

Minutes of Liberty League Spring Meeting

May 31-June 1, 2017 – Otesaga Resort Hotel – Cooperstown, N.Y.

Present: Kris Hall, David Lindholm (Bard); Steve Yianoukos, Laurel Kane (Clarkson); Mike Hanna (Hobart), Brian Miller (Hobart & William Smith), Susan Bassett, Michelle Manning, Will Rothermel (Ithaca), Lee McElroy, Kevin Beattie, Karen Hansen (RPI); George VanderZwaag, Andrea Golden (Rochester); Amy Reed, Scott McVean (RIT); Bob Durocher, Fran Grembowicz, Randy LaBrake (St. Lawrence); Gail Cummings-Danson, Megan Buchanan, Nekisha Henry (Skidmore); Jim McLaughlin (Union); Michelle Walsh, Kim Culligan, Joanne Acquarulo (Vassar); Deb Steward (William Smith); Tracy King, Katie Meline (Liberty League).

I. Call to Order

Steve Yianoukos (Liberty League President) called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

II. Review of Minutes

The minutes of the January 20, 2017 meeting at the NCAA Convention in Nashville, Tenn., were reviewed. No changes or corrections were noted.

Motion: A motion (Hall, McElroy) to approve the minutes from the January 20, 2017 meeting was APPROVED 11-0-0.

III. Commissioner's Update

- A. Recap of 2016-17 Champions / League Success:** Tracy King reviewed a document highlighting the academic and athletic accomplishments of Liberty League student-athletes and teams during the past academic year. Four Liberty League teams – Skidmore field hockey, William Smith soccer, William Smith lacrosse and RIT men's lacrosse (national runner-up) – reached at least the quarterfinals in NCAA Competition. In addition, Clarkson University captured its second NCAA Division I championship in women's ice hockey. Nine different institutions captured Liberty League championships. Additionally, a total of 1,457 student-athletes qualified for the Liberty League All-Academic Teams (3.30 cumulative GPA or higher) in their respective sports.
- B. Conference Self-Study Guide:** The Liberty League is due to complete the NCAA Conference Self-Study Guide (CSSG) by no later than June 1, 2018. Since the league last completed the CSSG in 2013, four new presidents, four new athletic directors, a number of new associate athletic directors and a new full-member institution have joined the league. A thorough review of the league's

structure and philosophy could be beneficial to new members. As the league had done previously, King suggested forming small committees to review each of the six sections of the document and make recommendations on potential action items. King will compile an initial draft and circulate copies of the most recently completed CSSG for review.

- C. Engagement of New Member Presidents:** Four institutions – Hobart & William Smith, Ithaca, RIT and Vassar – will have new presidents beginning with the 2017-18 academic year. This marks the first time since the league expanded to include Bard and RIT that new presidents will be part of the league. King will send each of the new presidents an introductory email once they have had an opportunity to get settled on their campuses. He also expressed a willingness to meet briefly with each of the presidents.
- D. NCAA Strategic Initiatives Grant:** Any institutions seeking reimbursements through the conference grant program in either Tier I (Rules Seminar, FAR Enhancement, VP Enhancement, Ethnic Minority/Diversity Enhancement, SID or ATC Development) or Tier II (Student-Athlete Well Being, Sportsmanship, Equity and Inclusion) should submit those reimbursement requests to King by June 30. The league’s impact statement must be submitted to the NCAA by no later than July 15. King will email the reimbursement forms to the schools. As the league completes its CSSG during the upcoming academic year, King suggested that the league reviews its process for allocating grant funding to ensure that funding is being maximized and top priorities are being met.

IV. Football Membership Update

King reported that the Liberty League and Empire 8 have collaborated on a schedule of crossover games between the two conferences, which has been a request of Buffalo State as a condition of accepting associate membership. The football members in the two conferences appear to be supportive of the proposed schedules for the 2019 and 2020 seasons. If the proposed schedule is approved by the Liberty League, King will reach out to Buffalo State athletic director and football coach Jerry Boyes to coordinate the details of a membership announcement.

V. Single-Site Championship Funding

In the sports of swimming and diving and indoor/outdoor track and field, the coaches have opted to prioritize the Liberty League championships over the UNYSCSA (swimming) and NYSCTC (track) championships. The Liberty League meets will now be conducted in expanded formats during the weekends previously utilized for the state meets. Those state meets have been funded by entry fees while most Liberty League single-site championships have been funded primarily by the host institution. Should the additional expenses for these expanded tournament formats be the responsibility of the host institution?

