

WBCA Foresight Committee Minutes
(WBCA Division I Conference Captains &
Division I Members of WBCA Board of Directors)
Monday, September 21, 2009
Noon – 1:30 P.M. EST

Presiding – Geno Auriemma

- I. Welcome and Introductions – Geno Auriemma/Beth Bass
 - a. Beth Bass thanks the group for being on the call. One of the most important Conference Captain calls all year, as it relates to Foresight Issues as the WBCA tries for one voice and to unify membership with legislative issues.
 - b. Geno Auriemma thanks the group for making the effort to be on the call this morning. Imperative that we get as much input from coaches as possible.

- II. Roll Call – Only Conference Captains
 - a. In Attendance: Geno Auriemma, Carolyn Campbell-McGovern, Muffet McGraw, Brian Mik (for Jen Rizzotti), Jill Dunn, Kelly Moylan (for Deb Patterson), Phyllis Mangina, Tricia Binford, Tiffany Gwynn (for Betsy Blose), Rachel Rito (for Coquese Washington), Debbie Taylor, Audra Smith, Beth Couture, Paul Nixon, Joe Logan, Maria Fantanarosa, Dee Stokes, Jim Flanery, Jeff Mittie, Stephanie Gaitley, Brady Sallee, Nikki Caldwell, Tammy Smith, Amanda Butler, Annette Watts, KC Cowgill (for Rae Blair), Sandy Pugh, Erik Johnson, Cindy Fisher, Raegan Pebley.
 - b. Not In Attendance: Cathy Andruzzi, Kellie Harper, Lynne Roberts, Shann Hart

- III. Job Description: Betty Jaynes briefly went over the Conference Captain job description emphasizing/highlighting 5 main points for returning and new Captains:
 - a. Always on the conference calls or have someone substituting that will represent your conference for a voice.
 - b. If there is an urgent matter in DI, Conference Captains will be contacted immediately to discuss and will be relied upon to vote what you feel your conference direction is.
 - c. Do what you can to make sure all coaches in your conference are members of the WBCA.
 - d. Imperative to forward News & Notes to every coach in conference.
 - e. Conference Captains are intricate to the State Farm All-America voting in March. Names of the coaches in your conference who have NOT voted will be sent to you two days before polls close for you to communicate with them to make sure they vote.

- IV. Committee Mission – Geno Auriemma
 - a. Shannon Reynolds provided background of the Foresight Committee. Direction of Doug Bruno when he was President of the WBCA. We needed to streamline the legislative process. Feedback WBCA received from the NCAA Committees was that there was women’s basketball fatigue. Foresight Process lets every institution have a voice and a vote.
 - b. WBCA has tracked women’s basketball proposals since the start of the Foresight Process and have been very successful with those issues receiving 70 percent majority vote from the Division I Business Meeting. Successful with having those issues adopted and how our game is governed. Process has been a success.
 - c. WBCA Foresight Committee Mission: To have 100% of the women’s basketball specific proposals come through the WBCA legislative process so that they can be voted on by the entire WBCA Division I membership prior to reaching the NCAA legislative cycle. This process encourages inclusion and gives “one voice” to legislative issues that directly affect the great sport of Women’s Basketball.

