The 2016-2017 School Year has Begun!

Billy Strickland, Executive Director

ASAA hopes you are enthusiastic about all the activities planned for this year. Our stated mission is to advocate participation in co-curricular activities; to regulate sanctioned interscholastic activities, contests, and programs; and to promote student health and academic and social development of students.

ASAA believes our mission can be summarized by the phrase “Win for Life”. While we’ll continue to keep score this year and crown champions, we believe all students should receive benefits from participation. Lessons are available in both victory and defeat, and at both the varsity and sub-varsity levels. Furthermore, we believe good sportsmanship is not merely an enhancement of our games but also as a precursor to citizenship in our communities.

I look forward to seeing many of you this school year as we work together to ensure all our students “Win For Life.” I would also like to thank all of our corporate sponsors. ASAA is very fortunate to have all of them as partners. They play an important role in helping ASAA provide for the students in our state. I encourage you to call, write, or come by the ASAA Office anytime. The doors are open. This is your organization.

Sponsor Spotlight

Lavonne Norman, Director of Marketing

When ASAA’s Title Sponsor, First National Bank Alaska, says, “We believe in Alaska,” we know exactly what they mean. For 28 years, First National has been encouraging, supporting and cheering on more than 40,000 Alaska high school activity participants as ASAA’s Title Sponsor.
In 1990 the legislature canceled funding for ASAA and high school sports and activities. Thankfully, First National Bank Alaska stepped up and provided the funding we desperately needed to continue providing high school sports and activities. The bank has continued to recognize the importance and value of sports and activities for our youth, and have now contributed more than 3 million dollars to support ASAA.

First National Bank Alaska has a first-hand understanding of ASAA's mission: Win For Life. From senior management to first-year employees, many of First National's best and brightest are former ASAA sports and activity participants. They appreciate and understand the value and importance of teamwork, hard work, accountability, respect, integrity and responsibility.

On behalf of the hundreds of thousands of high school activity participants First National Bank Alaska has supported since 1990, ASAA would like to say THANK YOU for all you do. We look forward to working with you – on and off the field - in the future.

**Play For Keeps**

*Dr. Teresa Johnson, Director of Student Services*

The ASAA Board of Directors modified the Tobacco, Alcohol and Drug (TAD) policy at the April 2016 Board Meeting. The policy alters the 3rd, 4th and subsequent suspension time lines. As follows:

Third Offense – The student will be suspended from interscholastic activities and practice for six (6) months.

Fourth and Subsequent Offenses – The student's privilege to participate in interscholastic activities and practice is revoked for one (1) year.

The policy calls for participation in educational components, community service and assessment and completion of recommendations by a health professional. The complete policy can be found in Section 12 General Policies.

**Alaska High School Hall of Fame**

*Sandi Wagner, Associate Director*

The Hall of Fame was established to identify and honor, in a permanent manner, individuals who exhibited high ethical standards and integrity while achieving excellence in high school athletics and activities, as well as others who have distinguished themselves by virtue of exemplary contributions to the advancement of interscholastic athletics and activities in the State of Alaska.
At this time there are 121 inductees with many more deserving candidates who have been exemplary. Please take the time to nominate athletes, coaches, officials or others that have made significant contributions to high school activities in the State of Alaska. These nominations need to be received by December 1, 2016.

One of the inductees in 2016 was Gary Matthews, retired executive director of the Alaska School Activities Association. During his 21-year tenure, Gary's guiding principle was always to put students first. Before joining ASAA, Mr. Matthews spent 1968 to 1993 at Haines High School, first as a music teacher and then principal. For more information on Gary Matthews and other inductees, please visit the Alaska High School Hall of Fame website at http://alaskahalloffame.org.

Class of 2016, Alaska High School Hall of Fame

Gary Matthews

ASAA365 Website & Mobile App

Isaiah Vreeman, Associate Director

ASAA365 is Alaska's Home for High School Sports! ASAA365.com and the ASAA365 Mobile App are great ways to stay connected throughout the year to high school team sports in Alaska. You can access regular season game schedules, player rosters, results, original stories, and much more.

Check out ASAA365.com website or download the mobile app on Apple App Store or Google Play then follow your favorite teams so you don't miss a thing!

Upcoming Events

ASAA/FIRST NATIONAL BANK ALASKA 3A/4A VOLLEYBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Nov. 10-12, 2016
Alaska Airlines Center
More Information

ASAA/FIRST NATIONAL BANK ALASKA ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL
November 17-18-19, 2016
East & West Anchorage High Schools
More Information

ASAA/FIRST NATIONAL BANK ALASKA 2A/MIX SIX VOLLEYBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
December 8-10, 2016
Dimond High School
More Information