



**MINUTES
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
November 16, 2020**

In accordance with Article 6, Section 3, Paragraph 1 of the Arizona Interscholastic Association, Inc. (AIA) Constitution, a regular meeting of the Executive Board was held on Monday, November 16, 2020 at the AIA office located at 7007 North 18th Street in Phoenix, Arizona.

President Toni Corona called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

Members in Attendance:

William Duarte, 1A Conference (Superior High School)
Ricky Greer, 2A Conference (Hopi High School)
Toni Corona, CAA, 3A Conference (Safford High School)
Jeannine Brandel, 4A Conference (Flagstaff High School)
Jim Dean, 5A Conference (Dysart Unified School District)
Zack Munoz, Ed.D, 6A Conference (Phoenix Union High School District)
Marcus Williams, Arizona Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (Chandler Unified School District)
Tim Carter, Cognia (Yavapai County School Superintendent)
Jim Love, Arizona School Boards Association (Flowing Wells Unified School District)
Camille Casteel, Ed.D, Arizona School Administrators (Chandler Unified School District)
David Hines, AIA Executive Director

AIA Staff Present:

Mark Mignella, Legal Counsel
Joe Paddock, Assistant Executive Director
Brian Gessner, State Commissioner of Officials
Denise Doser, Director of Finance
Brian Bolitho, Director of Business Development
Dean Visser, Sports Administrator
Dan Nero, Tournament Coordinator
David Shapiro, Tournament Coordinator
Tayler Coady, Executive Assistant
Seth Polansky, Sports Information Coordinator

Guests Present:

Les Willsey, AzPreps365*	Erik Gray*
Jose Garcia, AzPreps365*	Heather Osborn*
Richard Obert, AzCentral*	Jeff Penzone*
Jay Campos*	Kyle Brazeal*
Anthony Davis*	Ryan Ridenour*
Ben Clark*	Shawn Lytle*
Brett Palmer*	Jim Culver*
David Inness*	Corey Newland*
Eric Magana*	Greg Haagsma*

**Indicates present via Zoom*

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT

On a motion duly made, seconded and carried, President Corona, in accordance with Article 6, Section 3, Paragraph 3, Subparagraph 2 of the AIA Constitution, called for the following Executive Sessions to receive report from legal counsel:

- ✓ 8:30 am – 9:45am

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the following meetings were **approved**:

- October 19, 2020
- October 29, 2020 – Special Executive Board Meeting

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

On a motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the Executive Board **approved** the following consent agenda items:

AIA Lifetime Passes

1. Tony Tabor	Mountain View Mesa	25 years
2. David Nelson	Combs	30 years
3. Rachael West	Page	28 years
4. Scott Sitkiewicz	Paradise Valley	25 years

Request for AIA Sanction/Intrastate and Interstate Activities – 2020-21 Master Calendar

In accordance with Article 10, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, the Executive Board approved the sanction requests for the intrastate and interstate activities reflected in the 2020-2021 Master Calendar. The master calendar is posted online at <http://www.aiaonline.org/calendar/?id=5>.

The Master Calendar, which is prepared by the AIA for its member schools, reflects activities (events) that have been sanctioned by the AIA Executive Board. It is the responsibility of each member school to limit its participation in these sanctioned activities to the maximum number of contests set forth in the AIA Bylaws.

Conference/Region Meeting Agendas and Minutes

- 2A Conference Committee Meeting Minutes – October 22, 2020
- 5A Conference Committee Meeting Minutes – October 15, 2020

FINANCIAL REPORT

In accordance with Article 6, Section 5, Paragraph 15 of the AIA Bylaws, the Executive Board **approved** the following financial report

- ✓ Financial Report for October 2020

MEMBERSHIP COMMENTS

Shawn Lytle requested that an exception be granted to Chandler Prep to play their last game against St. Michael on Saturday, November 21 in order to have another day to practice due to their quarantine ending on Tuesday. Currently all football games must be completed no later than Friday, November 20th.

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **denied** the exception request.

