

Association of Division III Independents

Minutes of the January 11, 2004, Business Meeting

Opryland Hotel

Nashville, Tennessee

Participating member institutions:

Baptist Bible College
Bard College
Chapman University
University of California, Santa Cruz
California State University, Hayward
Colorado College
University of Dallas
Nebraska Wesleyan University
Penn State Berks-Lehigh Valley College
Polytechnic University
Thomas More College
Villa Julie College

Other independent institutions represented:

Finlandia University
Keystone College
Meredith College
Mitchell College
Newbury College
Russell Sage College
St. Joseph's (ME) College

Also in attendance:

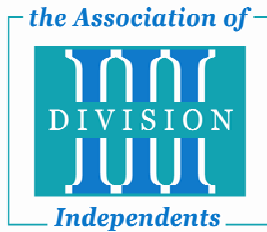
Ted Breidenthal, Sports Association Management, Inc.
John Leavens, director and recording secretary

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 1:36 p.m. by Dick Strockbine, University of Dallas, president of the association.
2. **Review of Agenda.** The agenda was revised to include two additional items: administration of proposed independent championships and a report of the January 10, 2004, meeting of the Division III Commissioners Association.
3. **Report of the Executive Committee.** Mr. Strockbine presented the annual report of the Executive Committee, including activities associated with the association's three primary educational initiatives, enhancements to the association's website and list serve, and publicity surrounding the membership's Student-Athlete Recognition Program. The 2003 year-end summary presented as part of the committee's report appears as Attachment No. 1.
4. **Membership.** Mr. Breidenthal reported on the association's current active membership of 20 institutions, and noted that members of the Executive Committee and staff are continuing to update prospective member institutions with information on the association and its initiatives. The group received the report without taking action.
5. **Treasurer's Report.**
 - a. David Currey, Chapman University and association treasurer, reviewed a statement of profit and loss for the association during the previous and current fiscal years. The statement reflected 2002-03 total revenues of \$40,377.00, total expenses of \$30,835.82, and total net income of \$9,541.18. The statement reflected total revenues of \$23,544.12 in the current fiscal year to date (including NCAA technology grant funds), total expenditures of \$7,217.34, and year-to-date net income of \$16,326.78. It was VOTED "That the treasurer's report be approved as submitted."
 - b. It was VOTED "That association dues for 2004-05 remain at \$1,000 per member institution."
6. **Legislative Issues.** The association reviewed proposed legislation for the 2004 NCAA Convention.
 - a. The group considered the Division III reform agenda briefly. No formal action was taken.

- b. The association considered Proposal No. 69. Mr. Leavens provided an update on questions that had been prompted by the association's sponsorship of this legislation. The group discussed this information without taking formal action.
- c. The association considered Proposal No. 60. Members argued that the proposal would negatively affect independent institutions and their student-athletes by limiting scheduling opportunities, placing independents at further disadvantage with NCAA conference members, and potentially reducing opportunities to be considered for NCAA championships.
 - (1) A straw vote on Proposal No. 60 reflected unanimous opposition.
 - (2) It was VOTED "That the association oppose Proposal No. 60." Brett Adams, Villa Julie College; Jim Huckaby, Baptist Bible College; and Ira Zeff, Nebraska Wesleyan University, agreed to prepare a statement for presentation during the Division III business session.
- d. The group considered Proposal No. 61.
 - (1) A straw vote reflected opposition to the proposal, and it was noted that the NCAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee had taken no position on the proposal.
 - (2) It was VOTED "That the association oppose Proposal No. 61" (Yes – 7; No – 6). It was the sense of the meeting that the association not speak to the proposal on the Convention floor.
- e. Straw votes on Proposal Nos. 62 and 63 reflected unanimous opposition. It was VOTED "That the association oppose Proposal Nos. 62 and 63."
- f. The association considered Proposal Nos. 65 and 65-1. Straw votes on Proposal No. 65-1 and Proposal No. 65 (as amended by 65-1) received unanimous support. The body took no formal action.
- g. Mr. Strockbine reported the results of straw votes recorded during the January 10 meeting of Division III commissioners. The association received the report without taking formal action.
- h. Representatives of the NCAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee offered information concerning the composition and role of student-athlete advisory committees at the national and campus levels, and reported positions taken by the national committee with respect to 2004 proposed legislation. No formal action was taken.

7. **Nominating Committee.** Julie Soriero, Colorado College and association secretary, presented recommendations of the Nominating Committee.
 - a. It was VOTED “That the following officers be elected: Mr. Strockbine, president; Debby DeAngelis, California State University, Hayward, vice president; Ms. Soriero, secretary; and Mr. Currey, treasurer.”
 - b. Ms. Soriero reported nominations for at-large positions on the Executive Committee: Mr. Adams; Kristen Hall, Bard College; and Mr. Huckaby. It was VOTED “That the nominations be accepted as submitted.”
6. **Independent Championships.** The group discussed a planning process for implementing independent championships in selected sports, in the event Proposal No. 69 is adopted.
 - a. Members suggested that the association consider conducting at least one championship for men and one for women in each season during the 2004-05 academic year. The group took no formal action.
 - b. It was VOTED “That a working group on independent championships be established to recommend to the Executive Committee policies and a framework for conduct of championship events in selected sports during the 2004-05 academic year.”
 - c. Greg Harshaw, University of California, Santa Cruz; Terry Connor, Thomas More College; and Ms. Soriero agreed to serve as members of the working group. *[Note: Subsequent to the meeting, Mr. Strockbine appointed Lynnette Buffington, Villa Julie College, and David Roussel, St. Joseph’s College (Maine), as additional members.]*
7. **Future Meetings.** Mr. Breidenthal reported that the next in-person meeting of the association would be conducted Thursday, May 20, in Indianapolis in conjunction with the 2004 NCAA Regional Rules Compliance Seminar. Mr. Leavens reminded the group that the NCAA likely would be offering grant funds to help defray expenses of administrators from independent institutions to attend a regional seminar.
8. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

Attachment No. 1



Association of Division III Independents

2003 Year-End Summary

Membership

20 full dues-paying members

Governance

2004 Convention legislation to establish exempted season-ending independent championship events

November 2004 telephone conference to review Division III reform package and other legislation

Increased committee representation – including new Management Council and Presidents Council representatives

Representation in Division III Conference Commissioners meetings and list serve

Communication

Educational initiatives – committee representation, future of Division III, assistance to provisional members

Technology Grant funds – upgrade of website, free Streets and Trips software

Relocation of Division III Independents List Serve to association website

Meeting of independents as part of May 2003 NCAA Regional Seminars

Student-Athlete Support

Student-Athlete of the Month Recognition Program

Student-Athlete Advisory Committee List Serve on Association Website