

March 4, 2003

TO: COA Management Council
FROM: Post Conference Review Committee

RE: Update on 10/17/02 Report

Three years ago you, the Management Council (MC), passed the COA Mission Statement (MS) on Post Conference Competition. This document stated, for the first time, a COA philosophy of the purpose of Post Conference competition (PC). You then formed a Post Conference Review Committee (PCRC) to write recommendations for guidelines to implement the MS. At the last MC meeting (10/17/02) the PCRC presented its recommendations in a report that you approved. This report identified sports that exceeded guidelines for PC and gave them the opportunity to present justifications to MC for continuation of current formats, or submit Form 5 legislation for new formats (consistent with PCRC guidelines) at the upcoming March 27, 2003 MC meeting.

The attached chart lists the responses to date from the Sports Coaches Associations (SCA) to the guidelines for Post Conference Competition you adopted. The chart also details the PCRC recommendations to you for responding to each SCA. It is helpful to have the spreadsheet from the October 17, 2002 PCRC report in hand when reading the chart.

The PCRC recommends approval of the Form 5's put forth by the two SCA, Cross Country and Football, because they are significant efforts to reduce participation to meet PCRC guidelines.

The PCRC also recommends approval of the reports authored by SCA of the emerging sports of Badminton and Women's Golf. These sports were asked to formulate a plan for revision of their formats that would bring their participation percentages into compliance with PCRC guidelines within 5 years. The reports succeeded in presenting a five-year plan, and went even further by offering to make cuts at the first opportunity, the 2003-2004 academic year.

The PCRC recommends denial of all requests for continuation of current formats received from the team sports of Basketball (M/W), Soccer (M), and Water Polo (M/W) and the individual sports of Women's Track & Field and Men's and Women's Swimming because they are not consistent with the MS and the PCRC guidelines you approved. Alternate formats that the PCRC believe would maintain the integrity of the sport and be consistent with the MS are included in the attached chart as examples that would meet the guidelines.

If the MC follows the PCRC recommendation and denies a SCA request for continuation of a current format that exceeds PCRC guidelines, the PCRC will work with the SCA to author Form 5 legislation for a new format consistent with the guidelines, provided input from the SCA is received no later than **June 1, 2003**. If the SCA and the PCRC cannot reach consensus, the PCRC will present a Form 5 format proposal at the next MC meeting (effective Fall 2004). The SCA may present their own Form 5 at the same meeting.

It should be noted that the MS states that PC should be "cost effective". However, the MS does not say that if a sport makes a profit in PC, the profit offsets the other requirements of the MS such as "rewarding excellence" and "provid(ing) and opportunity for outstanding teams and individuals to compete in championship events". Therefore sports that make profits in PC should not be allowed to exceed the PCRC percentage guidelines for participation that ensure a level of excellence and the presence of outstanding teams.

It is important that the timeline approved by MC in the 10/27/02 PCRC report, calling for resolution of all format issues by the Fall, 2003 MC meeting, be followed. This will allow lead time for making organizational adjustment the new formats may dictate. SCA have had ample time to prepare a presentation for this Spring's MC meeting (questionnaires asking for SCA responses to percentage guidelines were sent to all sports in 2001 and 2002). If their request for continuing the current format is not approved by MC, they have until June 1 to work with the PCRC on a new format, and until September 1, 2003 to write their own Form 5 for a new format.

In conclusion, this is the third step in the four-step process of matching PC formats with the philosophy of the PC Mission Statement. The MS was written, a plan for reviewing current formats and/or designing new formats was approved, and now MC must decide if the process goes forward to the fourth stage of adopting new formats consistent with the MS, or if it stops now by allowing sports that exceed MS guidelines to continue without change.

If you have any questions regarding recommendations for a specific sport, they should be directed to the following committee members:

Deb Blackmore	Liaison for Volleyball (M/W) and Wrestling
Fran Cummings	Liaison for Golf (M/W) and Tennis (M/W)
Ann Heck	Liaison for Badminton and Soccer (M/W)
John Norton	Liaison for Cross Country (M/W) and Track & Field (M/W)
Jim Sartoris	Liaison for Basketball (M/W) and Football
Jean Snuggs	Liaison for Swim/Dive (M/W) and Water Polo (M/W)
John Woods	Liaison for Baseball and Softball

**Post Conference Review Committee
Summary of Recommendations to Management Council (3/27/03 Meeting)**

Sport	Action Recommended	Anticipated SCA Response 3/27/03	PCR Response/Alternate. Format (AF)
Basketball (M/W)	Revise regional format to be consistent with 40 % guideline	Present justification for continuing current regional format	Current format inconsistent with MS. Profit does not justify exceeding guidelines. (AF) = 32 single elimination, or SCA design 40 % regional
Football	Revise PC bowl/playoff structure to make awards and event administration consistent with other COA regional/state championships.	Form 5 Legislation (Sports Guide Item 1) submitted, revising No. & So. Playoff/Bowl structure	Recommend approval.
Soccer (M)	Revise regional format to be consistent with 40 % guideline.	Present justification for continuing current format	Current format inconsistent with MS. (AF) = 24 Team Regionals (12N+12S)
Water Polo (W/M)	Revise regional and state format to be consistent with 40 % and 10% guidelines.	Present justification for continuing current format.	Current format exceeds MS guidelines. (AF) for regionals= 16 team (8 N + 8 S or 6 N + 10 S) sgl elimin. (AF) State = 2 N + 2 S
Badminton	Present COA Management Council with a justification for current format and plan for meeting guidelines with in 5 years, <u>or</u> revise format to meet 15 % state individual championship guideline.	Present 5-year plan for reduction of players if base # of participants does not increase in 5 years.	Approve report. Cut doubles from 8 to 6 per conference in 2004.
Cross Country (M/W)	Revise regional and state format to comply with 40 % and 15 % guidelines.	Form 5 Legislation submitted, possibly lowering # of teams & individuals in State Championships.	Support Form 5 for State Championships. Review after 1 st yr.
Golf (W)	Present COA Management Council with a justification for current format and plan for meeting guidelines within 5 years, <u>or</u> revise format to meet 40 % regional and 15 % state individual championship guidelines	Present plan for meeting guidelines in 5 years.	Approve plan.
Wrestling	Present COA Management Council with a justification for current format, <u>or</u> revise format to meet 40 % regional and 15 % state indiv. championship guidelines	Present justification of current format.	Current format exceeds MS guidelines for regionals & state. (AF)= 6/class to state. Review annually
Track (W)	Revise regional and state format to be consistent with 40 % and 15 % guidelines.	Present plan for qualifying standards for women's regionals.	Establish qualifying standards for women's regionals.
Swim/Dive (W/M)	Revise state format to be consistent with 15 % guideline.	Present justification for continuing current format	Current format inconsistent with MS. (AF) 12 individual, 8 relays qualify. Diving stops at regional, 2-day state. champ. Review in 1yr. to see if a maximum of 20% are participating.