



ALASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

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Synopsis of ASAA Board of Directors' Meeting Anchorage, Alaska February 20-21, 2012

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:

➤ Concussion Policy: Adopted the recommended policy components for school districts as spelled out in House Bill 15 and recommended by the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC). ASAA will also provide forms that support the components. (Passed 8-0)

Concussion information will be posted at-

<http://asaa.org/asaa/sports-medicine>

➤ Minutes: Approved minutes of the December 12-13 regular meeting and the January 23 special teleconference meeting. (Consensus)

➤ 2012-13 Calendar: Adopted amendments to the calendar for 2012-13. This included the adoption of a competitive cheer season which will replace the current "open season." Calendar amendments include:

-Fall Competitive Cheer Season– July 30-October 20

-Winter Competitive Cheer Season– November 26-March 16

-Tennis Season-ends October 6

-Fall Student Government Conference-October 25-27-Wasilla High School

(Passed - 8-0)

The amended 2012-13 calendar is posted at-

<http://asaa.org/wp-content/uploads/2012-13-Calendar-2-27-12.pdf>

➤ Coaches Certification and Reporting of Coaches: Adopted amendments to the bylaws which will-

1. impose a penalty on schools for using non-certified coaches who have not received extensions through ASAA, and
2. for failing to report the names of coaches in a timely manner as stated in Article 10, Section 4.

The penalties will be \$105 per coach for each offense. The amendment goes into effect on July 1, 2012. (Passed – 8-0)

➤ Adoption of Conferences and Berths to State: Adopted the remaining school placements, conferences and names, and berths to state in Mixed-Six volleyball and 1A-2A-3A wrestling. In 1A basketball, the board reformed the Central Interior, Arctic Slope and Northwest Arctic Conferences and berths. (Passed – 8-0)

Final adoptions of 2012-13 conferences and berths to state are posted at-

<http://asaa.org/wp-content/uploads/2012-13-Classification-and-Conference-Breakdown-2-21-12.pdf>

Although there were requests to further revise the Kachemak and Denali wrestling conferences and berths, the board decided to leave them as adopted and to review the conferences in 2012-13 as specified under Championship Tournament Policy L.

➤ Hall of Fame Bylaws Amendment: Adopted amendments proposed by the Selection Committee to authorize members to participate and cast votes in a teleconference meeting. The board also clarified the meaning of a quorum and reordered it into another section. (Passed 8-0)

Alaska High School Hall of Fame Bylaws are posted at-

<http://alaskahalloffame.org/bylaws>

➤ 3A-4A Volleyball: Approved a proposal that would change the 3A-4A state tournament into a double elimination format beginning in 2012-13. (Passed -8-0)

➤ Reclassification Policy: Declined to adopt a policy under which school enrollments would have been studied every three years to determine whether reclassification should be undertaken. (Died for lack of second)

➤ Election of Officers: Billy Strickland-Region 1, Dean of Students-Bethel Regional High School, was reelected President.

Michael Graham-Region 4, Principal-East Anchorage High School, was reelected Vice-President. (Unanimous Consent)

➤ State Tennis Tournament: After a lengthy discussion on the state tournament format, seeding, qualifying process and venue, the board approved the formation of an ad hoc tennis committee

with school district appointed regional representation to propose recommendations for the future. The committee will meet prior to the April board meeting. (Passed 8-0)

➤ **Galena High School Complaint:** Heard a complaint by Jon Buchanan, AD, representing Galena High School, that the school was being treated unfairly by other members of the Aurora Conference in basketball and volleyball. Under the Multi-Region Conference Policy, the Board has authority to resolve conflicts when a school files a complaint of unfair treatment. The board agreed to hear all parties in a formal telephonic hearing on February 27 at 11:00 a.m.

➤ **Track and Field:** Considered a proposal from Region 3 for the state tournament.

Request

1. No scratch deadlines
2. Scoring of 8 places per event (4A only)
3. Doubling of relay scores
4. Expanding 1A-2A-3A state tournament

Action

- dropped prior to a motion
- motion defeated 5-2
- dropped prior to a motion
- not approved, stay with status quo and reconsider after reclassification occurs in 2012-13

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)
- Executive Director

Public Comments Heard comments on the state tennis tournament from Allen Clendaniel-Alaska Tennis Association, Julia Rumley-Student Athlete, Scott Kohlhaas-Alaska Tennis Association and Bill Cotton-Coach.

