

**MINUTES
MIAA STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

April 18, 2004

**Embassy Suites Hotel
Overland Park, KS**

Those in attendance were:

CMSU- Paul Rorvig and Nicole Batliner
ESU- Candice Main and Courtney Reed (alternate)
UMR- Not Represented
MSSU- JP West
MWSC- John Dano and Marion Broderick (co-chairs)
NWMSU- Morris White and Tina Cipolla
PSU- Noah Hoppe
SBU- Jesse Dziurawiec and Tasha Shores
TSU- Allen Stokes and Leah Zidon
WU- Katie Brandt

Also in attendance were SBU Senior Woman Administrator Joanne Vaughan, PSU Faculty Athletics Representative Dr. Elwyn Davis, MIAA Commissioner Ralph McFillen, and MIAA Intern Kandice Connell.

The meeting was called to order by, John Dano, at 11:10 a.m.

1. Welcome/Introductions

- a. Each person introduced him/herself, his or her school, sport and year in school.
- b. Each person went over the contact list to check and see if their information was correct and if not, make changes. [Note: This information is attached as Appendix A.]
- c. The commissioner reviewed the SAAC Policies and Procedures with the group.

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. It Was Voted (Dziurawiec moved, Brandt second)
"To approve the November 16, 2003 minutes as distributed."
(Passed by voice with no dissent)

3. Community Service Projects

- a. This past year, no school elected to participate in the Organ Donor project.
- b. Make-A-Wish Foundation was discussed as the new project that would be focused for the fall. Dano informed the group that the Make-A-Wish Foundation and the NCAA are very serious when it comes to raising money for the foundation.
- c. Each school was asked to give suggestions on what could be done to raise money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Some of the following ideas were proposed:
 - Donation cards to pass out.
 - Balloon sales before a football game, where you pay \$1 for a balloon and then release them all at kickoff.
 - Raising money before games, by either setting up a stand or going around asking people for donations.
 - Fan of the game, where you can set a recliner out on the field or floor and receive food and refreshments during the game, while they sit back and enjoy the game.

- Collect money at the track, baseball, softball games by the concession stand.
 - Football camp for young kids, in which you accept donations for the fees of the camp.
 - Gong Show, in which each sport puts on a skit and you charge \$1 at the door for every participant to watch.
 - Teddy Bear Throw, you have to purchase the bear for \$2 and then whoever hits the target with the bear wins a prize.
 - Open gym night, kids are allowed to come in for a fee for one full night and play with the student athletes.
 - Competition amongst teams, say FBvsVB, to raise the most money in donations and whoever wins, receives one free pizza party.
 - Jail and Bail, take a professor or coach and students or individuals have to pay to either get him out or keep him in.
 - Competition amongst rival schools, pick a game like the NW and PSU game at Arrowhead Stadium to compete to see who raises the most money.
 - Designate a fountain on your school property as the Make-A-Wish fountain by putting a sign in front of it.
 - Split the Pot, where you go around and sell raffle tickets and the person who is drawn at half-time gets half the pot of what you raised.
 - Set up bucket system in which individuals can throw money into them.
 - Concession stands, where instead of pocketing the money put it towards the M-A-W F.
 - Kiss a Pig, where the President of the school and athletics director has a bucket placed in front of them and the person with the most money at the end of a certain time has to kiss a pig at half time.
 - Campus Wide Run, where you go around and collect donations.
- d. Dano informed the group that every school needs to get the paperwork from Make-A-Wish Foundation through the NCAA. The NCAA should be sending each liaison a packet, in which each campus needs to fill out the project paperwork, which then has to be approved before the activity can take place. If more information is needed, Dano informed the group to contact Nicole DeBloise at deblois_nico@bentley.edu.
- e. It Was Voted (Dziuiurawiec moved, Brandt second)
 "To approve NCAA Make-A-Wish Foundation as an MIAA conference wide project. (Passed by voice with no dissent) [Note: The Make-A-Wish Foundation dates will mainly be focused in the fall in the months of September, October, and November.]
- f. Each school told how they raised money for the canned food drive this year. All felt that it was a success and want to continue the food drive for next year. The food drive will be focused again during the men's and women's basketball games. [Note: The press release on this year's drive is attached as Appendix B.]

