

MIAC Student Athlete Advisory Committee
Fall Meeting, September 12, 2004
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chair Nicole Pagliaccetti (CSB). Representatives all introduced themselves to the group. Schools represented were Hamline, Gustavus, St. Olaf, St. Benedict's, Bethel, Macalester, St. Catherine's, St. John's and Carleton.

The group decided to continue to be involved in the Toys for Teens drive as our service project. We discussed ways to increase the number of donations, which included approaching local businesses and other school organizations for support. Representatives also stressed the importance of informing coaches and athletes about this project. This year we will try to have a competition between schools for the most donations. Representatives will report on the progress of this program at the Winter meeting.

The issue of sportsmanship was discussed in regards to ways to encourage athletes and fans to act in an appropriate manner at contests. The Carleton representatives also suggested awarding athletes for their sportsmanlike conduct through an All-Opponents team award. We determined that the best way to award this honor would be to have each team choose one athlete from an opposing team as their award winner. Athletes should be selected who display intensity during competition, but also maintain respect for their fellow competitors. The respective SAACs will be responsible for informing their teams about this program and also for sending out the awards to the winners. Each SAAC will then bring the names of their award recipients to the next meeting. Joan Bennett from Macalester volunteered to design an award certificate which will be sent out to each SAAC advisor.

Aaron Swanum from Hamline introduced himself to the group and explained that he is the National SAAC representative for our region. He will be representing this area at the National Conference in January. We will further discuss legislation issues at our next meeting.

Representatives also discussed service ideas for SAACs or athletic teams. Some of the suggestions included pen pals with local elementary students, a Halloween Carnival, a formal dance to raise money for a charity, faculty basketball games as fundraisers, and participation in walk/run events for organizations. Representatives are encouraged to share ideas with other schools for these types of events.

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Nicole Pagliaccetti.

Our next meeting will be December 5, 2004.

Respectfully submitted by Nicole Pagliaccetti, Chair.