



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 February 19-20, 2024

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 8:36 a.m. February 19, 2025

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 – Present
- AASG – Rhianonn Dobbins – Present

Approval of the Consent Items –

- a. Approval of Minutes from
 - a. the December 4-5, 2023, Board meeting
 - b. the December 13, 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 – none

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:

➤ **Sanctioning of Powerlifting:** motion and second “to sanction the activity of powerlifting with the first day of practice set for January 8, 2025, the first competition date set for January 23, 2025, and the last date of competition set for March 29, 2025.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Flag Football State Championship and Conferences:** motion and second “host a Flag Football Championship Tournament on October 10-12, 2024. The Cook Inlet Conference will be comprised of the 8 Anchorage schools, while the Railbelt will be comprised of the schools from Region 3 and Region 6. The Cook Inlet Conference will be awarded 5 berths and the Railbelt will be awarded 3 berths.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **2A Basketball Conference Realignment:** motion and second “allow Lumen Christi to “opt-up” in the activity of basketball and to place them in the Southern Conference”.

(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): Lumen Christi, Ninilchik, Seward, Susitna Valley, Unalaska

Southeast (2 Seeds): Craig, Haines, Metlakatla, Petersburg, Wrangell

➤ **Clarification of the Out of Season Coaching Policy:** motion and second to “change the out of season coaching policy language as presented.

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: The new language states:

“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) “



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➤ **DI Football Championship Site:** motion and second “to award Colony High School the host site for the 2024, 2025, 2026 DI Football State Championships”.

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **DII Football Championship Site:** motion and second “to award Colony High School the host site for the 2024, 2025, 2026 DII Football State Championships provided the dates for the DII Championship game do not change”.

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **DIII Football Championship Site:** motion and second “to award Wasilla High School the host site for the 2024, 2025, 2026 DIII Football State Championships”.

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Tennis Retirement Policy:** motion and second “to adopt the tennis retirement policy as presented.

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: the policy 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 Joint Participation for Rifle:** motion and second “to allow Lathrop and North Pole High Schools to enter into a joint participation agreement for the activity of rifle for the 2024-25 school year.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)



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➤ **Ben Eielson/North Pole Joint Participation for baseball, softball, girls' soccer and soccer:** motion and second "to allow Lathrop and North Pole High Schools to enter into a joint participation agreement for the activities of baseball, softball, girls' soccer and soccer for the 2024 season."

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Lathrop/Student Wrestler Devolvement Program Joint Participation for baseball, softball, girls' soccer and soccer:** motion by Region 6 "to allow Lathrop High School and the Student Wrestler Development Program to enter into a joint participation agreement for the activities of baseball, softball, girls' soccer and soccer for the 2024 season."

(Motion failed for lack of a second)

➤ **Soldotna High School/Cook Inlet Academy Joint Participation for baseball and Softball:** motion and second "to allow Soldotna High School and Cook Inlet Academy to enter into a joint participation agreement for the activities of baseball and softball for the 2024 season"

Motion Passes (7-1)

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

➤ **DI Soccer Conferences:** motion and second "to combine all DI soccer teams into one conference, with the top 8 teams advancing to the state tournament beginning in the 2024-2025 school year. The scheduling of regular season games will be done by Region 4 while consulting with both Region 3 and Region 6."

Note: As a multi-regional conference, the ASAA Board of Directors has the final authority to settle disputes.

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

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



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- **State Berth Analysis of Team Sports:** discussed the anticipated shift in 1A basketball berths from the Peninsula Conference to the Golden Heart Conference.
- **TAD Policy Review:** discussed the educational courses ASAA is investigating for replacing the existing educational components. Two Board members along with 4-6 AASG student will be taking the courses to provide feedback.
- **Sanctioning of Powerlifting:** discussed finalizing the rules, divisions and events during the Spring ASAA Board meeting.
- **Flag Football State Championship:** discussed the newly formed Cook Inlet and Railbelt Conferences needing to work out their conference bylaws regarding tie-breaker system and other conference issues. In addition, the Flag Football Committee will make a recommendation to the Board regarding seeding the state championship.
- **Flag Football State Championship Site:** directed the ASAA Staff to send out a bid request for hosting the 2024, 2025 and 2026 Flag Football Championships.
- **Transfer Rules Committee:** reviewed the recommendations from the Transfer Rules Committee and directed ASAA to send out a proposed bylaw revision to the member schools.
- **Wrestling Weight Certification Policy:** discussed the recommendations of the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee to update the form.
- **Spring Board Meeting:** discussed the travel arrangements for the Spring Board Meeting to be held in Iliamna.
- **North Pole/Student Wrestler Development Academy Joint Participation agreement for football:** discussed the proposed joint participation request between North Pole and SWDP for the 2024 football season.
- **DI Soccer Conference Name and Bylaws:** discussed the need for the new DI Soccer conference to submit their conference bylaws and suggested conference name to ASAA by mid-April.



