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MCAC Football Coaches Meeting

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

2:00 PM, Zoom #5790275803

Members

Kurt Kohler – Executive Director Tom Inforzato (MRC) - present

Greg Medeck (CLC) - present Eric Issendorf (NDSCS) - present

Weldon Braxton (ICC) - present Derrick Hintz (RCTC) - present

Cory Miller (MSFF) - present Terrence Isaac (VCC) - present

Jeff Linder (MWCTC) - present

**MINUTES**

1. Call meeting to order, attendance, and introductions –

*Meeting was called to order at 2:03 PM. All coaches are in attendance. Introductions were made since this was Terrence Isaac’s first meeting.*

1. Game Ball Update –

*NJCAA will be using Team Issue ball as approved ball. Greg brought up that the MCAC has used Wilson in the past and many of the colleges purchased Wilson’s prior to last season and didn’t use them. Coaches agreed that either the Team Issue or Wilson 1005/1003GST could be used this year, and then at the post-season meeting a decision will be made for the MCAC approved ball for future seasons. NJCAA stamp is not necessary for the 2021 season but will be required starting in 2022. Kurt will communicate this to Eric Hamm, the MCAC Football Assignor of Officials.*

*Based on communications that came out from the NJCAA National Office following this meeting, game balls with the official stamp must be used beginning in the 2021 season or a waiver must be approved from the National Office.*

1. Scheduling and Officials –

*Eric Hamm has the updated and approved 2021 football schedule and has been working on assigning crews to each game. He was informed by Kurt that there are various start times for games. The default start time for the MCAC is 1:30 PM. Coaches emphasized that they need to have a schedule of which crews are working each of their games and shared that this schedule usually got sent to administrators but not to them. Kurt said he would email the schedule once Eric sends it to him with the crews listed. Eric Hamm’s fee is $200 per college, and fee for officials is $200 per official per game for 6 officials with no mileage paid.*

1. MCAC Championship –

*St. Cloud State has been contacted several times by email and phone and has not responded to questions about their facility. Kurt has been in talks with TCO Stadium/Viking Lakes about using that facility, and they are working on a price quote. Coaches also suggested St. John’s University, and Kurt will reach out to them to get a quote. Game will be November 7 at 1:30 PM unless changes need to be made to secure the field.*

1. COVID Protocol Updates –

*Coaches shared some of the developments at their colleges regarding the uptick in cases. Question was asked about forfeits vs. no contest for games that are cancelled due to COVID. Kurt explained that it would be no contest based on definition of a forfeit at the NJCAA level.*

*Cory made a motion that MCAC teams must play 5 or their 7 conference games to retain their final seed. If a team plays less than 5 of the 7 games, they will move to the bottom seed. If multiple teams are in this position, tie-breaking procedures will occur. Tom seconded the motion. Passed unanimously. This motion did not pass at the Executive Committee level.*

1. Sport Code Review – stat reporting, post-season format, weekly awards, film exchange –

*Kurt went through the sport code to remind coaches of the MCAC expectations and get input on areas that may have changed since last update.*

*Stats are to be submitted through Presto by 11:00 AM each Monday and sooner if possible. Coaches will also send their updated roster each week by 11:00 AM on Mondays to the MCAC Office, and Kurt will distribute those rosters to all head coaches Monday afternoon.*

*Post season format was discussed now that the MCAC is one division. Schedule will be:*

*Round 1: 8 @ 1, 7 @ 2, 6 @ 3, 5 @ 4; Semifinals @ highest remaining seeds: 1/8 winner vs. 4/5 winner; 2/7 winner vs 3/6 winner; Championship @TBA: winners of semifinals.*

*Conference’s tie-breaking procedure was discussed. Greg made the motion that the order of tie-breaking would be 1. Head-to-head; 2. Overall record; 3. Coin flip. Derrick seconded the motion. Passed unanimously. Passed at Executive Committee level as well.*

*Question was asked about the semifinal game and who covers the cost of officials and who gets the gate receipts. Kurt will find out and communicate back. Host school will pay officials for semifinal game.*

*Request was made to see a list of all NJCAA DIII colleges participating in football in 2021. The NJCAA website hasn’t been updated yet to get that information.*

*Question was raised regarding NJCAA final national poll determining teams that compete in the national championship game. If the #1 and #2 teams in final poll are same 2 teams that played in MCAC Championship, will they both play each other again in the National Championship? Will the loser of that MCAC Championship move out the National Championship? What if #3 in the poll is also an MCAC team and they move up to #2 after our championship – will a team not playing in our MCAC Championship play for a national championship (and with an extra week of rest)?*

*Athlete of the Week awards will be given to two offense, two defense, and 1 special teams player throughout the conference. MCAC Office will select one from each category to submit for the national award. Lineman will not have their own award because that does not line up with the NJCAA Athlete of the Week awards.*

*Game day film must be uploaded by the home team the day of the game and no later than 11:59 PM. Visiting team must upload their film by Noon on the day following the game (Sunday in most cases).*

1. Post-Season Awards –

*Two or three coaches will work together to come up with a proposal and send it out to get approval from coaches’ group.*

1. Sportsmanship –

*Sportsmanship is a point of emphasis by the NJCAA. Have discussions with athletes about positive sportsmanship. Kurt shared that ejection reports must be sent to the MCAC Office, Region 13 Men’s Director, and NJCAA Office by noon the following day. Filming should occur until both teams have left the field following a game.*

*With COVID, the question was asked about team interactions after the game (handshakes, hugs, etc.). Coaches would like to have that option and most want their team to show positive sportsmanship by shaking hands instead of just waving from one endzone to the other. Has the NJCAA Football Committee addressed this topic?*

1. Additional business –

*Post-season meeting will be in-person on November 8 at 10:30 AM. Location will be determined based on championship location.*

1. Adjourn – *meeting adjourned at 4:06 PM*