

**NATIONAL FASTPITCH COACHES ASSOCIATION
COACH EMERITI COMMITTEE MEETING**

December 5th, 2014

Bally's - Las Vegas, NV

Committee Chair, JoAnne Graf called the meeting to order at 11:05 am.

In attendance:

JoAnne Graf, chair

Celeste Knierim

Gerry Pinkston

Dianne Baker

Sue Enquist

Rosemary Holloway Hill

Deb DiMatteo

George DiMatteo

Gary Bryce

Judy Groff

Bennie Daigle

Judi Garman

Dee Abrahamson

Bill Edwards

Carol Bruggeman (NFCA Associate Executive Director)

1. Introductions

2. Meeting Summary

a. Overview of Coach Emeriti Committee.

- i. Chair Graf gave a brief history of the Coach Emeriti Committee and how/why it was formed.
- ii. Since this committee is relatively new, the group discussed the importance of creating and maintaining an up-to-date roster.

b. Review of Coach Emeriti Committee accomplishments throughout previous year.

- i. Group requested to move the Emeriti Committee Meeting (Caucus) at the NFCA Convention to Friday from 11:00am-1:00pm.

- ii. Obtained reduced NFCA Convention Fee of \$150.00 (regular fee is \$350.00) for the Coach Emeriti Group. The group was extremely pleased and appreciative of the reduced fee. Group also suggested organizing a “room share” program to help reduce Convention costs for Emeriti coaches.
 - iii. Mentoring update (Sue Enquist). The 2014 mentoring session received record-high donations of \$7,800.00 on 12/4/14. All donations were given back to mentoring session attendees in the forms of NFCA Convention registration fees, NFCA membership dues, NFCC class registration fees, and a lump sum toward travel expenses to the University of Florida (2014 Div. I National Champion.) Additionally, donations were used to put together a package for the North Central Texas softball coaches. The package included three NFCA memberships, three NFCA Convention registrations and a lump sum for travel expenses for Atlanta, 2015.
 - iv. Chair Graf is coordinating authors for the “Practice Perfect Softball” book. Coach Emeriti member Celeste Knierim will write a chapter in the new book.
 - v. Incorporated a “Hall of Fame” panel into the 2014 Convention speaking lineup. Goal is to include a Hall of Fame panel each year with rotating speakers.
 - vi. Recommended and incorporated an NFCA Hall of Fame member to be the Hall of Fame banquet emcee each year. Kathy Veroni was the emcee for the 2014 banquet in Las Vegas.
- c. New Business
- i. Group would like clear guidelines on NFCA benefits provided for Hall of Fame members and Coach Emeriti Committee members.
 - ii. Group received update on Softball Excellence Partnership.
 - iii. Discussion on how Coach Emeriti Group can be more involved with the NFCA.
 - a. Education. The group discussed “hand’s on” vs “on-line” approaches
 - b. Consulting programs. The group would like to offer one-on-one consulting for a variety of items.

- c. Regional Consulting/Mentoring program. It was suggested the NFCA send a list of members in each Coach Emeriti's region and have Coach Emeriti member reach out to members in their respective region.
 - d. Post mentoring options, with regional lists, via NFCA website.
 - e. Twitter session- ask a Coach Emeriti member questions via Twitter for a 30-minute session.
 - f. Add an assistant coaches curriculum to Convention
 - a. This group needs mentors
 - b. Start quarterly newsletter from Coach Emeriti group to assistant coaches group- must be consistent communication to result in change.
 - g. Suggested having two Hall of Fame panels at Convention (one for head coaches and one for assistant coaches).
 - h. Rising Star program. It was suggested the NFCA may want to model that particular program.
 - i. Model FCA program. It was suggested to have a REP (Coach Emeriti member) who is "on-call" if a coach is in need.
 - j. Create "help-line" for coaches.
- iv. Chair Graf will develop questionnaire and send to Coach Emeriti members to inquire about individual interests (ie- Speak at Convention? Teach an NFCC course? Be a mentor?) Goal of the questionnaire is to build a database of what each Coach Emeriti member would like to contribute.
- v. Offer one-on-one mentoring at Convention. Sign-up for 45 min session with a Coach Emeriti Member. Have a booth at registration for promotion and to use at Convention.

- vii. Legal issues – Coach Emeriti group felt there is a strong need legal support within the NFCA. It was suggested to use a portion of the “Pay It Forward” mentoring monies to fund legal counsel if it would not affect the NFCA’s non-profit status. Top items of concern are employment issues and Title IX issues.
 - a. Have lawyer or legal team on retainer
 - b. Supplemental insurance policies

- viii. History- the group felt it was critical to keep history of NFCA and of Coach Emeriti group alive. Include a “Where are they now?” section in newspaper and on website. Suggested more pictures at Convention of Hall of Fame members and/or on the website. Also, include video or pictures to recognize Hall of Fame members who passed away in past year.

- ix. Fundraising- Coach Emeriti group would like to assist with fundraising issues.

3. Action Items

- a. Update Coach Emeriti roster and have communication throughout the year.
- b. Create, send, and implement questionnaire to maintain database of talents or Coach Emeriti group.
- c. Develop a time line for articles/tips/hints for NFCA education.
- d. Start regional mentoring programs.
- e. Obtain coaches for Hall of Fame panel at 2015 Convention.
- f. Research legal representation for NFCA coaches.