



ALASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

4048 Laurel Street Suite 203 Anchorage, AK 99508 • PHONE: 907-563-3723 • FAX: 907-561-0720

Synopsis of ASAA Board of Directors' Meeting Anchorage, Alaska October 4-5, 2009

Note: This synopsis is available on the ASAA web site at www.asaa.org. More information on agenda items may be obtained from an ASAA Board member (listed on web site) or from the ASAA office (907) 563-3723.

Action Items The Board of Directors (BOD) took the following actions:

- Minutes: Approved minutes of the April 27-28, 2009 regular meeting and the May 12 and August 14, 2009 special teleconference meetings. (Consensus)
- 2010 State Cheerleading Championship: Approved, for one year only, a committee proposal to hold the 2010 championship at Dimond High School in Anchorage on Saturday, March 13. (Changes to the state basketball tournament game schedule necessitated this date change). (Carried – 5-3)
- Hockey – Cooperative School Rule Waiver Request: Turned down a request from the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education, to waive the Cooperative School Rule, Article 7, Section 9, that would have permitted students from Voznesenka, Razdolna and Kachemak-Selo Schools to play on the Homer High School hockey team. Homer High School is a 4A school and is therefore not eligible to participate in the Cooperative School program. (Failed - 1-7)

The board asked that the rule be reviewed during upcoming region meetings and that it be revisited during the February board meeting to determine if there is support for an amendment.

- 8th Grade Student Participation: Voted to extend the forgiveness clause for ineligible 5th year seniors, found in Policy D, 2., when enrollment numbers are computed in determining whether a school qualifies for 8th grade participation. (Carried 5-3)

The policy found on page 58 in the ASAA Handbook, states.

“Counting of Ineligible 5th Year Seniors: If a school’s enrollment for a respective school year, as verified by the superintendent by March 15, causes the school to be placed on Step One or Step Two because of enrolled, ineligible 5th year seniors, the school may

request that the Board of Directors not count those students in the school's enrollment for classification purposes.”

(New) “If a school’s enrollment in grades 9-12 for the previous school year is higher than 20 students due to enrolled, ineligible 5th year seniors, as verified by the superintendent, and if the school would otherwise qualify to have 8th grade students participate under Article 12, Section 2 D., Use of Junior High or Middle School Students, the superintendent may request that the ineligible 5th year students not be included in the total enrollment number for the purpose of this section.”

➤ Basketball Coaching Box: Voted to extend the coaching box in basketball to the maximum size allowable under NFHS rules – 14 feet.

NFHS Basketbal Rule Book

“1-13 – **Article 2** The coaching box shall be outlined outside the side of the court on which the scorer’s and timer’s table and team benches are located. The area shall be bounded by a line 28 feet from the end line, the sideline, a line no more than 14 feet from the 28-foot line toward the end line, and the team bench. These lines shall be located off the court, be two inches wide.

Note: State associations may alter the length and placement of the 14-foot (maximum) coaching box.”

Reports The BOD heard the following reports:

- Board Members
- State Tournaments
- Finance Committee
- Student Government
- Officials/Coaches/WPI/NFHS Leadership Conference
- Marketing
- Executive Director

Public Comments Heard from students, school staff and community members on the request to waive the Cooperative School Rule.

Workshop Items The BOD discussed the following items in workshop:

1. Review of New Website: Participated in a review of the newly revised website, www.asaa.org. This is ASAA’s main communication tool with schools and the public.
2. Review of Financial Policies Required Under New Accounting Rules: Reviewed proposed accounting policies on Control Environment, Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, Budgeting and Payroll. The board will officially adopt these policies at a future meeting.

3. Board Operations and Procedures: Began a discussion on formalizing board operations and procedures which will be put into written policy. This was an important part of the last strategic plan which was left unaccomplished.

Tabled Items: Tabled discussion on concussion management/return to play. The board asked that this be revisited during the December meeting.

