

**NATIONAL FASTPITCH COACHES ASSOCIATION
RECRUITING COMMITTEE MINUTES**

December 2, 2015

Atlanta Marriott Marquis, GA

Meeting called to order 10:10 A.M.

- I. Roll call

- II. NFCA Updates
 - a. Chair Boo De Oliveira updated the committee regarding the interim Executive Director Carol Bruggeman. While Michelle Vasquez NFCA representative welcomed new committee members.
 - b. Chair Boo De Oliveira updated the Recruiting Committee on what we have accomplished as a Recruiting Committee over the past year: Organized Sub-Committees to accomplish several things, including, but not limited to: Recruiting Tip of the week on Social Media, Document for Recruits on how to make a Recruiting Skills Video, Assisted NFCA in webpage design for Recruit Education, etc.

- III. What have we done?
 - a. Boo De Oliveira addressed the committee about incorporating Periscope, a free service which can provide video content to student athletes.
 - b. Ty Rietkovich informed the committee the Education committee has created a 1-page document (PDF on NFCA website) of changes in recruiting practices. Examples “how to emails” (assist recruits)
 - c. Smart recruiting
 - i. Picking the right school for the right fit, etc.
 - ii. Teaching life skills

How do we communicate to people who are not yet hunting information?

If you want recruiting education, want information, provide a link back to NFCA website to our education

- I. Recruit education has to start early, BEFORE the tournaments
 - a. NFCA committee comes up with a document for best practices for recruiting. Tournament directors/coaches can send this form out with their registration; we just have to ask those in charge of tournaments. Closest to reaching student-athletes without breaking NCAA rules
 - b. EVERYONE should have this document – all coaches, all camps, etc.
 - c. Email, phone, visits/life skills, camp/clinics sub-committees
 - i. Goal is Recruit Education: The hope is to educate recruits, coaches, and parents so the recruiting process is handled properly. Our hope is the document is very accessible.

1. All College coaches (all divisions) will be given this document to put as an attachment/link on their schools website, it becomes part of their Camp Email as an attachment, and it is very accessible.
2. All Travel Ball and High School Coaches will have this document to send to their entire teams/organizations, as well as post on their webpages.
3. All Tournament Directors will have this document to send as an attachment to all emails to the coaches of confirmed participating teams regarding their tournaments, as well as put it on their webpage.
4. All Camp Companies (Ex. On Deck, Softball Excellence, National Sports Clinic) will use this email as an attachment to their emails to confirmed campers, as well as put it on their webpage.
5. NFCA: website has this document visible in the Recruit Education portion, and all confirmed Campers receive this as part of their camp email
6. Below are the subcommittees that members of the Recruiting Committee volunteered for:
 - a. Email (OR packets in the mail, bios, handwritten letters) – Megan Smith, Kevin Shelton, Jen Lane
 - b. Phone/Texts – Kristin McGaughey, Don Justice, Eric
 - c. Camps/Clinics – Ashley Beckham (not actually on committee), Ty Rietkovich, Chris Foye, Dana
 - d. Life Skills (Face-to-Face, behavior at tournaments, on Unofficial and Official visits, etc) Skills – Joe Kinsella, Boo De Olieveria, Dennis Daniel (also, club coaches speaking with college coaches)
- ii. IMPORTANT: GENERATIONAL GAP AND ADJUSTING TO IT, POWER OF NON-VERBAL COMMUNICATION, AWKWARDNESS ON THE PHONE, ETC. (everyone has talent on your top 10 list, who stands out as a PERSON)
 1. Accepting “this is the way it is” – for this generation of recruits
 2. Selling to parents as “life skills” – future employers will not give grace to people who cannot communicate
- d. Word of Mouth key for this document – some kid comes across it and shares what they learned with their teammates, etc.
- e. Ads that pop up on various portions of our site that drive to NCSA website, or our document, etc.

II. Student-Athlete portal on website? Very NCSA like

- a. Some Recruiting Committee members asked about the option of a Student-Athlete membership for NFCA...Camps/Clinics, etc. The idea of Student-

Athlete Certification ... Stars (like NFCAA Master Coach), in which Student-Athletes could earn points for doing Recruit Education, Camps, Community Service, etc.

- i. Webinars
- ii. Classes with completion, stars
- iii. Partnership with membership -- ???
 1. Spoke about highlighting a Student-Athlete of the month on NFCA website and social media ... Based on community service, etc ... Merit, not just athletics.

III. High School Associations

- a. Using ADs and coaches to reach athletes
- b. Reaching a few members in each state to pull in more members
- c. Texas Prep – Billy Hicks (Kathy email)

IV. Must speak four times throughout the year, next call: **Monday, January 25th, 11am ET**

- a. Elected to committee, out of respect for the position, please let us know if you are not able to attend. You will be removed
- b. Sub-Committees need to start on the document!

V. Last minute discussion on standards – discussed last year to have standards for players and certain divisions (throw x mph, you are D2 candidate) – wanted to know where we were with this? (believe Drohans left off on this)

- a. NFCA does not have staff/funds. The standards are out there for coaches, but the NFCA is not the portal to store all of the information.
- b. NCSA or SportsBoard involvement?

Those in attendance

Lacy Wood (Jenny Allard), Harvard University

Kris Ganeff, University of Notre Dame - Phone

Amy Kvilhaug, St. John's University

Megan Smith, Lipscomb University

Kathy Schoettle, Byron Nelson High School

Jen Lane, Wesleyan University (Conn.)

Dennis Daniel, Tar Heels Stars

Bill Beckham, Buckeye Showdowns

Ash Beckham, Buckeye Showdowns

Kevin Shelton, Texas Glory

Caty Reeves, Oklahoma Wesleyan University

Don Justice,

Joe Kinsella, Lake Forest College

Alicia Abbott (Christina Sutcliffe) Northern Illinois University

Ty Rietkovich, Angels Gold
Chris Foye, Felician College
Eric Oakley, Kent State University
Kristen McGaughey, Clarkson University

Boo De Oliveira, University of Arkansas (Chair)
Michelle Vasquez (NFCA)
Emily Allard (NFCA)