

Southeast Division
Meeting held April 7, 2020 6:00PM EDT

Attending: Tom Tracey, Assistant Commissioner; Auburn University, Max Grum; Georgia Institute of Technology, Philip Li; Georgia Southern University, Max Ware; Kennesaw State University, Hannah Belinski; University of Georgia, Blake Ryland; University of Tennessee, Nathaniel Grum; Vanderbilt University, Matthew Milad and Jack O'Halloran (7 of 9 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, there were no schools who 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 schools who have participated in the past such as Ole' Miss and Emory.

The Assistant Commissioner reminded teams that the Southeast Division is up for hosting the National Collegiate Club Championship and that Huntsville Aquatics Center is interested in working with a team to co-host the event if no school felt that they could host on their campus. Vanderbilt had expressed interest in either working with Huntsville as well as exploring pools in the Nashville Area. Auburn and Georgia had also expressed interest in working with Huntsville if they could not host at their school. The Assistant Commissioner stated he will send out the hosting requirement information for teams to review and asked everyone to respond with their interest (or no interest) by no later than April 15th.

The next item on the agenda focused on the division format, conflict dates and hosting. The current Southeast Division competitive format is comprised of two regular season tournaments and the championship weekend. If the division has more than nine teams, games will be drawn at random to complete their eight-game regular season. If less than nine teams, everyone will play each opponent once with additional games drawn at random. The seeding for the championship is determined by the regular season records. Assistant Commissioner asked if teams would like to consider anything different or if they preferred staying with the three-weekend format. Teams agreed they wanted to stay with the current format. All teams were asked if they were interested in hosting. Auburn, Georgia Southern and Georgia all expressed interest. Both Vanderbilt and Tennessee will also look into hosting if needed.

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.

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

September 19-20	Georgia
October 17-18	Georgia Southern
October 31-1	Auburn – Champs (Backup date Nov. 7-8 Tennessee or Vanderbilt)
October 31-1	DIII Nationals – Site TBD
November 13-15	Nationals – Site TBD

For the championship weekend, teams voted 4-3 in favor of October 31-1 over November 7-8. Georgia expressed concern as the date was a potential issue with the Georgia @ Florida Football Game but would work to motivate teammates to attend the Southeast Championship.

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. Teams requested setting up a GroupMe text to receive updates on competition dates and locations which the Assistant Commissioner agreed was a great idea. This way potential hosts can update both the league office and the entire division of their hosting status.

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 first question related to the 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.