

## Heartland Division

### Meeting held March 5, 2019 5:30PM EST (4:30PM CST)

Attending: Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; Augustana College, Karthik Kasireddy and Rachel Finerty; Carleton Rebekah Kissel and Katherine Erickson; Grinnell College, Alex Lavery; Knox College, Fred Lehman; Macalester College, Sheu Oduniyi, Paul Reischmann, Jayden West and Gabriel Berman; Saint John's University, Aaryn DuBose; Saint Mary's University, Daniel Velazquez (7 of 7 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 which receives a reduction in league dues as voted by membership during the summer of 2016. League dues for the 2019-20 School Year cannot be confirmed until after the budget is set and approved by the board in June (*While we hope to continue to see a decrease in the league dues as we have seen the last few years, teams could budget on no greater than a 5% increase as common practice. Dues for the 2018-19 School Year were \$2740 when entering one team and \$1905 for a second team from the same institution.*)

At this time, no schools expressed interest in adding a "B" Squad at this time. Additionally, Illinois Wesleyan University was mentioned as a potential new school interested in joining. The league office will follow up.

The next item on the agenda focused on the division format, conflict dates and schools that were interested in hosting. The Assistant Commissioner explained the current division format as three regional weekends where teams attend two and a championship with all teams in attendance. Locations and dates are 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, Carleton, Grinnell, Macalester, St. John's and St. Mary's all expressed interest. The Assistant Commissioner reminded teams that everyone preferred having either Grinnell and Macalester host the championship and that this year it was Macalester's turn in the rotation. Additionally, Carleton and St. John's did not host in 2018 and therefore would have first option to host in 2019.

Conversation transitioned into discussion over the 2019 scheduled dates and locations. Teams were reminded that the Men's Division III National Collegiate Club Championship is currently being explored by the independent schools with the Mid Atlantic Division next followed by the North Atlantic. This event will take place the weekend of October 26-27.

After discussion of potential conflict dates, teams decided to create the following tentative schedule depending on pool availability:

September 14-15	St. John's (Backup Grinnell)
September 28-29	Carleton (Backup St. John's)
October 5-6	Augustana (Backup St. Mary's)
October 12-13	Macalester – Championship
October 26-27	DIII Nationals - TBD

Teams selection to a site was determined for each of the weekends above based on their preferred availability:

Sept. 14-15	– Grinnell, Macalester, St. John's, St. Mary's
Sept. 28-29	– Augustana, Carleton, Knox, Macalester, St. John's
Oct. 5-6	– Augustana, Carleton, Grinnell, Knox, St. Mary's

Teams provided the following availability:

<b>Team</b>	<b>Sept. 14-15</b>	<b>Sept. 21-22</b>	<b>Sept. 28-29</b>	<b>Oct. 5-6</b>	<b>Oct. 19-20</b>
<b>Augustana</b>	NA	NA	Avail	Host	Avail
<b>Carleton</b>	NA	NA	Host	Avail	Avail
<b>Grinnell</b>	Avail	Not Sure	Not Sure	Avail	Avail
<b>Knox</b>	NA	NA	Avail	Avail	Avail
<b>Macalester</b>	Avail	Avail	Avail	Avail	Host
<b>St. John's</b>	Host	Avail	Avail	NA	Avail
<b>St. Mary's</b>	Avail	Avail	NA	Avail	Avail

All dates are considered tentative until confirmed based on pool availability. All team stated the championship date of Oct. 12-13 this season has no conflicts for their teams while the Oct. 19-20 weekend would be an issue. Macalester confirmed they can definitively host Oct. 12-13.

Potential hosts were asked to update the league office as soon as possible (preferably by March 22<sup>nd</sup>) 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. No new business was mentioned other than a survey and vote will be released regarding moving the national championship to a later date. This would potentially go into effect the Fall of 2020.

The call concluded with the Assistant 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](mailto:office@collegiatewaterpolo.org).

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

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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Assistant 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.