

Big Ten Division

Meeting held March 22, 2016 5:00 p.m. EDT

Attending: Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; Johnathon Hewko, KAP7; University of Illinois (Champaign), Robert O'Connor; Indiana University, Bailey Wendt; University of Iowa, John Hayes; Michigan State University, Jacob Seeterlin; University of Michigan, Davis P. Argersinger; Northwestern University, Daniel Perlovsky; Purdue University, Sean Obrecht; University of Wisconsin (Madison), Derek Guillen

The call opened with Johnathon Hewko, KAP7, explaining their affiliate program and reminding teams of their 10% discount to all league members on purchases of equipment and apparel. KAP7 is committed to the sport of water polo and always available to teams beyond just their needs for equipment.

The division schedule was the next item on the agenda. Tentative dates and locations were listed as follows:

- October 8-9 - Indiana
- October 15-16 - Iowa
- October 29-30 - Michigan (Championship)

Teams voted unanimously in favor of hosting the second weekend on October 15-16 with October 22-23 as the backup date. Additionally, while Indiana did have pool availability September 17-18 several teams did not feel this was enough time with the start of their school year being immediately before or after that weekend.

Michigan is considering entering a second team and asked if there is any movement on a price reduction for B Squads. The Assistant Commissioner explained the office was in communication with the Michigan Coaching Staff who is figuring out the best way to approach this again with the membership as it did not pass in June of 2015. It was noted that all proposals need to be submitted by May 5th to be considered for the next calendar year and is voted on by the membership no later than June 1st.

Hosts were reminded to complete the Pool Reservation Form, found under the Forms section on the website. Hotels will be reserved once these forms are submitted.

The call concluded with the Assistant Commissioner running through a series of updates from our communications, membership services and media departments. 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 before June 1st. After the form is submitted, teams have until September 1st to 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 August 31st. Emails for players should be included so athletes can be notified when games within the division will be streamed.

The Assistant Commissioner mentioned the streaming program now features a play-by-play announcer and will include graphics by this fall season in an effort to enhance the broadcast even further. Hosting Institutions can now select if they are interested in streaming games at their location on the Pool Reservation Form. 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 and click on their picture for easy identification as well as use the Referee Assignment page to confirm the names of officials assigned to the event.

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.

The Assistant Commissioner mentioned the requirement for Team Leaders to review the Team Orientation webinars as well as involving younger members of their team to be involved in leadership roles. 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.

Finally, teams were reminded to update their contact information using the link on the Membership page and to encourage graduating seniors to consider becoming officials.