



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Field Hockey

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

NorPac Field Hockey Conference Announces the Addition of Liberty University

RADFORD, Va. – Commissioner Carla Konet has announced the addition of Liberty University as an official member of the NorPac Field Hockey Conference. Following the acceptance by Director of Athletics Jeff Barber, Liberty will become the ninth full-time representative of the NorPac.

The Flames, whose membership begins on July 1, 2012, will join the East Division and immediately begin league competition and be eligible for the 2012 NorPac Championship.

“Liberty University has demonstrated a commitment to excellence by providing their inaugural program with the resources to succeed in the future, both on a conference and national level.” stated Konet. “Their well-planned development and rapid growth has been impressive and we anticipate that they will become a very competitive member of our conference.”

With the addition of Liberty, the NorPac’s East Division will consist of five teams, four of which will qualify for the conference tournament. Appalachian State, Davidson, Longwood and Radford currently comprise the East Division. California, UC Davis, Pacific and Stanford make up the West Division.

“We are very blessed to have found a home for our new field hockey program in the NorPac,” commented Barber. “This is an up-and-coming conference and we look forward to competing with the institutions that are members of this league.”

Liberty, under the direction of head coach Jodi Murphy, announced the addition of field hockey as its 20th sport on Nov. 18, 2010. The Flames immediately jumped into a full slate of NCAA competition in 2011.

“We are looking forward to calling the NorPac Conference our home next season,” said Murphy. “It means a great deal to our new program that the NorPac would look favorably upon us. I have great respect for the coaches and teams that compete within the NorPac. I truly believe it is a progressive conference moving in a dynamic fashion up the RPI rankings. With the help of our athletics department and their commitment to field hockey, we will be in a position to make a positive impact on the conference in the next few years.”

The NorPac is a single-sport field hockey conference that began conference championship play in 1998 and has had a member play in the Division I NCAA tournament in nine of the last 11 seasons.

For more information about Liberty please check out its website at <http://www.libertyflames.com/>.