

4A Conference Committee
Minutes
August 4, 2016 @ 9am AIA Office

Attended:

Matt Belden, Chair, Jeannine Brandel, AIA Board Rep, Ron Safcik, Skyline, Jim Denton, Black Canyon, Eric Freas, Grand Canyon, Randy Walker, Gila, Shelley Arredondo, Desert Sky, Rob Roberson, Southwest, Joe Paddock, Kino, Mark Faust, West Valley, Michael Fowler, AIAAA 4A Conference Rep

Guest: Bill Wright, Estrella Foothills AD

AIA Staff:

David Hines, Asst. Executive Director
Tayler Coady, Executive Assistant

AIA Executive Board Report: none

Region Reports: none

AIAAA Report: Michael Fowler, AIAAA 4A Conference Rep

- 101 registrants for this year.
- Agenda will be similar to last year.
- Fostering our Future dialogue will continue.
- Dr. Fowler listed topics that will be addressed at conference.
 - Article 15 – enrollment from out-of-state
 - Prior Contact
 - Competition outside season of sport
 - Transgender
 - Concussion and Heat Acclimatization
 - Reorganization of AIA Bylaws
 - AIAAA National Conference coming to Phoenix 2017
- 4A Conference members will meet Sunday night from 4:15 – 5:30.

4A Region

Desert Sky
West Valley
Southwest
Skyline
Grand Canyon
Black Canyon
Gila
Kino

Committee Representative

Shelley Arredondo, Tempe
Mark Faust, Sunrise Mountain
Rob Roberson, Youngker
Ron Safcik, Shadow Mountain
Eric Freas, Coconino
Jim Denton, Combs
Randy Walker, Douglas
Joe Paddock, Amphitheater Unified, District AD

Self-introduction of committee members

Meeting notes for 4A Conference:

1. Fall Region Tournaments List – Belden (handout)

The decision to hold region tournaments will be made by individual regions. Mr. Belden asked that each rep fill out the Region Tournament sheet at the next region meeting, scan, and send back to him.

- Kino – no tournaments
- Gila – no

- Desert Sky – no
- Southwest - no
- Skyline – unknown
- West Valley – unknown
- Grand Canyon – unknown
- Black Canyon - unknown

If the decision is made to hold region tournaments, region must define what the region tournament means regarding qualifying for State and whether the Region Champion will be an automatic qualifier for State. Another factor regions should be aware of is cost. Hosting school will pay the cost (s) of the tournament, then charge costs back to the region.

Guidelines and ideas from Mr. Paddock's packet were discussed regarding how we proceed with region tournaments for next school year.

2. Drones – Belden (handout)

AIA Policy discussed. Drones are prohibited at State AIA events.

3. Meeting Dates – Belden (handout)

FYI – correction for 2017 dates will be made and emailed to the group.

4. 4A Region Rep Contact Log – Belden (handout)

Once the list has been completed (cell phone numbers), Tess will email to the group

5. Sports Bylaws/Possible 4A Exceptions – Paddock

It is most likely that sport bylaws will become sport rules/regulations separate from AIA bylaw. This will allow changes to rules/regulations to happen more quickly, without having to be presented to the legislative council. Conferences cannot have separate handbooks as they are not governed by AIA bylaws and procedures are not enforceable by AIA.

6. 4A Conference Sports Advisories – Paddock

-AIA Sports Advisory

Current openings were identified for the AIA Sports Advisory Committee:

- Volleyball,
- B/G Basketball
- B/G Soccer
- Baseball
- Softball

Region Reps need to take these vacancies back to their first region meeting and identify interest in filling the openings. If only one (1) person is interested, please send that name to Mr. Belden at Matthew.Belden@guhsdaz.org

If there are more than one (1) person interested in representing, send those names to Mr. Belden to be forwarded to the Conference Committee for a vote. This needs to be done quickly as some sports committees are already meeting and the sports listed above do not have representation as of now. Meetings are held 2-3 time per year, with a three (3) year commitment. The representative can be either an AD or coach from each conference.

-Conference Sports Advisory Committee

In the past, this committee represented different sports having bylaws attached to them, each sport possibly having specific rules for that specific sport.

