



**ALASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION**

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## **Synopsis of ASAA Board of Directors' Meeting Anchorage, Alaska December 10-11, 2012**

Note: This synopsis is available on the ASAA web site at <http://asaa.org/about-asaa/bod-meetings/>. 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:

➤ Board Members: Recognized outgoing board members Sandi Wagner (Juneau), Region 5 and student Rachel Gulanes (Unalaska), AASG, who have reached the ends of the terms. Welcomed new members Andrew Friske (Mt. Edgecumbe), Region 5 and student Miles King (Bristol Bay), AASG.

➤ Bylaw and Policy Amendments – AS 14.30.365 (Home School Bill) After additional discussion, approved adoption of the proposed amendments which were sent out for comment on November 9, 2012. The proposed amendments were also posted at [www.asaa.org](http://www.asaa.org).

The board received no additional comments on the proposals during the 30 day comment period. (Unanimous Consent)

➤ 2013-14 Calendar and Three Year Projection – 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17: Approved adoption of the calendars. (Carried)

The calendars will be posted at- [www.asaa.org](http://www.asaa.org)

➤ Minutes: Approved minutes of the September 30-October 1, 2012 regular meeting and the September 29 special teleconference meeting. (Consent Agenda)

➤ State Tournament Bids: Received bids for the following state tournaments:

2A/Mixed-Six Volleyball – Accepted a bid from Dimond High School for 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16.

3A/4A Volleyball – Accepted a bid from Service High School to be hosted in Anchorage in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 (facility to be determined).

1A/2A/3A Wrestling – Accepted a bid from Anchorage Christian School (ACS) for 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 (concern about the size of the facility).

Baseball – Took no action on a bid from Sitka High School for 2013-14 (concern about expenses).

DDF – Took no action on a bid from UAA for 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 (concern about expenses).

Hockey – Received a bid from Wasilla High School and a joint bid from Kenai-Central and Soldotna High Schools. Accepted the Wasilla bid for 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16.

Soccer – Accepted a bid from Eagle River High School for 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16.

Swimming and Diving – Accepted a bid from the community of Juneau to host the meet in 2013-14 only.

Track and Field – Accepted a bid from Bartlett High School to host the meet at Dimond High School in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16.

Cross Country Running – Accepted a bid from Dimond High School to host the meet at Bartlett High School in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16.

➤ Soccer – State Tournament Seeding Process: Adopted a Region 4 proposal in which the eight teams advancing to the state tournament will be seeded using a blind draw, beginning in the spring of 2013. (Carried)

➤ Football: Approved requests from Juneau-Douglas High School and North Pole High School to move into the Medium Schools classification in football, beginning in 2013-14. Both schools have requested to be placed in the Southeast Conference. (Both schools have been experiencing declining enrollments and have been under 800 students for at least the past two years). (Carried)

Moved to Table until the February board meeting, discussion on possible changes in the playoff format, including any financial arrangements that might be part of the format. (Carried)

➤ Sports Medicine -Wrestling Weight Management: Approved the addition of wording to the ASAA weight certification form to bring it into compliance with the NFHS guidelines. Instructions to medical providers will also be added. (Unanimous Consent)

Moved to table until the February board meeting, any action on other recommendations by the SMAC (Sports Medicine Advisory Committee), pending input from the regions. (Carried)

➤ Election of President and Vice-President: Re-elected Region 1 representative, Billy Strickland

(Bethel), as president, and Region 4 representative, Michael Graham (East Anchorage), as vice-president, for 2013. (Unanimous Consent)

➤ Mixed-Six Volleyball: Approved a request from Region 2 to have a separate conference and state tournament berth beginning in 2013-14. (Carried)

Staff was instructed to develop a state tournament format for 2013-14 involving nine teams. Region 1 related that it might be willing to adjust its berths so that the state tournament could stay at 8 teams.

➤ Glennallen High School Request: Approved a request from Glennallen High School to move from Region 3 to Region 2, effective immediately. (Carried)

➤ Basketball –3 Person Officiating: Re-considered previous board action to add 3 person officiating crews at the 1A and 2A state tournaments for all games played at the Sullivan Arena. (Carried)

Moved to return to 2 person officiating crews in all 1A and 2A state tournament games this season while we assess the impact of expanding the 1A tournament to 16 teams in both girls and boys. (Carried)

➤ Volleyball – 3A/4A State Tournament Format: After discussion on the success of the double elimination format used during last month's state tournament, approved the continuation of format in future years. (Carried)

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

- Board Members
- State Tournaments
- Finance Committee
- Student Government
- Officials/Coaches/WPI
- Marketing
- Play for Keeps, Win for Life
- Technology
- Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC), Concussions
- Executive Director
- Audit Report – Mikunda, Cottrell, Inc.

