## Rocky Mountain Division Meeting held October 24, 2019 9:30PM EDT

Attending: Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; Colorado School of Mines, Emma Bishop and Greta Heidrich (6 of 7 schools)

We gave the other schools some additional time to sign on but no one else joined the call. Colorado School of Mines provided their conflict dates (Spring Break March 21-29; Additional dates: February 14-15; March 14-15; April 18-19) and that they would not be able to host.

As no other teams participated, there was not enough for a quorum and therefore the conference call must be rescheduled. The call concluded.

## Rocky Mountain Division (Rescheduled) Meeting held January 14, 2020 9:30PM EDT

Attending: Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; Colorado School of Mines, Emma Bishop and Greta Heidrich; University of Colorado Boulder, Madeleine Morgan and Emma Bradley; University of Denver, Elizabeth Witting; University of New Mexico, Andrea Loya; US Air Force Academy, Madeline Pautsch; Colorado State University (exhibition), Jade Lippmann (6 of 7 schools)

Following roll call, the Assistant Commissioner told teams the University of Utah had responded to the office earlier in the day that they would not be participating this season in order to rebuild their team's roster size and financial situation. Utah was also offered the opportunity to participate in one or two of the weekends as an exhibition team which they have not yet responded.

Discussion immediately focused on the division schedule. The Assistant Commissioner confirmed Denver, Air Force and New Mexico were able to host. No other teams expressed interest. Teams were reminded that Arizona State University from the Southwest Division was selected to host the Women's National Collegiate Club Championship on the weekend of May 8-10, 2020.

The current Rocky Mountain Division format has teams playing everyone once with additional seeding games drawn at random. Teams would play these games over two regional weekends and all teams would attend the championship. After discussion of dates, teams decided to create the following tentative schedule depending on pool availability:

February 8-9	University of New Mexico (Backup Date Feb. 22-23)
February 29-1	Air Force Academy
April 10-11	Denver – Champs (Friday & Saturday on Easter Weekend)
April 25-26	DIII Nationals – Middlebury College
May 8-10	Nationals – Arizona State University

Teams expressed concern for finding out as soon as possible regarding the first competition date. New Mexico felt they would know before Friday, January 17th (end of the week). The Assistant Commissioner asked New Mexico to respond all to the conference call reminder email so that all teams will receive the update. The following dates have been confirmed as of January 17, 2020:

February 22-23	University of New Mexico
February 29-1	Air Force Academy
April 10-11	Denver – Champs (Friday & Saturday on Easter Weekend)
April 25-26	DIII Nationals – Middlebury College

May 8-10

Hosts were asked to complete the <u>Pool Confirmation Form</u> found under the Forms section on the website once hours and the pool is confirmed.

The Assistant Commissioner asked if any teams had any new business. None was discussed. In an interest for time, the Assistant Commissioner asked all teams to read through the minutes following the call in order to receive the additional information regarding the league office and what we provide since deadlines for submitting participation agreements have already past.

The teams were thanked for participating and the call ended.

## The following is additional information covered on all previous division conference calls and should be read through by the Rocky Mountain Teams' Leadership. Any questions or concerns regarding the below information can be discussed by contacting the league office at 610-277-6787:

Teams were also informed the league dues for the 2019-20 School Year would be \$2735 when entering one team and \$1940 for a second team from the same institution. This was the third straight year there was a reduction in the league dues while more services have been added.

All <u>CWPA League Policies</u> 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 <u>tracey@collegiatewaterpolo.org</u> or through the <u>Appeals Form</u> 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 <u>Participation Agreement</u> 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 15<sup>th</sup> to make any adjustments or remove themselves from the league without penalty.

New Team Leaders were reminded to complete the <u>Leader Orientation Program</u> 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 ideasto <u>Ed Haas</u>, 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 <u>Justin Cypert</u> is our Director of Multimedia and <u>Mike Shannon</u> was recently joined the department as the Broadcast Assistant. While Justin oversees the entire multimedia department, Mike is responsible for the remote streaming program to ensure kits are delivered and remote announcers are assigned. The regular season remote streaming (which also includes the divisional championship) is free, thanks to our partnership with Kap7, while the national championship broadcasts are pay-per-view

since they are a multi-camera operation. Host sites are encouraged to select the option on the pool reservation form to stream their site. There is limited work involved and the staffing is paid.

During the season, teams will also have the chance to work with Ian Thompson from our membership services. Ian will bring a fresh look at how we can better communicate with team leadership as well as create some new online educational content. This content will involve both the <u>Tip of the Week</u> for player and coach development along with a new series called Level Up that will focus on providing leadership development opportunities.

The Assistant Commissioner finished by explaining the Alumni Initiative Program. 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.

The call concluded with the Assistant Commissioner reminding teams to update their profiles as this was the way our office currently communicates with each program. If your profile is outdated, your team will not be getting the most recent releases of information. Teams that need their login information can request it by sending an email to <u>office@collegiatewaterpolo.org</u>.

All team leaders were thanked for taking the time to be on the call to represent their program.