Athlete Input Council meeting Minutes 3-16-19 Madison Office

Attendance: Zachary, Jake, Cole (Deb), Luke, David, Lora, Eresi, Danny, Tyler, Jonathon, Marquis, Tom, Jeanne

Absent: Steve, Christiana, Missy, Edward and Deb

1. Members volunteered to check in with absent members after the meeting. David (Steve), Zachary (Edward),
2. Sharing – we walked through action plans and each member shared what they are working on
3. Shared Deb, Zechariah and PJ/Linda in Abu Dhabi
4. Cole – participated on the Polar Plunge committee for Region 2 and raised $8,000. Also helping with Run with the Cops.
5. Danny –Hosting an Athlete Health Leader workshop on April 13 in Menomonie, Planned on plunging but Eau Claire plunge was cancelled due to weather, spoke at an all-school assembly at Cadott HS regarding respect week to 400 students (received standing ovation).
6. Zachary – Attended Athletes As Table officials in November and then served as one in January in Neenah. He also completed a CPR class. On a personal note he got his new legs and updated choclear implant.
7. Lora – Attended a Athlete Health Leader in Manitowoc in December and will be helping with the LETR this spring.
8. Luke – Serves on the local AIC and it is going well. He has been working on fund raising for their Agency and has raised $2,000 in donations.
9. Jonathon- Attended Athlete Health Leader and Athletes-As-Coaches already. He has been helping coach.
10. Eresi – Serves on the Region 8 AIC. She attended the Athlete Health Leader and Global Messenger workshops last year. Applied for serving on the Board. Also continues to want to intern for Region 8.
11. Jake – was interviewed on TV for the plunge with Tommy Jaime. Serving on the Board and his local AIC.
12. David- applied to be on the Board. Also, still serving on his local AIC. He was interviewed on 105.1 morning show regarding the plunge.
13. Marquis – also did an interview with Tommy and it was a good confidence builder. He has also been doing some presentations with black history month.
14. Tyler – Served as a trainer for UW Whitewater Athlete Leadership Academy. Attended an Athlete Health Leader in Wash DC last year and working on his goals from that workshop.
15. SOWI Athlete Leadership Webpage overview– Tommy Jaime
16. Want to make the SOWI website a source of information and a place athlete leaders want to visit. Show of hands on who has gone to the AL webpage (David). As we implement more, we hope to drive people to the webpage.
17. Upcoming athlete leadership workshops is one of the buttons. We will work to get more workshops scheduled and up ahead of time.
18. Previous Athlete Workshops – photos are up and we may build out more. We want it to reflect all the work you’re doing.
19. Report Athlete Leadership Activity- you can enter your own information and Steve will also be reaching out to those who have gone through workshops in the last 2 years. Athletes offered suggestions.
20. Zachary – how do we differentiate between local program scrimmage and local invitational
21. Zachary – add dates of invitationals
22. AAC – change so can check more than one box for why not coaching
23. AAC – David –what about informally coaching –
24. Marquis – how would it feel to be a bb official – maybe at the beginning level
25. Change the “haven’t attended a workshop” – then breakdown – GM and could put in your speech. Danny example of speaking at Cadott even though he is not trained as a GM.
26. Idea of online GM – feedback from Danny – would like to attend a workshop in person. Marquis – would like to attend and ask questions. Tom – would never want to see the GM face-to-face eliminated (a chance to see other give speeches and would reduce anxiety). David – comfortable to take it online. Deb – Cole might take it as a refresher. Would be hard to make online workshop interactive. Probably not able to do that at this time. Jake – I prefer a face-to-face. See a lot of new athletes and get acquainted.
27. Meet the AIC – homework – currently photos on the page – eventually want athlete bios/profiles to be built out.
28. Athlete Correspondents for state games – similar to Daina for ESPN (only low budget).
29. IST as an example –what would this look like? Roving reporter courtside, or a station where people come to you. Marquis – very cool – stimulating for us. Tommy visualizes as a roving reporter. FB live. Marquis – special Olympics talk show – get to tell individual stories. Tommy – for the future a side table for athletes to share their stories.
30. What is the best way to ask for applications – people selected fairly – what might it look like? Should it be online like athlete profile? Should you upload a video of you interviewing someone?

