



April 13, 2011

Executive and Competition Committee Joint meeting

Chaffey College - 10 am

## MINUTES

### 1. Welcome and Roll Call

**In Attendance: Barry Meier, Bob Jastrab, Carl Beach, Chuck Lyon, Dave Hoover, Dean Dowty, Frank Mazotta, Henry Washington, John Cicuto, Newton Chelette, Tony Lipold, Albert Gasparian, Garrett Tujague, Jaye Tashima, Mark McElroy, Mike Reisbig, Scott Cathcart, Sean Fernandes, Tom Craft, Brent Peabody, Chris Ruiz, Jim Sartoris, Rich Kollen**

### 2. President's Report

**President Meier welcomed all and restated the purpose of the joint meeting of the SCFA Executive and Competition committees, namely to primarily discuss the effect of the statewide budget crisis facing our colleges and what effect they will have on Football. Additionally, a discussion is needed concerning the power ranking formula used for playoff qualification for this coming season, since the formula was approved last year on a one year trial basis. If time permits an initial discussion would be had concerning the future of the SCFA Division/Conference, Scheduling criteria and future post-conference formats.**

### 3. Commissioner's Report

CCCAA convention ( March 29- April 1)

Legislation

**Sartoris gave an update on the results of the legislative session at the CCCAA convention as it related to football. He reported both legislative items put forward from football were approved. the CCCFCA/CCCAA football poll voters will all be coaches and the north and south commissioners will be added to the Bowl Selection Committee. Sartoris also reported that college identifying logos will now be permissible outside the recruiting district and at all-star games - however there are no changes in the recruiting rules.**

Cost containment Task Force

Sartoris reported that because of the present statewide budget crisis cost-containment was being discussed on several levels. The Management Council and CCCAA Board presently have a cost containment committee which will be meeting in the next several months to explore cost containment measures. Football issues certainly will be discussed. Also a joint task force was created by the AD's and CCCPE association to develop plans on how to respond to the budget crisis as it effects both PE and Athletics. Representatives from both the North and South will be involved. Three areas of emphasis were identified: Curricular issues, Public Relations, and Legislative issues. Doomsday scenarios were discussed, with emphasis on developing strategies on how to save our sports offering in these bleak budgetary times.

#### 4. Budget Crisis and cost containment issues for football

Input from the field on cuts - now or anticipated in future

Various representatives on the committees reported on how their college was dealing with the budget restrictions imposed on them, as well as reporting on what they had heard was going on with other colleges in their conference. While each college may be taking different approaches to trying to weather the budget restrictions, there was consensus that all were facing serious problems both now and in the near future. The committee then began to discuss the ways the sport of football has cut costs recently and what else it could do. It was pointed out that several cost cutting measures had been enacted in recent as last year, such as:

- Elimination of the scrimmage,
- reduction of playoffs from eight to four teams,
- freeze salaries of officials,
- reduce mileage allotment to officials,
- implementation of a new video exchange policy by using the internet,
- reduction of conference dues by 10%,
- and coaches agreeing to adjust their meeting places to cut cost.

Various other cost containment issues were discussed by the committee. A number of additional potential cost saving measures were explored, such as elimination of the state championship game and modification to the post-conference competition, such as restructure the financing of Bowl Games so that all proceeds of the game and sponsorships stay with the bowl game to pay travel expenses of the visiting teams, thus waiving the travel reimbursement formula set by the CCCAA. Additional issues were discussed that would save colleges across the board, such as: Use of one cameraman and stat person at each game, instead of both colleges paying their own person, initiate discussions for the next two-year scheduling cycle (2012 and 2013) to involve more geographical scheduling in order to reduce travel costs. It was also pointed out that thousands of dollars were being saved by the recent actions of the CCCFCA in developing a partnership with XO's Corporation which resulted in the providing of each college with a common editing and video exchange software package. This season (2011) every college will be using a state of the art editing system free of charge. Additionally, travel squad limitations were discussed, however the committee felt this should be a college decision instead of an across-the-board regulation.

The committee was adamant about the need to preserve the educational experience of the student athletes during these times of cost cutting. Therefore they believe that reduction of contests in the sport of football was self-defeating because football only

played 10 games. Reduction below that number limited the opportunities to compete and to enhance skills necessary to help attract scholarships to the next level. Even high schools play 10 games - to reduce community college football to nine or eight games would truly be counterproductive on several levels. It was also pointed out that football is one of the rare sports offered at our colleges that is revenue producing.

Additionally, the committee agreed that to reduce the number of officials at games would seriously damage the sport and the experience of the student athlete. The community college football game is played at an extremely high level, the game is tough to officiate, but in recent years the game has improved. Each year fewer decorum violations have been reported since the association approved 7 game officials. In the last two years there has been an average of only 6 ejections during the entire season ( that is 180 games per year). This is primarily due to the control of the game by the officiating crews and the cooperation and emphasis of coaches. To provide less than 7 officials, would seriously hurt the game. Therefore because of safety concerns and in the spirit of emphasis on sportsmanship and decorum the committee strongly supports keeping 7 officials.

#### 5. New NCAA Football - 10 sec rule

Rich Kollen explained the new rule and after some discussion it was decided to seek a waiver of this rule for next season. ( It was noted that the NCFE also agrees that the rule should not be implemented next year)

#### 6. 2011 post-conference issues

Power Ranking for 2011

**The committee agreed that the present Power Ranking formula be kept in place for this season (2011) and that modifications may be forthcoming in future years in relationship to future Re-conferencing.**

#### 7. Questionnaire responses and future SCFA division/conference structuring

A long discussion was had concerning the responses of the Executive Committee's questionnaire sent out after the last Exec meeting in Jan. 2011. It was generally felt that it would be difficult to make firm decisions given the budgetary woes all colleges were facing. If a lot of time was spent evaluating past records and developing potential changes in the divisions/conference and then some football programs were terminated then everything would have to start over again. However, the committee did discuss the issues surrounding the present three tier structure. It was pointed out to the those present that the mission of the SCFA was to create Competitive Balance and with that in mind past structures and schedules were developed. Though not perfect, the results of the questionnaire revealed that most felt they were competitive within their own conference. The problems that were expressed had to do with the non-conference schedule. And while every attempt was made to try to match up teams in geographical regions - the schedule was not perfect. After considerable discussion, the joint committee agreed on the following:

1. Consideration would be given to returning to the two tiered divisional structure, because it allow more flexibility to schedule with geographical considerations (to reduce travel expenses) and still keep somewhat true to the mission of the SCFA.

2. That there should be a component of self - determination by each college as to which level they wanted to compete. Level 1 ( similar to the present National Division) would compete for conference championships and a right to qualify to the Southern Cal Regional and State championships. Level 2 (similar to the American Conference) would compete for conference championships and the right to qualify for bowl games.
3. A questionnaire should be sent out to each college asking their placement preference, should we return to the two-tiered structure. The questionnaire should be returned by April 27th and the results discussed at the May General Assembly meeting.
4. Scheduling criteria and playoff formats would be discussed after a decision was made on whether a structuring should take place.

**Adjournment**