



ALASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

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Synopsis of ASAA Board of Directors' Meeting Anchorage, Alaska October 3-4, 2010

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 25-26, 2010 regular meeting and the May 19, 2010 Special Teleconference Meeting. (Consensus)

➤ State Tournament Bids: Accepted a bid from the Anchorage School District to host All-State Music in 2011-13. (Unanimous Consent)

Discussed and supported a potential bid from UAA to host the 2011 State DDF Championships on February 17-19. (Carried 8-0)

➤ 8th Grade Students at State Student Government Conferences: Moved to approve the participation of 8th grade students in the state student government conferences beginning in the spring of 2011 under the existing guidelines for 8th grade participation in basketball and volleyball. (Carried 8-0)

➤ World Language Declamation Qualifications: Adopted a proposal from world language teachers to revise the qualifying process for the state competition, effective this current school year. (Carried 8-0)

➤ Classification – Schools Electing to Opt Up to a Higher Classification: Adopted a proposal that will allow schools to “opt up” on a sport by sport basis, as long as both genders in a specific sport are treated the same, beginning in 2012-13. (Carried 8-0)

➤ ASAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) Recommendations: Discussed the committee recommendations and adopted the following: (Carried 8-0)

1. The NFHS Concussion Management Policy.

2. Medical coverage procedures at state tournaments
3. Future committee meeting dates – January 11-12, 2011 and October 11-12, 2011

The board did not adopt the committee recommendation that all coaches be required to take the free, on-line Concussion Management Course, but it does strongly suggest that all coaches take this short course to gain this crucial knowledge to protect the health of student athletes and to reduce the school's liability exposure. Directed the executive director to correspond directly to superintendents on this matter.

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 Comments were made on the proposed amendments to the Classification System.

Workshop Items The BOD discussed the following items in workshop:

1. “Play for Keeps” - Updates: Reviewed statistics for the 2009-10 school year and how they compare with 2008-09, heard a report on current grants, heard a report on the recent meeting with Al Parrish, CEO of Providence Hospital, on ASAA's wellness/fitness campaign, heard of plans to reformat the Advisory Board, heard a report on the recent meeting with the Commissioner of Education, Larry LeDoux, reviewed the new “Play for Keeps - Win for Life” brochure which is available to schools on line for duplication, reviewed the banners sent to all member schools and discussed the new state tournament banners, reviewed the new Distracted Driving ads produced under a AHSO grant, and reviewed and discussed the Concept Proposal presented to the Commissioner of Ed. promoting expansion of the program into nutrition/wellness and job skill acquisition.

2. Coaches Education/Coaches Certification/Certification Extensions/Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) Recommendations: Reviewed the history of coaches education/certification in Alaska, current on-line education, discussed requiring ejected coaches to take an on-line course, reviewed the data on extensions of certification and the number of coaches out of compliance, recommended that superintendents be notified of out-of-compliance coaches in their districts (liability issue), discussed the creation of a master eligibility list of coaches, discussed potential penalties for using non-certified coaches after extensions expire, directed that this be a discussion item during the December meeting.

Reviewed the first SMAC meeting which was held in July, discussed committee makeup and getting advisory input from other interested medical professionals throughout the state, reviewed the NFHS concussion management policy, discussed medical coverage at state championships and during regular season and conference competitions,

Tabled Items: There were no tabled items from the previous meeting.

Discussion Items The BOD discussed the following items:

➤ **Bylaws:** Discussed the nine ways that the Transfer Rule is applied to member, non-member alternative and member state-wide correspondence programs. The board wonders if the rules can be simplified so that they are better understood. Asked that other state's transfer rules for non-traditional students be examined. This will be discussed further during the December meeting.

Discussed the Practice Rule and the provision for overlapping sports. Asked that the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) provide input on the rule. Asked that the term "nationally recognized activity" be defined. This will receive further discussion during the December meeting.

Discussed the Foreign Student Transfer Rule and how it applies to students in various correspondence programs. ASAA is seeing an increased number of students from Belgium who are graduated seniors and are therefore ineligible.

➤ **Policies:** Discussed the need to adopt policy definitions which deal with the following areas—

- Prospective Player
- Camps
- Conditioning
- Clinics
- Summer Travel Teams
- Out-of-Season
- Practice
- Coach

There will be further discussion during the December meeting following regional input.

➤ **Media Policy:** Discussed the need for a comprehensive policy on how ASAA deals with the various media types. Reviewed a first draft of a staff proposal. This will be reviewed again during the December meeting.

➤ **Bylaw Amendment – Licensing Sports Officials with Sexual Abuse Records:** Discussed the potential for a convicted sexual offender to seek certification as a sports official. After reviewing an opinion of legal counsel, directed the executive director to send out a proposed bylaw amendment which would enable ASAA to deny certification to such an individual. This will be an action item during the December meeting.

➤ Ad Hoc Classification Advisory Committee Report: Heard a committee report presented by committee chair, Billy Strickland, of Bethel. After discussing the report and hearing public input from Nenana and Petersburg, the board stated that it intends to adopt the following reclassification numbers for basketball during the December meeting, based on the October 2009 student count in grades 9-12.

