Southeast Division
Meeting held Thursday, October 19, 2017 3:00PM EST

Attending: Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; University of Central Florida, Annaliese Bullock; Florida State University, Kelsey Lehman; University of Florida, Marcela Gallardo; Emory University, Shannon McKinnon and Jocelyn Bilkey (4 of 4 schools)

The call began with a discussion about the new league website that was launched prior to the start of the 2017 Fall Season. The Assistant Commissioner noted several key reasons for the change including: mobile friendly site, member programs ability to have interactive control over their team profiles and the league office's ability to make updates and changes. Additionally, the site provides a better opportunity for the inclusion of social media. Leaders were reminded to update their team profiles and to contact the office if they did not previously receive an email with their school's login information. The Assistant Commissioner asked the leaders to contact the office if they have any problems with finding information when reviewing the site as the league office wants to ensure teams and fans have an easier time surfing the site.

Following the roll call, teams were asked if anyone knew of any new programs interested in joining or if any team planned to enter a "B" Squad which receives a reduction in league dues ($1930) as voted by membership during the summer of 2016. League dues are also reduced for all collegiate club members from the previous year and teams can budget $2750 for the upcoming season. Both Georgia Tech and Miami were discussed and Florida was considering adding a "C" Team while Central Florida was only planning to enter one squad this season (Note: Georgia Tech has submitted their participation agreement to join the league).

The first item on the agenda focused on the division format, conflict dates and interest in hosting. The Assistant Commissioner explained the current division format as two regional weekends and a championship where all teams play each other once and three opponents randomly selected for a second match (schools entering "A" and "B" squads will only play each other once). Teams were asked if they preferred to stay with the same format or if anyone would like to suggest an alternative. All teams were asked for any dates they were aware of conflicts for their program including their Spring Break and Finals. Teams were also asked who was interested in hosting. Central Florida, Florida, Emory and Florida State all expressed interest.

The next item was the 2018 Division Schedule. Teams were reminded that the Northwest Division was next in rotation to host the Women's National Collegiate Club Championship (May 4-6, 2018) and that the University of Washington (Seattle, WA) was currently finalizing their bid. Next in rotation to host nationals was the Rocky Mountain Division. Also mentioned was the possibility of a Women's Division III National Collegiate Club Championship starting in the Spring of 2019 and if any Division III teams were interested. A proposal co-sponsored by Washington University in St. Louis and New York University will be released later during the season.

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

February 24-25	Florida State
March 24-25	Florida
April 7-8	Championship at Emory

Central Florida would be the potential backup site if a team couldn't host. However, they would have first option in the 2019 Season to host if they do not host during the 2018 Season. Teams also discussed and voted unanimously if Georgia Tech did not choose to join as a division member that they would be

invited to attend the championship as a 6th Seed as it would be located in the Atlanta Area and this could be a way for them to see firsthand what the CWPA is about.

Hosts were reminded to complete the Pool Reservation Form found under the Forms section on the website once their date is confirmed. Team Leadership will be contacted by the office at least one week prior to their event to ensure they received the host package and are prepared for the weekend. Hotels will be reserved once the host sites are confirmed and pool reservation form submitted (Note: we had some issues during the fall season with our hotel booking agency due to several factors but we are working to rectify them before the women's season).

Before moving any further in the call, teams were asked if they had any questions or new business to discuss so that we do not run out of time at the end of the call.

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. 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 definition between a "Varsity vs. Club" Student-Athlete. Any team may appeal the eligibility policy to the Club Governance Council comprised of three (3) current student-athletes and two (2) club administrators. The Assistant Commissioner acts as the liaison for the council and all appeals can be submitted directly to tracey@collegiatewaterpolo.org.

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 December 15th for the Women's Season. After the form is submitted, teams have until January 15th to make any adjustments or remove themselves from the league without penalty.

Teams were encouraged to send story ideas to Ed Haas, Director of Communications, to promote their programs and enhance their exposure on 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. Additionally, the website now has a social media aspect that we would love to see teams take advantage sending photos from their tournaments as well as other great experiences they have as a team.

The Assistant Commissioner pointed out Jon Weaver, Director of Multimedia, continues to do exciting updates with the streaming program and featured game of the week. To ensure we can highlight games from every division, host sites are strongly urged to work with the multimedia department to stream at their facility. Additionally, the multimedia department is developing several video libraries to directly benefit our members and officials. As the CWPA is a non-profit, all educational material will be available for free on the website. We encourage teams, players and coaches to take full advantage when this becomes implemented as it will possess everything from practice drills to game strategies as well as training videos for hosts.

The Assistant Commissioner introduced Mike Shannon, Membership Services. While all the previous responsibilities will be maintained, Mike will be focusing on implementing more ways to better communicate with our membership as well as incorporating a new Social Media Campaign. Mike will also be a main contact for all hosting site prior and after the tournament.

The Assistant Commissioner also discussed the mentoring program. While the league encourages current team leadership to get involved as a mentor, we recognize many leaders are already heavily involved in many different areas of their institution and we do not want this to become more taxing on their limited

availability. That is why we are seeking past alum who served as team leaders and had a positive impact on their programs. Current leaders were asked to submit names of individuals they felt would be interested in getting involved as a CWPA Club Mentor.

Team leaders were reminded about the Team Leader Orientation Program requiring each school to review four short webinars. The team representative reviewing the webinar will need to take a short test at the conclusion to ensure it is recorded that their team had completed the requirements. Teams should also encourage younger members of their team to be involved in a leadership role to help secure a smoother transition over the years.

Finally, teams were once again reminded the importance of reviewing and updating their Team Contact Information using the link on the Membership page. All team leaders were thanked for taking the time to be on the call to represent their program.