

Women's Basketball Coaches Association
DI Conference Captains Conference Call
Minutes Monday, October 2, 2006, 12:00 p.m. Eastern

- I. Welcome – Doug Bruno welcomed Captains at 12:05 p.m. (Eastern).
- II. Roll Call – Amy Lowe. 33 of 34 Captains were in attendance. Shann Hart was not on the call.
- III. Approval of June Minutes – Doug Bruno. Motion was made by Joan Bonvicini to approve the June minutes. 2nd by Annette Watts.
- IV. Discussion of Captains Involvement with WBCA Awards Program – Amy Lowe. The captains are responsible for helping the WBCA get the word out about the awards program. Each Captain will receive a list of member coaches and we ask that they forward any information about the awards program to the coaches in their conference. All awards are online this year. This includes nominations and ballots. All award nominations will go online on **Monday, January 8, 2007 at Noon ET** and they will remain online until **Friday, February 16, 2007 at 5:00 PM ET**. Coaches will need their member ID and password to access these nomination forms. Ballots for Kodak/WBCA All-America and RUSSELL ATHLETIC/WBCA National Coach of the Year will go online on **Friday, February 23, 2007 at Noon ET** and they will remain online until **Monday, March 5, 2007 at 5:00 PM ET**.

The WBCA made a change in criteria for the RUSSELL ATHLETIC/WBCA National Coach of the Year award. In August our Board of Directors passed a motion to allow coaches to nominate coaches from outside of their region for this award. Coaches will still only vote for coaches in their specific region.

- V. Review Job Descriptions, Terms of Conference Captains, Salary Survey, Convention Program and Code of Ethics – Betty Jaynes. Betty reviewed the job description for the Captains. The number one responsibility is to be on each Conference Captains call. According to WBCA records we are only missing one Conference Captain. The second responsibility is communicating to the coaches in each conference the legislative issues that are discussed by the WBCA. The third responsibility as a Captain is to send out the News and Notes to the coaches in your conference once Betty and Amy send them to you.

A qualified substitute if a Captain can not be on the call is an assistant coach, director of basketball operations, administrative assistant, or another coach in your conference.

Doug thanked the Conference Captains for their engagement in the Foresight Committee. Part of the engagement is that all of the coaches learn to the best of their ability how the legislative process works.

Doug mentioned a story about the Marsha Sharp Think Tank. During the very first meeting there were probably 17 or 18 coaches who are usually playing in the Final Four and maybe three of the coaches understood the legislative structure. The point is if you're not sure how the legislative process works please don't hesitate to ask questions or contact Shannon Reynolds at the WBCA. Doug encouraged the Conference Captains to learn the legislative process so each Captain can pass the information they learn to the other coaches in their conference.

The roster for the DI Conference Captains has the terms of each Conference Captain for your reference. As a Conference Captain you can serve one three year term. If you ever have any questions on your term please contact Amy Lowe or Betty Jaynes at the WBCA.

The salary surveys are online now at WBCA.org. We have about 73 coaches who have responded. Please encourage the coaches in your conference to complete this online survey. If you are not familiar with the information on the Salary Survey you can select the *unavailable* option and then submit the salary survey.

The Code of Ethics has been implemented. It is being used now in WBCA membership renewals.

The programming for Cleveland has a different format than the previous years. There will be some high profile speakers that will be speaking on court or in the classroom. The WBCA has high profile coaches that have already committed to speaking in Cleveland. The hope is that these speakers will help increase registration numbers. The speakers that have committed are: Geno Auriemma, Pat Summitt, Gail Goestenkors, Sylvia Hatchell, Brenda Frese, Pokey Chatman, Anne Donovan, Van Chancellor and Joanne McCallie. If the coaches do get to the Final Four they will not be speaking.

VI. Membership & Convention Update – Dorinda Schremmer.

The WBCA is hoping to have over 1900 coaches in Cleveland. If coaches have not registered the early bird deadline is November 30th and the convention fee for early bird is \$295.

Women's Final Four tickets did go up by \$2 this year and those rates are set by the NCAA.

The Renaissance in Cleveland is sold out but there are rooms available at the Crowne Plaza which is the most convenient hotel to the Convention Center and where most of the programming will be held.

The tickets for the WBCA High School All-America game presented by Nike are \$15 and sales are going well. If you have not gotten your tickets yet please make sure to do so.

The All-Star Challenge game has been suspended for one year and will be reevaluated. Tip off for the WBCA High School All-America game is tentatively set for March 31st at 4:30 pm.

Dorinda will be sending the Conference Captains a list of the coaches that are registered for Convention. She asked the Captains to encourage those coaches in their conference who have not registered to get on board and get registered before November 30th.

VII. Legislation and Foresight Committee – Shannon Reynolds.

Shannon reviewed the timeline for the Foresight Committee. Friday, October 6, 2006 is the deadline for the any additional legislative concerns that have come from the other coaches in your conferences. These items will be added to the list we have from the first call and they would be included on the spring survey.