Discussion Items The BOD discussed the following items:

State Tournaments: Heard a report from John Andrews, director of special events, on upcoming state tournament venue openings and the bidding process which will be posted on-line at www.asaa.org. Tournaments bids to be accepted this school year:

- Cross Country Running – December 2009
- 1A/2A Volleyball – December 2009
- Mixed-Six Volleyball – December 2009
- 3A/4A Volleyball – December 2009
- 1A/2A/3A Wrestling – February 2010
- 4A Wrestling – February 2010
- Hockey – February 2010
- Soccer – February 2010
- Track and Field – February 2010

Softball: Discussed an upcoming NFHS rule change which will increase the pitching distance from 40 to 43 feet, beginning in 2011. State associations may implement the rule beginning this season. Directed that regions/conferences discuss early implementation with field managers prior to any decision on early adoption at the December board meeting.

After discussion, the board is seeking input from effected schools on a proposal to incorporate pool play into the first day of the small school state championships. This will be further discussed during the December meeting.

Rifle: Revisited a past decision which exempted rifle participants from pre-participation physical exams. Region 6 does require the exam and Region 4 will decide whether it should impose the requirement.

Baseball: The board was made aware of situations in which some baseball coaches have been calling scheduled games, “practice games,” which they have not counted in their teams’ season records. The baseball policy clarifies that there are no “practice games.”

Basketball: Discussed the adoption of NFHS rule changes that permit the use of video replay equipment during the state championship series to determine whether game ending shots are successful. Discussed the use of red lights on the backboard which light up in coordination with the timing horn. There was no support for further discussion or action.

Approved the wording of a proposed bylaw amendment which clarifies how suspension penalties

are served by coaches who are ejected from games during a road trip. This will be sent out to schools for comment prior to board action at the December meeting.

Discussed the “6 quarter rule” as brought up by Region 1. Following additional discussion, no further action will be taken.

Swimming and Diving: Staff presented the new conferences in swimming and diving. This is the first year the sport has been classified by conferences.

New State Tournament Proposal: Reviewed a staff conceptualization of a state salmon fishing tournament which would take place in late July, August and September. Participating schools would submit digital photos, application forms and student essays by an established deadline in order to enter the competition. Curricular materials tailored to relevant topics would be included in the program. Competition would not involve travel. The board will discuss the concept at regional meetings and this will be revisited during the February meeting.

NFHS Coach of the Year Awards: Reviewed a proposal from the NFHS under which each state high school association may participate in a national program to select state, sectional and national coaches of the year in the major sports. After discussion, the board declined to participate in the program.

School Apparel Licensing Program: Discussed a proposal from Licensing Resource Group, LLC (LRG), under which official high school apparel in Alaska would be registered and a manufacturer’s royalty payment would be shared by ASAA, member schools and LRG. After additional research, this will be revisited during the December board meeting.

Coaching Out-of-Season: Took up this item which was tabled during the April meeting. The board was given a considerable amount of correspondence on the subject. This will be a board workshop item during the December meeting.

Potential Effects of School Closures/Illnesses on Conference and State Tournaments: Discussed the potential for disruptions to tournaments throughout the year due to illness. The board agreed that ASAA should be flexible with individual sports and make attempts to fill all berths. The existing State Tournament Policy, **N. Late Arrivals to State Tournaments**, provides some guidance.

Electronic Eligibility Registration: Heard an update on the database project in which student eligibility is reported electronically. The system is also used to report student violations of the “Play for Keeps” program.

Season Calendar Proposal – 2010-11: Reviewed the first draft of the proposed 2010-11 season calendar. Region 6 proposed that the 3A/4A wrestling season be moved to November-February but there was not enough support for the change for 2010-11. The board felt that the newly formed Season Calendar Committee should have the opportunity to review the entire calendar and make recommendations prior to any major shift in seasons at this time. The 2010-11

calendar will be adopted at the December board meeting.

Special Olympics: Heard a presentation from staff at Special Olympics Alaska on the successes of the school campaign. Both ASAA and Special Olympics have pledged to continue joint efforts to encourage participation, especially in track and field, and to build the program.

Future Board Meeting Sites: Discussed the location of future meetings and the spring 2010 meeting which will be held on the Kenai Peninsula.

“Play for Keeps” Program Update: Heard an update on the first year of implementation of the “Play for Keeps” tobacco, alcohol and drug program. During the 2008-09 school year, there were 233 first offenses reported, and 6 second offenses. These included 111 alcohol offenses, 36 drug offenses and 86 tobacco offenses. Offenses to date in 2009-10 included 26 alcohol offenses, 9 drug offenses and 6 tobacco offenses. There was also mention of the new drug testing program put in place by the Juneau City School District.

