

Heartland Division

Meeting held April 18, 2018 4:15 PM EDT (3:15PM CDT)

Attending: Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; Macalester College, Pam Dyer and Bob Dignazio; Augustana College, Kartik Kasireddy; Carleton College, Julian Szieff; Grinnell College, Joshua Ball; St. John's University, Jacob Upton; St. Mary's University, Nick Sawchuk (6 of 7 schools)

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 roll call, teams were asked if anyone knew of any new programs interested in joining or if any team had interest 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. No one was aware of any new teams or were interested in adding a "B" Squad.

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 three regional weekends where teams attend two and a championship where all teams attend. Locations and dates were based on pool and team availability. Assistant Commissioner asked if anyone would like to consider anything different but teams preferred staying with the current format. All teams were asked if they were interested in hosting. Augustana, Grinnell, Macalester, Carleton and St. Mary's all expressed interest. Selection of sites will be based on past seasons. All teams prefer having both Grinnell and Macalester host as they are all deep. Carleton will be used as a backup and have first option to host in 2019.

The next item was the 2018 Division Schedule. Teams were reminded the Men's Division III National Collegiate Club Championship is tentatively scheduled for October 27-28, 2018 and hosted in the Colonial Division (Host TBD).

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

September 15-16	Augustana
September 22-23	Macalester
September 29-30	St. Mary's
October 13-14	Grinnell - Championship

The weekend of Oct. 6-7 will be used as a potential backup date. Several teams made the following requests based on the above weekends:

- Augustana – cannot play Oct. 6-7
- Carleton – prefers not playing Sept. 15-16
- Macalester – prefers playing Sept. 29-30 over Sept. 15-16
- St. Mary's – can host but not travel Sept. 29-30

Once sites are 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.

Based on the limited remaining time, the call concluded with the Assistant Commissioner reminding teams to update their team profile information as well as make sure their [Participation Agreement](#) is submitted by their Club Supervisor no later than June 1st for the Men's Season. After the form is submitted, teams have until September 1st to make any adjustments or remove themselves from the league without penalty.

Teams were thanked for attending the call and reminded to read through the conference call minutes for the additional updates and reminders as the call time expired.

Below are the additional reminders for team leadership not covered on the conference call:

Leadership should know all [CWPA League Policies](#) are posted on the website under Membership. Specific policies to remember are 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.

Teams are 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.

Our Director of Multimedia, [Jon Weaver](#), 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.

CWPA recently launched the 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 league office also recently revised the CWPA Mentoring Program. The office believes this will help reduce the attrition and hopefully promote additional growth. Teams are 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.

Current team leaders are 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 are once again reminded the importance of reviewing and updating their [Team Contact Information](#) using the link on the Membership page. If you don't have your login information, please contact the office and we will provide it to you. Additionally, all potential hosts were reminded to follow up on their ability to host on the selected dates by June 1st.