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## NCFA 2011 League Meeting Voting Ballot

Please email completed ballot to [Sandy.Sanderson@CollClubSports.com](mailto:Sandy.Sanderson@CollClubSports.com) no later than February 21, 2011

School Name: NCFA

Your Name: Sandy Sanderson

Your Position: President

- 1) NCFA Rule 10.03.1 allows players to wear tinted eye shields despite the fact that the NCAA does not. Due to the safety concerns with medical personnel not being able to view an injured player's eyes after a head injury, it was agreed that we should vote upon whether to make tinted eye shields illegal excepted for players with a documented medical eye condition requiring the use of a tinted eye shield to reduce sun glare. Should tinted eye shield be deemed illegal except for those with a documented medical eye condition?

- Yes – Make tinted eye shields illegal. **8 Votes**  
 No – Keep NCFA rule 10.03.1 as is. **5 Votes**

NCFA recommended vote: YES – The NCFA views that the risks outweigh the benefits of allowing players to wear tinted eye shields.

- 2) NCFA Rule 7.06.0 requires that all undergraduate students be required to take a minimum of 1 credit hour in order to be eligible to play in the NCFA. Due to the fact that this requirement is so low that players not serious about seeking a degree may enroll simply to play football, it was agreed that we should vote upon whether to raise the minimum undergraduate credit requirement to 3 credits. Should undergraduates be required to take a minimum of 3 credit hours in order to be eligible to compete in the NCFA?

- Yes – Make minimum credit requirement 3 credits. **9 Votes**  
 No – Keep NCFA rule 7.06.0 as is at 1 credit. **4 Votes**

NCFA recommended vote: YES – The NCFA views that 1 credit hour does not hold much of an academic course load standard for true college students.

- 3) NCFA Rule 7.07.0 requires that all graduate students be required to take a minimum of a half time course load to be eligible to play in the NCFA. Due to the fact that this requirement is more demanding than that for undergraduate students, it was agreed that we should vote upon whether to change the minimum graduate credit requirement from half time to simply being actively enrolled as a graduate student. Should graduate student requirements be changed to simply being actively enrolled as a graduate student in order to be eligible to compete in the NCFA?

- Yes – Change the graduate course load requirement to simply being enrolled as a grad student. **10 Votes**  
 No – Keep NCFA rule 7.07.0 as is at half time course load. **3 Votes**

NCFA recommended vote: INDIFFERENT



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- 4) NCFA Rule 7.05.0 states that effective fall 2011 season, faculty and staff are not eligible to play in the NCFA. Due to the fact that some teams view their faculty and staff as part of their university and thus should be able to play, it was agreed that we should vote upon whether to change whether or not faculty and staff should be eligible to play in the NCFA provided they still meet the requirements in terms of maximum number of seasons of competition allowed. Should faculty and staff of the college/university be eligible to compete in the NCFA if they meet the requirements in terms of maximum number of seasons of competition allowed?

- Yes – Allow faculty and staff to be eligible. **8 Votes**  
 No – Keep NCFA rule 7.05.0 as is that faculty and staff are ineligible. **5 Votes**

NCFA recommended vote: TORN – While the NCFA prefers to keep collegiate club football as close to “real” college football as possible by keeping the game for students only, the NCFA is concerned about teams who struggle for players and thus rely on faculty and staff to fill out a roster.

- 5) NCFA Rule 7.08.0 limits the total number of seasons that a student can compete in intercollegiate football to a maximum of 5 seasons. Due to the fact that some teams feel that this limit should be increased to 6 or 7 seasons to allow more opportunity for grad students to keep playing, it was agreed that we should vote upon whether to change the limit to 6 or 7 seasons. Should the maximum number of intercollegiate football seasons that a player can play be increased to 6, 7, or remain as is at 5?

- 5 Seasons Max – Keep rule 7.08.0 as is. **8 Votes**  
 6 Seasons Max **2 Votes**  
 7 Seasons Max **3 Votes**

NCFA recommended vote: 5 SEASONS MAX – The NCFA feels that without putting limits on how long student athletes can compete in the NCFA, they will find them self less focused on getting their education, graduating, and moving on with life and more focused on finding a reason to stick around college to keep playing football. This problem arose in club baseball and thus the teams put a playing max in place to combat the problem.

- 6) NCFA Rule 8.01.0 requires that all students must carry a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher to be academically eligible to compete in the NCFA. It was proposed and agreed upon that we should vote upon whether to change the 2.0 minimum GPA requirements to simply being in “Good Academic Standing” with the school. Should the minimum GPA requirement be changed to simply in “Good Academic Standing”?

