Women's Meeting

The meeting was held Friday, December 12, 2003

In attendance: Daniel Sharadin, Commissioner; Tom Tracey, Director of Officials; Mike McDowell, Director of Communication; Derek Ellingson, Queens College; Luis Nicolao, Princeton University, Carl Quigley, St. Francis College, Dave Fritz, Grove City College; Kristine Dickey, Marist College; Scott Russell, Harvard University; Todd Clapper, Brown University; Alan Huckins, Hartwick College; John Zeigler, Bucknell University; Keith Bullion, Salem International University; Scott Reed, George Washington University; Bob Filander, Washington & Jefferson University; Joe Tristan, Penn State Behrend College; Aaron Cavagnolo, Wagner College; Matt Anderson, University of Michigan; Barry King, Indiana University; Loren Bertocci, Officiating Technical Director; John Benedick, MIT.

The meeting began with a discussion of the various proposals.

Women's Varsity Proposal 1

Withdrawn by Todd Clapper.

Women's Varsity Proposal 2

Todd Clapper made a motion to change the current Northeastern Division schedule to include a double round robin within the New England Teams and a double round robin within the Up-State NY teams, with one round robin crossover tournament and one championship. Kristine Dickey seconded. Motion passes by 75% and goes into effect immediately.

Women's Varsity Proposal 3

Luis Nicolao made a motion to increase the ECAC Championship field to eight teams. Todd Clapper seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Women's Varsity Proposal 4

Withdrawn by Scott Reed.

Women's Varsity Proposal 5

Scott Reed made a motion to base the selection of the ECAC Championship upon the final standings at Easterns from the previous season. John Zeigler seconded.

Scott Reed proposed an amendment to the proposal to use the polling committee to select any necessary at-large teams if fewer than eight teams that competed at Easterns the previous year plan to attend the ECAC Championship. Amendment passed.

Motion passed.

Women's Varsity Proposal 6

Luis Nicolao made a motion that the seeding at Easterns be based upon the finish at the previous year's Eastern Championship, removing the decision from a committee. Scott Reed seconded. Motion failed.

New Business

Matt Anderson made a motion that the Eastern Championship field be composed of the top two teams from each division and four at-large teams. Barry King seconded. Motion passed.

By acclimation, the poll committee will select the four at-large teams. The conference call will take place the Monday following the division championships. The poll committee will consist of Mike Schofield (chair), Todd Clapper (Northeast), Alan Huckins (Northern), Matt Anderson (West), Luis Nicolao (Southern).

Barry King made a motion that two non-partial coaches be added to the committee for purposes of seeding the championship, selected by the chair. Alan Huckins seconded. Motion defeated.

A discussion of realignment caused by the departure of the MAAC schools (in 2005) followed. The recommended formats: 1) The West remaining intact and the remaining schools combining to form one division divided into two regions. 2) Queens and Hartwick merge into the Northern Division and Salem International joins the Southern division, giving the varsity three divisions. Division names remained undecided.

Men's Meeting

The meeting was held Friday, December 12, 2003

In attendance: Daniel Sharadin, Commissioner; Tom Tracey, Director of Officials; Mike McDowell, Director of Communication; Derek Ellingson, Queens College; Luis Nicolao, Princeton University, Carl Quigley, St. Francis College, Dave Fritz, Grove City College; Scott Russell, Harvard University; Todd Clapper, Brown University; Alan Huckins, Hartwick College; John Zeigler, Bucknell University; Keith Bullion, Salem International University; Scott Reed, George Washington University; Bob Filander, Washington & Jefferson University; Joe Tristan, Penn State Behrend College; Loren Bertocci, Officiating Technical Director; John Benedick, MIT; Mike Schofield, U.S. Naval Academy.

Men's Varsity Proposal 1

Mike Schofield made a motion to change the 12 team format in the Southern Division. Scott Reed seconded. Motion passed 7-4 and will go into effect in 2005.

A flaw was found in the format proposed and a friendly amendment was proposed by Mike Schofield to fix the problem. Scott Reed seconded. Motion passed.

Men's Varsity Proposal 2

John Zeigler withdrew the proposal and a recommendation was made that the commissioner add another level of analysis to the schedule to prevent a team from playing its fourth game of a weekend versus a team that has yet to play.