4. Individual School Updates

- a. Each school updated the group on what their SAAC was doing. Activities included:
- Athletes Can Educate (ESU)
 - Basketball and spirit squad camps (SBU)
 - Gong Show (WU)
 - The Big Event-yard cleanups (PSU)
 - Big Brothers/Big Sisters (MSSU)
 - Character building sessions in elementary schools (TSU)

- Kids whose fathers are at war came to play with student athletes (CMSU)
- E-mentoring and blood drives (MWSC)
- b. Dano opined that some schools did not sound like they were too much involved this semester. He gave suggestions on how to get more people involved, because many said SAAC representatives were not participating in the meetings. Some suggestions were:
 - Refreshments, food and prizes
 - Challenges and obstacles was another idea used at Western, in which student athletes came down and played games and they got to interact with other student athletes and coaches. At the end, the participants were told that it was put on by SAAC and that anyone and everyone is invited to join.
- c. Dano suggested that the other schools have an open involvement, instead of coaches picking the representatives. Each school will still have to have two representatives from each sport. He recommends that the meetings be held on the weekdays, say Thursday or Wednesday, and should not last over one hour and fifteen minutes. You want to “retain and gain.”

5. Sportsmanship Statement

- a. Each school was asked if they had reviewed the Proposed Sportsmanship Statement at their schools. Marian went over the statement, pointing out its focus was to create hospitable, not hostile environments. The statement outlines what each school’s administrators and students should do and what repercussions will be given if not followed.
- b. It Was Voted (Batliner moved, Shores second)
 “To approve the Sportsmanship Statement.”
 (Passed by voice with no dissent)
- c. The commissioner believes that sportsmanship would be good project for SAAC to do throughout the year. The mentality of fans today is that they can make a difference in the outcome of the games. Distractions and name calling will not be allowed, and there is no need for derogatory shirts. He went over some statistics that occurred throughout the MIAA basketball men’s and women’s programs as to the number of technical fouls. Men’s basketball had 62 and women’s basketball had 17. Sportsmanship, is part of the Strategic Plan, which will be discussed in the future by the conference administrators.

6. National SAAC Update

- a. Dano informed the group that at the next National SAAC meeting, they will be voting on whether or not a “Discretionary Time Model” will be implemented into Division II sports seasons. An example of this is after a team has completed a season, the coach would have to take two weeks apart from his players. This means that no informal practices could go on during this time.

7. Strategic Plan

- a. Dano stated that a strategic plan needs to be developed within the SAAC committee. The NCAA has one, in which he, Broderick, and the commissioner will look over and model from it. They will use those goals and adjust those that will fit each school.
- b. He suggests that subcommittees need to be made for each project that they choose to undergo. A list serve needs to be created, in order to better help with the communication lines. The following projects will have subcommittee's:
 - Sportsmanship: Tina Cipolla (NWMSU)
 - List serve: Katie Brandt (WU)

- Make-A-Wish Foundation: Candice Main (ESU)
- Food Drive: Allen Stokes (TSU)
- Champs Life Skills: John Dano (MWSC)
- Activity Coordinator-Brandt

8. Mini-Leadership Conferences

- a. It was suggested that for the fall meeting BJ Pumroy (TSU) and Carmen Leeds (ESU) come in on Saturday and provide a mini-leadership conference for the student athletes, and then stay that night and have the meeting on Sunday as usual. The group agreed that this sounded like a great idea. This will teach the student-athletes on how to get things done and started at their own schools.

9. Fall Meeting Gift Suggestions

- a. Suggestions for gifts this year included bag with SAAC logo on it, a long-sleeve t-shirt with quote and logo on it, and a binder with the logo on it.

10. Other Business

- a. There will be a three new awards presented to the MIAA schools focused on graduation rates. The first award will be given to the school that has the highest graduation rate for its student athletes. Also there will be an award for the school who has the highest difference above their student body average and that of their student athletes. The third award will be given to the school that was most improved from the year prior.
- b. Next year each school will be given \$1000 to their SAAC committee, which can be used for various projects; however, if the mini-leadership conference is approved, a portion of these funds will be necessary to finance this event.

11. Adjournment

- a. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.