



ALASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

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Synopsis of ASAA Board of Directors' Meeting Anchorage, Alaska February 21-22, 2011

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 December 13-14, regular meeting and the January 13 Special Teleconference Meeting. (Consensus)

➤ Bylaw Amendment –Practice Rule: Adopted an amendment to Article 7, Section 5 B. **(amendment in bold)**

A. “All players must have ten (10) separate days of physical practice in the same sport activity prior to the first day of competition.

B. When a student is participating in a recognized high school sport activity or is participating in a *nationally recognized activity* in the same sport which overlaps the beginning of another recognized sport season, the Executive Director may waive up to five (5) practices. Students may not have practices waived for entering the sport activities of football, gymnastics, hockey, wrestling, (ASAA does grant an exception to this rule to Alaska high school wrestlers who have been playing football when the 5-day waiver is requested) or cheerleading due to safety considerations and to the nature of these sports.”

(Add)

“For purposes of this section, a “*nationally recognized activity*” is a non-school athletic competition and/or practice, in the same sport, conducted under the auspices of a national sports governing body as part of an Olympic Development Program. This activity will usually be conducted outside of the state of Alaska.”

The amendment went into effect immediately upon adoption. (Unanimous Consent)

➤ State Tournament Bid Proposals: After reviewing the submitted proposals, took the following actions:

Tennis – Accepted the bid from the Anchorage School District for the 2011, 2012 and 2013 tournaments. (Unanimous Consent)

4A Wrestling – No bids were submitted so the board asked for bids to be submitted for the April meeting.

Nordic Skiing – Accepted the bid from the Anchorage School District for the 2011, 2012 and 2013 tournaments. (Unanimous Consent)

Track and Field – Rejected a one year bid from Juneau-Douglas High School and Thunder Mountain High School to jointly host the tournament in Juneau in 2012 (concern about transportation for 800+ coaches and athletes).

Rejected a one year bid from the Kenai-Peninsula Borough School District to jointly host the tournament at Nikiski High School in 2012 (concern about adequate hotel space).

(Carried 5-3)

Asked to have bids submitted for the April meeting.

Softball – Accepted the bid from the Anchorage Sports Association for the 2011, 2012 and 2013 tournaments. (Carried 7-1)

Baseball – Rejected a one year bid from Sitka High School for the 2012 tournament.

Asked to have bids submitted for the April meeting.

DDF – Accepted the bid from UAA for the 2012 and 2013 tournaments.
(Unanimous Consent)

➤ Requests to “Opt Up”: (Unanimous Consent)

2011-12 – George Morgan Sr. School (Kalskag) – 2A Volleyball

2012-13 – Homer High School – 4A Hockey

- Susan B. English School (Seldovia) – 2A Volleyball

- Monroe Catholic School (Fairbanks) – 3A Basketball and Volleyball

- Cordova High School – 3A Basketball and Volleyball

- North Pole High School – Large School Football and Softball

- **Palmer High School – Large School Football and Softball**

- Tikigaq School (Point Hope) – 2A Basketball and Volleyball

- Frank A. Degnan School (Unalakleet) – 2A Basketball

➤ Classification / Reclassification Enrollment Policy: Approved a staff request to suspend the General Policy 2. for the 2010-11 and 2011-12 school years considering that new classification numbers will go into effect in 2012-13. (Unanimous Consent)

➤ House Bill 15 – Concussion Management: Approved the concept of the bill, contingent upon satisfactory wording in the substitute bill. (Unanimous Consent)

➤ Classification Changes: Adopted revisions to the classification numbers for football which will go into effect in 2011-12, as follows: (Unanimous Consent)

Football -	Small – 325 and less
	Medium – 326-800
	Large – 801 and larger

Beginning in 2012-13: (Unanimous Consent)

Mixed-Six Volleyball -	60 and smaller
1A Volleyball -	Eliminated

➤ 2011 Football Playoff Site: Approved a staff proposal to move the 2011 football playoffs from Anchorage Football Stadium to Chugiak High School’s Tom Huffer Field. (Unanimous Consent)

➤ Cross-Country Running – State Tournament Team Substitution Policy: Approved an amendment to the state tournament policy beginning in 2011-12 as follows: (Unanimous Consent)

“L. State Tournament Berths...Individual Sports

The Regional/Conference Tournament Director shall submit to the ASAA Office by the published deadline the names of all qualifiers. Once the list of qualifiers is submitted, there will be no changes unless there are extenuating circumstances.

