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Adopted Minutes of the ASAA Board of Directors' Meeting April 27, 2020

Note: This file is available on the ASAA web site at:

<http://asaa.org/wp-content/uploads/board/BOD-April-2020-Meeting.pdf>

More information may be obtained from an ASAA Board member (listed on web site) or from the ASAA office (907) 563-3723.

Call to Order — the meeting was called to order at 9:04 AM April 27, 2020

Procedural — Pledge of Allegiance

Seating of New Board Members — none

Roll Call:

Region 1 – Ed Lester-Present
Region 2 – Steve Klaich-Present
Region 3 – Dale Ewart-Present
Region 4 – Megan Hatswell-Present
Region 5 – Troy Thain-Present
Region 6 – Dan Klein-Present
AASB – Clarence Daniel-Present
AASA – Dave Herbert-Present
AASG – Abigail Jensen-Present

Procedural — **Quorum established**

Approval of the Consent Items –

Motion “to approve the consent items”
Motion by Region 4, seconded by Region 6
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Ordering and Approval of the Agenda–

Motion “to approve the agenda”
Motion by Region 4, seconded by Region 5
(Carried – Unanimous Consent)

Public Comments on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items –Monday – None (as the meeting was held via Zoom, the Public was asked to submit written comments to ASAA prior to the meeting. No comments were received)

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

- Board Members
- Finance Committee
- Student Government
- State Tournaments
- Officials and Coaches
- Sponsorships/Marketing/Promotions
- Student Services
- Hall of Fame
- SMAC
- Executive Director

Consent Items –

- a. Approval of Minutes of February, March and April 2020 Board meetings
- b. Wavier 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

Action Items and Board Directives – The Board of Directors took action and gave directives as follows:

- **Esports:** motion “ to sanction the games of Super Smash Bro, NBA2K20 and Chess as additional esports games beginning with the Fall 2020 season .”

Motion by Region 4, seconded by AASB
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

- **Out of Season Contact and Open Facility Policy Change:** motion “to change the Out of Season and Open Facility Polices to read as follows:

Out-of-Season Participation Policy

The coach or other personnel representing the school is prohibited from requiring any athlete to participate in an out-of-season sport, training program, or travel team as a condition of selection for the in-season team.

All team camps run or organized by a school coach or school outside of the defined high school season must be advertised and open to students beyond that school.

Policy Definitions:

“Prospective Player” - A Prospective Player is any student enrolled in a specific coach’s school, or any student who will be enrolled in that school during the next school year.

“Camps” - there are two types of “Camps” - team camps and commercial camps.

“Team Camps” - may be attended only during the months of May, June, July and August. The coach or other personnel representing the school is prohibited from requiring any athlete to participate as a condition of selection for the in-season team. A camp is considered a “team camp” if any of the following criteria are met:

1. students, as a team, are housed and/or fed at the school
2. students, as a team, are housed and/or fed away from the school.
3. students, as a team, are taken on outings

“Commercial camps” – Students may voluntarily attend commercial camps during the months of May, June, July and August upon approval of their parents. Attendance may not be mandated. Service clubs, school organizations or schools may pay fees for participation according to their own school/ district policies. The coach or other personnel representing the school is prohibited from requiring any athlete to participate as a condition of selection for the in-season team.

“Clinics” – With prior approval of the Executive Director, a school may conduct a clinic during the school year. Clinics must be advertised in advanced and open to all students in the school and/or community. Clinics are limited to 3 days in length.

“Conditioning” – Conditioning is defined as a session where students work on physical fitness and conditioning by use of weights, running, and /or exercise. Conditioning does not allow for the use of individualized and specialized sports equipment or apparatus, including but not limited to: balls, bats, protective equipment, blocking dummies, batting cages, charging sleds, and other implements related to specific ASAA activities. The coach or other personnel representing the school is prohibited from requiring any athlete to participate as a condition of selection for the in-season team. Conditioning does not count towards six-hour out of season contact rule.

“Travel Teams” – Travel Teams may be put together by a coach for competition during the months of May, June, July and August, either in or out of the state. Although the team is not affiliated with a member school, it may include students from one or more member schools. The coach or other personnel representing the school is prohibited from requiring any athlete to participate as a condition of selection for the in-season team. For restrictions see (Article 12, Section 5, B) ”A student who participates as a member of an out-of-school team coached by another school’s coach, and who subsequently transfers to that coach’s school, will be ineligible in that sport for one full season at the receiving school.”

“Out-of-Season” – Out-of-Season is any time other than during the established high school season in a particular sport. During this time coaches may practice up to six hours a week, with out of season games or scrimmages counting as one hour.

