



ALASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

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Synopsis of ASAA Board of Directors' Meeting Anchorage, Alaska December 14-15, 2009

Note: This synopsis is available on the ASAA web site at 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 October 4-5, 2009 regular meeting. (Consensus)
- Adoption of Accounting Policies: Adopted accounting policies required under revised accounting procedures. (Unanimous Consent)
- Transfer Rule Blanket Waiver Request: Turned down a request from the Northwest Arctic Borough School District to grant blanket transfer eligibility at Kotzebue High School to students from surrounding villages into a new vocational program at the Star of the Northwest Magnet School in Kotzebue. The district may apply for waivers individually. (Failed 1-7)
- Waiver Request of Enrollment Limit for 8th Grade Student Participation: Turned down a request from the Hydaburg City School District to grant an exception to the October 2008 counting period for 9th-12th grade enrollment in order for a school to qualify to use 8th grade students in basketball this season. (Failed 3-5)

The board asked staff to draft a bylaw that would permit a school to use either the current or prior year's October count in determining whether a school falls into the 20 student or less category. This will be a discussion item during the February board meeting.

- 2010-11 Season Calendar: Adopted the 2010-11 season calendar (Carried 7-1)
- State Tournament Bids: Accepted a bid from Dimond High School to host the Mixed-Six and 1A-2A State Volleyball Tournaments in 2010-12. (Carried 8-0)

Accepted a bid from Palmer High School to host the 3A-4A State Volleyball Tournament in 2010-12. (Carried 8-0)

Rejected a bid from Dimond / Bartlett High Schools to host the State Cross-Country Running Tournament in 2010-12. (Failed 0-8)

Rejected a bid from Palmer High School to host the State Cross-Country Running Tournament in 2010-12. (Failed 0-8)

Rejected a bid from Skyview / Kenai High Schools to host the State Cross-Country Running Tournament in 2010-12. (Failed 3-5)

ASAA will ask that bids be resubmitted with more detail.

➤ Softball Pitching Distance Rule: Adopted for 2010 the impending NFHS rule specifying a 43' distance. (Unanimous Consent)

➤ Bylaw Amendment: Adopted an amendment to Article 6, Section 5, **Personal Conduct/Sportsmanship**, which states:

“A. All Association contests or events must feature high standards of courtesy, fair dealing and sportsmanship.

B. In matters pertaining to personal conduct, such as gross violations of sportsmanship, attacks on officials and other gross misconduct by any student, school staff member, coach or school community member, where the school has failed to act reasonably in controlling the student, staff member, coach or school community member, the Association will determine appropriate penalties and whether or not the student, coach or school will be suspended or barred from future contests and events...

Penalty for Coach Ejection

1. Coach must refrain from coaching in any scheduled contest in the same activity (game suspension) until completion of the next regularly scheduled contest at the same level. Schools may not schedule additional contests to circumvent this provision. (Amendment) **“Implementation of this penalty will be delayed for a coach who is traveling with his/her team when the game ejection occurs, and who has no assistant coach or other authorized individual available at the site of the contest to supervise the team during the period of suspension. In such case, the ejected coach must serve the suspension during the next regularly scheduled contest after returning to the home community.”**

2. Coach may not be physically present at the site of the next contest, nor may he/she have any contact, direct or indirect, with their teams during the contest while suspended.”

(Carried 8-0)

➤ Membership Applications: Accepted applications for membership from:

Cornerstone Christian School – Wasilla - 1A, Region 2
Liberty Christian Home School – Iliamna – 1A, Region 1

(Unanimous Consent)

➤ Election of Officers: Elected the following officers for 2010:

President – Terry Martin, Principal Ninilchik School, Region 2
Vice-President – Billy Strickland, Dean of Students, Bethel Regional High School,
Region 1

(Unanimous Consent)

Reports The BOD heard the following reports:

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

Public Comments Heard from a parent on practice waivers for girls hockey.

Workshop Items The BOD discussed the following item in workshop:

1. Out-of-Season Contact: The board reviewed and compared other states' policies on out-of-season contact between high school coaches and high school players with ASAA's policy. Study states were: Oregon, Montana, Wyoming, Washington and Michigan. This will be a discussion item during the February board meeting.

Tabled Items: Moved discussion on concussion management/return to play to discussion item 81.

Discussion Items The BOD discussed the following items:

State Tournaments: Heard a report from John Andrews, director of special events, on upcoming state tournament venue openings and the bidding process which will be posted on-line at www.asaa.org. Tournament bids still to be accepted this school year:

-1A/2A/3A Wrestling – February 2010

- 4A Wrestling – February 2010
- Hockey – February 2010
- Soccer – February 2010
- Track and Field – February 2010

Softball: Decided to delay further discussion on a proposal to incorporate pool play into the first day of the small school state championships due to a potential for reclassification of some of the schools involved.

School Apparel Licensing Program: Revisited a proposal from Licensing Resource Group, LLC (LRG), under which official high school apparel in Alaska would be registered and a manufacturers' royalty payment would be shared by ASAA, member schools and LRG. After input from the Association attorney, the board decided to take no further action.