(Add) For Cross-Country Running qualifying teams, schools will have until 5:00 p.m. Tuesday of state tournament week to submit the names of seven team members and two alternates. Schools will then have until 5:00 p.m. on the Thursday before the race to notify ASAA if either of the alternates will run in the race in place of any of the 7 named runners. Alternates will not be eligible to run after this Thursday deadline. This will allow teams to substitute alternates for sick or injured runners, while also allowing equity between local teams and those who need to plan for travel.

This does not apply to individual qualifiers.”

➤ Basketball – 2A Tournament Berths from Region 1: Approved, beginning with the 2011 state tournament, the following process for placing the 3 teams from Region 1 in the tournament bracket. A regional seeding committee will meet and submit the seeding order to ASAA following the conference tournaments.

The first round matchups are based on a three year rotation with changes in **bold**.

2010-11

~~Great Northwest 1 (Region 1-#1)~~ vs Southeast 2
Peninsula 1 vs. ~~Yukon/Kuskokwim 1 (Region 1-#2)~~
Central Interior 1 vs. ~~Great Northwest 2 (Region 1-#3)~~
Southeast 1 vs. Peninsula 2

2011-12

Central Interior 1 vs. Peninsula 2
~~Great Northwest 1 (Region 1-#1)~~ vs. Southeast 2
Southeast 1 vs. ~~Yukon/Kuskokwim 1 (Region 1-#2)~~
Peninsula 1 vs. ~~Great Northwest 2 (Region 1-#3)~~

2012-13

Peninsula 1 vs. Southeast 2
~~Great Northwest 1 (Region 1-#1)~~ vs. Peninsula 2
Southeast 1 vs. ~~Great Northwest 2 (Region 1-#3)~~
Central Interior 1 vs. ~~Yukon/Kuskokwim 1 (Region 1-#2)~~

➤ Volleyball Jamboree Policy: Defeated the following Region 4 amendment to Sports Related Policies 9. **Jamborees**, effective immediately, as follows: (Failed 4-4)

“9. Jamborees

1. Volleyball – All players must have ~~ten (10)~~ **five (5)** days of practice prior to the day of the jamboree...etc.”

➤ Wrestling Season Request: Approved a proposal from Houston, Homer and Skyview High Schools permitting the schools to wrestle at the 1A, 2A, 3A level in 2011-12 when the 4A season will change. The rationale was that under the current scenario, the schools would wrestle during the 4A season in 2011-12, then switch to the 3A season in 2012-13 when the reclassification numbers go into effect. (Unanimous Consent)

➤ Gold Lifetime Pass: Approved a proposal from Region 4 and ASAA staff to award a Gold Lifetime Pass to retiring Alaska Airlines VP Bill McKay during the March Madness State Basketball Tournament. (Unanimous Consent)

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
- Auditor's Report
- Executive Director

Public Comments Heard comments from the Petersburg City School Board on the proposed amendments to the Classification System, from Jack Walsh, Superintendent of the Bristol Bay Borough School District on the 2A Peninsula Basketball Conference hosting rotation financial implications, and from Dan Strickland who proposed adding Gracie Jiu-Jitsu as a sanctioned ASAA sport. A good discussion followed Mr. Strickland's presentation.

Workshop Items The BOD discussed the following items in workshop:

1. House Bill 15 – Concussion Legislation – Staff and board met with ASAA legal counsel James Brennan to review House Bill 15, concussion legislation, sponsored by Representative Mike Doogan, currently working its way through the Alaska Legislature. The executive director and Mr. Brennan have been working extensively with the bill's sponsor, the Sportsmedicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) and medical, legal, risk management and state association staff in Washington to rewrite the bill so that it is more specific, clarifies procedures, and reduces risk to school districts and ASAA, while it provides additional protection for student athletes. An amended version is now going through review in Rep. Doogan's office.