Workshop Items No workshop was held during this meeting.

Tabled Items None

Discussion Items The BOD discussed the following items:

➤ **April Board Meeting:** Discussed arrangements for the April 22-23 board meeting which will be held in Bethel.

➤ Wrestling: State Tournament Seeding Process - Revisited staff concerns with the current process of seeding the two state tournaments. These include the submittals of inaccurate and/or incomplete match records, conflicting match records, the time required to seed the tournaments, and the process by which the seeding results are conveyed to coaches. During its December meeting, the board considered the following three options if the process is to be changed and asked for regional input.

1. seeding only the champion from each region or conference and drawing in all other qualifiers,
2. seeding only the champion from each region or conference but placing the runner-up on the opposite side of the bracket
3. random draw all qualifiers

After further discussion, Regions 4/5 moved this to an action item which failed 4-4. The board then agreed to take action on this during the April board meeting after soliciting more input.

➤ State Wrestling Team Duals Tournament Proposal - Based on a request during the December meeting, staff presented a more detailed proposal on incorporating team duals tournaments into the state wrestling tournaments. This proposal, if adopted, would not increase the length of the existing state tournament because it would reduce the 16 wrestler bracket to 12 wrestlers. Further discussion will occur during the April board meeting.

➤ Girls Wrestling Proposal – Revisited a Mt. Edgecumbe High School proposal to create separate girls weight classes and wrestling divisions at conference/region and state tournaments. Based on the current number of girls wrestling, the board determined that a separate girls division is not feasible unless all wrestling is held during a common season.

➤ Wrestling Weight Classes – Reviewed responses to the new weight classes after completion of the wrestling seasons based on data and comments presented by Nome coach, Dudley Homelvig. The main dissatisfaction seems to be in the lower weight classes where our smallest wrestlers are put at a disadvantage because they have to “wrestle up” to get to the 106 pound class. They are frequently paired against a larger wrestler who has “dropped down.” After discussion, the board asked for more input prior to taking action during the April meeting.

➤ Letter from Kenai Central High School – Heard that the school is concerned with the wrestling reclassification and the split wrestling seasons because there is less competition for their wrestlers because only 2 schools on the Peninsula compete in the 4A wrestling season. There is also concern that a number of football players are choosing to play basketball rather than wrestle since the two seasons are in direct conflict (overlap). After discussion, the board asked that 4A schools be surveyed to gather data on the results of the split seasons. Information will be sought on-

1. overall satisfaction with the new season,
2. whether there were more football players who chose to wrestle compared to past years,

3. how this year's overall participation numbers compare to last years, and
4. whether any new conflicts arose as a result of the season change.

➤ Cheerleading: Heard a presentation by Bill Seely of UCA on initiating a new competitive cheer activity in Alaska called Stunt. There will be a demonstration at the upcoming state cheerleading championships. Two ASAA cheer coordinators recently attended a high school state stunt competition in Orlando and reported on their experiences.

➤ Soccer: Dropped further discussion on classifying soccer because no new proposal was brought forth.

➤ All-State Art Competition: Heard and discussed a report on the pending inaugural digital art competition. Discussed the promotional materials, judging rubrics, and timelines.

➤ Tennis: Heard public comment from a number of citizens in the tennis community who were concerned about the future of the state tournament considering the problems expressed by staff during the December board meeting. These were:

1. not enough cross-conference regular season competition (Regions 3 and 5 each have only one school participating),
2. not enough qualified officials,
3. state tournament seeding criteria,
4. state tournament qualifying criteria,
5. limited facility for state tournament,
6. state tournament not a culminating event for majority of students, and
7. outside influence on state tournament (ie: USTA traveling trophy).

Following a review and discussion of these issues, the board directed that an ad hoc committee of school representatives from the the participating regions be formed to make recommendations for the future, and that it meet prior to the April board meeting.

