

**Mid-Atlantic “B” Division
Meeting held April 9, 2020 5:00PM EDT**

Attending: Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; Saint Joseph's University, Tyler Daniskas and Natalie Essis; University of Delaware, Eric Sawka and Catherine Johnson; West Chester University, Ryan Lordan; Bloomsburg University, Austin Kerley (4 of 6 schools)

Following roll call, teams were reminded they should have already taken the time to watch the [four-minute Video](#) covering important league information as well as taking the time to submit the [RSVP Form](#). If they have not completed either task, team leaders should do so following the conference call.

Before getting into the schedule, the Assistant Commissioner inquired how everyone was doing under current national circumstances surrounding the Coronavirus and gave a quick recap of how things were handled with the cancellation of the remainder of the women's season. The league office has high hopes the Fall season will take place as normal but is prepared to adjust as needed depending on conditions at that time.

Teams were asked if anyone knew of any new programs interested in joining or if any team had interest in entering a “B” Squad. Teams were reminded the dues from the 2019-20 school year were \$2735 for any school entering one team and \$1940 for a second team entered from the same institution. While the office hopes to continue the trend of the past three years of reducing fees while still offering more services, we cannot give a definitive dollar amount for the 2020-21 school year until the budget is approved by the board of directors.

Currently, no teams expressed interest in adding a “B” Squad. Additionally, no team leader was aware of any new programs, but the league office will reach out to potential schools that have played in the past or expressed interest such as Franklin & Marshall, Swarthmore, Millersville, Bucknell and Princeton. The office will also reach out to Lehigh and Albright who were not represented on the call. The Assistant Commissioner also noted that Rutgers had reached out that they were not sure regarding the fall season but were considering just playing independently. The office was working to schedule a call with them to discuss their intentions further.

The next item on the agenda focused on the division format, conflict dates and hosting. The current Mid-Atlantic “B” Division competitive format includes a single round-robin with additional seeding games drawn at random within a region. Teams would play these games over two weekends (teams in the West Region) or a combination of weekend games and single weeknight games (teams in the East Region). All teams attend the “B” Division Championship. The Assistant Commissioner asked if teams would like to consider anything different or if they preferred staying with the above format. Teams agreed they wanted to stay with the current format where all games count towards the standings. All teams were asked if they were interested in hosting. Bloomsburg and West Chester both expressed interest in weekends and West Chester, St. Joseph's and Delaware expressed interest in single weeknight games. (Albright hosted in 2019 so they will be asked if they would be willing to host a weekend tournament).

Conversation transitioned into discussion over the 2020 scheduled dates and locations. Teams were reminded the winner of the Mid-Atlantic “B” Division Championship would have the ability to advance the Mid-Atlantic “A” Division Championship if the dates didn't coincide. St. Joseph's, who advanced the previous season, said they really enjoyed the opportunity and would do it again.

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

Bloomsburg	Sept. 19-20 or Sept. 26-27
West Chester or Albright	October 10-11
Delaware/St. Joes/Lehigh/WCU	Single Weeknight Games TBD
West Chester – “B” Champs	October 31-1 (Backup Oct. 17-18)
Mid-Atlantic “A” Champs	TBD

Delaware, St. Joseph’s and West Chester were asked to find out the best days/times they can host as well as travel during the week. Teams were reminded that Lehigh also hosts “home” games at Villanova in conjunction with Villanova weeknight games. Regarding weekend competition, teams voted to a 2-2 draw regarding the two potential Bloomsburg dates. Bloomsburg was asked to talk with their school to determine the best weekend for the facility. Additionally, teams from the East Region were asked if they preferred attending one full weekend or one day each weekend to play against teams in the West Region. St. Joseph’s and West Chester preferred competing on one weekend while Delaware preferred competing on one day each weekend to save on hotel costs. Delaware also stated it depended on the location as they could easily do two days on one weekend and save on hotel if West Chester was the host regional site. The Assistant Commissioner will reach out to Albright to determine their interest in hosting.

Teams were reminded all dates are considered tentative until confirmed based on pool availability. The Assistant Commissioner requested teams to provide an update regarding hosting by no later than April 24th. Potential hosts agreed to the date and to “reply all” so every team is aware of hosting updates. Once a site is confirmed, hosts were reminded to complete the [Pool Confirmation Form](#) found under the Forms section on the website. The Assistant Commissioner will release to the division schedule once these forms are completed.

The team leaders were reminded that all necessary 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.

The Assistant Commissioner also reminded 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 office@collegiatewaterpolo.org.

Finally, teams were asked if they had any questions or new business to discuss. The Assistant Commissioner offered two questions that came from a previous call. Regarding new playing rules, teams were reminded that the CWPA follows NCAA rules and that they will be publishing a new rules book this summer for the 2020-21 and 2021-22 seasons. The league office will also be releasing the new adopted rules in several formats once released by the NCAA.

The second question related to keeping a team motivated during the current national situation. The league office will be releasing ways to keep your team engaged but also suggested reviewing the Tips of the Week (especially the dryland series) and for teams to do fun activities through social media while keeping a social distance. If teams aren’t already, they should follow the CWPA social media platforms and the website as this will be the way the office will be putting out some good information as well as following the fun videos teams do within their program. The Assistant Commissioner also recommended everyone should be taking time for themselves; to stay mentally and physically fresh as the current situation is challenging for everyone.

The call concluded with all team leaders being thanked for taking the time and that they should all feel free to contact our office with any questions as we are here for them.