In golf, participating institutions have paid an entry fee of \$550 per tournament (\$1,100 for men for combined fall/spring tournaments) to cover the cost of greens fees. In tennis, the league has funded nearly the entire cost of the tournament, totaling in excess of \$6,000, primarily through the Conference Grant Tier III funds. What expenses should be the responsibility of the host, the competing teams and the league? While the league members are supportive of the concept of cost sharing for championships, to what degree should the participating institutions offset the expenses of the host institution?

King will compile data on the cost of hosting single-site championships compared with the costs of the visiting teams to participate in the championships (i.e., lodging, transportation, meals). The data will be utilized to determine whether cost sharing should be implemented for single-site championships.

VI. Review of Sport & Committee Reports

A. Single-Site Championship Dates and Host Rotation: King reviewed the single-site championship dates and sites for 2017-18. The women's golf coaches have proposed moving the championship one week later in the season, to April 28-29, which is the final weekend prior to NCAA selections (AQ declaration date is April 29). RIT is scheduled to host the Liberty League outdoor track and field championship on Friday-Saturday, May 4-5. May 5 is also the date of the Liberty League men's lacrosse championship, which RIT has hosted on a number of occasions. In the event of a conflict, RIT will either have to utilize a different facility or adjust the time of the lacrosse game.

B. Reports from Sport Groups:

1. Cross Country / Track & Field (Tracy King for Lou Spiotti): Action items include: 1.) the addition of an All-Liberty League third team (place finishers 15 through 21 at the league championship) in cross country; 2.) the establishment of entry procedures and qualifying standards in indoor and outdoor track and field that allot two entries per school per event with the remaining qualifiers based on the Liberty League performance list; 3.) the awarding of medals to the top three finishers and the top relay team in each event in indoor and outdoor track and field. The coaches also sought feedback from the athletic directors on whether the track and field championships should be conducted on Saturday-Sunday as opposed to Friday-Saturday. The consensus among the administrators was that a Saturday-Sunday championship would be problematic for institutions whose student-athletes begin final exams on Monday. A Sunday conclusion would hinder exam preparation. The coaches also discussed whether to include the multi-events (decathlon, heptathlon, and pentathlon) on the same weekend as the championship or on the preceding weekend, which is where those events have been conducted in conjunction with the NYSCTC championships. They agreed to initially include those events as part of the championship weekend

and gauge whether they can be successfully integrated. The coaches continue to work on developing the championship schedule and discussed a later start on Friday to allow teams to travel that day.

2. **Field Hockey (Tracy King for Joanne Little):** Action items are: 1.) to establish game times for Liberty League games of 4 p.m. for Friday games and 3 p.m. for Saturday and Sunday games; 2.) to subsidize the league-wide video exchange program with TeamXStream, covering the user fee of \$300 per institution utilizing Liberty League funds (\$2,400 total) for 2017; 3.) to require the host institution in Liberty League games to provide 50 practice balls and 25 cones to the visiting team for warmups. The coaches agreed to the practice in 2016, but it has not been a requirement in the league guidelines. With regard to standard game times, certain teams (Rochester, Union) share facilities with other programs, so the teams need to have flexibility in establishing times. Times could be listed as 'recommended' times to allow for flexibility. The coaches also acknowledged that there is a shortage of field hockey umpires, particularly in the Capital District. It is important that the coaches work with the officials to cultivate and grow the officiating pool. The coaches also discussed fan behavior and the need to remain vigilant so the environment does not deteriorate further.
3. **Soccer (Tracy King for Beth Tiffany):** Action items include: 1.) re-seeding the Liberty League tournament following quarterfinal games so the top seed plays the lowest remaining seed in the semifinals; 2.) implementing online video exchange; 3.) creating a uniform kickoff time of 2 p.m. for the last regular-season league game. The coaches also continued their discussion of league tournament formats with interest in exploring other formats, such as Saturday-Wednesday-Saturday. With regard to the tournament format for the upcoming season (Tuesday-Saturday-Sunday), the coaches discussed the possibility that the same institution would be hosting both the men's and women's soccer tournaments, potentially placing four games on the same game field on a single day, and six games in two days. Field conditions could deteriorate rapidly, especially in inclement weather. Further discussion is needed on a plan for the same institution hosting both tournaments.
4. **Volleyball (Kris Hall):** No action items. Discussion items included senior award presentations; Dig Pink/Breast Cancer Awareness matches; and awards presentations following the Liberty League championship match. Depending on the league schedule, some visiting teams may be present for 'Senior Night' presentations on consecutive days. Host institutions should inform their opponents of the presentations so that teams can plan accordingly and limit disruptions. Some institutions have shifted senior presentations to the conclusion of the match to limit disruptions for both teams. The date identified for the

'Dig Pink' promotional weekend is Oct. 6-7. Regarding the awards presentation following the Liberty League championship, it was agreed that both teams should remain on the court for the presentation.

