

## **CoSIDA Fred Stabley Sr. Writing Contest**

Based upon the chill in the air and the inches or feet of snow you might have piled up outside your office window, it is time to start thinking about article submissions to the CoSIDA Fred S. Stabley Sr. Writing Contest.

In our profession, we are called upon to use our writing skills each and every day and we create tremendous stories that captivate our audience. It is a major aspect of our job and an aspect that we take very seriously. For all of our hard work to recognize others, aren't we deserving of some recognition as well??

With that in mind, CoSIDA members are encouraged to submit entries for this year's Writing Contest. The deadline for entries is February 24, 2012 (contest guidelines and a list of district coordinator follows).

The early deadline will allow for all the judging to be completed and plaques/certificates to be produced so that the winners can be recognized at the CoSIDA Annual Workshop.

Categories have changed a bit and now include the following five:

- 1) Event Coverage
- 2) General Feature
- 3) Coach/Administrator Profile & Historical Feature
- 4) Athlete Profile
- 5) Blog/Interview

I encourage you to submit as many stories as possible with the maximum of three (3) per category. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Best of luck!

Wade Steinlage  
Writing Contest Chair  
William Penn University

## **The Contest**

The CoSIDA Fred S. Stabley Sr. Writing Contest is open to all members of CoSIDA and is the only contest sponsored by CoSIDA that does not discriminate because of budget, athletic competition level, or size of staff. All entries are considered to be on a level playing field. The Contest is comprised of five categories (athlete, general, coach/administrator/historical, event, and blog/interview). Members may submit up to three stories per category.

## **Entries**

1. All dues-paying members of CoSIDA are encouraged to enter the contest. Non-members of CoSIDA who work in a sports information/media relations capacity (graduate assistants, interns, student assistants and volunteers) are invited to submit stories as long as each entry is sponsored by a dues-paying member of that office.
2. Entries must come from a campus publicity office, a conference office, or a sports governing body that deals directly with college athletics. The stories must have been generated through the normal daily role of the office.
3. **Entries must be postmarked no later than February 24, 2012** to be considered for the 2010-11 contest (again, members may submit up to THREE entries per category). Entries must have been written/published between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011.
4. For the first time, to save paper and money, EMAILED ENTRIES WILL BE ALLOWED.
5. An original version of the story, from the actual publication, must be submitted along with THREE photocopies of the story. The contest name must appear on the outside of the envelope. Raw manuscript (on institutional letterhead) or internet version of an article is acceptable for stories that were generated but never appeared in a printed medium.
6. Entries must be in prose form. No game notes, fact sheets, etc., may be submitted.
7. A copy of the entry form must be attached to your original, but not to the photocopies.
8. Entries will be judged on overall writing style, correct use of English, inventiveness, written presentation and the ease with which the reader acquires the information. Story layout and design are not factored into the judging process, although typographical errors may be counted against the story in the overall judging.

## **Judging**

All entries shall be forwarded to a district representative, who will gather a panel of three judges. The stories will be judged by category only, with the top story in each category at the district level being forwarded to a national panel of judges.

The national judges will select the top story in each of the five categories and then they will determine the overall "National Story of the Year". All of the national category winners will receive a 5x7 plaque, while the overall story of the year will receive an 8x10 plaque.

All district winners that did not receive national recognition will receive certificates.

District coordinators reserve the right to re-classify an entry if it is not submitted for the proper category. Coordinators may also request additional writings samples from an entrant.

## **Writing Contest Entry Blank.**

The entry blank is available at [www.cosida.com](http://www.cosida.com) as well as from a district coordinator. Be sure to use one entry blank per story, and remember to attach it to your original entry only, not the photocopies.

Any questions may be directed to your district coordinator, or to:

### **Wade Steinlage, Contest Chair**

William Penn University  
201 Trueblood Avenue  
Oskaloosa, IA 52577  
(641) 673-1025  
[steinlagew@wmpenn.edu](mailto:steinlagew@wmpenn.edu)

or

### **Mark Adkins, Vice Chair**

Norwich College  
158 Harmon Drive  
Northfield, VT 05663  
(802) 485-2160  
[madkins@norwich.edu](mailto:madkins@norwich.edu)

## **Where to Send Entries**

**District 1** (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Quebec)

Scott Pettus

Northeastern Oklahoma State University  
603 N. Grand Avenue  
Tahlequah, OK 74464-2399  
(918) 458-2071  
[pettus@mail.nsuok.edu](mailto:pettus@mail.nsuok.edu)

**District 2** (Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia)

Matt Jones

Delta State University  
PO Box A-3  
Chadwick-Dickson Field House  
Cleveland, MS 38733  
(662) 846-4284

[mjones@deltastate.edu](mailto:mjones@deltastate.edu)

**District 3** (Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia)

Tom Schott  
Purdue University  
Room 15 Mackey Arena  
900 North University Drive  
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1790  
(765) 494-3145  
[tschott@purdue.edu](mailto:tschott@purdue.edu)

**District 4** (Alabama, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and Tennessee)

Tim Brennan  
Salisbury University  
Attn: Athletics Department  
1101 Camden Ave.  
Salisbury, MD 21801  
(410) 543-6016  
[tmbrennan@salisbury.edu](mailto:tmbrennan@salisbury.edu)

**District 5** (Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Manitoba, and Ontario)

Joe Guistina  
Lycoming College  
700 College Place  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
(507) 321-4028  
[guistina@lycoming.edu](mailto:guistina@lycoming.edu)

**District 6** (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas)

Mike Falk  
Muhlenberg College  
2400 Chew Street  
Allentown, PA 18104  
(484) 664-3232  
[falk@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:falk@muhlenberg.edu)

**District 7** (Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Alberta, and Saskatchewan)

Hillary Haynes  
Nichols College  
Center Road  
PO Box 5000  
Dudley, MA 01571  
(508) 213-2352  
[hillary.haynes@nichols.edu](mailto:hillary.haynes@nichols.edu)

**District 8** (Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, British Columbia, and Yukon)

Darlene Camacho  
Columbia University  
Mail Code 1914  
3030 Broadway  
New York, NY 10027  
(212) 854-2535  
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