Football: Reviewed the current language in the “jamboree” rule concerning the number of required practices and the number of plays allowed against other teams. Staff will seek information on what is currently happening.

Also discussed a request to schedule all four semi-final games on the same day (Saturday).

Both of these items will be discussed at the February meeting.

Tabled a request from Region 5 to seek a berth in the small school football playoffs for 2010. The region was requested to bring a proposal to the February meeting.

“Play for Keeps” Program Update: Heard an update on implementation of the “Play for Keeps” tobacco, alcohol and drug program. During the 2009-10 school year to date, there have been 158 first offenses reported, and 6 second offenses. These included 98 alcohol offenses, 27 drug offenses and 33 tobacco offenses. Second offenses include 5 alcohol, 1 drug and 0 tobacco offenses.

Ad Hoc Season Calendar Committee: Discussed an informal report from the committee which first met on December 13 in Anchorage. Members are:

- Region 1 – Patrick Callahan – Nome High School
- Region 2 – Steve Wolfe – Voznesenka School
- Region 3 – Norm Bouchard – Houston High School
- Region 4 – Rick Volk – Chugiak High School
- Region 5 – Rhonda Hickok – 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

Staff will send out committee proposals to the regions for discussion prior to the February board meeting. The committee will next meet at the Millennium Hotel in Anchorage at 5:00 p.m. on

February 16, in conjunction with the statewide scheduling meeting.

Ad Hoc Classification Committee: Discussed a report from the committee which met on November 16 in Anchorage. 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

Regional representatives on the board have copies of the proposals for discussion at upcoming region meetings. The committee will next meet at the Millennium Hotel in Anchorage at 5:00 p.m. on February 16, in conjunction with the statewide scheduling meeting.

Hockey Experiment: Heard a report on an NFHS approved experiment to use 4 officials during hockey games this year, 2 linemen and 2 referees. Specified that 3 officials per game will be used during the state tournament series.

NFHS Wrestling Weight Class Options: Reviewed NFHS proposed options to revise the wrestling weight classes to be implemented at some future time. Staff has posted the options on the website and has polled the coaches during the state tournaments. This will be discussed at upcoming regional meetings, and the board will take action during its February meeting.

Mixed-Six Volleyball: Discussed the current situation in which General Policy D. 2. states that schools with enrollments of from 5-50 may have mixed-six volleyball teams. There are currently at least 12 - 2A schools playing the sport. Region 1 proposed that the enrollment for mixed-six teams be expanded to include all schools with 5-100 students. This will be a February action item.

Independent Team Status: Discussed two situations in which schools granted “independent” status in basketball and volleyball at a prior time, continued to play after the season for their classification had ended. The board determined that a school granted “independent” status does not have to play in an assigned conference but must not play outside of the established season for that classification.

Review of State Tournament Team Berths: Discussed any proposed revisions to state tournament berths in team sports beginning in 2010. This will be discussed further during the February meeting.

Medical Issues Forum: Heard a presentation and comments from Carey Keller, MD, FACSM and Chris Dean, ATC from Sportsmedicine Fairbanks, and Lynne Young, M. Ed., ATC,

Orthopedic Physicians Anchorage (OPA) on concussion management and the need to reestablish ASAA's sports medicine advisory committee. The board approved the executive director's recommendation to solicit interested individuals and reestablish the committee which will make recommendations on all sports medicine issues. This will include policies and procedures for emergency treatment at state tournaments.

April Board Meeting: Discussed plans for the April meeting of the board which will be held in Ninilchik on April 25-26. The board will attend the All-State Art Competition reception in Homer on the evening of April 25.

Review of Association Insurance Plan: Heard a presentation by Mike Dennis of the Conrad-Houston agency who provides coverage for all risks except the catastrophic accident plan for students which is offered to districts through another agency.

Executive Director's Evaluation: Discussed how to proceed with the annual evaluation of the executive director.

Pick.Click.Give: Heard a report on donations to the Association through the program under which individuals may contribute part of their PFD's to non-profits. ASAA received \$600 during 2009.

Student Hearing

The board heard an eligibility appeal from a student at Tri-Valley High School.

Items for February Meeting - February 21-22, 2010 – Anchorage – Millennium Hotel

Workshop

1. Board Policies and Procedures
2. Out-of-Season Contact

Executive Session

1. Executive Director's Evaluation
2. AASG Representative Seat

Reports

1. Classification Committee
2. Season Calendar Committee
3. Hockey Officiating Experiment

Discussion

1. State Salmon Fishing Tournament Proposal
2. Cooperative School Program Amendment
3. Practice Rule/Overlap
4. Football Jamboree Policy

5. Football Semi-Finals Schedule
6. Football Small School Division Proposal
7. Football Small Conference Berth for Region 5
8. Student Count Period for 8th Grade Participation
9. State Tournament Team Berths
10. Sports Medicine Advisory Committee
11. Concussion Management Rules
12. First Draft of 2010-11 Budgets

Action

1. State Tournament Venue Bids
2. Wrestling Weight Classes
3. School Classification/Enrollment Status
4. Mixed-Six Volleyball Enrollments – Region 1