

**Conference Captains**  
**WBCA DI Membership Call Minutes**  
**August 17, 2009**  
**Noon – 1:00 P.M EST**

- I. Welcome – Beth Bass
  - a. Beth Bass filled in for Geno Auriemma.
  - b. Welcomes and thanks the group. Thanks those who are subbing on the call today.
  
- II. Roll Call – Julie Donlin
  - a. In Attendance: Jen Rizzotti, Cathy Andruzzi, Kellie Harper, Deb Patterson, Phyllis Mangina, Tricia Binford, Betsy Blose, Ito Coleman (for Coquese Washington), Lynne Roberts, Erin Rewalt (for Debbie Taylor), Amy Cherubini (for Beth Couture), Paul Nixon, Joe Logan, Maria Fantanarosa, Dee Stokes, Jodi Christian (for Jeff Mittie), Nikki Caldwell, LaRonda Murphy (for Tammy Smith), Annette Watts, Rae Blair, Sandy Pugh, Shann Hart, Erik Johnson, Cindy Fisher, Raegan Pebley.
  
  - b. Not In Attendance: Geno Auriemma, Carolyn Campbell-McGovern, Muffet McGraw, Jill Dunn, Audra Smith, Jim Flanery, Stephanie Gaitley, Brady Sallee, Amanda Butler.
  
- III. Upcoming Events – Betty Jaynes
  - a. 2010 WBCA National Convention: San Antonio, TX; April 2 – 6, 2010
    - i. Registration opens online at Noon (EST) on Sept. 8, 2009. Get registration complete to secure hotel rooms.
      - 1. Early Bird price for convention – only \$295 (the WBCA has not raised convention registration prices in three (3) years).
    - ii. Speakers/Invitation to Present – Invitation to present is posted on wbc.org. If you know of any coaches and/or yourself who would like to speak on any educational topics (ex. Recruiting, Nutrition) during the Convention, please sign up to present.
  
- IV. Current Changes – Beth Bass
  - a. Thanks to all those who participated in the Membership Survey sent out in June. Over 1,500 responses, 41% return – Amazing!
    - i. Core Products based on survey: Education, X's and O's, Professional Development, Networking, Advocacy and Legislation, and Promoting women's basketball.
    - ii. Committed to making sure we, the WBCA, are aligned to what our members want and need. Servicing our members to the highest degree especially through customer service.
  
  - b. Net.News – Is being discontinued. Changing format into more of an industry and association news highlight as well as upcoming events. New name and new look.
  
  - c. Launch of newly redesigned website coming early next year.
  
  - d. Coaching Women's Basketball - Updating and changing format into a color magazine; very content heavy with X's and O's, coaching profiles, information on conditioning as well as industry trends and news that encompasses all divisions.

- i. Anyone interested in writing, knows someone who likes to write, or a coach we can profile please contact the WBCA with your suggestions. Have a lot of content to fill and write in the new magazine.
- ii. Dee Stokes – After survey results came in, any thoughts about reducing the membership fees?
  1. A lot of discussion with Board and Focus Groups. Understand what is going on with the economy and the financial difficulties on campus. First want to be able to figure out the new alignments. Nothing is out of the question. Considering all aspects.
- iii. Deb Patterson – WBCA have stats that would illustrate what the actual membership numbers are per group?
  1. Beth Bass - WBCA has different tiers of membership. Have not separated out BCS schools from other Division I schools. There are different prices for head coaches, different divisions, assistant coaches, DOBO's, and SID's. Don't have a different pricing within a division.
  2. Shannon Reynolds - Want to roll out our new products before we start discounting membership. WBCA is in the process of really overhauling the assets. WBCA needs to make sure that they can sustain the economy.
  3. Deb Patterson - more information to the members, letting them know what the WBCA is trying to do for them, understanding and appreciating them. WBCA needs to stay solid. Coaches need to take care of their organization. We have to be strong and know what the WBCA is doing for every single level of the game. Does our membership understand the differences in the structure – More information to our members that the WBCA cares and is trying.
    - a. Gathering the most proactive coaches in each division to come together during convention, create “something” where coaches feel like it is a must to come to the WBCA convention – if they are not here, they are missing out – instead of the feeling of Convention being DI, BCS driven. Making coaches feel like they want to come and will pay out of our pocket. Three or four coaches in each division that can be the leaders to pump everybody else up to come to convention and pay out of their pockets if they have to. Membership need to feel important, not just at the convention.
    - b. Beth Bass – It is up to the WBCA to figure out, with the Conference Captains help, what is compelling enough that a coach feels like they have to be a member of the WBCA and come to Convention, that they will even pay out of their own pocket – cannot afford not to be a member and go to convention.

