

## University Athletic Committee

November 15, 2011

3:30 PM

309 Cassell Coliseum

**Members Present:** Fred Benfield, Hannah Billings, Mike Ellerbrock, Richard Ferraro, Robena Hughes, Art Keown, Larry Killough, Margarita McGrath, Scot Pleasant, Glenn Reynolds, Holly Scoggins, Dean Stauffer, Lorenzo Williams.

**Members Absent:** Lu Merritt, Jacqueline Nottingham, Stephen Schoenholtz, Don Shoemaker, Susan Short, Joseph Tront, Franklin Warren, Jim Weaver.

**Representatives:** Jack Lesko for Richard Benson, Savita Sharma for Dwight Shelton.

**Guest Present:** **Jay Hardwick**, Head Golf Coach, **Chris Helms**, Associate A. D. Olympic Sports, **Jon Jaudon**, Associate A. D. Administration, **Pam Linkous**, Human Resources & NCAA Initiative for Athletics, **Tim Parker**, Associate Athletics Director for Compliance.

**Recorder:** Joyce Wynn, Athletics

## BUSINESS

Art Keown, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm.

Agenda for today's meeting was approved (motion was proposed, seconded and approved), Minutes for the October 2011, meeting were approved (motion was proposed, seconded and approved).

## REPORTS

### Coaches Perspective – Jay Hardwick - Golf

Coach Hardwick is in his 29<sup>th</sup> season as Head Men's Golf Coach at Virginia Tech. Opening of Pete Dye River Course of Virginia Tech gives us a great home facility.

- **GOLF WEEK magazine released its rankings of the 2011 BEST CAMPUS COURSES** in the September 9 issue. Our course was #9 nationally and #1 in the ACC.
- The 2011 NCAA East Regional Championship was hosted by Virginia Tech at the Pete Dye River Course.
  - United States Golf Association Officials and NCAA Golf Committee said our regional one of the best they had ever worked.
  - Never had an event at a golf course with more options for championship set up.
  - Very complimentary of our volunteers and the way they treated players and coaches.
  - Thanks to the alumni, members of the river course, athletic department staff, local golf officials, people from other states.
  - Thanks to Jim Weaver for allowing our staff to come work the event, Thursday, Friday and Saturday and to Tom Gabbard our Associate Athletic Director and Cara Walters, Game Operations Manager.

### Program Highlights

- Last year we went to the NCAA for the fifth straight year.
- My Assistant Coach Brian Sharp played for me 4 years and has been with me for 9 years. In 2009 he was named Assistance Coach of the Year.
- NCAA allows 4.5 scholarships for Golf. We carry eight players.

- Our supporters have fully endowed our scholarships for the in state value. We are working toward endowing our scholarships at the out of state rate.
- Supporters are called the Hackin Hokies. We started with 8 members and we have 104 now.

**HOKIES ON THE PGA TOUR** - **Brendon de Jonge and Johnson Wagner**. The former Hokies will compete on the PGA Tour again in 2012.

- Drew Weaver was the 2007 British Amateur champion, an all American and an academic all American. Drew just made it through the first stage of PGA Tour qualifying and is teeing it up this afternoon for the second stage.
- Our team is involved in community service. We try and do as much as we can. Our schedule spring and fall is pretty demanding but we believe that it is our responsibly to give back as much as we can.
  - We precipitate in 2 Hokie Kids Nights a year in the spring and fall. We try and take our whole team to local elementary school.
  - We are also involved in reading program.
  - All of our team has volunteered in the Montgomery County Christmas Store since it conception.
  - For two years we have been able to take a day and go to Greenville, SC and spend the day at the Shriner's Crippled Children's Hospital. Tim Parker our Associate AD for Compliance worked with the NCAA to allow us to do that.
  - Recruiting our philosophy is to look in-state first. We want the best in the state. We do not want to get beat by the best player in the state and we are an equivalency sport so in-state player equivalent to an out of state player we are going to take the in-state player because we want Virginia players.
- In my 29 years here our graduation rate is 99%.
- Our APR is 1000
- First week I came here I sat down and established 3 goals.
  - Insure that our players earn their degree in their chosen field of study.
  - Help them play their sport to best of their ability with potential of having a career in Professional Golf.
  - To put back into society a better product than we brought in.

## Question and Answer

Q: What is the name of the Booster Group?  
Hackin Hokies

Q: What was the nature of the renovation of the River Course?  
It was a pretty good golf course. First 9 holes built in 1999 and second 9 finished in 2001. It had some routing problems. The scenery and the land around it were gorgeous but it was not built in a fashion to take advantage of it. Bill Goodwin, one of our benefactors and a graduate of Virginia Tech. Bill's love is Golf. Pete Dye at one time the number one architect in the world, member of the PGA Golf Hall of Fame. He is known worldwide for building golf courses that are very playable. Mr. Goodwin brought Pete in, he paid for the renovations and Pete's fees and he did not give him a budget. Mr. Goodwin's challenge to Pete was to build a golf course that was to be the home course for Virginia Tech's Golf Team and also a golf course that we could hold championship's on.