5. **Football (George VanderZwaag):** Action items include: 1.) implementing video replay by officials at halftime to review targeting calls in Liberty League games; 2.) making available the film for each game played to all Liberty League teams by Saturday at midnight following the completion of the game; 3.) approving the proposal from the Empire 8 Conference for a New York State bowl game; 4.) adopting the proposed schedule for 2019 and 2020 that includes cross scheduling with the Empire 8. The coaches also discussed NCAA rules and possible Liberty League restrictions. It was agreed that the league does not need to be more restrictive than the NCAA. Preseason regulations should be addressed at the institutional level. Coaches also discussed nontraditional practice and expressed a desire to have, at a minimum, helmets on players. If not full gear, then the coaches would like to see "uppers" with the main arguments pertaining to safety and appropriate instruction. Roster limits and JV programs were discussed but did not result in consensus.
6. **Men's Squash (Kim Culligan):** Action item is to allow "varsity" club squash teams to participate in the Liberty League squash championship events in accordance with College Squash Association (CSA) operating guidelines. Varsity club programs are considered programs with a coach that operate under the department of athletics. Many teams currently compete against club programs within the CSA structure. By allowing varsity club programs to participate, the coaches are hoping to add teams to support a women's squash championship, which was discontinued following the 2009-10 season. With St. Lawrence, Vassar and William Smith sponsoring women's squash, one additional team is needed to meet the Liberty League requirement of having four teams. Bard is currently sponsoring women's squash as a club sport. Kris Hall indicated that Bard is considering elevating the program to varsity status and will provide an update to the league in the coming weeks.
7. **Swimming & Diving (Laurel Kane):** Action item is to institute an entry fee for the Liberty League championship of \$125 per gender plus \$10 per athlete. As the league championship shifts from December to a season-ending championship with a four-day format, the coaches want to ensure that the meet is a high quality meet consistent with the UNYSCSA championship, which has served as the season-ending meet for many years. The UNYSCSA meet has provided an extensive awards program that has recognized individual event champions while the Liberty League meet has not provided such individual awards or

medals. The entry fee will help to offset the cost of awards and other expenses that will result from the expanded four-day format.

- 8. Basketball (Brian Miller):** Action items include: 1.) revising the film exchange policy to permit schools to upload their Friday Liberty League game to Synergy immediately after its conclusion, with the deadline remaining noon on Sunday; 2.) implementing electronic media timeouts in all Liberty League games to mirror the protocol that teams experience at the NCAA Championships; 3.) returning Liberty League doubleheaders to women playing first and men playing second. Discussion items: the coaches discussed extensively the league's decision in 2016 to rotate which gender plays the first game in a Liberty League doubleheader on an annual basis. The coaches voted unanimously to return to a format where the women's teams play first and the men's teams play second. Citing a number of reasons, the coaches agreed that rotating the order of games would not benefit the women student-athletes. In a survey of basketball student-athletes conducted in May 2016, an overwhelming majority of student-athletes – both men and women – preferred to keep the current order of the women playing first and the men playing second. The coaches also discussed a divisional schedule format that would reduce the number of league games and provide teams with more non-league scheduling opportunities. King will explore alternate scheduling models.
- 9. Rowing (Nekisha Henry):** No current action items. Discussion items: the coaches suggested that a meeting be arranged with the Saratoga Rowing Association (SRA) to clearly outline the responsibilities of the host institution and SRA. The date of the Liberty League championship was also discussed. Some coaches would like to revisit the possibility of conducting the Liberty League championship the same weekend as the New York State Collegiate Championships, which is currently the weekend after the Liberty League regatta. Moving the Liberty League event one week later may also provide schools with an additional week of training and preparation for the league championship.
- 10. Men's Golf (Andrea Golden):** Action item is to adjust the format of the Liberty League Championship to a 36-hole fall preview tournament (Saturday-Sunday) and a 54-hole spring championship (Friday-Sunday). The coaches felt that a challenge of playing 36 holes in the fall and 36 holes in the spring is that some teams were already out of contention after the fall tournament, so there was little motivation for some players and teams competing in the spring. The coaches agreed that the championship should be a minimum of 54 holes. A concern among the administrators with a 54-hole spring championship is that teams will likely want to play a practice round prior to the tournament, which would likely occur on Thursday, resulting in additional missed

