



**MINUTES  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
December 12, 2022**

In accordance with Article 6, Section 3, Paragraph 1 of the Arizona Interscholastic Association, Inc. (AIA) Constitution, a special meeting of the Executive Board was held on Monday, December 12, 2022 at the AIA Office, 7007 N 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85020.

President Jim Dean called the meeting to order at 8:30am.

**Members in Attendance:**

Ricky Greer, 2A Conference (Hopi Jr./Sr. High School)  
Toni Corona, CAA, 3A Conference (Safford High School)  
Matt Belden, 4A Conference (Glendale Union School District)  
Jim Dean, Ed.D., 5A Conference (Dysart School District)  
Jennifer Burks, 6A Conference (Perry High School)  
Jerry Jennex, Arizona Superintendents Association (Globe Unified School District)  
William Duarte, 1A Conference (Superior High School)  
Tim Carter, Cognia (Yavapai County School Superintendent)  
David Hines, AIA Executive Director

**Members Absent:**

Renee Regoli, Arizona Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (Dobson High School)  
Jim Love, Arizona School Boards Association (Flowing Wells Unified School District)

**AIA Staff Present:**

Mark Mignella, Legal Counsel  
Naomi Vaughn, Director of Special Projects  
Brian Gessner, State Commissioner of Officials  
Denise Doser, Chief Financial Officer  
Brian Bolitho, Chief of Business Development Officer  
Dean Visser, Director of Athletics and Activities  
Dan Nero, Director of Athletics  
Tyler Cerimeli, Director of Athletics & Officials  
Mary Wimmer, Tournament Coordinator

**Guests:**

David Huffine, Tempe District  
Yancy Devore, Mingus Union High School AD  
Matt Stone, Hamilton High School  
Michael Patterson, Xavier College Preparatory  
Rae Black, Chandler District  
Derek Fahleson, Tolleson District AD  
Rex Desvaristes, Arizona Cardinals

**LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT**

On a motion duly made, seconded and carried, President Dean, 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 – 9:30am

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:****MEMBERSHIP COMMENTS**

None.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

- Review of 4A – Open Division State Football Championships held on December 9-10 at Sun Devil Stadium
- Discussion on potential play-in format for football playoffs
- AIA Staff attending 2022 NIAAA Conference in Nashville, Tennessee

**ACTION ITEMS:****CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

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

**(a) Approval of Minutes**

- Executive Board Meeting – November 21, 2022
- Southern Arizona Region Meeting – November 14, 2022
- 5A Conference Meeting – November 17, 2022

**(b) AIA Lifetime Passes**

*Rule: Article 14. General Provisions, Section 11 AIA Passes. Paragraph 1 Lifetime Passes*

- |                |                       |          |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------|
| 1. Robert Kuhn | Flagstaff High School | 33 Years |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------|

**Request for Replacement Pass**

1. Jeff Oliverson, Athletic Director, ALA – Queen Creek
2. Fred Clare, Queen Creek, Lifetime Pass, 33 Years

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

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

- ✓ Financial Report for November 2022

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS** – Cont'd**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:

<b><u>SCHOOL REQUESTING:</u></b>	<b><u>PROGRAM:</u></b>
1. Lourdes Catholic	VAR Girls Basketball
2. Santa Rita	VAR Boys Soccer
3. Santa Rita	VAR Boys and Girls Wrestling
4. Tempe Preparatory	VAR Boys Soccer
5. San Miguel	VAR Girls Basketball
6. Coconino	VAR Girls Wrestling

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44 Sub Varsity Program Cancellations

<b><u>SCHOOL REQUESTING:</u></b>	<b><u>HEREBY DOES NOT CONSENT:</u></b>
1. None.	None.

**CONTEST(S) CANCELLED:** 134 total contests cancelled (VAR/JV/FR/SO)

**MEMBER SCHOOL REQUEST**

- Santa Rita request to appeal game cancellation fee

On a motion made, seconded and carried, the Executive Board **approved** the above member school request.

Matt Belden abstained from the vote.

