



4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Fax: 907-563-3739 / Web: [www.asaa.org](http://www.asaa.org)

## **Adopted Minutes of the ASAA Board of Directors' Meeting April 25-26, 2022**

More information may be obtained from an ASAA Board member ([board@asaa.org](mailto: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. April 25, 2022

### **Roll Call:**

Region 1 – Patrick Callahan-Present  
Region 2 - James Sickler-Present  
Region 3 – Stacia Rustad-Present  
Region 4 – Tim Helvey-Present  
Region 5 - Troy Thain-Present  
Region 6 – Steve Zanazzo - Present  
AASB - Dana Mock-Present  
AASA – Jim Holien –Present  
AASG – Harrison Little-Present

### **Approval of the Consent Items –**

- a. Approval of Minutes from the February 21-22, 2022, Board meeting
- 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

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

### **Ordering and Approval of the Agenda–**

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



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## **Public Comments on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items –**

- Public comments were made by:
  - Paul Salima
  - Jeff Lentfer
  - Frank Ostanik
  - Brian Ross

## **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



4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Fax: 907-563-3739 / Web: www.asaa.org

**Action Items** – The Board of Directors acted as follows:

➤ **Strategic Planning Committee:** motion and second “appoint the following non-ASAA Staff persons to the Strategic Planning Committee

- Dana Mock, Harrison Little, Kersten Johnson, Jamie Cabral, James Fields, Sam Hill, Denise Brown-Robinson and Vanessa Makihele. In addition, AASG will appoint another student representative.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Article 12 Section 10.B Bylaw Revision:** motion and second “approve the Article 12 Section 10.B bylaw as presented.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: the amended bylaw will now read, changes emphasized in **bold**:

*Article 12 Section 10.B*

***B. School Districts will be required to provide ASAA a list of each activity anticipated to be offered by their member schools at the beginning of each school year. The Master Eligibility List for each activity must be submitted by the school using the School Activities Reporting System (SARS) before the first contest of that season. For activities that involve only one event, the list must be submitted by the school at least five (5) school days before the contest.***

*Master eligibility includes students granted transfers and waiver exceptions. Once the school is notified of the exception, schools must enter the student and exception information into the SARS. Contact the ASAA office for questions regarding the SARS.*



4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Fax: 907-563-3739 / Web: www.asaa.org

➤ **Constitutional Amendments:** motion and second to “direct the Executive Director to seek the required endorsements from the authorized representatives of the member schools in order to amend the ASAA Constitution.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note the two proposed amendments are as follows:

**ARTICLE 5 - OFFICERS AND DUTIES Section 1 - Board of Directors**

*The Board of Directors consists of the elected representative from (add) **Region 1, Region 2, Region 3, Region 4, Region 5 and Region 6** (delete) ~~each regional association~~ and one representative each from the Association of Alaska School Boards, the Alaska Association of School Administrators, and one non-voting ex-officio member representing the Alaska Association of Student Governments.*

**ARTICLE 6 - REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS Section 1 – Powers:**

*(Delete) ~~The Alaska School Activities Association, Inc. encourages and supports the creation of regional associations.~~ A regional association operates autonomously from Alaska School Activities Association Inc., and is solely responsible for its own decisions, actions and financial affairs. Each regional association administers its own activities in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution and the Association’s Bylaws and policies. Regions may adopt their own Bylaws not in conflict with those of the Association.*



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➤ **Article 4 Bylaw Revisions:** motion and second “approve the Article 4 bylaw revisions as presented.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: the amended bylaw will now read, changes emphasized in **bold**:

*Section 2 - Appeals Board Procedures*

*C. The appellant may request that the Board of Appeals conduct an expedited and/or oral hearing. Such a request will be promptly reviewed by the Chair of the Appeals Board, who will approve or deny the request. If approved, an expedited (add) and/or oral hearing will be scheduled at the earliest available time consistent with the requirement that a quorum of the Appeals Board be present. An expedited hearing may be conducted by teleconference. **When an expedited hearing is requested, the Appeals Board will assess the appellant a \$250 fee to cover expenses. If the decision of Executive Director is overturned by the Appeals Board, the fee will be reimbursed.***

*D. All hearings conducted by the Appeals Board will be held in executive session. Audio recordings of hearings will be made by the Association. Deliberations of the Appeals Board following hearings will be in executive session, which will not be recorded.*

*Section 4 - Appeals from Board of Directors Actions:*

*Actions taken by the Board of Directors are not subject to the appeal procedure in Article 4. Actions taken by the Board of Directors includes, but is, not limited to, adoption of new policies, changes to policies, adoption of schedules and calendars, and amendment of the Bylaws. Individuals or Schools wishing to change an action taken by the Board of Directors are encouraged to contact their Board Representative.*

