

Minutes of the University Athletics Committee
University of Kentucky
Thursday, February 20, 2020

The University Athletics Committee of the University of Kentucky met on Thursday, February 20, 2020, in the J. David Rosenberg College of Law.

A. Meeting Opened

Trustee David Melanson, Chair of the University Athletics Committee, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Chair Melanson asked Katie Hardwick to call the roll.

B. Roll Call

The following members of the University Athletics Committee were present: Board Members Claude A. "Skip" Berry, III, Cammie Grant, David Melanson, and Rachel Webb; Community Advisory Members Vickie Bell and Paula Hanson; and Faculty Athletics Representative Joe Fink. Community Advisory Member Wilbur Hackett was not in attendance.

C. Chairs Report

Chair Melanson asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 12, 2019, meeting. Trustee Webb moved for approval. Trustee Berry seconded the motion and it carried without dissent. Chair Melanson introduced President Capilouto for remarks.

D. President's Remarks

The President welcomed and recognized Chair Melanson as the new University Athletics Chair which was vacated by retiring Board member Jennifer Barber. The President then discussed the human development that occurs through Athletics Director (AD) Mitch Barnhart's leadership with not only those prominent sports which receive lots of attention, but also those sports that are not as heavily followed. "I want to thank Mitch for making these opportunities for human development possible across all of our student athletes and all of our 22 sports."

E. Department Report

AD Barnhart thanked the President and recognized Trustee Barber for her support and guidance as Chair and thanked Trustee Melanson for stepping into the role as Chairman in support of their department. AD Barnhart announced 16 of UK's 22 sports were currently competing, which is the most at any time of the year, and UK's rifle team is ranked #1 in the country due in part by winning the Great American Rifle Conference (GARC) championship the weekend prior. AD Barnhart continued by describing the next six weeks which include:

- Regular-season home stretch and conference and National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) tournaments for both men's and women's basketball
- Southeastern Conference (SEC) and NCAA championships in indoor track
- SEC and NCAA championships for swimming and diving
- SEC and NCAA championships for gymnastics
- GARC Tournament and NCAA Championships for rifle

AD Barnhart highlighted that the NCAA Rifle Championships will be hosted at Memorial Coliseum for the first time and pointed out that the rifle program has been among UK's most successful sports throughout Rifle Coach Harry Mullins' tenure, including winning two national championships. He recognized rifle team members Mary Tucker and Will Shaner who have qualified to compete for Team USA at the 2020 Olympics. AD Barnhart encouraged the Committee to attend, "This is going to be a one-of-a-kind event. Chances to win national championships right here at home don't come along often. Hosting an event like this is brand-new for us, but you have to do things like that to become elite in college athletics. Make no mistake about it: That's what we're trying to do."

AD Barnhart continued his report by highlighting the launch of The Kentucky Road, a first-of-its-kind digital platform, which inspires prospective student-athletes to visualize their future at UK. The site includes a set of opportunities that challenges students to grow into leaders prepared for a lifetime of success, both during and after college. The platform is the vision of UK Athletics Student-Athlete Experience Division, and uses story-driven multimedia content and an interactive roadmap experience. "We believe in the transformative power of the college athletics experience," Athletics Director Barnhart said. "We also believe it is our responsibility to tailor that experience to meet the needs of young people in order to empower them to achieve their dreams. By taking The Kentucky Road for four years, our student-athletes will be given the tools and experiences they need to prepare for the years to follow."

In closing AD Barnhart stated, "We have competed at the highest level we ever have as a department in recent years, be it on the court, in the classroom, or in preparing our student-athletes for life after college. We are proud of what we have done, but one thing we are never going to be is comfortable. I am challenging everyone involved in UK Athletics to think about the destination they envision for themselves, their teams, and our entire department. We cannot skip steps on the journey, but we also cannot forget about where we want to go."

Chair Melanson thanked AD Barnhart for his report and asked for any questions. Trustee Bowen asked follow-up questions regarding the rifle team including quantity of athletes, scholarship levels, record, and additional details regarding the upcoming Championships at Memorial Coliseum. Community Advisory Member Vickie Bell described a typical rifle competition, the fan experience, and atmosphere.

Trustee Grant commended AD Barnhart and his team regarding the National Girls and Women in Sports Day Celebration held in early February. "The interaction the participants had with the female athletes was truly remarkable and such a credit to their teams and the University. It was a great celebration of and for them."

F. Business Items

Chair Melanson introduced Executive Associate Athletics Director Melissa Gleason for comments on the NCAA reports.

Ms. Gleason described the process of gathering and comparing the data for the reports. She explained the NCAA submission report is the final portion of the fiscal year reporting and part of the Baird, Kurtz, and Dobson (BKD) agreed upon procedures process. Ms. Gleason discussed the scholarship audit process that BKD performs, she highlighted that the NCAA requires the auditors to test 10 percent of the student-athletes and allows universities to assign set values for

in-state and out of state scholarships. Ms. Gleason added that these amounts will not match directly with the student's actual awarded scholarship due to different actual costs and fees.

Ms. Gleason continued by discussing the NCAA Report submission and cautioned how each institution interprets the various line items differently, making it difficult to accurately compare the results among UK's peer institutions. Ms. Gleason continued by pointing out the NCAA's reporting format does not adequately display transfers UK Athletics provides, such as scholarships and the remaining debt service for the Jacobs Science Building. Unfortunately, based on the NCAA reporting structure, this causes the profit to appear overstated by over \$5 million in excess transfers. The true profit is approximately \$166,000.

Chair Melanson asked for any questions and reiterated, "It is rare to see an athletics department that doesn't receive money from tuition, student fees, or the state and then pays debt service on one of the nicest academic science centers in the country. This is something the Board and the Commonwealth should be proud of."

Community Advisory Member Paula Hanson commended Melissa Gleason and her team for receiving a procedures report with no exception, adding, "This is not common in the audit world and illustrates all of the hard work that went into these reports."

G. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,
Katie Hardwick