



Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference
Athletic Trainers Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, February 14, 2006
Lock Haven University

Meeting Called to Order

Introductions/Attendance:

All conference schools were represented except for Cheyney. The Commissioner and the Athletic Director Liaison were also in attendance.

Allen Larsen, Jr., Roxanna Larsen, Scott Bruce, Ron Wagner, Jim Thornton, Marcie Fyock, Colleen Shotwell, John Paolini, Gary Hanna, Rebecca Sidener, Frank Trenney, Rennie Sacco, Jack Enriken, Yvette Ingram, Eric Lippincott, Michael Porter, Elissa Delio, Laurie Zaprazinski, Brian Oakes, Hank Fijalkowski, Teresa Zepka, Wesley Maillicone, Joseph Theis, Rich Patterson, Andrea Hetrick, Neil Curtis, Tom Goglio, Steve Murray.

Announcements:

1. Rich Patterson, from SRU, reminded the group that SRU was hosting the annual Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Association (PATs) Athletic Training Student Symposium, March 24-25th, which will also include a job fair on the 24th.

Minutes:

Wes Mallicone made a motion, Jim Thornton seconded, to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2005 meeting. All approved.

Old Business:

1. Legal Issues and Treating Visiting Student-Athletes

Gary Hanna commented that he and Scott Bruce did not pursue this area because the PA state law has not approved their final language for the Rules and Regulations. This area will be pursued once they are finalized.

2. PSAC Lightening Policy

Discussion took place regarding the PSAC Lightening policy passed last spring ('05). It was suggested that institutions place their local specific policy on their Athletics and/or Sports Medicine/Athletic Training web site so other institutions can review and alert coaches when traveling.

3. Buying Consortium

Rennie Sacco started a brief discussion to determine whether any institutions are actually interested in pursuing this idea. It received very little support. It will not be pursued further. Institutions interested in collaborating with purchasing supplies can do so.

New Business:

1. Cheerleading Coach/Advisor Safety Certification

Hank Fijalkowski alerted the group that effective August 1, 2006 cheerleading activities must be supervised by a safety certified coach or advisor. (see attached memo dated 9/7/05) After lengthy discussion inquiring what institutions provide regarding support or coverage, it was agreed to form an ad hoc committee to review the current PSAC guidelines. The ad hoc committee includes Roxanna Larsen, Hank Fijalkowski and Teresa Zepka.

2. PSAC Conference Involvement in Collegiate Sports Medicine Foundation Emergency Database:

Hank Fijalkowski explained an on-line survey/repository for emergency injuries that he felt was important for the conference athletic trainers to participate in. The survey is being conducted by the Collegiate Sports Medicine Foundation. Gary Hanna moved to approve the conference participating in the survey, Yvette Ingram seconded. Motion passed.

3. Athletic Training Program Structure Conference Survey

Colleen Shotwell, from ESU, sent out a survey to all conference institutions asking questions on their sports medicine/athletic training program's administrative structure. Some discussion followed with all instructed to submit completed surveys to her.

4. NCAA Recommend that conferences form a Sports Medicine Advisory Committee

Scott Bruce of CUP presented a concern related to an NCAA recommendation that conferences form a Sports Medicine Advisory Committee as per a notice in the January 31st issue of the NCAA News. Discussion took place regarding what exactly the NCAA meant by this. Steve Murray said he was not exactly clear on the intent, but felt that as a body of athletic trainers that we had taken the proactive position by organizing and having this meeting each year. Scott felt that perhaps some of the intent was a review of medical hardship case brought before each conference office. Steve explained the PSAC procedures for this process and explained what was helpful for assisting in the processing of these claims. It was decided that the true intent of the NCAA was to have a committee or meeting of athletic trainers' conference wide and since we already have done so, there would be no need for any action on this item. Should Steve learn otherwise he would report it back to the group.

5. Summer Camps: Coverage...Who, How, When, Costs?

Wes Mallicone polled the conference athletic trainers regarding their role with summer camp coverage. Questions such as funding of coverage, use of supplies & equipment, hours of operation, etc were asked and discussed. There is no continuity among schools in any areas.

6. Schedule recommendation by AD's for Sat/Sun games for Softball starting 2007.

Jack Enriken led discussion regarding the Athletic Directors recommendation to move the conference league contests in spring 2007 to a Saturday/Sunday format. This topic was brought up in years past with negative feedback from the Faculty Athletic Reps (FARs), the Sports Information Directors (SIDs), the Athletic Trainers and more importantly, the Students Athletic Committee (SAC). Points of contention revolved around appropriate medical coverage, increasing coverage demands for non-traditional activities and perception of less missed classes. Most conference institutions currently do not meet the 'Recommendations and Guidelines for Appropriate Medical Coverage for Intercollegiate Athletics' (RGAMCIA). NCAA College and University Presidents have continued to approve increasing contact opportunities for coaches with student-athletes, but at our levels (DII) have not kept pace in increasing support personnel to meet these increasing coverage demands. With fewer classes being taught or taken on Fridays, having schedule contests on Sundays would increase missed class time for Monday classes, as weather changes forces postponement to Mondays. Students' ability to contact professors and alert them of these last minute changes would be problematic.

7. PA Athletic Trainer Law/Rules & Regulation Update

Gary Hanna gave a brief update of the Rules and Regulations status of the PA Athletic Trainer Laws. The rules and regulations are being worked on and should come out of committee for approval soon. Look to the PATS website for updates.

8. Off-Campus Championships

Discussion ensued about the expectations and limitations the conference places on an institution when assigned to host one of these championships. Currently Baseball is held in State College area and Swimming is also pursuing an off-campus venue. We recognize the need to have better facilities to host these championships and even a more central location. To assign an institutions' athletic training staff responsible for on-site coverage can and is problematic. It was discussed and suggested that the conference solicit available staff for this responsibility and reimburse them for their time, food and housing. The responsibilities that an athletic training program staff has at their own institution can conflict with these championship dates/times. Soliciting a conference athletic trainer who doesn't have these conflicts ensures the event will have uninterrupted coverage, someone who can pursue local emergency care information and normal event setup, while allowing attending support staff to focus on their teams needs. If approved, an ad hoc committee would be formed to develop a compensation proposal. Rennie Sacco moved to approve this concept and forward to the Athletic Directors or the Conference Office, which ever is the appropriate chain of approval. Gary Hanna seconded. Motion approved.

9. NCAA Football half time reduced.

Rennie Sacco brought to the group's attention that the NCAA Football Rules Committee passed reducing the time spent during half time (20 to 15 minutes) at football games. Discussion on appropriate time to address injuries, rehydrate during warm weather and length of time it takes at some facilities to travel from field to locker room be considered. Rennie Sacco moved to recommend that the conference continue to keep half time of games contested by two conference school be kept at 20 minutes, Wes Mallicone seconded. Motion passed 25-1.

Meeting Adjourned