➤ **Bartlett – Bettye Davis East Anchorage Softball Co-op** motion and second “approve the Bartlett High – Bettye Davis East Anchorage Softball Co-op for the 2022 season”

Motion passed (7-1)

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



4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Fax: 907-563-3739 / Web: www.asaa.org

➤ **Lathrop – Student Wrestler Development Program Baseball Co-op** motion and second “approve the Lathrop – Student Wrestler Development Program Co-op for the 2022 season”

Motion passed (7-1)

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

➤ **North Pole – Student Wrestler Development Program Football Co-op** motion and second “approve the North Pole – Student Wrestler Development Program Football Co-op for the 2022 season”

Motion passed (7-1)

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

➤ **Anchorage Christian/ASD, Birchwood/ASD, Grace Christian/ASD and Holy Rosary/ASD MOA’s** motion and second “to adopt the proposed MOA agreements between the Anchorage School District and Anchorage Christian School, the Anchorage School District and Grace Christian, the Anchorage School District and Birchwood Christian High School, and the Anchorage School District and Holy Rosary.”

Motion failed (4-4)

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

➤ **Audit Report:** motion and second “to approve the Audit report as presented by BDO, Inc. during the February 2022 Board of Directors meeting.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)



4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Fax: 907-563-3739 / Web: www.asaa.org

➤ **Executive Session:** motion and second “to go into Executive Session for the purpose of conducting the Executive Director’s Evaluation.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Hall of Fame Selection Committee:** motion and second “appoint the following persons to the Hall of Fame Selection Committee for the terms indicated:

- Ed Lester, Region 1 (first term)
- Colin Stone, Region 2 (first term)
- Stacia Rustad, Region 3 (second term)
- Kathleen Navarra, At-Large (first term)
- Jeff Erickson, At-Large (second term)”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **April 2023 Spring Board Meeting Location:** motion and second “to conduct the Spring 2023 ASAA Board of Directors meeting in Valdez.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Girls Weight Classes:** motion and second “to change the weight classes for Girls Wrestling to: 100, 107, 114, 120, 126, 132, 138, 145, 152, 165, 185, 235 beginning with the 2022 season”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Gold Lifetime Pass:** motion and second “to award the ASAA Gold Lifetime Pass to the individuals named by the Regions and Associations.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **2023, 2024, 2025 State Tournament Sites for DI Hockey, DDF and World Language:** motion and second “accept the bids as presented for DI Hockey, DDF and World Language for the 2023-2025 events.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: DI Hockey will be held at the Menard Center in Wasilla, DDF will be held at Bettye Davis East Anchorage High School and World Language will be held at Dimond High School.



4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Fax: 907-563-3739 / Web: www.asaa.org

➤ **Use of 8th grade students for non-sport activities:** motion and second “to amend the Article 12 Section 2.E.3 bylaw to allow for the use of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in non-sport activities”

Motion passed (5-3)

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

Note the bylaw now reads as follows with changes emphasized:

*Article 12 Section 2.E.3*

*3. 8th Grade Student Participation Authority. Notwithstanding any provisions or restrictions of the Association’s Bylaws, Policies or past practices, the Board of Directors has determined that under certain conditions, students enrolled in the 8th grade in a member school district, may be granted eligibility to participate as members of a high school basketball, volleyball, soccer, and/or mix six volleyball team, when an annual request is submitted in writing to ASAA by the district superintendent. This request must verify that the high school described above is a member school and that there were thirty (30) or fewer students, or fifteen (15) 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 (DEED). If the current school year’s October count is lower than the previous year’s, it may substitute as the official count for purposes of this section.*

*For schools with enrollments of 500 or less, students enrolled in the 8th grade may be granted eligibility to participate as members of a high school’s Art, Drama, Debate & Forensics, Dance / Drill Teams, Esports, Honor Band, Choir, Orchestra, Solo & Ensemble, Student Government and World Language Declamation programs, when an annual request is submitted in writing to ASAA by the district superintendent. This request must verify that the high school described above is a member school and that there were five hundred (500) or fewer students, enrolled in grades 9-12 during the previous school year’s October student count as reported to the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED). If the current school year’s October count is lower than the previous year’s, it may substitute as the official count for purposes of this section.*





4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Fax: 907-563-3739 / Web: www.asaa.org

➤ **Date Changes for the 2023 DDF and World Language Competitions:** motion and second “change the date of the DDF State Event to February 23-24-25 and the World Language Competitions to March 4 for the spring of 2023.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Date Changes for the Spring 2023 ASAA Board Meeting:** motion and second “change the date of the Spring 2023 ASAA Board of Directors meeting to April 30-May 2, 2023.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **TAD Policy Changes:** motion and second “change the TAD policy as presented.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: Section 6 now reads with changes emphasized:

*6. Minimum Penalties for Violation of this Policy: Minimum penalties for violations of this policy are:*

*First Offense – Students who have committed a First Offense under the rule, will be suspended from interscholastic competition and practice for ten (10) calendar days (as defined in number 11) and must complete the First Offense educational component.*

*Up to Fifty percent (50%) of the suspension will be forgiven and the student may return to practice if the student and parent/guardian complete the First Offense educational component.*

*For tobacco use, if a student under the First Offense Penalty violates the Tobacco Rule within the ten (10) calendar day period of suspension, the student’s period of suspension will start over again; the First Offense educational component will become mandatory, and no forgiveness will be granted. This process will continue until the student has demonstrated ten (10) calendar days without a subsequent tobacco violation. A student who has not completed a suspension or re-suspension under the first Offense Penalty for violation of the Tobacco Rule does not become subject to imposition of penalties under a Second, Third or Fourth Offense for violation of the Tobacco Rule, until the student has completed all suspensions and re-suspensions under the First Offense Penalty for tobacco use. A student serving a First Offense Penalty under the Tobacco Rule is, however, subject to immediate*



4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Fax: 907-563-3739 / Web: www.asaa.org

*imposition of a Second Offense Penalty to the extent this is based upon violation of the non-tobacco prohibitions under this Policy.*

*While under the period of suspension, the student may return to practice after completion of the educational component. A student may need additional days of practice before returning to competition (See Article 7, Section 7).*

Note: the amended policy will now read, with changes emphasized in **bold**:

*8. Violations Reported to ASAA and Confidentiality Requirement: After determining that an enrolled student, or an alternative education program student who has been granted eligibility at a member school, has committed a violation, the member school shall report the violation to ASAA via the School Activities Reporting System (SARS). Member schools and districts must report to ASAA a violation of this policy within three (3) calendar days of determination that such violation has occurred. **Violations should be reported as follows:***

- 1. **for violations occurring from an incident from a prior school year, the violation should be recorded on the date of the violation***
- 2. **for violations occurring during the current school year, the violation should be recorded on the date the school's investigation is concluded.***

*It is ASAA's intention to maintain the confidentiality of all such reports. As such, information concerning a student's previous violations will be disclosed by ASAA only to an administrator of the member school which the student is attending. A school administrator to whom such information has been disclosed may exercise discretion to provide such confidential information as is appropriate to the student's coach or other activity administrator, but only to the extent that such information is provided in a good faith effort to prevent violations and to assist the student in maintaining a lifestyle free of tobacco, alcohol and controlled substance use, and to maintain eligibility to participate in interscholastic activities. An administrator who provides any confidential information to a student's coach or other activity supervisor shall assure that such person will use the information only in communications with the student and shall otherwise maintain strict confidentiality of the information. ASAA's records of violation shall be made available to the student and/or the student's parent or legal guardian upon written request.*

➤ **Executive Session:** motion and second "to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the FY22 and FY23 Budgets."

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)



4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Fax: 907-563-3739 / Web: www.asaa.org

➤ **FY22 Budget Revision:** motion and second “to approve the FY22 Budget Revisions as presented.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **FY23 ASAA Budget:** motion and second “to approve the FY23 ASAA Budget as presented.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: Part of the approved budget including the funds for ASAA to pay the conference fees for up to two people from each Region to attend the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association Conference. The NIAAA Conference is scheduled for December 9-13, 2022, in Nashville, TN.

➤ **Photo Release:** motion and second “to approve the inclusion of a photo release into the required Parent/Guardian Consent for Student Travel and Participation form.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

**Board Directives and Discussions:** The Board of Directors had discussion and gave direction as follows:

➤ **Softball Conferences and Berths:** discussed going to an eight-team bracket for both DI and DII Softball. As there was no interest from Region 4 to realign the existing DI conferences no action was taken on this item.

➤ **MileSplit to Replace Athletic.net:** due to a lack of interest in changing from Athletic.net to MileSplit, this item will be removed from the agenda.

➤ **Adaptive Track & Field:** directed the Association to allow for up to four adaptive athletes per school to attend the State Track & Field Championships. These adaptive athletes will compete in field events along with the DI and DII students. For the track events, the Association will conduct the heats using either combined lanes or adding additional heats.

➤ **Hall of Fame Selection Committee:** Region 6 will provide a name for their new Hall of Fame Selection Committee member during the October Board of Directors’ Meeting.



4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Fax: 907-563-3739 / Web: www.asaa.org

- **Football Travel Policy:** discussed the need for schools to follow the current policy to travel at the lowest possible cost. The Association will work with the schools traveling to assist them with understanding how to best utilize the Alaska Airlines Group Desk system. The Board will review this issue again during the October meeting.
  