Mr. Paddock asked the committee for input on the following:

- Does the 4A Conference Region Committee want to reestablish a Conference Sports Advisory Committee? (handout of example of membership and responsibilities attached to these minutes). Mr. Belden explained the discussion had at AIAAA last spring regarding removal of sports specific bylaws from AIA bylaw and making them sport specific procedures. The conference committee would become very important as we look forward to that process going through legislation next March. One of the major responsibilities of the committee would be to survey all schools in the region for input on changes being presented on rules/procedures. Survey results would be compiled by the sport lead and the board advisor then presented to the committee. Feedback from schools is an important aspect of this committee.

Region's input to be brought back to the 9/19 meeting to decide if moving forward with 4A Conference Sports Advisory Committee is recommended. Having this in place by April 2017 for fall 2017 would be the goal.

7. Camps/Clinics – School Year and Summer – Paddock

What are requirements when coach is offering camp or clinic during the school year? School equipment can be used if rental payment is received. *Mr. Paddock requested that a definitive document be provided to define camp/clinic during school year. This should include a cautionary statement regarding Prior Contact and currently enrolled students.

**(Correction from original minutes: Mr. Paddock made the request, not Mr. Hines).*

8. Emergency Plans for Athletic Practices – Brandel

Jeannine asked the group about an emergency plan in place for sports practices and would they be willing to share information. Example: active shooter in vicinity after school has dismissed but practices are in session. Ms. Arredondo has an emergency plan at Tempe and will send to the group. GUHSD uses the reverse evacuation plan for sport practices.

9. 4A Hardship Appeals – date/process – Walker

The committee discussed the date for the 4A appeals hearing.

- Wednesday, Aug. 17th is a firm date for 4A Hardship Appeals.
- Any appeal received after 8/9 will be set aside and paper screened back to their Conference.
- It was indicated that some ADs are using the recommendation form in lieu of the hardship packet. This will be kicked back to the school without signature. Packet gives reasoning on hardship – no signature from sending/receiving school without completed packet.
- The hardships will be sent to 4A chair (Matt) electronically for review on 8/10.
- For hardship appeals, region reps will need to bring laptop/tablet to hardship appeal meeting for review of electronic hardships.
- 8/17 meeting will start at 8a – first hardship will be heard at 8:30-8:45 allowing 10-15 minutes per appeal. Appeals must address three factors; Unavoidable, Uncorrectable, Unforeseeable.
- All documentation will need to be presented upfront for consideration to occur. Consistency between conferences will be key.
- Specificity is highly encouraged when denying an appeal.
- No media will be allowed at the Conference appeal hearings. 6A and 5A decisions will need to be completed by the end of the day. Tayler Coady will email results the next day.

Mr. Paddock reiterated what would constitute a true hardship with Mr. Hines describing what documentation would be required for proof of claim. Mr. Belden discussed the process of the hardship appeals hearing 4A Conference will use. 4-6 appeals will be heard, then break scheduled, etc. until all appeals are heard. If rep's school is bringing an appeal, that rep will need to recuse themselves from that vote.

Mr. Hines explained the 50% rule regarding tournament play. If an athlete is sitting out 50% of the season and school has an early tournament scheduled, athlete does not play in any tournament until they have sat out 50% of power point games counted during regular season. Season of sport (starting) is defined as the date the athlete starts practice AND attends school. Scrimmage is considered practice, not a regular season game.

10. Recommendation for Acceptance of Hardship Appeals (handout) – Walker

Clarification on this form was presented.

Additional Items:

*Mark Faust asked about Joy Christian – will they have a football season this school year? How is transfer handled for athletes transferring from a school that dissolves their program? Student that has already begun attending another school will sit 50% whether prior school has program or not.

*Jeannine Brandel - Concussion Insurance information has not been released, but amount due was on the annual AIA dues invoice. Nothing is listed on the dashboard regarding this insurance. This is a dollar for dollar reimbursement up to \$25,000, after that the catastrophic insurance would go into effect. Document needs to be provided to Athletic Trainers. Denise Doser will be contact person for insurance. Mr. Hines will have something will have this available on the AD dashboard. This would be considered secondary coverage.

*Mr. Hines handed out the Fall Athletic Director Workshop Schedule 2016. Please note Twin Arrows time is daylight savings time –This will go out electronically to all ADs (revised 8/11/16, attached)

Future Items:

***4A Conference Sports Advisory Committee (input from Regions) - Paddock**

***Electronic hardship packet with electronic signature capability? - Walker**

***Where is document on Concussion Insurance, when will it be available? - Brandel**

Good of the order:

Meeting Dates correction – Jan - May 2017

Ms. Brandel will not be at the 8/17 hardship appeals hearing