



4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Web: www.asaa.org

Un-Adopted Minutes of the ASAA Board of Directors' Meeting May 4 , 2026

More information may be obtained from an ASAA Board member (board@asaa.org) or from the ASAA office (907) 563-3723.

Call to Order — the meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. May 4, 2026.

Roll Call:

- Region 1 – Patrick Callahan - Present
- Region 2 – James Sickler - Present
- Region 3 – Stacia Rustad - Present
- Region 4 – Tim Helvey - Present
- Region 5 – Jaime Cabral – Present
- Region 6 – Wayne Sawchuk - Present
- AASB – Margo Bellamy – Present
- AASA – Luke Meinert – Absent (Excused)
- AASG – Leif Konrath-Bera – Absent (Excused)

Approval of the Consent Items –

- a. Approval of Minutes from February 16-17, 2026 Meeting
- b. Waiver Report
- c. Out-of-State Travel
- d. Contest Ejection Report
- e. Financial Report
- f. Cooperative Schools Report
- g. Endowment Report
- h. Eighth Grade Student Eligibility Request Report

Motion and second “to approve the consent items”
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)



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Ordering and Approval of the Agenda–

Motion and second “to approve the agenda as amended.”
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Public Comments on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items – [May 4, 2026 Public Comments](#)

Reports – The Board of Directors was provided with the following reports:

- Board Members
- Student Government
- State Tournaments
- Finance Committee
- Officials
- Sponsorships/Marketing/Promotions
- Coaches and Admin Trainings
- TAD Reports
- Hall of Fame
- SMAC
- Activities Committees
- Executive Director



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Action Items – The Board of Directors acted as follows:

➤ **Flag Football State Berths:** motion and second “to change the berths for flag football to CIC four berths, the Railbelt three berths and one at-large berth using the RPI ranking to select the at-large berth.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Mix-6 Volleyball State Berths:** motion and second “to reduce the Denali Conference to one berth beginning with the 2026 season.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **3A/4A Basketball State Berths:** motion and second “to change the berths for 3A/4A basketball to the four conference champions and four at-large berths using the RPI ranking to select the at-large berths.”

Motion passed (4-3)

- (Y) Region 1, Region 5, Region 6, AASB
- (N) Region 2, Region 3, Region 4

➤ **Music Policy:** motion and second “to adopt the music deadline and fine policy as presented.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note the adopted policy reads:

F. DEADLINES AND LATE SUBMISSIONS (NEW)

1. Official Deadlines

All deadlines for ASAA Music activities, including but not limited to intent forms, registrations, applications, auditions, eligibility submissions, required documentation, and payments, shall be established and published by ASAA.

2. Source and Notice of Deadlines

Official deadlines will be posted on the ASAA Music Website and will be communicated directly by ASAA to each school that participated in either All-State Music or the State Solo & Ensemble Festival the prior year. After which the Music directors, and participants are responsible for compliance with all published deadlines.



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3. Late Submissions

Late submissions may be accepted or denied at the discretion of ASAA. Payment of any assessed late fee does not guarantee acceptance or participation.

4. Late Submissions Fee Schedule

<u>Days Late</u>	<u>Penalty</u>
1–3 days	\$250
4–7 days	\$400
Over 7 days	\$500

Important Notes

- Fees are assessed per missed submission, not per school or event. Total late fees may be capped at \$750 per school per event.
- Submissions include, but are not limited to:
 - registrations
 - repertoire lists
 - recordings
 - adjudication materials
 - eligibility forms
 - payment documentation
- Where the ASAA Music Handbook designates a deadline as a ‘hard deadline,’ such designation shall be interpreted in accordance with ASAA policy and administrative discretion.
- Requests for waivers due to exceptional circumstances (e.g., verified emergencies) must be submitted in writing within 48 hours of the missed deadline and are subject to ASAA approval.

Fee Payment and Enforcement

- Late fees must be paid within 14 days of notification or prior to the event date, whichever occurs first.
- Failure to resolve assessed fees may result in denial of participation in current or future ASAA Music events, consistent with ASAA administrative enforcement practices.



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➤ **DII Soccer Conference** : motion and second “ to create the following DII soccer conferences and Aurora Coastal Conference travel policy:

- Northern Lights: Kodiak, Homer, Kenai, Nikiski, Seward, Soldotna, Grace.
- Aurora Coastal: Hutchison, Monroe, North Pole, Ketchikan, Palmer, Houston, Redington.

Aurora Coastal Conference Travel Policy

To address equitable travel burdens and ensure fair competition access, we propose:

- Each year, two schools from the Aurora Coastal Conference will be required to travel to Ketchikan.
- Ketchikan High School will provide the following support to each visiting team:
 - 11 tickets per team
 - Housing in the school facility
 - Local transportation while in Ketchikan
 - Two meals provided”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **DI Baseball 2027, 2028 and 2029 State Tournament Site**: motion and second “to accept the bid for DI Baseball submitted by Alliance for support of American Legion Baseball to be held at Mulachy Stadium in Anchorage, Alaska.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **DI and DII Soccer 2027, 2028 and 2029 State Tournament Sites**: motion and second “to accept the bid submitted by Eagle River High School to host the 2027, 2028, and 2029 DI and DII Soccer State Tournaments. Earlier-rounds and consolation games will also be played at West, Service, Chugiak, or South Anchorage High Schools. Championship games will be played at West Anchorage High School.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)



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➤ **DI and DII Track & Field 2027, 2028, and 2029 State Tournament Sites** : motion and second “to accept the joint bid submitted by Soldotna and Homer High Schools to host the 2027, 2028, and 2029 DI and DII Track and Field State Tournaments. Soldotna High School will host the 2027 and 2029 tournaments, and Homer High School will host the 2028 tournament.”

