

**REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION III  
SPORTSMANSHIP AND GAME ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP  
NOVEMBER 10 2015, TELECONFERENCE**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Review of the reports from July 23, teleconference and September 24, 2015, teleconferences.** A quorum was not met during the September teleconference so the working group reviewed and approved both set of minutes from its July and September teleconferences.
  
2. **Planning for presentation at 2016 Division III Issues Forum.** Jay Jones provided a draft of the potential presentation to be given by working group chair, Gary Williams, during the ‘town hall’ portion of the 2016 Division III Issues Forum. Jones asked the working group to discuss the details of this presentation, focusing particular attention on how to take advantage of the opportunity to conduct ‘poll’ questions and what the working group should ask of the forum participants. The draft included the following questions:
  - a. What incentives would likely motivate your institutions desire to participate in a certification-based program?
    - (1) Small financial incentive.
    - (2) Signage or other public recognition.
    - (3) Championships linked incentive.
    - (4) None – not likely to participate.
  
  - b. What ‘group’ of fans has caused the most difficult issues at your institution’s events in the past?
    - (1) Student section.
    - (2) Parents of student-athletes.
    - (3) General fans or boosters of program.
    - (4) Visiting fans.

- c. Which is more beneficial information for your athletics department to have?
  - (1) Best practices for crowd control.
  - (2) Baseline expectations of fan behavior.

The group showed overall support for the questions and presentation outline, but raised points regarding incentives for completing the program and potential concerns from the membership about where the money for the financial incentive is coming from. As a result, they recommended maybe eliminating that option from the first question. There was more support for providing signage, as well as providing apparel as incentives for member schools. Additionally, there seemed to be a need for more explanation and prep for Question C, but the overall consensus is that the program should be designed with Division III resources in mind, and hearing from the membership on these three questions would be beneficial.

- 3. **Communication plan for conference meetings at 2016 NCAA Convention.** Gary Williams recommended for those with conference meetings coming up to vet out some concepts regarding the potential certification program and ask their conference colleagues what they see as potential positives and also any concerns they may have. Mr. Williams said he plans to create some talking points for distribution to the group as well. It is his hope that the group can find ways to be efficient in its communication, but also to outline clearly the future plans.
- 4. **Setting working group teleconference times for 2016.** Mr. Jones noted his recommendation for the working group's 2016 teleconferences is to schedule them for every other month, as opposed to monthly. He also mentioned the potential for creating smaller groups within the working group. This may mean adding more members.
- 5. **Other business.** The group had no other business.
- 6. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m. Eastern time.

Report of the NCAA Division III Sportsmanship  
and Game Environment Working Group  
November 10 2015, Teleconference  
Page No. 3

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*Chair: Gary Williams, Wittenberg University, North Coast Athletic Conference*  
*Staff Liaisons: Jay Jones, Division III Governance*  
*Jess Duff, Division III Governance*

Teleconference: November 10, 2015	
Attendees	Absentees
Erik Bitterbaum, State University of New York at Cortland	Tracy King, Liberty League
Jennifer Jacobs, Augsburg College	Chuck Mitrano, Empire 8
Laura Mooney, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts	Alli Stevens, Catholic University of America
Karen Tompson-Wolfe, Westminster College	Justin Toliver, Rhodes College
Alli Stevens, Catholic University of America	
Brian Wigley, Shenandoah University	
Gary Williams, Wittenberg University	
Other Participants: Ben Brownlee, NCAA Jess Duff, NCAA Jay Jones, NCAA	