

**Committee on Athletics Meeting Minutes - DRAFT**  
**Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2021 Meeting #2 - Zoom**

**Present:** Chris Karadjov, Gary Metzker, Andrew Vaca, Andy Fee, Emyr Williams, Jana Fogaca, Portia Resnick, Brenda Vogel Jose Raya Perez, Ivan Morales, Xuan Huang, Dr. John Hamilton, Sandra Shirley, Ehsan Barjasteh

- I. **Call to Order 3:01**
- II. **Approval of minutes from Sept. 19, 2021:** Brenda moved, Andy Fee seconded.
- III. **Announcements:** None added
- IV. **Agenda**  
Andy Vaca thanked Andy Fee for helping move the dance program forward during the Pandemic.

Andy Fee, Xuan Huang, Ehsan Barjasteh and Emyr Williams introduced themselves to the committee members.

**Item A: Brenda Vogel** – Faculty Athletics Representative. Every D1, D2 and D3 school must have a representative and must be outside of athletics. The FAR reports to the president. The broad umbrella statement is to maintain welfare and enhance the student-athlete experience. On this campus and in the Big West Conference the FARs have similar roles. Brenda is on the NCAA compliance committee. Brenda works directly with student athletes. She is both a cop and a social worker and a mother. It's a lot of fun. The young people are tremendous and she has learned so much from them. This is Brenda's 11th year in this position. This is by appointment by the president. She is also involved in committee work at the conference level. Andy Fee reinforced how critical this position is. It's great to have someone who understands how it works and how to get things done. Brenda: It's very rewarding. Chris K asked what Brenda does when faculty doesn't respond to the progress reports. Brenda: she doesn't follow up with who doesn't respond, but Sandra does. Sandra said there is no penalty for not filling out the form but they have other ways of accruing the information. Brenda does see when an athlete is at-risk though.

**Item B: Gary Metzker** – Dr. Hamilton notes that we have to prep students before a guest comes so they know what to ask of the guests. Gary explained that the sports journalism class has expanded to allow guest speakers to come and talk about the new tasks sports journalists must perform; it isn't just reporting on a game anymore. Social media has taken an unprecedented level of importance in keeping sports fans involved and interested in sporting events. Many of Gary's guests have tied to the university.

**Item C: Mark Edrington** – Senior associate athletics director/capital enhancements, facilities, operations and event management. Mark is discussing plans through the pandemic. We went through interesting times last academic year. There were a lot of layers. Plan was put together last January. Since then, vaccination has become available and the goal was to get athletes and coaches vaccinated. Athletic department has different standards from regular students.

The key was getting vaccinated. We are a little over 97% vaccinated and coaches are 100%. The less than 3% of athletes are seeking an exemption. 366 vaccinated student athletes and 9 who are seeking the exemption. Testing requirements are set for everyone. Testing is still a part of our lives for the foreseeable future. We test athletes and coaches once a week and unvaccinated athletes three times a week.

By and large we have an occasional breakthrough like in the summer. Almost all tests have been negative. We got 17,000 antigen tests for free from the state. Athletic trainers conduct tests as needed and get results in as little as 15 minutes. The good news is when someone in the past was symptomatic, we lost an entire team and practice time. But now, as long as you are asymptomatic, it doesn't take a whole team down. That is how we are handling Covid right now.

Andy Fee added a thank you to Mark and his team. Andy: one thing I try to hammer home, we don't make decisions on who competes or not, the campus medical staff, LB health dept, we said from get-go defer to the health of the athletes. Andy said during an AD meeting last week that there has been no transmission of Covid from team to team during competition. The wealth of info we have accrued is impressive. We are happy to share what we know. Mark: there is a weekly meeting to discuss these issues. If we have questions from city of LB, we get answers pretty quickly. Any attendance over 1,000 people must show proof of vaccination. Most people have responded fine. We are striving for a normal game environment. There are a lot of moving part here.

Ticket office has been communicating with fans to let them know Covid plans, like roping off first and second row behind the team benches. Keep 10 feet between fans and student athletes. Keep a bubble around the floor itself. It still is not what it once was.

Generally, attendance has been OK but there are some people not ready to come back into this environment. It's definitely not where it was pre-pandemic. It's a process.

Raya Perez wants to encourage everyone to get the green check mark and do the pre-screen. Stay safe.

**V. Adjournment: Motion by Brenda. Second by Jana. Meeting adjourned at 4:12 p.m.**

COA: <https://www.csulb.edu/academic-senate/committee-athletics-coa>