

**Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA)
DIII Conference Captains Conference Call
Minutes - Monday, April 28, 2008 at Noon EST**

- I. Welcome – Pam Ruder
- II. Roll Call/Replacement for next year – Julie Guttowsky
 - 24 out of 39 in attendance.
 - Todd Goclowski filled in for Mike Miller.
 - ABSENT: Jamie Beaudoin, Mia Smith, Janet Berry, Patricia Canterino, Michele Davis, Juli Fulks, Cherise Galasso, Jennifer Robinson Watson, Chris Kielsmeier, Alex Lang, Abby Hearn, Jody Pepple, Jennifer Lucey, Deena Applebury, Alex Steward.
- III. Approval of April 7, 2008 Minutes – Pam Ruder
 - Shirley Egner – Motion to Approve.
 - Christy Thomaskutty – Second the Motion.
 - Minutes Approved.
- IV. Review 2008-09 Calls – Julie Guttowsky
 - Everyone should have received in the last email an attachment with the call dates for next year. If you did not, please contact Julie. If there are any concerns with these dates and/or time, let Betty Jaynes or Julie know.
- V. Beth Bass – CEO Report
 - DIII Business Meeting, great attendance at the meeting. This year was one of the WBCA's best conventions. Thank you to all those who were able to make it and went to the DIII Conference Captains Meeting and Business Meeting.
 - WBCA President, Coach Coale from the University of Oklahoma and Beth Bass, WBCA CEO, were able to make all the Business Meetings on Monday.
 - WBCA Think Pink was a phenomenal success this year. Started in 2007 and only had 120 schools participate. The numbers were finalized right before this year's convention and had over 1200 schools involved that raised close to \$1 million for cancer awareness and also had over 800,000 spectators come to venues and events this past year. Think Pink brought new fans to the game of women's basketball and became the new medium for breast cancer. Student Athletes, campuses, and communities were involved and excited. ESPN got involved in a huge way as well as Fox, CSTV, ESPNU, and a ton of local affiliates.
 - Had first in-person Board of Directors meeting for the Kay Yow/WBCA Cancer Fund in Tampa this year. To keep the momentum going and to gear the initiative to be more sport oriented, the WBCA decided to rebrand Think Pink to "Pink Zone." "Pink Zone" week for the upcoming basketball season is February 13-22, 2009. Every campus has the opportunity to decide what they want to do and how they want to distribute the money within the community or donate it to the Kay Yow/WBCA Cancer Fund.
 - In Tampa, WBCA rolled out the 4Kay Events-In-A-Box, if you do a Pink Zone game and donate it to the Kay Yow fund, excellent. If you want to keep the donations local that is great but then the WBCA asks that you do an additional 4Kay event for the Kay Yow/WBCA Cancer Fund. Over 800 runners participated in the first ever 4Kay run in Tampa.

- Youth Basketball Initiative: Sent Doug Bruno, WBCA Past President, to San Antonio on Monday, April 7, 2008. Myles Brand and David Stern held a press conference and invited all the shareholders of basketball to roll out a new youth basketball initiative. This impressive group included: Nike, Adidas, NBA, NCAA, USA Basketball, WBCA, and some Grass Roots Operators. \$30 million dollar venture split over five years, to help clean up youth basketball, especially the summer environment, the empowerment of nonscholastic coaches, the erosion of fundamentals/life skills. There will eventually be a piece for coaching and official certification. Women's side is being kept in the loop and assured that we will be in the conversations to roll out the second phase with the women's side. Our advantage is that we get to see the men's template and infrastructure that they build so that we will be able to tweak it as needed and implement it on the women's game.

VI. WBCA Membership and Convention Update – Dorinda Schremmer

- Had the second largest number of registrants, for the Convention in Tampa, with 2208. Philadelphia was the largest. Tampa was one of the best conventions. When including the Sponsors, VIPS, Exhibitors, So Participants, and High School Players, we had almost 2800 people represented in Tampa.
- DIII attendance at the Convention was 216 versus 193 in Cleveland.
- Conference Captains were emailed a list of members in your conference. Contact those in your conference that are not members and encourage them to join the WBCA.
- Any coaching changes that you have in your conference, please contact Dorinda or someone in the membership department to track on those.
- Registration for the St. Louis Convention is Tuesday, September 2, 2008 at noon EST. Encourage your conference coaches to sign up and go to St. Louis. Recommend that coaches go ahead and get your hotel right away. Take advantage of the early bird deadline, overflow hotels at a more economical rate, will also be available on wbca.org.
- Elections were on-line. Deadline was Friday, May 2, 2008 at 5:00 pm EST.
- WBCA Academic Top 25 Honor Roll goes online May 19, 2008. The deadline is June 30, 2008.
- Beginning May 1, 2008, the WBCA will make it mandatory for a September 1st renewal date. The WBCA is converting all membership to an August 31st expiration date. If you haven't already converted your membership, please contact the membership department and they can assist you and your staff on getting on a schedule.

