

MINUTES EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING February 20, 2024

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 Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at the AIA Office, 7007 N 18th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85020.

President Jennifer Burks called the meeting to order at 8:30am.

Members in Attendance:

William Duarte, 1A Conference (Superior Jr/.Sr. High School)
Tiarra Yazzie, 2A Conference (Valley (Sanders) High School)
Toni Corona, CAA, 3A Conference (Safford High School)*
Matt Belden, 4A Conference (Glendale Union School District)
Nathan Slater, 5A Conference (Scottsdale School District)
Jennifer Burks, CAA, 6A Conference (Perry High School)
Tim Carter, Cognia (Yavapai County School Superintendent)
Steve Johnson, Arizona School Boards Association (CAVIT)
Jerry Jennex, Arizona School Administrators (Globe Unified School District)
Missy Townsend, CMAA, Arizona Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (Prescott High School)

AIA Staff Present:

David Hines. AIA Executive Director

Mark Mignella, Legal Counsel
Jim Dean, Associate Executive Director
Erin Coy, Assistant Executive Director
Tayler Coady, Executive Administrative Assistant
Brian Bolitho, Chief Business Development Officer
Jake Litwiller, Chief Financial Officer
Brian Gessner, Commissioner of Officials
Dean Visser, Director of Athletics and Activities
Dan Nero, Director of Athletics
Tyler Cerimeli, Tournament Coordinator

Guests:

David Verdugo, ASA Tommy Eubanks, Mesa District David Klecka, Mesa HS

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT

On a motion duly made, seconded, and carried, President Burks, 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 8:48 am
- ✓ 9:53 am 11:11 am

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

MEMBERSHIP COMMENTS

None.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

The wrestling state tournament concluded on February 17th at Veterans Memorial Coliseum. Congratulations to all the participants for a wonderful season of competition. Soccer will finish up February 24th with the 4A-6A Conferences. The basketball state tournament has begun with the conclusion of 1A up in Prescott at the Finley Toyota Center. Basketball will continue over the next couple weeks at VMC with the 2A-3A semifinals and championships on February 23-24th. February 29th – March 2nd will conclude the tournament with the 4A-Open tournament. We look forward to a great finish to the winter season.

A reminder that the 3A and 6A Conference Executive Board Representative terms will conclude at the end of this school year. Notification will be sent out to the Conferences with information on how to apply along with the criteria set forth in the Constitution. Appointments will be finalized by the Executive Board during the April 15th meeting.

With the continuous increase of submissions of hardship appeals, both on time and late, the AIA staff will make this a point of discussion during the AD Summit on April 1st.

FUTURE DATES

February 22, 2024	Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting
March 1, 2024	Legislative Council Meeting
March 6, 2024	Student Leadership Advisory Committee Meeting – Xavier
March 13, 2024	District AD's and Conference Leadership Meeting
March 18, 2024	AIA Executive Board Meeting
March 28, 2024	Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting
March 29, 2024	AIA Holiday – Office Closed
April 1, 2024	Student Leadership / AD Summit – Xavier College Prep

ACTION ITMES:

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

On a motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the Executive Board <u>approved</u> the following consent agenda items:

Approval of Minutes

Executive Board Meeting – January 16, 2024

AIA Lifetime Passes

Ru	<u>lle: Article 14. General Provision</u>	<u>s, Section 11 AIA Passe</u>	<u>s. Paragraph 1 Lifetime Passes</u>
1.	Chris Bishop	Campo Verde	25 years
2.	Connie Goyer	Winslow	26 years
3.	Sal Hernandez	Winslow	25 years
4.	Kim Davis	Flowing Wells	25 years
5.	Robert Pastor	Flagstaff	29 years
6.	Jeff Cox	Florence USD	27 years
7.	Justin Smith	Page	27 years
8.	Jesus Armando Ballesteros	Bisbee	26 years

Request for AIA Sanction/Intrastate and Interstate Activities – 2023-24 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 2023-2024 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.

Additional Game Requests

- A. Mountain Pointe VAR girls/boys' basketball game to help fill Combs' schedule.
- B. Ben Franklin VAR girls' basketball game to help fill ALA Gilbert North's schedule.
- C. **Douglas –** VAR softball game to help fill **Safford's** schedule.
- D. Kingman Academy VAR/JV softball game to help fill Joseph City's schedule.
- E. St. John Paul II VAR softball game to help fill Glendale Prep's schedule.
- F. St. John Paul II VAR/JV boys' volleyball game to help fill Apollo's schedule.
- G. McClintock VAR boys' basketball games to help fill Phoenix Christian's schedule.
- H. Walden Grove VAR/JV/FrSo boys/girls' basketball games to help fill Crismon's schedule.
- I. Glendale VAR boys' volleyball game to help fill Apollo's schedule.
- J. Mesquite VAR/JV baseball game to help fill Crismon's schedule.
- K. Hamilton VAR/JV/FrSo boys' volleyball game to help fill Perry's schedule.