**Public Comments** No comments were made by the public, either in person or by phone.

**Workshop Items** The board reviewed progress to date on the Strategic Plan for 2012-17, including financial issues.

**Executive Session** The board moved into executive session to discuss personnel matters.

**Student Eligibility Hearing** The board heard a transfer eligibility appeal from a student at

Klawock School. The board upheld the Executive Director's decision to deny eligibility.

**Tabled Items** None from last meeting.

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

- State Tournament Bids: Discussed the bids received to date for future state tournament sites and hosts. Reviewed a staff analysis of the anticipated financial impacts on the Association.
- Amended Reclassification Policy: Discussed a staff proposal to revise the way that school classifications are determined. The current process involves placing schools on Step One and Step Two when their enrollments are either increasing or decreasing according to the October report to the DEED. The proposed process would extend over a 3 year period with enrollment during the 3<sup>rd</sup> year as the determiner of future classification. The board will discuss this at upcoming regional meetings and will take it up again for possible action during the February board meeting.
- Bylaw Article 12, Section 2, D - 8th Grade Student Eligibility: Continued discussion on a Region 1 proposal to change the cut -off numbers for high school enrollment from 20 to 30 students, and from either 10 or less girls to 15 or less girls, and from 10 or less boys to 15 or less boys enrolled in the school.

Moved to Table until the February board meeting.

- Bylaw Article 12, Sections 5 and 9 – Foreign Exchange Students Living with a School's Coach: Continued discussion on the current rules which deny athletic eligibility to a foreign exchange student who lives with a member of the school's coaching staff or whose housing is arranged by a coach. Region 3 proposed that the rule apply only to those sports actually coached by the host coach.

The board asked that staff develop proposed wording for a bylaw amendment to be discussed during the February board meeting with possible action during the April meeting.

- Bylaw Article 2, Section 3 – Self-Reporting of Violations: Continued discussion on the current wording which states, in part:

“C. Self-Reporting: A member school shall report its own violations for any infraction of the Bylaws or rules. Some degree of leniency, including waiver of minimum mandatory penalties, may be made in self-reporting cases since the majority of such infractions may not otherwise come to light...”

The board asked staff to rewrite the wording to clarify that financial penalties may be waived but not a game forfeiture under the “waiver of minimum mandatory penalties.” This will receive further discussion during the February board meeting.

➤ Alaska High School Hall of Fame: Concurred with the Executive Director's reappointment of members to the Selection Committee.

➤ SMAC Recommendations: Discussed recommendations by the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee including:

- Medical staff access to sidelines during football games
- Medical staff in hockey coaches box
- Anabolic steroid use
- Energy drinks and supplements
- Lightning protocol
- Medical appliances
- Mouth guards
- Heat acclimatization
- Wrestling skin concerns
- Supplements
- Athlete hygiene

Others discussion items:

- Soccer headgear
- Job description for state tournament medical director
- Team physicians at events
- Following concussion procedures – possible penalties
- Coaching extensions and concussion education
- Coaching recertification and concussion course
- School concussion awareness symposia
- Wrestling weight determination
- Posting of NFHS emergency action plan (EAP)
- Support for using certified athletic trainers

➤ Mercy Rule: Discussed the application of the Mercy Rule which is imposed in team athletic competition when a certain point spread is reached. It has been ASAA's practice to not utilize the rule during state championship games even though the policy does not specify that. The board decided that the Mercy Rule should apply to all games, including state championships.

➤ Football Playoffs: Discussed requests for conference and playoff realignment from Medium and Large schools following requests by Juneau-Douglas High School and North Pole High School to move into the Medium School classification.

These will be discussion items during the February board meeting.

➤ 1A/2A/3A Track and Field State Tournament Request: Discussed a request from the Haines

Borough School District to expand the format of the state meet. Staff presented a proposed schedule which would accommodate the request. After further discussion, it was moved to action but there was not a second so the proposal has died. The Executive Director will notify the school district.

➤ Girls Hockey: The board has been discussing girls hockey for the past few meetings. There have been requests to consider girls hockey as a separate sport under the Supplemental Rules while others want both boys and girls hockey to be treated the same. The Executive Director made the following proposal which will be considered by the regions and revisited during the February board meeting. There was considerable discussion on the “windows” in which high school players can play games with their “comp” teams.

