

MIDWEST DIVISION

Meeting held October 23, 2014 5:00 PM

Attending: Dan Sharadin, Commissioner; Grand Valley State University, Alexandra White; Miami University (Ohio), Kristin Moorman; University of Notre Dame, Ellen Dowling and Brian Coughlin

The schedule was the first item on the agenda. Dates and locations were determined as follows:

- February 14-15 - Grand Valley State University
- April 11-12 - Miami University (Ohio)

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 Commissioner mentioned that all necessary forms for Team Leaders are found on the website under the Forms Tab. This includes the Participation Agreement that needs to be submitted by the Club Supervisor before December 15. Likewise, Team Leaders need to turn in their Media Guide Info using the form on the website by the fall. Emails for players should be included so athletes can be notified when games within the division will be streamed.

All coaches were urged to complete an Evaluation Form about the officials following each of the competitions. This form is 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.

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 receive awards.

The 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.

Teams are reminded to update their contact information using the link on the Membership page.

MIDWEST/GREAT PLAINS DIVISION FOLLOW-UP

Attending: Daniel Sharadin, Commissioner; Katie Wieber, CWPA Membership Services; Illinois State University, Sam Matuszewski; Saint Louis University, Rachel Krebsbach; Miami University (OH), Kristin Moorman, Natalie Heltman; University of Notre Dame, Ellen Dowling, Brian Coughlin

The Commissioner opened the meeting explaining the purpose of the call, which was to finalize a direction for the teams in the remaining conference. He noted that Iowa State had indicated they did not want to participate in the league as well.

Ellen Dowling asked if teams were allowed to choose their own division and the Commissioner stated there was no league rule opposing a club to do so. She asked why the Heartland Division was not present and the Commissioner replied that they had a viable division and only the two divisions that currently had insufficient numbers to participate were involved on the call.

The Commissioner stated that other teams could choose to attend different divisions or merge into one division. He indicated that if more than one chose to find a different division that might leave the remaining teams in a difficult position to be addressed with further discussion.

Some teams indicated they liked the option allowing them to play additional teams and the Commissioner noted that although Lindenwood was not on the call they had emailed their preference for Option 1 (all teams compete at one location for a regular season tournament, followed by a championship. The two tournaments would be held in different regions.). He did not know the status of Grand Valley.

The Commissioner then asked teams to indicate their intentions in order to determine the schedule for this season. Illinois State, Saint Louis, Miami, and Lindenwood chose Option 1, while Notre Dame stated they wanted more time to discuss the matter with their team. The Commissioner explained that in order to assign officials, we would need to move quickly and asked for an answer in the next day if possible. He also stated he would contact Grand Valley for their selection.

Teams approved the Rec Plex and Miami as the sites for competition:

- Feb 7-8 Rec Plex
- Apr 11-12 Miami University

Note: Grand Valley emailed following the call, selecting Option 1.

Ellen Dowling asked if the policies for the Midwest Division would carry over into the new division. The Commissioner stated that they would not since it involves a different set of teams. Any policies for the merged division would be established by the teams involved.

The Commissioner closed by stating he would create a schedule as soon as teams had finalized their decisions.