Cancellation Requests - Contest and/or Programs

COLLOGI DECLIECTING

	SCHOOL REQUESTING:	CANCELLED PROGRAM:
1.	River Valley	VAR Boys' Soccer / VAR Beach Volleyball Program
2.	BASIS Flagstaff	VAR Girls' Tennis / VAR Golf Program
3.	Rock Point	VAR Softball / Baseball Program
4.	Paradise Honors	VAR Boys' Volleyball Program
5.	Tempe Prep	VAR Boys' Volleyball Program
6.	Sequoia Pathway	VAR Boys' Volleyball Program

SUB VARSITY PROGRAM CANCELLATIONS – 6

CONTEST(S) Cancelled: 257 total contests cancelled (VAR/JV/FR/SO)

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 January 2024

NEW MEMBER SCHOOLS - BALLOTING APPROVED

- White Mountain Christian Academy 1A
- Rough Rock High School 1A
- Desert Star Academy 1A
- BASIS Scottsdale 2A
- ALA Mesa North 3A

On a motion made, seconded, and carried the Executive Board <u>approved</u> the above schools for membership beginning the 2024-2025 school year.

EXCEPTION REQUEST – ARTICLE 32 – SEASON OF SPORT – VOLLEYBALL

Mesa High School girls' volleyball team has been invited to participate in the Ann Kang Invitational Volleyball Tournament in Hawaii from August 15-17.

Mesa High School is requesting an exception to Article 32.2 – season of sport.

On a motion made, seconded, and carried, the Executive Board <u>denied</u> the above request from Mesa High School girls' volleyball team.

AMENDMENT – ARTICLE 43 – SPORTS MEDICINE

Addition of Section 10 – AIA Policy and Procedure Related to Disability Discrimination (Section 504 and American with Disabilities Act).

On a motion made, seconded, and carried the Executive Board approved the above amendment to Article 43.

STUDENT ELIGIBILTY APPEAL

Sandra Day O'Connor

On a motion made, seconded, and carried the Executive Board approved the above student eligibility request.

HARDSHIP APPEALS

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

Deer Valley Stacy Spencer - Athletic Director, Parent, Student

Sandra Day O'Connor - Jason Rypkema - Athletic Director

Leading Edge Nikki Foster - Athletic Director, Parent

Perry – Jennifer Burks – Athletic Director

<u>Ironwood Ridge</u> Armando Soto – District Athletic Director, Parent, 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 requests:

School/Appeal Granted/Denied

Deer Valley Denied Leading Edge Denied Ironwood Ridge Denied

SCHOOL VIOLATIONS

TANQUE VERDE HIGH SCHOOL - Tanque Verde School District

Rule: Article 14. General Provisions, Section 2 Practice (14.2.2)

Reported Violation:

HC met with a couple girls on Sunday, January 7, 2024, to shoot free-throws in our gym. The request came from the players as they had missed prior practices due to illness. I do not believe any of this was done with the intent to be secretive. HC was remorseful as she mentioned she should have double-checked with me prior to her actions.

Schools Corrective Action:

I met with the HC and reviewed the AIA Constitution and Bylaws. Although this is her first season in this position, she was reminded to contact me should she be unsure of any potential issues. I also directed her to review the AIA policies to make sure she stays 100% compliant. While I do not believe any of this was done with the intent to be secretive, I did emphasize to her that it is an expectation for all of our coaches to be well versed on basic AIA policies. A reminder to all coaches was also sent out to prevent this from happening again.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Tanque Verde High School **Girls' Basketball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 2/20/24-2/20/25.

AGUA FRIA HIGH SCHOOL - Agua Fria Unified School District

Rule: Article 14. General Provisions, Section 2 Practice (14.2.2)

Reported Violation:

A new assistant boys basketball coach organized and ran a 2-hour practice with 4 basketball players on 1/21/2024, a Sunday.

Schools Corrective Action:

I met with this assistant coach to review the AIA bylaws prohibiting practices on Sundays. I reviewed our protocols and procedures for requesting facilities, including how these must always go through the head coach and the athletic office. I will add additional training for all coaches in our seasonal coaches meetings.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Agua Fria High School **Boys' Basketball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 2/20/24-2/20/25.

TRIVIUM PREPARATORY ACADEMY

Rule: Article 16. Penalties and Appeals, Section 3 Sportsmanship Rule (16.3.1.1)

Reported Violation:

An ineligible player was used in competition during a varsity boys' basketball game between Trivium Prep and St. John Paul II on 1/3/2024. The player had been ejected from a game on 12/16/2023 during the last game of a tournament and then went on winter break. The coach and player had forgotten the incident due to the break and days off. As soon as the athletic directed realized the player had been used the coach was notified along with the athletic director from St. John Paul II.