- Yes – Change to “Good Academic Standing” **2 Votes**  
 No – Keep NCFA rule 8.01.0 as is with a minimum 2.0 Cumulative GPA. **11 Votes**

NCFA recommended vote: NO – While the NCFA definitely believes that there should be academic standards to motivate players to keep their grades up, we feel that “Good Academic Standing” is far



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more demanding than a 2.0 Cumulative GPA. While most schools will put a student on academic probation or warning if their Cumulative GPA drops below a 2.0 (2.5 at other schools), many schools will also put the same penalty on students with above a 2.0 Cumulative GPA just because they had a previous bad semester. We could end up with students with above 2.0 GPAs who are on academic Warning/Probation and thus ineligible because they are not in “Academic Good Standing”. Plus a minimum 2.0 Cumulative GPA requirement is what is used in the NCBA and NCSA.

- 7) NCFA Rule 5.03.0 states that the roster freeze is effective on October 15<sup>th</sup>, meaning that no more players can be added to the roster that season after the freeze. Due to the fact that some teams find additional player on campus to join the teams after this date, it was agreed that we should vote upon whether to change the roster freeze date to November 1<sup>st</sup>. Should the roster freeze date be moved back to November 1<sup>st</sup>?

- Yes – November 1<sup>st</sup> **7 Votes**  
 No – Keep NCFA rule 5.03.0 as is – October 15. **6 Votes**

NCFA recommended vote: INDIFFERENT.

- 8) NCFA Rule 14.01.5 states that after a player or coach is ejected from an NCFA game, they are only automatically suspended for the next game if the ejection was due to fighting. Since many teams felt that any ejection should result in an automatic 1 game suspension, it was agreed that we should vote upon whether to change this rule or not. Should any ejection automatically result in a 1 game suspension for either a player or coach?

- Yes – Any ejection results in an automatic 1 game suspension. **6 Votes**  
 No – Keep NCFA rule 14.01.5 as is in that only ejections for fighting result in an automatic 1 game suspension. **7 Votes**

NCFA recommended vote: INDIFFERENT.

- 9) NCFA Rule 9.01.3 states that offensive linemen can wear any number not just number 50-79 as stipulated by the NCAA rules. Due to several teams concerns with having limited rosters and thus a lack of substitutes and players playing multiple positions on offense and defense, as well as limited funds to have extra jerseys to change in to, it was agreed that we should vote upon whether to change this rule to allow any player at any position to wear any number. Should any player at any position be allowed to wear any number?

- Yes – Any player at any position can wear any number. **9 Votes**  
 No – Keep NCFA rule 9.01.3 as is in that only offensive linemen are exempt from the NCAA jersey number rules and thus can wear any number. **4 Votes**

NCFA recommended vote: INDIFFERENT.



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10) NCFA Rule 3.02.1 states that effective fall of 2011, conferences made up of 5 or fewer teams will play each conference opponent twice a season (1 home/1 away). Due to the fact that this means each team in a 5 team conference would be required to play a total of 8 conference games thus leaving room for only 2 non-conference games coupled with the fact that several teams stated they wouldn't want to play the same opponent more than once a season, it was agreed that we should vote upon whether to change this rule to lower the size of a conference that has to play each opponent twice a season. Should conferences made up of 5 or fewer teams play each conference opponent twice a season, or should conferences of 3 or fewer teams play each conference opponent twice a season, or should no conference play each conference opponent more than twice a season?

- Choice 1 - No conference of any size will play each conference opponent more than once a season. **7 Votes**
- Choice 2 – Conferences made up of 3 or fewer teams will play each conference opponent twice a season (1 home/1 away). **6 Votes**
- Choice 3 - Keep NCFA rule 3.02.1 as is – Conferences made up of 5 or fewer teams will play each conference opponent twice a season (1 home/1 away). **0 Votes**

NCFA recommended vote: Anything BUT Choice 3 as this requirement is far too aggressive especially for 5 team conferences thus preventing teams from competing against a wider variety of opponents.

11) NCFA Rule 3.04.2 that if a conference game is canceled due to weather and the competing teams can't/won't mutually agree upon a suitable time to make up the game, that it is then left up to the discretion of the conference coordinator to set the official date of the make up game. Due to several teams' concerns that they should not be required to make up a game that was cancelled due to weather if they don't want to, it was agreed that we should vote upon whether or not to completely remove this rule. Should rule 3.04.2 be removed?

- Yes – Remove rule 3.04.2. **2 Votes**
- No – Keep NCFA rule 3.04.2 as is. **11 Votes**

NCFA recommended vote: NO – Keep NCFA rule 3.04.2 as is. We feel this is an important rule to have in place for those rare cases where a game that is cancelled due to weather, is crucial to determining the final outcome of the conference standing and the teams can't mutually agree upon when to make the game up. For the protection of a team that could have their opportunity to win a conference title destroyed because a game wasn't played, it is important to let the conference coordinator assign a make up date so the teams become accountable to play the game.

12) Several teams in the South Atlantic Conference have requested that their conference be able to crown their conference champion with a Conference Championship Game at the end of the season featuring the #2 at the #1 team with the costs of hosting such a game falling on that of the #1 team. It was agreed that we should vote upon whether or not a conference can crown its conference champion in a manner



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different from other conferences via a Conference Championship Game provided that all members of that conference unanimously agree to it prior to the start of the season. Should a conference be able to crown their conference champion via a Conference Championship game at the conclusion or regular season conference play even if not all conferences in the NCFA crown their champion in this way?

