

**Mid Atlantic “A” Division
Meeting held February 20, 2019 4:00PM EDT**

Attending: Dan Sharadin, Commissioner/Villanova; Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; Penn State University, Mike Dougherty and Collin Charnoff; University of Pittsburgh, Jacob Dearborn; University of Pennsylvania, Noah Werksman; Drexel University, Jonathan Templin; Carnegie Mellon University, Yannick Hogarth (6 of 6 schools)

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. Penn State expects to again. Potential new schools that were mentioned included: Princeton and Rutgers.

The next item on the agenda focused on the division format, conflict dates and schools that were interested in hosting. The Commissioner explained the current Mid Atlantic "A" Division format as a single round-robin with additional seeding games drawn at random within a region. The West Region Teams will play their regional games over the course of a weekend while the East Region Teams will play weeknight games. All teams will attend the crossover and championship.

Conversation transitioned into discussion over the 2019 scheduled dates and locations. Teams were reminded that the Mid Atlantic Division was next in rotation to host the Men's National Collegiate Club Championship on the weekend of November 8-10, 2019. The Commissioner noted that the University of Pittsburgh has already expressed interest. The Men’s Division III National Collegiate Club Championship is currently being explored by the independent schools with the Mid Atlantic Division next. This event will take place the weekend of October 26-27.

After discussion of potential conflict dates, teams decided unanimously to create the following tentative schedule:

September 21-22	West Regional – Carnegie Mellon (Backup Penn State)
October 5-6	Crossover – Villanova/UPenn
October 26-27	DIII Nationals – Site TBD
November 2-3	Champs – Penn State
November 8-10	Nationals - Pittsburgh

Note: East Regional Teams will play weeknight games

All dates are considered tentative until confirmed. Adjustments may be needed based on pool availability.

Potential hosts were asked to update the league office as soon as possible (preferably by March 15th) regarding their ability to host. Once a site is confirmed, hosts were reminded to complete the [Pool Reservation Form](#) found under the Forms section on the website. Assistant Commissioner will release an update to the division once we hear back from each of the potential hosts.

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 Commissioner reminding teams to update their profiles as this was the way our office contacts each program’s leadership. If teams need their login information they can request it by sending an email to office@collegiatewaterpolo.org.

The Commissioner then ran through a series of updates from the league office:

All [CWPA League Policies](#) are posted on the website under Membership (*Note: 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 or through the appeals form located on the website).*)

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 June 1st for the Men's/Coed Season. After the form is submitted, teams have until September 1st to make any adjustments or remove themselves from the league without penalty.

New Team Leaders were reminded to complete the [Leader Orientation Program](#) that includes four short webinars followed by a short test at the conclusion to ensure it is recorded that they completed the requirements. Teams should also encourage younger members to be involved in a leadership role to help secure a smoother transition of leadership the following year.

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, teams should consider following the new club twitter account #CWPAclubs to get all the latest news regarding the CWPA Club Divisions.

Teams were made aware that [Justin Cypert](#) was recently hired as our new Director of Multimedia. Justin is familiarizing himself with the organization but expect more exciting things to come from our multimedia department!

As part of the multimedia department, the league plans to continue its partnership with our main sponsor Kap7 to cover costs associated with the remote streaming program. This means all regular season and division championship streams will remain FREE for viewership!!! Individuals would still be required to have a login, but they would not be charged any fee for the regular season. Host sites are encouraged to consider doing the remote streaming program for their division to have the opportunity to be streamed during the regular season. (*Please note: Post-season championship events remain pay-per-view as these are multi-camera onsite productions that carry additional costs*)

The Commissioner finished by explaining how the league office is working to create new growth and development within the organization. One program highlighted was the Ambassador's Program with a focus on an Alumni Initiative. Upperclassmen will be asked to give a few minutes during a league weekend to talk with one of the league ambassador officials about how they can stay involved after graduation whether as a coach, official, mentor or donor. Alum Leadership who are interested can also get involved in the recently revised CWPA Mentoring Program designed to help reduce the attrition and stimulate growth. Teams were asked to provide the office with any names of alum that were strong role models with their program and could help mentor a new or struggling team.

Teams were reminded one more time 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.