

MINUTES EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING May 17, 2021

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, May 17, 2021 at 7007 N 18th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85020 and via teleconference.

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)

Tim Carter, Cognia (Yavapai County School Superintendent)

Renee Regoli, Arizona Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (Queen Creek High School)

Camille Casteel, Ed.D, Arizona School Administrators (Chandler Unified School District)

Jim Love, Arizona School Boards Association (Flowing Wells Unified School District)*

David Hines, AIA Executive Director

AIA Staff Present:

Mark Mignella, Legal Counsel

Joe Paddock, Assistant Executive Director

Tayler Coady, Executive Assistant

Brian Gessner, State Commissioner of Officials

Denise Doser, Director of Finance

Brian Bolitho, Director of Business Development

David Shapiro, Tournament Coordinator

Tyler Cerimeli, Tournament Coordinator

Guests:

Jerry Jennex, ASA Elect

Jennifer Burks, 6A Conference Elect

Derek Fahleson

Tony Cullen

Shawn Lytle

David Huffine*

Corey Newland*

Shawn Rustad*

Kraig Leuschner*

Brandi Haskins*

Jamie McClure*

Brett Palmer*

^{*}indicates attendance 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:

- √ 8:30am 8:40am
- ✓ 12:07pm 12:50pm

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

MEMBERSHIP COMMENTS

Derek Fahleson, Tolleson Union High School District, District Athletic Director presented to the Executive Board about the proposal from the 6A Conference regarding transfer students. Intent of the proposed exception was discussed as well as the perspective of all conferences.

Tony Cullen, Principal, as well as Jeannine Brandel, Athletic Director at Flagstaff High School discussed the request from Flagstaff regarding James Dugan and rescinding his suspension.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

The AIA leadership is working alongside Kris Kurtenbach and Helios for a grant to assist in the rebranding of Educational Athletics and Activities.

The spring tournaments are concluding. A big congratulations to all those that competed in the spring state tournaments. We are thankful for the opportunity to have had a spring season and host a spring tournament. This all would not have been possible without the support from the administrators, coaches, athletes, parents, communities, venues, workers, volunteers and the member schools.

The AIA Champions Gala will be held on Saturday, May 22, 2021 virtually on the AIA YouTube Channel. The gala showcase some extraordinary student athletes and their accomplishments throughout high school. Congratulations to all the finalists and recipients.

Thank you to the AIA Executive Board, Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, AIA Staff, and member schools. This year would not have been possible without the help and support from all involved. The time and efforts put forth are appreciated by everyone, especially the student athletes.

ACTION ITMES

ELECTION OF 2021-2022 EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

In accordance with Article 6, Section 4, Paragraph 1 of the AIA Constitution, the Executive Board selected the following to serve as officers for the **2021-2022** school year:

<u>President</u> William Duarte – Superior Jr./Sr. High School

1A Conference

Vice President Jim Dean – Dysart Unified School District

5A Conference

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

Approval of Minutes

• April 19, 2021

AIA Lifetime Passes

David Cruickshank	South Mountain	34 years
Kathleen Langan	Ironwood	33 years
Calvin King	Willcox	35 years
James T Sherman	Williams Field	49 years
Johnny Lara	Tolleson	33 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 Minutes

Southern Arizona AD Meeting Minutes – April 20, 2021

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 April 2021

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:		PROGRAM CANCELLED:	
1.	Carl Hayden	VAR Softball Program	
2.	Flowing Wells	VAR Softball Program	

3. Immaculate Heart VAR Boys/Girls Track Program

4. Tombstone VAR Softball Program

4 Lower Level Program Cancellations

CONTEST(S) Cancelled: 122 total contests cancelled (VAR/JV/FR)

Tennis – 8 Beach Volleyball – 9 Track/Field – 3 Baseball – 43

Softball – 54 Boys Volleyball – 5

NEW SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP - MEMBERSHIP BALLOT CONDUCTED

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:

• American Leadership Academy - West Foothills

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

ATTENDANCE BOUNDARIES

- Arizona College Prep
 - ❖ Any student currently attending ACP will be athletically eligible at the new location provided they meet all other eligibility requirements. If a student lives within the new ACP boundaries and transfers to ACP from their previous school, prior to the start of the 2021-2022 school year, that student will be athletically eligible at ACP provided they meet all other eligibility requirements. If a student does not live within the new ACP boundaries and transfers to ACP, that student must follow all transfer bylaws currently in place.

