

SAA

Sports LETTER**From the desk of Mike Hanna****Hobart Lacrosse Update – October 2003**

The March 8, 2003 issue of the SAA *Sportsletter* outlined conference issues facing Hobart Lacrosse. As reported in that issue, the 2004 season will be our final campaign in the Patriot League because the league has decided to discontinue associate memberships, i.e., memberships in just one sport. I am writing to you now to provide additional information on conference and national developments that have occurred over the past few months.

In the March issue I wrote it was likely we would join another lacrosse conference, rather than becoming an independent program, and offered supporting reasons. At that time, I also noted it would be our goal to reach a decision by the start of the 2003-04 academic year to provide ample time to compile the 2005 lacrosse schedule. As many of you have read or heard, in late July we received and accepted an invitation from the Eastern College Athletic Conference to join the ECAC Lacrosse League. The league includes Georgetown, Penn State, Rutgers, UMass, Loyola and St. Johns.

THE ECAC DECISION

In evaluating the merits of the various conferences, **MATT KERWICK** and I spoke with representatives from several of the Division I conferences, consulted with other coaches, explored options with interested alumni and parents, the SAA Board of Directors, and, in the end, recommended to President Gearan and Dean Butler that the ECAC would be the best Division I league for Hobart Lacrosse. At its October meeting the SAA Board of Directors unanimously endorsed the administration's decision.

This affiliation places us with schools having strong academic reputations three of which—Georgetown, Penn State, and Loyola—are annual opponents. The ECAC schedule will take our team into areas in which we have large alumni followings and where our coaches actively recruit. Both were important considerations in our decision making process.

The six ECAC teams will comprise the core of our schedule and Coach Kerwick intends to continue playing 11-13 games each spring. We are currently working with some of the Patriot League teams who, like us, wish to continue playing one another. We have also confirmed with Cornell that our series will continue. Given the strength of the new league—four ECAC members were among the 16 teams in the 2003 Division I playoffs—it is likely that we will follow the

scheduling pattern of many Division I programs and play fewer mid-week contests with the focus being on the weekend games.

ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS AND NCAA ISSUES

The March 8 *Sportsletter* also specified key rules that govern NCAA multidivision membership including the regulation which states schools that elevated their one program to Division I after the 1982-83 year could not offer athletic scholarships (we have re-printed "NCAA Multidivision Classification" on page 3). Believing we should do all within reason to put our program on a level field with our new conference opponents, we tested that NCAA regulation early this summer and petitioned for a change in the rule.

Our request was heard at several levels, reaching the NCAA Management Council and the Presidents Council in mid-July. Our case was based on the principle of competitive equity for all who play at the Division I level, but ultimately the request was denied. Other multidivision schools were soon to share our disappointment.

Shortly thereafter, the Division III Presidents Council published its preliminary slate of legislative items for the January 2004 NCAA Convention. Among the items drafted was a proposal to discontinue the scholarship waiver that eight of the 11 multidivision schools now enjoy; among those are Johns Hopkins lacrosse and the hockey programs at St. Lawrence, Colorado College, Clarkson, and RPI (schools whose programs had been grandfathered in when the 1982-83 rule was implemented). Another legislative proposal to be voted on in January by the 420-plus Division III members is one that would grandfather in the 11 multidivision schools (including Hobart Lacrosse), but any future opportunity for schools to elevate a single program to a higher division would be prohibited.

These proposals come out of a self analysis Division III is conducting to ascertain that the practices of member institutions pass muster when put up against the philosophy and core values of the Division. By NCAA regulations, financial aid awarded to student-athletes by Division III schools must be based on family need or academic merit. The fact that eight schools enjoy the waiver to the non-scholarship rule and do offer lacrosse and hockey scholarships (and

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Dear SAA Members:

One of the important cornerstones of Hobart athletics is the loyalty and enthusiasm of Statesmen fans. All of us at Hobart athletics appreciate this outstanding support—you stimulate our student-athletes and energize our staff.

We have to be cautious, however, not to let enthusiasm for athletics lead us into conflict with the rules of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

The NCAA definition of “a representative of the College’s athletic interests” is very broad and encompasses all SAA members. There are a number of activities regarding contact with student-athletes and athletic recruits you need to understand, and we have summarized the applicable NCAA rules in this special issue of the *Sportsletter* on the back panel.

The College is charged with the responsibility to exercise “institutional control” of its athletics interests, and we are committed to maintaining a program in which all of us can take pride. The following rules are just the basics;



because of the complexity of NCAA rules, this document should not be relied on exclusively. Our situation is unique in that we have to be aware of rules that apply to our Division III teams as well as those that apply to Hobart’s Division I lacrosse program. Please take the time to read it carefully and should you have any questions, call me at (315) 781-3574.