Q: You have an engineer that has done very well. Given the amount of time you spend out of town how does a student manage their courses?

We have 2 engineering students on our team. It is difficult. All our students are out of class by 1:45 pm every day. We try and schedule labs for Monday nights. We will only miss one Monday. The professors are very good to work with us. Our team van is equipped with individualized seats with computer ports. If it is within 8 hours we like to drive. It is better for our player to drive than to fly

because we get the last flight out. The first night we have 2 hour study on the road. Anytime we have an afternoon tee time we are up at 7:00 am have our breakfast and do 2 hours studying in the morning.

Q: How did you ever link up with Zimbabwe?

In 1994 I had the honor of being the first to coach Team USA in World Junior Team championships. The first time America ever sent a team abroad. While there practicing I became very good friends with the Zimbabwe national coach who happened to be a PGA member. I talked to him about a player that caught my eye. Shawn Ferrell signed with us and then Brendon de Jonge, Nick MacDonald and his brother and now Scott.

## APR Results (Chris Helms) Handout

- APR stands for Academic Progress Rate. This comes under the file of unfunded mandates from the NCAA. To give you a brief history of how we got to where we are today.
- If you go back to turn of the century the NCAA made some reform initiatives centered around academics with the idea of increasing the standards for both incoming Student-Athlete from High School and increasing the standards that the current Student-Athlete must maintain in order to keep their eligibility.
- As they did that they also put some of the attention and focus on the institution that were responsible for recruiting these Student-Athletes and holding the institution accountable for the academic performance of their Student-Athletes.
- Whenever you here APR you really have to think of APR in the context of total reform initiative that happened back in about 2003.
- Along with APR came a new academic measure called the GSR, which is a graduation success rate. GSR is a new metric that the NCAA introduced which they felt gave a better representation of the graduation number for Student-Athletes. It is counter to the old one that we call federal graduation rates. We have the new GSR and the APR and also part of that reform measure was to increase standards for the high school student. They had to achieve a greater number of core classes in order to be eligible upon entering a division I institution.
- I am going to talk about the APR. The APR was designed to give schools and the public a chance to see how student-athletes that are currently in school are performing academically.
- The numbers that will be made public in the spring of 2012 will represent what happed last year. It is always a year late. It is still better than the six or seven year number of the graduation rates.
- Let me give you some key terms.
- Every student has a chance to earn up to four points per year.
- They do so by either maintaining or not maintaining their eligibility.
- The other component is a retention component. Did they in fact stay at the institution from one semester to the next?
- So each semester we have to look at the student-athlete and either award or not award them points based on their eligibility and their retention.
- What we do to come up with an APR number is tally those points per team. There is a ratio, a simple fraction, you multiply by 1000 the result of the fraction and you get a team APR score. Usually ranging anywhere from 800 to 1000.
- 925 is an important number because it is the threshold number for which each team must score in order to avoid penalties. It is the institutional control point.
- The contemporaneous penalty is assessed on a school that had a sub 925 team score. A team that had a sub 925 score and a student-athlete who was a 0 for 2 (not eligible and not retained) could not re-award that student's scholarship for one year.
- If an institution has a team that had a sub 900 score over time. Then they would be subject to a historical penalty. Historical penalties come in the form of public reprimand (USA Today gets a list every spring that they publish). If you are the worst of the worst you could lose your membership status with the NCAA. I do not believe that has ever happened.

## **New standards were just adopted in October 2011.**

- 925 is now 930.
- Reconfigured the penalty structure. This is how I think it reads no one is for sure now.
- A school with a sub 930 score will be automatically subject to Level I penalty and not eligible for post season competition.
- Level I penalty restricts the practice time for the sport that is sub 930.
- Currently our teams have the ability to practice up to 20 hours 6 days week.
- A sub 930 will be subject to a 16 hours practice over a 5 day week. The NCAA mandates that the 4 hours lost for practice be used for academic purposes.
- You have to then show for three consecutive years above a 930 in order to not be eligible for the level II penalty.
- Level II penalty adds additional restriction to the practice time. These restrictions would be competitive restrictions. The NCAA would mandate that teams be limited in competition. The ability to compete at the maximum threshold.
- Level III penalty. The institution determined penalty from a menu of options including the ability to suspend coaches, restrict financial aid and also restrict NCAA membership.

## **Potential Impact**

Had the 930 threshold been in effect last year: There were 30 Men's Basketball teams that were below 900 APR level nationally. There were 99 teams below the 930 threshold. In terms of football and the level at which we compete, there were no teams below the 900 but there were 17 teams below a 930. The registrar office, Clyde Criddlin and his staff are responsible for submitting to the NCAA annually. It has to be submitted 6 weeks after the first day of class each fall.