- 1A - 5-60
- 2A - 61-180
- 3A - 181-540
- 4A - 541 and above

Classification numbers for the remaining activities will be determined following a workshop during the December meeting. The board stated that any changes to classification will begin in 2012-13.

The board adopted the following time frame for implementation of classification changes:

- Nov. 1, 2010 - ASAA will release classification proposal for basketball based on new numbers
- Dec. 14, 2010 - board will adopt classification changes in all sports and activities
- Feb. 19, 2011 - deadline for schools to “opt up” on a sport by sport basis by notifying ASAA
- Feb. 22, 2011 - board will approve requests to “opt up”
- Apr. 19, 2011 - board will approve changes to conferences and berths to state tournaments to begin in 2012-13
- July/Aug. 2012 - classification changes will go into effect

The board also discussed the potential of a 16 team 1A state basketball tournament as part of the classification proposal.

➤ Ad Hoc Season Calendar Advisory Committee Report: Reviewed and discussed the committee’s final calendar proposal for 2011-12. The proposed calendar is posted at <http://asaa.org/calendarevents/pdf/201112ProposedCalendar.pdf>

➤ Nordic Skiing – Western Alaska Season: After discussion on the ski/biathlon season sponsored by some school districts in central and western Alaska, the board decided that it is not an ASAA sanctioned activity and ASAA rules do not apply.

➤ All-State Music Festival – On-Line Auditions: Discussed a request from Cam Bohman, ASAA music coordinator, to implement on-line auditions for the band, orchestra and choirs. Adopting such a program would require the development of software or the use of an existing service. Discussion followed on how to cover the cost of this service. The board asked that a detailed proposal be developed for the December meeting.

➤ “ Delta Junction High School in Fall Coed Soccer Conference: Heard a report on a recent controversy concerning Delta Jct. High School playing in the fall Borealis coed soccer

conference although the school has not been placed in the conference by the board of directors. Evidently, the school has been doing this for a number of years without drawing notice by ASAA. Other schools in the conference are not opposed to Delta Jct.'s membership, so the board has decided to take official action during the December meeting.

➤ Game Ejection/Suspension Penalty in Football: Discussed the application of the suspension rule to football which has an 8 game season compared to other sports which have up to a 22 game season (volleyball, hockey, basketball, baseball, softball). A student ejected early in a football game must sit out the rest of that game and the next game which can be nearly 25% of the regular season. There was no board interest in further discussion on this subject.

➤ Basketball – At-Large Berths: Reviewed previous proposals to create at-large berths for the 4A state basketball tournament with selection based on the WPI. The concern is that the present configuration can leave one of the better teams out of the state tournament.

Current:

- Cook Inlet Conference – 3 berths
- Northern Lights Conference – 3 berths
- Mid Alaska Conference – 1 berth
- Southeast Conference – 1 berth

Proposed:

- Cook Inlet Conference – 2 automatic berths
- Northern Lights Conference - 2 automatic berths
- Mid Alaska Conference – 1 automatic berth
- Southeast Conference – 1 automatic berth
- Other – 2 berths determined by selecting the two teams with the highest WPI from the remaining teams statewide.

The board will take action on this item during the December meeting. Any change will take place in 2011-12.

➤ Strategic Planning: Agreed to begin a new strategic planning process since the past one expired in 2008. This will be a discussion/action item during the December meeting.

➤ Alaska Association of Basketball Coaches: Heard a presentation by coach David Porter, Houston High School, on the reorganization of an association of basketball coaches. Discussion ensued on the relationship of the association to ASAA. He also announced plans for an all-star basketball game to be played at Colony High School on April 9. The board determined that only graduating seniors may play in the game since it is outside of the high school season and they will be representing their schools.

➤ Cross-Country Running: Reviewed the existing policy under which member state correspondence program students may qualify for the state tournament. Following discussion on a misinterpretation of the rule by a member school, the board stated that the existing rule should be enforced as written.

Discussed a coaches' concern with the existing deadlines for substitution in the state meet. The proposal requests that last minute substitutions be allowed. This will be further discussed during

the December meeting.

After discussion, did not support sending Alaskan cross-country teams to a proposed national championship.

➤ HSGQE and the 8 Semester Rule: Heard of recent requests to consider not passing all parts of the HSGQE a hardship for the purpose of granting waivers to 5th year seniors. The board confirmed the executive director's determination that this alone should not be considered a hardship for the purposes of eligibility determination.

Student Hearing

Skyview High School – Academic and Transfer Rule Appeal

Items for December Meeting - December 13-14, 2010 – Embassy Suites Hotel, Anchorage

Workshop

1. Classification – Conferences other than Basketball
- 2.

Reports

- 1.

Discussion

1. Cheerleading as a Sport
2. Cross-Country Running-Deadlines
3. State Basketball Tournament
 - a. 2010 Final Report
 - b. 1A Tournament Format
4. Coaches Certification/Extensions/Penalties
5. Transfer Rule – Non-Traditional Students
6. Practice Rule
7. Graduated Foreign Student
8. Media Policy
9. Out-of-Season Policy Definitions
10. All-State Music- On-line Auditions
- 11.

Action

1. 2011-12 Calendar Adoption
2. Election of Officers
3. Adoption of Classification Changes
4. Coed Soccer Conference – Delta Junction High School Request

5.