VII. Confirm Roundtable Topics and Speakers for St. Louis – Dorinda Schremmer

- Reviewed suggestions that were made in Tampa.
 - i. "How to Make Big Time Anywhere"
 - ii. NCAA representatives at roundtables
- Pam Ruder brought up the manner that the roundtables had been held. Couple years ago DIII was by themselves and went well. This year they were combined at the same time as the assistant coaches roundtables. Opinions?
 - iii. Mike Strong – Thought went very well this year. DIII doesn't attract many people. This year a lot of others than just DIII people there. Think should keep going to way it is.
 - iv. Karen Harvey – Thought this year was really good also. Suggestion to make sure that there is enough handouts. The number of handouts is always a problem each year.
 - v. Pam Ruder – Suggested more of a classroom style setting for the roundtable discussions.

VIII. Legislation Update – Karen Tessmer

- Vanessa Fuchs gave some follow up information the following issues at the DIII Business Meeting. Karen Tessmer said that she will forward this information to all the DIII Conference Captains as well.
- Clarification on the email – Text messaging/instant messaging to psa's. If your current student athlete has an established relationship/friendship with the psa through playing basketball in high school or AAU team together, it is fine to send text messages and emails. If psa visits campus and builds a relationship with a current SA, they are only encouraged to make telephone calls and not texting unless it is completely outside of recruitment, just social basis. Vanessa expressed that each institution should be educating their student athletes on the NCAA rules and that phone calls are permitted at the DIII level.
- Question about alumni practicing with your teams: it is permissible. NCAA says that it can happen on an occasional basis. Occasional basis is not defined by the NCAA, they leave it up to the individual institution. This does not mean on a daily basis.
- MPP permissible activities for male managers and coaches: performing coaching and managerial duties is ok. If they are being used as purely practice players and to fill avoid of having less numbers of females on the team, that is not allowed.
- Possibility of having tryouts at DIII. Looks doubtful at the DIII level. But if this is something that the group wants to pursue further, we can bring up to the NCAA and start working on legislation for it.
 - i. Mike Strong – Feels very strongly about this. More from the point of view of the psa who has to make the decision to go to school. It is a big financial decision to make to have to wait until the fall to have tryouts and possibly make or not make the team. No way to tell the psa if they are going to make the team or not. Doesn't care if at a neutral site or intertwined with an AAU tournament.
 - ii. Karen Tessmer says that we will try to pursue it. Talk to the NCAA to see if it has a chance of being looked at. Will need to talk to some Athletic Directors and Presidents to see if a conference would be willing to propose this issue.
- Took a straw vote at the DIII Business Meeting on a recruiting calendar. Not a whole lot of interest.
- Shannon Reynolds – Keep checking the website for up-to-date DIII legislation.

Shannon Reynolds– Directives from the Board over last summer was to discuss the cost of packets for summer events. WBCA hired an attorney to give us some directive on what we could do as an association to assist in legislating or what coaches individually could do on restricting the price under the law. No legal basis. Summary from attorney is that the NCAA has not legal grounds to restrict the cost of packets or they would be liable for an anti-trust suit. Operators have the right to charge whatever they want to coaches. Recommendation: coaches are the only ones that can make a difference. Cannot start a boycott, they are per say illegal. Individual coaches can make the choice not to go. On the NCAA website, the prices of packets are posted.

IX. Closing Comments and Thanks You – Pam Ruder

- Mike Strong – another thought – Business Meeting was very well attended. Didn't seem like we had a lot of time to cover some business that coaches wanted input on. Presentations were great. Couple of things that coaches wanted to discuss, not enough time. If get that much support in DIII, give more time for coaches to exchange.
- Pam Ruder – Has recommended that the rules information, which is the same across the board for all divisions, be put in a separate session allowing more room at the business meetings for discussion.
- Next Call: Tuesday, October 14, 2008.