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board <u>approved</u> the request from Az College Prep for the 2021-2022 school year only.

- American Leadership Academy West Foothills
 - ❖ With American Leadership Academy West Foothills campus opening in the fall of 2021, we would like to request that transfer athletes that live within the attendance zone of the school, that are enrolled prior to August 1st, be granted full eligibility for the 2021-22 school year if all other eligibility requirements are met. School begins for the students at ALA West Foothills on August 23rd.
 - ❖ All team sports will be completing at the JV level for the first year, then will add varsity program in year two. Individual sports will compete at the varsity level due to the limited number of lower-level programs at the 2A and Division IV levels.

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **approved** the request from ALA West Foothills for the 2021-2022 school year only.

HARDSHIP APPEAL - HEARINGS

No action was taken.

2021-2022 MEETING DATES

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board <u>approved</u> the presented meeting dates for the 2021-2022 school year. That document, which includes meeting dates for the Executive Board, Hardship Appeal Hearings and Deadlines, Coaches Workshops and the Legislative Council meeting can be found on the AIA website as well as linked here: <u>2021-2022 Meeting Dates</u>

SPORTS MEDICINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE – RECOMMENDATIONS

The Sports Medicine Advisory Committee submitted the following recommendations to be implemented for the 2021-2022 school year:

- Cardiac Clearance Algorithm Modifications
- Incorporating CISG Graduated Return to Sport Strategy
- Anyone Can Save A Life Revision

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **approved** the above recommendations.

LETTER FROM FLAGSTAFF HIGH SCHOOL – JAMES DUGAN

Tony Cullen, Principal, as well as Jeannine Brandel, Athletic Director at Flagstaff High School discussed the request from Flagstaff regarding James Dugan and rescinding his 10 game suspension.

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board <u>denied</u> the request from Flagstaff High School to rescind the 10 game suspension.

ADDITIONAL GAME REQUESTS

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

A. **Thunderbird** – an additional VAR football game to help fill **Mingus Union's** schedule.

AMENDMENT - POLICIES AND PROCEDURES (Articles 20-33)

Recommended language changes for all sports permitting scrimmages (Policies and Procedures Articles 20-33). Language has been presented and reviewed by the sports advisory committees.

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board <u>approved</u> the above amendments to the Policies and Procedures to take effect for the 2021-22 school year.

AMENDMENT REQUEST – ARTICLE 15 – STUDENT ELIGIBILITY RULES

The 6A Conference committee is proposing the following amendment to Article 15.

- 15.10 TRANSFER RULE After enrolling and attending one or more classes, a student changing enrollment from one school (sending school) to another school (receiving school) shall be considered a transferring student. For information and record keeping purposes, the receiving and sending school shall reasonably cooperate and complete Form 550.
 - 15.10.5 When Sport or Nonathletic Activity Is Dropped by an AIA Member School When a sport or nonathletic activity is dropped by a governing board, a student may transfer to a school that offers that sport or nonathletic activity and shall be eligible only in the sport or nonathletic activity that has been dropped at the school from which the student transferred. Said eligibility will be granted when the student enrolls in one of the following schools:
 - 15.10.5.3 In the event the district does not offer the sport or nonathletic activity in any of its schools, the student may transfer to the public high school of another district closest to the domicile of the parents.
 - 15.10.5.3.1 In the event a district did not offer AIA Competition in a sport or nonathletic activity during the 2020-2021 school year, a student who transferred to the public high school of another district closest to the domicile of the parents in order to participate in AIA competition, may transfer back to their original (home) school for the 2021-2022 school year and have full eligibility in all sports if all other transfer rule requirements are met.

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board requested that AIA staff review the language submitted by the 6A Conference and provided the Executive Board with language that would clearly define the intent of the amendment requested. The language will be presented to the Executive Board.