New Business

Mike Schofield made a motion to change the current 12 team championship format so that one round is contested on Friday, two on Saturday and one on Sunday. Scott Reed seconded. Motion passed and will go into effect in 2004.

On the suggestion of Dave Fritz, the body made a request that the league office track misconducts involving over-physical play.

General Meeting

The meeting was held Friday, December 12, 2003

In attendance: Daniel Sharadin, Commissioner; Tom Tracey, Director of Officials; Mike McDowell, Director of Communication; Derek Ellingson, Queens College; Luis Nicolao, Princeton University, Carl Quigley, St. Francis College, Dave Fritz, Grove City College; Kristine Dickey, Marist College; Scott Russell, Harvard University; Todd Clapper, Brown University; Alan Huckins, Hartwick College; John Zeigler, Bucknell University; Keith Bullion, Salem International University; Scott Reed, George Washington University; Bob Filander, Washington & Jefferson University; Joe Tristan, Penn State Behrend College; Aaron Cavagnolo, Wagner College; Matt Anderson, University of Michigan; Paige Cull, Villanova University; Loren Bertocci, Officiating Technical Director; John Benedick, MIT; Mike Schofield, U.S. Naval Academy.

The membership considered the following proposals (a complete description of each proposal can be found by clicking on the link below). The result of voting on these proposals included the online ballots submitted earlier to the office.

General Membership Proposal 1

UCLA Women's Water Polo Club made a motion to move the deadline for proposal submittal ten days earlier and establish a second deadline for rebuttal proposals. Motion failed.

General Membership Proposal 2

The CWPA Office made a motion that in order for a policy or rule to be changed, a minimum of 50% of the league membership must cast a vote.

Keith Bullion moved to amend the proposal to apply to club teams' intra-division legislation only. Todd Clapper seconded. Amendment passed.

A mail ballot will be distributed to club teams with the amended proposal. Amended proposal passed in session. (15-2-0)

General Membership Proposal 3

The CWPA Office made a motion that a proposal must be sponsored by two institutions. Motion passed.

General Membership Proposal 4

The CWPA Office made a motion to change the mileage required for officials to receive the travel stipend to thirty miles (one way). Motion passed.

General Membership Proposal 5

Mike Schofield proposed to establish a scholar athlete award. Motion passed.

General Membership Proposal 6

Jim Wilson from Dartmouth proposed to adjust the referee pay scale to \$75 per game for varsity and \$50 per game for club. Motion failed.

General Membership Proposal 7

The CWPA Office and Loren Bertocci proposed to establish a CWPA Referee/Coach Symposium. Motion passed.

It was decided that by acclimation the symposium would take place on the Sunday following the NCAA Championship with the annual meeting now scheduled to take place on the Monday after the symposium.

General Varsity Proposal 1

Motion withdrawn by Bob Filander.

Annual Report

The Commissioner gave a presentation outlining the annual report for the organization. The report included an update on the league's three-year strategic plan. The Commissioner noted that the total funds received will be slightly less than the total of the league's expenses this season due to a number of factors explained in the report. However, since we are a non-profit organization and as such are not in business to earn a profit, this does not present a problem. As an organization, we are charged with ensuring that the funds received are used for services and benefits to the membership.

New Business

The CWPA Office made a motion that a committee be created and charged with establishing a set of rules that the CWPA coaches desire to be enforced. The committee will consist of three men's and three women's coaches. The commissioner will solicit nominations via email and select the committee based upon the nominations.

Elections were held for the Board of Review. Derek Ellingson, Alan Huckins, John Benedick, Loren Bertocci and Andrew Selder were named.

Elections for the Board of Directors were postponed until nominees could be solicited via email. The election will be conducted via mail ballot.

Club Ballot Results

The results of the voting for proposals concerning Collegiate Club teams is listed below. The votes are given according to the following order: Favor-Against-Abstain.

General Club 1 Failed 7-17-1

General Club 2 Passed 16-6-3

Pacific Coast 1 Passed 3-0-0

Men's Club 1 Passed 3-1-1

Men's Club 2 Passed 10-6-0

North Atlantic 1 Passed 1-0-0

Women's Club 1 Passed 5-0-3

PC Women 1 Failed 0-1-0

PROPOSALS

General Varsity Proposals

GV1-Authors CWPA and Bob Filander, Washington & Jefferson

Divisions Affected by Proposal: Men's & Women's Varsity Teams

Proposal: The coach of a team involving an athlete that commits a brutality must sit the next game, along with the athlete.