class time and travel costs. The coaches also agreed that a playoff should be conducted for individual medalist honors, which should be clearly articulated in the sport guidelines. In the event of both a team playoff and an individual playoff, the team playoff shall take priority.

- 11. Women's Golf (Deb Steward):** Action items include: 1.) changing the women's golf championship formula to the weekend immediately prior to NCAA selections; 2.) specifying that the host institution will make every effort to host the women's golf championship on Saturday-Sunday with Friday-Saturday as the secondary option; 3.) specifying that when playing the championship on Sunday, the round must be concluded by 5:30 p.m. Discussion items: the coaches agreed that moving the championship one week later would enable teams an additional week of practice and preparation during a short spring season. Additionally, courses may be in better condition with more favorable weather conditions. Moving the championship a week later would mean that the tournament would conclude on the Sunday when NCAA automatic bid declarations are due. Sunday's round would have to begin early enough to allow all competitors to finish by 5:30 p.m. Also discussed, some institutions may not be able to secure championship courses for Sunday. While Saturday-Sunday are the preferred tournament days, the coaches recommended that Friday-Saturday be a secondary option.
- 12. Softball (Karen Hansen):** No action items at the current time. The coaches would like to consider utilizing a conference assigner and have tentatively agreed to interview potential assigners following the nontraditional season in the fall. The goal would be to have an assigner begin assigning games for the 2019 season. Also, the coaches discussed alternate field locations in the event that the field becomes unplayable during the Liberty League tournament, which was the case this spring when the tournament could not be completed due to rain and wet field conditions. The coaches will explore backup options in their respective areas. Gail Cummings-Danson indicated that Skidmore would make its field available as a backup for the Capital Region teams. The tournament host would be responsible for all tournament logistics.
- 13. Tennis (Tracy King for Fran Grembowicz):** Action items include: 1.) establishing a lineup protest protocol to be utilized to address lineup protests in the Liberty League championship; 2.) requiring Vassar to secure indoor courts on an ITA compliant surface for Liberty League matches. Discussion items: The format for the expanded Liberty League tournament was discussed. King proposed utilizing all 12 courts at the Reis Tennis Center at Cornell (six outdoor courts and six indoor courts simultaneously). The coaches also inquired about the possibility of utilizing outdoor courts at both Cornell and Ithaca so all matches could be played outdoors. Further discussion was needed. The coaches also

discussed utilizing no-ad scoring for Liberty League play, similar to the shortened format for Division I, but ultimately agreed to retain the traditional scoring format as long as it is utilized in the NCAA Division III Championship. The coaches also discussed the possibility of requiring an ITA certified official for all league matches. While there was some support for doing so, it was unclear whether there would be enough officials to cover all of the matches. King will conduct research on the availability of officials. While lineup protests are not common in the league, the coaches believed that it would be beneficial to establish a protest protocol for the championship, utilizing a policy similar to the NESCAC policy. With regard to the Vassar indoor court surface, some coaches believed that the surface gives Vassar an unfair advantage because it plays faster than other indoor surfaces. King had indicated to the group that the issue had been discussed by the administrators at the June 2016 meeting and that while all league facilities may not conform to the specifications of the NCAA or other governing sports bodies, the group agreed those facilities will be utilized for league competition.