CANCELLATION REQUESTS – CONTEST AND/OR PROGRAMS

In accordance with Article 11, Section 4, Paragraph 3, Subparagraph 1 of the AIA Bylaws, the Executive Board **approved** the following cancellation request for a varsity, junior varsity, freshman program(s) that could have a bearing on regional or state playoffs:

SCHOOL REQUESTING:

1. The Gregory School
2. Rio Rico
3. Verrado
4. Tuba City
5. Ash Fork
6. Monument Valley
7. Alhambra
8. Globe

9. Coronado
10. Carl Hayden
11. Higley
12. Sahuarita
13. Valley Lutheran
14. Lourdes Catholic
15. Gila Ridge
16. Mayer
17. Tolleson District
18. Mountain Pointe
19. San Tan Charter
20. Northland Prep
21. Anthem Prep

22. Rincon University
23. Barry Goldwater
24. Grand Canyon

HEREBY CONSENT:

- VAR Boys' Swim Program
- JV/FR/SO Football Program
- FR/SO Boys' Soccer Program
- All Winter Sports
- FR/SO Volleyball Program
- All Winter Sports
- JV Football Program
- JV Football Program
- FR/SO Girls' Basketball Program
- FR/SO Boys' Soccer Program
- FR/SO Volleyball Program
- JV 2 Softball Program
- FR/SO Football Program
- VAR Boys' Soccer Program
- All Winter Sports
- FR Football Program
- JV Girls' Basketball Program
- Football and Volleyball Programs
- FR/SO Boys' Soccer Program
- VAR Boys'/Girls' Soccer Programs
- VAR Boys/Girls' Wrestling Programs
- VAR Girls' Soccer Program
- JV Boys' Basketball Program
- JV/FR/SO Football Program
- FR/SO Boys' Soccer Program
- VAR/JV Boys/Girls' Basketball Programs

CONTEST(S) Cancelled:

- Volleyball – 74**
- Cross Country – 2**
- Football – 80**
- Swim and Dive – 2**

- Soccer – 21**
- Golf – 3**
- Badminton – 8**
- Basketball – 3**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Fall tournaments have started to conclude, volleyball and football will close out in a couple weeks. Each tournament has been unique this year but we are extremely thankful for the support of all the schools, participants, spectators and workers.

In order to start Fall Sports, some schools used the metrics from the school's attendance area or the metrics from the zip codes based on the school's student population. This same procedure may be used for Winter Sports. Schools that follow this procedure are asked to send the metric information to AIA Staff to help document schools that have started Winter Sports.

A request was made to add Esports to the sports/activities list for the Dr. Voie Stuart Chase Coy award. On a motion made, seconded and carried, the Executive Board **approved** the addition of Esports to the list of accepted activities.

Valiant College Prep has submitted a request to the Executive Board asking for permission to participate in tournaments with other NFHS association member schools without being an affiliate/active member of the AIA. On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **denied** the request.

It has been recommended that the winter sports season be postponed until January due to the increasing number of COVID-19 cases in Arizona. Meetings with state and county health department officials as well as medical personnel will take place to assist in finalizing a plan that will allow for a successful and safe winter sports season.

HARDSHIP APPEALS

The following representatives entered the meeting for a student eligibility appeal and left upon completion of their presentations:

Pima Travis Hawkins - Athletic Director, Parents, Student
Safford – Toni Corona, Athletic Director

Following review and discussion of the written and oral information presented, the Executive Board, in accordance with Article 15, Section 14 of the AIA Bylaws, **granted / denied** the following hardship eligibility requests:

<u>School/Appeal</u>	<u>Granted/Denied</u>
Pima	Denied

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY APPEAL – PAPER REVIEW **REQUEST FOR HARDSHIP ELIGIBILITY – AGE RULE**

Following review and discussion of the written and oral information presented, the Executive Board, in accordance with Article 15, Section 6, Paragraph 1 of the AIA Bylaws, **denied** the following Age Rule request:

- ❖ Ray High School

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY APPEAL – PAPER REVIEW
REQUEST FOR HARDSHIP ELIGIBILITY – MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION

Following review and discussion of the written and oral information presented, the Executive Board, in accordance with Article 15, Section 9 of the AIA Bylaws, **approved** the following Maximum Participation request:

- ❖ Duncan High School

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY APPEAL – PAPER REVIEW
REQUEST FOR HARDSHIP ELIGIBILITY – LEGAL GUARDIAN

Following review and discussion of the written and oral information presented, the Executive Board, in accordance with Article 15, Section 5, Paragraph 3, Subparagraph 2 of the AIA Bylaws, **approved** the following Legal Guardian request(s):

- ❖ San Manuel High School

ADDITIONAL GAME REQUESTS

On a motion made, seconded and carried, the Executive Board **approved** the following additional game request:

- A. **Peoria** – an additional FR and JV girls' volleyball game to help fill **Agua Fria's** schedule.

