the criterion was ever officially changed to require 5 completed semesters. Mr. Cunningham mentioned that it was discussed, but never voted on. Mr. Kavanagh then reminded everyone that nominations are due in late March, but that you must be a paid member to submit a candidate.

Finally, a motion was made by Mr. Cunningham and seconded by Mr. Moore that require a student-athlete to have reached junior status academically in order to be eligible for consideration on the Scholar-Athlete Teams. The motion passed.

9. Mr. Bobb discussed the concept of **DI-AAA all-sports trophies**. He asked if there was an obligation for first and second place trophies for each sport? Also, should the association recognize 17 sports with 50% participation or 14 sports with 75% participation?

Mr. Kavanagh stated that the Executive Committee will vote so that these trophies are able to be presented at the NACDA Convention in June, but recommended that the percentage of participation possibly be lowered to 67% or 70% to perhaps start slowly and build up.

Mr. Manak offered price quotes for the awards:

11.5" x 14.5" = \$122.88 each or \$2,088.96 (17 awards); \$4,177.92 (34 awards)

8.5' x 11.5" = \$97.50 each or \$1,657.50 (17 awards); \$3,315 (34 awards)

7.5' x 9.5" = \$93.75 each or \$1,593.75 (17 awards); \$3,187.50 (34 awards)

The overall set-up charge would \$125 for any option.

Mr. Kavanagh asked if the best performance or first place finishers win. Another question posed was how do we handle individual sports and those which are ranked by region?

Mr. Bobb recommended awarding at the 75% participation level. Mr. Kavanagh, however, suggested awarding trophies in sports with at least 70% participation. Mr. Reed then introduced a motion to discuss. Mr. Cunningham expressed that he was not in favor of the 75% participation level as he felt that it eliminated "core" sports and limited recognition possibilities. His recommendation was to lower the participation level to 65%.

Mr. Bobb brought to everyone's attention that unless awards go to sports with at least 50% participation that men's golf will be included, while women's golf will be excluded. Mr. Cunningham mentioned a similar dilemma regarding men's and women's tennis.

Mr. Reed then asked for approval of the 50% participation threshold and to utilize the largest award option (11.5" x 14.5"). A motion was made by Ms. Rose and seconded by Mr. Cunningham to approve the 50% participation threshold. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Mr. Kavanagh discussed the **Gary Cunningham Lifetime Achievement Award**. Nominations are due in early April with the requirement of 15 years as an AD and 25 in intercollegiate athletics. Mr. Moore inquired about the possibility of assisting financially in the event that the winner is a retiree and wouldn't otherwise be able to attend the Convention. Mr. Kavanagh mentioned that he would make this a point of emphasis in discussions with his fellow Committee members. Ms. Rose asked about awarding a scholarship in the \$5,000-\$10,000 range to the institution of the winner. Mr. Kavanagh and Mr. Reed thought this was a good idea and that it should also be discussed further in the future.
11. Mr. Kavanagh mentioned that **nominations** for the Executive Committee openings will be due to Pat Meiser (Past President) by April. There will be a few openings on the Executive Committee -- one in the Atlantic Sun Conference, one for the commissioner representative and then two officer positions (Secretary and 3rd VP). Peg Bradley-Doppes agreed to continue her service on the committee as an At-Large representative from the Sun Belt Conference.

12. Mr. Reed asks for **old/new business**. Hearing none, he reminded everyone that the **next meetings will take place at the NACDA Convention in Dallas on Monday, June 9 and Tuesday, June 10.** There will be **a joint meeting with the FCS ADs from 3-4 pm, followed by the I-AAA ADA Officers and Executive Committee meeting from 4-5 pm. The I-AAA ADA Membership meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 10 from 2:30-4:30 p.m.**

Meeting Adjourned