“Out of Season Game”- a contest, practice or event involving students attending more than one school.

“Practice” – Practice is a regularly scheduled team physical activity designed for the preparation of athletes for the ensuing sports season and conducted under the supervision of the school coach during the season established by the Board of Directors. A “practice” is further defined as any attempt by the coach of a school team (paid or volunteer) to teach any phase of a game or activity to his or her squad, or have the squad or part of the squad engage in drills under the supervision of that coach, or from directions provided by that coach. Under this definition, “school team” also applies to students and coaches of “individual sports.”

The “out of season” participation policy is suspended from May 20 through July 31st. This means a coach of a team sport can coach his/her players anytime, anywhere, during this period. During this time period the coach or other personnel representing the school is prohibited from requiring any athlete to participate as a condition of selection for the in-season team.

“Coach” – A Coach is an adult approved by the school (either paid or volunteer) to conduct the usual duties of a coach under the guidelines established by ASAA and the school/district.

“Non-School Teams or Leagues”

1. Coaches may coach in out-of-season games or scrimmages, except from the first Monday in November to the start of the basketball season.
2. Non-school teams may not use school equipment or uniforms. School transportation and facilities may only be used in accordance with school board policies as they relate to any other non-school groups using facilities or transportation.
3. A school team is defined as a team composed solely of players from one member school.
4. The definition of a non-school team includes one or more of the following:
 - a. A team affiliated with and scheduled for participation in an organized league.
 - b. A team participating against a team that meets criterion (1.) above.
 - c. A team identified by a name or a uniform, and which participates in contests independent from league affiliation.

Open Facility Policy

Schools may conduct “open facility” in any athletic activity. “Open facility” activities may be run outside the regular season. The philosophy of the open facility is that students may voluntarily attend for wholesome recreation or for purposes of improving their skills. Open facilities should be conducted according to the following guidelines:

- A. Use of school equipment, supplies, and name shall be determined by the school administration.
- B. The open facility is open to any student that is interested in attending.
- C. There shall be no organized competition such as established teams & round-robin competitions.
- D. Coaches and others may attend open facilities for the sole purpose of supervision.
- E. Open facility does not count towards the 6-hour out of season contact coaching rule.
- F. The coach or other personnel representing the school is prohibited from requiring any athlete to participate as a condition of selection for the in-season team.”

Motion by Region 3, seconded by Region 4
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

- **NFHS Swim & Dive Rule Modification:** motion “to modify NFHS Swim & Dive Rule 3.3 Article 2 to read:

ART. 2 . . . Suits shall be of one piece. Suits worn for competition must be non-transparent. Males shall not extend above the waist or below the top of the kneecap. Females suits shall not extend beyond the shoulders or below the top of the kneecap, nor cover the neck. Violations: When an official discovers a competitor wearing illegal attire as described in Article 2, the official shall:

1. when observed prior to the start of the heat/dive, notify the coach of the competitor to make the suit legal before becoming eligible to compete. If the competitor cannot comply without delaying the start of the heat/dive, the competitor is disqualified from that event/dive and shall not be eligible for further competition until in a legal suit.”
2. when observed after the heat/dive officially begins, disqualify the competitor at the completion of the heat/dive; nullify the competitor’s performance time/score and he/she shall not be eligible for further competition until in a legal suit.”

Motion by Region 4, seconded by AASB
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

- **Swim and Dive Rules Committee:** The Board directed the Executive Director to establish a statewide committee made up of officials, coaches, school administration and other stakeholders to review this modification and make further recommendations. It had been the intent to do so, however due to the impacts of COVID-19 this had not been accomplished.
- **FY20 Budget Revisions:** motion “to approve the FY2020 Budget Revisions as presented by ASAA. Furthermore, to recognize the impacts of COVID-19 will result in budgeted revenues and expense accounts to be both under and over budget, with the current estimated loss due to event cancellation to be approximately \$179,000. ”

Motion by AASA, seconded by Region 3
(8-0 motion passed)

(Y- Region 1, Region 2, Region 3, Region 4, Region 5, Region 6, AASB, AASA, AASG (advisory))

- **Endowment Policy:** motion “to amend the Endowment Game policy to read:

Endowment Game Policy

ASAA encourages each school’s team sports to play Endowment Games during the season above and beyond the 22 game/match limit. Two additional Endowment Games may be played each season. (Bylaw, Article 7, Section 9) The Endowment Game is a fund-raiser for the Alaska School Activities Association. School teams may play Endowment Games at any time during the regular season, beginning with the date of the first contest and extending through the time period between the conference qualifying tournament and the state tournament.”