V. Membership Retention for DI – Shannon Reynolds

- a. Different atmosphere during the WBCA BOD meeting when discussing what can we do for each of the divisions. Came to the realization that we don't need to do it by division, need to be the BEST at certain things: Best at Education, Best at Legislation, etc. Excited about the revamping of the WBCA, unfortunate about the economy.
- b. Goals and Current Status: Three years ago went to a new process in membership were everyone would have a 9/1 renewal date.
  - i. Just billed over \$350,000 in membership renewals. WBCA fiscal year ends August 31<sup>st</sup> and is waiting for this money to come in, which is a huge part of our operating budget.
  - ii. With two weeks to go, we have received about 15%.
- c. Conference Captains Assistance

- i. Help get the word out to the coaches in your conference to renew their membership. WBCA has sent two e-blasts out with all the renewals and one hard copy renewal form.
- ii. Last week, WBCA sent out to membership, through suggestion from the Board, speaking points to why being a member of the WBCA is important. Use to approach Administrators. Most suggestions came from the membership – any addition suggestions that have worked for you, let us know.
- iii. Shannon Reynolds asked Conference Captains to send out an email to conference coaches, encouraging them to fill out the DI Legislative survey (survey closed now) and to renew their membership by August 31<sup>st</sup>.
  1. Raegan Pebley – Regarding Early Bird Registration for Convention. Institutional budgets are so up in the air due to the economy. Any way to extend deadline. Maybe even a deposit to put down on early bird registration – to allow some type of wiggle room with administrators.
    - a. Early Bird \$295: Sept. 8 – Nov. 31<sup>st</sup>.
    - b. \$370: Dec. 1 – Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>.
    - c. \$445: March 1 – Convention.
    - d. WBCA will look at this suggestion.
  2. Joe Logan – Has been asked by coaches if for this year, they can't go, to have a video conference for the DI Business Meeting which will allow coaches to still be able to vote. He expressed to them the importance of being their in-person but would bring it up.
    - a. Board did discuss this. Feels strongly that to have a vote and voice, DI institutions must be represented at the Business Meeting. Board did feel that they want to be able to transfer voting rights onsite.

## VI. Legislative Discussion – Shannon Reynolds

- a. First time in years the WBCA has sent out a survey to DI head coaches on NCAA legislative proposals. Only received 139 responses at the time of the call. Need to get closer to 200 responses to feel confident that we have heard from the DI membership. (Final number = 209) Piece that was missing from the Foresight Process is that a conference could put forth a proposal and we don't know how our membership feels about it when asked.
  - i. Survey is for feedback to the Women's Basketball Issues Committee (WBIC) for their meeting on August 20-21<sup>st</sup>.
- b. DI Women's Basketball Related (WBB) Proposals are posted on WBCA.org, DI legislative page.
  - i. Included in those are 2 of the 3 proposals that were supported by membership during DI Business Meeting. Proposal that did not get supported is the one that would protect Easter weekend from the non-scholastic events.
- c. Foresight Committee Call next month. Conference Captains are responsible for setting up a call with conference coaches to discuss any legislative concerns that you believe would help the sport of women's basketball. Don't have to wait till the Foresight call to set up that call. Legislative issues will be due to the WBCA by Oct. 15, 2009.
- d. WBCA has had a lot of discussion about NCAA Enforcement, who breaking the rules, living in the gray, etc. Elizabeth Ramsey was present at the DI Business Meeting and Conference Captains meeting in St. Louis. Gave her email and phone number to members – No one called her during the July evaluation period. However the WBCA received many complaints about coaches breaking the rules.

- i. Prior to the October non-scholastic weekend, the WBCA will be sending out an email with Elizabeth's contact information – attending an event and see something happening, call her.
- ii. Deb Patterson – Clarify, from a WBCA prospective, who gets those calls and then who calls the coaches who have been accused.
  1. At the WBCA, Shannon Reynolds gets the calls and will call the coach being accused if specific information is involved. Professional courtesy call – let them know what is being said, be proactive. However, NCAA needs to get the call!
  2. If you are willing to call the NCAA, call Elizabeth Ramsey. Give her a who, what, where, when, and the time. Can stay anonymous, don't have to give name, can give name and ask to say anonymous.
  3. Or, go to your compliance officer, who will call the compliance officer of the accused coach. They are obligated to investigate. A lot of times, the investigation takes place just within the conference.
    - a. Happens on a daily basis! 100's of secondary violations posted on NCAA LSDBi.
  4. Deb Patterson: There is a fear to take the step of contacting the NCAA as well as contacting their compliance officer to call the other schools' compliance officer. Fear that the accused coach is going to find out who reported them. Coaches are fearful of the repercussions of reporting another coach. Does the WBCA want to be a conduit with making those communications? Feels like coaches don't believe that there is confidentiality.
    - a. WBCA does not want to play that role. We have no authority and we want to protect our coaches, while keeping a level playing field and the sport clean. Call Elizabeth Ramsey.
  5. Great for a session at Convention: Enticing title that makes coaches want to come to it – Compelling programming.
  6. Jen Rizzotti talked about what had been discussed with the Board of Directors. Why are we so afraid to be found out about reporting people? Need to have a group of people that are willing to step up and not worry if their name comes out. Conference Captains need to take a leadership role – we are not going to be afraid: "If have an issue, come to me and I will help you out." Feels confident that after the Board Meeting, there is going to be some change.
  7. Joe Logan – what he hears is what is really going to happen? Not really any consequences so why bother reporting a coach.
    - a. WBCA is going to try and help educate coaches, that every single day, coaches are penalized for violations, you just don't hear about them. Getting the NCAA involved – they are ready.
  8. Nikki Caldwell: Agrees and feels that the Conference Captains need to help regulate how the recruiting process is going. Heading towards the men's. Everybody has camera phone – take a picture and email it to Elizabeth. Coaches are the eyes for the NCAA.

VII. Thank you – Beth Bass

- a. Next call: Foresight Committee call on September 21, 2009 Noon – 1:30 P.M. EST
- b. Please set up your CONFERENCE Foresight Call ASAP. Deadline for issues to be submitted is October 15<sup>th</sup>.