- **Alaska Airlines Name Change Fee:** directed the Executive Director to speak with Alaska Airlines regarding the fee associated with changing the name on previously purchased tickets.
  
- **TAD Policy Review:** discussed the need to do a thorough review of the TAD policy.
  
- **Use of 8th grade students for sport activities:** discussed allowing smaller schools to use 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at the sub-varsity level.
  
- **Trainings for School Activities Personnel:** discussed improving how ASAA could help schools train and track the educating of coaches and athletic administrators in several key areas, such as: mandatory reporting, legal liabilities, safeguarding students from abuse, etc. The ASAA Staff is working on a series of training for school administrators and activities directors to be hosted via Zoom this upcoming fall.
  
- **Cheer Competition Format and Dates:** discussed using the Alaska Airlines Center Aux Gym to host the DI State Cheer Competition on Thursday, March 23 and the DII Cheer Competition on Friday, March 24, 2023. This would shorten length of time cheer squad were required to travel, if their basketball teams were also participating in March Madness, Alaska. Additionally, it was discussed changing the format of the DI competition to allow those stunts which require mats. The Association will be surveying the cheer squads who attended the event to see if they support these ideas. Action to change both the dates and format may take place during the October Board meeting.
  
- **Basketball Shot Clock:** discussed allowing schools to use a shot-clock during regular season tournaments with the permission of the Executive Director.
  
- **Boarding School Transfer Bylaw:** discussed a proposal to change the bylaw as follows:  
  

*Boarding School Transfer Rule: Students who transfer to a boarding school at the beginning of a school year, or from a boarding school at the end of a school year, will be eligible for interscholastic participation at the new school as soon as properly certified. Students who transfer ~~to or~~ from a boarding school during the school year **and have not participated on a team in that sport during the current school year** shall be **ineligible eligible at their prior school of eligibility** for Varsity, State Qualifying and State Championship interscholastic participation the remainder of the school year. Students who live with coaches are ineligible (see Section 5, C). At schools with no sub-*



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*varsity teams, the student could ask for a waiver to participate on the varsity team during the regular season, but would not be able to participate at either conference or state tournaments. Boarding school students must meet all other eligibility rules required of other students in Alaska.*

- **Sanctioning of Badminton:** discussed a request from the Lower Kuskokwim School District to sanction the activity of badminton. The Board members are seeking input from their regions as to if they support the idea and when the season should be held. The Association will research the activity as to what set of rules to adopt and report back in October.
- **Use of non-certified officials:** directed the Association to send out to the membership a proposed bylaw change which would allow all schools the ability to use non-certified officials.
- **1A Basketball Tournament bracket:** discussed using a true 16-team bracket during the 1A State Basketball Tournament. This would not reduce the number of games, but rather be a new “format”. This item will be reviewed again during the October meeting.
- **3A/4A Basketball Seeding and At-Large Selection Policy:** discussed going to a RPI formula for the selection of the 4A At-Large teams and for the seeding of both the 3A and 4A tournaments. The Board reviewed the data on having both 3A and 4A combined or separated for computing the RPI. This item will be reviewed again during the October meeting.
- **Basketball Season Start Date:** discussed a proposal to change the start date of basketball to a date two weeks earlier. It was felt by changing the dates, schools would have less compacted seasons with greater options for making up missed contest. Board members will gather input from their regions and review this proposal again in October.
- **Baseball Mercy Rule:** the Board clarified the portion of the mercy rule which allows for games to go into “rollover” mode are only for the regular season and not for either conference or state tournaments.

#### **Hearings – None**

**Upcoming Agenda Items** –the below items may be on the agenda for the next meeting. Other items may be added later.

- Strategic Planning
- Constitutional Amendments
- Use of 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students
- Hall of Fame Selection Committee
- Football Travel Policy



4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Fax: 907-563-3739 / Web: [www.asaa.org](http://www.asaa.org)

- TAD Policy
- Badminton Sanctioning Request
- State Cheer Dates and Competition Format
- Use of Non-certified Officials
- Training for School Personnel
- Basketball
  - Shot Clock
  - Start Dates
  - 1A State Bracket
  - At-large Selection and Seeding Procedure

**Awards/Recognitions/Presentations** – Troy Thain was presented a plaque recognizing his outstanding leadership and dedication to the students of Alaska while serving as the Region 5 Representative on the ASAA Board of Directors. Mr. Thain served as the Board Vice President during the 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years.

#### **Motion to Adjourn**

Motion and second to Adjourn  
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

#### **Upcoming Board Meetings and Workshops**

- October 9, 2022 – Workshop in Anchorage
- October 10-11, 2022, Meeting in Anchorage
- December 5-6, 2022, in Anchorage
- February 20-21, 2023, in Anchorage
- April 30, 2023 – Workshop in Valdez
- May 1-2, 2023 – Meeting in Valdez