

**Athlete Input Council  
April 9, 2010 Meeting  
UW-Oshkosh**

**Minutes**

Present: Ashley Kobel, Mila Holcombe, Martha Hill, Gordon Hodge, DJ Kopp, Adam Domino, Hannah Grable (Jan Grable), PJ Lynch, Arnett Williams, Jake Casper, Tom Pezzi and Jeanne Hrovat Guest – Rebecca Masephol

Absent: Peter Chumas and Carolyn Voelker

1. Welcome and Sharing – Martha Hill welcomed everyone, especially the new members. Tom explained that Martha does a great job leading the meetings, but tonight he will be taking a bigger role due to the Wii demonstrations and the topics for tonight’s meeting. He also mentioned that we should all feel proud because of the strong ALPs program in Wisconsin.
2. Conference Call Etiquette
  - a. Find a quiet spot because everyone can hear the background noises
  - b. Be on the call and at all meetings on time
  - c. Be prepared for call and all meetings
  - d. No eating because we can hear you and it is disruptive
  - e. State your name when you enter the call and before you speak
  - f. Stay on topic – that is hard for all of us
3. Tom shared that he and Jeanne are working on an individual review process which means we will talk individually about what you do well and what you could improve. More to come on this issue at future meetings.
4. Introductions – Everyone picked a partner to interview and introduce using these questions: Name, Where are you from?, What is your dream vacation, and why.
5. R-word Campaign Wrap-up
  - a. Martha shared what happened in Sheboygan schools and showed a DVD. A special needs teacher, regular education teacher, counselor and media specialist created a 2 minute video to share in all the classrooms and start the r-word campaign in Sheboygan schools.
  - b. Rebecca reported that in Wisconsin we have had 50 r-word events that we know of and at least 40 schools have been reached by an athlete. We have 37 banners signed with 27 banners hanging in Kolf for IST. Totalling 8,105 signatures not counting the Oshkosh schools and Sheboygan schools that were just handed in. Rebecca will count those and add to the total for SOWI, but probably close to 9,000.
  - c. Tom reported that he just joined the Knights of Columbus and noticed their letterhead had the “r-word”. He wrote a letter to national KC and they sent his local KC chapter new brochures with the term changed to Intellectual Disability. The national office of KC had new brochures because of the r-word campaign.
  - d. Mila asked if they can still do things – the answer “yes” this is not a once a year thing, rather it is ongoing.

- e. Jake shared that he helped Verona create an r-word video and announced that they won the Plunge, Pledge, Play challenge.
  - f. Gordon shared the story of Mike Schulte at the National ALPs Conference and how Mike was vocal about how negative the r-word is for athletes, which was when this issue was coming to the forefront.
  - g. Peter sent a report via Jeanne that he had gone to North HS and talked to the girls basketball coach and the team took the pledge. Also gave out some r-word shirts at Hardees.
  - h. If you did something for the r-word from your local Agency and if you haven't already, report it to Rebecca.
  - i. What worked and what we could do better at the pledge tables for the plunge
    - 1) Jake said it worked well to do it at the pre-registrations because on the day of the plunge people didn't want to take their mittens off.
    - 2) Martha said they put one banner on the wall and one on the table to sign. Then they walked around the room to get people to sign. (Carried the banner and markers together). Ashley added that you need to explain it as you go around.
    - 3) What happened when people didn't want to sign it? Some said it was a first amendment issue or a political issue by Sarah Palin.
6. Review the AIC contract
    - a. Martha read through the items on the contract and the AIC mission.
    - b. Jake shared that he has shown bad sportsmanship, so he is going to work on that. Tom added that when you are on the AIC you are a role model.
    - c. Asked everyone to think about those items and consider if any need to be adjusted or if we need additions.
  7. Distributed the updated meeting calendar and Tom reminded everyone of the date change for the Outdoor Sports Tournament to August 6, 2010.
  8. Jeanne clarified the Awards banquet dates and told athletes to block July 31 and August 1. Jeanne will order new shirts for new members. Peter sent a report stating he had nominated 7 athletes for awards and suggested the Metropolis Hotel in Eau Claire for the 2011 awards (it has a water park).
  9. Who wants to write the thank you's for IST – Jake Casper
  10. Sharing
    - a. Adam gave a speech at the DC Everest School district about the r-word and athlete recruitment. His Agency is having a sock-hop on May 2 with door prizes and music from the 50's
    - b. Mila shared that she does golf, basketball and track. Her favorite sport this year is golf. She has spread the r-word this year, but would like to do more.
    - c. Gordon shared that he does swimming, volleyball and cross country skiing as well as public speaking. Gordon spoke to a kindergarten teacher in his apartment who is going to speak to her students about the r-word. Gordon spoke at shepherds and got 76 pledges. Gordon hosted the r-word pledge table at the Lake Pleasant Plunge.
    - d. DJ shared that he does bowling, basketball, mostly swimming and sometimes track. DJ is going to be the reporter on the Summer Games jumbotron. DJ also helped out at the WIAC basketball championship in Platteville with the pledge tables.
    - e. Arnett is on the Area 8 council and he helped by selling t-shirts and ID bracelets. He plays basketball, bocce, softball and soccer.
    - f. Hannah shared that she is coaching for basketball and coach. She likes swimming and bowling.
    - g. PJ shared that he does basketball, swimming and softball and doing soccer for the first time ever. He reported that Arnett is moving up to vice president of the Area 8 Athlete Input Council.
    - h. Ashley is in track, t-ball, basketball, cross country skiing and is an athlete coach for basketball skills this weekend. Two weeks ago Ashley met AJ Hawk and she will be a reporter on the jumbotron at SG.
    - i. Jake is involved with bowling, basketball, golf and track and doing softball with Verona this year. Jake saw DJ at the district basketball tournament.
    - j. Martha is on the LETR committee and will traveling to Lincoln, Nebraska as an IGM.

