



CSFL HEAD COACHES MEETING SUMMARY
Thursday, February 4th – 11:00am

Meeting Participants:

Alderson Broaddus: Brad Jett
Army West Point: Mark West
Caldwell: Jim Kelly
Chestnut Hill: Gio Thomas
Cornell: Terry Cullen
Mansfield: John Evans
Navy: Jason Dewald
Penn: Jerry McConnell
St. Thomas Aquinas: Matt Barry
CSFL Office: Dan Mara, Doug DeBiase, and Ellen O'Brien

I. Introduction

II. Spring 2021 Update (Attachment 1)

- a. The following motion was approved during the January 13th CSFL Administrators meeting:
 - i. Gene McIntyre made a motion to allow 20 practices beginning on March 1st and ending April 24th or the end of the regular season for all CSFL teams. Carrie Bodkins seconded. The group had previously voted to allow teams that are not competing to participate in an unlimited number of practices during the season. Gene made a friendly amendment to allow teams that are not competing to practice an unlimited number of times (March 1 – April 24) and for teams that are competing to practice up to 20 times but no fewer than 16 times before the first game, beginning on March 1st. Carrie Bodkins seconded the friendly amendment. Motion Approved: 9-0-0.
- b. The decision was made to not develop a conference-mandated Spring 2021 schedule due to the few number of teams participating and the varying testing and travel restrictions. Caldwell, STAC, and AB are working amongst themselves to schedule games

during Spring 2021. Alderson Broaddus will be traveling to STAC for a 7:30pm game on April 10th.

- c. The Academies have more stringent testing requirements than other schools in the CSFL, and require opponents to follow their testing protocol as well. It is possible this may impact the structure of the Fall 2021 schedule.

III. **Fall 2021 Schedule Conversation**

- a. Post has withdrawn from the CSFL, which leaves the League with nine schools. Previously, the schedule featured a divisional structure, however, with an odd number of teams, this needs to be reviewed.
- b. John Evans is in favor of a single round robin schedule, which would include eight games (four home; four away) over nine dates (one team gets a bye each week). The schedule may need to start a week earlier in order to end before Thanksgiving. The two teams with the highest records could compete in a championship game. Or, the team with the highest record after the eight scheduled games could be crowned the champion. Jason Dewald is in favor of playing eight games and having the top two teams compete in the championship. Or, to implement a different playoff structure if the regular season only includes seven games per team. Terry Cullen has concerns about their ability to compete in more than seven games. Penn and Cornell are not sure when classes will begin in Fall 2021. If the season began on September 26th and ran for nine weeks, it would end on November 25th which is the weekend before Thanksgiving.
 - i. John Evans made a motion to have the CSFL Office develop an eight game, nine week schedule, as well as a schedule with divisions for the coaches and administrators to review. Jason Dewald seconded. Motion Approved: 9-0-0. The CSFL Office will begin drafting schedules next week

IV. **Weigh-In Committee to Review/Verify Weigh-Ins**

- a. Mark West asked to discuss the potential for virtual weigh-ins using Zoom or another platform. A subcommittee has already been formed to review topics related to playing weight. The AD at Chestnut Hill, Jesse Balcer is the Chair of the subcommittee. The CSFL Office will schedule a meeting with the subcommittee to discuss the following topics:
 - 1. Virtual weigh-ins and the possibility of testing that process during Spring 2021 games.
 - 2. Having the CSFL Office randomly select players from each team for virtual weigh-ins.
- ii. If there are other items the coaches would like the subcommittee to discuss, please send them to the CSFL Office.

V. **Roster Size Increase**

- a. Mansfield will be integrating with Bloomsburg and Lock Haven. They have been told this is primarily for academic reasons and it should not impact athletics. John Evans is in favor of increasing the roster size limit in an effort to further drive enrollment and to provide more opportunities for student-athletes. He suggested an increase to 80 roster

spots. Or, to maintain the game roster number of 65 and to allow the addition of 15 practice players. This is primarily for enrollment and institutional sustainability reasons. Terry Cullen believes this is a part of a larger philosophical discussion. They currently only have 33 student-athletes on their team. Cornell is 55% female; therefore, it is not likely they would get approval to increase the roster size while also maintaining numbers on their NCAA football team (Title IX concerns). The needs and the issues regarding rosters vary for each school in the CSFL. Penn is only permitted to have 52 student-athletes on their roster. Some schools struggle to build their rosters because of the high academic standards in place for admission. Gio Thomas is in favor of allowing more flexibility regarding roster sizes, particularly because of the impact of the ongoing pandemic.

- i. John Evans made a motion to maintain the game day roster size of 65, but to allow an additional 15 student-athletes to participate as practice players. Mark West would need to discuss this motion with his administrator before voting. The motion did not receive a second.

VI. Old Business/New Business

- a. Jason Dewald inquired about the potential for new members. The CSFL Office had a call with an institution that may be interested in joining for the Fall 2022 season. The CSFL Office also had a conversation with individuals in the Midwest that may be interested in forming a sister league. COVID-19 has stalled attempts for some schools to add sports programs.
- b. The CSFL website was recently redesigned and will continue to be updated. More videos, photos, and football imagery will be added. The social media accounts remain active.
- c. Later this month, the nomination forms for the Hampshire Honors Society will be distributed to each school. This award is for senior student-athletes who meet certain criteria.
- d. The NFF will begin redesigning the College Football Hall of Fame later this Spring. The CSFL Office will inform the NFF of the April 10th game between STAC and AB for potential promotion.
- e. Jason Dewald will be returning to the Marine Corps this summer and a new coach will be stepping in. The group thanked him for his contributions to the CSFL over the past three years.
- f. The CSFL Office will reach out the group with potential times for the next meeting. Drafts of the Fall 2021 schedules will be distributed in the next few weeks.

Virtual meeting adjourned at 12:01pm