

USTFCCA Convention Cross Country Session Minutes 12/13-12/15

12/13/11 4:55PM Motion to open made by President Greg Huffaker

Intro of D-III XC Officers

2010 Convention minutes approved unanimously

Committee Reports

- *Awards-Nothing to report

- *Polls-Schedule finalized for 2012 polls, will follow same schedule as last year with one adjustment. Poll dates will be posted on USTFCCA website.

- *Law and Legislation-Already discussed minor changes in combined session

- *Nominating and Elections-Nothing to report

Old Business-Nothing to discuss that isn't linked to new business.

New Business

Regional Representative Elections were held in regional breakout sessions. Elected representatives are Greg Cooper of Penn State Behrend for MidEast, James Larson of Adrian for Great Lakes, Chris Daymont of St. Olaf for Central, Ned Bishop of Conn College for New England, Rick Witt of UW Stevens Point for Midwest, Patrick Macdonald of Hendrix College for South, Angelo Posillico of SUNY Oneonta for Atlantic, Mike Orechia of Puget Sound for West. James McGown of Vassar was appointed by President Greg Huffaker to replace Matt LoPiccolo of SUNY Oneonta who has become the Atlantic Track Representative.

Proposal #1: Publication of Box assignments by the start of the course preview for championship meets- No questions or discussion.

Proposal #2: Immediate posting of results at championship meets in a coach only area-No questions or discussion

Proposal#3: Having officials or meet personnel act as a recall starter and call back officials- Question about cost, but resolved with NCAA funding and or using meet personnel.

Regional Realignment Discussion- Proposal forwarded by the executive committee would adopt a realignment proposal to be sent to the NCAA and would raise the cap of 5 teams per region o 7. Questions and discussion(italics are Greg Huffaker's responses or input: Chris Hall: Does the cap have to be connected to the proposal?-*No, but many people would like it connected to help solve the problem of some regions being stronger than others even after realignment.* Will Freeman (NCAA subcommittee head): NCAA wants regional representation (met), we want to even out the field and limit costs which this plan seems to do. We should also look at a 9 region model. *Executive committee decided an 8 region model would have a better chance with the NCAA.* Steve Johnson: Thought the NCAA wanted conference alignment within regions, the cap should be eliminated not just raised. *NCAA said that we could give them a proposal that would work best for our teams and that other sports were doing the same, conference realignment may not work for all sports, our sport allows conference representation being an open event.* Garrick Larson called to hear from other regions. Pat Macdonald talked about

issues in the south and west, Texas teams more likely to go to meet if they stay in the south. *The plan would be implemented in 2013.* Tim Miles: Eliminate cap to help Midwest and Central region depth. Will Freeman: The integrity of the meet could be better and would be by raising or eliminating the cap. Talked about the difficulty of selecting the last few teams into the NCAA meet and thought this would make it easier. Gary Aldrich: Question to Will Freeman, Has NCAA subcommittee been part of discussion over the last year on realignment (since our last proposal)-Will Freeman: Yes and conference affiliation not as important to the NCAA as it once was. Dara Ford: Feels it would be hard comparing the 7th team of one region to the 3rd in another. *The committee feels that more teams would allow for more connections through interregional competition and that when a clear determination could not be made that representation (having a 3rd team over a 7th) would be taken into consideration.* James McGowan: Does this have to be done immediately? *The NCAA has asked us for a proposal by January 1, 2012. We will ask for an extension and to continue to be part of the process.* Chuck Wilcox: Happy to hear that the NCAA has asked for our input and seems to be listening to what the coaches want.

Proposal submission wording change will be reflected in the handbook online and will eliminate the need for time sensitivity.

Preferred Entry Fee- This was done very quickly over the summer. We would like feedback if we want this to continue. Many schools did not enforce or put this into practice, A number of coaches spoke in support of the fee, others were opposed because it was making the school impose the USTFCCCA will on another school, also concerns over losing teams (esp community colleges) from small early season meets. No clear consensus on the issue.

Mike Woods: Why does the certificate size continue to change for All America certificates. This was brought up in the past and was supposed to be standardized with new paper size but has not happened.

End 7:03PM

12/14/2011 5:22 PM

Presentation on XC Nationals by Rose Hulman. Prenational meet will be Oct 6. Please see their website. Any questions contact Matthew Cole 812-877-8278 or cole1@rosehulman.edu

2nd VP Candidates- Matt Bareau-Christopher Newport, Chris Wheaton- North Central, Dara Ford- John Carroll,

Will Freeman presented statistical models that could help the selection committee chose the last few teams into the national meet. Tim Miles also answered questions about his model. Main concerns were over having polls be involved in the models, in allowing a computer formula to determine without looking at intangibles, and how the models actually work. This was answered with explanation and that the models would be one of many tools used if adopted.

Realignment Part 2: We would like to present something to the NCAA to make sure our voice is heard and are open to other proposals. Proposals and concerns centered on continuing to use state lines (*state lines are as arbitrary as highways or geographic features*), keeping regions the same due to familiarity and tradition (*NCAA seems to want to realign, we have asked for realignment in the past to even representation and create smaller field sizes in large eastern regions*).

Motion: Approve the working model presented if the cap is raised as well.- Pat MacDonald

Motion: Raise the cap to 7 teams for 2012 (later withdrawn)- Pat MacDonald

Motion: Eliminate the cap- Derek Stacey

Discussion continued

6:25PM

12/15/2011 Voting Session

- ⊙ MOTION: Publication and publicizing of box assignments for the Regional Meets prior to the first course inspection period. [Unit Vote. Time-Sensitive]

- ⊙ **Accept - 164**

- ⊙ **Reject - 0**

- ⊙ **Abstain - 0**

- ⊙ **MOTION:** Immediate announcement of unofficial team scores and posting of results in both a coach-only area and a public area. [Unit Vote. Time Sensitive]

- ⊙ **Accept - 161**

- ⊙ **Reject - 5**

- ⊙ **Abstain – 2**

- ⊙ **Passes.**

- ⊙ MOTION: At the Regional and National Championships, have the assistant starter stand behind the starting line. In addition, have two additional recall officials 150-200m from the start line. [Unit Vote. Time Sensitive]

- ⊙ **Accept - 149**

- ⊙ **Reject - 9**

- ⊙ **Abstain – 3**

- ⊙ **Passes**

- ⊙ MOTION: Eliminate the cap of five (5) teams per region for the 2012 NCAA Cross Country Championships. [Unit Vote. Time Sensitive]

- ⊙ **Accept - 125**

- ⊙ **Reject - 33**

- ⊙ **Abstain – 4**

- ⊙ **Passes.**

- MOTION: Approve the realignment working model map presented by the Executive Committee if the regional team cap is raised. [Unit Vote. Time Sensitive]

- **Accept - 118**

- **Reject - 32**

- **Abstain – 17**

- **Passes.**

- 2nd Vice-President Nominees [Membership Vote]

- Dara Ford (John Carroll)

- Matthew Barreau (Christopher Newport)

- Chris Wheaton (North Central College)

- New 2nd Vice-President effective after summer meetings is...Dara Ford (John Carroll)