Zachary – hard for me to write – so needs to be an online application.

Marquis – some might need help uploading a speech.

1. Special Olympics talent show idea– Marquis -
2. UW Whitewater Athlete Leadership Academy - video
3. Code of Conduct Small Group Discussion – brainstorm notes

Group one

* Athletes and coaches need to be on the same page
* When stress happens things get out of hand – pushing
* Educate – coaches need to understand and know what to do. Otherwise make athletes not want to compete
* Posters at competition saying the rules – what is allowed/not allowed – needs to be visible every time.
* Officials make mistakes – respect their decisions – if athlete has a question, coach needs to be open to accepting athlete ideas. Athletes go and ask the refs – that’s not ok. Athlete needs to talk to the coach.
* All need to understand that verbal abuse is not tolerated.

Group three

* Shorten the athlete code of conduct – paper is too much – lot of work to read all the words – shorter easier for the athletes
* Good conduct vs bad conduct video – (is it ok to hug a person without their permission – some people don’t like this). Need to respect what they’re saying
* PPT /slideshow with voice over
* Role play at practices –
* Video on Web site.

Group two –

* Brochure format – easier to read – examples of good vs bad – photos to go along with it
* Table at bb invites – have someone who could explain sportsmanship- -have an ipad with video
* Social media – have messaging on FB page – have a jpeg to read it easier
* Sticker idea – AIC at events – if they saw examples of good sportsmanship, give them a sticker
* Sportsmanship plaques – chosen that day

1. Code of Conduct Plan for IST

AIC Ideas for IST – this is to start the conversation so please let us know what works/where there might be concerns.  We have a group of five AIC members who would like to implement these ideas - David Thompson, Marquis Garner, Luke Smith, Cole Cleworth, Tyler Wigington and maybe Edward Kastern.

1. Host a **Team Captain lounge** for one person from each team to come sometime during the day on Saturday.  Members of the AIC would be there to meet and greet, share copies (and explain) the athlete code of conduct, give each team captain(rep) sportsmanship stickers and explain how/when to give them out.  If time, space, budget allow – create an atmosphere where Team Captains could talk and get to know each other.  Maybe some snacks or games/team builders– not sure about this.
2. **Sportsmanship sticker** - after each game, the team captain from each team would present a sticker to the player from the opposite team who they think exhibited the best sportsmanship.  This could be a team vote, but the Team Captain (not the coach) responsible for overseeing the selection.  (Don has made me aware there may be an issue putting stickers on uniforms, but the sticker could go on some non-regulated item that still shows to other athletes).
3. **AIC member to talk about code of conduct at OC** – An athlete share that sportsmanship is something the AIC takes seriously and is helping with.  Talk about the Team Captain lounge and Sportsmanship sticker idea.
4. **Creating materials that are easier for athletes to understand** – none of these might be possible before IST, but if so put on the AL Website and/or have looping in the Team Captain lounge.
5. Do’s and don’ts video re sportsmanship.
6. Make sure there is a place for athletes to access the code of conduct on the Athlete leaders page of the website– accessible for non-readers (narrator reading and explaining the code when you hover over it, and other ideas like this).
7. Using “board maker” create a code that has pictures and other accommodations for non-readers
8. **Poster or thank you cards for the refs** – This could also be part of a Team Captain lounge.  Team captains would sign the card/poster when they stop in for their stickers.
9. Summer Games Reunion – Zachary and Jonathon shared the initial plans. (Missy and Steve also on the working committee). More detailed notes to come on that.
10. Regarding the Transgender Policy and SOWI Swim Policy – did not review – simply let AIC know they exist and they can contact Jeanne if they want more information.
11. AIC members made short bio videos to go with their profile photo – Deb Cleworth has these and willing to help on this moving forward. Idea of AIC member reading their profile and you can click on that option when you view the photo.
12. Adjourn – Next Meeting – May 13, 2019 Conference Call – Meet Christa the new VP of Development and SG Reunion plans.