11. Wii Demonstrations at IST Synopsis (later that same evening)

Demonstrations took place in the lounges of Gruenhagen Hall on Friday, April 9 from 7:30 – 9:30 pm (following our AIC meeting) – took about an hour to set-up and athletes arrived around 8:30pm.

| Room #  | AIC Members   | Assistant  | Wii supplied by | Comments |
|---------|---------------|------------|-----------------|----------|
| 4 South | Patrick       | Tom        | MPS             |          |
| 7 South | Martha        | Janice/Jim | Martha          |          |
| 8 South | Mila          | Kathy      | Mila            |          |
| 2 North | Arnett/Dallas | Jeanne     | MPS             |          |
| 8 North | Jake/Ashley   | Lori       | Jake            |          |
| 9 North | Gordon/Adam   | Rebecca    | Shepherds       |          |

General Tips

1. Get you Wii set-up and ready to go – have a piece of paper and pen to tally number who came and their general comments
2. Welcome people as they arrive and encourage them to try it
3. If you have a lot of people help them take turns.
4. Explain to people that you are from the Athlete Input Council and you are trying different ideas to help athletes stay fit.
5. When you're ready to leave (9:30pm) make sure you have all the cords, game equipment, etc packed up.
6. Meet downstairs in/by tournament central afterwards so we can share how it went.

Number of people who participated – approximately 85

What Worked

1. Lots of people liked it and wanted to keep playing or play more.
2. Bowling was a big hit.
3. Jim Hill was coaching some of the participants on golf which was positive in many ways
4. Great activity for AIC to work together on and lead
5. Worked to announce demos at Friday night ceremony, but too much overlap on time (i.e., scrimmage didn't end until 8:30pm).
6. Signage in Tournament Central and on each floor was good.

What could we do better?

1. Wii fit boards wouldn't "sync", Jake had two remotes that didn't work and some of the dorm TV's didn't have remotes or didn't work. For next year, test all equipment before bringing (i.e., new batteries, etc) and leave plenty of time for set-up at dorm.
2. Not everyone got to play in some rooms, so might want more floors.
3. Suggested that we limit it to 2 remotes for each TV to help manage congestion/confusion
4. More time to play – perhaps have it at Kolf on Saturday.
5. Suggested you might want one sport or activity per room (i.e, have Wii fit in a few rooms and then Wii sports in others and label)
6. Have a cell phone in every room and Jeanne (or coordinator) with list of everyone's cell to eliminate all the running. Also have 1-2 people to provide set-up and technical support (one on each wing – north/south). Also needed on-site assistance from Gruenhagen staff available until all up and running.