

McNeese State University Athletics Advisory Committee (AAC)
Minutes for 11/14/07

1. Call to Order

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

Committee members present: Martin (Chair), Awagain, Blakeley, Clark, Duhon, Dye, Griffith, Hannie, Northam, Patterson, Watts

Committee members absent: Burckel, Pitre, Simmons

Present: Dr. Robert Hebert, Dr. Jeanne Daboval, Ms. Bridget Martin, Ms. Deb Kingrey, Mr. Ryan Ivey

Chair Martin welcomed Freddie Hannie to the Committee. Mr. Hannie is serving as the student-athlete representative on the AAC.

2. Approval of Agenda

Agenda for 11/15/07 approved [[ATTACHMENT 1](#)]

3. Approval of Prior Minutes

Minutes of 9/12/07 meeting approved.

Future minutes will be distributed electronically.

4. Materials Distributed at Meeting

Agenda (Michele Martin) – [ATTACHMENT 1](#)

Compliance Report (Bridget Martin) – [ATTACHMENT 4](#)

Academic Report (Deb Kingrey) – [ATTACHMENT 5](#)

Review of Certain Components of the Athletic Department's Compliance Program (updated draft with University responses)

5. Mr. Ryan Ivey, Assistant Athletics Director Internal Affairs (reporting in absence of Mr. Tommy McClelland)

Construction update given on Hodges Street Field House (future home of softball and soccer programs). See [ATTACHMENT 2](#) for background information on the project.

Update on baseball stadium renovation (Grandstand replacement project). Temporary bleachers have been removed. Stadium should be ready for start of season.

2nd floor of renovated/expanded Field House (Jack Doland Athletic Complex) will feature offices for coaches as well as areas for team meetings and recruiting functions. 2nd floor will also feature area for viewing Cowboy stadium for football games, offering revenue generating potential. More information (including multimedia presentations) on the Jack Doland Athletic Complex is online at: <http://www.mcneesefieldhouse.com>

Synthetic field turf for Cowboy stadium to be installed in January [See ATTACHMENT 3 for details]. At the request of the donor, Mr. Robert Noland, field will be named for Louis Bonnette, long-time McNeese Sports Information Director.

Sources for funding athletic scholarships were discussed. Former McNeese student-athletes will assist these efforts.

NCAA football playoff tickets (1st round game) to go on sale Monday (11/19).

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

ATTACHMENT 4

No secondary violation self-reports since September meeting. Awaiting word on earlier self-reported violation in baseball.

NCAA rules education provided to Cowboy and Quarterback clubs as well as Petro Chem.

Athletics Interest Surveys have been tabulated and forwarded to Office of Institutional Research.

Athletics Compliance Committee met on November 8 (2nd meeting) to review recommendations made in Compliance Report. The Athletics Advisory Committee will also review compliance policies and procedures.

Pending NCAA legislative proposals (total of 99) will be reviewed in January by the Division I Management Council.

Committee members were encouraged to attend athletic competitions.

Web site for McNeese Compliance:
<http://mcneesesports.cstv.com/compliance/mcne-compliance.html>

7. Deb Kingrey, Academic Counselor for Student-Athletes

ATTACHMENT 5

APR scores are based on retention and eligibility of each student-athlete. Updated APR (Academic Progress Rate) scores were discussed in detail.

Multi-year APR scores are used to determine teams required to submit academic improvement plans. Those McNeese squads with multi-year APRs under 900 are: Men's basketball (859); men's indoor track (868); men's outdoor track (870); baseball (885); and men's golf (896). Improvement plans must be submitted by 1/1/08.

Only student-athletes receiving athletic aid are included in the APR tabulations.

Deb provided a SAAC (Student-Athlete Advisory Committee) update. Dr. Rosemary Gray (diversity) and Ms. Bridget Martin (compliance) spoke at their meeting on 10/30/08. SAAC members are very active in community service projects this Fall.

See ATTACHMENT 6 for background Information on Academic Progress Rate (APR) and academic reform.

Chair Martin also distributed two handouts:

NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate Improvement Plans: Basic Guidelines and Process Summary [ATTACHMENT 7]

NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program

Web site for student-athlete academic services:
<http://mcneesports.cstv.com/ot/mcne-academics.html>

Web site for SAAC:
<http://mcneesports.cstv.com/saac/mcne-sa>

8. Michele Martin - Chair's Report

Eighteen McNeese student-athletes (football) and MSU Athletic Trainer Jim Murphy have been recognized for their heroic actions in rescuing a group of elementary school students from an overturned bus. [ATTACHMENT 8]

2007-08 sub-committee appointments were reviewed.

Copies of the document, *Review of Certain Components of the Athletics Department's Compliance Program* [ATTACHMENT 9], were distributed to committee members. This is an updated draft which includes the University's responses to recommendations.

Web site for this committee is <http://www.mcneese.edu/aac> . Materials can be added at the committee's discretion. Web site for Southland Conference is <http://www.southland.org>

Athletics and Coaches Policy Manuals are posted online at: <http://mcneesesports.cstv.com> Student-athletes receive print copies of their handbook.

AAC members are asked to review the university's Compliance Report electronically since it must be submitted prior to the next committee meeting. E-mail comments to Chair Martin at: mmartin@mcneese.edu

9. Old Business – Make-up Policy for Excused Absences

Dr. Jeanne Daboval (Provost/Vice-President for Academic Affairs) and Dr. Derek Blakeley (MSU Faculty Senate updated the committee on the status of the make-up policy for excused absences.

The original proposal reads as follows:

All students with university excused absences should be permitted to make-up an examination or other missed class assignment under the following circumstances:

- (a) The university excuse must be presented to the appropriate instructor no later than one week prior to the planned absence.*
- (b) The student will be given the opportunity to take the examination or complete the class assignment.*
- (c) All make-up examinations will be taken prior to the designated final examination period*

The proposal has been re-worded (more broad-based) and referred by the Academic Advisory Council back to the Faculty Senate for re-consideration. Dr. Daboval feels that a compromise can be worked out. Dr. Blakeley will keep the committee updated and provide a copy of the revised (proposed) policy. Mr. Hannie addressed the concerns of student-athletes and inconsistencies in make-up policies.

Meeting adjourned at 5 p.m. Next meeting scheduled for 2/13/08.

Minutes by Awagain