- V. Foresight Timeline: Julie Donlin reviewed Foresight Timeline that was sent to all committee members prior to the call. Timeline encompasses the WBCA internal legislative process (Foresight) as well as the NCAA legislative process. Please don't hesitate to contact the WBCA for further clarification if needed.
- a. **Foresight Issues are due to Julie Donlin by October 15, 2009.** We need, in writing, from every Conference Captain what issues your conference would like to bring forth, even if your conference does not have any issues to submit.
 - b. After all Foresight Issues have been submitted, they will be compiled, sent out to the WBCA Legislative Committee for help with pros and cons, then sent out to the whole WBCA Division I membership before the holiday break.
- VI. 2008-2009 Foresight Committee Recap – Julie Donlin: Three issues received the minimum 70 percent majority vote coming out of the 2009 WBCA DI Business Meeting in St. Louis. Those three issues were forwarded on to the Women's Basketball Issues Committee (WBIC) for support in the 2009-10 NCAA Legislative Cycle. Two of the three issues were supported by the WBIC and sent on to the NCAA DI Championship/Sport Management Cabinet for possible submission as a proposal to the NCAA Legislative Cycle. Both those two issues were supported and submitted as a proposal before the July 15th deadline.
- a. Proposal regarding test weekends, Proposal 2009-36, possibility of being withdrawn, re-written to encompass the moving of the 5 evaluation days in the spring and then re-submitted in the 2010-11 NCAA Legislative Cycle. Do not see conflict till 2013.
- VII. Division I Legislative Survey (Results posted on wbc.org, DI Leg. Page): Shannon briefly discussed the 2009-10 Women's Basketball Related Proposals Survey sent out by the WBCA, in combination with the NCAA Legislative Proposals.
- a. Survey was a Board decision last year to vote on all women's basketball related proposals for the current NCAA Cycle
 - i. Allows the WBCA to represent a position and gain feedback from our members on those women's basketball related proposals that didn't come out of the WBCA Foresight Process.
- VIII. 2009-2010 NCAA WBB Related Legislative Proposals: Shannon Reynolds highlighted some of the proposals to put on Captains radar.
- a. 2009-30: Initially prepared for men's basketball; WBCA membership support of 72% to be included in this proposal.
 - b. 2009-32: Pac-10 proposal; WBCA survey – received 40% supported, 57% did not support, 4% neutral.
 - c. 2009-36: Test weekend; Most likely going to be withdrawn, re-written to include moving the 5 evaluation days and submitted again in the 2010-11 NCAA legislative Cycle.
 - d. 2009-37: Eliminate evaluating at open gyms/pick-up games during the summer. WBCA survey- received 90% support; Open gyms have been on everybody's radar. WBCA has been receiving numerous emails regarding open gyms and what is permissible and impermissible. Did not receive the support to put forth legislation that would eliminate open gyms during the academic year.
 - e. Two issues in regards to changing the playing season:
 - i. Proposal 2009-77 – Practice 30 in 40 days. WBCA survey – 54.1% support
 1. Amanda Butler: Basic goal would be to give each individual program the flexibility based on their needs.
 2. Muffet McGraw states that softball has adopted this and suggests captains talk with Softball coaches to see what they think about it.
 - ii. Staggered start to the playing season. Will possibly come out of the October NCAA DI Board Meeting in regards to men's basketball. WBCA survey – 66.7% support.

- iii. WBCA will be sending out educational materials once the men's proposal has been submitted to help membership understand the differences between the two proposals.
- f. 2009-78 – Reduction in contests in women's basketball. WBCA survey – 49% support.
 - i. Muffet McGraw states that this came out of the Women's Basketball Issues Committee Academic Enhancement Plan and feel they are in favor of this proposal.

The Women's Basketball Issues Committee has submitted to the NCAA DI Championship/Sport Management Cabinet, who agreed to sponsor, emergency legislation to amend Bylaw 30.16 to be worded similar to the men's rule (Bylaw 30.15 (k)) which states: Participants on nonscholastic teams must be legal residents of the state in which the team is located or a geographically adjoining state and not more than a total of three prospective student-athletes from adjoining states may participate on any one nonscholastic team.

-On October 29, 2009, the NCAA DI Board of Directors will meet. Additional proposal could possibly come out of that meeting. This emergency legislation will be up for vote. If adopted in October, it will come into effect for July 2010.

During our last Conference Captain call in August, we talked a lot about NCAA violations and reporting violations and reaching out to coaches if you believe that they are violating the rules. On September 30th, the WBCA will be sending out Elizabeth Ramsey's contact information to every member of the WBCA, in hopes that if you are sitting in a gym and see a violation occurring you may text, email, or call her giving a who, what, where and when. WBCA's goal is not to get coaches in trouble; it is our goal to protect coaches. We need a culture shift/change in women's basketball.

Annette Watts sent WBCA information that the Southern Conference Commissioner was going to be talking to Conference Commissioners and AD's about summer packet prices. WBCA has had many discussions on packet prices. Legislatively, we cannot cap packet prices. However, Conferences or Athletics Directors could tell their coaches this is what you are allowed to pay. Would need to be wide spread for it to be a level playing field. Could have a positive impact on the reduction of packet prices.

