

# 2021 Men's Club Annual Meeting Minutes

## Mid Atlantic A /Atlantic Divisions

### Minutes, April 19, 2021

Attending: Daniel Sharadin, Commissioner; North Carolina - Wilmington, of, Will Basden; North Carolina State, Ricky Cates; James Madison, CJ Reed; Virginia, Matt Mandell; North Carolina, Robert Bennett; Georgetown, Gustav Gulmert and Will Houston; Maryland, Alexandra Giblin; Virginia Tech, Jeremy Luerf; Drexel, Garrett Crayton; Pittsburgh, Nicholas Calvaresi; Pennsylvania State, Michael Dougherty; Pennsylvania, Caleb Shack; Carnegie Mellon, Kelby Kramer

We recently had a conference call 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.

Next Call: Monday, April 26 5:00PM

Dial-in Number: 971-224-6609

Participant Access Code: 426721

#### **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**

Make no changes to the competitive structure. Teams play within their division for all three tournaments without regard to won/loss records or program strength.

### **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.

## **Minutes, April 26, 2021**

Attending: Daniel Sharadin, Commissioner; North Carolina - Wilmington, Will Basden; North Carolina State, Ricky Cates; James Madison, CJ Reed; Virginia, Matt Mandell and Ethan Levy; North Carolina, Robert Bennett; Georgetown, Gustav Gulmert; Maryland, Alexandra Giblin; Virginia Tech, Jeremy Luerf; Drexel, Garrett Crayton; Pennsylvania State, Daniel Bering; Carnegie Mellon, Tory Chen

The second conference call opened with a brief recap of the competitive format options discussed a week prior. The purpose of this call was to select which competitive option would be used this fall.

Teams voted 11 in favor of the Hybrid model, one in favor of self-selection, and one in favor of the status quo. After some discussion, the teams not voting for the Hybrid said they would be fine with that model as well.

#### 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.

Teams voted 8-2 in favor of an eight-team "A" championship, with four from each division qualifying, and the remaining teams moving to the "B" championship.

The Commissioner stated he would send an excel form that teams will need to complete, listing what dates they are unavailable to compete, and which dates they can host. The deadline for the form to be returned is May 15, but the office understands teams may not be able to determine if they can host by that point in time. In this instance, teams should just indicate that on their form and notify the office when they get a date confirmed with their school.