Motion by Region 3, seconded by Region 2
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

- **FY 2021 ASAA Operating Budget :** motion “to approve the FY2021 ASAA Operating Budget as presented:

Motion by Region 3, seconded by Region 6
(8-0 motion passed)

(Y- Region 1, Region 2, Region 3, Region 4, Region 5, Region 6, AASB, AASA, AASG (advisory))

- **FY 2021 AASG Operating Budget :** motion “to approve the FY2021 AASG Operating Budget as presented:

Motion by AASA, seconded by Region 5
(8-0 motion passed)

(Y- Region 1, Region 2, Region 3, Region 4, Region 5, Region 6, AASB, AASA, AASG (advisory))

- **Southwest Conference DIII Cross Country Berths :** motion “to change the berths for the DIII Southwest Conference to the top team plus any runners placing in the top 5.”

Motion by Region 5, seconded by Region 6
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

- **Gold Lifetime Pass:** motion “to approve the recommendations of the Regions and Associations to award an ASAA Gold Lifetime pass to the following individuals

Region 1 --- Michael Zibell, Noorvik

Region 2 --- Steve Klaich, Nikolaevsk

Region 3 --- Rich Hofacker, Anchorage and Wolfgang Winter, Palmer

Region 4 --- Amy Vail, Anchorage

Region 5 --- Dale Bontrager, Juneau

Region 6 --- Barb Lyons, Valdez

AASA --- Dan Walker, Lower Kuskokwim School District

AASB --- Norm Wooten, Kodiak

Motion by Region 6, seconded by AASA
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

- **2021 3A/4A Conference Basketball Dates:** motioned “to extend the date to have completed the 3A and 4A basketball conferences tournaments to March 20. The “regular season” may not extend past March 6.”

Motion by Region 3, seconded by Region 4
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Discussion Items:

The Board discussed the following issues related to the impacts of COVID-19:

- Academic Eligibility Requirements-School Districts will be allowed to ask for a “blanket waiver” of the ASAA Academic requirements for their students. This will allow each school district the flexibility to determine how to best hold students accountable for their academic performance during the spring of 2020.
- 5th Year Seniors – Students in their 5th year of high school will not be automatically granted eligibility. The current waiver status will be used to determine if a hardship existed beyond their ability to have participated in activities. Activities not being offered due to COVID-19 will not be considered a “hardship” as the student would have had the opportunity to have participated in other activities during the school year.
- Out of Season Contact: beginning on June 1, 2020, the ASAA Out of Season Policy will resume. However, coaches must have the approval of their school district and operate any activities in accordance with all local and state health mandates.
- Pre-Participation Exams: Currently ASAA’s Preparticipation Exams are valid for 18 months from the date it was signed. ASAA will extend this for an additional 6 months.
- Practice Interruptions: In the event practices are interrupted due to school closures, ASAA will allow schools to seek waivers to the current requirements. Due to the nature of various activities, what is allowed for some activities may not apply to others.
- Travel: It is foreseeable that travel both out-of-state and interstate will be impacted by COVID-19. In the event schools deem it not practical to travel due to COVID-19 health concerns, this will not be considered the “unilateral breaking of a contract”. Schools are encouraged to contact future opponents regarding this issue, so they have the ability to either reschedule the event or seek out another opponent to fill the game.
- Future Spring Events Sites: it is the intent of ASAA to honor the state event bids to the sites unable to host events this year. ASAA will contact the schools/sites involved to see how to best proceed. For example: For Track & Field Dimond High School was to host 2020 and 2021 with Palmer hosting in 2022. It would then change to Dimond hosting in 2021 and 2022, with Palmer hosting in 2023.

Workshops – None

Hearings – None

Tabled Items - None

Awards/Recognitions/Presentations – Recognized and thanked outgoing Region 2 ASAA Board Representative Steve Klaich. Steve is retiring this spring having completed his 35rd year teaching in the State of Alaska. During his teaching and coaching career , Steve worked in the Tuntutuliak for three years (1985-1988), Tyonek for one year (1988-1989) and at Nikolaevsk for the past 31 years (1989-2020). Steve has represented Region 2 for the past six years on the ASAA Board of Directors.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion by Region 3, seconded by Region 4
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Topics for October 2020 Board Meeting:

- Election of Officers
- Classification Changes
 - Football
 - Basketball
- Unified Sports
- Swim & Dive Rules Committee Report
- Bylaw Revision
 - Alternative Education Establishing and Changing Schools of Eligibility
 - Changing Schools During a Sports Season
- Cold Weather Policy
- Hockey
 - DI Berths
- DI State Soccer Seeding
- Contest Ejection Form
- Mix-6 State Tournament Sets
- Adaptive Sports
- 3A Basketball At-Large Berths (Region 3)