Statement of Intent: To eliminate brutalities.

Financial impact expected on member teams: Will save teams money in medical bills and reduce the chance of legal action against an institution, the officials, and the league.

Current policy the proposal seeks to change: Only the athlete must sit a game penalty

Rationale for proposal: If we are truly serious about eliminating brutalities, it begins with the message the coach sends to his or her players. The escalation of violence in the game may ultimately result in legal action, in addition to an increase in the number of serious injuries. Implementation of this rule will force coaches to become more involved in the education and control of their athletes, as it will affect their ability to remain on deck. We need to be proactive as a conference and ensure these actions are understood to be unacceptable.

Men's Varsity Proposals

MV1- Authors: Mike Schofield, Navy & Scott Reed, George Washington

Proposal: Change the 12-team format to the following:

 A group
 B group
 C group

 1st seed
 2nd
 3rd

 6th
 5th
 4th

 7th
 8th
 9th

 12th
 11th
 10th

Round one Friday (6 games)

G1 A1 vs A4 G2 B1 vs B4 G3 C1 vs C4 G4 A2 vs A3 G5 B2 vs B3 G6 C2 vs C3

The 6 winning teams move to Group D & E

Group D Group E Winner G1 Winner G2

Winner G4 Winner G3 Winner G6 Winner G5 The 6 losing teams move to Group F & G

Group F	Group G
Loser G1	Loser G1
Loser G4	Loser G3
Loser G5	Loser G6

Round two Saturday (12 games)

G7 F1 vs F2 G8 G1 vs G2 D1 vs D2 G9 E1 vs E2 G10 G11 F1 vs F3 G1 vs G3 G12 G13 D1 vs D3 G14 E1 vs E3 G15 F2 vs F3 G16 G2 vs G3 G17 D2 vs D3 E2 vs E3 G18 Round three Sunday (6 games)

G19 3rd Group F vs 3rd Group G (11th place) 8:30 G20 2nd Group F vs 2nd Group G (9th place) 9:40 10:50 G21 1st Group F vs 1st Group G (7th place) 12:00 G22 3rd Group D vs 3rd Group E (5th place) 1:10 G23 2nd Group D vs 2nd Group E (3rd place) G24 1st Group D vs 1st Group E (1st place) 2:30

Financial impact: none, other than requiring all 12 teams to play Friday. Everyone must budget for this anyhow at the beginning of the seas

Rationale: provides a more balanced schedule, all 12 teams play the same number of games each day, rest between games for all teams is guaranteed to be fair. This format also reduces the number of blowout games in the first round by grouping the top 6 teams after the first 6 games, and groups the bottom 6 teams in the same manner.

We feel that more competitive games for all 12 teams will result from this format.

MV2- Author: John Zeigler

Division Affected by Proposal: Men's Varsity Teams

Proposal: League games may not be pulled in a manner where a team plays their 4th game in 2 days against a team having played 0 games in that time period.

Statement of Intent: Eliminate the competitive advantage/disadvantage to teams who have played multiple games in 2 days playing a team with no games in that time period.

Financial impact expected on member teams: None.

Current policy the proposal seeks to change: Teams are permitted to pull an unlimited number of games Rationale for proposal: While the rationale behind pulled games is a good one and it is important to have teams host head-to-head games as much as possible, geographic location makes it difficult to negotiate for fairness in all pulled game distribution. The result this year was Bucknell playing George Washington in Bucknell's fourth game in 2 days, while GW had played zero games in that time period. Bucknell played GW on Sunday at 2:00pm after having played Navy and Hopkins on Saturday and then Princeton at 10:00 Sunday morning. While most coaches would agree their athletes should be able to handle four games in a weekend, the fatigue advantage/disadvantage created by this or a similar scenario cannot be overlooked and allowed in league competition. The league must either force more games to be pulled or if not possible, eliminate specific pulled games when this situation or a similar one results.

Women's Varsity Proposals

WV1- Author: Todd Clapper, Brown University

Divisions Affected: Women's Northeastern Division

Proposal: To change the current double round robin format for the Northeastern Division to a single round robin format and hold a cross-over tournament in the region that doesn't host the Championship.