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

*Rule: Article 15, Student Eligibility Rules, Section 5 Domicile Rule*

15.5.3.2 *Legal Guardian - Except in the case of a foreign exchange student or an international student under 15.15, a student for whom a legal guardian has been appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction may be declared eligible at the school in attendance zone in which said legal guardian is domicile by petitioning as outlined in the AIA Bylaws under Article 15, Section 15.14 Hardship. (Form 15.5.3). For purposes of this rule, a court of competent jurisdiction does not include courts outside the United States.*

**DETERMINATION:** *The AIA Executive Director, as designee of the AIA Executive Board, may rule on the eligibility of a student for whom a legal guardian has been appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction. (Ex. Bd. 4/15/96)*

- **EXCEPTION:** *If a legal guardianship appointment has been in effect for at least two years prior to the student's participation in interscholastic competition, it shall not be necessary to petition the AIA Executive Board for domicile hardship eligibility.*
- *The use in interscholastic competition of a student for whom a legal guardian has been appointed, without compliance with the above requirements, shall constitute the use of an ineligible player.*
- *Where it is determined by the Executive Board that athletic motivation and/or circumvention of AIA domicile requirements is involved in the legal guardianship, this is sufficient in and of itself for denial of the hardship request (see 15.14.2.4).*

**STUDENT ELIGIBILITY APPEAL – PAPER REVIEW- Cont'd**

- Tonopah Valley High School
- Barry Goldwater High School

On a motion made, seconded and carried, the Executive Board **approved** the above Student Eligibility Appeals.

**STUDENT ELIGIBILITY APPEAL – PAPER REVIEW**

- Desert Ridge High School

On a motion made, seconded and carried, the Executive Board **approved** the above Student Eligibility Appeal.

**HARDSHIP APPEALS**

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

**Mesquite High School**                      Rod Houston – Principal and Student

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 request:

<b><u>School/Appeal</u></b>	<b><u>Granted/Denied</u></b>
Mesquite	Granted 50%

**ADDITIONAL GAME REQUESTS**

1. **Paradise Valley** – an additional JV/VAR Boys Baseball games to help fill **Sierra Linda** schedule.
2. **Marcos de Niza** – an additional JV, FR/SO, VAR Boys Basketball game to help fill **Shadow Mountain** schedule.
3. **Hopi** – an additional JV/VAR Girls Basketball game to help fill **Joseph City** schedule.
4. **Tucson** – an additional JV, FR/SO, VAR Boys Basketball games to help fill **Mountain Pointe** schedule.
5. **Trivium Prep** – an additional VAR, Boys Soccer game to help fill **ALA – West Foothills** schedule.
6. **Apache Junction** – an additional VAR Boys Basketball games to help fill **Baboquivari** schedule.
7. **Northland Prep** – an additional JV Boys Basketball games to help fill **Basis Phoenix** schedule.
8. **San Carlos** – an additional JV/VAR, Boys and Girls Basketball games to help fill **Baboquivari** schedule.

On a motion made, seconded and carried, the Executive Board **approved** the above additional game requests.

**NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS**

- a. Flagstaff Christian High School – Application Withdrawal

On a motion made, seconded and carried, the Executive Board **approved** the withdrawal of the above new membership application.

**GIRLS FLAGFOOTBALL ADOPTION**

On a motion made, seconded and carried, the Executive Board **approved** the adoption of Girls Flag Football as an AIA Sanctioned Sport in the Fall for the 2023-2024 school year.

**EMERGENCY LEGISLATION**

Executive Board approved emergency legislation beginning in the 2023-2024 school year.

**15.10 TRANSFER RULE** – Except as stated in 15.10.4, 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.

15.10.4 A student enrolled at an AIA member school, who chooses to participate on a different team that competes in high school games during the AIA Season of Sport is considered a transfer.

15.10.4.1 A subsequent transfer back to the student's original AIA member school shall be considered a onetime transfer with an ineligibility period the same as described in 15.10.1.

15.10.4.2 A subsequent transfer of eligibility to an AIA member school other than the original school will result in the student being ineligible for one year from the date of first attendance at the receiving school.

