

# BIG 8

## CONFERENCE

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Meeting Minutes – December 3, 2009  
Santa Rosa Junior College

1. The meeting was called to order by Big 8 Conference President Bill Kaiser at 10 a.m.
2. Dr. Robert Agrella, President of Santa Rosa Jr. College, was introduced by Bill Kaiser. President Agrella welcomed the presidents and assembly to SRJC and gave a brief history of the campus and offered further information and tours to the participants should they desire.
3. All in attendance introduced themselves. Attending and representing MJC: Bill Kaiser; SCC: Pres. Kathryn Jeffery and Mitch Campbell; SJDC: Gary Scott; CRC: Pres. Deborah Travis and Jeanne Calamar; DVC: Pres. Judy Walters and Christine Worsley; Sierra: Pres. Leo Chavez and John Volek; SRJC: Pres. Robert Agrella and Jim Forkum; ARC: Jean Snuggs; and Big 8 Commissioner, Mike Liddell.
4. Bill Kaiser informed the attendees that Dr. Richard Rose, President of MJC and representative of the Big 8 Conference to the COA, is leaving MJC and would not be in attendance today.
5. **Minute Corrections**--President Bill Kaiser asked if there were any corrections to the June 10, 2009 minutes. There was a correction to the minutes on page 3, under "Commissioner Evaluation Form" which read "...the Constitution Committee should fill out the evaluation". This is misstated as the constitution does not state this is how an evaluation is done. After recognizing this correction, the minutes were approved.
6. President Kaiser asked for any **changes/additions to today's agenda**. Additional topics included: Out-of-State Athletes, Football Conferencing, Title 9 and Commissioner Evaluation. Deleted from the agenda was SCC Hughes Renovation/W. Soccer; this issue was resolved prior to today's meeting.
7. President Kaiser announced the **dates for upcoming conferences/meetings**:  
  
March 30- April 2, 2010 – **COA Convention**, Ontario, CA  
Big 8 **Assembly Meeting** – March 10, 2010, 9 a.m., MJC  
**President/AD Meeting** – Thursday, June 3, 2010, SJDC (changed from Sierra)

**NATYCAA Convention** – June 21, 22, 23, 2010, Anaheim (1<sup>st</sup> time on west coast).

8. President Kaiser shared an article featured in the November issue of NACDA about John Volek, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President for NATYCAA. John then encouraged attendance at the June 21 NATYCAA Convention in Anaheim.

9. Commissioner Report –

**Big 8 Budget** was accepted.

**Appeals report** was accepted.

**Decorum report** was accepted.

**Big 8 Champions for Fall 2009** were recognized.

The **COA website** now gives information about the Big 8. Campus coaches are encouraged to give Jason Boggs, COA office, information to post on the website. The question arose about the missing historical information that was previously shown on the Big 8 website. It was felt this historical information about the conference is essential. The commissioner has made numerous attempts to contact Chris Ruiz to gain some understanding of this missing information but to no avail.

**Athlete of the Month** --A question was raised regarding whether coaches are nominating Big 8 athletes for the Athlete of the Month award. It was felt this nomination and award is being dominated by the South.

The **on-line coach's exam** was briefly discussed with both Mike Liddell and Jean Snuggs having completed the exam in its preliminary state. This exam is intended for the college's athletic staff; the questions are appropriate to the test taker's position. This is an informational tool for the departments to use as well as the presidents to use in accreditation reviews. It is believed the exam will be available in the spring 2010.

**Program Review** was discussed. Commissioner Liddell is part of a Commissioner Committee to evaluate program review. Discussion followed to have program review done at the same time as the campus accreditation reviews. It was agreed that the standards for this review should follow the COA standards and that the review should not deviate from the standards. It was felt among the group that this review could be used to help showcase athletic programs to help make the public aware of what athletics bring to a campus. The consensus of the group was program review is valuable and should be retained in its present state.

**Official Contracts** – Negotiations for contracts will be occurring this spring.

**Conference Meetings** – Big 8 conference meetings were discussed. There was a consensus that the current format of four meetings a year should remain and are valuable.

10. President Kaiser informed the group that he was going to reverse the agenda order for the Discussion Topics.
11. **Commissioner Evaluation** - Jeanne Calamar lead the discussion regarding the commissioner evaluation. The evaluation process should follow the constitution guidelines which state the evaluation is to be done in the spring. Gary Scott, SJDC, and past president for the Big 8, will be the coordinator for this evaluation in the spring 2010. The commissioner will have the evaluation no later than June 30.
12. **Out-of-State Athletes** – Jean Snuggs commented there appears to be different criteria used on how out-of-state athletes’ residency in CA is reported; Jean felt we should all be using the same criteria for reporting this information.
13. **Advocating for PE/Athletic Programs** – Mitch Campbell inquired about what the campuses can do to appropriately advocate for PE/Athletics in higher education and what can be done to be proactive. It was felt that we must advocate for program offerings and have a say in what’s being cut and how the cuts are made, otherwise, PE classes are targeted when budgets are reduced. ADs need to have discussions with their presidents and set priorities. To be an advocate for your program you must be close to the mission of your campus!
14. **Football Conferencing** – Jim Forkum asked how we get the football people to look at re-conferencing. A suggestion was made to bring Pam Walker to our next President/AD meeting so she can hear some of the ideas for change coming from this group. Commissioner Liddell also suggested ideas for change be discussed with NCFC Commissioner Gary Kollenborn.
15. **Title 9** – Jim Forkum referred the group to Form R-4 and said that legislation will be submitted by February 1. Each college is to review Form R-4 and designate which of the three tests, or non-compliance, your campus uses to measure gender equity. Jim would like your thoughts or changes by March as this legislation will be voted on at the April meeting.
16. **Cost Containment** – Jim Forkum briefly discussed the 16 recommendations being considered by the CCCAA Management Council. (see attachment for 16 recommendations). Jim believes these recommendations will be accepted. Again the discussion that followed was centered on how to change and manage PE and

athletic programs to get the students in and get them out in an efficient, effective manner. Personal enrichment classes or activity classes taken to improve GPA will no longer be available. The emphasis will be on core classes and making satisfactory progress toward completing the Ed plan designed by each student athlete showing the academic progress they plan to follow.

It was suggested that we spend an hour or more at the next meeting (June 2010) coming up with a plan to advocate for PE/Athletic programs and implement a direction to take to ensure the success of the student and the programs; what are the best practices to use to ensure a successful academic outcome for our students.

17. Jim Forkum asked if anyone needed training on the EADA report. He has a contact person who will conduct this training at the Ontario meeting.
18. The meeting was adjourned.