

**PENNSYLVANIA STATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - Harrisburg, PA
May 20, 2008**

I. CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE

Vice Chairman Armenti called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. May 20, 2008. The following were in attendance:

President David Soltz – Bloomsburg University
President Angelo Armenti, Jr. – California University
President Michelle Howard-Vital – Cheyney University
President Joseph P. Grunenwald – Clarion University
President Robert J. Dillman - East Stroudsburg University
President Tony Atwater – Indiana University
President F. Javier Cevallos – Kutztown University
President Keith T. Miller – Lock Haven University
President Francine G. McNairy – Millersville University
President William Ruud – Shippensburg University
President Robert M. Smith – Slippery Rock University
Steve Murray, Commissioner

II. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

MOTION: (Smith) That the minutes of the May 2007 meeting be approved as presented.

SECONDED: (McNairy)

MOTION PASSED

III. REPORTS

A. Finance – President Miller

MOTION: (Smith) That the tentative 2008 -09 budget be adopted as presented with final approval of the annual budget resting with the Board of Directors Executive Committee at the conclusion of the fiscal year.

SECOND: (McNairy)

MOTION PASSED

B. Commissioners Report – Mr. Murray

Mr. Murray made the following announcements:

1. The conference office is conducting a search for the replacement of Lauren Packer, Media Relations Director, who resigned effective June 13, 2008
2. The PSAC will be working with the sports management graduate program at Slippery Rock University this fall to survey “fan experience” at one football contest per institution.
3. Described the upcoming football media day plans as part of league expansion and efforts to celebrate the various championship anniversaries occurring the league.
4. Discussed the conference’s policy regarding the league not scheduling mandated athletic events in conjunction with the semester finals of the PASSHE calendar.

C. NCAA Presidents Council – President Grunenwald

President Grunenwald deferred his report to President Armenti who recently attended a conference CEO summit at the NCAA offices. President Armenti explained Division II’s commitment to the Community Engagement and Game Environment initiatives

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Webcasting of Events

Mr. Murray updated the presidents on the efforts to develop webcasting opportunities for member institutions. A few member institutions are proceeding with separate agreements. The PASSHE will soon release an RFP to interested providers and oversee a common contract that member institutions may desire to participate in.

B. Conference Incorporation

Mr. Murray updated the presidents on a move by the league to form as a non-profit corporation. The 2008-09 league budget includes expenses for this process and the league will work with an outside counsel to assist with the incorporation process.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Advisory Council Recommendations –

1. Consent Items – President Dillman/President Armenti

The Board reviewed the Consent legislative items approved previously by the Chairman, endorsing his position (Appendix A)

2. Controversial Items – President Armenti

MOTION: (Dillman) That all PSAC conference coaches and associated staff (to include anyone who supervises a sport team alone), who conduct practice, competition, skill instruction, and strength and conditioning sessions, be certified in both first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR with AED) and to have reviewed their institutions emergency plan activation policy(ies), effective August of each academic year.

SECOND: (McNairy)

MOTION FAILS

MOTION: (Ruud) That in the sport of swimming, that ONE certified athletic trainer, based on a rotational basis of participating teams, must be in attendance at the league championship.

SECOND: (Dillman)

MOTION PASSES

MOTION: (Ruud) That for the sport of tennis, that following the 2008-09 academic year, the individual tennis championship be eliminated from the conference menu of championships.

SECOND: (Grunenwald)

MOTION FAILS

MOTION: (Ruud) To adopt the proposed language for an institutional Letter of Commitment for use when prospective student-athletes are not awarded athletic grants-in-aid but willing to commit to attend the institution.

SECOND: (Howard-Vital)

MOTION TO TABLE: (Ruud) SECOND: (Howard-Vital)

MOTION TO TABLE PASSES

Note: The Board of Directors asked the commissioner to review the language in the proposed document and return it to the Board for future consideration.

MOTION: (Ruud) That the PSAC adopt the following policies regulations regarding Coaching Staff Limitations beginning with the 2008-09 academic year.