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➤ **Article 3 Section 3.C Bylaws Amendment:** directed the ASAA Staff to send a proposed change to the Article 3 Section 3.C bylaw.

Note: The proposed bylaw states:

Article 3 Section 3.C. Self-Reporting

C. Self-Reporting: A member school shall report its own violation for any infraction of the Bylaws or policies. Some degree of leniency, including waiver of minimum mandatory financial and other penalties, may be made in self-reporting cases since the majority of such infractions may not otherwise come to light. Game or contest forfeitures as stated in Article 12, Section 1, shall not be waived in cases of self-reporting, **(add) unless, if the school was given incorrect information from the student, parent(s) or guardian. In these instances, the Association may waive the game or contest forfeitures.**

➤ **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. Factors such as avoiding the elimination of an activity, financial cost, number and types of programs currently offered by each school, etc. were discussed.

➤ **Wrestling At-large Selection Criteria:** discussed the recommendations from the ASAA Staff and Wrestling Coaches' Committee to eliminate "winning percentage" from the at-large selection criteria.

➤ **Junior Varsity Wrestling:** discussed the how labeling largely attended highly competitive wrestling tournament as junior varsity, harms many schools seeking "varsity matches". Discussed how to encourage tournament organizers to consider not labeling these events as junior varsity.

➤ **Wrestling Weight Certification Policy:** discussed the recommendation of the Wrestling Coaches' Committee to amend the current policy language to increase the length of time a wrestler can wrestle at more than one weight class above their weight of certification without recertifying at a higher weight.

➤ **DIII Cross Country Team Scoring:** discussed a request by Region 1 to change the team scoring for the DIII Cross Country to either top 3 of 5 or top 3 of 7.

➤ **Sport Start Dates:** discussed how many schools are requesting to be allowed to start playing games (particularly in the activity of basketball) the day before the first allowable contest date. These requests will not be granted. If schools believe this should be allowed, they should bring the request through their region.



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- **Football Scheduling:** discussed the difficulty in scheduling caused by DIII and DI football having an eight-week season, while DII Football has a nine-week season. This leads to many DII schools having two games against the same opponent. There are also issues being caused by school going out of state which often leads to another team being forced to “take a bye”.

- **Statewide Air Quality Policy:** discussed developing a statewide air quality policy which would allow a traveling school to cancel an event based on the forecasted air quality without it being considered a contract violation. Such a policy would allow such a cancelation to be made between 24-48 hours depending on the distance between the impacted schools.

- **ASAA Pass Policy:** discussed amending the current ASAA Pass Policy to clarify the passes given to ASAA Sponsors must be honored during all regular season ASAA events.

- **ASAA Mix-6 Volleyball Policy:** discussed eliminating the requirement that games must start with one male on the court.

- **All-State Music Event Dates:** discussed how the date of All-State Music conflicts with the conference tournament dates for Mix-6/2A Volleyball.

- **Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Recommendations:** discussed the recommendation of the SMAC Committee to require the ACL Prevention course for all coaches. Also discussed the need for coaches to become better trained in issue of mental health.

- **Alaska High School Hall of Fame Bylaw Revision:** discussed revising the bylaws of the Alaska High School Hall of Fame to no longer exclude members for the Standing Committee for induction.

- **Possible Impacts of Juneau combining high schools:** discussed the possible impact to conference, berths and other issues caused if the Juneau School District combines high school. A committee made up of members of Region 3, Region 4, Region 5 and Region 6 is being formed to make recommendations to the Board if this were to happen.

- **Gold Lifetime Passes:** discussed having each Region and Association being ready to nominate during the April Board meeting an individual to receive this award.

- **Firearms Policy:** discussed the need to develop a policy to not allow for the possession of a firearm at ASAA Events.

Executive Session: - The Board went into Executive Session on Monday, February 19, 2024, for the purpose of discussing the Executive Director’s Evaluation procedures.



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Hearings –

- none

Motion to Adjourn

Motion and second to Adjourn
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Upcoming Board Meetings and Workshops

- April 28-30, 2024 - Iliamna