

## Texas Division

### Meeting held February 22, 2017 9:00PM EST (7:00PM MST)

Attending: Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; Baylor University, Matthew Ryan; Louisiana State University, Dylan Gilbert; Rice University, Greg Campo; Texas A&M University, Billy Boone; Texas Tech University, Will Johnson; University of Texas, Jacob Watson (6 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. Texas A&M and Texas confirmed they will continue to enter "B" Squads. The Assistant Commissioner also told the teams that Oklahoma State University was not planning to participate this upcoming season based on travel and costs with a hope to get the team in a better position for future seasons. *(Update as of 5.23.17: University of Texas - Arlington is planning to join the division in the fall of 2017 bringing the division to potentially eleven teams. Additionally, Southern Methodist University has also sent in a deposit on 6.3.17 to also join the division bringing the division to twelve teams.)*

The Assistant Commissioner explained the current division format where teams play four games in their region, followed by a crossover event where they compete against teams they did not face the previous weekend. Every team attends the championship, with the top seven teams competing for first place. The remaining teams play a round robin for final places. The Assistant Commissioner asked if teams would like to consider anything different. Teams wanted to stay in the current format with the regions split as follows for this season:

East Region: Houston, LSU, Rice, Texas A & B

West Region: Baylor, Texas A&M A & B, Texas State, Texas Tech

All teams were asked if they were interested in hosting. Rice, Texas A&M and Texas Tech expressed interest. LSU expressed interest but didn't think they would be able to get their pool this upcoming season.

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). Teams decided to create the following tentative schedule based on pool availability:

September 22-24	Texas A&M - Crossover (Backup Oct. 13-15)
September 29-1	Rice - East Regional (Houston, LSU, Rice, Texas)
October 6-8	Texas Tech - West Regional (Baylor, A&M, TX State, TX Tech)
October 27-29	Championship at Rice (Backup Location: Texas Tech)

Teams voted for dates based on regions. For the crossover, teams voted 6-0 in favor of September 22-24 over the other available date at Texas A&M. For the championship, teams voted 5-1 in favor of October 27-29 over an earlier weekend. LSU expressed concern with Texas Tech as the backup championship location but would look into their ability to participate if the backup location is needed.

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.

Although we ran out of time for the call, teams are reminded of 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 are 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.