

## **2008 MINUTES OF THE NFCA JUNIOR COLLEGE CAUCUS MEETING**

**Thursday, December 11, 2008**  
**NFCA National Convention**  
**Marco Island Marriott Resort**  
**Marco Island, Florida**

Members present: Susan Painter, Board Rep (Gulf Coast CC), Courtney Miller ( Seminole CC ), Eric Geldart ( Young Harris College ), Daniel Rubino ( Young Harris College ), Robb DiGiacomo ( Monroe CC ), Brent Doane ( Tompkins Cortland CC ), Elaine Covin ( Alabama Southern CC ), Jayne Clem ( Wallace State CC, Hanceville ), Maria Winn-Ratliff ( Western Nebraska CC ), Joe Yegge ( Kirkwood CC ), Kristen Clark ( Genesee CC ), Brian Dewey ( Mercyhurst North East ), Ryan Connell ( College of DuPage ), Ally Carter Hattermann ( Gordon College ), Brenda Pena ( Pensacola JC ), Mike Bosch ( Iowa Lakes CC ), Blythe Golden (Gulf Coast CC), Chrystal Vega (Angelina College), Nick Baumert (College of Southern Idaho), Ed Schutte (Georgia Perimeter College), Deyton Kenneth (Georgia Perimeter College), Armando Quirez (Pima CC), Rick Pauly (Spartanburg Methodist College), Jack Byerley (Northwest Florida State College), Beverly Wiley (CC of Rhode Island), Shae Wesley (Heartland CC), Daryn Miller (Heartland CC), Jamie Rose (Hutchinson CC), Jana Williams (Hutchinson CC),

Other Attendees: Hildred Deese, NFCA Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m. by Susan Painter.

### **Old Business**

- 1. After reviewing the minutes of the 2007 Caucus Meeting, a motion was made by Jayne Clem and seconded by Brenda Pena that the minutes be approved as submitted. The motion passed.**
  
- 2. NFCA Leadoff Classic**
  - A.** In 2008, 24 teams were selected based on ranking, national place finish of NFCA members from all divisions for the years 2005, 2006, and the spring finish of 2007. Jayne Clem, Head Softball Coach, Wallace State CC, Hanceville reported the results of the **2008** Leadoff Classic as follows:
    - Gold Bracket Champion – Indian River CC (FL)
    - Silver Bracket Champion – Chattanooga State Tech CC (TN)
    - Bronze Bracket Champion – Wenatchee Valley CC (WA)
  
  - B.** The selection process for the **2011** NFCA Leadoff Classic Site: Frank Brown Park, Panama City Beach, FL is as follows:
    - In 2011, a selection committee will be formed which include Howie Smith, Chairperson, Dodge City CC, KS; Lana Ross, Iowa Western CC, IA; Susan Painter, Gulf Coast CC, FL; Mike Staudenmaier, Walla Walla CC, WA. One representative is needed for the Northeast. This committee will determine the potential invitees.

## **New Business**

### **1. Items/Announcements from the Executive Board Meeting**

- A. The “Fastpitch Delivery” newspaper continues to be an important resource for feature stories, articles and drills. The newspaper took on a different format for 2008 and went to 12 issues per year. The newspaper hard copy was voted as the delivery of choice.
- B. The National Fastpitch Coach’s College attendees have increased each year. Jayne Clem shared her personal experiences in utilizing this valuable tool. The Executive Board recommended that the College improve and advance its curriculum options, content and technology.
- C. Individual caucus meetings held at the convention are now individual business meetings. A Softball Summit would be held prior to the proposed individual business meeting for the purpose of sharing and debating across all group categories.

### **2. Rule Changes and Interpretation for 2009**

- A. Dee Abrahamson (Northern Illinois) presented 2009 rule changes and interpretation:
  - The pitcher’s lane shall be 8 feet in length. The pitcher shall not have any part of her foot in contact with the ground completely outside of any part of a line that defines the pitcher’s lane.
  - Pros and cons of the eight run rule
  - Emphasis on proper attire and equipment
  - All balls should have dynamic stiffness.
  - Number of approved bats has increased; only one or two bats did not comply
  - Coaches do not have to wear helmets while coaching bases but student athletes are required to do so.
  - Light jerseys are HOME and Dark jersey are VISITORS.
  - Time limit games do not count for the spring season.
  - 2009 rule book is applicable for one year. After 2009, the publication is applicable for two years.

### **3. All-Region/All-American/Coaching Staff of the Year Committee Members**

- A. Division I – Jim Overturf (Midwest), Kate McCluskey (West), Courtney Miller, Chair (Southern)
- B. Division II – Howie Smith (Southern), Bob Every, Chair (East), Joe Yegge (Midwest)
- C. Division III – Angelo DiFronzo, Jr.(East), Kristen Clark (North), Emily Marino, Chair (West)
- D. The All-Region/All American selection consists of:
  - 5 battery (no set number at each position)
  - 6 infielders
  - 4 outfielders
  - 1 designated player
  - The NJCAA and NFCA need to consider similar stat information for selection process. A motion was made to recommend to the NJCAA that defensive stats with emphasis on catcher stats be included in this selection process..
  - Online access – Statsdepot.com (free), Statcrew.com (charge), Turbostats.com (charge)

#### **4. Softball Summit Hot Topics**

##### **A. NCAA Division I**

- Scholarship Increases
- Playing Rules i.e 8 run rule
- Fall recruiting calendar
- Early verbals
- Playing and practice seasons
- Umpires

##### **B. NJCAA**

- A motion was made suggesting that Division I, II and III be allowed to visit NJCAA campuses without recruiting restrictions. It was also suggested that the NJCAA should be added to the High School rule exclusion.
- Umpire evaluation forms should be standardized. Good examples are the Southeastern Umpires Association and the Orlando Officials Association

##### **C. We should all participate in the Softball Summit:**

#### **NJCAA**

##### **1. NJCAA Report**

###### **A. Brent Doane – (doaneb@tc3.edu), Look into the viability of officials evaluation forms for all divisions. The following were announced as the NJCAA Softball Coaches Association Officers:**

- Division I representative – Rich Church (Blinn College,
- Division II representative – Chuck Clutts (Parkland College)
- Division III representative – Brent Doane (Tompkins Cortland CC
- National Tournament Sites 2009:
  - Division I – St. George, Utah
  - Division II – Normal, Illinois
  - Division III – Rochester, Minnesota
- Hall of Fame ballots will be available in January 2009.

#### **NFCA/JC Representative**

##### **1. Congratulations to Jayne Clem , Wallace State CC Hanceville, newly elected representative.**

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Painter  
NFCA Junior College Representative.