➤ Hockey: Revisited the issue concerning the dual-participation rule and how it applies to House Teams which travel for competition. This was prompted by requests to apply the rule only to boys hockey participants. Staff developed a proposed amendment to the Hockey Supplemental Rules which would clarify the issue, as follows:

“ASAA prohibits students, who are members of a high school team, from competing as members of a non-school “comp” or “junior hockey team” beginning with the first day of high school practice until a school has completed its season. The prohibition on competing on a non-school team will be lifted during Thanksgiving and Christmas vacation dates as they are determined by the schools and districts. **(ADD) Students may participate as members of a “house team” at any time during the high school season, but will be permitted to travel to compete with the “house team” only during the Thanksgiving and Christmas vacation windows as they are specified above.** Although this rule does not restrict practice on a non-school team during the high school

season, no student may participate in a high school game on a day in which he/she has participated in a “comp” practice. (See item 12 of supplemental rules regarding penalty).”

The board directed that this be placed on the action agenda for the April meeting.

➤ Television/Media Update: Heard plans to webstream 8 championship basketball games and televise those games on ARCS.

➤ Strategic Planning: Heard a report from facilitator Jerry Covey on ASAA’s strategic plan for 2012-16. Staff will propose timelines for implementation prior to formal adoption by the board during the April meeting. The adopted plan will be widely distributed after final adoption.

➤ Fundraising /Legislative Report: Heard an update on efforts to raise funding through the state capital budget. Discussed efforts to amend the Concussion Statute (House Bill 15). Discussed a proposed bill to extend eligibility to certain home school students. The Executive Director will participate in the AASA Fly-in in early March.

➤ Hall of Fame Selection Committee: Was notified of the Class of 2012 of the Alaska High School Hall of Fame which will be inducted on August 5 in Anchorage –

Athlete –	Steve McSwain – East Anchorage High School - 1983
Activity Participant –	Vivica Genaux – West Valley High School – 1987
	Richard Cooper – Haines High School – 1984
	Roger Schmidt – Sitka High School – 1987
Coach –	Paul Brauneis – Chugiak High School
	Mike Smithers – Ketchikan High School
	Craig Jung – Kenai Central High School
Administrator –	John Andrews – Kenai Peninsula School District
Contributor –	Nordic Skiing Association of Anchorage
	Alaska Commercial Company

Was asked to approve a minor revision to the Hall of Fame bylaws

➤ All Sports Trophy: Briefly discussed a proposed new trophy for schools which win multiple championships which might be renamed the “Greatland Cup.” This will continue to be a discussion item during the April board meeting.

➤ Spirit of Sport Award: Discussed this award, sponsored by the NFHS, which recognizes an act of outstanding sportsmanship in each state, section and in the nation. The board recommitted its support and asked that the application form be sent to each region, to have it posted on the website and to set deadlines. Learned that ASAA will not nominate a 2011-12 winner due to lack of nominations.

➤ Eligibility Rule Violation Sanctions: Met with Anchorage School District Superintendent Carol Comeau who is concerned about the severity of sanctions placed on schools for violations of eligibility rules.

➤ 8th Grade Student Participation / Cooperative Teams: Heard comments from Region 1 on the current bylaw. A proposal for amendment might be brought forward during the April meeting.

Student Hearing

None

Executive Session

None

Items for April Meeting – April 22-23, 2012 – Bethel, LKSD Office

Tabled Items

1. None

Workshop

None

Reports

1.

Discussion

1. Wrestling
 - a. State Team Duals Championships
 - b. Weight Classes
 - c. Seasons
2. All-State Art Competition
3. Tennis – State Tournament Format, Qualifying Criteria and Seeding
4. State Tournament Bids
 - a. Swimming and Diving
 - b. Others
5. Title IX Update
6. Greatland Cup
7. Fundraising Report
8. Legislation
9. Home School Eligibility Flow-chart
10. Penalties for Violation of Eligibility Rules
12. 2012-13 Operating and Grants budgets
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.

Action

1. Wrestling - State Tournament Seeding
2. Hockey - Dual Participation Rule for “House Teams”
3. 2012-16 Strategic Plan, Timelines and Adoption
4. 2012-13 Meeting Dates and Locations
5. Board Goals for 2012-13
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.