NEW SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP – MEMBERSHIP BALLOTING

In accordance with Article 2, Section 2 of the AIA Constitution, the Executive Board voted to ballot the AIA member schools for the following membership application:

- Madison Highland Prep

Based on the information gathered from balloting the membership the above school has been **approved** for membership for the 2021-2022 school year. On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **accepted** the information gathered from balloting of the AIA member schools.

NEW SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP – NEW APPLICATION

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **denied** the application from the following school and requested that more information be provided to the AIA before consideration of application take place.

- Centennial Academy

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **approved** for the following school to have a site visit set up and conducted:

- Highland Prep

REQUEST- REPLACEMENT OF A COMPLIMENTARY PASS

14.11.2.1.2 *Replacement of a Complimentary Pass – a request for a replacement of a complimentary pass must be approved by the AIA Executive Board.*

- Chris McDonald – Basha High School – Football Coach

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **approved** the above request once the 25\$ fee has been paid.

Camille Casteel and Marcus Williams abstained

REQUEST – GLOBE/MIAMI COOPERATIVE SOCCER

Globe and Miami are requesting approval of cooperative soccer programs in both boys' and girls' soccer for the 2020-2021 school year. Globe High School will be the host school.

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **approved** the co-op soccer teams for Globe and Miami with the understanding that they would not be eligible for state competition.

REQUEST – 4A SOUTHWEST REGION

Based on the information provided the Executive Board took no action at this time.

PIMA SCHOOL ALLEGED VIOLATION

REQUEST – SET ASIDE ARTICLE 14.4.1 FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Northwest Christian is requesting to set aside Article 14.4.1 for the 2020-2021 soccer season.

Reason for requested modification: Covid-19 created a dead period for colleges nationwide which has restricted in-person recruiting from March 2020 through December 31, 2020. Due to this restriction, the club soccer tournament schedule was shifted from the fall to the winter in many areas. This could dramatically shift AZ high school soccer as many club players who participate in HS soccer in the winter season, will now need to choose to play with either their club programs or their HS programs because of Bylaw 14.4.1 of the AIA General Provisions.

Rationale: Since soccer recruitment occurs primarily via the club teams and not the high school season, it is advantageous that athletes have the opportunity to be seen at showcases and tournaments during the HS winter season with their club teams as soon as the dead period is lifted on January 1, 2021 when in-person recruitment may resume. Because the tournament schedule now conflicts with Bylaw 14.4.1, we may lose players who now must choose to either play with their HS programs or their club teams which will dramatically impact soccer in HS and cancel their opportunity to experience maximum student participation that is fair and equitable to all member schools in the AIA and the students they represent.

Proposal: Due to the nature of this past year and its uncontrollable circumstances due to COVID, we request that the AIA Executive Board and Legislative Council set aside Bylaw 14.4.1 for the 2020-2021 school year only. This will allow athletes to not have to choose between participating in high school sports and club participation for recruitment purposes. California has already taken this step, and we are asking that Arizona do the same. Additionally, we are requesting that Bylaw 14.4.1 be set aside with the following guidelines:

- 1) Players can play in no more than two (2) club soccer tournaments during the HS season and approval must come from the HS head coach and athletic director at least one (1) week before the club tournament is to take place in which the player will participate
- 2) Players cannot train with their club teams during the HS season – no exceptions
- 3) If a club player participates in any club tournament during the HS season, they must return with proof of a negative COVID test to resume activities with their HS program
- 4) Players are restricted on playing in a club tournament during the HS season if there is a conflict involving competition (games) between the club and HS team
- 5) The setting aside of this bylaw is only for the 2020-2021 HS soccer season
- 6) Violation of these guidelines will be self-reporting as outlined in the AIA bylaws (Bylaw 16.4.1)

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **tabled** the above request until the December 7th Executive Board meeting based on the potential postponement of the winter season.

