



**ALASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION**

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## **Synopsis of ASAA Board of Directors' Meeting Ninilchik, Alaska April 25-26, 2010**

Note: This synopsis is available on the ASAA web site at [www.asaa.org](http://www.asaa.org). More information on agenda items may be obtained from an ASAA Board member (listed on web site) or from the ASAA office (907) 563-3723.

**Action Items** The Board of Directors (BOD) took the following actions:

- Minutes: Approved minutes of the February 21-22, 2010 regular meeting. (Consensus)
- State Tournament Bids: Accepted a bid from Lathrop High School to host the State Track and Field Championships in 2010-11. (This extends Lathrop's current three year bid). (Carried 8-0)

Accepted a bid from the Anchorage School District to host the State Soccer Tournament in 2011-13, location to be determined. (Carried 8-0)

- Mixed-Six Volleyball: Moved to reconsider previous board action to enforce the 5-50 student enrollment cutoff for schools playing mixed-six volleyball in 2010-11. (Carried 6-2)

Moved to expand the policy to include 2A schools in the mixed-six conferences in 2010-11. (Failed 4-4)

Moved to give 2A schools two years to "phase-out" of mixed-six volleyball, 2010-11 and 2011-12. (Carried 8-0)

- Bylaw Amendments: Adopted an amendment adding a new section D. to Article 7, Section 9, Cooperative School Programs, as follows: (Carried 8-0)

(New) "D. All member schools classified as 1A or 2A that are unable to participate in the Cooperative School Program under Sections B. or C., as well as other schools whose enrollments in grades 9-12 are under 451, are eligible to participate in the Cooperative School Program in a team sport with another member school whose enrollment is also under 451, when timely application is approved by the Executive Director. The purpose

of this rule is to provide adequate numbers of participants to make a team for competition in the smaller high schools in Alaska, not to enable the formation of “All Star” teams.

Applications will be considered under the following provisions:

1. Schools may form cooperative teams only in the sports of football, tennis, volleyball, hockey, basketball, softball, baseball and soccer. Schools may not cooperate for the individual sports of cross-country running, swimming and diving, wrestling, Nordic skiing, and track & field.
2. All but one of the schools requesting to coop do not have sufficient numbers of players interested in forming a team.
3. All schools involved in a cooperative school agreement must be members of the same school district. Administrators of involved schools and the superintendent must approve this agreement.
4. When the combined enrollments of all schools involved exceeds their classification cutoff levels, the cooperative team shall compete in the next higher classification for state tournament qualifying purposes.
5. No students may be cut or displaced by the additional students from the cooperative school(s).
6. Cooperative agreements must be in effect for a minimum of an entire season and may be renewed on an annual basis.
7. Deadlines for applications: Fall Sports, Winter Sports, Spring Sports – first official day of practice in that specific sport season according to the ASAA calendar. Football - the December board of directors meeting preceding the start of the football cooperative.
8. The Executive Director may approve this application if the above conditions are met.”

This amendment goes into effect 30 days after adoption.

Adopted an amendment to Article 2, Section 2, 3, D. 3, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Participation Authority, as follows: (Carried 8-0)

“Notwithstanding any provisions or restrictions of the Association’s bylaws, policies or past practices, the Board of Directors has determined that under certain conditions, students enrolled in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade in a member school district, may be granted eligibility to participate as members of a high school basketball, volleyball or mixed-six volleyball team when an annual request is submitted in writing to ASAA by the district superintendent. This request must verify that the high school described above is a member school and that there were twenty (20) or fewer students enrolled in grades 9-12 during the previous school year’s October student count as reported to the Department of Education and Early Development. **(add) If the current school year’s October count is lower than the**

**previous year's, it may substitute as the official count for purposes of this section."**

This amendment goes into effect 30 days after adoption.