Statement of Intent: To reduce cost associated with travel and to save on competition dates.

Financial Impact: Every program will save money. For Vans and Hotel Rooms is at least \$1000 for a one-day away tournament. Having the option to spend this money on an invitational tournament to play other teams of like competition is money that is better spent.

Rationale: With every program in the CWPA having a different travel budget, it is important to limit the amount of travel for mandated league competition. This will allow every program to be able to compete within their means. My proposal is to make the Northeastern Division format much like the Northern Division on the Men.s Side. In years where the Northeastern Championship is in New England, the Upstate NY Teams will host the crossover tournament. When the Northeastern Championship is in Upstate NY, the cross over will be somewhere in New England. This will also save each program on a play date or two to use for invitationals. With the men.s division, the regional team like Harvard and Brown pull their game from a tournament format to play at alternating home sites. This helps to foster cross-town rivalries and helps to get fan support for games.

WV2- Author: Todd Clapper, Brown University

Divisions Affected: Women's Northeastern Division

Proposal: To change the current Northeastern Division schedule to include a double round robin within the New England Teams and a double round robin within the Up-State NY Teams, but not in the cross-over games. There would be one cross-over tournament and a single round robin with the cross-over games.

Statement of Intent: To reduce cost associated with travel and to save on competition dates.

Financial Impact: Dependent upon travel requirements, some will save travel dollars.

Rationale: This is an alternate proposal to the one above. The reasoning is the same, but gives the teams that want more league scheduled games the option to have more scheduled in their region (NY or NE) and less in the cross-over to save money. With the Championship being seeded by committee, two cross-over games can be costly to schools, when it is somewhat unnecessary for seeding purposes.

WV3- Author: Princeton University

Proposal: Increase ECAC to 8 teams that way more teams may attend and it will help the overall schedule of the tournament.

Statement of intent: Increase women's ECAC to 8 teams

Current policy that the proposal seeks to change: Only six teams attend now.

Financial impact expected on member teams: None, teams that attend pay their own way.

Rationale: (None provided by author)

WV4- Author: Scott Reed, George Washington University

Divisions Impacted: Women's Varsity ECAC Schools

Proposal: Expand ECAC Championship to 10 Teams

Statement of Intent: To include more ECAC teams in the Championship

Financial impact expected on member teams: No major change. Possible increase in entry fee.

Current policy that the proposal seeks to change: The current policy only calls for a six team championship.

Rationale for proposal: A six-team championship is just too small. It would be very hard to have equal representation from each division in the current format.

WV5- Author: Scott Reed, George Washington University

Divisions Impacted: Women's Varsity ECAC Schools

Proposal: Selection to ECAC Championships will be based on previous year's final standings.

Current policy: Teams are selected for the championships based on regular season play. Teams are notified one week before the competition.

Financial impact expected on member teams: Teams would now be able to properly budget for this championship in advance

Rationale for proposal: Most teams need to budget for all tournaments in advance. In the past teams have had to opt out of the ECAC Championships because the contest was not budgeted for. This new proposal would allow for teams to budget in advance and eliminate any last minute withdrawals from the tournament.

WV6- Author: Luis Nicolao, Princeton University

Proposal: Remove the decision of how teams are seeded out of the hands of a committee and base it on the division's prior year finish.

Statement of Intent: To revise how seeding is performed for the Women's Eastern Championship.

Current policy that the proposal seeks to change: Currently teams are seeded by a committee for the Eastern Championship

Financial impact expected on member teams: No financial impact.

Rationale for proposal: Take the decision out of the hands of coaches that have a stake in the overall result. There is no guarantee that teams will see each other within a season and sometimes the only head to head competition occurs early in the season. If seedings are based on a division previous year's finish then there will be no controversy. We cannot have coaches on a seeding committee that are involved in the tournament. I just see this creating some big problems. By doing it the way the men do it you know going into the season that if your division won Easterns the year before, then you can be the number one seed by winning your division.

CWPA Club Proposals

General Proposals-all club teams may vote Division Proposals-only teams from the specified division may vote Gender based proposals- only the appropriate gender may vote.

General Club Proposals (applies to men and women) GC1-Author CWPA

Divisions Affected by Proposal: Men's & Women's Varsity Teams

Proposal: The coach or captain of a team involving an athlete that commits a brutality must sit the next game, along with the athlete.

