



## CCACA conference call minutes

Wed., August 6, 2003  
9:05–10:05 a.m. PT

**Participants:** Tracy Shoemake, America East (co-chair); Amy Huchthausen, ACC; Steve Sturek, Atlantic Sun; Liz Kane, Kelly Gust, Atlantic 10; Keli Cunningham, Big East; Carol Iwaoka, Jennifer Heppel, Chad Hawley, Big Ten; Lori Ebihara, Mary Ellen Enigk, Big 12; Yoda, Dagobah; Stephanie Jarvis, Horizon; Carolyn Campbell-McGovern, Nathan Fry, Ivy; Angie Torain, Mid-Continent; Sonja Stills, MEAC; Patty Viverito, Missouri Valley; Carolayne Henry, Anthony Archbald, Mountain West; Corinne Wright, Northeast; Mike Matthews (co-chair), Erik Price, Pac-10; Dan Trump, Meg Ahrens, Patriot; Greg Sankey, Gil Grimes, SEC; Doug King, Stephanie Ellison, Southern; Beth Chapman.

### 1. Approval of minutes of April 3, 2003, conference call

◆ **ACTION:** The minutes were approved without dissent.

### 2. Odds and ends from the NCAA

The NCAA's Beth DeBauche and the group discussed the following topics:

#### 2.1 Student-Athlete Opportunity Fund

DeBauche reported that SAOF reporting forms and final guidelines were to be distributed to the CCACA and CCA commissioners shortly. In addition, the SAOF funds were slated for distribution at the end of August and the reporting forms would also be available at the NCAA's web site in the spring.

◆ **ACTION:** The group agreed that it would prefer to have any reporting forms related to the SAOF sooner rather than later.

✓ **FOLLOW-UP:** DeBauche will provide CCACA members with copies of the forms, in both native and PDF formats.

Several conferences reported they would use a modified version of the reporting form developed by the Pac-10.

◆ **ACTION:** The group agreed to discuss questions from institutions about permissible uses of the SAOF during the September call once the guidelines had been finalized.

#### 2.2 2004 NCAA Convention plans

DeBauche reported that current plans called for a Saturday morning legislative review session for Division I-A at the Convention, during which time sponsors of proposals would be encouraged to speak to the rationale of their proposals. She said Saturday afternoon would be held open for conference meetings, followed by a Sunday Management Council meeting. It

was noted that the Big 12 faculty representatives, Northeast athletics directors, and Horizon ADs and SWAs planned to hold an additional conference meeting at the Convention.

### **2.3 August Board of Directors meeting**

DeBauche stated that the Board would receive a lengthy litigation update, including information on the recent decision striking down the NCAA's 2-in-4 exemption rule. She said that the NCAA's request for a stay had not yet been ruled upon.

DeBauche touched on various legislative proposals dealing with the women's basketball dead period, academic reform, and Board of Directors composition (all of which will be final by the time you read this, so we won't go into any details here.)

## **3. NLI tidbits**

### **3.1 NLI Release Form**

Sankey noted that the NLI office was still occasionally receiving copies of or calls about the ill-fated NLI Release Form, which was erroneously issued by the NLI office for a brief period of time last year.

✓ **FOLLOW-UP:** Remind your institutions that the NLI Release Form is not valid. The Qualified Release Form and appeal process is the only method available for a prospect to seek full relief from NLI penalties.

### **3.2 NLI database**

Sankey reported that the NLI database would be housed on a new server by September. As a result outages could continue during August. He noted that email reports (rather than phone calls) pertaining to problems with the database were preferred.

### **3.3 Non-legal guardian signatures on NLI**

Sankey related a pair of tales involving non-legal guardians who had signed NLIs in circumstances in which a prospect's parents were either deceased or not involved in the prospect's life. To make a long story short, Sankey advised notifying institutions that they should ask the Steering Committee for guidance in handling similar circumstances, indicating that the Steering Committee has elected to handle these scenarios on a case-by-case basis.

