



National Fastpitch Coaches Association
NJCAA Caucus Minutes
Las Vegas, NV- Jubilee 3

Thursday, December 7, 2017

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. PST

Joe Yegge, NJCAA representative called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

- I. Welcome- Mr. Yegge (Kirkwood Community College) introduced himself to the group and NFCA liaison Michelle Vasquez address the group regarding roll call sign in sheets and explained the hard bylaw vote. Each person in attendance was to find their name and cast a vote to effectively change the NFCA bylaws.
- II. NJCAA Meetings update
 - a. Mr. Yegge informed the caucus this was a “re-districting” year and a request for the National tournament bracket to include an additional day, request must be submitted in writing 30 days prior to annual meeting (held in April).
 - b. Stay or leave the NJCAA
 - i. There was much discussion from the NJCAA whether the group wanted to break off from the NJCAA. This will not effect the National Tournament or region games. However, the NJCAA takes 20% of membership rates to fund the NJCAA.
 - ii. Thought is if the NFCA were to take the coaches association portion over, NFCA membership fees might increase. Currently it’s about 50% of member coaches pay for their NFCA membership but 100% of schools pay for the NJCAA membership.
 - iii. The coaches would be breaking from the NJCAA coaches association, **NOT** the NJCAA.
 - iv. Concerns
 1. If breaking away from the NJCAA will they be breaking away from All Americans?
 2. Mentioned from Joe Yegge, the NJCAA was the association who suggested the split.
 3. Need to increase NFCA membership if deciding to break from NJCAA.
 4. Administrators are paying the NJCAA memberships
 5. How NJCAA fees are being split up to support other sports.
 - v. The caucus was concerned as to when they would have to vote on said potential split and Mr. Yegge informed the group to check emails in the future and is unsure as to when that would happen.
 1. Mr. Yegge suggested to send out a poll and see what members are wanting and it was brought up to speak with athletic directors about the change.
 2. Suggested the NFCA reach out to the NJCAA about helping in any transition.
 - vi. This will need further review.

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III. All-American update

- a. The group enjoyed the later deadlines, liked the format and shorter voting window. Will move forward with this procedure.
- b. Regions
 - i. Michelle Vasquez, NFCA liaison addressed the group with altering the NFCA regions to be more conducive to who teams compete against.
 - ii. Member suggested to show the NJCAA region map, who regions compete against, and align new regions.
 - iii. Proposed to follow suite with NJCAA regions
 - iv. Changing regions
 1. Submit a formal request to NFCA liaison and will take to NJCAA All-American committee and then will proceed to board approval.
 - v. **Motion:** Move NJCAA I to move to four regions (passed and room approved).
 1. Michelle to take to board for final approval.
 - vi. **Motion:** Drop NJCAA I to 2 All American teams (passed and room approved).
 1. Michelle to take to board for final approval.

IV. Award involvement

- a. Encouraged for more NJCAA participation with regard to NFCA awards (Mary Nutter scholarships, Easton Assistant Coach, Easton Scholar athlete, Humanitarian, Donna Newberry, Hall of Fame, Diversity grant and Diamond Scholarship).

V. Tournament update

- a. NFCA Leadoff Classic-Junior College (March 8-10, 2019 Columbus, GA)
 - i. Formal invitations will go out in December, January and February with the hopes of filling a 24-team tournament. If the demand, considering 32 team.
- b. Canadian Cup
 - i. International division
 - ii. Need more applications from players and coaches
- c. National Tournament
 - i. Would like to move NJCAA Division II back to Memorial Day weekend.
 - ii. Would like to move back district finals
 - iii. Revamping National Tournament and adding an additional day, would like to revamp brackets.
 - iv. NJCAA is said to send out email about altering National Tournament.

VI. Hot Topics

- a. Athlete transfers
 - i. Concerned about athletes transferring mid-season.
 - ii. Only way to address a concern with mid-season ruling is to be a NCAA member
 - iii. Need to report to NFCA Ethics committee if coach doesn't reach out to NJCAA coach prior to athlete communication.
 - iv. Suggested to put an addendum in National Letter of Intent, they may need to pay back scholarship

VII. Meeting adjourned 10:52 a.m.

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