EXCEPTION REQUEST - ARTICLE 24 - FOOTBALL

24.5 NUMBER OF GAMES IN SEASON

- 24.5.3 No player shall participate in more than ten football games per season, excluding qualifying and post-season tournaments.
 - 24.5.3.1 <u>EXCEPTION</u>: 2A and 1A schools, because of their limited enrollment, may permit a player to participate in 50% more matches or games than the regularly scheduled matches or games per season, excluding qualifying and post-season tournaments.

<u>Example</u>: If a school scheduled 20 games or matches, each player could participate in 50% more games or matches for a total of 30.

Benjamin Franklin is requesting an exception to Article 24.5.3.1 to allow their players to participate in 6 quarters per week. Because of the limited participation, it will be difficult to run a JV football program with the current rule of only 10 games per season for a particular student.

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

REGION PLACEMENT APPEAL

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **denied** the below region placement appeal:

• Benjamin Franklin – Football

REFPAY PROPOSAL

On a motion made, seconded and carried, the Executive Board <u>approved</u> the proposed RefPay Insufficient Funds 8% weekly service charge for those member schools whose RefPay balance is insufficient to pay out the "Marked & Approved" Officials. Each Monday, a system generated Invoice assessing this service charge on the 'overdraft' amount will be emailed to the Athletic Director and is due on receipt.

The membership has full access to Current Balance, Marked and Approved, Assigned, and Projected Balance on their AIA Admin Dashboard. There is every opportunity for membership to stay ahead of any Insufficient Funds alerts and subsequent service charges.

OFFICALS ASSIGNMENT FEE PROPOSAL

In order to address the annual deficit within the officials department, it is recommended to increase the official's registration fees from \$40 to \$50 and the sports fee from \$40 to \$50. It was also recommended to increase the officials assigning fee to \$3 for varsity contest and \$2 for sub-varsity contests. These fees are paid by the official.

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **approved** the above proposal.

POSSIBLE UNREPORTED VIOLATION

Shawn Lytle, Athletic Director for San Tan Charter discussed the investigation that was performed regarding a potential recruiting violation regarding their head football coach. Based on the written and oral information presented, on a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board indicated that a violation did occur per AIA Bylaw and requested that further discussion take place from San Tan Charter.

SCHOOL VIOLATIONS

SCOTTSDALE PREPARATORY ACADEMY – Great Hearts Academies

Rule: Article 2. Membership, Section 5 Responsibility of School Administrators (2.5.2.3)

Reported Violation:

Late in the contest the official called a penalty against a Scottsdale Prep player. Another SPA player made a comment that had inappropriate language to the official which resulted in his receiving a red card. SPA's coach did not see/hear the reason for the red card and asked the official for an explanation. The official walked towards the SPA sideline and the SPA coach calmly and slowing walked onto the field towards the official for an explanation. There was brief communication providing explanation for the penalty on the SPA player and the red card on the other SPA player. Upon hearing the explanation for the penalty, SPA's coach stated that he agreed to it being a bad call which immediately resulted in a yellow card. The coach then clapped in a manner that mocked the official's decision which resulted in a second yellow card (red card). He then turned and walked away, as he was walking away and clapped again the official concluded the game. SPA does not have an assistant coach which would disallow SPA from continuing the game without a supervising coach, although none of the officials ever asked SPA's coach if he had an assistant coach. Upon the decision of the official to discontinue the game, SPA players questioned the officials' decision, with some using inappropriate language.

Schools Corrective Action:

Any coach that has a violation such as a technical foul, red card, ejection, etc. that is the result of inappropriate behavior will be required to complete the following NFHS courses (Teaching and Modeling Behavior and Sportsmanship) before he/she is allowed to continue being present at team practices and competitions. This information will also be updated in the schools Coaches Manual as well as updating school guidelines/expectations on coach behavior while overseeing athletic teams. A player that has a violation such as a technical foul, red card, ejection, etc. will be required to complete the following NFHS course (Sportsmanship) and meet with the AD to review the incident before he/she is allowed to continue practicing and competing with the team. SPA Athletic department will employ an assistant coach for all Varsity level teams.

Executive Board Action:

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Scottsdale Preparatory Academy **Boys' Soccer Program** on **Warning** for one year 5/17/21-5/17/22.