Hobart College and the SAA are grateful for all you have done to make the Hobart athletic experience a meaningful one for our students and our department one that can be pointed to as one of the model programs in college athletics.

With appreciation,

Mike Hanna
Director of Athletics

**Mission Statement
Hobart Department of Athletics**

The Hobart College Department of Athletics believes that intercollegiate athletics plays a major role in the educational process and strives to provide a challenging, meaningful and exciting experience for student-athletes. The Department accomplishes this mission by serving as teachers, counselors, leaders and representatives of the College and by offering quality instruction, services and athletics facilities while promoting a high level of sportsmanship and competition.

The coaching and support staffs place the highest value on:

- Commitment
- Loyalty
- Trust
- Respect
- Teamwork

In carrying out its mission, the department will strengthen the ability of Hobart men to manage their lives and fulfill their potential as students, athletes and citizens.

LACROSSE UPDATE (from p. 1)

have been doing so for decades) got caught in that filter.

For the eight schools directly impacted by this, it is an issue of huge consequence. It is also one that we, as a non-scholarship multidivision member, are studying and following closely. Along with those eight schools, we are in the process of determining what avenues can be taken to influence those proposals in our favor. We will know the outcome when the votes are cast in Nashville in early January.

MOVING FORWARD

Coach Kerwick and his staff are realistic and confident about competing in the ECAC. Realistic, because the competition will be even stronger. Confident for several key reasons, the most important of which are:

- Under Matt’s leadership, the program has made significant strides in his two years at the helm, especially in recruiting—of the 40 players on the 2004 team, 30 are talented first years and sophomores. Since the ECAC announcement, interest in Hobart Lacrosse among strong high school players has increased as they respect our commitment to compete in the new league.

- Our facilities for lacrosse are among the very best—Bristol Field House, McCooney Field, the RFK Strength Training Center, Stiles Field, the “Boz”, and the Topichak Memorial Team Room. It doesn’t get much better.
- Institutional support is strong. A solid budget and an effective working relationship with Hobart Admissions and Financial Aid, combine to offer our coaching staff and student-athletes excellent support and valuable cooperation across the campus.
- At few other schools is lacrosse as rich in tradition. From fans in the stands—home and away—to the generosity of alumni, parents, and friends who comprise the SAA, Hobart Lacrosse is a flagship program and that is attractive to talented high school players.
- As good as the academic reputation of the Colleges has always been, there has never been a better time to be a student-athlete at HWS. The leadership of President Mark Gearan, Dean Clarence Butler, the Trustees, and the SAA Board of Directors; the quality of our faculty; an applicant pool that continues to grow in quality and

depth; and the sustained development of campus facilities combine to put HWS in an even brighter light nationally.

As an SAA member I want to take this opportunity to again thank you for your generosity, your loyalty to Hobart College, and for your commitment to our student-athletes and staff. Thank you one and all for your great teamwork. Along with Coach Kerwick, his staff and our players, we all can feel proud of what Hobart Lacrosse has achieved as a Patriot League member, be excited about the prospects for 2004 team, and look forward to the challenges and success that lie beyond this season.

As the NCAA issues and future schedules are solidified, we will keep our membership informed. Meanwhile, if you have questions or suggestions, please telephone me at (315) 781-3574 or e-mail me at hanna@hws.edu.

Sincerely,

Mike Hanna
Director of Athletics

NCAA Multidivision Classification

Recognizing that some Division II and Division III member institutions sponsor a sport with an especially strong tradition of success, the NCAA has extended a courtesy to such schools allowing them to compete in that sport at a higher division. NCAA Bylaw 20.4 stipulates that Division III and Division II members may elevate one men's and/or women's team (other than football or basketball) to a higher division.

Currently, 11 Division III institutions are classified as "multidivision" members. Together they sponsor a total of 16 sports at the Division I level. It is interesting that of the 11 Division III multidivision schools, five of them are UCAA members—Hobart plays in Division I lacrosse while RPI, Union, Clarkson, and St. Lawrence sponsor Division I ice hockey. As a multidivision school we are not permitted, by NCAA regulations, to sponsor Division I legislation, vote on Division I matters, or have representatives serve on NCAA Division I sport committees—those opportunities are accorded only to "full fledged" Division I members.