\*Staff has been directed to verify language.

**POSSIBLE UNREPORTED VIOLATION**

Based on the information provided in the ejection report, the Executive Board requests that Sequoia Pathway Academy submit violation reports of Bylaw 2.5.2.3 Conduct of Participants and Bylaw 17.4.3.6 under the Coaches Code of Ethics. Violation reports will be added to the January 17<sup>th</sup> Executive Board Meeting agenda.

**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS**

(A) Rule: Article 22. Basketball, Section 3, Preseason Interschool Varsity Scrimmage

(1) **BOURGADE CATHOLIC** – *Catholic Diocese of Phoenix*

**Reported Violation:**

Bourgade Catholic wore a game uniform during the scheduled scrimmage at ALA – West Foothills.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

I will review the bylaws regarding pre-season scrimmages with my Boys Basketball Coach. He will sign a document that states his understanding of the bylaw and will ensure it does not happen again.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Bourgade Catholic **Boys Basketball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 12/12/2022-12/12/2023.

**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS** – Cont'd

**(2) ALA WEST FOOTHILLS** – *American Leadership Academy School District*

**Reported Violation:**

ALA West Foothills used game jerseys and kept score via a scoreboard during our boys basketball scrimmage. This is my fault as I did not know the rule/bylaw for scrimmages. See back up materials for more information.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

District AD Buddy Allen will be performing an inservice at our school for myself and our coaches going over the bylaws and procedures and where all of the information is found, etc. I myself will also make it a point of emphasis to review all bylaws each preseason to not break any bylaws in the future.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the ALA – West Foothills **Boys Basketball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 12/12/2022-12/12/2023.

**(3) PEORIA HIGH SCHOOL** – *Peoria Unified School District*

**Reported Violation:**

Peoria boys' basketball team wore games jerseys in pre-season scrimmage on November 17, 2022.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

We are in the process of ordering practice jerseys for future use. I met with the coach and explained to him that game jerseys were not allowed in preseason scrimmages. The coach and myself reviewed the bylaw and the action will be corrected for future scrimmages

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed Peoria High School **Boys Basketball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 12/12/2022-12/12/2023.

**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS** – Cont'd

(B) *Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility, Section 7, Physical Examination Rules*

(1) **MOUNTAINSIDE HIGH SCHOOL** – *Nadaburg Unified School District No. 81*

**Reported Violation:**

Coach allowed 4 students to participate in girls basketball practice without verifying that students were cleared by our Athletic Director. Once reported, our AD addressed the issue with the head coach and reiterated policy.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Educate the head coach about the importance of having the correct paperwork and documentation on file for each student athlete participating. Additionally, the coach was reminded of the rationale behind the athletic clearance process and the liability risk it presents when allowing a student to participate that has not been cleared by a medical professional. The students will be held out of participation until their athletic packets are completed and turned into the athletic office for clearance.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed Mountainside High School **Girls Basketball Program** on **Warning** for one year 12/12/2022-12/12/2023.

(2) **NOGALES HIGH SCHOOL** – *Nogales Unified #1*

**Reported Violation:**

The student was permitted to participate in tryouts without athletic participation packet on file with the Athletic Department. The violation was identified when final rosters were submitted by the Head Coach and the student was listed on the JV roster.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

The Athletic Director will require daily attendance rosters be returned after practices/tryouts at the beginning of each season. Written and verbal notice will be issued to the Head Coach and assistants, reiterating eligibility requirements and procedures for reporting students not listed on the clearance roster.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed Nogales High School **Girls Soccer Program** on **Warning** for one year 12/12/2022-12/12/2023.

