



ALASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

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Synopsis of ASAA Board of Directors' Meeting Anchorage, Alaska December 16-17, 2014

Note: This synopsis is available on the ASAA web site at:

<http://asaa.org/wp-content/uploads/board/BOD-December-2014-Synopsis.pdf>

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:

➤ **Football Classification:** took action to increase the enrollment for Small Schools Football to 450 and Medium Schools Football to 900.

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Football Medium School Football Conferences:** took action to place Eagle River and Palmer into the Northern Lights Conference with Kodiak, Soldotna and Kenai. (North Pole, Thunder Mountain, Juneau Douglas and Ketchikan will remain in the Southeast Conference).

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Football Small School Football Conferences:** took action to place Homer, Voznesenka, Nikiski, and Seward into the Peninsula Conference, with Houston, Ben Eielson, Barrow and Valdez in the Aurora Conference. Sitka will play as an independent.

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Activities Calendar:** took action to change the activities calendar. All activities will now start the Wednesday prior to the traditional Monday start date with the below changes:

*Football will start on week 4.5 (July 29)

*2A and Mixed-6 Volleyball will run weeks 13.5-22 (September 16 to December 5)

*Wrestling-both Small and Large Schools will run weeks 13.5 to 24. (September 30 to December 19)

*1A and 2A Basketball will run weeks 22.5 to 36 (December 2 to March 19)

*3A and 4A Basketball will run weeks 22.5 to 37 (December 2 to March 26)

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Seeding of the 1A/2A Basketball Tournament:** took action to use a committee, composed of representatives from Regions 1, 2 and 5, to seed the 1A/2A Basketball tournaments.

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Expansion of the Mixed-6 Volleyball Tournament:** took action to expand the Mixed-6 Volleyball Tournament to 12 teams. Regions 1, 2 and 5 will determine how to place the berth.

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Classification Request:** took action to place Tri-Valley into the Aurora Conference for 2A Volleyball.

➤ **Change to Transfer Without a Bona Fide Change of Residence of Parents Bylaw:** took action to change bylaw to read:

“A student who transfers without a bona fide change of residence of parents or guardians, is ineligible for Varsity, State Qualifying and State Championship interscholastic competition for one calendar year, from the date of first attendance in the new school. Students who live with coaches are ineligible (see Section 5, C). At schools with no sub-varsity teams, the student could ask for a waiver to participate on the varsity team during the regular season, but would not be able to participate at either conference or state tournaments.”

(Carried – 5 to 3)

➤ **8th Grade Student Participation:** It was moved by Region 2 to allow all 1A schools to utilize 8th grade students in basketball, volleyball, and mixed-6 volleyball.

(motion died for lack of a second)

Reports: The BOD heard the following reports:

- Board Members
- State Tournaments
- Finance Committee
- Student Government
- Officials/Coaches
- Sponsorships/Marketing/Promotions
- Play for Keeps, Win for Life/Hall of Fame
- Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC)
- Executive Director

Public Comments: Heard comments from several individuals requesting that all 1A schools be allowed to use 8th grade students.

Executive Session: The board moved into executive session to discuss financial and personnel matters.

Student Eligibility Hearing: Heard a hearing request of a transfer rule waiver that had been denied by the Executive Director. The Board voted unanimously to uphold the Executive Director’s decision.

Tabled Items: No items were tabled.

Discussion Items: The BOD discussed the following items:

➤ **Out-of-Season Coaching/Contact Committee Report:** heard a report by the Executive Director on the Committee’s draft recommendation. The recommendations were to be taken back to the Regions for comment. The committee feels that the current system creates an “uneven playing field” for those schools limited by geography. This limits their ability to participate in out of season leagues. A draft proposal was given to the Board members to take back to their membership.

➤ **Girls Wrestling:** Discussed the results of the Small School Girl’s Wrestling State Tournament. Overall there were many more positives than negatives. Discussed need to add team, academic and sportsmanship awards for the girls teams.

Since the Large School did not reach the “50 girls wrestlers” requirement needed to have a separate Girls State Tournament, ASAA will not conduct a separate event for the girls. The girls wrestling in the Large Schools division will continue to wrestle against the boys and may qualify for State Tournament as in the past.

➤ **Small School Track and Field Berths-** Discussed increasing the berths to the Small School Track and Field Championships. The concept was generally supported as long as the meet could still be held in two days and not have a negative impact on Unified Track. There is also a concern that it may be necessary to increase the numbers of volunteers. Additionally it felt a qualifying standard may be needed. Tabled to February meeting

➤ **State Tournament Bid Proposals Due this Year-** The following tournaments are up for bid beginning in 2016. Bids must be submitted by April 2, 2015. The Board will award bids at the April meeting for:

- XC Running
- Tennis
- 3A/4A Volleyball
- 2A/Mixed Six Volleyball
- 123A Wrestling

➤ **Voznesenka School Change Regional Placement Request-** Discussed a request from Voznesenka to move from Region 2 to Region 3. Region 3 will discuss the request and the Board will take up the request again in February.

➤ **ASHA/ASAA Hockey Resolution-** Heard concerns from the Alaska State Hockey Association as to how to encourage Alaska’s elite hockey talent to remain in the State. The ASHS is hosting the 2016 National USA Hockey U14 Tournament and has put in a bid to host the National USA Hockey Tournament. A joint ASAA/ASHA committee was formed.

➤ **ASAA Hockey Supplemental Rules-** Formed a committee to review Supplemental Rules to consider revisions. The Board was also informed that officials are not given a test on ASAA Hockey Supplemental Rules. The Board directed the ASAA staff to develop a test as part of the official’s certification process.

➤ **NFHS Network Issues-** Discussed the need for ASAA to webcast those contest that the NFHS Network declines to web-stream. Also clarified that the agreement with the NHFS Network does NOT grant the Network access to regular season or conference events.

➤ **Homeschool Policy Issue-** Discussed the need to change the definition of “accredited” in the Homeschool policies to delete the section pertaining to the DEED providing a “self-study” as a way for non-accredited homeschools to become accredited.

➤ **123A Wrestling Team Scoring & Berths-** Heard and discussed a proposal from Region 1 to limit the number of “scorers” a team can have at the State Tournament to 15. Team scores would then only add the scores of a team’s top 15 individuals.

➤ **4A Wrestling-** Discussed need to reassign the berths to the State Tournament now that the Southeast Conference 4A schools will once again be wrestling in the Large School State Tournament.

➤ **Waiver Forms-** Discussed revising the Bona Fide Change of Residence Form to require more “proof” that the former residence is no longer being occupied. Directed the ASAA Staff to revise the other waiver forms to give the “sending” school more of a chance to give input.

Discussed determining if a transfer was “athletically motivated” as opposed to asking if “undue influence” was involved.

Items for February 16-17, 2014 - Regular Meeting

Spring Hill Suites, University Lake Hotel, Anchorage

Tabled Items

1. Tok Classification Request
2. Transgender Policy
3. 3A Basketball At-Large Berths

Discussion Items

- 1) Out of Season Contact
- 2) Girls Wrestling
- 3) Small School Track and Field Berths
- 4) Mixed-6 Volleyball Tournament Expansion
- 5) SMAC Recommendations
- 6) Boarding School Transfer Bylaw