NCAA Bylaw 20.7.1.2 stipulates that a Division III member that has a sport classified in Division I must apply the rules of both divisions, or the more stringent rule of the two divisions when both divisions have differing rules on the same topic. The rationale for the "more stringent rule" is to minimize lower division schools jumping to a higher division in an effort to "put themselves on the map" by concentrating an inordinate amount of funds on their one elevated sport.

When Bylaw 20.7.1.2 was voted in during the 1980s, Division III schools who conducted a sport at the Division I level in 1982-83 (or earlier) were "grandfathered in" and thus granted a waiver (Bylaw 20.7.1.2.1) to the "more stringent rule" stipulation. Therefore, multidivision schools such as RPI, St. Lawrence, Clarkson, and Colorado College (ice hockey) and Johns Hopkins (lacrosse) can and do offer athletic scholarships in their respective Division I programs.

Here are examples of how the "more stringent rule" is applied:

- **STAFF SIZE:** Division III rules place no maximum on the number of coaches on a staff. In Division I lacrosse, there is a maximum of three paid coaches and one volunteer. Hobart Lacrosse must comply with the Division I rule which is the more stringent of the two.

- **RECRUITING:** Division III regulations allow alumni to have in-person contact with prospective student-athletes to assist in the recruiting process. That in-person contact is prohibited by Division I rules, therefore we must comply with the Division I version of that rule for Hobart Lacrosse.
- **FINANCIAL AID:** Division III schools award financial aid based on a family's need. Merit scholarships are permitted for special talents other than athletic ability—typically these are awarded for art, music, or leadership. Athletic scholarships are permitted by Division I rules. Hobart Lacrosse must comply with the need-based Division III rule which is the more stringent of the two divisions.

Division I men's lacrosse is allowed a maximum of 12.6 full scholarships per team. On average Division I lacrosse teams number about 40 players, so most lacrosse scholarship athletes are receiving "partial scholarships." Division I hockey programs are permitted a maximum of 18 full scholarships (for a typical squad size of 30). Like ourselves, Union College's Division I hockey program must apply the Division III financial aid rules, and clearly the ratio in lacrosse is more favorable than the hockey ratio for a non-scholarship program competing at the Division I level. A Division I athlete who is not on an athletic scholarship may receive need-based aid if his family qualifies. However, NCAA rules prohibit a school from combining athletic scholarship money and need-based assistance for an athlete—it's either one form of financial aid or the other.

As a point of information, currently about 72 percent of HWS applicants receive financial aid. The average grant (not including loans and campus employment) is about \$16,000. The financial aid extended to any of our athletic teams would closely approximate these numbers.

Finally, the two-sport athlete is another area of multidivision classification that warrants special attention. For example, a lacrosse player at Hopkins who receives any amount of athletic scholarship aid is, by NCAA rules, a scholarship athlete and therefore not eligible to compete on any of the school's Division III teams. The 2003 Hobart Lacrosse Team has three athletes who are also members of the football, soccer, and hockey teams.

Future Schedule

2004 LACROSSE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Feb 28	#vs. Butler	2:30 p.m.
Mar 6	*at Holy Cross	1 p.m.
13	*at Lehigh	1 p.m.
16	*at Navy	Noon
20	at Georgetown	1 p.m.
27	*LAFAYETTE	1 p.m.
31	at Syracuse	TBD
Apr 3	*BUCKNELL	1 p.m.
7	*COLGATE	7 p.m.
10	PENN STATE	1 p.m.
17	OHIO STATE	1 p.m.
24	*at Army	TBD
30	PL Semifinals	TBD
May 2	PL Championship	TBD
7	CORNELL	7 p.m.
May 15-31, NCAA Tournament		

at St. Paul's School, Baltimore

*Patriot League game

THANK YOU

Thank you for taking the time to read this important information and please contact us with your questions.

SPORT, HEAD COACH	PHONE/ E-MAIL
Basketball , Rich Roche	781-3620 rroche@hws.edu
Crew , Mike Guerrieri	781-3935 guerrieri@hws.edu
Cross Country , Ron Fleury	252-0641 rfleury@localnet.com
Football , Mike Cragg	781-3566 cragg@hws.edu
Golf , Bill Quinn	781-3129 quinn@hws.edu
Hockey , Mark Taylor	781-3539 mtaylor@hws.edu
Lacrosse , Matt Kerwick	781-3715 kerwick@hws.edu
Soccer , Shawn Griffin	781-3625 griffin@hws.edu
Squash/Tennis , Carol Weymuller	781-3645 weymuller@hws.edu
Sailing , Scott Ikle	781-3938 ikle@hws.edu
Athletics Director , Mike Hanna	781-3574 hanna@hws.edu

All phone numbers are in the 315 area code.