**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS** – Cont'd**(C)** Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility, Section 10. Transfer Rule**(1)** **WEST POINT HIGH SCHOOL** – *Tolleson Union High School District***Reported Violation:**

An ineligible player (in-season transfer) played in a game on 11/10, in violation of the in-season transfer requirement to sit out 12 months. Coaching staff did not follow the AIA Bylaws or the district procedures in place to confirm an athlete's eligibility status.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

The Athletic Director will retrain the entire football coaching staff on the eligibility clearance process, transfer rules and all bylaws related to eligibility. All head coaches for Soph/Frosh, JV, and Varsity will be retrained on the use of Register My Athlete to confirm athletic status for all participants.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed West Point High School **Football Program** on **Warning** for one year 12/12/2022-12/12/2023.

**(D)** Rule: Article 16. Penalties and Appeals, Section 2. Ineligible Player**(1)** **EMPIRE HIGH SCHOOL** – *Vail Unified School District***Reported Violation:**

An academically ineligible student-athlete played in all three games of the Dick McConnell Thanksgiving Classic this past weekend at Pima Community College West. We did not win any of the three games.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Coach thought that the ineligible player could still play because he did not think it was an AIA event. It was hosted by Pima Community College West. Empire Athletics Administration will review its school's academic eligibility policies with the boys' basketball staff.

**Executive Board Action:**

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



**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS** – Cont'd

(E) Rule: Article 16. Penalties and Appeals, Section 2, Ineligible Player

(1) **MINGUS UNION HIGH SCHOOL** – *Mingus Union*

**Reported Violation:**

The father, acting independently from Mingus Union High School, knowingly allowed student to run in the State Cross Country Championships, while wearing a Mingus jersey. Student was on our Cross Country team, that qualified for state, however was not declared by our coach. The parents took it upon themselves to have her run without the Athletic Director and head coaches knowledge.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

In speaking with the father of the athlete, he understood what he did put the school in jeopardy but was not his intention. He is willing to take responsibility for his actions and speak on behalf of the school if necessary.

**Executive Board Action:**

The Executive Board tabled this item and requests that Mingus Union High School report corrective action and discussion at the January 17<sup>th</sup> Executive Board meeting.

(F) Rule: Article 16. Penalties and Appeals, Section 3, Sportsmanship Rule

(1) **TUCSON HIGH SCHOOL** – *Tucson Unified School District*

**Reported Violation:**

A video surfaced of our students engaging in unsportsmanlike conduct against Buena High School.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

We suspended the player that posted the video for 1 game and the player in the video for 5 games and a tournament.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed Tucson High School **Boys Basketball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 12/12/2022-12/12/2023.

**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS** – Cont'd

(G) *Rule: Article 22. Basketball, Section 8 Coaches and Coaching*

(1) **MONUMENT VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL** – *Kayenta Unified #27*

**Reported Violation:**

Head Boys Basketball Coach used an off-season program as part of a student-athlete's evaluation as he attempted to join the basketball team.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

A letter of direction was issued to coach and the student-athlete is to be given another opportunity to be re-evaluated if he wishes to do so. In the letter of direction, the coach is to no longer use off-season programs as a basis to evaluate student-athletes in their attempt to join a team.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed Monument Valley High School **Boys Basketball Program** on **Warning** for one year 12/12/2022-12/12/2023.

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

(1) **BENSON HIGH SCHOOL** – *Benson Unified #9*

**Reported Violation:**

Head Wrestling Coach failed to complete the 2022 Wrestling Coaches Meeting by the deadline of November 4. We created a district email address for him as he works outside of the district, and he did not check it in time. He has since completed the PowerPoint and rules test.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

In addition to an invite from the AIA Dashboard, our athletic department will also send 2 Google Calendar reminders to coaches prior to the deadline for completion.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed Monument Valley High School **Wrestling Program** on **Advisement** for one year 12/12/2022-12/12/2023.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion duly made, seconded and carried, President Dean, 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 the Executive Director:

✓ 10:50am – 11:45am

**FUTURE DATES**

December 22, 2022 - January 2, 2023, Winter Break – Office Closed

January 16, 2023 – MLK Day – Office Closed

January 17, 2023– Executive Board Meeting

January 24, 25, 26, 2023 – Spring Hardship Appeals

January 23-February 3, 2023 – Spring Coaches Workshop

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

Respectfully submitted,

**David Hines**  
Executive Director