- Yes – Allow each conference to decide if they want to have a Conference Championship Game **13 Votes**
- No – Keep the crowning of each Conference Champion as is with the top team at the end of regular season conference play winning the conference title. **0 Votes**

NCFA recommended vote: YES – Since it would have to be unanimously approved (later) by each member of each conference and since the financial costs to host such a game would fall on the top team in the conference to host the #2 team, we feel this would be a great way for teams to get an extra post season game in as well as provide motivation for teams with an early conference loss to keep battling to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> and thus make the Conference Championship game.

13) It was agreed that we should vote upon how the 2012 National Championship is going to be crowned. The same 3 options were agreed upon as were proposed this year.

Option 1 – NCFA Coaches Poll determines National Champion (Same method as the 2011 season)

•Pros

- Allows for Independent teams
- No end of the season financial travel burden for teams
- Allows NCFA to keep membership dues to a minimum
- Allows time for NCFA to grow membership thus keeping membership dues to a minimum
- Near the end of the season, the top two ranked teams would certainly be welcome to get together to play an unofficial national championship game should they choose.

•Cons

- National Champion is determined by the opinion of the NCFA coaches instead of a season culminating Bowl Game
- No playoff games for conference winners to participate in

•Estimated increase to NCFA Dues = \$0

Option 2 – NCFA Coaches Poll determines National Championship Bowl Game #1 vs #2

•Pros

- Allows for Independent teams
- National Champion determined by season culminating Bowl Game

•Cons

- National Championship participants are determined by the opinion of the NCFA coaches instead of a season culminating playoff
- End of the season added financial travel burden for 2 teams
- NCFA will have to cover costs of hosting Bowl Game by increasing membership dues



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- Estimated increase to NCFA Dues = \$375 Max

Option 3 – Playoff determines National Championship Bowl Game

- Pros

- Every conference winner would have a chance to compete for the National Title on the field
- National Champion determined by season culminating Bowl Game

- Cons

- Every team would have to fall in to a conference in order to qualify for the playoffs thus eliminating the option for teams to hold an independent status which could deter teams from NCFA membership due to increased financial travel burdens
- End of the season added financial travel burden for 4+ teams
- NCFA will have to cover costs of hosting Bowl Game and playoffs by increasing membership dues
- Lower NCFA membership numbers would prevent the NCFA from minimizing dues

- Estimated increase to NCFA Dues = \$975 Max

Which option should be used to crown the 2012 NCFA National Champion?

- Option 1 – NCFA Coaches Poll determines National Champion (Current system for 2011) – Estimated increase to NCFA Dues = \$0 **4 Votes**
- Option 2 – NCFA Coaches Poll determines National Championship Bowl Game #1 vs #2 - Estimated increase to NCFA Dues = \$375 MAX **9 Votes**
- Option 3 – Playoff determines National Championship Bowl Game - Estimated increase to NCFA Dues = \$975 MAX **0 Votes**

NCFA recommended vote: Option 2 – With the expected growth to the NCFA for 2011, we feel that the increase in dues to put on such an event will actually come down from the \$375 worst case scenario. Plus, in our 3<sup>rd</sup> season (2012) we'll be ready to take that step of having our National Champion settled on the field. Option 2 still enables teams to be able to play as independents rather than be forced in to a conference which will still aid the much needed growth that the NCFA needs to expand across the entire country not just where we already have pockets of teams. Option 3 is still WAY too aggressive at this point. Option 1 is certainly doable, but we feel it's time to take that next step to get to where we want to be which is Option 2.

14) Survey Question: Should it be determined that the NCFA will host a National Championship Bowl Game in 2012, what would be your preferred date for the Bowl Game? Please specify your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> preference.

- 3rd Preference 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday before Thanksgiving (November 10, 2012) **16 Points**
- 1st Preference Saturday before Thanksgiving (November 17, 2012) **23 Points**
- 4th Preference Saturday after Thanksgiving (November 24, 2012) **12 Points**
- 2nd Preference 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday after Thanksgiving (December 1, 2012) **21 Points**



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5th Preference 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday after Thanksgiving (December 8, 2012)

**6 Points**

NOTES: NCFA feels the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday after Thanksgiving would be a good time to host the Bowl Games so we can have Conference Championships the Saturday before Thanksgiving then give everyone Thanksgiving weekend off to spend time with family while giving club officers nearly two weeks to make travel arrangements.

COMMENTS?

Dec 1<sup>st</sup> received (6) 1<sup>st</sup> preference votes, Nov 17<sup>th</sup> received (4) 1<sup>st</sup> preference votes, and Nov 10<sup>th</sup> received (3) 1<sup>st</sup> preference votes.