In addition, each Conference Captain needs to submit how the coaches in your conference voted on the legislative items that are currently in the cycle. The items that are in the legislative cycle now are one's that have come from your conferences. Our Board of Directors reviewed the initial proposals and gave the WBCA feedback. The WBCA then discussed the information with NCAA. With the Foresight Committee we have a much larger group than the Board feedback. If your conference feels strongly on one of the proposals then that voice will be heard. It's very important that we get the tally sheets back.

Shannon thanked the Conference Captains who have already submitted the information for the Foresight Committee.

Shannon addressed the issue of student-athletes being demonstrators at camps/clinics. The WBCA understands this issue and will include it on the Spring Survey however the intent has been defeated in the past by NCAA committees.

Within the legislative cycle there is a time for amendments. The deadline when a conference can amend a proposal is October 17th.

An issue last year was when a non scholastic event fell on Easter Sunday. Historically the NCAA does not make exceptions for holidays. 2006-30 was modified by the Big East to specify that the evaluation at non scholastic weekends occur Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The proposal still states the spring evaluation period only.

The proposals are online because we wanted the coaches to be aware of the proposals. We will update those proposals after the amendment period.

FAR's have become an integral part of legislation on many campuses. The WBCA does not seem to have a grasp as to how much they influence the NCAA committees. The SAAC plays a large role in influencing NCAA committees.

Right now we are in the educational phase on the issue of male practice players. It's important that everyone understands the importance of why coaches need male practice players. Teams need the strength and speed of male practice players to make players better. The WBCA did a mailing at the Division III level to all Athletic Directors and Conference Commissioners because it is up against it as a legislative proposal.

VIII. Marketing Update, Division I Women's Basketball Committee, and Division I Discussion Group – Beth Bass.

Beth updated the Captains on our Board of Directors meeting in August. Myles Brand spoke at the Board of Directors meeting and reported out on his Women's Basketball Discussion Group. Our Board of Directors was the genesis for the Foresight Committee.

The WBCA budget year ended August 31st. We were zero based and had a modest surplus this year which goes into our reserves.

The WBCA Executive Committee was able to go into Orlando and meet with the Women's Basketball Championship Committee. The Executive Committee addressed the procedures, protocol and policies as they relate to bracketing and seeding. Sherri Coale, Wendy Larry, Bonnie Henrickson, Carolyn Campbell-McGovern and Pam Ruder did a wonderful job voicing the concerns of our coaches. It's important as coaches to respect the committee and realize they have to make some difficult decisions. The Executive Committee also discussed the appropriate model of communication to address our issues and concerns with the committee. The Women's Basketball Committee felt like the WBCA should not have an official protocol and procedure but the WBCA Board of Directors created a sub committee as it relates to bracketing and seeding.

The WBCA will be meeting with the committee again next week and a full report from the committee will come out from their June meeting and their October meeting.

The Women's Basketball Discussion Group that Myles Brand chairs has done a lot of work on a marketing program and with pre and post opportunities in the tournament. The WNIT is expanding and there is a new group the WNIC that will offer pre and post competitive opportunities in 07' and 08'. The discussion group feels like the market should dictate how these tournaments should go.

Another initiative out of the Women's Basketball Discussion Group is staggering the men's and women's tournament. It has been looked at to divide the weekends or make the women's tournament go a week before the men's or a week after the men's tournament.

The WBCA has asked the Women's Basketball Discussion Group to allow the WBCA to see a real revenue snap shot of the NCAA tournament. The committee has given us very detailed information on this and we are close to breaking even with the NCAA tournament. The myth out there is that we were between \$5 and \$9 million in the hole. Our tournament is not losing what we had thought it was losing and if we all encourage attendance at 1st and 2nd rounds we could break even this year.

The last marketing piece is Kodak has had some major woes and will not renew their sponsorship for the Kodak/WBCA All-America team after this year. The WBCA is working with a corporate sponsor that you will be pleased with and the WBCA will announce this change in sponsorship at the Convention in Cleveland.

IX. NCAA Yes Clinics and Nike's So You Want to Be A Coach Program – Betty Jaynes.

The Big West, Mountain West, Western Athletic, Big Sky, Sunbelt, Pac 10, Southland and West Coast coaches are up to participate in the Yes Clinics. Conference Captains were encouraged to contact the coaches in these specific conferences to see if they would like to participate in the Yes program in Cleveland. Each conference will only be asked to participate every four years. We have 4 conferences who have already responded. If you have any questions please contact Betty Jaynes.

- The applications for the *Nike So You Want To Be A Coach* program are available online at WBCA.org. Please think of minority student-athletes who might be interested in this program and get them nominated. Minority female student-athletes who will exhaust their final year of basketball eligibility at a four-year institution by March 30, 2007 or have graduated within the past year are eligible and should apply before January 17, 2007.

The BFJ internship program is also taking applications for 6 internship positions. For more information go to WBCA.org

X. Thank You – Doug Bruno.

Doug thanked the Captains for their participation. Call adjourned 1:00 PM ET.