Ad Hoc Season Calendar Committee: Appointed the final members to the committee which first meets on December 13 from 9-4 in Anchorage. Members are:

- Region 1 – Patrick Callahan – Nome High School
- Region 2 – Steve Wolfe – Voznesenka School
- Region 3 – Norm Bouchard – Houston High School
- Region 4 – Rick Volk – Chugiak High School
- Region 5 – Rhonda Hickok – Thunder Mountain High School
- Region 6 – Walt Armstrong – North Pole High School
- Board Member – Conrad Gonzalez – Fairbanks North Star Borough School District
- Chair – Sandi Wagner – Juneau-Douglas High School
- Staff Liaison – Rus Schreckenghost

The committee will review the current calendar, take input on suggestions to revise the calendar, and make a recommendation to the board at a future time.

Ad Hoc Classification Committee: Appointed the final members to the committee which first meets on November 16 from 9-4 in Anchorage. Members are:

- Region 1 – Jeff Erickson - Unalakleet High School
- Region 2 – Dean Overbey – Nenana High School
- Region 3 – Dan Carstens – Nikiski High School
- Region 4 – Craig Walker – West Anchorage High School
- Region 5 – Monty Bunes - Wrangell High School
- Region 6 – Kelly Growden – Eielson High School
- Board Member/Chair – Billy Strickland – Bethel High School
- Staff Liaison – John Andrews

The committee will review the current system of classifying schools, take input on suggestions

for change, and make a recommendation to the board at a future time.

The board also discussed the anticipated expenses of the two meetings. It was agreed that the initial meeting will be face-to-face in Anchorage and that future meetings, if needed, will be held using conferencing technology.

State Championship Event Participation Fee Procedure: Heard the procedure that staff has developed to collect the \$10. student participation fee for all state championship events. ASAA will invoice schools after the event based on the final number of participants submitted prior to the start of the championship.

NFHS Wrestling Weight Class Options: Reviewed NFHS proposed options to revise the wrestling weight classes to be implemented at some future time. ASAA will put the options on the website, poll the coaches during the state tournaments, discuss this at upcoming regional meetings, and take action during the February board meeting.

2010 State Cheerleading Tournament Date: Discussed the factors involved relative to establishing a date for the tournament. Rotation of the state basketball tournaments created a major scheduling conflict for cheerleading. The board took this up under Action Item 9 a.

2A Basketball State Tournament Bracket Rotation: Due to the odd number of conferences sending schools to the 2A state tournament, an annual rotation does not work out very well. It was decided that Region 1 will seed its #1 teams from the north and south prior to sending the seeding information to ASAA.

Basketball Coaching Box: Discussed expansion of the coaching box prior to taking action under 9 d.

Student Hearing

No hearing was held.

Items for December Meeting - December 14-15, 2009 – Anchorage – Millennium Hotel

Workshop

1. Out-of-Season Contact

Reports

1. Sportsmedicine
2. Classification Committee
3. Season Calendar Committee

Discussion

1. Executive Director's Evaluation

2. School Classification/Enrollment Status
3. Review of State Tournament Team Berths
4. Football Jamboree Policy – Region 6
5. Small School Softball Pool Play
6. LRG Licensing Proposal

Action

1. Bylaw, Article 6, Section 5, **Personal Conduct/Sportsmanship** – Coach ejection/suspension while traveling – Region 1
2. Election of Officers – President and Vice-President
3. State Tournament Venue Bids
4. Softball Pitching Distance
5. Adoption of 2010-11 Season Calendar
6. Adoption of Accounting Policies

Items for February Meeting - February 21-22, 2009 – Anchorage – Millennium Hotel

Workshop

1. Board Policies and Procedures

Reports

1. Classification Committee
2. Season Calendar Committee

Discussion

1. State Salmon Fishing Tournament
2. Cooperative School Program Amendment
- 3.

Action

1. State Tournament Venue Bids
2. Wrestling Weight Classes
3. School Classification/Enrollment Status
4. Review of State Tournament Team Berths