

New England Division

Meeting held February 21, 2017 4:00PM EST

Attending: Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; Boston College, Trevor Prince; Boston University, Jared Lorusso; University of Connecticut, Alexa Frieberg; Dartmouth College, Adam Zaun; Middlebury College, Brian Goodwin; Northeastern University, Charlie Doherty; Yale University, Nicholas Radell; Tufts University, Hans Tercek (8 of 8 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. Dartmouth and Boston College expressed interest in entering two teams but were concerned with numbers. They would make a final decision during the summer but the league should operate as if they are only entering one squad each. Tufts University was introduced as making the move from the North Atlantic Division. No team expressed any concern or opposition.

The Assistant Commissioner explained the current division format as two regional weekends and a championship where all teams play each other once and one opponent randomly selected for a second match. The Assistant Commissioner asked if teams would like to consider anything different. Teams voted 7-1 in favor of the additional selected game to be more deliberate with like opponents. The top four and bottom four finishers from the previous season will be paired up randomly within their group of four in place of a completely random selection. All teams were asked if they were interested in hosting. Boston University, Middlebury and Yale 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) and the New England Division the DIII National Collegiate Club Championship (either October 28-29, 2017 or November 4-5, 2017). Discussion surrounded the DIII Nationals date and a ballot would be needed to be sent out to all DIII Club Teams to determine the preferred weekend. Middlebury was interested in hosting the DIII Nationals which would mean that both Middlebury and Tufts would be able to attend as the only DIII Teams in the division. Teams decided to create the following tentative schedule based on pool availability:

September 22-24	Middlebury
October 6-8	Yale (Backup Oct. 13-15)
October 20-22	Championship at Boston University (Backup 10/27-29)

Teams voted on the preferred tournament dates with the second choice being the backup. Neither Yale nor Boston could confirm their dates at the time of the call but were asked to provide an update no later than March 31st. The backup date for the championship site would be Middlebury and Boston would have the opportunity to host the first regional weekend. 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. *(Update as of 2/23/17: Yale has received tentative approval for October 6-8 weekend from their club supervisor and aquatics director).*

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.