➤ Football – Region 5 Request: Approved a request from Region 5 to award a playoff berth to the Southeast Small School Football Conference beginning in 2010-11. (Carried 7-1)

Created the additional berth by comparing the season records of the 4<sup>th</sup> place teams from the Northern Lights and Greatland Conferences. Selection criteria is based on: (Unanimous Consent)

1. Head to head competition during the season
2. Common opponents during the season
3. Coin toss conducted by ASAA office

Football Jamboree Policy: Adopted an amendment to clarify the policy, as follows: (Unanimous Consent)

“6. 8 & 11 Man Football – All players must have five (5) days of practice prior to the day of the jamboree; **(add) up to 20** plays may be played against each team in the jamboree **(add) with a maximum of 100 plays per day**; each team may play in no more than one jamboree each season which does not count as a game against its 8 game limit.”

➤ School Classification/Enrollment Status: Approved the following action on school classification based on changing enrollments during the 2009-10 school year: (Carried 8-0)

Step One – Took the following action after notice was sent to the following schools:

1A – Chief Ivan Blunka (New Stuyahok) (53 students) - placed on Step One due to *increasing* enrollment – no forgiveness requested

2A – St. Mary's (48 students) – placed on Step One due to *decreasing* enrollment

Chief Paul Memorial (Kipnuk) (45 students) - placed on Step One due to *decreasing* enrollment

3A – Glennallen (94 students) - placed on Step One due to *decreasing* enrollment

Hooper Bay (98 students) - placed on Step One due to *decreasing* enrollment

Step Two – Moved the following schools to a new classification in 2010-11:

1A – Gambell (56 students) 2008 and (52 students) 2009 – After further research, it was determined that the school was granted forgiveness in 2009. It was removed from the steps and will remain 1A in 2010-11

Nelson Island (Tooksok Bay) - (57 students) 2008 and (54 students) 2009 - forgiveness granted for 5 ineligible 5<sup>th</sup> year seniors - will remain at the 1A level in 2010-11

2A – Shishmaref (46 students) 2008 and (41 students) 2009 – placed on Step Two - will move to 1A in 2010-11 due to *decreasing enrollment*

3A - Heritage Christian (55 students) 2008 and (50 students) 2009 –School has closed. Would have been reclassified to 2A in 2010-11 if school had not closed)

➤ Selection of Gold Lifetime Pass Recipients: Approved nominations of the following from the regions – (Unanimous Consent)

Region 1 – Jim Hickerson (Unalakleet)

Region 2 – Dan Lehman (Ninilchik)

Region 3 – Craig Jung (Kenai)

Region 4 – in process

Region 5 – John Wray (Juneau)

Region 6 – Vern Dulany (Eielson AFB)

➤ “Play for Keeps – Third Offense Educational Component: Approved a conceptualization of the components of the educational program that must be completed by third time offenders, including the following points: (Carried 8-0)

- suspension from activities for one calendar year
- seek assessment and counseling/treatment from a local health care professional
- successfully complete the recommendations of the care provider and submit a letter from the agency
- demonstrate a commitment to remain substance free
- make a presentation to District School Board
- request reinstatement from the District school board
- notify ASAA through school administrator that all conditions have been successfully completed
- request reinstatement of eligibility by ASAA

➤ 2010-11 Board Goals: Adopted the following goals for 2010-11: (Carried)

1. To continue full statewide implementation of the “Play for Keeps” tobacco, alcohol and controlled substances policy and program.
2. To promote expansion of the Association’s citizenship/sportsmanship efforts with parents, students, officials and other groups.
3. To continue to seek opportunities to showcase the cultural diversity of Alaska.
4. To continue to monitor the Association’s marketing plan.
5. To finalize the school classification system for 2011-12.
6. To finalize the Association’s season calendar for 2011-12.

