

**MINUTES OF THE
NATIONAL FASTPITCH COACHES ASSOCIATION
DIVISION I HEAD COACHES COMMITTEE**

December 2nd, 2015

Marriott Marquis – Atlanta, GA

The meeting was brought to order at 7:30pm EST. Interim Executive Director Carol Bruggeman had various other Convention duties and arrived at 7:45pm EST so no roll call was documented. Current HCC members (and guests at the meeting) are listed below:

Michelle Burrell, America East Conference
Kyla Holas, American Athletic Conference
Bridget Orchard, Atlantic 10 Conference
Lonni Alameda, Atlantic Coast Conference
Jen Steele, Atlantic Sun Conference,
Megan Smith, Big 12 Conference
Amy Kvilhuag, Big East Conference
Barb Sherwood, Big Sky Conference
Dot Richardson, Big South Conference
Amanda Lehotak, Big Ten Conference
Linda Garza, Big West Conference
Larissa Anderson, Colonial Athletic Association
Shonda Stanton, Conference USA
Lynn Curylo, Horizon League
Jen Goodwin, Ivy League
Melissa Inouye, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference
Christina Sutcliffe, Mid-American Conference
Heidi Cavallo, Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference
Amy Hayes, Missouri Valley Conference
Steve Johnson, Mountain West Conference
Roy Kortmann, Northeast Conference
Jane Worthington, Ohio Valley Conference
Mike White, Pacific 12 Conference
Michelle DePolo, Patriot League
Jo Evans, Southeastern Conference
Mandy Buford, Southern Conference
Stephanie Hughes, Southland Conference
Nakeya Hall, Southwestern Athletic Conference
Annie Smith, Sunbelt Conference
Holly Van Vlymen, The Summit League
Jessica Rodgers, West Coast Conference
Nikki Palmer, Western Athletic Conference

David Batson, NFCA Legislative Consultant, *Guest*
Vickie VanKleeck, NCAA Softball Secretary-Rules Editor, *Guest*

Natalie Poole, NFCA Division I Representative
Carol Bruggeman, NFCA Interim Executive Director

1. Approval of November Call Minutes. It was moved (Lonni Alameda) and seconded (Steve Johnson) that the November call minutes be approved.
2. Division I Caucus Review. Natalie Poole, NFCA Division I Representative, reviewed the agenda for the Division I Caucus to help HCC members prepare for the Convention Caucus.

A. Rules Committee

1. NFCA Rules Committee- Will be much more active in 2016
2. Safety Base – Discussed, but minimal support.

B. Umpires

1. Video- Umpires would like video from coaches. Video would be more helpful and a better learning tool for umpires than the written word. Goal is to create an umpire video library.
2. Reminder to coaches: All have free access to central hub. Everything posted is free for coaches to view.

C. All- American Committee (Christy Connoyer)

1. The committee works hard on the process to get it right.
2. NFCA will do an educational seminar/webinar on how to score a game.
3. Text alerts from the NFCA for reminders throughout the All-American season.

D. NCAA Survey (3-day Super Regional) Survey was sent to the twenty-five schools who have competed in Super Regionals over the past 5 years to gather additional feedback on whether or not there was support for a Super Regional format change.

E Early Recruiting

1. Legislation was proposed and pulled. Must be amended by the recommendations from the committees.
2. Will need the Power 5 conferences to sponsor in order to gain traction.

F. One-time transfer rule

1. Legislation was proposed and pulled. Must be amended by the recommendations from the committees.
2. Discussed the difficulty of getting this through by showing more rationale

G. Recruiting/Camp Calendar

1. Discussed that without camps there is not going to be a change in the recruiting calendar.
2. Must get conferences, administrators and Presidents on board
3. Recruiting Calendar legislation will move forward in 2016.

3. Educating Coaches on new NCAA Governance Structure/How to Pass Legislation

Group discussed the importance of understanding new governance structure and how to navigate and pass legislation. It is also important to understand what topics other sports are legislating. Coaches must communicate between NCAA Committees and administrators on campus. Important to get legislation on upcoming conference spring meeting schedules.

4 Hot Topics

- A. Technology in the dugouts
- B. Umpire ranking systems vs. traditional model, as regional umpires are ranked.
- C. 8 Hour segment
- D. Allow players to compete in Fall and still redshirt.
- E. Speed of the game
- F. Communication system
- G. Super Regional format change
- H. Four umpires per game.
- I. Restrict travel roster to 27
- J. Baseball – summer sport is gaining steam. Research shows that it could save the universities money. Big Ten

5 Other Business

- A. Illegal Pitches
- B. Check Swings
- C. Volunteer coaches allowed to recruit
- D. Baseball has a proposal to have 4 paid coaches
- E. Need better response rate on HCC and NCAA surveys. HCC reps to call people if necessary. If coaches want change, they must respond to surveys.

6. Conference Call. The next HCC conference call will be held at 10:00 a.m. CST Tuesday, January 12th, 2016.

7. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.