

AIA Football Sports Advisory Committee  
January 23, 2014  
10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
AIA Office Board Room

Call to order: 10:30 a.m.

1. Roll Call

Members in attendance:

Tim Slade/1A Coach/Don Conrad/2A Adm.

Jerry Link/3A Adm. / Jim Fairfield/3A Coach

Nathan Slater/4A Adm. Nemer Hassey/4A Coach

Mike Sivertson/5A Adm./Dana Zupke/5A Coach-Committee Chair

Members not in attendance:

Lee Haws/1A Adm. / Rhett Stallworth/2A Coach

Visitors in Attendance:

Corey Newland (Paradise Valley Unified Dist. Athletic Director)

Marcus Williams (Chandler Unified Dist. Athletic Director)

Rich Wellbrock (Desert Edge Football Coach)

2. AIA Football Sport Advisory Meeting minutes from 12/11/13 meeting reviewed/approved.

3. New Business

*A. Discuss issues/concerns related to the Global game (Zupke)*

Dana indicated concern that coaches were being asked to nominate players for Global football game being promoted by Jeff Scurran from Catalina Foothills. He was concerned that the AIA Executive Board's approval of this game was inconsistent with AIA bylaws (14.7.1 and 14.7.2). Chuck Schmidt replied that the AIA Executive Board, when evaluating All Star related events, evaluates the event and determines whether to approve or not approve an exception to the bylaws. He indicated that when Coach Scurran presented to the AIA Board, he indicated that players were not nominated by schools or their coaches; that the game and team were advertized as an opportunity for football players to act as ambassadors of American football and visitors to a different culture than their own. Chuck indicated that the AIA Executive Board was not told about any request to Arizona High School football coaches for player nominations. The AIA Executive Board was actually told that players are not selected by their position or previous level of play. Chuck indicated that he would be in contact with the Catalina Foothills athletic director regarding the information brought forward at this meeting.

It was expressed that the bylaws (14.7.1 and 14.7.2) were supported at last year's AIA Legislative Council because of the concern the membership has related to all star games impacting other sports during their season of competition.

The committee was reminded that at any AIA Legislative Council March voting meeting, a proposal to allow school support of and coaches participation in all star competition

- B. *Finalize recommendation for timeline for AIA member schools that compete in Div. VI football for declaring that they will field a varsity level team.*
- *Finalize recommendation for AIA Executive Board sanctioning for teams that cancel individual games or program after that declaration date.*
  - *Finalize creating a Div. VI schedule following the declaration date (one season schedule)*

After brief discussion, the committee agreed to make a recommendation to the 1A Conference Committee to have the AIA Div. VI football schedule created annually. The schedule will not be created until after one week of football practice. At the end of the first week of football practice, 1A Conference school would declare if they will field a varsity level Division VI (eight man) football team. It was discussed whether to allow the computer to do the scheduling of all eight games or to have committee (likely the 1A Conference Committee) create the Division VI football schedules.

Note: this item has been placed on the 1A Conference Committees next meeting agenda.

The scheduling bylaw ( 11.4.4, 11.4.4.1, 11.4.4.2 )regarding canceling a game or program was discussed. This process, stipulated in the bylaw, clearly indicates the procedure that includes final approval of any cancelled game or cancelled is through AIA Executive Board approval. It was also discussed that, through article 16, there is a process already in place for violations of these scheduling related bylaws.

- C. *Clarification of what activities are allowed during the three potential weeks of Football Spring Instruction as defined in AIA bylaw; article 23. 10. (Zupke)*
- D. *Discuss potential of allowing 7 on 7 spring passing leagues. (Zupke)*

Article 23.10 was pulled up on the video screen and quickly reviewed.

#### 23.10 SPRING FOOTBALL INSTRUCTION

23.10.1 A coach may instruct candidates for the high school's football squad for three consecutive weeks, commencing on the 44th week of the AIA standardized calendar and concluding in the 46th week. The use of shields and dummies during this time is permissible.

23.10.2 Student athletes attending spring football instructions shall have parental or legal guardian consent and a current physical examination on file. It is recommended that insurance coverage be provided as stated in Article 14, Section 14.15.

23.10.3 Group sessions are permissible for the showing of films, chalk talk, player/parent meetings and the distribution of printed material.

23.10.4 Attendance at spring football instructions shall be voluntary and no student athlete shall be prohibited from participating on the football squad for failing to attend the out-of-season football instructions.

Agenda item D, regarding 7 on 7 spring passing leagues, was discussed in conjunction with what is allowed during spring football instruction. Dana share that there was information coming to football coaches from Dale Hellestrae regarding spring 7 on 7 passing leagues that he indicated he had talked with Chuck about.

Chuck indicated that, as happens in baseball, softball and basketball, any individual can create a business that is not connected to his school. Often the names attached to these private enterprise teams or clubs are school related names, but it is not a high school team. Participation on these "club" teams cannot be required of any player for membership on the AIA member school team. The "club" team cannot use school equipment or school facilities unless the "club" has a usage agreement with the school or school district.

7 on 7 club leagues could easily become an issue for a school if it coincided with AIA permissible spring football instruction.

- E. Report on recommendation action(s) taken related to AIA football bylaws by the AIA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (Slade/Staples)
- Possible recommendation to AIA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee and AIA Executive Board regarding change to present AIA bylaw; articles 23.5.3.1 and 23.5.3.2(unlimited or increased game participation limits)

Tim Slade share that the AIA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee was presented with the AIA Football Advisory Committee's proposal to eliminate AIA bylaw; article 23.5.3.1 (unlimited number of football games per season) for Division V and Division VI. The AIA Football Advisory Committee proposed that Divisions IV/V/VI all follow the bylaw exception (presently 23.5.3.2) which permits a player to participate in 50% more games than the regular season limit for their division.

It was also indicated that, whenever possible, Division VI will play their junior varsity games on Tuesday's instead of Thursday's

- F. *Questions regarding AIA seeding powered by MaxPreps. Scheduling –Football two year block discussion. (Slater)*

The committee was referred to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) (see link below) and the AIA Seedings powered by MaxPreps and State Tournament Qualifying document on AIA365.com

<http://www.aia365.com/rankings/faq>

[http://www.aiaonline.org/story/uploads/AIA\\_Seedings\\_powered\\_by\\_MaxPreps\\_State\\_Tournament\\_Qualifying\\_2013\\_2015\\_1382462172.pdf](http://www.aiaonline.org/story/uploads/AIA_Seedings_powered_by_MaxPreps_State_Tournament_Qualifying_2013_2015_1382462172.pdf)

Nathan Slater indicated that with the next two year block scheduling process initiating again during next school year, each of the conference committees need to start thinking about the parameters that will be used in scheduling.

- G. *Consensus recommendations for the AIA Executive Board.*

None

#### 4. Adjournment