As a result of these experiences, an attorney has been enlisted to review the NLI with the Steering Committee and the CCA. Sankey said there would likely be changes to the NLI and the FAQ, with final publication of the revised documents scheduled for approximately October 1.

#### 4. **Proposal 2002-065**

- ◆ **ACTION:** The group was satisfied with Heppel's reply to the question below.

*Liz Kane wrote:*

One proposal that I am seeking some guidance from the group would be 02-65 "16.7.1 Away-from-Home Contests and Vacation Periods The institution may pay the actual costs (but may not provide cash) for reasonable entertainment that takes place within a 100-mile radius of where a team plays or practices in connection with an away-from-home contest or en route to or from such a contest. In addition, an institution may pay the actual costs (but may not provide cash) for reasonable entertainment that takes place within a 30-mile radius of the institution's campus or practice site during vacation periods when the team is required to reside on campus (or at a practice site normally used by the institution) and classes are not in session."

Any group thinking/consensus as to what is considered "reasonable" entertainment would be helpful. Any number limit-->Can an institution take the s/as to the movies, snow mobiling...every night during preseason/over Xmas break?

Also, I am thinking that but for during away games trips, that the prohibition against giving pro sports tickets in 16.7.1.1 still remains. In other words, an institution could not provide pro sports tickets during the preseason to its team(s) to see a local pro baseball game. Yes?

*And Jennifer Heppel replied:*

Since it was a Big Ten proposal I can provide a bit of insight.

1. In terms of defining reasonable, this would be an institutional decision, but I would say it's the same standard we've always used for away-from-home contests. There was no intent to limit the number of entertainment opportunities - just that the entertainment be reasonable.

2. 16.7.1.1 did not change - so, pro tickets as entertainment still are only permissible in conjunction with away-from-home contests.

#### 5. **Benefits received by S-As at Playboy All-America photo shoot**

Sankey, Heppel, and Matthews exchanged information about an allegation some of their institutions received from the NCAA regarding student-athletes who may have received impermissible benefits from a third party during a photo shoot for the Playboy All-America team. Concern was expressed that the conference offices of those institutions were not copied by the NCAA with the allegation.

- ✓ **FOLLOW-UP:** Shoemake and Matthews consulted with Sankey and Heppel regarding drafting a letter to the NCAA expressing concern about the lack of notification to the conference offices of institutions who received the allegation. It was determined that this was simply an oversight, and the concerns were

communicated verbally to the NCAA.

## 6. Future conference calls/ meetings

- ◆ **ACTION:** The group agreed to continue to hold calls the first Wednesday of the month through the end of the calendar year.
- ✓ **FOLLOW-UP:** Mark your calendar for calls on September 3, October 1, November 5, December 3 at 9 Pacific/10 Mountain/11 Central/12 Eastern. Dial-in number: 703-375-5504; passcode: 6141623.
- ✓ **FOLLOW-UP:** If you can serve as Co-chair of the Month for September, volunteer to Tracy Shoemake <shoemake@americaeast.com>.

Shoemake reported that the annual NCAA/CCACA Forum would be held February 9-10, 2004, in Indianapolis.

- ✓ **FOLLOW-UP:** Mark your calendar, again.

## 7. Basketball event certification and financial disclosure issues

Shoemake announced that the NCAA's Jan Gentry would be a participant on the September call to discuss basketball event certification and financial disclosure.

- ✓ **FOLLOW-UP:** If you have any questions or suggestions, forward them to Tracy Shoemake <shoemake@americaeast.com> so she can provide them to Jan Gentry in advance of the call.

## 8. That's not an iPod they're listening to

Grimes stated the NCAA had advised him that football administrative assistants should not wear headphones on the sidelines during games, likening it to a coaching activity. Matthews said that while it's possible the administrative assistant could be doing something that was not defined as a coaching activity, he agreed with the NCAA's position, noting that administrative assistants on headphones would appear to the casual observer (or to interested observers on the opposing sideline) to be performing a coaching activity. Heppel preferred to leave this decision to institutions.