YUMA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL – Catholic Diocese of Tucson

Rule: Article 14. General Provisions, Section 2 Practice (14.2.1)

Reported Violation:

Our head varsity baseball coach opened the school facilities on Sunday and the varsity baseball team had a batting practice with a varsity assistant baseball coach.

Schools Corrective Action:

The varsity baseball coaching staff was called into the Athletic Directors office on Wednesday April 28th after school and each coach was given a letter of reprimand for their school file and the AIA Bylaws were re-covered. The AIA bylaws were covered extensively in our coaches meeting.

Executive Board Action:

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Yuma Catholic High School **Baseball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 5/17/21-5/17/22.

SCHOOL VIOLATIONS - Cont'd

<u>APACHE JUNCTION HIGH SCHOOL</u> – Apache Junction Union School District Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 12 Recruitment Rule (15.3.4)

Reported Violation:

A home schooled student completed his classes before his expected graduation date of May 2021. His mother failed to inform us at Apache Junction HS that he was no longer attending those classes. We were only made aware of the situation on April 15, 2021, but the student quit the baseball team on March 25, 2021.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contest forfeited. AJHS is implementing a new compliance system that will allow us to better track the attendance of both athletes on campus as well as our home schooled students.

Executive Board Action:

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Apache Junction High School **Activities Program** on **Advisement** for one year 5/17/21-5/17/22.

SEQUOIA PATHWAY ACADEMY

Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 12 Recruitment Rule (15.12.4.14)

Reported Violation:

Sequoia Pathway Academy football coach had contact with an 8th grade student via Snapchat. This is a violation of the recruitment rule as the coach had direct contact with a student telling that student to come to workouts and encouraged him to tell other students to come as well. He also mentioned that he would build a freshman team for them.

Schools Corrective Action:

New procedures that will be put into place to prevent the recurrence of this violation are as follows:

- The athletic department will provide professional development for all coaches concerning sports specific rules and bylaws concerning recruiting. This will happen yearly and each coach will sign a signature agreement acknowledging the understanding of the bylaws.
- We now have a standing SOP concerning student/parent contact that has been distributed to all coaches.
- The athletic department will review with all coaches social media etiquette.

Executive Board Action:

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Sequoia Pathway Academy **Football Program** on **Warning** for one year 5/17/21-5/17/22. Per bylaw if the student does enroll at Sequoia Pathway Academy they would be ineligible until reinstated by the Executive Board.

SCHOOL VIOLATIONS - Cont'd

ESTRELLA FOOTHILLS HIGH SCHOOL - Buckeye Union High School District

Rule: Article 17. Coaches and Coaching, Section 1 Coaching Qualifications (17.1)

Reported Violation:

Volunteer coach for beach volleyball program did not complete NFHS online education classes prior to starting coaching duties.

Schools Corrective Action:

All head coaches will be in-serviced on the coaching requirements required by the AIA, and BUHSD to become a coach. The in-service will consist of paper handouts, as well as reviewing online resources of the BUHSD website and AIAonline.org

Executive Board Action:

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Estrella Foothills High School **Activities Program** on **Advisement** for one year 5/17/21-5/17/22.

DESERT VISTA HIGH SCHOOL – Tempe Union High School District

Rule: Article 17. Coaches and Coaching, Section 5 Open Facilities (17.5.1.1.2)

Reported Violation:

Students not enrolled in a school may not be permitted to participate in recreational activities offered by the school. During an open field for football students not enrolled at Desert Vista were allowed to participate in drills and team practices by mistake. The athletic office was notified and the check in process was corrected.

Schools Corrective Action:

A training with the coach has taken place. He was aware of the rule but will use a better system of checking in students to allow them to attend open facilities so that only students enrolled at Desert Vista are allowed to participate.

Executive Board Action:

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Desert Vista High School **Football Program** on **Advisement** for one year 5/17/21-5/17/22.

SCHOOL VIOLATIONS - Cont'd

NOGALES HIGH SCHOOL – Nogales Unified

Rule: Article 2. Membership, Section 5 Responsibility of School Administrators (2.5.2.3)

Reported Violation:

Nogales coaches and student-athletes directed derogatory comments towards the home plate umpire during the late innings and post-game of Saturdays AIA State Tournament contest in Nogales. The behavior of our coaches influenced the actions of our student-athletes and fans, which escalated the situation and created an unsafe environment.