7. To maintain Association financial stability.

- Out-of-Season Contact: After much discussion, asked that the proposal to revise policy definitions be discussed during the October meeting. (Carried)
- Hockey Officiating Experiment: Agreed to seek permission from the NFHS to extend the current experiment through 2010-11. This permits schools to use a system of 4 four officials – 2 referees and 2 linesmen. (Unanimous Consent)
- 4A Girls Hockey Cooperative Waiver: Extended the waiver which permits larger schools to form cooperative teams in girls hockey in the Anchorage, Mat-Su and Fairbanks school districts, through 2013-14. (Carried)
- Boarding School Transfer Rule, Article 12, Section 9, 16: Directed that the following editorial amendment be made: (Carried)

“Boarding School Transfer Rule: Students who transfer to a boarding school at the beginning of a school year, or from a boarding school at the end of a school year, will be eligible for interscholastic **(delete) competition (add) participation** at the new school as soon as properly certified...”

- Softball Game Ending Rules: Adopted the following amendment to the policy: (Carried)

“By state association adoption, the game shall end when either team is 15 runs behind after three (3) innings, **(add) 12 runs behind after four (4) innings,** or ~~10~~ **8** runs behind after five (5) innings.”

- Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC): Approved the policy, membership and budgetary commitment needed to put the SMAC in place. The first meeting will be held in August 2010. (Carried)
- 2010-11 Board Meeting Dates and Locations: Adopted the following for 2010-11:

Fall Meeting – Anchorage – October 3-4, 2010  
Early Winter – Anchorage – December 13-14, 2010  
Later Winter – Anchorage – February 21-22, 2011  
Spring – TBD – April 18-19, 2011

**Reports** The BOD heard the following reports:

- Board Members
- State Tournaments
- Finance Committee
- Student Government
- Officials/Coaches/WPI/NFHS Leadership Conference

- Marketing
- Executive Director

**Public Comments** Comments were made on the proposed amendment to the Cooperative School Rule.

**Workshop Items** The BOD discussed the following items in workshop:

1. **At-Large Berths**: Reviewed the history of state tournament berth allocations in 4A basketball and past discussions/proposals to establish “at-large” berths. The board agreed to discuss this information during upcoming regional meetings and to bring this back as a discussion item during the October meeting. Regions were asked to consider an allocation of Region 3 - 2 berths, Region 4 – 2 berths, Region 5 -1 berth, and Region 6 -1 berth, with the other two berths to be determined through the WPI.

2. **Out-of-Season Contact**: For the past few meetings, the board has been considering a Region 6 proposal to adopt a more definitive policy that would place additional restrictions on contact between high school coaches and school team members outside of a high school season. The board reviewed preliminary feedback from a survey of schools, coaches and other interested individuals meant to gather input on the extent to which they see the current regulations are too permissive, and to seek suggestions for future consideration. After reviewing compiled survey results and discussions at regional meetings, the board asked that the existing policy be amended to include expanded definitions to be considered during the October meeting.

**Tabled Items**: There were no tabled items from the previous meeting.

**Discussion Items** The BOD discussed the following items:

➤ **Bylaws**: Discussed the two types of Association membership, full member and Emerging Small Secondary Schools (ESSS), and how they might apply to the student government program. Decided that small schools should either be full members or ESSS members to participate in the state student government confereces.

Discussed the Practice Rule and the provision for overlapping sports. Referred this to the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee.

Discussed the Transfer Rule and how it applies to students in various correspondence programs.

➤ **Soccer Classification**: Discussed a Region 5 proposal to create a small school classification in soccer. When it was determined that there was insufficient support, the board dropped the issue.

➤ **Western Interior Nordic Skiing**: Discussed school participation in the WISA which is held outside of the approved Nordic skiing season. Region 1 will bring forth a proposal for the October meeting.

