

BIG 8

CONFERENCE

Meeting Minutes – October 7, 2009
Sierra College

1. The meeting was called to order by Big 8 Conference President Bill Kaiser at 9:30 a.m.
2. All in attendance introduced themselves. Attending and representing MJC: Bill Kaiser, Bo Aiello and Cheryl Mulder; SCC: Mitch Campbell, Tim Kiernan and Robert Maglione; SJDC: MaryAnn Paz, Gary Scott and Mike Maroney; CRC: Liz Belyea and Jeanne Calamar; DVC: Christine Worsley, Cailin Mullins and Jackie Ponciano-Babb; Sierra: John Volek, Scott Decker, Darci Brownell, and Dawn Flannery; SRJC: Jim Forkum, Lacey Campbell and Ron Myers; ARC: Jean Snuggs, J. R. Matsunami and Kevin Higgins; Folsom Lake: Ron Richardson; COA Ex. Director, Carlyle Carter; and Big 8 Commissioner, Mike Liddell.
3. Leo Chavez, President of Sierra College, was introduced by Bill Kaiser. President Chavez welcomed the assembly to Sierra College, thanked everyone for representing the needs of the student athletes and encouraged everyone to keep the lines of communication open while working together during these difficult budgetary times.
4. **Minute Corrections**--President Bill Kaiser asked if there were any corrections to the March 12 minutes. The minutes were approved.
5. **Additions to the agenda**--President Kaiser asked if there were additions to today's agenda. Additions are:
 - a. Form 3 names/competing unattached (J. Forkum)
 - b. Suspension of 2 sports (J. Volek)
 - c. Pepsi Scholarship Committee (M. Liddell)
6. **President's Report**

President Kaiser encouraged everyone to attend the CCCAA Conference on October 28-30, Crown Plaza, S.F. Everyone should mark their calendars for the AD/Presidents meeting, Thursday, December 3 at Santa Rosa Jr. College and the CCCAA Convention in Ontario, March 30-April 2, 2010.

7. **Financial Report**

Mike Liddell presented the Big 8 budget for 2009/10. The budget was accepted with no comment.

8. **Spring Sports Supplements/Schedules/End of Year Reports**

End of Year Reports can be obtained from the Commissioner. He mentioned that the final version of the fall and spring supplements will be submitted for posting on the COA website. The commissioner will also house the supplements.

Bill Kaiser asked each sport rep. to present their supplement changes.

Baseball (Ron Myers) – The only changes consisted of dates and times. Jean Snuggs asked if a copy of the baseball schedule could be emailed to her. Baseball supplement was unanimously passed.

Golf, M (Bill Kaiser) – Page 3 reflects a total of 16 tournaments which affects the change in the scoring (Section 3.B), Page 4, 3. D.1 should read “Fill out Form C”. On Page 5, 9.A. change “ten lowest stroke averages...” to match the constitution. Range finders were discussed. Carlyle Carter commented on the use of Form 5 to follow the legislative process for the use of range finders. Discussion followed regarding combining men’s and women’s golf. Some of the concerns raised were combining teams in the same season with one coach, one budget, etc. Problems exist with this scenario. It was suggested that this assembly come to a consensus on this issue as to what the Big 8 wants to do before going to the COA meeting. The Men’s Golf schedule and all changes to the Men’s Golf supplement were approved with 1 abstention.

Carlyle Carter told the group that 28 teams have been lost across the State this year and many are women’s teams which affects gender equity in the State.

All changes to the Men’s Golf supplement were approved with one abstention.

Softball (Jim Forkum) – Page 3, Article 2, Section 1.B.1. a specific time was given for the post conference meeting. They may introduce the use of a conference call as a cost cutting measure. Under Article 2, Section 1. D.3 reads “Number of contests – See COA guidelines”. On page 4, Article 2, Section 2.C. a change to makeup dates was added. The softball supplement was passed unanimously.

Swimming, M/W (Mike Maroney) – Changes were minor. Article 2, Section 1.C. coaches meeting was changed from Friday to Thursday. Article 2, Section 5.B.4. gives new clarification to allow 20 minutes from the start of one event to the start of the next event in finals. There is a date change on page 4, Article 2,

Section 5. B. The swimming supplement for men and women was passed with one abstention.

Tennis (John Volek) – On page 3 of the supplement, scratch Yuba College and add Folsom College. There was no supplement to present to the group. The motion to accept the schedule passed.

Track/Field (Jean Snuggs) – The revised supplement showed changes in red on page 3, Article 2, Section 1.A.1-4, page 4, Article 2, Section 3.A., G., H., I., J., O., V, and X.5. The supplement and schedule were approved with two abstentions.

9. Commissioner Report

Decorum Violation/Self Report – The report was accepted with the following corrections: 1) It should read that Jason Gantt is from Sierra College, not CRC. 2) Saul Mendoza was not from CRC but from Evergreen College. There was one addition made to the “self report/violations”—MJC reported two athletes may have competed on an outside team; this is under review.

Appeals and Eligibility Report – The report was reviewed with no corrections. It was mentioned that Mitch Campbell is the Appeals Chair for the Big 8 and your appeal votes should be directed to him within 10 days and then they are passed on to the COA Office.

Allegations/Investigations report—There was nothing to report.

The **Hosting Report** was presented; Ron Richardson from Folsom Lake was welcomed to the meeting.

Pepsi Scholars - The commissioner asked for a committee of six to review the Pepsi Outstanding Scholar Athlete nominations today at the end of the meeting. The committee was Liz Belyea, Christine Worsley, Mitch Campbell, Jean Snuggs, John Volek and Cailin Mullins. Nominations will be forwarded to the COA by the commissioner.

