

Northwest Division

Meeting 1 of 2 held April 12, 2018 10:00PM EDT (7:00PM PDT)

Attending: Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; Oregon State University, Burton Jaursch; University of Oregon, Jonathan Beasley (2 of 4 schools) *Please note: No vote can be finalized as this was not the majority of teams in the division.*

The call began with a discussion about the new league website that was launched at 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. The Assistant Commissioner asked the leaders to contact the office if they have any suggestions that they felt would enhance the site. Leaders were also reminded to update their team profiles and to contact the office if they do not have their school's login information.

Following the discussion of the website and the roll call, it was evident we did not have enough attendance of institutions to finalize the schedule. The discussion turned to the future of the division based on the number of teams participating, the number of "no contests" committed by teams the last few seasons and the idea of running a test pilot program that would address why the "no contests" occurred and to hopefully act as a catalyst for new growth. A brief description of the program is as follows:

1. Teams would not need to attend all three weekends
2. League fees would be based on the number of games/weekends a team participates
3. Teams interested in qualifying for nationals must attend at least one regional and the championship. Otherwise, a team can decide to attend one, two or all three weekends.
4. Seeding at the championship would be based on a won/loss percentage
5. Teams must declare what weekends they will attend once dates and locations are confirmed

Teams that were present agreed something must be done if the Northwest Division plans to remain in the future and felt the above test pilot programs was a good direction.

The teams were also asked if anyone knew of any new/old programs interested in joining or if either was interested in entering a "B" Squad which receives a reduction in league dues as voted by membership during the summer of 2016. While league dues have not been determined for the 2018-19 School Year, teams were reminded the previous year's dues were \$2750 for the first team and \$1930 for the second team entered from the same university. Programs mentioned included University of British Columbia, Western Washington University, Boise State University, Montana Tech, Central Washington University, Seattle University and Portland State University. Neither team expressed interest in entering a "B" Squad at the current time.

Teams were reminded that the Southwest Division was next in rotation to host the Men's National Collegiate Club Championship (November 9-11, 2018) and that the University of Arizona (Tucson, AZ) was currently reviewing their option to bid. Next in rotation to host nationals is the Mid Atlantic Division if the Southwest declines.

While we could not finalize the division schedule, both Oregon State and Oregon expressed interest in hosting two of the weekends and gave the following dates:

Sept. 29-30	Oregon
Oct. 27-28	Oregon State (Championship)

Ideally, we would see the second regional weekend take place in Washington early October (potentially Oct. 6-7 or Oct. 13-14).

The Assistant Commissioner asked if either team wanted to go through the additional reminders or if they preferred to wait until the rescheduled conference call. Both agreed they preferred to wait. Team leaders were thanked for taking the time to be on the call to represent their program. The call ended.

Northwest Division

Meeting 2 of 2 held June 26, 2018 10:30PM EDT (7:30PM PDT)

Attending: Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; Oregon State University, Burton Jaursch; University of Washington, Troy Friedman; Seattle University, Emma Kehl; Jonathan Beasley (3 of 5 schools) *Please note: Boise State University also expressed interest but was unable to attend the call. Additionally, University of Oregon's Jonathan Beasley reached out prior to the call that he would not be able to make it but still planned to participate and was working to finalize their ability to host.*

The purpose of this call was to discuss the pilot program to help stimulate growth and involvement for the upcoming season. The Assistant Commissioner explained the program as described during the previous conference call (see above). Teams participating on the call were all interested in moving forward and were also interested in reaching out to local masters teams to potentially play exhibition games. This would need to be confirmed with both the league office as well as the sports club directors for each school to ensure there is no violation of policy. Teams were asked to provide a list of any masters teams they would like to be contacted by June 29th.

As for the specific schedule, schools were still working to finalize their ability to host. Oregon and Oregon State are still working with the facilities and Seattle will reach out to their administration over the next two weeks. Teams were asked to do their best to finalize their locations by the week of July 9th based on the following dates:

Sept. 29-30 or Oct. 6-7	Oregon (Amazon)
Oct. 13-14 or Oct. 20-21	Seattle
Oct. 27-28	Oregon State (Osborn)

Once a site is confirmed, 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.

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. None was discussed.

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. After a brief description of the CWPA Club Governance Council, the Assistant Commissioner asked if any of their players or administrators would have interested in being nominated as a candidate. If so, please send their name and contact information to tracey@collegiatewaterpolo.org.

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.

The Assistant Commissioner explained the recently launched Ambassador's Program with a focus on an Alumni Initiative. Teams will be asked to give a few minutes during a league weekend to talk with one of the league ambassadors about how they can stay involved after graduation whether as a coach, official, mentor or donor. The Assistant Commissioner also launched into the newly revised CWPA Mentoring Program and discussed how the office felt this would help reduce the attrition and hopefully promote additional growth. Teams were asked to provide the office with any names of current alum that were team leaders in the past and that they felt would be great mentors for either a new team or struggling program.

Finally, teams were once again reminded the importance of reviewing and updating their [Team Contact Information](#) using the link on the Membership page.