2. Reclassification - Reviewed the revised unofficial 2010 enrollment numbers as reported by DEED in February and how they effect classification numbers for basketball and all other sports. Reviewed all sports conferences under the new numbers, including school requests to "opt up." Staff will propose "berths to state" for all conferences and will distribute for discussion prior to the April board meeting.

3. Executive Session – The board went into executive session to conduct the executive director's performance evaluation.

Tabled Items: Tabled action on the Small/Medium School Football Playoff Structure until the April meeting in order to receive input from the effected schools. This included a proposal to balance travel costs.

Tabled action on the Student Internet Access Policy until the April meeting, pending input from school district technology staff members.

Tabled action on a potential 16 team bracket for the 1A state basketball tournament, beginning in 2012-13.

Discussion Items The BOD discussed the following items:

➤ Bylaws: Approved the publishing of a chart on Application of the Transfer Rule to

Alternative School Students under Article 12, Section 9, **Transfer Rule**. The chart will be displayed in the 2011-12 ASAA Handbook.

Discussed a proposal from Region 4 to extend the period of ineligibility for a transfer student from 90 to 180 days. Directed that the proposed amendment be sent out for comment and that it be an action item during the April meeting.

Discussed the application of Article 7, Section 5, **Practice Rule**, concerning overlapping sports. The Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) which met in January, recommended that the rule be amended to remove exceptions in the rule for overlapping sports since no physiological benefit would be gained by waiving certain sports compared to others. This will be an action item during the April meeting.

Discussed a proposal from Region 5 on Article 12, Section 2, **Enrollment Rule**, concerning 8th grade eligibility. Proposed wording –

8th Grade Student Participation Authority.

“...This request must verify that the high school described above is a member school and that there were twenty (20) or fewer students, **(add) or ten (10) or fewer students per gender** enrolled in grades 9-12 during the previous school year’s October student count as reported to the Department of Education and Early Development. If the current year’s October count is lower than the previous year’s, it may substitute as the official count for purposes of this section...”

- Analysis of State Tournament Berths for Individual Sports: Discussed a staff report on state tournament berths which are analyzed every other year. It was recommended that no changes in berths be adopted in Cross-Country Running, Swimming and Diving, Wrestling, Nordic Skiing, Tennis, and Track and Field.
- Alaska Association of Basketball Coaches: Heard a report from Ward Romans, Executive Director, on the status of the reestablished organization. Currently, 226 coaches in 30 schools are members. The Association’s all-star game will be held on April 9 at Colony High School.
- 2011-12 Operating Budget Discussion: Discussed items that should be included in next year’s budget. The budget will be discussed during the April board meeting followed by action during a special teleconference meeting in May.
- Strategic Planning: Continued discussion on the development of a new strategic plan and heard a presentation by Jerry Covey, JSC Consulting. The board will consider a 2-3 day planning session in January 2012.
- Music Festivals: Heard a discussion on confusion which exists in the music festival policy pertaining to qualification for State Solo and Ensemble.

➤ Cheerleading: Discussed sideline sport-specific cheerleading and competitive cheerleading and how they are placed on the Association's season calendar. The board will hear a proposal during the February meeting which may include setting a season for "comp" cheerleading.

➤ Website Content/Update: Heard a presentation on staff efforts to manage content on the Association's five websites and on goals for 2010-12 which include redesign and development, social media, email marketing, mobile solutions and a discussion forum. This may include expanding the webmaster's current part-time contractor status to full-time employee status.

➤ Statewide Scheduling Meeting: Discussed the implementation of the meeting since ASAA assumed a planning and administrative role a few years ago. The board decided that the meeting date should be included in the annual Statewide Season Calendar.

➤ Seeding of State Wrestling Tournaments: Discussed the process used to seed the two state wrestling tournaments and heard a staff report on how it worked this year. The board discussed the potential of revising the process to seed only the regional/conference champions into the state tournament. There will be further discussion during the April board meeting.