- 14. Women's Lacrosse (Laurel Kane):** Action item is to subsidize the participation of the Liberty League teams in the IWLCA film exchange program, utilizing Liberty League funds for the first two years (\$700 per team x 11 teams x 2 years = \$15,400 in conference funds). Discussion items: the coaches also discussed potential revisions to the tiebreakers for Liberty League tournament selection. King indicated to the coaches that the proposed tiebreakers could result in a coin flip if three teams are tied and have the same results against all other teams. It was agreed that the league should explore other tiebreaker options so a coin flip would not be needed. The coaches also discussed game times for single Saturday games. With the previous Friday-Saturday schedule, the women's teams could not play before 2 p.m., so the men's teams typically played at either noon or 5 p.m. Since the women are playing single games, set times are not needed. In order to avoid conflicts with the men, two ideas were proposed: 1.) women get preferred times in even years while men get preferred times in odd years; 2.) the team traveling further gets to choose the preferred game time.
- 15. Men's Lacrosse (Gail Cummings-Danson):** No action items. Discussion items: the coaches discussed the best way to promote and present the Liberty League nominees for All-America consideration, ultimately agreeing to hold a conference call to rank order their nominees for All-America consideration. Also, there was concern expressed by some coaches about the perceived lack of commitment and accountability to the league rule that video from all games is to be posted within 24 hours and shared with the all teams in the league. Since this was the first year that all games were required to be posted, there were some initial glitches that needed to be resolved, but the

group did not foresee this as a problem moving forward. King indicated to the coaches that if a team is consistently late in uploading games, it could have its download access restricted.

16. **Baseball (Jim McLaughlin):** No current action items. Jim McLaughlin indicated that baseball is continuing to work through items related to the new two-division format that will be implemented in 2019. The coaches have discussed whether all games, including crossover games, should be counted in the league standings, or only divisional games. Seeding for the divisional round of the tournament also needs further discussion.
17. **Sports Medicine (Michelle Walsh):** Actions items include: 1.) revising the Sports Medicine Handbook to state that the athletic trainers only need to meet once per year (handbook currently states twice); 2.) clarifying the Liberty League Guidelines for the Host Institutions to restrict provision of emergency transportation in all instances other than supplying an ambulance for home football events.
18. **Sports Information (Kevin Beattie):** Action item: for schools that have pay-per-view live streaming, to provide fellow league administrators with courtesy access to avoid paying fees to fellow league members. For key institutional personnel, such as presidents, athletic administrators and SIDs, a courtesy access code would enable those individuals to follow their teams on the road without having to incur fees. An issue with providing courtesy access is that the code cannot be limited to a small number of users and that if it was widely circulated, institutions would lose streaming revenue.
19. **SAAC (Megan Buchanan):** No action items. SAAC conducted an in-person meeting on Oct. 26 in Utica. Megan Buchanan stated that more than one meeting would increase the league SAAC's effectiveness. The league institutions participated in a SAAC "Change War" against the Empire 8 for a second straight year. Totals are still being calculated.

VII. NCAA / National Issues

- A. **Proposed Conference Rules Seminar:** King indicated that the SUNYAC is exploring the possibility of hosting a conference rules seminar similar to an NCAA Regional Rules Seminar. The NCAA would send staff to a regional location (i.e., Syracuse) and participating institutions would get credit for the Division III membership requirement of attending a rules seminar once every three years. The NCAA requires approximately 250-300 attendees in order to hold such an event, which could pose a challenge for the region. Liberty League institutions would be interested in attending, with an approximate participant count of 20-30 individuals.

- B. NCAA Woman of the Year / Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year:** NCAA Woman of the Year nominees must be submitted via the NCAA Program Hub by June 15. King will conduct an email vote for the Liberty League Male and Female Scholar-Athletes of the Year. These awards are presented to graduating seniors who have demonstrated excellence in academics, athletics and leadership/service. The individual selected as Liberty League female scholar-athlete of the year will be the league's nominee for the NCAA Woman of the Year award. The league can submit two nominees for Woman of the Year if one is an ethnic minority or person of color.
- C. Adopted Division III Scrimmage Legislation:** King shared a recent conversation that he had with Beth Hallenbeck (Skidmore compliance officer). Regarding the recently passed preseason scrimmage legislation that sought to standardize preseason exemptions, there appeared to be some confusion among Rules Seminar attendees. For sports in which contests are counted, teams can exempt two preseason *contests*. For sports in which dates are counted, teams can exempt two preseason *dates*. Some were under the impression that *all* sports would have two exempted *contests*.

VIII. Charitable Efforts for Sport Groups

Kris Hall encouraged the participation of teams and sports in charitable theme days, such as the 'Dig Pink' matches in volleyball. These events are an excellent community service activity and reflect positively on the league and participating institutions. In addition to highlighting athletic and academic accomplishments, Hall recommended that the league also track and recognize community service projects.

