

ORANGE EMPIRE CONFERENCE  
FULLERTON COLLEGE  
March 9, 2010 – 9:30 a.m.

MINUTES

Cypress	Diane Henry, Yvonne Cota, Bill Pinkham
Fullerton	Pete Snyder, Tim Byrnes
Golden West	Albert Gasparian, Danny Johnson
Irvine Valley	Keith Shackleford, Devin Adams, Martin McGrogan
Orange Coast	Barbara Bond, John Knox, Laura Behr
Riverside	Barry Meier, Clara Lowden
Saddleback	Tony Lipold, Tod Burnett, Brad McReynolds, Jerry Hannula
Santa Ana	Avie Bridges, Jason Kehler, Reyes Vazquez
Santiago Canyon	Martin Stringer, Ian Woodhead

1. **Welcome and Announcements** – Tony Lipold, President  
Tony welcomed all those in attendance and thanked Pete Snyder for hosting the meeting.
2. **Approval of December 9, 2009 Minutes – MSP**
3. **Additions/Deletions/Changes to Agenda**  
Item 11a – Pre-conference traveling/scheduling – Diane Henry  
Item 11b – Gender equity – Diane Henry  
Item 11c – Baseball scheduling – Keith Shackleford  
Item 11d – Scrimmage violation – Jerry Hannula
4. **Commissioner's Report** – John Keever  
John mentioned that Pete Snyder was stepping back into the classroom and that Barbara Bond was retiring. He thanked them for their leadership and wished them well in their future endeavors.
  - a. Program Review – John disseminated the visitation schedule and requested that all members meet at Cypress College at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. He made the same time request for the visitation at Fullerton College on Friday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. He stated that each member will be assigned a specific standard to write about. The written documentation needs to include commendations and recommendations. All written standards are to be submitted to John for his review. He will then submit the final report to the college.
  - b. Conference Championships and MVPs – John commended the conference champions.

Men's Basketball – Riverside College  
Women's Basketball – Fullerton College

- c. Fall Scholar Teams – John reiterated that Scholar Team nominations are due to Clara Lowden and her committee by Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. This will give Clara's team an opportunity to review the nominations before they are submitted to John. The deadline to submit to CCCAA is April 10<sup>th</sup>. No exceptions are made for late submissions.
- d. OEC Character Champion Award – John distributed a copy of the nomination form and the criteria. After discussion, **MSP** to approve the form with the correction that a period should be added after **positive role model**. **MSP** to add the form to the OEC Constitution as an appendix. Once corrections have been made to the form, John will send a copy to all members via e-mail.

John explained that this award is not quantitative but anecdotal. It provides an opportunity to showcase the great athletes we come in contact with. Fair Play is providing the plaques, which are 9 x 12. Both freshmen and sophomore students may be nominated within a fiscal year.

John will ask Fair Play to sponsor individual college character awards. John will report his findings to the committee in May.

- e. Academic Achievement Awards COA/CCCAA – Informational item.
- f. Community Ed Classes – John reported that he has not been able to get a real answer regarding community educational classes from the executive director. After discussion, Diane stated that according to the COA Constitution – bylaw 3.6A p.77, returning athletes cannot enroll through community educational classes; however, this does not apply to freshmen. It was decided that representatives will only use community educational classes to protect themselves from liabilities but will not be used for returning students.
- g. COA/CCCAA – Legislation

John asked if everyone had an opportunity to review the COA proposed Constitutional amendments. He requested that everyone understand the proposals before casting their votes.

Tony mentioned that his proposal requiring in-coming freshmen to submit official transcripts was denied by Carlyle. Carlyle's reason for denial was because the membership of this conference did not vote prior to submitting the request. Discussion followed as many members felt that by making this requirement, student athletes would be held to higher standards. Cypress is currently requesting in-coming freshmen to submit official high school transcripts and are working on a synchronized

computer system with their Admissions and Records Office when processing student eligibility.

- h. Cost Containment & Conferencing Report – John reported that on-line conferencing is a great tool because of the money it saves.

John also spoke about re-conferencing and made reference to a report submitted by the COA on how monies would be saved should the re-conferencing occur.

After an extensive discussion, **MSP** to request representatives to vote to table the re-conferencing vote until further investigation is done on this issue. Members argued that if RCC remained within the Orange Empire Conference, monies would be saved because schools would not need to find two or more schools for competition. This would affect two or more contests for many sports which may or may not be found within a reasonable distance. In addition, these extra competitions would raise the cost in a time when districts are trying to contain it; therefore, RCC remaining in OEC should be seen as a “wash”. Tony will write the committee’s comments in a report and will submit it to Tod Burnett so that he may report to the executive board on behalf of this committee.

**MSP** to have every Athletic Director submit their academic calendar to Jason to be placed in the OEC website. Jason will place a link on the website that would take the person straight to a college’s academic calendar. This motion was requested because it will provide other administrators to view other institutions’ holiday schedules prior to scheduling contests. This is another attempt at cost containment.

**MSP** requiring sport representatives to submit their prospective sport schedules a week prior to the meeting. This will allow AD’s to study the schedules for any possible holiday conflicts. All schedules are to be submitted to Reyes and she will disseminate those via e-mail.