➤ 2A Basketball State Tournament Berths: Heard a proposal from Region 1 to rename its 2A basketball berths in the state tournament. The Region currently has three berths, designated as Great Northwest 1 and 2, and Yukon/Kuskokwim 1. It wants to seed the three teams and place them in the existing rotation. The 2A state tournament representation is as follows:

- Region 1 – Great Northwest - 2 berths
 - Yukon/Kuskokwim – 1 berth
- Region 2 – Peninsula – 2 berths
 - Central Interior – 1 berth
- Region 5 - Southeast – 2 berth

The first round matchups are based on a three year rotation with proposed changes in **bold**.

2010-11

- ~~Great Northwest 1~~ (**Region 1-#1**) vs Southeast 2
- Peninsula 1 vs. ~~Yukon/Kuskokwim 1~~ (**Region 1-#2**)
- Central Interior 1 vs. ~~Great Northwest 2~~ (**Region 1-#3**)
- Southeast 1 vs. Peninsula 2

2011-12

- Central Interior 1 vs. Peninsula 2
- ~~Great Northwest 1~~ (**Region 1-#1**) vs. Southeast 2
- Southeast 1 vs. ~~Yukon/Kuskokwim 1~~ (**Region 1-#2**)
- Peninsula 1 vs. ~~Great Northwest 2~~ (**Region 1-#3**)

2012-13

- Peninsula 1 vs. Southeast 2
- ~~Great Northwest 1~~ (**Region 1-#1**) vs. Peninsula 2

Southeast 1 vs. ~~Great Northwest 2~~ **Region 1-#3**
Central Interior 1 vs. ~~Yukon/Kuskokwim-1~~ (**Region 1-#2**)

- Volleyball Jamboree: Heard a proposal from Region 4 to amend the policy to permit students to participate in jamborees after five days of practice, instead of ten as currently stated. This will be a discussion item during the February board meeting.
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- Volleyball State Tournament: Heard a proposal from Region 5 to incorporate double elimination in the state tournament. This will be a discussion item during the April board meeting.
- Music Festivals: Discussed confusion caused by the policy on regional music festivals which are qualifying fewtivals for state Solo and Ensemble. ASAA will specify which festivals are “qualifying festivals.”
- Cheerleading: Discussed the current state of cheerleading. Board reviewed a staff report comparing “competition” vs. “sideline cheer.” The report suggested that “competitive” and “sideline cheer” have corresponding seasons. The board will consider whether to sanction “competitive” cheer in the future. Also heard a report on a new cheer activity called “stunt.”
- Wrestling: Discussed a concern about the present process of seeding wrestlers into the state tournament. The board has agreed to consider seeding the top 2 qualifiers from each regional/conference tournament tournament. This will be a discussion item during the April meeting.
- Small School Soccer: Revisited a proposal from Region 6 to classify soccer into large and small school divisions. This will be a discussion item during the April board meeting.
- Hockey Endowment: Heard a proposal from Region 3 to amend the policy to include hockey. This will be a discussion item during the April board meeting.

Student Hearing

1. Upheld the Executive Director’s denial of a waiver of the Maximum Participation (8 Semester) Rule to a 5th year senior at McQueen (Kivalina) School. (Carried 8-0)
2. Upheld the Executive Director’s denial of a waiver of the Boarding School Transfer Rule to a

student who transferred to George Morgan Sr. (Kalskag) School, from Galena Interior Learning Academy. (Carried 8-0)

Items for April Meeting – April 17-18, 2011 – Sitka High School, Sitka

Tabled Items

1. 1A State Basketball Tournament 16 Team Format
2. Student Internet Access Permission
3. Football Playoffs

Workshop

- 1.
- 2.

Reports

- 1.

Discussion

1. Cheerleading as a Sport
2. Enrollment Rule, Article 12, Section 2, “8th Grade Students”
3. State Wrestling Tournament Seeding Procedure
4. 2011-12 Budget Preview
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

Action

1. Adoption of Conferences and Berths to State
2. State Tournament Bids
3. Bylaw Amendment
 - a. Article 5, Section 7 - Practice Rule
 - b. Article 12, Section 9, Transfer Rule
4. 2011-12 Goals
5. 2011-12 Meeting Dates and Location