

## PSAC FIELD HOCKEY CONFERENCE CALL

December 7, 2011 – 10 a.m.

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call: Bloomsburg, Nikki Rhoads; CW Post, Raenee Savin; East Stroudsburg, Sandy Miller; Indiana, Gary Agard; Kutztown, Betty Wesner; Mansfield, Diane Monkiewicz; Mercyhurst, Stacey Gaudette; Millersville, Shelly Behrens; Seton Hill, Whitney Harness; Shippensburg, Bertie Landes; Slippery Rock, Julie Zoolkoski; West Chester, Amy Cohen  
Roberta Butler, Officials Assignor  
PSAC Office Staff  
Kevin Wood, Bloomsburg/PSAC Field Hockey Liaison

- II. Announcements – Congratulations to West Chester for winning the National Championship.

- III. Umpires

- a. Are umpires rated annually for post-season opportunities? For continuing to officiate PSAC matches? How are the evaluations from coaches used in this process? (Millersville)

Roberta Butler: Selections for the NCAA tournament are determined by the NCAA. She continues to work on expanding the officiating pool, and everyone can help in that process. Coaching evals help her recognize problems. Issues will be addressed if patterns develop (not just one game/coach). Overall, the return rate on the evals is good.

Steve Murray: Coaches should continue to encourage student-athletes to become umpires.

Steve Murray: Asked Roberta to compile a list of all umpires who worked in the PSAC during the year. Each head coach would have the chance to review the list of their home and away matches.

General discussion among the coaches expressing concerns of how the pool for PSAC championships is compiled. Roberta noted that availability is a large factor.

- b. Are there continuing education requirements? (Millersville)

Roberta Butler: Umpires must complete a combination of a) interpretation meeting, b) peer review, and c) other periodic meetings. Following the call, Kevin Wood asked Roberta to compile an overview of the requirements to share with the coaches.

- c. Is there a required fitness level? (Millersville)

Roberta Butler: The new rating system does include a fitness component, and she is also aware of the coaches' concerns on this topic.

- d. Professionalism (Millersville)

Roberta Butler: PIAA sanctions are a separate issue from PSAC umpiring.

- e. Umpire(s) working both legs of a home and home (Bloomsburg)

Roberta Butler: If a coach notices it on the schedule, please contact her. She may or may not be able to change it.

- f. Assignor contract update

Betty Wesner: Requested an update on current contract.

Steve Murray: Three proposals were reviewed by the league, and the AD's voted to continue the current agreement with Roberta Butler, which is renewable annually for 3 more years.

#### IV. Coaching Ethics

- a. Contact with athletes at other PSAC schools (Millersville)

Steve Murray: If it happens, notify your AD, who should then notify the PSAC office. It is not an NCAA violation if done the correct way – SA calls coach at potential new institution; coach takes SA's name and checks with the SA's current institution to see if he/she has permission to contact the SA; IF permission is in place, the coach can contact the SA.

- b. Professionalism between PSAC coaches (Millersville)

#### V. Schedule (2012 and beyond)

- a. Back to back games, 3 games in 4 days (Shippensburg)
- b. Crossover match-ups: how they are determined? (Millersville)
- c. Determination of teams for the championship: which games are counted? (Millersville)
- d. Start and end of the PSAC season, as related to NCAA Championship dates (Millersville)

Steve Murray: AD's passed the elimination of East and West divisions at the October league meetings. The Advisory Council, however, deemed it controversial. The Board of Directors will review the proposal at the May 2012 meeting. Therefore, a two-division schedule will be used for 2012. If Fri/Sat crossover games are problematic due to campus facilities/other sport schedules, a PSAC schedule change form can be submitted to the league office for consideration.

Sandy Miller: Asked about suggesting an 18 hour minimum time between crossover games.

Shelly Behrens: Asked if the 2012 championship would be in the East, and if so, would it be a predetermined site and on television.

Steve Murray: Yes, it will be in the East. As far as television, that decision has not yet been made.

Steve Murray: NCAA Date Formula may be changing, requiring the PSAC schedule to either a) start a week later, or b) be extended by a week.

The coaches would prefer option b.

Steve Murray: Clarified that if the date formula does not change, PSAC members will still be playing 18 games in 7 weeks.

**Motion (Kutztown): That in the sport of field hockey, to eliminate the East and West divisions, and play an 11-match round robin conference schedule.**

**Second (Shippensburg)**

**MOTION PASSES, 12-0**

**Motion (Bloomsburg): That in the sport of field hockey, the league standings and determination of the six teams qualifying for the PSAC championships be based on the 11 mandated games.**

**Second (Shippensburg)**

**MOTION PASSES, 12-0**

**Motion (Shippensburg): That in the sport of field hockey, three additional matches will be scheduled by the conference office. These games would not count in the PSAC standings.**

**Second (WCU)**

**MOTION PASSES, 10-2**

**Motion (Shippensburg): That in the sport of field hockey, when there are back-to-back matches, on the first day the home team will wear light jerseys, and on the second day the home team will wear dark jerseys.**

**Second (Kutztown)**

**MOTION PASSES, 12-0**

VI. All-PSAC Announcement

Steve Murray: The announcement will stay as is (after the league championship).

VII. Defensive Player of the Week

**Motion (Shippensburg): That in the sport of field hockey, to recognize a Defensive Player of the Week for each division.**

**Second (WCU)**

**MOTION PASSES, 12-0**

VIII. PSAC Championship Pre-Match Timing

Bertie Landes: Commented that during the 2011 championships, the NCAA pre-match protocol was not fully followed.

Steve Murray: For 2012, the clock will go to zero (field cleared), and then an additional 8:00 will be put on the clock for media and event management purposes.

IX. Meeting adjourned at 12:13pm.