IX. ADgreements Software

Laurel Kane indicated that Clarkson is participating in a pilot program in 2017-18 with ADgreements, which is a software program for scheduling and contracts that is being developed by Anthony Simonetti, a former RIT student. Other institutions are also considering utilizing the software. It was agreed that Simonetti would be invited to the September league meeting to make a brief presentation.

X. Anticipated Institutional Sport Sponsorship Changes

Administrators were polled to gauge potential changes in institutional sport sponsorship. Kris Hall indicated that Bard is evaluating whether to elevate its club women's squash program to varsity status for 2017-18 and will make a determination based on student interest and participation numbers.

XI. Future Meeting Sites / Dates

Meeting dates for 2017-18 were reviewed.

- A. **Fall Meeting:** Tuesday, Sept. 12 at Skidmore College
- B. **Winter Meeting:** Friday, Jan. 19 at NCAA Convention (Indianapolis). NCAA Convention dates: Jan. 17-20.
- C. **Spring Meeting:** May 30-31 at Cooperstown, N.Y. (Otesaga Resort Hotel).

Meeting adjourned for the evening at 4:48 p.m.

Thursday, June 1

Meeting reconvened at 8:32 a.m.

XII. Financial Report

Mike Hanna reviewed the Liberty League financial report. Applicable tax filings for the calendar year have been completed. Projected revenues for FY18 show the league will no longer be receiving funds for the NCAA Strategic Alliance Match Grant, which has supported the assistant commissioner position for past three years. The league will not be receiving football associate member dues as Merchant Marine, Springfield and WPI will no longer be members. The league will be receiving an increase of approximately \$9,000 through the Division III Strategic Initiatives Grant Program (Conference Grant), which will offset the losses. Hanna reminded the group that dues increase to \$20,000 for FY18 and FY19. With Ithaca joining, a surplus of \$32,000 is projected for the fiscal year.

Motion: A motion (McElroy, McLaughlin) to approve the financial report dated May 31, 2017 was APPROVED 11-0-0.

XIII. Vote on Sport Action Items

- A. **CROSS COUNTRY / TRACK & FIELD: Motion** to recognize an All-Liberty League ~~Third Team~~ **Honorable Mention** at the Liberty League Men's and Women's Cross Country Championships consisting of finishers in places 15 through 21. PASSED 9-0-2.

Motion to implement qualifying/entry standards for the Liberty League Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field Championships as proposed in Attachment I. PASSED 8-0-3.

Motion to provide medals to the top three finishers in each individual event as well as the top team in each relay event at the Liberty League indoor and outdoor track and field championships. PASSED 8-0-3.

(Consistency in awards program should be established. If medals are being provided in track and field and rowing, the league should consider providing medals for swimming & diving.)

- B. **FIELD HOCKEY: Motion** to establish RECOMMENDED game times of 4:00 p.m. for Friday games and 3:00 p.m. for Saturday and Sunday games. PASSED 8-0-3.

Motion to subsidize the participation of Liberty League teams in the NFHCA film exchange program utilizing Liberty League funds for the first year (\$2,400 = \$300 x 8 members). FAILED 3-5-3.

(Institutions can utilize Tier III Conference Grant funds to cover expenses such as video exchange services.)

Motion to require the home team in Liberty League games to provide 50 practice balls and 25 cones to the visiting team for warmups. PASSED 8-0-3.

- C. **SOCCER: Motion** to solidify bracket format for Liberty League soccer tournament in which the tournament shall be re-paired following the quarterfinal games on Tuesday. FAILED 3-7-1 *(decision will also apply to basketball, which had also proposed re-pairing after quarterfinals).*

Motion to implement online video exchange in men's and women's soccer. PASSED 9-1-1.

Motion to create a RECOMMENDED ~~uniform~~ kickoff time of 2:00 p.m. for the last regular season league game. PASSED 9-1-1.

(Regarding the format of the Liberty League soccer tournament, it was also agreed that if the same institution is the top seed in both the men's and women's soccer championships, then it would be the responsibility of that institution to secure an alternate venue for one gender. The women would have priority in utilizing the primary field in even years while the men would have priority in using the primary field in odd years – opposite of the Division III Soccer Championships policy. If the top seed is unable to secure an alternate venue, then the second seed will be given an opportunity to host. If an institution with an unlighted field is scheduled to host both a men's and women's quarterfinal game, the institution will need to secure an alternate venue. The same field priority applies to the first-round games.)

- D. **FOOTBALL: Motion** to adopt the proposed 2019-2020 football schedule. PASSED 6-0-5.