SCHOOL VIOLATIONS**GILA RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL** – *Yuma Union High School District*
*Rule: Article 41. Sports Medicine, Section 3 Concussion Education***Reported Violation:**

On October 14, 2020 it was reported to the AD that a freshman football player had been practicing since September 17th without proper clearance from the Athletic Department. The freshman athlete began the season late due to getting his physical late thus creating miscommunication between the coaches and athlete. The student didn't complete the Brainbook concussion course and did not fill out and upload the AIA Concussion Acknowledgement form with parent signature. The student athlete was not properly cleared through the Athletic Office and therefore did not have clearance to practice. Our freshman football coach didn't check Register My Athlete or the Fall Sports Athlete Clearance Spreadsheet. This spreadsheet is shared with every coach at Gila Ridge. The student athlete did not compete in any games and is currently cleared through Register my Athlete.

Schools Corrective Action:

The head freshman coach is responsible for the violation. The coach has received a letter and in-service regarding relevant bylaws. The Athletic Department at Gila Ridge will continue to utilize the Register my Athlete (RMA) program for athletic clearance. The Athletic Department will require all programs/coaches to meet with the Athletic Director prior to each season and make contact before practice once a week in order to review updated clearance lists. The Athletic Trainer and Athletic Director will continue walkthroughs at practice to verify that only cleared athletes are participating. The coaching staff will continue to receive additional in-services on AIA Bylaws in order to prevent future violations. A coaches' information google doc has been created with an AIA bylaws folder. The AD will keep a record of all discussion with coaches to insure they understand the bylaws and policies.

Executive Board Action:

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Gila Ridge High School **Football Program** on **Warning** for one year 11/16/20-11/16/21.

DESERT EDGE HIGH SCHOOL – *Agua Fria Union High School District*
*Rule: Article 39. Spiritline, Section 4 Rules/Regulations***Reported Violation:**

On October 21st our JV cheer team performed stunts with non-compliant masks at our Frosh/Soph football game. This was the second time a cheer team was seen using these masks while stunting. After first issue, AD spoke with Ashley Gronewold to clarify. After that conversation, a conversation was had with head cheer coach.

Schools Corrective Action:

Since this had already been addressed with the cheer coach, a letter of direction from the Athletic Director to the cheer coach will be issued. AD met with cheer coach to explain this violation and why this violation cannot happen again.

Executive Board Action:

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Desert Edge High School **Spiritline Program** on **Advisement** for one year 11/16/20-11/16/21.

SCHOOL VIOLATIONS – Cont’d

RED MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL – Mesa Public Schools

Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 3 Enrollment Rule

Reported Violation:

Student was enrolled at Red Mtn. Student filled out Register My Athlete and cleared by athletic office to participate in swim for 20/21 year. Student subsequently withdrew from Red Mtn after beginning of the school year & enrolled at Sequoia Charter w/o notifying coach. He continue to attend swim practice for Red Mtn. Red Mtn was in only remote learning and the student/athlete told the coach he was continuing with remote learning once Red Mountain went to a modified in person format. The coach notified that the athlete as not on his roster & notified the athletic department.

Schools Corrective Action:

The athletic department is running a weekly report from Register My Athlete and their athletic class roster that is shared with coaches to ensure their roster matches what/who has been cleared by the athletic department. Coaches are required to complete a form the same day if a student leaves the program as well to ensure accuracy in rosters.

Executive Board Action:

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, accepted the report.

BOULDER CREEK HIGH SCHOOL – Deer Valley Unified School District

Rule: Article 11. Scheduling of Contests and Schedule Contracts, Section 4 Schedule Contracts – Varsity / Junior Varsity / Freshman/Sophomore

Reported Violation:

Boulder Creek’s Badminton team had transportation issues and were unable to notify Westwood until 3:20pm.

Schools Corrective Action:

None provided.

Executive Board Action:

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Boulder Creek High School **Activities Program** on **Advisement** for one year 11/16/20-11/16/21.

FUTURE DATES

November 26-27, 2020	Holiday – AIA Office Closed
December 7, 2020	Executive Board Meeting
Dec. 24 – Jan. 2, 2021	Holiday – AIA Office Closed
January 18, 2021	Holiday – AIA Office Closed
January 19, 2021	Executive Board Meeting
	Spring Sports Hardship Appeal Submission Deadline
January 22, 2021	Legislative Council Agenda Deadline
January 25-27, 2021	Spring Hardship Appeal Hearings – Conference

There being no further business, and on a motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned at 11:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David Hines, Executive Director