

**NATIONAL FASTPITCH COACHES ASSOCIATION
HIGH SCHOOL ALL-AMERICAN COMMITTEE**

December 4, 2015

Marriott Marquis, Atlanta, GA

In attendance:

Carrie Austgen, Deer Park (TX)

Mike Carrozza, Bridgewater-Raynham (MA)

Kent Chambers, Bob Jones (AL)

Marsha Cusack, Enid (OK)

*CJ Hawkins, Spain Park (AL)

Brenda Holaday, Washburn Rural (KS)

Gary Payne, Glenn (NC)

Jeff Roberts, Lucas Lovejoy (TX)

Deborah Schwartz (NJ)

Milton Simmons, Essex (VA)

Vince Trivelpiece, Hazleton Area (PA)

*LuAnn Zullo, Nutley (NJ)

Bill Edwards, Coach Emeriti & HS All-American Committee National Consultant

Kelley Fisher, NFCA liaison

*Official term begins January 1, 2016

Not in attendance: John Maloney, Eastport South Manor (NJ); Anthony LaRezza, Immaculate Heart Academy (NJ); Greg Clark, Loogootee Community (IN); Jerrod Newland, Greenville (OH); Jim Piazza, Keystone (OH); Julie Detjen, Fox Valley Lutheran (WI); James Bayly, Lake Brantley (FL); Philip Belfield, St. Margarets (VA); Todd Petersen, Papillion-LaVista (NE); Frank Barnes, Olathe North (KS); Jim Rawlings, Sahuarita (AZ); Mike Delaney, Burbank (CA); Dean Gregory, Buchanan (CA); Scott Hoffmeyer, Basha (AZ); Charles Pikas, Pacheco (CA)

1. Meeting Introduction- NFCA High School Board of Director's Representative and NFCA High School Liaison Kelley Fisher call the meeting to order at 8:27 a.m. EST.

2. Meeting Summary

- a. Prior to the All-American meeting, a summary of notes/comments compiled from the All-American calls over the past two years was given to the committee. The summary contained details surrounding some of the challenges the All-American Committee has faced as well as some procedural recommendations that may help minimize some of the concerns and further facilitate the process.
 - i. There is a challenge when trying to compare and contrast players from state to state when selecting HS All-Region and All-American athletes. Unlike the college game where the coaches on the committee

have seen the athletes play, many high school coaches have not seen all of the athletes in their own state, let alone the region play.

1. Would like each regional committee to continue to be comprised of elected coaches from within the region. However, would like for each state in the region to have the opportunity to have a representative from the state provide the regional committee with specific information on that state's athletes. The state members would have a voice in the process, but no vote regarding the selections.
- ii. Look to alter the nomination form to help provide some standardization for comparisons across states.
 1. Build toggles into the online nomination form to capture school size (S, M, L), a break out of number of students (i.e. 1000-1500), public vs. private, and grade levels at school (i.e. 9-12).
 2. Make highest district, county, region, state honor received a mandatory field.
 3. Add field for if/where an athlete has signed and is committed to play.
- iii. Examine the process of naming athletes to the team by position.
 1. Given the number of athletes nominated, it may not make sense to adhere strictly to the current template breakout by position. The committee would like to use the template as a guideline, but not have to fully follow the template. The goal is to name the best athletes and having to name them according to a designated number by position does not always make sense.
 2. Look to remove the At-Large designation when the team is announced. The consensus is that if an athlete is named to a regional or All-American team, she is named to the team and should be listed by her position without an At-Large designation.
- iv. Review the timeframe for the all region calls. In the past, the calls have been done 12-19 June. This is a difficult timeline given some state's championships are still taking place and athletes are playing in the post season. Look to move the regional call schedule to a later date and after all of the state's seasons have concluded.
- v. Miscellaneous.
 1. Should a Gatorade Player of Year nominated by an NFCA member coach automatically be placed on an All-Region team?
 - a. The feel is this should be taken into consideration, but it should not automatically qualify an athlete for All-Region selection. How each state selects its player of the year varies and

the process is a lot more involved in some states. The state liaison on the committee can brief the All-American Committee on the Gatorade Player of the Year process during the regional call.

- b. Gatorade Player of the Year (Y/N) is another field that could be added as a toggle function to the revised All-American nomination form.
2. The new committee term dates proposed as part of the bylaws package set to be voted on at the convention was not well received by the HS All-American Committee. Under the new bylaw proposal, committee terms would move away from a two-year term with the ability for consecutive terms, to one, three-year term without the ability to re-election. The committee likes the three-year term, but does not like the term limit. There is already difficulty getting coaches to participate on committees. Not allowing coaches to be re-elected keeps the coaches who do a good job and want to be involved away from the process.

3. Action Items

- i. Kelley to amend the current High School All-American procedures to reflect the items discussed in the High School All-American meeting and distribute to the All-American Committee for vote.
- ii. Kelley to coordinate the selection of regional chairs for the regions where the regional chair position is vacant or where the chair was re-elected for a second term.

4. Meeting adjourns at 9:00 a.m. EST.