

MINUTES

Cross Country / Track & Field Coaches of the Southern Conference

**Southern Conference
Teleconference**

**Tuesday, July 30, 2019
1:00 PM ET**

Those participating were:

Jody Huddleston, The Citadel
George Watts, ETSU
Robert Gary, Furman
Chad Pearson, UNC Greensboro
Jerod Wims, Mercer
Rod Tiffin, Samford
Andy Meyer, Chattanooga
Darrin Webb, VMI
Jamie Severns, VMI
Jesse Norman, Western Carolina
Randy Eaton, Western Carolina
Johnny Bomar, Wofford
Jim Schaus, Southern Conference
Doug King, Southern Conference
Phil Perry, Southern Conference
Eynde Frazier, Southern Conference
Jon Perdue, Southern Conference
Stanley Broaden, Southern Conference

1. Mr. Broaden called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.
2. Topic: Commissioner's Remarks
Commissioner Schaus opened discussions about the Conference starting the process of developing a long-term strategic plan. The coaches provided positive feedback in the following areas: working together, transparency and the competitive nature of the conference. Areas to improve were cited as the need to continue to enhance the operations of a championship meet. This included exploring video review, always improving on the choices of student-athlete gifts, providing tents for competing teams at the championship and moving the championship to a three-day meet.
3. Topic: NCAA Legislation/Compliance Update
Mr. King reviewed legislation that was recently adopted and not adopted. Lastly, an update was given to the group on the proposed legislation of a recruiting dead period after the outdoor track & field championships. Mr. King stated that this proposal would move forward as conference sponsored legislation.
4. Topic: Previous Minutes
Review of the Cross Country / Track & Field Coaches' and Committee Meeting minutes from July 24, 2018. There were no recommendations to change or update the previous minutes.
**Action: It was VOTED 10-0 (Tiffin-Huddleston).
"To approve the previous minutes as presented."**

Cross Country / Track & Field Coaches Minutes

Tuesday, July 30, 2019

Page 2

5. Topic: Cross Country Championships
Issue: a. 2019 Cross Country Championships - Reminder that the championships are to be held on Saturday, November 2 at Pine Oak Golf Course in Johnson City, TN. In 2019, the women's championship will be contested at 10:00 AM (ET), followed by the men's championship at 10:45 AM (ET).
b. Course Map - Mr. Watts is working on finalizing the course map and will update the group once it is completed.
c. 2020 Cross Championships - Mercer is scheduled to host in 2020. Mr. Wims would like to confirm with their newly hired cross country head coach to determine if a suitable site can be acquired for 2020. VMI is next in line to host in 2021.
d. Cross Country Championship Bid Format/Adopting Course Specifications – The group opened discussions on the future of this championship's format (i.e. continuing with the rotation, moving to a bid process or "neutral site"). The Conference Office will work on developing course specifications/requirements based on recommendations from the coaches.
6. Topic: Indoor Track & Field Championships
Issue: a. 2020 Indoor Track & Field Championships – The Indoor Championships will be held on Saturday and Sunday, February 29-March 1 in Lexington, VA and hosted by VMI.
b. Schedule of Events – Mr. Webb recommend slight changes to the schedule of events from 2019 to better accommodate the timing of the meet.
Action: **It was VOTED 9-0 (Webb-Norman) (MER Abstained).**
“To approve the 2020 Indoor Championships Schedule of Events as presented.”
7. Topic: Outdoor Track & Field Championships
Issue: a. 2020 Outdoor Track & Field Championships – The Outdoor Championships will be held on Saturday and Sunday, May 2-3 in Birmingham, AL and hosted by Samford.
b. Schedule of Events – No changes were recommended to the 2020 Outdoor Championships Schedule of Events.
8. Topic: Sport Regulations
Issue: a. Cross Country – There was an update to Performers of the Month, 8.2.3, the awards are to be selected by a committee of head coaches.
Action: **It was VOTED 10-0 (Huddleston-Webb).**
“To approve the 2019 Cross Country Sport Regulations with the update to Performers of the Month, 8.2.3.”
b. Track & Field – A protest fee was adopted at the recommendation of the Sport Committee and approved at the Spring Meeting.
Action: **It was VOTED 10-0 (Tiffin-Huddleston).**
“To approve the 2020 Track & Field Sport Regulations as presented.”
9. Topic: Track & Field / Cross Country Sport Issues
Issue: a. Switching the 3,000 m and 5,000 m at the Indoor Championships
The 3,000 m is currently raced on Saturday while the 5,000 m is on Sunday, respectively. Mr. Norman recommend that these races be switched to better align with the NCAA Indoor Championships schedule of events.
Action: **It was VOTED 3-5-2 (Norman-Bomar) (MER and WOF Abstained). [DEFEATED]**
“To switch the 3,000 m to Sunday and the 5,000 m to Saturday.”

b. Championship Roster Limits for Indoor and Outdoor Championships

The coaches discussed increasing the championship squad size limit while reducing the team event limits. The recommended change by Mr. Norman would increase the squad size from 25 to 28 for indoor and 28 to 32 for outdoor. The team event limits would be reduced from 6 to 4.

Action: No action was taken.

10. Topic: USTFCCCA Update
Issue: Mr. Pearson reviewed information with the group from the USTFCCCA's most recent teleconference. They discussed the redshirting policy in regard to the regular season versus the post season. A proposal to remove the honorable mention all American awards was defeated. Additionally, the finals qualification process is being reviewed in hopes to increase and create more opportunities for student-athletes. The schedule of the 5,000 m may change to have the 200 m races between to make the distance races more fan friendly.
11. Topic: Other Business
Issue: a. Performers of the Week and Month Committees - The committee of head coaches for performers of the week and month will be UNCG, SAM and UTC for the Men; Tiffin will be chair. The women will consist of VMI, WCU and WOF; Bomar will chair this group.
12. The teleconference adjourned at 2:45 PM.