

NATIONAL FASTPITCH COACHES ASSOCIATION
JUNIOR COLLEGE CAUCUS MINUTES

December 4, 2014

Bally's Las Vegas, NV

Tommy Ramos, NJCAA representative called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

- I. **Welcome**—Mr. Ramos introduced himself to the group as well as Michelle Vasquez, the NJCAA liaison for the NFCA. Each attendee signed in and was given an agenda.
- II. **Junior College Hall of Fame**
 - a. The group recognized Dennis Clark for Hall of Fame recognition.

Old Business

- III. **Approval of 2013 caucus minutes submitted and approved**
 - a. Topics discussed
 - i. Moving convention to January
 - ii. Certifying events for recruiting
 - iii. Raising scholarships
 - iv. Move DI season back one week
 - v. Getting feedback from each division
 - vi. NFCA Lead-Off Classic 2017
 - b. Rule changes
 - i. Homerun celebration rule
 - ii. Bat list date
 - iii. DP/Flex – add OP (offensive player only)
 - iv. Page 11 rule book-picture of strike zone/the river has changed
 - c. NFCA All-Americans
 - i. Motion passed for splitting the battery – 3 pitcher, 2 catchers
 - ii. Motion passed stating the UT- All-American must play 75% of games in that position
 - iii. A motion was made to add an additional DP/UT did not pass
 - iv. Motion passed for 5 battery (3 pitchers 2 catchers), 5IF, 4OF, 1 DP, & 1 UT
 - d. NJCAA topics
 - i. Adding 4 at-large bids to the national tournament; A motion was passed
 - ii. A motion was made to remove districts, and all region champions qualify for national tournament – this motion failed
 - iii. Motion passed to increase dues to \$100.00
 - iv. Motion passed to mandate all NJCAA coaches to join NFCA

- v. Canadian open – Coaches were named and the team nomination process was discussed
- vi. Asking a NJCAA representative to attend caucus meeting and address concerns
- vii. Discussed combining DI and DII national tournaments
- viii. Finding a permanent site for national tournament
- e. Other topics
 - i. NJCAA official ball compression
 - ii. Suggestion of NJCAA Showcase in Chesterfield in October was discussed
 - iii. Questions about the “Hardship rule”
- f. Actions taken
 - i. NFCA changed All-American teams to show 5 battery (3 pitchers 2 catchers), 5IF, 4OF, 1 DP, & 1 UT

New Business

IV. NJCAA polls

- a. The duration of the poll doesn’t run long enough. There was discussion the first poll should begin February 15th with a preseason poll for Division I & 2 and have standard polls run first week of March to the first week in May. Discussion compared to baseball with every two week polls. A motion was presented and seconded. (44 in favor, 15 opposed). Motion passed
- b. Discussion consisted of polls running longer particularly paying attention to post season polls. If the rankings are going to count in seeding there should be one final poll to reflect the most accurate outcome. (After the regional seeding)
 - i. Adding a final poll will move the NJCAA seeding call

V. National Tournaments

- a. There was discussion about moving the tournament back one week however this would extend season, if we don’t move regionals then district wouldn’t support it, there is also the issue of having to house your athletes longer which affects softball budgets.
- b. The discussion on the National Championship yielding the following concerns:
 - i. Tournament is being run like an ASA tournament, there should only be two games with and the third game being the featured game played in a stadium.

- ii. Lots of discussion about the venues, not conducive for a national tournament.
- iii. Streaming video- attempted but very poor quality
- iv. Discussion on Columbus, GA hosting the National Tournament
- v. Mr. Yegge will look into bidding process

VI. Canadian Open

- a. Mr. Smith (Howie Smith, Dodge City Community College) addressed the caucus:
 - i. The team finished 6/6 best NJCAA has ever done
 - ii. The team was invited back and there is discussion where they want to go.
 - iii. Maryellen would like a Division I, II, and III coach to be on staff for representation for all levels.

VII. Other Business

- a. Discussion on mid season transfer rule.
 - i. NCAA Division I are approaching transfer student athletes mid season, thus making it difficult for NJCAA to compete. Baseball currently has a no transfer rule mid season and softball would like to adopt this. In a survey 39 coaches voted in favor of adopting the no transfer midseason model.
- b. Leadoff Classic
 - i. Discussion on location changes to get more teams
 - ii. Want to go every other year.

VIII. Adjournment

Attendance

Kelly Raines, Howard College
 Howie Smith, Dodge City Community College
 Amber Miles, Darton State College
 Erika Bennett, Dodge City Community College
 Rick Church, Blinn College
 Jami Ingram, Blinn College
 Maria Winn-Ratliff, Western Nebraska Community College
 Katie Groves, Western Nebraska Community College
 Becky Horn, Pensacola State College
 Robb DiGiacomo, Monroe Community College
 Ken Delcambre, Galveston College
 Jayne Clem, Wallace State
 Karina Cannon, Odessa College
 Jim Goranson, Oakton College
 Laura North, Indian Hills Community College

Doug Chance, Butler Community College
Zach Sigler, Butler Community College
Jeff Filali, Butler Community College
Scott Reese, Ancilla College
Matt Smith, Glendale Community College
Betsy Wilcox, IWCC
Lana Ross, IWCC
Janelle Higgins, NPCC
Megan Cairns, North Central Missouri College
Elaine Covin, Wallace State
Chris Robinson, Jones County Junior College
Bob Herrington, Jones County Junior College
Joe Yegge, Kirkwood Community College
Karen Strittmatter, Union City College
Carie Dever Boaz, Northwest Mississippi Community College
Kary Kankey, Metropolitan Community College – Maple
Christa Pfeninger, South Mountain Community College
Blythe Golden, Chattanooga State Community College
Amanda Lindsey, Chattanooga State Community College
Brian Dewey, Mercyhurst North East
Karla Powell, St. Johns River State College
Katie Brosky, St. Johns River State College
Ken Deyton, Georgia Perimeter College
Ally Hattermann, Gordon State College
Marissa Mariano, Northhampton Community College
Jaime Rose, Hutchinson
Haley McCall, LSU Eunice
Andy Lee, LSU Eunice
Courtney Miller, Seminole State of Florida
Ty Young, Indian River State
Dale Atkinson, Indian River State
Ryan Connell, College of DuPage
Scott Hoffmeyer, Basha High School
Cyndee Bennett, SLCC
Melvin Jenkins, Vernon College
Rich Iorio, County College of Morris
Nicole Levering, South Georgia State College