SECOND: (Grunenwald)

MOTION PASSES

PSAC Coaching Staff Limitations

A. FOOTBALL

1 head coach

4 full-time assistant coaches (coaching contract with benefits)

5 paid part time coaches, or graduate assistants or volunteers

10 TOTAL COACHES

B. ALL OTHER SPORTS

1 head coach

1 full-time assistant (coaching contract with benefits) or part-time assistant or volunteer

1 paid part-time assistant (half time or less) or graduate assistant or volunteer

1 volunteer

4 TOTAL COACHES

C. NOTES

1. When sports combine male and female squads, the size of the coaching staff may double.
2. In addition to the above limitations, an institution is permitted to utilize an unlimited number of full-time undergraduate students with no limitation of duties.
3. In addition to the above limitations, an institution is permitted to utilize a maximum of four (4) social equity positions with a maximum of one (1) per sport. These positions shall be determined by the President and reported to the Commissioner.
4. Division I sports are exempt from these limitations.

MOTION: (Ruud) In the sport of softball, that the 2009 mandated schedule move to a Saturday/Sunday format.

SECOND: (Grunenwald)

MOTION FAILS

MOTION: (Ruud) That when the Board of Directors meet with the commissioner that two representatives (chair & co-chair) from the athletics administrators be present.

SECOND: (Grunenwald)

MOTION FAILS

B. Membership Issues

The Board reviewed a document outlining the current status of conference scheduling and conference championship formats for the 2008-09 academic year.

C. Strategic Planning

The Board reviewed the PSAC Strategic Plan adopted in 2001 which concludes with 2008.

MOTION: (Dillman) That the Conference proceed with a new strategic planning process during the 2008-09 academic year.

SECOND: (Howard-Vital)

MOTION PASSES

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. August Retreat Topics

The Board suggested topics of discussion for the August retreat that will be schedule in conjunction with the PASSHE Council of Presidents meetings at Millersville University. The topics include: review of scheduling in order to reduce expenses, strategic planning and conference incorporation.

B. Personnel Issues

The Board met in executive session regarding personnel issues.

VII. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Board asked the Commissioner to work with the PASSHE Offices in order to coordinate meeting dates between the two entities.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

**Summary of Consent Items from the PSAC Advisory Council
Previously approved by the Chair of the Board of Directors**

A. FALL LEGISLATION CONSENT ITEMS (approved 11/27/07 by Board President Dr. Dillman)

1. That in the sport of baseball, that beginning in 2009, the conference tournament be conducted with two four-team double elimination brackets played down to a single championship game.
2. That in the sport of cross country that the PSAC begin the use of micro-chip electronic timing as soon as can be implemented.
Note: While intended for the 2007 championship, there were no opportunities to do so until the 2008 championship
3. For the sports of men's and women's cross country, that the conference office conduct a coaches pre-season poll.
4. That in the sports of Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field, the respective operating codes be revised to add the language for canceling and redrawing heats which reads, "If heats are drawn for a race but the number of competitors who report to run is small enough to run in one race, the heats shall be canceled and the race shall be run as a final at the originally scheduled final time (NCAA Rulebook Section 11. Article 6.). The games committee will then seed the final according to the qualifying marks of athletes or teams for all events."
5. That in the sport of basketball, for the playoffs, the last two regular season games will be exchanged with the two potential opponents in the semi-finals and arrived by Tuesday of the quarterfinals.
6. For all regular season and post-season PSAC basketball games, the conference adopt media time outs at the 14 and 7 minute mark each half.
7. That in the sport of tennis, Bloomsburg would host the conference individual championships in 2008, and Shippensburg would host the conference team championships in 2009.
8. In the sport of softball to eliminate the Executive Committee from the operating code.
9. In the sport of softball in the event a game must be rescheduled for the next available date. The next available date is defined as a date on which no conference mandated game has scheduled or rescheduled.
10. At the PSAC Softball Championship Tournament all practice times are 1 hour long and the practice times will be determined in priority in the sequence:
 - a). The team traveling the farthest distance will have the first choice
 - b). The team traveling the second farthest distance will have the second choice
 - c). The #1 seed of the opposite division not hosting the tournament will have the third choice
 - d). The #1 seed of the division hosting the tournament will have the fourth choice
 - e). The last seed left in the opposite division will have the fifth choice
 - f). The remaining team will have the last choice
12. For the 2008 swimming championships, to adopt the same time trial schedule as the 2007 championships and to add a time trial before the 1650 on the last night. The additional time trial will be arranged so that it does not delay the start of the meet.
13. For the 2008 swimming championships, to begin the final event on the last day of competition up one hour to 5:00 p.m.
14. That in the sport of women's soccer, the host SID of the semifinal match in the division that will host the championship will compile the championship match program.
15. That at all conference championships, the host school will be responsible for providing team photos after the championship to participating institutions.

16. That the conference office examine regulations regarding the licensing of photography and other rights at championship events.

