

New England Division
Meeting held April 16, 2020 7:00PM EDT

Attending: Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; Boston College, Andrew Wilson; Boston University, Kurt Castro; Dartmouth College, Jeffrey Sun, Clarke Eastman-Pinto and Liam Pino; Northeastern University, Hayden Sandt; Tufts University, Aidan Anthony, Josh Stone and Gian Marco Visani; University of Connecticut, Kayla Kolodychak; Yale University, Sol Bloomfield, Doug Hausladen and Joshua Ip (7 of 7 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 team expressed interest in adding a "B" Squad. Additionally, Columbia was rumored to have interest in switching to the New England Division. The league office will reach out to Columbia leadership to confirm as they are currently slated to compete in the New York Division. The office will also reach out to any other potential schools that have played in the past or expressed interest. Additionally, Tufts is considering switching back to the Colonial Division but wasn't 100% sure and Yale was considering switching to the New York Division if it made sense for both the New York and New England Divisions. The Assistant Commissioner pointed out that transition to the New York Division will likely increase their travel and costs since Buffalo is slated to host the New York Division Championship.

The next item on the agenda focused on the division format, conflict dates and hosting. The current New England Division competitive format is comprised of two regular season tournaments and the championship weekend. All teams attend all three tournaments. During the regular season, teams play every opponent once and two opponents twice. The additional games are randomly selected within the top four teams and the bottom three teams based on the previous year's finish. 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.

All teams were asked if they were interested in hosting. Boston College, Dartmouth and Yale all expressed interest, but none had confirmed dates. Boston University was willing to see if they could host if absolutely needed but the administration preferred avoiding it this year based on previous year's discussion of their ability to host every other year. Additionally, Yale mentioned their facility may be under renovations which were scheduled to be completed by the fall but may be pushed back due to the current circumstances with CoVid-19. Dartmouth administration prefers any events hosted off-campus, but the team will confirm. UConn was asked as they had thought they would have the ability to host this season, but they do not believe it is likely. However, UConn will ask again since there are limited hosts

available. Based on limited options, teams voted unanimously they would be willing to help Dartmouth defray the costing of renting if needed and depending on the additional fee. It was shared the Women's New England Division did do this in the spring which was expensive, but the facility and staff were great.

Conversation transitioned into discussion over the 2020 scheduled dates and locations. Teams were reminded the Southeast Division was next in rotation to host the Men's National Collegiate Club Championship on the weekend of November 13-15, 2020 with the Northwest as the next division if the Southeast declines. The Division III National Collegiate Club Championship is scheduled for the weekend of October 31-1, 2020 with the North Atlantic Division as the host and the Heartland Division as the backup location.

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

Sept. 26-27	Site TBD (Backup Date Sept. 19-20)
Oct. 17-18	Site TBD
Oct. 31-1	Champs – Site TBD (Backup Date Oct. 24-25)
Oct. 31-1	DIII Nationals – Site TBD
Nov.13-15	Nationals – Site TBD

September 26-27, September 19-20 (backup) and October 17-18 were selected as no team had listed these dates as conflicts. As Tufts was the only team with a conflict on October 31-1, and they are considering switching divisions, Tufts leadership were fine with putting the championship date as October 31-1. Additionally, Yale was the only team with a conflict on October 24-25 and they were also fine with listing that date as a potential backup championship date.

Teams were reminded all dates are considered tentative until confirmed based on pool availability. The Assistant Commissioner requested Boston College, Boston Univ., UConn, Dartmouth and Yale to check on their ability to host on all the above dates and to provide an update on that status by no later than May 1st. Potential hosts agreed to the date. 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 also 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 a question that came from previous calls. 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 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.

As a reminder, the leadership team consists of someone responsible for the administrative paperwork, someone to serve as a player/coach, and someone that handles the social side of the team including recruiting. Additionally, these people should not be in the same class, to avoid a leadership vacuum after they graduate.

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.