Statement of Intent: To eliminate brutalities.

Financial impact expected on member teams: Will save teams money in medical bills and reduce the chance of legal action against an institution, the officials, and the league. Current policy the proposal seeks to change: Only the athlete must sit a game penalty

Rationale for proposal: If we are truly serious about eliminating brutalities, it begins with the message the coach sends to his or her players. The escalation of violence in the game may ultimately result in legal action, in addition to an increase in the number of serious injuries. Implementation of this rule will force coaches to become more involved in the education and control of their athletes, as it will affect their ability to remain on deck. We need to be proactive as a conference and ensure these actions are understood to be unacceptable.

GC2- Author: CWPA

Division(s) Affected by Proposal: Club Teams

Proposal: No division or conference be granted more than two bids to the National Collegiate Club Championship (does not apply to Division III).

Statement of Intent: The intent is to avoid the situation that occurred during the men's 2002 season where one CWPA Division received three bids.

Financial impact expected on member teams: None

Current policy that the proposal seeks to change: Under the current CWPA bylaws and/or league rules, each conference or CWPA division receives one bid to the NCCC event, plus one bid is reserved for the host team (or the 2nd place team from the host's conference/division if the host wins that conference/division). At-large bids (if any) are then awarded in the order of finish (by conference/division) from the previous year's national championship tournament. If a conference/division is hosting an event and was the winner of the previous year's championship and there are (one or more) at-large bids, the host conference/division receives three bids while no other conference/division receives more than one (unless there are two or more at-large bids).

Rationale for proposal: One of the great strengths about the National Championship is the representation and the opportunity for all teams throughout the country to participate on an equal basis. It seems unfair that one division would have the opportunity to represent 25% of the field (women) and 19% (men) , while other participating divisions represent 8% (women) and 6% (men). In addition, while some divisions are strong every year, there is no way to predict who will be the champion, as is evidenced by the number of different divisions that have won since the tournament.s inception.

PC1- Author: John Marsh

Divisions Affected: Pacific Coast Division men's and women's teams

Proposal: Require each team to play every team in the division one time. If there are not enough teams to guarantee four games per weekend/team, then those played against an opponent a second time are exhibition.

Financial Impact: None

Current Policy: Teams play four games per weekend and all games count in the standings.

Rationale: Allows teams to play different caliber players in the exhibition games. Benefits programs that have a large squad and allows future development of players from both teams.

Men's Club Proposals (only men's teams may vote)

MC1- Author CWPA Office

Division(s) Affected by Proposal: All Division III men's club teams (only D3 schools may vote)

Proposal: The Division III National Collegiate Club Championship shall be limited to eight teams. The divisions receiving automatic qualification will be as follows:

Great Plains/Northwest/Great Lakes/Ohio Valley

Heartland
Mid Atlantic
New England
New York
North Atlantic
Southeast/Texas

Host

If more than one team desires to attend the championship from a region with multiple divisions, the Board of Directors would select the best team based on the NCAA Championship selection criteria. In the event open bids exist, the current policy to fill those spots would be utilized. The format for the championship would be decided by a nationwide vote between two alternatives (bracket play or single elimination).

Statement of Intent: To increase the prestige and change it from an invitational tournament (where anyone who wants to attend can participate) to a true National Championship.

Statement of financial impact: None

Current policy that the proposal seeks to change: Currently we have a twelve-team event.

Rationale for proposal: Since its inception, we have never had enough teams willing to field all of the available openings. This results in several divisions fielding their third and fourth place finishers to supplement the field. Even with this option, we normally have nine to ten teams participating, requiring a change in the schedule just weeks before the tournament. The National Championship was not intended to be a tournament open to anyone willing to travel. It is the National Championship and attendance should be based on ability. The automatic qualifications were based in part on geographic representation and on the number of teams located in each division. The combined divisions had too few teams in each division to warrant an automatic berth. For example, in the Great Plains/Northwest/Ohio Valley/Great Lakes berth, currently only one team is eligible for the championship.