HOBART COLLEGE
Department of Athletics
Bristol Gymnasium
Geneva, NY 14456

Recruiting Guidelines for Friends and Boosters

Are you a representative of Hobart's athletics interests? You are considered to be such if you:

- are or have been a member of any organization promoting Hobart Athletics,
- have ever made a donation to the SAA, or any Hobart Team's fund raising,
- have ever assisted in evaluating or recruiting a prospect.
- have ever helped to arrange or have provided employment to enrolled student-athletes, prospects, or their parents and relatives.
- participated in the Hobart intercollegiate athletics program.
- otherwise promoted the College's athletics program.

Once you become a representative of the College's athletics interests, YOU retain this status FOREVER!

DEFINITIONS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Prospective Student-Athlete — A "prospect" is a student who has started classes in either the ninth grade on or is attending another 2 or 4 year institution.

Student-Athlete — A student-athlete is a student whose enrollment was solicited by a member of the athletics staff or other representative of athletics interests with a view toward the student's ultimate participation in the intercollegiate athletics program.

Contact — A contact is any face-to-face encounter between a prospect or the prospect's parent or guardian and an institutional staff member or athletics representative during which any dialogue occurs in excess of an exchange of greetings. Any face-to-face meetings that take place on the grounds of the prospect's educational institution or at the site of organized competition or practice involving the prospect or the prospect's team regardless of the conversation that occurs is a contact.

Recruiting — Recruiting is any solicitation of a prospect or the prospect's family by a College staff member or by a representative of the College's athletics interests for the

purpose of securing the prospect's enrollment at the College and/or participation in the athletic program.

BASIC POINTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Contact by Division III rules — representatives of Hobart Athletics do have the right to assist in the recruiting of Division III recruits, and our head coaches will often ask an alumnus, parent, or friend to call a recruit on the College's behalf.

However, by Division I rules (that govern Hobart Lacrosse) it is a violation for any Division I alumnus or booster of a program to help aid in the recruiting of a prospect. No contact shall be made with recruits by any representative of our athletic interests. If a prospect initiates contact with you please refer them to the head lacrosse coach or the director of athletics.

Pre-Established Relationships — Athletics representatives who have pre-established relationships with prospects, their parents, or relatives may continue normal contacts with the understanding that such contacts are not made for recruiting purposes and are not arranged by members of the institution's coaching staff.

No Contact With Prospect's School or Staff — In Division I, athletic representatives are NOT permitted to contact a recruit's coach, principal, or counselor in an attempt to evaluate a prospect or visit the prospect's school to pick up films or transcripts pertaining to the evaluation of the prospect.

Attendance at Prospect's Events — In both Division I and III, representatives of Hobart athletics may attend events (games, sports banquets) where prospects are present on their own initiative, as long as no contact for recruiting purposes are made with the prospect, his parents, or his relatives. In the case of a Division III recruit, contact may be made once the recruit has left the site of the event.

Inform Hobart Coaches — In both Division I and III representatives are permitted and encouraged to inform Hobart coaches of prospects in their area by contacting the respective coach and by

sending newspaper clippings, etc.

Employment for Prospects — Athletic representatives may arrange employment for student-athletes and prospects following their completion of high school. The prospect may not start working until after graduation and must be paid for actual work they have done at a rate comparable to what the other workers employed there are making. Do not provide any special benefits for prospects or student athletes unless the benefits are available to all employees.

No recruit (Division I, II or III) may be given any special benefits or inducements to entice them to attend an institution. These gifts do include but are not limited to: improper expenses, money, cars, gifts or loans from boosters.

Benefits or Special Arrangements — No athletics representative is permitted to provide any benefits or special arrangements to an enrolled student-athlete, his parents, relatives or friends.

Occasional Meals and Transportation — Athletics representatives may provide an enrolled student-athlete or an entire team with an occasional family meal. The occasional meal may be catered, must be provided in an individual's home, and must be restricted to infrequent or special occasions. Transportation may be provided to the student-athlete(s) by the athletics representative for such an event. Any such arrangements for team events must be made in advance with the head coach or the director of athletics.

GAMBLING

NCAA Rules do not permit student-athletes or staff members to knowingly:

- Provide information to individuals involved in organized gambling activities concerning intercollegiate athletics competition.
- Solicit or accept a bet on any intercollegiate team.
- Participate in any gambling activity that involves intercollegiate athletics or professional athletics through a book-maker, parlay card, or any other method employed by organized gambling.