The commissioner would like to have the technician’s name from each campus having the responsibility of preparing Form 3s.

Conferencing Committee News - The commissioner has been involved in conference calls in which re-conferencing has been discussed, especially for colleges in the South. Carlyle Carter said a conferencing committee has been operating for over a year to try to make sense of the colleges in the various conferences. The committee will determine some conferencing recommendations and bring this forward at the fall COA meeting. The commissioner will keep the

AD's apprised of any conferencing recommended changes as he is made of aware of them.

10. **Big 8 Conference Constitution/Reports**

Awards - Jeanne Calamar spoke to the issue of standardizing awards in the Big 8 Conference. This situation is still not settled and award giving is very erratic at this time. Awards need to be aligned with the Conference Constitution. The committee will meet October 28 to make proposals (committee members are: Jean Snuggs, John Volek, Mitch Campbell, and Jeanne Calamar). These proposals will be brought before the assembly for a vote in the spring.

Decorum Form (revised) – Officials and AD's will use the same form. It was proposed to add a page with definitions to assist officials. A change at the bottom of the form is needed as there should be no "strike" verbage; the last page should match the COA form. Jeanne will send this form with changes to the AD's so that they can start using it immediately if they so choose. The game administrator fills out the top of the form; the officials fill out the bottom of the form.

Gender Equity Report – Jeanne Calamar said the committee hasn't met so she had nothing to report.

11. **Misc. Business**

Jim Forkum spoke on what the **Management Council** is doing. The council is looking for ways to cut costs. They are putting together a list of recommendations which if passed will have impact on each college. The intent of the council is to discuss and find ways to save money and programs and stay strong. The list will be brought forward for discussion at the October meeting. The COA Board will vote on the final recommendations. The recommendations are:

1. Effective Jan. 1, 2010, limit state championship to final 4.
2. Entry fees for post season be eliminated; State would absorb costs.
3. Wherever possible, eliminate contests that require OT pay for staff.
4. Maximize regional and local play.
5. Football post conference be restructured; north and south go to 4 team playoff.
6. Have state playoffs held on community college campus with golf, cross country and tennis being exceptions.
7. CCCAA look at Form 3 for reimbursement rates.
8. Dues be reduced for membership to CCCAA.
9. Cross country, golf and wrestling use invitational formats.
10. Move men's golf to fall.
11. Freeze officials rates to 08/09 levels.

12. Allow division play for conference with 8 or 9 teams; 2 division format; 1 champ for each conference.

Page 5

Agenda Add-on: (Jim Forkum) Player on Form 3 and competing unattached. Much discussion followed this subject. It was agreed that you cannot compete unattached if you receive any form of support from the college.

Agenda Add-on: (John Volek) Sierra College has suspended men/women track and field for spring 2010. Cross country will finish out this fall season and then be suspended.

Agenda Add-on: (John Volek) June 19-23, 2010, NACDA and NATYCA will be combined and be meeting in Ontario, not Florida. The focus will be on professional development with Dr. Jack Scott as the keynote speaker.

Parking on Campus – (Jeanne Calamar) With budget impacts on colleges, possibly more student athletes will be driving their own vehicles to various campus competitions. Should each campus in the Big 8 provide more parking passes and provide designated areas for parking. No motion was made.

Agenda Add-on: Jeanne Calamar suggested that the Big 8 Conference assembly meeting be adjusted in the fall to afford the membership time to review and discuss Form 5 legislation before it goes to the state convention for a vote. The commissioner will look at changing the fall meeting date so the assembly will have more time to review legislation.

Water Polo Officials – In the interest of time, this subject was pulled from the agenda for discussion at a later date.

SCC Women's Soccer (Mitch Campbell)--Women's soccer team has not been allowed to play on campus because of the field dimensions plus the wear and tear on the football field. They want to apply for Big 8 Conference waiver to allow return to their stadium. No action was taken.

Out-of-State Student Form – (Liz Belyea) The use of this form gives AD's another tool to determine an athlete's eligibility; the student athlete fills out the form which helps them become aware of rules and costs associated with attending a CA community college. CRC plans to start using this from right away. No vote was taken at this time as AD's want to review the form with staff, i.e., financial aid, admissions, etc., and get everyone's interpretation. This subject should be brought forth at the next meeting.

Honor Code (Liz Belyea) – After brief discussion, this code was passed and accepted as a guideline for the constitution.

Commissioner Informational Items –

Website (Mike Liddell) – The COA conferencing website is where all information for the Big 8 will be posted this year.

Officials Contract Negotiations – Several contracts expire at the end of this year. Commissioner will negotiate with the sport reps and head of officials.

Form 1 and Form 3 – Be accurate and get signatures. View forms thoroughly and remember the 10 day rule.

Grey Shirting – Carlyle Carter gave a commentary on grey shirting and its ramifications this year. He sent his thoughts and interpretations to everyone statewide.

CCCAA Online Exam – This exam will be available within the next two weeks. There is no mandate to take the test. There are 280 questions with no two tests alike. Questions are determined by the position of the examinee; can have a second opportunity to take the test if at first you don't succeed.

Newsletter – The commissioner will develop a newsletter to let everyone know what's going on in the Big 8.

High School Tournaments/College Participation—Carlyle Carter discussed his views on colleges' participating with high schools (hosting tournaments). His view is that it puts the college coaching staff in an awkward position for possible recruiting violations.

12. **Program Review** – Commissioner will have review teams together by the December meeting. The three campuses to be reviewed are: Diablo Valley, SCC and Sierra. Exact timelines have not been set for next spring.

The meeting was adjourned.