MC2- Author: Kevin Heinrich, University of Tennessee

Divisions Affected: Men's Club Teams

Proposal: Each participant in the division and national championship tournaments is required to be present and listed on the roster for at least 50% of the regular season games that his/her team competes. An athlete may participate in the aforementioned tournaments with having competed in less than half the regular season games only after successfully appealing the CWPA Board of Directors to show prohibitive extenuating circumstances such as injury, major illness, etc. This rule shall only apply to divisions that have more than one regular season tournament.

Statement of Intent: To prevent athletes from only competing at championships.

Current Policy: None

Financial Impact: No significant impact.

Rationale: This is a big annoyance for some conferences. Some teams will bring skeleton squads during the regular season then stack their team with higher quality players for the championship tournaments. The result is the regular season becomes almost meaningless--the standings are thrown off and the teams who bring the same squad to each tournament have no idea what quality team to expect to compete against.

NA1- Author: Jim Wilson

Division(s) Affected by Proposal: North Atlantic (Men)

Proposal: Only undergraduate students are eligible to play in the NA competition.

Statement of Intent: To have only undergraduate students eligible to play in league games.

Statement of Financial Impact expected on member teams: None

Current policy that the proposal seeks to change: Faculty and staff are permitted to play in league competition during the regular season.

Rationale for Proposal: Having staff and faculty playing in normal league play but not allowed to play in championships or nationals defeats the purpose of working with a team during the season to develop your undergraduates. The team you take to championships should be the team that plays during the regular season also.

Women.s Club Proposals (only women.s club teams may vote) WC1- Author: CWPA

Division(s) Affected by Proposal: Women's Collegiate Club Teams

Proposal: Revise the order of the first eight games for the women's National Collegiate Club Championship to the following:

Game #1 - A1 vs. A3

Game #2 - B1 vs. B3

Game #3 - C1 vs. C3

Game #4 - D1 vs. D3

Game #5 - A1 vs. A2

Game #6 - B1 vs. B2

Game #7 - C1 vs. C2

Game #8 - D1 vs. D2

Statement of Intent: To permit the teams coming from divisions that finished higher the preceding year the opportunity to play against teams coming from divisions finishing lower the preceding year for their first round games.

Statement of Financial Impact expected on member teams: None

Current policy that the proposal seeks to change: Current order of games played at the women's NCCC tournament:

Game #1 - A1 vs. A2

Game #2 - B1 vs. B2

Game #3 - C1 vs. C2 Game #4 - D1 vs. D2 Game #5 - A1 vs. A3 Game #6 - B1 vs. B3 Game #7 - C1 vs. C3 Game #8 - D1 vs. D3

Rationale for Proposal: Although the tournament is not seeded, strength of division from the preceding year does have an impact and should be rewarded during the following season. Now that eight games are played on Friday and not four, there is no advantage to the present order for the teams from the top four divisions in the prior championship.

PC2- Author UCLA Club Water Polo

Division(s) Affected by Proposal Pacific Coast Women's Teams

Proposal: Any player who has played for any time on a varsity team is able to complete her years of her four-year eligibility playing on a club team at the same school or schools where she played varsity, or at any other school or schools.

Statement of Intent: To ensure that any athlete seeking to play competitive water polo is able to do so and is not hindered by which teams, or at which schools, she has played for in the past.

Financial Impact: None

Current policy that the proposal seeks to change: No player who has played on a varsity team for more than two years may play on a club team at the same school where she played varsity; that is to say that if the player transfers schools, this restriction does not apply and she may play on the club team at the transfer school.

Rationale for Proposal: To provide opportunity and equality for any athlete looking to play water polo on the club level. Club programs were established to allow women to play competitive water polo, and there should not be a more restrictive policy for these athletes than there is for the varsity level. An athlete who played on a varsity team for two years still has eligibility to play varsity for two more years. By the current club water polo policy, after playing varsity for two years, an athlete who does not wish to continue to play on the varsity level cannot continue to play at all, short of transferring schools. Since everyone is at university for academic purposes, water polo should be available to them as an outlet, and not as an obstacle. Athletes who decided to test their potential on varsity and stopped for any number of different reasons should not be punished for their attempt. There is no reason to make the rules for club play more stringent than those for varsity play. Schools that have varsity programs do not use varsity as a place where players learn skills so they can move down and dominate in the club field. Varsity programs are completely focused on varsity play; typically at a school where there is a varsity team, the club program gets minimal university support. It is not reasonable to be more restrictive on a player at her varsity school than at a transfer school.