- Drama, Debate Forensics (DDF) State Tournament: Discussed the problem created when the state tournament conflicts with regional/conference basketball tournaments. Staff is working with potential organizers and sites to find a more suitable date for the state tournament in 2011.
- World Language Declamation: Reviewed a proposal to revise the qualification process and some of the competitive events for the state tournament. This will be reviewed at the regional level and discussed at the October meeting.
- State Tournament Participation Fees: Region 3 asked to revisit the \$10 fee charged for each state tournament participant. The board did not wish to discuss the item.
- Ad Hoc Season Calendar Committee: Reviewed and discussed the second draft of the 2011-12 calendar. After input from the regions, schools, citizens, legislators and others, the board made some revisions which will be sent out as Draft #3. This will be a discussion/possible action item during the October meeting. Committee members are:

Region 1 – Patrick Callahan – Nome High School  
 Region 2 – Isaiah Vreeman – Heritage Christian School  
 Region 3 – Norm Bouchard – Houston High School  
 Region 4 – Rick Volk – Chugiak High School  
 Region 5 – Andrew Friske – Thunder Mountain High School  
 Region 6 – Walt Armstrong – North Pole High School  
 Board Member – Conrad Gonzalez – Fairbanks North Star Borough School District  
 Chair – Sandi Wagner – Juneau-Douglas High School  
 Staff Liaison – Rus Schreckenghost

- Ad Hoc Classification Committee: Discussed the various proposals that have been under review by the regions, schools and individuals. The board wants to see these fleshed out to include proposed conferences and state tournament berths for discussion at the October meeting. Committee members are:

Region 1 – Jeff Erickson - Unalakleet High School  
 Region 2 – Dean Overbey – Nenana High School  
 Region 3 – Dan Carstens – Nikiski High School  
 Region 4 – Craig Walker – West Anchorage High School  
 Region 5 – Monty Bunes - Wrangell High School  
 Region 6 – Kelly Growden – Eielson High School  
 Board Member/Chair – Billy Strickland – Bethel High School  
 Staff Liaison – John Andrews

- Sport Officials Legislation: Heard a report on HB377, “An act exempting certain volunteer work by amateur sports officials from certain requirements of the Alaska’s Employment Security Act.” This has passed through both the House and Senate and is awaiting the Governor’s signature.

➤ “Play for Keeps” Program Update: Heard an update on implementation of the “Play for Keeps” tobacco, alcohol and drug program from Teresa Johnson, project director. This included an update on violations, review of the updated Orientation Video, review of second offense coursework development and 3<sup>rd</sup> offense concept description, review of Electronic Eligibility Reporting System and progress on development of documentation/training modules, timelines for completion of program development, progress on grant activities – present and future, and development of the Coaches Education Module.

During the 2009-10 school year to date, there have been 343 first offenses reported, 26 second offenses and 2 third offenses, for a total of 371. First offenses included 217 alcohol, 65 drug and 61 tobacco. Second offenses include 14 alcohol, 8 drug and 4 tobacco offenses.

➤ Follow-up on Conversation with Commissioner: Discussed follow-up conversations with Larry LeDoux, Commissioner of Education, on his February presentation to the board.

➤ 2010-11 Operating, Grants and Capital Improvement Budgets, First Drafts: Reviewed the first drafts of next year’s budgets which will be adopted during a special teleconference meeting later in the year.

➤ Tennis – State Tournament Seeding Criteria: Discussed a proposed revision to the seeding criteria. The board wished to get input from schools with tennis programs prior to taking action on the proposal. This will be an action item during a special teleconference meeting later in the year.

➤ Grappling: Heard a presentation about the changing interests of students, particularly in the field of martial arts and physical contact activities, and how this might effect the activities that are sanctioned by ASAA.

## **Student Hearing**

None

**Items for October Meeting** - October 3-4, 2010 – Anchorage, TBD

## **Workshop**

1. Board Policies and Procedures
- 2.

## **Reports**

1. SMAC

## **Discussion**

1. Western Interior Ski Association



2. DDF State Tournament Date/Location
3. World Language Declamation Policy
4. 2011-12 Draft Season Calendar
5. Classification Proposal
6. “Play for Keeps” Update
7. All-State Art Competition - Location

**Action**

1. State Tournament Bids
  - a. All-State Music

December –State Tennis Tournament