

## Rocky Mountain Division

Meeting held March 8, 2016 9:00 p.m. EST

Attending: Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; Brad Schumacher, KAP7; University of Colorado, James Carroll and Stephen Tifft; University of Denver, Jon Willis, Will Buchman and Cole Pollina; University of Utah, Tom Taylor; Colorado School of Mines, Jon Paz and Evelyn Lundeen; Colorado State University, Samuel Mackenzie; University of Wyoming, Alex Vass

The call opened with Brad Schumacher, co-founder of 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 Assistant Commissioner briefly recapped the discussion on the conference call from February 9 where the topic of discussion was the development and growth of the division. This call invited both the Men's and Women's Teams Leadership. No new teams were suggested as potential future members for the division.

The schedule was the next item on the agenda. Teams voted 3-2 in favor of the championship being hosted October 22-23 over October 29-30. The following schedule was determined:

- September 24-25 - Denver or Wyoming (1st Choice - 1st Regional Weekend)
- October 1-2 - Denver or Wyoming (2nd Choice - 1st Regional Weekend)
- October 8-9 - Kearns\*
- October 22-23 - Championship at VMAC

Teams voted 4-2 in favor of having a weekend off between regional events. Teams understood they would need to compete on October 1-2 if no other option was available.

*(Note: Games will not begin until later Saturday afternoon at Kearns on October 2-23 which will mean going later on Sunday. However, Kearns is available all weekend for October 22-23 if teams decided to switch the final two weekends)*

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.