- i. OEC Budget Review – John reported the OEC budget is in good shape. He does not foresee any increases in dues.
- j. OEC Meeting Schedule – Informational item.
- k. Eligibility Clerks Meeting- The Eligibility Clerk’s Meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at the Hacienda. The date was changed from what appears on the agenda because the Hacienda is only open on Thursdays.
- l. CCCAA Convention – Informational item.

5. **COA/CCCAA Report – Tod Burnett**

Tod reported that the state's situation is dire. He mentioned that athletics continue to be under fire and cost containment and re-conferencing are still on the table. He stated that this is not the only conference discussing the issues of re-conferencing. He requested that data be collected and submitted to Tony highlighting how successful our student athletes are. He congratulated the OEC Basketball teams that made it to the playoffs.

6. **T.Mark Johnson Supremacy Award Report**

Jerry distributed the supremacy award point calculations. He reported that the calculations show points for Fall sports only. He also stated that there's an error in calculations for Riverside's Water Polo team. Jerry requested that every conference representative submit conference standings to him at the end of the semester. Discussion followed regarding whether or not champion teams should be weighted more heavily and whether bonus points should be given for post season play. John mentioned that the new trophy is being made and should be ready in the summer.

7. **OEC Constitution Update**

Keith stated that the constitution has not been updated since 2005-2006. He has re-written the constitution and condensed it. Keith mentioned that supplements need to coincide with the constitution. He asked that each sports representative pay close attention to the supplement to ensure that they are in accord with the constitution.

Keith will send each member a copy of the proposed document as well as the current constitution for members to review side by side. He requested feedback from all present and hopes to ratify the new constitution in May.

John mentioned that the constitution requires that an award be given to the male and female coach of the year. He asked whether this should remain in the constitution. After discussion, it was decided that it should remain and the award will be given in fall 2010.

8. **Referee Pay Report**

Only a few schools are using Ref Pay. Some institutions are not willing to pay up front for referees. Some referees do not want to be paid via Ref Pay because anyone making more than \$600 in a year will receive 1099's.

Tony will ask a representative from Ref Pay to give a presentation to members at the meeting in Palm Desert regarding the benefits of using this system.

## 9. **Fall Sports Reports – Schedule and Sport Supplements**

Avie submitted the 2010 Men and Women's Basketball schedule. **MSP** to approve the schedule with corrections to the January 7<sup>th</sup> date. Avie will make corrections and send a correct copy via e-mail.

Avie reported that the Basketball coaches met and after discussion agreed to continue the rotation. She also stated that coaches wanted to change supplement section 4.060 to go back to "all conference teams to will consist of 15 players". After dialogue, the **motion** to approve the change **failed**. The OEC constitution, section 11.18 states that all sports will consist of first and second teams. It was requested that all sports representatives bring their supplements to the meeting in May for review.

## 10. **Spring Sports Reports – Schedule and Sport Supplements**

- a. Swimming Schedule – Albert stated that the swim schedule had been a mess this go around. He said that part of the problem had been related to the pools. He is looking to resolve these issues and hopes to have a payment schedule in place where the overall cost will be divided by all teams. He will have further information at the May meeting.
- b. Track and Field Fee – Avie asked about the fee increase in track and field officials as she did not recall a vote for an increase. She asked about the administrative fees and the cost in general. Tony stated that the fees had been approved last Fall and it was due to number of officials and an increase in paperwork on his staff.

## 11. **Additions to Agenda**

- a. Pre-conference traveling/scheduling – Diane Henry  
Diane asked how many schools were limiting travel to its teams. Avie reported that Santa Ana's teams can only travel within a 110 mile radius. Diane stated that travel should be limited, especially pre-conference travel to contain its cost. She also asked about teams traveling with fundraised monies and using college vehicles. Discussion followed.
- b. Gender equity – Diane Henry  
Diane reported that Linda Joplin with the California National Association of Women filed a lawsuit against the 19 campus CSU system for athletic equity discrimination. She fears that the focus could be turning to community colleges. She stated that all present should have their data collection in place to ensure that proper methods are used to increase female participants in sports. Informational item.

c. Baseball scheduling – Keith Shackelford

Discussion about pitching match-ups ensued. After dialogue, it was determined that baseball games cannot be moved to Friday because of rain and that the supplements should be followed when changes in weather occur. It was also stated that when a dispute occurs, the Athletic Directors need to involve the sport representative and the commissioner to ensure that a fair compromise is reached.

d. Scrimmage violation – Jerry Hannula

Jerry mentioned that he feels many coaches do not know that scrimmages cannot be scheduled in the middle of the schedule. Scrimmages can only be scheduled prior to a team's first official contest and have to be part of their schedule. Keith will submit a Form 5 requesting that scrimmages be allowed to be played during midseason. Discussion followed.

12. **Miscellaneous**

Jason commented that the website is growing. Up to date supplements and minutes can be found on the website along with sport results. He asked everyone to submit stats in a timely manner. John mentioned that the idea is to treat and recognize every sport in the same manner.

John reported that on-line testing is now completed. The test is not mandatory at the moment and anyone who wants to take it may do so. It is an open book test. It can be found under "resources" in the COA website.

**Next OEC Meeting:** Palm Desert, Monday, May 3, 2010