## **Atlantic Division**

## Meeting held February 23, 2017 4:00PM EDT

Attending: Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; Duke University, Cameron Walker; Georgetown University, Alexander Heldring; James Madison University, Aiden Wood; Johns Hopkins University, Lucas Duffy; U. S. Naval Academy, Brian Cully; University of North Carolina, Nick Birney and Matt Bravante; Virginia Polytech, Daniel Okhouvatgilani; University of Virginia, Francesco Frazinetti; North Carolina State University, Zachary Shurow (9 of 10 schools)

The call opened with teams being asked about any new programs in the area interested in joining the division and if any teams were planning to enter a "B" Squad. The Assistant Commissioner reminded everyone that the membership passed a policy during the summer of 2016 giving "B" Squads a reduction in league dues. No team expressed interest.

The next item of business was the 2017 Division Schedule. Teams were reminded that the Florida Division was next in rotation to host the Men's National Collegiate Club Championship (November 10-12, 2017).

The Assistant Commissioner explained the current division format as teams divided into two brackets based on the previous year's finish. Those brackets played a double round-robin and every team attended the championship with the top seed from the "B" Division advancing into the sixth seed in the "A" Division. The Assistant Commissioner asked if teams would like to consider anything different. Teams discussed dividing brackets based on ability versus location. The Assistant Commissioner offered a third option that will consider the previous year's finish in addition to location of teams and availability to help reduce travel costs. Teams agreed to review the third option. All teams were asked if they were interested in hosting. James Madison, Virginia Tech, Navy and NC State expressed interest.

Teams decided to wait to determine dates until a format was determined but provided a preferred championship date as well as conflict dates. Teams voted 5 to 3 with one team abstaining that the weekend of October 27-29 was the preferred championship date. The weekend of November 3-5 would be a potential backup. The following dates were provided by teams as conflict dates:

Duke (None)
Georgetown (prefer to avoid if possible 10/20-22)
James Madison (9/22-24; 10/28-29) Host either 9/16-17 or 9/30-1
Johns Hopkins (10/20-22)
Navy (None) Host either 9/9-10 or 10/7-8 and possibly later
NC State (None and prefer 10/6-8 as a date) Not sure of host dates
UNC (None but Fall Break 10/20-22)
Virginia Tech (None) Host either 10/7-8 or 10/14-15
Virginia (None but avoid 10/20-22 if possible)

Teams asked if Maryland would be able to host the championship. The Assistant Commissioner will reach out to current leadership to determine their interest. The Assistant Commissioner will also format a schedule based on the third option to distribute to the teams for consideration later this spring.

Hosts were reminded to complete the Pool Reservation Form found under the Forms section on the website once their date is confirmed. Hotels will be reserved once these forms are submitted. Host Team Leadership will be contacted by Katie Wieber, the Director of Membership Services, at least one week prior to their event to ensure they received the host package and are prepared for the weekend.

The call concluded with the Assistant Commissioner running through a series of updates from the league office as well as a reminder that all CWPA League Policies are posted on the website under Membership and Administration pages. Specific policies discussed on the call were student-athlete eligibility requirements,

teams must be recognized by their institution, the differences and penalties for "No Contest vs. Forfeit", and the newly passed policy defining the difference between a "Varsity vs. Club" Student-Athlete.

Additionally, leadership was reminded that all necessary team forms are found on the website under the Forms Tab. This includes the Participation Agreement that needs to be submitted by the Club Supervisor no later than June 1st. After the form is submitted, teams have until September 1st to make any adjustments or remove themselves from the league without penalty. Likewise, Team Leaders need to turn in their Media Guide Info using the form on the website by September 1st. Emails for players should be included so athletes can be notified when games within the division will be streamed.

Teams were encouraged to send in pictures or story leads to promote their programs and enhance the interest of the website. Likewise, Team Leaders should take advantage of the Player of the Week program and nominate athletes each week, regardless of whether the games are within the CWPA league play or non-conference. Those selected are featured on the website and several other media outlets utilized by the league. Hosts should also be sure to submit the scores from their weekend no later than Monday morning following the event. Scores should be sent directly to Ed Haas, Director of Communications.

The Assistant Commissioner mentioned the multimedia department continues to develop its streaming program that features a play-by-play announcer, game graphics and commercials including the Kap7 Tip of the Week. Additionally, the league has begun a new feature during the current women's season that highlights one of the great matches streamed from the previous weekend of competition. This CWPA Game of the Week will continue through the men's season. In order to ensure we can highlight games from every division, host sites are strongly urged to work with the multimedia department in streaming at their facility. Teams were reminded there is minimal work required of the host as the league office will contact the appropriate departments to set up the stream and arrange the camera operators as well as any announcers.

All teams were urged to complete an Evaluation Form about the officials and the tournament following each of the competitions. These form are found under the Forms tab of the website. If you are unsure of which referee you are evaluating, go to the officiating section to review the referee assignments on the weekend.

The Assistant Commissioner mentioned the requirement for Team Leaders to review the Team Orientation Webinars. The program consists of three webinars and can be accessed via the Membership Page. There is also an optional fundraising webinar that provides some great tips. The team representative reviewing the webinars will need to take a short test for each webinar to ensure it is recording that their team had completed the requirements. Teams should also encourage younger members of their team to be involved in a leadership role in order to help secure a smoother transition over the years.

Finally, teams were reminded the importance of reviewing and updating their Team Contact Information using the link on the Membership page and to encourage graduating seniors to consider becoming officials or coaches in order to stay involved in the sport.