

Actions Items

Collegiate Membership Meeting, January 15-17th, 2009 Moderated by Amy Fowler, NFHCA President

The Collegiate Membership took action on the following items during its January 15-17th, 2009 meetings:

1. DII and DIII voted to adopt both Regional and National Players of the Year.
2. DI voted to adopt Regional Players of the Year, not a National Player.
3. The Collegiate Membership voted to recognize all Individual 4-year Academic Award winners with a glass award, similar to that of the Senior All-Star game frame.
4. The Collegiate Membership voted to accept the new (mandatory experimental) FIH rules changes for 2009.
5. The Collegiate Membership voted to re-define the coaching box as follows: Communication to players (and officials when appropriate) may only occur between the 25-50yd. lines, 5 yds. back off the sideline, and ground level.

The Collegiate Membership participated in the following discussions and made the following recommendations during its January 15-17th, 2009 meetings:

1. Committee Reports were given by:
 - Division I- Sarah Catlin
 - Division II- Carla Hesler
 - Division III- Andy Whitcomb
2. Honda Broderick Award vs. National Player of the Year
 - DII and III voiced concerns that their National Players of the Year may not be the “best” candidates for the Honda Award, citing different criteria used for selecting the Honda winner.
 - DII and III felt strongly that they would like to select a National Player of the Year, but also wished to find out more about their ability to nominate the best possible candidate for the Honda Award-as this may not be the same person for their respective National Players of the Year.
 - DI commented that a National Player of the Year was redundant to that of our Honda Broderick winner
 - DIII did comment that they, along with DII would like to be able to nominate more than one person for the Honda Broderick
 - It was noted by Executive Board members that the Honda Broderick Committee sets the number of nominees and simply asks Executive Director, Jennifer Goodrich for those candidates. DII and III are only asked by this committee to put forth one nominee per division.

3. Individual and Team Academic Awards were discussed with the following points made:
 - DII brought up the various ways institutions calculate GPA's.
 - DIII wanted the group to consider moving the individual GPA to a 3.5 and the team GPA to a 3.3.
 - DIII also wished for the group to consider two and three year winners as well as possibly removing first year players from consideration
 - Discussion followed on all above points, with a result to keep things as they were, but to add special recognition to those individuals who have won the Academic Award four years in a row.

4. New FIH experimental rules for 2009 were discussed (self-start and the free hit changes inside the 25 yd line)
 - March would be the earliest date for further information from the FIH
 - If this is a "trial" rule and could therefore be adopted and then dropped in 2010- the membership agreed that we would not support these changes until the FIH was set with them.
 - Steve Horgan was summoned to decipher the facts surrounding the new rule changes. He did verify that the changes were mandatory experimental-meaning they would go into effect and would stay in effect. The membership supported rule changes which were mandatory experimental. It was noted that the changes would put into place to provide fewer interruptions and smoother flow to the game.

NOTE: An additional Collegiate Membership meeting (on the morning of Jan. 17th, 2009) was held to further discuss the new FIH rule changes along with the coaching box issue. Steve Horgan addressed the collegiate membership regarding all information he had about how the new rules would be played, their impact on the game, and showed video clips to the group. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the coaching box and several points were made in support of why we should re-define this area at the collegiate level.

- FIH vs. College game- FIH does allow coaching from any where in a stadium.
- At the college level-some teams may be disadvantaged as to who has access to aerial spaces, lifts, camera towers, etc.
- Officials may have difficulties dealing with a coach who is off the ground/not in the normal coaching area.
- Equity on coaching staffs; 4 coaches vs. 2 coaches.

- Purity of the game; players should be equipped to coach themselves on the field.
- The point was made that coaching from outside of the traditional coaching area on the sideline could be considered creative coaching
- Behavior outside of the coaching box which warrants a card-the card should be given to the head (or asst.) that is in the coaching box.
- Coaching vs. speaking/yelling at the other team/officials and using profanity, etc.
- Coaching advantage vs. bad behavior

5. Sport Viability

- Who is adding women's programs?
- Who should be our spokesperson?
- It was noted that Executive Director, Jennifer Goodrich will be moving forward in helping to coordinate our organization's efforts on this front.