17. To accept the basketball (2008-09 & 2009-10) and football (2008 & 2009) schedules as presented

B. SPRING LEGISLATIVE CONSENT ITEMS – (approved 5/07/08 by Acting Board President Dr. Armenti

1. That the name of the Rookie of the Year award in the PSAC awards program be changed to “Freshman of the Year” to reflect the league’s desire to honor those athletes in their initial year of eligibility for competition.

2. That in the sport of volleyball, a full crossover be implemented in the mandated league schedule for the 2009 season.

3. That in the sport of volleyball any references in the tie breaking procedures for determining post-season participants using cross-over results should be eliminated IF a full crossover is not employed in the mandated league schedule.

4. That in the sport of volleyball the championship will consist of eight teams with an equal number of teams from each division qualifying. The quarterfinals will be played on Tuesday within the division (#4 at #1, #3 at #2). Tuesday’s winners will advance to the PSAC semifinals held the following weekend at the highest remaining seeding, using the current alternating division host site. Quarterfinal match times will be 7:00 pm

5. That in the sport of volleyball, to require that a written protocol regarding any intermission activities between games 2 and 3 must be provided to the visiting team and available at the scorer’s table prior to the service coin toss. The host institution must provide the visiting team with a private gathering place to meet during the intermission.

6. That in the sport of football, in the event of a multiple-team tie among the division leaders, the following procedure will be followed to determine the participant in the conference championship game.

Football Divisional Tie-Breaking Procedure:

A. Procedure:

1). Head-to-Head Results among tied teams

2). Record against teams in the division not involved in the tie starting at the first team in the standings not involved in the tie

3). Overall Record in the mandated conference games

4). Coin Toss

B. If in the process of breaking the tie among multiple teams, if one team is eliminated from the tie then the tiebreaking process will restart from step 1.

7. That in the sport of women’s soccer, the top four teams in each division will qualify for the play-offs. First round games will be contests with the #4 team in each division playing at the #1 team in the same division and #3 team in each division playing at the #2 team in the same division. First round games will be played at the highest seed within each division. The semi final and final games to be played at one site, Friday and Saturday at the highest remaining seed alternating east/west.

8. That in the sport of field hockey, to approve the necessary changes to the Operating Code that accommodate a move to divisional play in the league championship format.
(Appendix A in Athletics Administrators Minutes)

9. That the following adjustments, recommended by the league’s sports information directors, be made to the league all-conference selections reflecting a move in selected sports to divisional scheduling/alignments.

Lacrosse:

- Proposed (11 first and 11 second team x 2 divisions = 44 total) – 5 offense, 5 defense, 1 goalkeeper

- Current (13 first and 13 second team = 26 total) | Configuration – 6 offense, 6 defense, 1 goalkeeper

Men’s Soccer:

- Proposed (11 first and 11 second team x 2 divisions = 44 total) – 3 fwd, 4 mf, 3 def, 1 gk

- Current (13 first and 13 second team = 26 total) | Configuration – 4 fwd, 4 mf, 4 def, 1 gk

Field Hockey:

- Proposed (11 first and 11 second team x 2 divisions = 44 total) – 3 fwd, 4 mf, 3 def, 1 gk
- Current (13 first and 13 second team = 26 total) | Configuration – 5 fwd, 4 mf, 3 def, 1 gk

Softball:

- Current (12 first and 12 second team x 2 divisions = 48 total) | Configuration – Catcher, 1B, 2B, SS, 3B, 3 OF, DP, Utility, 2 Pitchers
- Proposed (11 first and 7 second team x 3 divisions = 54 total) – The positions of Catcher, 1B, 2B, SS, 3B, OF, *DP/Utility will all be voted together. The top vote getter at each position and the top 3 vote getters at OF will make first team (9 total). The next 6 highest vote getters at those positions will make the second team, regardless of position (For example: there could be 2 or more SS on the second team)... Pitchers will be voted on separately. The top 2 vote getters make first team, the 3rd highest vote getter will make second team.
- *Note – DP/Utility combines to make one position

9. To create a separate men's and women's golf championship for the 2008-09 championship season, both conducted at the same site and in the same timeframe.
10. That in the sport of softball, the PSAC conduct an eight-team championship tournament, with the top two teams in each division automatically qualifying and a power rating system/tie-breaker used to determine the next two at-large teams that would complete the eight-team field.
11. That member institutions be required to enter into an agreement with Game Tape Exchange for on-line film exchange in the sports of football and men's/women's basketball for the 2008-2009 academic year.