Fall 2015 NCTA Meeting

Dec. 5, 2015 via Telecon

1. Meeting Opening and Roll Call

Russell Ahn - UC Berkeley, President Rex Hatfield - Princeton, 1st Vice President Dan Chuang - MIT, Secretary General Alex Antipa - UC Davis, Tournament Director Tim Ghormley - Stanford, Advisory Board Brian Wright - George Washington University Vincent Lo - Stanford

2. President's Remarks

President Ahn welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance and cooperation during the past year. He noted that the 2015 NCTA Championships at Delaware and that the Universide were successful, thanks to everyone's dedication and support.

Old Business

3. Review of Spring 2015 Meeting Minutes (SG Chuang)

SG Chuang recapped the meeting minutes from the Spring 2015 meeting.

4. Recap from 40th National Collegiate Taekwondo Championships (VP Hatfield)

VP Hatfield, tournament director, noted that the 40th Collegiate Taekwondo Championships was a successful event, and that having the NCTA act as the tournament organizer was a model that the NCTA had been working towards for some time. VP Hatfield worked closely with Coach Antipa and Coach Chuang. VP Hatfield also mentioned that the NCTA enjoyed an excellent partnership with the Delaware Sports Commission, and that the tournament was a good opportunity for the University of Delaware Taekwondo team to get some first-hand experience with a national championship event. VP Hatfield also noted that the ECTC tournament committee contributed a great deal to operations and was thankful for their contributions.

5. Recap from World University Games (Coaching Staff)

Coach Chuang, who served as a coach on the trip, noted that the team had several strong performances at the Summer World University Games and that the team left with one bronze medal, earned by William Jackson in the -63kg male sparring category. Several other athletes achieved sparring quarterfinal appearances, and the poomsae team had several divisions reach the finals.

President Ahn noted that in the future, the World University Games will be quite challenging in the future due to a potential increase to G-4 status. He suggested that the team needs to have a separate team trials and team training before the 2017 World University Games.

6. NCTA NCAA Recognition Efforts (Advisory Board Member Ghormley, Committee Chair)

Coach Tim Ghormley had a chance to speak to with Stanford University Athletic Director Benard Muir and Associate Director Beth Goode, who both work closely with NCAA regarding Title IX compliance and other issues. Beth Goode is a member of the NCAA Legislative Council. Both work closely with Richard Zhu of NCAA, with whom Coach Ghormley was referred to speak with.

Coach Ghormley related that Richard Zhu sits on the committee for Title IX compliance review, and that Coach Ghormley explained to Mr. Zhu the NCTA's 40 year history of working with collegiate programs and his own history with Stanford Taekwondo. CoachGhormley also inquired about the status of US Collegiate Taekwondo's (USCT's) involvement with NCAA. Richard Zhu replied that the only contact that NCAA had with Phil Herring was one phone conversation in October, and that there had been no further contact since that time, including no formal recognition, no liason assignment, and no NCAA format for taekwondo decided upon.

Coach Ghormley mentioned the NCTA's concern that the USCT was not substantively working with many collegiate programs, nor had they asked for input from many of the collegiate programs in the process of applying for recognition for taekwondo. Mr. Zhu said that it was not uncommon for sports to have governing body struggles, and that he has an open mind and doesn't take anyone's word over anyone else's. Mr. Zhu said that should an application be made for NCAA recognition from USCT or anyone else, which has not happened to date, that he would inform NCTA.

Mr. Zhu went on to describe the process for recognizing emerging sports. Coach Ghormley made the point that recognizing taekwondo under emerging sports for women during a time when most collegiate athletics programs are consolidating their sports means that it is very unlikely that recognition would be able to be extended beyond women's taekwondo to men's taekwondo, and indeed that Mr. Zhu's only concern as an emerging sports committee member is with women's sports.

Mr. Zhu said that only three sports are being currently considered under emerging sports: rugby, equestrian and triathalon. 10 schools must have an athletic director and president who commit to running a varsity program to pass the first stage of recognition, however, 20 and 40 schools are required at the following stages of recognition, with 40 needed to establish an NCAA Championships sport status. Coach Ghormley noted that taekwondo is not one of the sports currently being considered for recognition, according to Mr. Zhu.

Coach Ghormley shared that Stanford brought on squash as a womens' varsity sport as part of a bid for NCAA recognition, but that the process stalled at 21 schools, at which point it dropped out of the emerging sports program. Coach Ghormley noted that we should be careful of any half-baked proposals that could harm our long-term efforts. Mr. Zhu did forward documents relating to NCAA recognition criteria and compliance which will be shared with the NCTA officers.

Coach Ghormley noted that he was happy to meet with Phil Herring. President Ahn tasked Coach Ghormley to write a report to the USAT Board of Directors, USAT Executive Director and WTF President and Secretary General noting his findings.

7. USCT NCAA Recognition Disucssion (President Ahn)

President Ahn noted that Ghormley's report made the situation clearer, and that the NCTA should be cautious about claims being made by USCT. President Ahn noted that the NCTA should write a letter to the membership clarifying the NCAA recognition situation because many people are asking about NCAA efforts, and that the NCTA needs to send a press release by next week.

8. 2016 Championships Discussion (Tournament Committee Chair Antipa/VP Hatfield, U. Colorado Boulder)

Coach Antipa and Coach Hatfield noted that the University of Colorado, Boulder can tentatively reserve April 22-24, 2016 as the dates for the Championships and that is the first choice of the NCTA. (**Update 12/9/2015:** However, the university will not be able to confirm that reservation until January 2016). Once the date is confirmed, an official announcement will be made. There is a meeting next week with club representatives to flesh out the details and sign an agreement. It was agreed that the NCAA would provide a stipend to the club in exchange for volunteers and staff for the event.

Coach Antipa noted that Truescore will be able to provide the latest version of headgear, and that he will discuss the usage of the Daedo video replay system, but that last year's system with iPads and the Coaches' Eye app seemed to work well.

President Ahn noted that for 2017 sparring team trials, we should consider using KP&P because that is what will be used at the World University Games. VP Hatfield noted that for the NCTA Championships, would still need to use Daedo or whatever system that USA Taekwondo qualifiers are required to use.

9. NCTA Regional Developments (Advisory Board Member Ghormley, Committee Chair)

Coach Ghormley noted that the Pacwest format is being solidified with a NorCal tri-meet, Socal tri-meet, and a Championships bi-meet. New this year is the addition of a color belt scrimmage co-located with the meets.

Coach Chuang noted that he Eastern Collegiate Taekwondo Conference (ECTC) is averaging 350-400 competitors per tournament after 3 tournaments this fall, and several high-level poomsae and sparring athletes have joined the league this year.

President Ahn declared that regional championships would be added to the spring agenda.

New Business

10. Discussion

Dr. Ahn noted that he would like to add Safesport to our spring 2016 Agenda. He stated that all coaches and officials traveling with the US National Collegiate Taekwondo Team should be required to take SafeSport training and to pass a background check, similar to USA Taekwondo's policy that was discussed at its most recent board meeting.

Coach Ghormley brought up the question of what the 2016 Collegiate Team will do. President Ahn suggested that team members could receive a wild card to the 2017 team trials, and a scholarship. VP Hatfield suggested the new residency program at the University of Central Oklahoma might be a good host for a national team training camp, and will contact Coach Poos to inquire about this possibility. Late May or early June was suggested as a good time for the camp.

11. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.