

## **Rocky Mountain Division**

**Meeting held October 25, 2016 9:00 PM EDT (2nd Call November 3, 2016 9:00 PM EDT)**

Attending: Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; University of Colorado, Madison Lampe and Mary Rose Klein; University of Utah, Gabriella Minassian; University of Denver, Brinn Busch; U. S. Air Force Academy, Tracie Martin

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 first item was to discuss the number of teams in the division and if anyone was aware of any new programs interested in joining. Air Force stated they will be adding a "B" Team in the division and the office will be reaching out to both Colorado School of Mines as well as New Mexico to see if either were planning to add a women's program.

The schedule was the next item on the agenda as well as teams' conflict dates. The Assistant Commissioner reminded the division of the previous season's scheduled sites and dates. Teams were asked who was interested in hosting as well as when their facility was available. Utah, Denver and Air Force expressed interest (Colorado later expressed interest as they were late on the call). Tentative dates were determined as follows:

February 11-12	Denver
March 4-5	Air Force
April 1-2	Utah (Championship - Backup April 14-15)

At the end of the call, Colorado expressed concern with the championship date as it would be the end of their spring break. However, Air Force had an issue with April 8-9 and April 22-23 with mandatory training. A second call was scheduled for Thursday, November 3rd at 9:00PM EDT to discuss options and allow Colorado an opportunity to poll their team for attendance.

*Notes from November 3rd Call: It was determined on the second call that Colorado would not be able to field a team and the only other feasible date was the weekend of April 15-16. While this is Easter weekend, teams agreed to play games on Friday evening and Saturday in order to avoid Easter Sunday and only if officials were available. Officials (Lewis, Drury and Heath) confirmed availability after the call. The championship weekend is revised to April 14-15 at Utah.*

Hosts were reminded to complete the Pool Reservation Form, found under the Forms section on the website, once we finalize the dates and locations after the next call. 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.