

# 2021 Men's Club Annual Meeting Minutes

## Big Ten/Missouri Valley/Great Lakes Divisions

### Minutes, April 21, 2021

Attending: Daniel Sharadin, Commissioner; Ohio State, Jasper Orozco-Prowbridge; Wisconsin, Christin Fuhrman & Ido Korabelnikov; Michigan, Andrew Golin; Iowa, Matthew Burrows; Illinois, Joseph Kockell; Purdue, Jabari Garraway; Northwestern, Jake Cvetas; Michigan State, Zach Sneathen; Indiana, Andrew Albrecht; McKendree, Zach Roper; Washington, Christopher Lovejoy and Ryan Martynowicz; Saint Louis, Robert Holzer; Missouri Science & Technology, Nathan Burlis; Xavier, Brycen Gwyn; Dayton, Michael Battista; Illinois State, Antony Miritello; Miami (Ohio), Justin McDaniel; Notre Dame, John Burke & Dane Williams & Connor Smith; Grand Valley State, Caleb Moles

The conference call was held as the first step in the process to discuss what the next season will look like. Since we may be changing the way we have been structured for years, we felt it was important to take some time for teams to talk about it with their teammates before making a final decision. We have therefore provided a summary of the issue and will have a second conference call to confirm the competitive structure next week. Based on the number of teams involved, this round of calls will be split by individual divisions. This does not prevent any of the divisions from combining in one of the competitive formats, it is simply a way to provide more discussion opportunity for each team.

Missouri Valley      Tuesday, April 27, 2021      6:00PM EDT (5:00PM CDT)

Great Lakes      Wednesday, April 28, 2021      5:00PM EDT (4:00PM CDT)

Big Ten Wednesday, April 28, 2021      6:00PM EDT (5:00PM CDT)

Information regarding how to login for the meetings will be sent in a separate email.

During the call we covered the following information:

#### **The Problem**

Competitive equity is lacking in every division. This leads to novice teams disbanding, new teams quitting before the season ends, and lots of forfeits.

#### **The Statistics**

Teams at the bottom three places in the standings lose their games to the top three teams by an average of over 11 goals per game and commit 95% of the forfeits. They also lose over half their games every year, with some teams failing to win a single game in consecutive seasons.

#### **The Result**

Players don't enjoy spending their money to drive several hours and get drilled by the opposing teams each time they play. Likewise, experienced clubs find it a waste of time playing novice teams, trying to keep the games artificially close. Athletes want to feel like the game matters, and they have a chance to compete against other players with similar ability.

### **The Solution**

Create a structure that provides more opportunities to play opponents similar in ability.

### **Options**

The CWPA is driven by the teams involved. We do not dictate to you, we facilitate what you want. Therefore, we want you to decide the direction you will follow. We have created three options to choose from. During our next conference call, you will choose which option you want to follow, so be sure to discuss this information with your teammates.

#### **Option 1      Status Quo**

Teams play within their division for all three tournaments, but individual game matchups are determined by won/loss records or program strength from historical data. Teams then attend an "A" or "B" division championship that includes only teams within their division.

#### **Option 2      Hybrid**

Teams play within their division during the first two weekends to determine standings. The top half of the teams from one division will play against the top half of the division from the neighboring division at the "A" Championship and the bottom half of the teams from each division will do the same at the "B" Championship.

#### **Option 3      Self -Selection**

Teams decide before the season begins whether they want to compete in the "A" bracket or the "B" bracket. The advantage means you would be playing against comparable programs from the beginning of the season as opposed to waiting until the championship, but it could mean longer travel distances.

### **National Championship**

We will establish an additional National Championship for the top two teams from each of the Division Championships involving the bottom half clubs. The event will be termed the National Invite.