## **Question and Answer**

Q. What happens if someone withdraws for medical reasons? Are you penalized for that?

Yes. You cannot file a waiver for medical reasons. We were actually penalized for that several times.

Tim Parker: We are not allowed to file for relief a medical absent waiver unless we are seeking to regain that student-athlete competitive eligibility. If it is solely to get the APR point back we are not allowed to submit it. But if we are doing it also for competitive eligibility then we can submit it and they would get forgiveness for the APR point.

We have no teams below the 930 threshold.

Q: Baseball players that get drafted, does that count against you?

It can. You can get a professional adjustment. In order to get the professional adjustment they have to have signed a professional contract. We have to demonstrate that and then they would have had to earn their eligibility point.

Q: Do we have overall institution report or just by sport?

This one is just by sport but there is an overall institution GSR. But the APR is designed to be a team by team measure.

Q: If a team's score is getting close to the low threshold, what kind of measures do we take, if any?

The associate athletic director for each sport are made aware of scores by giving this report to them each year. They will work with the coach for that sport to identify why that program is losing points and what if anything we can modify.

## **NCAA, new legislation, legislative impacts (Tim Parker)**

This entire legislative amendment that Chris was talking about was part of a package that came out as a result of the President of the NCAA, Dr. Emmert, and his presidential retreat. From that retreat a number of sub committees were set up to look into several different areas; student-athlete well being, academic and financial aid. Out of that came a set of proposals that did not go through the normal governing structure. They were not

vexed in the normal way and that is why there are still some unanswered questions. We have a very prolonged system that proposals go through and they are reviewed by a number of groups and questions are thought of in advance before they are voted on. That did not happen to these. We just got these from this presidential group just two and a half weeks ago.

These amendments have all been adopted and will go into effect April 15<sup>th</sup> unless they are over turned.

- The first one is no other aid of any type would count for an equivalency sport. The only amount that counts is the Athletic Scholarship. All of our sports are equivalency sports except for football, the two basketballs, volleyball and women's tennis. So you have athletic scholarships that you get and any other aid that is not exempted. A lot of the aid that Virginia Tech would award to a student if we could not exempt it academically it would count against that teams equivalency.
- The second one allows schools to grant multi-year scholarships. Previously we were only allowed to give out awards one year at a time. The belief had existed that a scholarship would be renewed each year so up front not a lot of change. We will be forced to use the multi-year scholarship as some schools will use it to stay competitive.
- Athletic scholarships can now be increased for any time for any reason.
- The third one is an additional \$2,000 award to each full scholarship student-athlete. This one has a high probability that it will go through an override vote.

### **Question and Answer**

Q: Is there any check and balances on if that is not overridden what the student-athlete can spend that money on?

The institutions have the discretion to implement when they give money to student-athletes. We would give at the end of the each semester. There are no limitations on the money.

Q: Is it mandated?

It is not mandated to anyone it is optional. The only student-athletes that are eligible are on full scholarship. The conference can make a decision and then each school can make their own decision. For us that would be a \$340,000 expense annually 170 to 180 scholarships.

Q: You cannot take it and make a half scholarship more?

Correct.

Q: Is there concern among the presidents that it raises an equity problem with the regular students that get a full scholarship.

Not among the 60 at the presidential retreat. A lot of others yes,

Q: Since most of the scholarships are men's sports, football and you have Title IX saying you need this breakdown in terms of money spent. Is there any kind of special dispensation that this throws things out of whack?

The NCAA has an army of legal consultants. We assume that President Emmert has consulted legal counsel because it would seem to present all kinds of Title IX problems.

Q: Will the Pell Grant and the \$2000 combined be a resource up to the cost of attendance or is the Pell Grant excluded from the cost of attendance.

The Pell Grant is excluded but other types of aid we are told are not excluded.

Q: Is our financial aid office going to exclude the Pell Grant from counting for the cost of attendance? They currently are.

Q: What about outside aid?

We have not gotten clarification on outside aid, only institutional aid.

Final one I am going to talk about is initial eligibility. Chris talked about the major initiatives that took place eight years ago. Now that there has been time for those to be implemented and everyone feel comfortable with those and the 16 core courses. These presidents at the retreat decided it was time to increase the requirements.

- There is a sliding scale currently between test scores and core GPA. The sliding scale is being adjusted upward. So in order to have freshman eligible the scale is going to be modified and made tougher. The problem is that they went ahead and adopted this proposal with language in it that says that the scale is yet to be released.
- From reading the notes from the sub-committee meetings, it looks like what they are aiming for is a raise in the GPA of about ½ point.
- Currently a person with 1000 SAT can get in and compete as a freshman with a 2.0. Under the new model it would be a 2.5 or there about.
- The second phase is below that level there will be a second sliding scale where you can come in and receive athletic scholarship money and you can practice but you cannot compete. They are going to call it an academic redshirt year.
- The other part of that proposal mandates 10 of the 16 core courses must be completed by the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> semester of high school.

Art Keown dismissed the committee at 5:03 p.m.

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