

**Midwest Division
Meeting held November 1, 2016 5:00 PM EDT**

Attending: Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; Grand Valley State University, Jessica Hinderer and Hannah Heemstra; University of Notre Dame, Katie Cullinan and Caley Martinez; Saint Louis University, Clarissa LeVasseur; Lindenwood University, Dave Miller; University of Cincinnati, Elizabeth Guye

The call opened with the Assistant Commissioner reminding everyone that the purpose of the call was to determine potential competition sites and dates as well as run through a series of reminders from the office.

The schedule was the first item on the agenda as well as teams' conflict dates. The Assistant Commissioner reminded the teams of past conversation regarding the division moving to a two regional and one championship format. Teams discussed the pros and cons before voting 5-0 in favor of moving to a three tournament season. Teams were asked who was interested in hosting as well as when their facility was available. Grand Valley State, Notre Dame and Lindenwood expressed interest. St. Louis also said they would be willing to host if needed but felt their team and the other teams would prefer an all deep facility. Other representatives on the call agreed. Dates were determined as follows:

February 11-12	Grand Valley State (local All-Deep High School)
March 25-26	Lindenwood (Rec Plex)
April 22-23	Notre Dame (Championship)

Cincinnati and Grand Valley State expressed concern about the championship weekend but felt they should be fine with the site being at Notre Dame. The Assistant Commissioner noted we could work with both programs as needed to adjust their scheduled game times. All teams on the call agreed. The dates also need to be confirmed with Miami (OH), Illinois State and McKendree as they did not have representatives on the call. Additional conflict dates were collected by the teams on the call. Notre Dame also offered to host additional dates if needed.

Note: After speaking with Miami (OH) following the conference call, the March 25-26 weekend is at the end of their spring break and they will check with their team if this will be an issue. If so, there may be an option to play four of Miami (OH) games in conjunction with their invitational or an invitational they plan to attend. The game fees for these league matches would be paid through Miami (OH) league fees and not by the invitational host.

Hosts were reminded to complete the Pool Reservation Form, found under the Forms section on the website. Schedules can be completed and hotels 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 multimedia 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 December 15th. After the form is submitted, teams have until January 15th 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 January 15th. 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 remote announcer and includes graphics 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.

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.

The Assistant Commissioner discussed the Kap7 Affiliate Program and reminded 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.

Finally, teams were reminded to update their contact information using the link on the Membership page.