

AIA Basketball Advisory Committee  
January 9, 2014  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Meeting Minutes

Call to order: 9:00 a.m.

*1. Roll Call*

Members in attendance:

|                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| David Thursby/2A Adm.  | Greg Haagsma/2A Coach   |
| Jamie Roe/3A Adm.      | Mark Showers/3A Coach   |
| Phillip Nowlin/4A Adm. | Howard Mueller/4A Coach |
| Dan Haasch/5A Adm.     | Tyler Dumas/5A Coh      |
| Lonnie Trvdy/At-large  | Michael Fowler/At-large |

Members Absent:

Curry Donaldson/1A Adm.

*2. Review of AIA Basketball Sport Advisory Meeting minutes from 9/18/13*

Minutes reviewed-Approved by committee

*3. Old Business*

- a. Executive Director recommendation to the AIA Executive Board regarding 5A Conference Committee request to hold the Division I Super-Sectional at the site of the #1 High Seed
  - Update on sectional/super-sectional sites

*Girls/Boys Basketball Championship information page from AIA365.com was distributed to all committee members.*

*Discussed the AIA Executive Board creation of section's #1 and #7 in Division II as a compromise related to the travel issue for section games if the schools in those two sections were in the original Div. II section #1 together. As a result, each of those two Div. II sections will play a three team sectional tournament with the winner getting one of the top seven seeds on the AIA Division II state basketball bracket.*

*The December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 AIA Executive Board minutes of the discussion the AIA Executive Board had regarding the regarding 5A Conference Committee request to hold the Division I Super-Sectional at the site of the #1 High Seed was shared with the AIA Basketball Sport Advisory Committee. The AIA Executive Board reaffirmed the need, per auditor recommendations, to centralize venues for sectional and state tournament and not grant the request by the 5A conference to play the Division I Super Sectional Tournament at the site of the high seed.*

#### 4. New Business

- a. Discuss adopting the use of three person officiating crews for all AIA varsity level basketball contest (Dumas)
  - Letter from Art Hall , Executive Director of the Arizona Basketball Coaches Association.

*Gary Whelchel, AIA Commissioner of Officials, addressed the AIA Basketball Advisory Committee on the history and current status of this request.*

*A survey of coaches , sent forward by Art Hall, the Arizona Basketball Coaches Executive Director, indicated that 90 percent of the varsity basketball coaches were in favor of utilizing three person officiating crews for all varsity level contests. The Arizona Basketball Coaches Association cannot bring items forward for the AIA Basketball Advisory Committee to discuss but Tyler Dumas requested that the item be placed on the agenda.*

*It was noted that this is not a new topic of discussion. In the past twenty plus years, the AIA has actually utilized several invitational tournament as training situations in the event the membership ever approved three person crews for either the regular season, state tournament or both. The request came forward several years ago to the AIA Legislative Council as a bylaw proposal for three person crews to be utilized in the AIA State Basketball Tournament and was defeated (Note: it was defeated (1)because coaches opposed the three person officiating crews unless they were also utilized in all regular season games and (2) administrators were concerned about adding additional cost to their game management/officiating budgets.)*

*Gary Whelchel addressed the facts/history pros/cons of utilizing three person officiating crews:*

*Pro's:*

- *Better view*
- *Better angles*
- *Better transition*
- *Improved 3 pt. coverage*
- *Improved on-ball coverage*
- *Increased off-ball coverage*
- *Better full –court coverage*
- *Fewer fouls (back by Az. State in 2A/4A State Tourney three person crew usage stats in 2005 )*
- *Better view/angle on activity above the rim(interference calls)*
- *One more set of eyes to monitor unsportsmanlike behavior on the court*
- *46 state currently use three person crew in their state basketball tournament*
- *One state utilizes three person crew in their entire season*
- *Arizona has conducted three person crew training in the annual basketball officiating summer camps to insure officials were prepared with the proper mechanics and floor coverage in the event AIA went to the use of three person basketball officiating crew. (stopped in 2006 due to previously mentioned AIA Legislative failure)*
- *Three person crews have been utilized in selected invitational tournaments*

Con's:

- *Not enough basketball officials available to the AIA to assign for all games (down 28% of available officials since 2008)*
- *Not enough basketball officials know the three person crews mechanics and floor coverage*
- *Not used during regular season*
- *Cost for regular season games increases schools game management/officiating costs*
- *Preparation /training required for basketball officials to transition to three person officiating crews*
- *Both boys and girls games would require three person officiating crew assignment (equity)*
- *Not enough opponent matchups with the talent that would require/warrant three person officiating crew at 100% level, even in the state tournament.*
- *Statewide three person officiating crew assignments not feasible from an officiating personnel standpoint*
- *Several states have reverted back to two person officiating crew (financial cut back and not effective)*
- *To run some games as two person officiating crew and others as three person officiating crews would be problematic (individual schools-coaches, players, fans-would feel slighted if their game was only assigned a two person officiating crew)*

*David Thursby reaffirmed Gary's information related to the concern school administrators have related to addition cost for three person basketball officiating crews. He also indicated that Gary is very correct when stating that there are not basketball officials presently trained with the mechanics of the three person basketball officiating crew assignment. Equity will be an issue if only certain regular or state games are assigned a three person officiating crew.*

*Howard Mueller asked if the AIA sets the officiating fee. He indicated several officials have indicated they would work for less pay if they were on a three person basketball crew. Gary replied that the figures he has discussed do result in less pay for the individual referee in a three person crew as compared to a two person crew, but that officials do not set their rate of pay individually, it is done through the AIA legislative process, for regular season or state tournament games.*

*Greg Haagsma brought up that at smaller schools, where boys and girls varsity games are played back to back, a three person crew could work both games and make more money than working one game as part of a two man crew.*

*Greg also asked how many officials are we losing because they are moving up to high levels of completion where they do use the three person crew. Gary replied that one of the reasons Arizona has such highly skilled two man officiating crews is because there are less opportunities to officiate at a higher level of competition because we have less junior colleges, colleges and universities in Arizona compared with many states. We have no idea of the number of officials that aren't officiating because we don't have three man crews.*

*Per Gary, a shot clock does not require a three person crew. A shot clock requires a shot clock, a score table operator and the statistics nationally do not indicate it would have a meaningful effect on the game to justify the cost.*

*Mark Showers indicated he was negative on the previous state tournament experiment that utilized three person crews at the 2A level because he saw confusion on both mechanics, rotation and floor coverage. Gary confirmed that his best officials participated on those three person crews but, since they were not junior college officials that were part of three person crews all the time, there was confusion at times.*

*Gary W. indicated that about 25 percent of the AIA present basketball officials are trained to do the three person crew. It would take about one summer of camps and one summer of summer games to train. Then the AIA would have to stagger what levels and rounds the three person crew would be utilized.*

- b. Discuss NFHS rule on home school uniforms
  - Issue of schools utilizing silver, grey or other light colored uniforms as their home uniform instead of white

*Greg has been at games where other uniforms than NFHS rule required have been worn. Gary indicated that the NFHS rule is very clear.....the torso color shall be white for the home team and a contrasting dark color for the visiting team. No penalty is indicated in the rule so therefore without the right uniform that meets the NFHS rule, team can't play. This rule was phased in to allow schools time to equip their varsity teams.*

*Officials at invitational tournament are more lax on this rule because the school, playing multiple games on a day or on consecutive days. Only two exceptions to this rule with regular season games:*

- *Pink for Breast Awareness related games*
- *Camouflage uniform for Military Appreciation game*
- *NFHS rule does not apply to junior varsity or freshman games*

*Grey/silver is not a contrasting color.*

- c. Discuss rationale for the region basketball teams in the region previously known as the 3A North being allowed three invitational basketball tournaments instead of the two allotted by AIA bylaw; article 21.5.1.

When the AIA converted competition to sections and divisions, away from regions and conference competition, there were multiple traditional region tournament that existed that were very meaningful to their supporting communities. The old 3A North Region basketball tournament was one of those. It was decided, at the AIA Executive Board level, that a region could request an exception to AIA bylaw; article 21.5.1, to play an additional invitational tournament to continue a tradition. This is no different

than schools that request an exception to go over the AIA bylaw imposed game limit in a sport. In the case of the 3A North, they call their original 3A North member tournament the Tournament of Champions. The exception must be requested each year and reviewed/granted each year by the AIA Executive Board, just as all other exceptions are requested/reviewed and granted on a year to year basis.

This request was on the AIA Executive Board's agenda on October 21, 2013 and was granted at that meeting by the AIA Executive Board.

4. Consensus recommendations to go forward to the AIA Executive Board:

*None*

5. Adjournment

Next meeting March 26, 2014