Motion to provide for the use of video replay by officials at halftime to review targeting calls in all Liberty League games that result in first half ejections. PASSED 6-0-5.

Motion to make available the film for each game played to all Liberty League teams by Saturday at midnight following the completion of each game. PASSED 6-0-5.

Motion to approve the proposal from the Empire 8 for a New York State Bowl game. PASSED 4-2-5.

- E. **SQUASH: Motion** to allow “varsity” club squash teams to participate in Liberty League Squash Championship events in accordance with CSA operating guidelines. TABLED
- F. **SWIMMING & DIVING: Motion** to institute an entry fee for the Liberty League championship of \$125 per gender plus \$10 per athlete. PASSED 11-0-0.
- G. **BASKETBALL: Motion** to revise the film exchange policy to ALLOW schools to upload their Friday Liberty League game to Synergy directly after its conclusion, with the deadline remaining noon Sunday. PASSED 10-0-1.

Motion to implement electronic media timeouts in all Liberty League games to mirror the protocol our teams experience at the NCAA Championships. FAILED 0-10-1.

Motion to return Liberty League doubleheaders to women playing first and men second. PASSED 6-3-2.

- H. **WOMEN'S GOLF: Motion** to change the Women's Golf Championship formula to the weekend immediately prior to NCAA selections. PASSED 5-0-6.

Motion to specify that the host institution will make every effort to host the Women's Golf Championship on Saturday and Sunday with Friday and Saturday as the secondary option. PASSED 5-0-6.

Motion to specify that when playing the championship on Sunday, the round must be concluded by 5:30 p.m. PASSED 5-0-6.

- I. **MEN'S GOLF: Motion** to adjust the format of the Liberty League championship to a Fall Preview Tournament (36 holes; Saturday-Sunday) and a Spring Championship (54 holes; Friday-Sunday) **with NO practice rounds Thursday prior to the championship**. PASSED 6-0-5.
- J. **WOMEN'S LACROSSE: Motion** to subsidize the participation of Liberty League teams in the IWLCAs film exchange program utilizing Liberty League funds for the first two years (\$15,400 in conference funds = \$700 x 11 members x 2 years). FAILED 0-11-0.

- K. TENNIS: Motion** to establish a lineup protest protocol to be utilized to address lineup protests in the Liberty League championship. PASSED 9-0-2.

Motion to require Vassar to secure indoor courts on a compliant surface for Liberty League matches. FAILED 0-11-0.

- L. SPORTS MEDICINE/ATHLETIC TRAINING: Motion** to amend Liberty League Sports Medicine Committee meeting requirements from twice a year to once a year. PASSED 11-0-0.

Motion to clarify Liberty League Guidelines for Host Institutions to restrict provision of emergency transportation in all instances other than supplying an ambulance for home football events. PASSED 11-0-0.

- M. SPORTS INFORMATION: Motion**, for schools that have pay-per-view live streaming, to provide fellow league administrators with courtesy access (up to three) to avoid paying fees to fellow league members. FAILED 0-10-1.

XIV. Farewell to Kim Culligan

Kim Culligan, who is retiring from Vassar, was thanked and recognized for her service to her institution and the Liberty League. Culligan thanked the league members for their support. As a suggestion to improve the league's efficiency, Culligan suggested the league consider forming committees (e.g., championships, awards, finance) to work through various issues that are brought to the larger group.

XV. Adjournment

The regular meeting adjourned and the athletic directors conducted an executive session to evaluate the performance of the Liberty League staff.

Meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

ATTACHMENT #1: Proposed Track & Field Qualifying/Entry Standards

In Section I. F. of the Men's & Women's Cross Country/Track and Field guidelines:

3. Championship Qualification: For the purposes of qualifying for both the Liberty League Indoor and Outdoor Track & Field Championships, each institution shall be allocated a minimum of two participants per event at each championship. Additional qualifiers shall be included from the top 20 performers indoor and top 24 outdoor as listed on the TFRRS descending order list and will be entered if declared.

Each institution shall be allowed one wild card entry into the meet per gender, which will allow for the entry of a student-athlete that has not yet achieved the threshold for qualifying.

Combined event qualification will be limited to the top 12 declared both indoor and outdoor from a list that includes the compiled points acquired throughout the season. Note: the two-participant-per-school allocation does not apply to the combined events. Also, a separate list will be published each week with updated point totals.