



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

Adopted Minutes of the ASAA Board of Directors' Meeting December 4-5, 2023

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. December 4, 2023

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 – Dana Mock - Present
- AASA – Jim Holien – Absent (Excused)
- AASG – Rhianonn Dobbins – Present

Approval of the Consent Items –

- a. Approval of Minutes from
 - a. the October 9-10, 2023, Board meeting
 - b. the October 17, 2023, 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)



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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 –

Public Comments may be read at the following link:

<https://asaa.org/wp-content/uploads/board/2A-Conference-Realignment-Comment.pdf>

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



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Action Items – The Board of Directors acted as follows:

➤ **Seward DII Cross Country opt-up Request:** motion and second “to allow Seward High School to opt-up to DII cross country.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: Seward will continue to compete in the Region 3 DII race.

➤ **Seward 3A Volleyball opt-up Request:** motion and second “to allow Seward High School to opt-up to 3A volleyball.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: Seward will continue to compete in the Southcentral Conference.

➤ **2024-2025 Activities Calendar:** motion and second “to approve Option 2 of the 2024-2025 Draft Calendar”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: The approved calendar can be found on the following web page:

<https://asaa.org/printable-calendars/>

➤ **Alaska Students Involved in Exchange/Travel Programs:** motion and second “to approve the changes to Article 12 Section 9.C.15 as presented.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: the revised bylaw now reads:

*15. Alaska Students Involved in Exchange/Travel Programs: Alaska students involved in exchange/ travel programs, including but not limited to the American Field Study Service, Rotary International and Youth for Understanding, are **exempted from the Semester Credit Rule (Bylaw Article 12, Section 7)** upon return to their home schools provided they would have been otherwise academically eligible for the semester they began the exchange/travel program. Alaska students involved in exchange/travel programs must be otherwise eligible by all other rules, including Article 12, Section 3, Maximum Participation.*



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Participation in interscholastic competition while involved in an exchange travel program will count toward the maximum years or seasons of participation in that specific competition as defined in Bylaw Article 12, Section 3.

➤ **Soccer At-Large Selection and State Seeding:** motion and second “to use the RPI for the at-large selection and seeding for the DII and DI Soccer tournaments”.

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Requirements for the Academic Award Entries for ASAA Fine Arts Events:** motion and second “to change the number of participants required to submit an entry for consideration into the Academic Awards during ASAA Fine Art Events from 10 to 5.”.

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **2A Basketball Conference Realignment:** motion and second “to realign the schools and berths for 2A basketball as presented beginning with the 2024-2025 school year”.

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: The new conferences and berths are as follows:

Northwest (2 Seeds): Alakanuk, Chevak, Dillingham, Hooper Bay, Tikigaq, Unalakleet
Interior (2 Seeds): Cordova, Effie Kokrine, Glennallen, Nenana, Tok
Southern (2 Seeds): Ninilchik, Seward, Susitna Valley, Unalaska
Southeast (2 Seeds): Craig, Haines, Metlakatla, Petersburg, Wrangell

➤ **DI Football Playoff Format:** motion by Region 4 “to keep the same DI football game limit and playoff system used during the 2023 football season for the 2024 season”.

(Motion Failed for lack of a second)

Note: The Board scheduled a Special meeting for December 13 at 9:00 a.m. for the sole purpose of revisiting this item.



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➤ **Website listing of all schools involved in Co-ops and Joint Participation:** motion by Region 1 “to list on the ASAA website all school involved in co-ops or joint participation arrangements. This list is to include the name of the schools, whether it was approved by the Executive Director or by Board action, the ending date of the arrangement and for what activities.”

(Motion Failed for lack of a second)

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

➤ **Constitutional Amendments:** discussed the progress to amend the ASAA Constitution to reflect the change in name of the Superintendent’s Association and to list the various regional association.

➤ **State Berth Analysis of Team Sports:** discussed utilizing the various activities committees to provide input on if there should be changes to the berths for team sports.

➤ **TAD Policy Review:** discussed the need to continue to seek out ways to modify the existing policy. This could include treating the consequences differently depending on the type of substance being used. The Board added two students, to be selected by AASG to join the existing committee.

➤ **DI Soccer Conferences:** discussed ongoing meetings of representatives from Region 3, Region 4 and Region 6 to propose a new DI conference which would combine the current two conferences into one conference, with the top 8 teams advancing to the state tournament. The committee is still working out the scheduling of regular season games and conference bylaws.

➤ **Sanctioning of Powerlifting:** discussed a request to sanction powerlifting as an ASAA activity. A representative from USA Powerlifting spoke to the Board about how meets operate and how they can support the training of officials and coaches. The Board felt a split season may work best for schools, with one season operating from early January to mid-April and the other season operating from late-March to early May.

➤ **Flag Football State Championship:** reviewed the recommendations from the Flag Football Committee regarding the conferences and berths needed in order to offer a state championship in the activity of flag football. The Board preferred the second weekend in October for the state championship event.



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- **Transfer Rules Committee:** discussed the recent Transfer Rules Committee meeting and how the committee felt the greater need is to tighten up “loopholes” and revise the waiver system.

- **Wrestling Weight Certification Policy:** discussed how to best provide the medical personal performing the Wrestling Weight Certification more guidance. The Sports Medicine Advisory Committee will work on updating the form.

- **Grace Christian Boys’ Basketball Classification:** discussed a recent vote by the Region 3 schools to not support Grace Christian’s request to be allowed to move back to 3A basketball.

- **Clarification of the Out of Season Coaching Policy:** discussed changing the out of season coaching policy language to clarify the intent of the policy. The new proposed language would read:

“Coaches may practice up to six hours a week, with out-of-season games or scrimmages counting as one hour. However, from the first Monday in November to the start of the basketball season a coach may not “coach” out-of-season games or scrimmages. (Note: this applies to all activities, not just basketball) “

- **Football Championship Sites:** discussed the recent request from ASAA to member schools willing to host the Football Championship. When the finals are held on the same weekend, ASAA would prefer the same site for both games.

- **Tennis Forfeit Policy:** discussed a draft tennis forfeit policy. The draft language states:

“A default of a player for Code violation(s) shall eliminate the player from further competition. Retirement or forfeit for reasons other than illness or injury shall eliminate the player from further competition. Retirement for injury or illness does not automatically eliminate a player from further competition. In case of a retirement for injury or illness, prior to the player’s next match, the tournament director, in consultation with either the on-site appropriate health-care professional(s) or a third party health-care professional(s) and the coach of the injured or ill player, shall determine the player’s ability to safely continue to play in the tournament. If the player is not safely able to play, the player shall be eliminated from further competition.”

- **Lathrop/North Pole Rifle Co-op:** discussed the proposed co-op to allow Lathrop and North Pole to co-op for the 2024-25 school year.



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➤ **ASAA Co-op and Joint Participation Bylaws:** discussed the current co-op and joint participation rules. The Board further discussed the development of a list of factors to be considered when approving these arrangements, so not to be inconsistent, but to also not allow them to be abused.

Executive Session: - The Board went into Executive Session on Monday December 4, 2023, and Tuesday, December 5, 2023, for the purpose of conducting appeals hearings.

Hearings –

- The Board acting in its capacity of an Appeals Board conducted three hearings.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion and second to Adjourn
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Upcoming Board Meetings and Workshops

- December 13, 2023 – Anchorage
- February 19-20, 2024 – Anchorage
- April 28-30, 2024 - Iliamna