

McNeese State University Athletics Advisory Committee
<http://www.mcneese.edu/aac>
Minutes for 11/12/08

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Michele Martin (Chair) at 4:00 p.m.

Committee members present: Martin (Chair), Awagain, Blakeley, Burckel, Clark, Daboval, Dye, Hebert, Kingrey, Northam, Poole, Pickering

Committee members absent: Duhon, Griffith, Patterson, Pitre, Watts

Presenters: Tommy McClelland, Bridget Martin, Deb Kingrey

Guest: Louis Bonnette

2. Approval of Agenda

Agenda for 11/12/08 approved.

3. Approval of Prior Minutes

Minutes from 10/1/08 meeting approved.

4. Materials Distributed at Today's Meeting

Agenda (11/12/08)

Minutes (10/1/08)

2008-09 Membership Roster (revised)

Standing Subcommittee Structure and Responsibilities (revised)

2008-09 Standing Committee Appointments (revised)

Compliance Report (B. Martin)

Academic Report (D. Kingrey)

Reporting and Monitoring Cycles (M. Martin)

Athletics Advisory Committee Operational Guidelines (M. Martin)

5. Mr. Tommy McClelland, Athletics Director

Loss of revenue from cancellation of Cal Poly football game (Hurricane Ike) and its effect on the Athletics Department budget was discussed. Home schedule for 2008 has been completed.

Update on soccer (lighting) and softball facilities (fencing) was provided.

McNeese partnered with Ward 3 to host Southland Conference (SLC) Soccer Tournament. University hopes to host golf and softball tournaments during spring.

New basketball playing surface (court) at Burton Coliseum has been installed and painted for 2008-09 basketball season.

Kamryn Koch has been named SLC soccer player of the year.

6. Ms. Bridget Martin, Senior Woman Administrator/Compliance Officer

Compliance Report distributed.

McNeese submitted three secondary violation self-reports during Fall, 2008.

Athletics Department Policies and Procedures Manual 2008-09 has been posted online. Recommendations from the Governance and Compliance subcommittee will be included in further revisions.

On-going NCAA rules education activities were reviewed. Compliance meeting was held 8/17/08 (attended by Chair Martin), with another scheduled for 12/2/08.

Ms. Ellen Raley has filled the newly-created position of Athletics Scholarship Administrator. She reports to Ms. Ralynn Castete, Director of Scholarships and Testing.

Gender Equity Task Force met on 11/12/08. Policies and facilities are on track.

Report to NCAA Committee on Infractions due 12/15/08.

7. Ms. Deb Kingrey, Academic Counselor for Student-Athletes

Academic Report distributed.

APR multi-year scores (4-year “rolling” average) are of concern for several squads including baseball, men’s golf, football, women’s basketball, and softball. Consequences (penalties) are loss of scholarships, reduced practice time, and loss of games/matches.

Waivers (of penalties) will be submitted for historic (baseball, men’s golf) and contemporaneous penalties (football, women’s basketball, and softball).

Lower APR scores can also result for non-academic reasons, such as student-athletes who transfer to other colleges or universities. Dr. Hebert also pointed

out that there is considerable concern among Southland Conference (SLC) Presidents and the SLC Commission regarding unsatisfactory APR scores.

The good news for McNeese is that 12 of 16 athletic squads showed single-year improvement, including significant gains by men's baseball and golf. The 5-year graduation rate among student-athletes also remains higher than that of the general student-body.

Mr. Travis Pickering, Coordinator of Student-Athlete Mentoring, was introduced by Deb and welcomed to the Committee by Chair Martin.

Mr. Pickering is coordinating SAAC (Student Athlete Advisory Committee) this year as well as a variety of other duties centered on the welfare and campus/community engagement of McNeese student-athletes.

Mr. Pickering emphasized the importance of the CHAMPS/Life Skills Program (Challenging Athletes' Minds for Personal Success). More information can be found online at: <http://www.ncaa.org/wps/ncaa?ContentID=13>

8. Michele Martin - Chair's Report

Chair Martin welcomed new committee member, Ms. Natalie Poole, Softball Head Coach.

Chair Martin recently attended SLC/FAR (Faculty Athletics Representatives) meeting. Issues discussed at this conference included:

Best practices for APR
Recruitment of at-risk student athletes
Transfer student athletes and impact on APR

Copies of *APR Best Practices* (as compiled by Chair Martin) will be sent to each head coach.

Reporting and Monitoring Cycles (draft) handout reviewed.

Athletics Advisory Committee Operational Guidelines handout reviewed. Additions (items 10, 14, & 15) as well as revisions (items 11 & 12) were approved unanimously by committee.

9. Subcommittee Reports

Academic Integrity – (Dr. Daryl Burckel, Chair). Report pending.
Issue: What are the best practices and procedures for coaches to track the academic and attendance records of their student-athletes during the

semester? Subcommittee will meet with Stephanie Tarver prior to making recommendation to full committee.

Governance and Rules Compliance (Dr. Anne Dye, Chair). Report presented. Task: To review the 2008-09 *Athletics Department Policies and Procedures Manual*. Comments/suggestions of subcommittee members (e.g. orientation for transfer student-athletes?) and corrections to be forwarded to Bridget Martin.

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m. Next meeting tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, February 11, 2009. Time and location TBA.