

MIAC Student Athlete Advisory Committee
Winter 2005 Meeting
December 4, 2005 (Sunday) - 1:00
University of St. Thomas / Murray Herrick Campus Center - Room 152

Present: Kirk Rall-MIAC Treasurer, Lisa Uehling (Augsburg); Tyson Bjorklund-MIAC SAAC Chair, Carl Gladitsch, Liz Glesne (Bethel); Jamie Lykken-MIAC SAAC Co-Chair (Carleton); Blythe Bittman (Gustavus); Kate Ayer (Macalester); Jen Kling, Katie Rehani (Saint Benedict); Katie Hoeschen (St. Catherine); Jay Kasner, Mike Zauhar (Saint John's); Nikki Conway (St. Thomas); Dan McKane, Matt Ten Haken, Cody Schmidt (MIAC).

I. Call to order (Dan McKane, MIAC Executive Director)

II. Introductions

III. Toys for Teens (Dan McKane)

Each campus is doing collections of toys for the annual service project. Bethel is asking parents to bring toys to end of the year banquets, and teams are raising money through events and then buying toys. St. Thomas is collecting toys at hockey and basketball games as well as having football parents bring toys to end of year banquet. Macalester is selling shirts to raise money and collecting toys at games. Gustavus is collecting toys at basketball games, and advertising in the St. Peter Herald. Carleton did a swim-a-thon and held a cookie sale then bought toys with the money. St. Kate's placed collection boxes on campus. Augsburg is selling shirts to raise money. Many feel it is a good idea to have competition between teams to collect most toys. There will be a release to the media to advertise all the donations collected by the MIAC. Out-state schools will collect toys and donate to local drop-off sites. Twin City SAACs will collect and bring to KARE 11 on Thursday, December 15, 2005 during the 10:00pm broadcast. Ideas for toys included: hand-held games, sporting equipment, hair accessories, and movies.

IV. Sportsmanship (Dan McKane)

Carleton and Gustavus are in the process of finishing their fall sportsmanship awards and will be mailing them out shortly. The SAAC agreed that more work needs to be put into the details of the SAAC sportsmanship award. The Athletic Directors have concern about sportsmanship from the fans, and have developed a committee to deal with the issue. McKane shared some of the ideas that the AD's and FAR's came up with to help solve this problem. Everyone agreed that this was an issue in the culture of sporting events that will take time to change.

V. NCAA SAAC Grant (Dan McKane)

The NCAA has given the MIAC a \$2600 grant for SAAC. Some of the ideas for using the grant included: repay mileage to attend meetings, conference calls, and meeting operation and refreshments. McKane would like a portion of the grant to go back to the campuses.

VI. SAAC Student-Athlete Survey (Dan McKane)

There was over 750 responses to the survey. Items of interest noted: over 96% of respondents were clearly aware of the eligibility rules before their playing season began. Almost 100% feel that competing in MIAC athletics has been a positive experience. Over 76% of respondents believe that sportsmanship between competing student-athletes has improved. An excel spreadsheet has been created with specific results for each institution and sport which will be emailed to campus representatives.

VII. MIAC AD/FAR Meetings Update (Dan McKane)

Men's and women's golf will switch to a 54 hole, three day championship next season. Official's fees have increased \$5-\$15 per contest. MIAC budget items and compliance issues were also discussed. Lacrosse as a new conference sport is still being talked about, but likely will not become a varsity sport for a few years at several institutions. New mission statement and guiding principles have been passed for the MIAC with an emphasis on the student aspect of student-athlete.

VIII. 2006 NCAA Legislation Highlights (Dan McKane)

McKane explained key items in the 2006 NCAA legislation that will be voted on in January. Discussion was held and MIAC SAAC took straw votes on many of the important items.

#2 Recruiting--Tryouts--Exception (MIAC SAAC - 9-0)

#3 Eligibility--Seasons of competition (MIAC SAAC - 0-9) MIAC has never allowed red shirting.

#4 Eligibility--Seasons of participation--Participation at any collegiate institution (MIAC SAAC 8-1) Division III currently does acknowledge red shirt season if transfer is from Division I or II, MIAC does not.

#5 Eligibility--Graduate student/post baccalaureate participation (MIAC SAAC - 1-8)

#7 Division III Membership--Active membership (MIAC SAAC - did not vote)

#10 Division III Membership--Philosophy statement--Elimination of in-region competition emphasis (MIAC SAAC - 7-2)

#18 Playing and practice seasons--Nontraditional segment length and maximum contest limitations (MIAC SAAC - 1-8)

IX. SAAC Best practices

SAAC members went around the room and gave examples of practices that were working well on their campus. Augsburg is attempting a faculty/staff basketball game, they will be handing out flyers with announcements of game days, and selling fan t-shirts. St. John's is increasing fans with their "Pack the Gym" campaign. Carleton is doing toys-for-teens, t-shirts for fans, and a faculty/staff basketball game with St. Olaf. Gustavus is hosting senior seminars and speakers regarding dinner etiquette, job searches, etc. St. Benedict is asking each athlete to send 10 personal invites to a big, up-coming competition. Macalester pairs up its athletic teams to raise money. Bethel's SAAC meetings on campus are paired with meals and underclassmen are invited to attend meetings so they can learn how their SAAC works. St. Thomas has pep fests for each season as well as end of the year banquets.

X. MIAC Staff attend institutions SAAC meetings (Dan McKane)

McKane would like to attend individual SAAC meetings on each campus. Send him information about where and when your school is hosting its upcoming meetings (dpmckane@miac-online.org).

XI. Spring SAAC Meeting

It was discussed what form the next meeting should be (ie: in person, phone, webcam). Membership felt there was a distinct advantage meeting face to face. Prescribe spring meeting falls on Easter Sunday. Body felt it would be advantageous to meet in late winter to keep SAAC momentum going on campus and prepare for spring activities. It was agreed the next meeting would be moved to Feb. 19.

Next Meeting

Sunday, February 19th, 2006 at 1:00pm (St. Thomas)