

**4A Conference Committee  
Minutes  
February 26, 2018 @ 9am AIA Office**

**Region Rep Attendees:**

Matt Belden, Chair, Ron Safcik, Skyline, Brian Galbreath, Black Canyon, Armando Soto, Gila, Missy Townsend, Grand Canyon, Bill Wright, Southwest, Eddie Lopez, West Valley, Shelley Arredondo, Desert Sky, Tess Dellisanti, 4A Admin Asst.

**Absent:** Jeannine Brandel, Barry Cromer, Eric Zimmerman

**Guests:**

**Call to Order:** 9:10 AM

**AIA Staff:**

Joe Paddock, Asst. Director

**Meeting Notes for all Conferences:**

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**AIA Executive Board Report Update:** Mr. Paddock

- Mr. Paddock discussed bylaw violations that were addressed at the Executive Board Meeting.
- Football – for the upcoming year, AIA would like to have a plan in place for pulling football out of the next block (20-21/21-22) and reseeding schools to possibly be placed in different conferences, separate from other team sports. Move would be determined by a simple formula for placement and for petitioning up or down. The majority of requests for movement from one conference to another was largely due to football, not the other sports.

**Region Reports:**

**Skyline** – Safcik

**Black Canyon** – Galbreath

**Gila** – Soto

**Southwest** - Wright

**Desert Sky** – Arredondo

**Kino** – Cromer

**Grand Canyon** – Townsend

**West Valley** – Lopez

**AIAAA Report Update:** NONE

**AIA Report:** NONE

**Meeting notes for 4A Conference:**

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**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. **Play-In Games** – Brandel  
Carry to March meeting.
2. **All-Conference Survey for BB/Soccer** – Belden  
Mr. Belden reviewed the regions that still need to submit rosters for basketball and soccer. If rosters are not in Max Preps by the time we go to all conference, they will be left out of voting.  
Please be proactive with Baseball/Softball due to the crunched timeline with spring sports.
3. **Legislative Council Agenda** – Belden/Paddock

Desert Sky will be next 4A region rep to sit out the vote for Legislative Council in 2019. The following items are on the agenda and were discussed:

- 3A South is bringing forward a change to Article 2, Membership Requirements: New school accountability system. Two specific items that will be addressed are school rating by the Department of Education or A+ designation by the Arizona Educational Foundation. 3A would like other options to replace AdvancEd.
- 15.10 Student Eligibility – combining the 520 and 530 form to become the 550 form that will now be an electronic process. Brian Bolitho and team did an excellent job on this revision. This will be in use for the 18-19 school year. Schools will have to wait until July 1 to use the new form. Down the road, this form could be embedded in the hardship appeal process.
- Sports Medicine – adding article 41 – moving all sports medicine items to its own article (41.1). This would include drug/alcohol, concussion, heat acclimatization, student insurance, post season event protocol, and transgender policy. Making this change would eliminate items having to be presented at the annual Legislative Council meetings. Right to Treatment consent – new info will be presented at the AD meeting on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. This pertains to ATs not being at away games and if home AT can treat opposing team athletes. The decision regarding Athletic Trainers treating athletes outside season of sport falls to the district/school.

4. **Baseball/Softball Scheduling** – Belden

Mr. Belden asked the group if they would like to work on the baseball/softball schedules after Legislative Council. Ms. Townsend will not be at Legislative Council but Ms. Brandel may attend in her place. Group agreed to meet at 10a on Friday 3/2, after council meeting.

5. **Press at Games** – AIA Press Passes – Safcik

Mr. Safcik discussed his concern about the number of press passes presented as AIA approved, but are not with a legit news media outlet. These could be Youtubers, bloggers, etc. with floor/field access via AIA media passes. How are we vetting the accepted media sources? Articles and pictures are being put out there by illegitimate sources causing concern for schools. Walter Cronkite School of Journalism students are notorious for trying to get unauthorized access under the guise of assignments due. How to determine who has media rights as opposed to the other social media sources needs to be clarified. Mr. Belden will reach out to Mr. Hines for help with some guidelines on this issue and how to make that distinction.

6. **Mandatory Pre-Season Meetings for Head Coaches** – Soto

Mr. Soto asked if we are looking at restructuring these meetings. One venue with larger accommodations will be sought, instead of using different venues for location convenience. The mandatory component will remain. Next year attendance will be scrutinized to see if sub coaches are attending in place of head coaches. General session will be pared down to a 1 hour presentation, allowing more time in the breakout groups. Recording of general sessions are available, but the individual sports meetings (breakouts) cannot be recorded due to the sheer number during each season. Every AD that did not have a sport represented will be notified, then school must determine what they will do. Bylaw violations could be treated differently if the subject was discussed at the meeting and the coach did not attend the meeting. The fall football coaches meeting will be on 7/21/18. McClintock was suggested as a possible venue due to size.

**ADD ON ITEMS:**

• **AIAAA Awards** – Townsend

Mr. Belden explained the different categories for nominations. Athletic Director of the Year is selected by conference. 4A needs to make that nomination.

- Skyline has nominated Ron Safcik, Shadow Mountain.
- Gila Region nominated Jason Karn, Palo Verde.
- Kino Region nominated Phil Grunsfelder.

Mr. Belden asked reps to go back to regions and select their nominees. Please bring bios to next meeting so 4A Conference AD selection can be made. AIAAA will be meeting next Thursday and Ms. Townsend encouraged anyone from 4A to attend for planning the next State Conference.

• **Clarity between Charter School and Online School** – Wright

If a student attends an online school, they are eligible at their home school (attendance area). Home schooled students are sometimes mistaken for online charter school students. If a home schooled student wishes to participate in athletics, proof of approved home schooled curriculum needs to be provided, along with varying other proof of course, then the district would determine eligibility.

- **Spring Football - Belden**

Now a part of the season and considered season of sport. Athletes must be cleared for this activity. The physical should be ok through May of current year. If a new athlete is coming out, they must be cleared through RMA where a new season of sport would need to be added. 18 practices concluding in the 46<sup>th</sup> week (bylaw 24.9.) Season starts on 4/22 and ends on 5/19. Catastrophic Insurance is still in effect for this activity due to being season of sport.

- Xavier, 4/2 statewide AD meeting. The football coaches meeting will be 7/21/18.

**Future Items:**

Play-In Games - Brandel

**Good of the order:**

**Soto** - concerns about mandatory meeting and how this has been received by coaches. Multi-sports coaches must attend several meetings a year, but hear the same information. Violations being handled differently based on attendance at meetings was a concern. Content of meetings were not helpful. Travel vs Content felt like waste of time. Specific feedback regarding what we want those meetings to contain is necessary before change can be requested.

**Safcik** – Thanked Mr. Wright and Estrella Foothills for the display of sportsmanship and positive crowd interaction at the basketball quarterfinals.

**Belden** – Congratulations to Shadow Mountain and Seton Catholic for the boys/girls basketball championships.

**Adjourned: 10:45a**