-Event operators can charge whatever they want and can charge different prices for different groups. They have rented that facility. The second piece that the WBCA has heard about this year is the admissions fees. Cannot cap those fees either; however the WBCA is going to ask the NCAA to require that event operators post admission fees on the website also, so they can't change it in the middle of an event.

-Annette Watts brought up some articles that have been written about men's basketball recruiting and the price of packets. Keep in touch with your men's basketball coach, see what the men are talking about doing. They are starting to get the same treatment as the women have been.

Joe Logan sent an email wondering if SAAC had been polled on NCAA proposal 2009-78, reduction of contests in women's basketball. WBCA survey: 49.5% support, 40.3% don't support, 10.2% neutral. SAAC does not meet until Nov. 20-22 and will probably be discussing current NCAA legislative proposals effecting student-athletes at that time. SAAC is made up of student-athletes from all sports. In the past, the WBCA has asked coaches to survey their team on issues just effecting women's basketball or basketball in general.

*Might be worth looking at doing a survey with the women's basketball student-athletes.

- IX. Foresight Committee Discussion – new issues for consideration – Muffet McGraw:
 - a. All Foresight Issues are due October 15, 2009. Reminder that WBCA needs, in writing, a summary of any issues that your conference wants to bring forth even if there are no new issues. Send issues to Julie Donlin at jguttowsky@wbca.org.

- b. Muffet McGraw asks captains to discuss what they are thinking about right now.
 - i. Conferences that have sent in issues to date of the Foresight call: America East, Atlantic Coast, Big East, Metro Atlantic Athletic, Southern, and Western Athletic.
 - ii. Discussion on July Recruiting Calendar and how coaches want to see it changed:
 - 1. Big East discussed eliminating a few days in the July recruiting period – majority of coaches wanted to see this happen. Also proposed that National 16 U AAU Tournament be separate from July. Majority of the league still want the 20 days to see kids but moved out of July.
 - 2. During WBCA Board Meeting, at the end of July, a lot of feedback about cutting days in July. WBCA contacted NCAA. Feedback received was those were different days/times. To do that now, would lead to a law suit by creating an exception for an event operator.
 - a. WBCA did survey last year on changing the July recruiting, voted on during the DI Business Meeting – doesn't get the support come time to vote.
 - b. MAAC – similar discussion as Big East. Fine for reducing recruiting days in July as long as have more days in another period. Fear is reducing days in July but won't get them back.
 - iii. Joe Logan poses the question of how we were able to get the dead period in July and not to go out recruiting the beginning of July. Why weren't there law suits in regards to that? – In this case, the NCAA is not giving someone an exemption. Dates don't have to deal with earning. These are the dates coaches can go. Event operators can still have events during dead or quite periods, but coaches can't go.
 - iv. Big East discussed the dead period in July as being a quite period for psa's to come on campus and for coaches to be able to hold camps. Sherri Coale brings up the reason why the rule came into place: institutions in event locale had an unfair advantage.
 - v. Muffet McGraw went over the Women's Basketball Issues Committee Academic Enhancement Plan: Incoming at-risk freshman (determined by the institution), mandatory summer school. With upper classman, not mandatory summer school. Would like to have access to the freshman, but may not get it.
 - vi. Muffet McGraw thought the not touching home in July rule worked well and would like to expand that to the Fall and Spring non-scholastic weekends.
 - vii. Tricia Binford from the Big Sky: Conference coaches wanted to know with the evaluation periods if there what a way to legislate what kind of "institutional" coaching attire was on the bench.

X. Miscellaneous – Shannon Reynolds

- a. There has been a lot of discussion about attendance at the DI Business Meeting and transfer of voting rights. These issues will be determined by the WBCA Executive Committee in November. A lot of the things that we do here at the WBCA follow the NCAA model and in order for an institution to have a voice and vote they must be registered for the NCAA Convention. Institutions do not get to vote if they are not in attendance.

XI. Thank You – Geno Auriemma

- a. Foresight Issues due to WBCA by October 15, 2009
- b. Next Conference Captains Call: Monday, October 19, 2009 from Noon–1:00 PM ET