Schools Corrective Action:

The Nogales Athletic Department will begin to incorporate professional development that focuses on purpose-based athletes, connecting student-athletes with leaders to develop positive character and the qualities of good sportsmanship and leadership. Our baseball coaches will be reprimanded for their behavior towards the officiating crew and influence they had on our student-athletes and fans.

Executive Board Action:

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Nogales High School **Baseball Program** on **Warning** for one year 5/17/21-5/17/22.

RAY HIGH SCHOOL - Ray Unified District

Rule: Article 21. Baseball, Section 1 Rules (21.1.5)

Reported Violation:

An athlete threw 64 pitches on May 13th and pitched again on May 16th.

An athlete threw 32 pitches on April 13th then pitched again April 14th.

Athletes did not rest the required amount of days before pitching again.

Schools Corrective Action:

The athletic director will meet with the head coach to ensure a correct understanding of the rest protocols. Furthermore, the athletic director will monitor pitch count talk with the head coach on a days needed by players before they can once again pitch.

Executive Board Action:

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Ray High School **Baseball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 5/17/21-5/17/22 pending confirmation of contest forfeitures.

YUMA HIGH SCHOOL – Yuma Union High School District

Rule: Article 21. Baseball, Section 1 Rules (21.1.5)

Reported Violation:

The rule was interpreted incorrectly regarding pitch count.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contest Forfeited. I spoke with the coach regarding the interpretation and corrective action was taken.

Executive Board Action:

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Yuma High School **Baseball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 5/17/21-5/17/22.

SCHOOL VIOLATIONS – Cont'd

ESTRELLA FOOTHILLS HIGH SCHOOL – Buckeye Union High School District

Rule: Article 32. Beach Volleyball, Section 7 Interschool Competition (32.7.4)

Reported Violation:

Estrella Foothills beach volleyball program inadvertently violated bylaw 32.7.4 as they entered positions of players into the state tournament seeding. When submitting names and positions for the team state tournament, our first-year head coach, changed the positions of the players form the regular season team skill ranking, without advancing all pairs and moved pair's positions greater than one spot in the rankings for the state tournament. The repositioning of pairs on the state tournament roster's intent was done in good faith based on the coach rewarding a senior captain to play in the #1 spot (previously in the #2 spot) but moved the previous #1 to #4. This violates the bylaw by not advancing all other pairs. In the shuffle, the #3 spot did not move. This was the first post season experience for the beach volleyball coach and for 8 of the 10 players. The senior captain with experience had not played beach volleyball at the varsity level until this season and was being rewarded for sticking with athletics during the pandemic and showing senior leadership. While the reposition appears to create a competitive advantage because of the required ranking system of 1-5, our coach felt the talent level of the girls ranked 1-4 were interchangeable, because we truly do not have a separation in talent 1-4, the kids just played hard and with grit, not overly talented.

Schools Corrective Action:

The coach has been in-serviced on bylaw 32.7.4, to improve understanding how to properly adjust line-ups throughout the season and prepare for post season positioning. The coach will continue to attend beach volleyball clinics to improve knowledge of beach volleyball skills prior to next season.

Executive Board Action:

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Estrella Foothills High School **Beach Volleyball Program** on **Warning** for one year 5/17/21-5/17/22

2021-2022 BUDGET PROPOSAL

In accordance with Article 6, Section 5, Paragraph 15 of the AIA Bylaws, the Executive Board <u>approved</u> the 2021-2022 AIA Budget.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EVALUATION

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **approved** the Executive Director's evaluation.

FUTURE DATES

May 22, 2021 AIA Champions Gala – Virtual May 31, 2021 Holiday – AIA Office Closed

June 28-July 2, 2021 Summer Break – AIA Office Closed

Beginning May 31, 2021 until July 16, 2021 AIA Office will be on summer hours:

Monday - Thursday | 7:00am - 3:00pm

Closed Fridays

Regular Office Hours will resume on Monday, July 19, 2021.

There being no further business, and on a motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned at 12:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted, David Hines, Executive Director