



Athletic Gender Equity Report

Walters State Community College

January 2009

Introduction

The Educational Amendment Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender in education programs and activities by recipients of federal funds. Specific provisions governing athletics programs and the awarding of athletic scholarships are also delineated. The Title IX regulation specifies equal opportunities for members of both genders must exist if a college offers an athletic program.

The Office of Civil Rights (OCR) of the U.S. Department of Education is responsible for enforcing Title IX of this amendment. Evidence of providing nondiscriminatory participation opportunities for individuals of both genders can be determined by one of three mechanisms, as provided by the Office of Civil Rights:

- The number participation opportunities for male and female students is substantially proportionate to their respective enrollments in the college;
 - The Tennessee Community College Athletic Association (TCCAA) represents Region VII in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). The TCCAA
 - is composed of a Conference of ten institutions which is divided into two divisions, the Eastern Division and the Western Division, for the purpose of athletic competition in some sports. The geographical boundary line that divides the Eastern and Western divisions is Highway No. 231, which runs north and south through the mid-state. Although out-of-state institutions cannot be members of the TCCAA, out-of-state teams which are in the same NJCAA Region as Tennessee may be allowed to participate in the TCCAA Conference Schedules and Tournaments for Men and Women. The Intercollegiate Sports sanctioned by the Tennessee Community College Athletic Association are baseball, men's basketball, women's basketball, softball, tennis, and golf. Additional sports may be added upon approval of the Association.*
 - Currently, Walters State participates at the Division 1 level in baseball, men's and women's basketball, softball and golf. Because of budget limitations, no

institution in the TCCAA offers tennis and Walters State is the only institution with a golf team.

- The Institution can demonstrate a historical and continuing practice of program expansion which demonstrates responsiveness to the developing interests and abilities of the athletically under-represented gender;
 - Walters State Community College has always been at the forefront in offering athletic opportunities to student athletes. Tennis was dropped because there were no other appropriate college level teams to compete against. Historically, there were no women's golf teams in the conference or region to compete against. Women always have the opportunity to compete on the Men's golf team, and recently a student did. She effectively competed in tournaments and obtained a scholarship to a four-year institution.
 - The interests and abilities of the members of the athletically under-represented gender have been and continue to be fully and effectively accommodated by the present program.
 - Walters State has always been in compliance with all Title IX requirements.

The institution is required to meet one of these three criteria for determining Athletic Gender Equity Compliance, as defined by the Office of Civil Rights.

The Office of Civil Rights and the United States Department of Education evaluates not only the institution's programs and overall determination of compliance, but also the quality and support available to the athletic programs accommodating the two genders, in terms of coaching, equipment, practice and competitive facilities, recruitment, game scheduling, and publicity.

The College will still remain open to the interests and abilities of the members of the athletically under-represented gender and attempt to fully and effectively accommodate them by its present programs.

Analysis of Current Status

Number of Athletes

The total number of student athletes at Walters State Community College in 2008-2009 was 88 based on the unduplicated count. There were 55 men and 33 women who participated in intercollegiate athletics: 62.5% of the participants were men and 37.5% were women. The breakdown by individual sports is as follows:

Men:		Women:	
Basketball	17	Basketball	17
Baseball	29	Softball	16
Golf	9		

Operating and Travel Expenditures

The total operating and travel expenditures for athletics in 2008-2009 were \$161,379.00. The men's programs spent \$95,978.00 (59.23%) and the women's programs spent \$65,801.00 (40.77%). A breakdown by individual sports is as follows:

Men:		Women:	
Basketball	\$34,274.00	Basketball	\$37,067.00
Baseball	\$42,855.00	Softball	\$28,734.00
Golf	\$18,499.00		

Coaches for each sport are provided with a budget amount. From that amount the coaches develop a budget through delegating dollars toward scholarships, operating expenses (including game expenses), travel and recruiting. Depending on the needs of the teams any given year, those numbers may vary.

Recruiting Expenditures

The total recruiting expenditures for athletics in 2008-2009 were \$4,500.00 with the men's programs spending \$2,750.00 and the women's program spending 1,750.00; 61.11% of the recruiting dollars were for men and 38.89% for women. A breakdown by individual sports is as follows:

Men:		Women:	
Basketball	\$1,100.00	Basketball	\$1,100.00
Baseball	\$1,500.00	Softball	\$ 650.00
Golf	\$ 150.00		

Coaches' individual recruiting philosophy

As in the past, each coach maintains his or her own recruiting philosophy. Funds for men's and women's programs are spent from individual operating and travel accounts. As is reflected in the chart, recruiting expenses largely depend on team size (baseball 29 students and softball 16) as well as student athlete talent in proximity to the college.

Athletic Student Financial Aid

The total athletic student financial aid expenditures for athletics in 2008-2009 were \$82,500.00. The men's programs were awarded \$43,549.00 (52.79%) and the women's programs received \$39,875.00 (48.33%). A breakdown follows:

Men:	Women:
Basketball \$17,354.00	Basketball \$16,836.00
Baseball \$23,195.00	Softball \$23,039.00
Golf \$ 3,000.00	

As previously noted, athletic aid may vary by the needs of the team for each sport any given year. Other factors affecting athletic aid are other forms of aid a student may be receiving such as Pell grants, loans, academic scholarships, and parental support. Because scholarships are a component of each sports total budget, individual coaches have the autonomy to designate the amount of financial aid they wish to designated to scholarships as well as operating and travel expenses.