Recommendation – It is recommended that ASAA make the following changes to girls hockey, beginning in 2013-14.

1. ASAA sanction Girls Hockey as a separate sport. Girls who attend schools which have both girls and boys hockey teams would only be able to play on the the girls team (as in basketball, soccer, etc.) Girls who attend a school which has only boys hockey, may play on that team making it co-ed.
2. Modify the supplemental rules in that two windows for dual participation be adopted which apply to all girls teams. Girls who play on boys (co-ed) teams must follow the dual participation windows in effect for the boys teams.
3. Rename the girls teams to reflect that they are school teams.
4. Accept the fact that all the teams are cooperatives and that they will stay that way for the foreseeable future. Grant an indefinite waiver to the cooperative rule.
5. ASAA form one conference of all 6 girls teams in the state (4 - Anchorage, 1 - Mat-Su, and 1-Fairbanks). Any additional teams in the future would join this conference. Conference bylaws and a game schedule be adopted, and a conference commissioner be selected. Develop a conference playoff system leading up to a state championship game.
6. Consider Region 6’s state tournament proposal.
7. Seek regional input on this proposal. If supported, adopt for 2013-14. If not, drop girls hockey as a separate sport.

Dual Participation Rule – During its February meeting, the board will consider a proposed amendment to clarify when the rule is in effect.

➤ Wrestling: Staff provided an update on the seeding at the 1A-3A state tournament and plans to use the Track Wrestling program during the 4A season. There will be further discussion during the February board meeting.

➤ Basketball: Revisited a previous proposal from Region 1 that all semi-final state tournament games played at the Sullivan Arena be played on the lengthwise floor. After reviewing a schedule, it was dropped.

Heard a report on the new scoreboards which will be used on the cross court at the Sullivan Arena for the state tournament, and also for the mixed-six/2A volleyball state tournament at Dimond High School.

➤ Special Olympics-Unified Sports: Reviewed a report from Special Olympics Alaska on the progress to date on developing Unified Sports teams at high schools. The board had some questions which will be posed prior to another update during the February board meeting.

➤ Savoonga School Concern: Reviewed a concerned from the Bering Strait School District about the classification of Savoonga School. The Executive Director explained the sequence of events and that Savoonga was placed on Step One, decreasing enrollment, in May of 2012. The school was notified in writing but did not respond. It was unclear whether this would continue to be an agenda item in the future.

➤ STUNT/Cheer Update: Staff reported that there has been no interest expressed by the schools in STUNT.

➤ World Language Declamation Proposal: Region 4 presented a proposal to change the dates of the state contest from mid-February to early April beginning in 2013-14. This will be an agenda item during the February board meeting.

➤ Gymnastics: Reviewed a request from Region 6 to move the gymnastics season from fall to spring. The board will take this up during the February board meeting.

➤ Bylaw – Article Seven, Section 9: Heard that this section is hard to understand since parts have been revised a number of times without a complete rewrite. Staff will rewrite for clarity and present to board for review during the February board meeting.

➤ Special Board Meeting: After considerable discussion, the board called for a special meeting to be held in Anchorage on January 13 to discuss the Association's financial position.

## **Workshop**

1. Strategic Plan
2. Long Range Financial Plan
3. Student Government (Postponed)

## **Executive Session**

Executive session was held to discuss personnel matters.

**Items for Next Meeting** – February 18-19, 2013  
Marriot Spring Hill, University Lake

**Tabled Items**

1. SMAC Recommendations
2. Article 12, Section 2, D. – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Eligibility
3. Football Playoff Formats – Medium and Large Schools

**Discussion**

1. State Tournament Bids
  - a. 3A/4A Volleyball - Site Clarification
  - b. 1A/2A/3A Wrestling - Facility
  - c. Baseball – Sitka Bid
  - d. DDF – UAA Bid
2. Hockey Dual Participation Rule Clarification
3. Mixed-six Volleyball – State Tournament Format
4. Conferences and State Tournament Berths – Individual Sports
5. Article 7, Section 9 – Joint Participation and Cooperative School Programs – Rewrite
6. Article 12, Sections 5 and 9 – Foreign Student Eligibility
7. Article 2, Section 3 – Self Reporting of Violations
8. Wrestling Seeding
9. Special Olympics – Unified Sports Report
10. World Language Declamation – Region 4
11. Gymnastics Season – Region 6
12. Implementation of AS 14.30.365 (Home School Rule)
13. Girls Hockey

**Action**

1. State Tournament Bids
2. Reclassification Policy