Motion Failed (4-3)

- (N) Region 2, Region 4, Region 5, AASB
- (Y) Region 1, Region 3, Region 6

➤ **DI and DII Track & Field 2027, 2028, and 2029 State Tournament Site** : motion and second “to accept the bid submitted by Dimond High Schools to host the 2027, 2028, and 2029 DI and DII Track and Field State Tournaments.”

Motion Passed (4-3)

- (Y) Region 2, Region 4, Region 5, AASB
- (N) Region 1, Region 3, Region 6

➤ **FY 27 Operating Budget** motion and second “to approve the FY27 Budget as presented.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Chugiak/Eagle River Softball Co-op**: motion and second “to approve the co-op request to allow Chugiak and Eagle River High School to co-op for the activity of softball for the 2026 season.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Gold Lifetime Pass**: motion and second “to approve the Gold Lifetime Pass nominations from Region 1, Region 2, Region 3, Region 4, Region 5, Region 6 and AASB.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **2026-2027 ASAA Calendar of Events Amendment**: motion and second “to amend the 2026-27 ASAA Calendar of Event to have gymnastics’ first date of practice on July 29, first contest day of August 13, with the last contest date being October 24.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)



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➤ **Nordic Ski DII Awards:** motion and second “to for the purpose of team and individual recognition, define DII as schools with enrollments of 500 or less students.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Girls Wrestling Team Awards:** motion and second “to adopt Division I and Division II designations for Girls Wrestling for team recognition purposes. Division I shall include all member schools with enrollments over 500, and Division II shall include all member schools with enrollments of 500 or fewer. The highest placing Division I and Division II teams at the Girls State Wrestling Championships shall each be recognized as the respective state champion, and the second highest placing teams in each division shall be recognized as the respective state runner-up. These designations shall be implemented using existing state tournament brackets and results.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Gymnastics Playing rules:** motion and second “to amend the Article 6 Section 8 bylaw as presented.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: This motion changes gymnastics rules to USA Gymnastics.

➤ **DI baseball individual participation limit:** motion and second “to immediately amend the DI Baseball individual participation limit policy to read as follows: A student-athlete participating in DI Baseball shall be limited to 10 innings of play in one day when participating at different levels (e.g., varsity and junior varsity) on the same day. This limitation shall not apply to courtesy runners, extra innings, or teams opting up.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Softball use of double first base:** motion and second “to allow the use of the double first base in softball games.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)



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Board Directives and Discussions: The Board of Directors engaged in discussions and provided direction as follows:

- **Student Eligibility Committee:** discussed a proposed bylaw amendment to the Article 12 Section 7 bylaw. This amendment would create a system in which some students failing to pass the required courses to be eligible could participate at the sub-varsity level and possibly regain varsity eligibility by the end of the first and third quarters of the school year. The current language was not supported, but is being sent back to the Eligibility Committee. It will be discussed during the October meeting.
- **Nordic Ski Relay Co-op teams:** discussed allowing schools unable to field relay teams being allowed to combine in order to field a relay team during the State Nordic Ski Championships. In order to approve this concept, the Board would need much more detail on how the policy would read. The Nordic Ski Activities Committee will be asked to develop said policy prior to the October ASAA Board meeting.
- **Swim and Dive Awards:** discussed the potential implementation of a similar division-based team recognition model for swimming, comparable to the format approved for Girls Wrestling.
- **Additional recognition for small schools wrestling in the DII Wrestling Tournament:** discussed the possibility of recognizing the smallest school (enrollment of less than 60) competing within the Division II Wrestling classification. Discussion centered on ways to acknowledge competitive achievement among the smallest enrollment schools while maintaining the current overall championship structure.
- **DDF Date Conflict:** discussed the scheduling conflict between the ASAA DDF State Championship and many of the 1A Basketball State Tournaments. While members acknowledged the challenges this creates for participating schools and students, the Board also recognized that there are significant obstacles to changing the DDF championship dates. Potential issues include the need to secure a new tournament venue and the possibility that the UAA Debate program may be unable to accommodate a revised schedule. ASAA will continue to explore possible alternatives and options moving forward.
- **Classification Update:** discussed the schools impacted by changes to their classification and the timeline for hearing appeals. The Executive Director will work with the impacted schools on how to present appeal materials.
- **Baseball Start Date:** discussed a request from the Baseball Activities Committee to have baseball start earlier in the spring.



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➤ **EverRise “The Coaching Effect” Data:** discuss the data being collected by EverRise. Schools will be asked to give input on the value of the data collected, so the Board can assess its value.

➤ **All State Art Categories:** discussed the request from the Art Activities Committee to have a separate category for digital photography.

➤ **DI Soccer Conferences:** discussed the current DI Soccer conference alignment, including the provision that could result in a loss of a state tournament berth if ASD does not send the required number of teams to both Juneau and Fairbanks. Board members also discussed the financial challenges faced by Railbelt schools, particularly the ongoing cost of travel to Juneau for conference competition. As part of the discussion, the Board considered the possibility of returning Juneau to its own conference with an automatic berth to the state tournament.

➤ **9-player football and flag football scheduling concerns:** discussed that due to the impact on assigning officials, the needs of 9-man need to be considered when scheduling DI, DII and DIII football.

➤ **9-player football state event:** discussed looking into what policies would need to be amended or developed in order for 9-player football to conduct an ASAA state championship.

Executive Session – The Board went into Executive Session to discuss personnel and financial matters.

Hearings – None

Motion to Adjourn

Motion and second to Adjourn
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Upcoming Board Meetings and Workshops

1. October 5-6, 2026 in Anchorage
2. December 7-8, 2026 in Anchorage
3. February 15-16, 2027 in Anchorage
4. April 30-May 1, 2027 in Petersburg