Schools Corrective Action:

Coach has been retrained on 16.3.1.1, what happens when a player is ejected, and the expectations that follow. The player has been informed that they will be ineligible for the game on 1/5/2024 to ensure their penalty is fulfilled. All basketball coaches and players, male and female, JV and varsity, have been instructed as to what the expectations are when ejected and following an ejection.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Trivium Preparatory Academy **Boys' Basketball Program** on **Warning** for one year 2/20/24-2/20/25.

<u>DEER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL</u> – Deer Valley Unified School District Rule: Article 22. Basketball, Section 5. Number of Games in Season (22.5.3)

Reported Violation:

A girls Freshman player played 4 quarters in the Frosh game and then played an additional 3 quarters in the JV game vs Bradshaw on Wed December 13.

Schools Corrective Action:

School AD had previously discussed rules on the 6-quarter limit with both Boys and Girls Basketball Programs. Met with Girls Basketball coaches on the importance of keeping track of quarters played. Discussed ways of designating Bench coaches and student managers to assist with keeping track of quarters played. Suggestions also include designating which quarters will be played for individual players prior to the contest.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Deer Valley High School **Girls' Basketball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 2/20/24-2/20/25.

PAGE HIGH SCHOOL - Page Unified

Rule: Article 22. Basketball, Section 5. Number of Games in Season (22.5.3)

Reported Violation:

A student played 7 quarters of basketball on 1/23/2024 against the Monument Valley Mustangs. She played all 4 quarters of the JV girls' game at 4 pm then played 3 quarters in the Fr/So girls' game at 5:30 pm.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contest forfeited. Fr/So Coach as well as the JV Coach must submit a game plan and rosters to the Head Varsity Coach before game day so she can monitor who will be playing what game.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Page High School **Girls' Basketball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 2/20/24-2/20/25.

THE ODYSSEY INSTITUTE

Rule: Article 19. Policies and Procedures, Section 3 Removal of Team (19.3.1)

Reported Violation:

Our boys' basketball head coach took the team off the floor at the 5:29 time mark in the 4th quarter of the game at River Valley High School.

Schools Corrective Action:

Following a thorough investigation conducted within our Athletic Department, we have addressed the recent incident involving our coach removing the team from the floor prior to the completion of the game. We have taken the necessary steps to ensure the resolution of this matter and are committed to preventing any similar incidents in the future.

As part of our response, the coaching staff will be engaged in a comprehensive review of the AIA bylaws to reinforce our commitment to compliance and ethical conduct. Furthermore, we will be implementing additional training specifically tailored for our boys' basketball coaching staff. These training sessions aim to enhance their awareness of appropriate conduct, uphold the values of sportsmanship, and foster a positive and inclusive environment within our Athletic Department.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed The Odyssey institute High School **Boys' Basketball Program** on **Warning** for one year 2/20/24-2/20/25.

<u>MOON VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL</u> – Glendale Union High School District Rule: Article 19. Policies and Procedures, Section 3 Removal of Team (19.3.1)

Reported Violation:

On January 18th, 2024, Moon Valley's Varsity girls' basketball coach ended the game in the 4th quarter with less than two minutes to play. He took the girls off the court due to rough play by the Shadow Mountain players. Moon Valley's coach said that the officials did not take control of the game as Moon Valley players kept getting injured by Shadow Mountain players.

Schools Corrective Action:

Meeting with players and coaches regarding identifying potential acts of aggression on the court. How to communicate with the officials to prevent fighting on the court.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Moon Valley High School **Girls' Basketball Program** on **Warning** for one year 2/20/24-2/20/25.

Matt Belden – abstained.

CIENEGA HIGH SCHOOL – Vail Unified School District

Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 12 Recruitment Rule (15.12.4.13)

Reported Violation:

On 01/12/24 we received a call from Buena High AD stating we were potentially playing an ineligible player as there was no 550 form on file - they went on to say they had pictures of #15, the athlete in question. Upon immediate investigation we discovered the named student-athlete to be a homeschool student who registered with our athletic program in Fall 2023. When registering it wasn't declared they had played in the Buena Soccer program, and our primary concern was to verify their homeschool status. The athlete transferred under domicile with family due to military commitment. There wasn't a trigger in place due to homeschool status, and ultimately not being registered at either school. Further investigation resulted in disclosure of prior contact with our coach who coaches a club in our area, Vail Soccer Club. The student athlete had been a part of this club (Vail Soccer Club) as a youth prior to entering high school eligibility, and in the last two years was being coach by our head coach. We immediately made the student-athlete ineligible the morning of 01/16/24 and contacted Jim Dean for guidance. We immediately notified the family to submit a 550, which also declared the prior contact. Currently the player has been made ineligible until a determination is made by the AIA Executive board. We firmly believe the family was moved due to military commitment, and due to homeschool status there wasn't an awareness of the transfer rule or prior contact.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contests Forfeited. Our administration has issued a letter of direction to our head coach. We have implemented a google document in our RMA requiring parents to declare if they are transferring from another school. We have added a slide to each pre-season parent meeting explaining the transfer rule and penalties of not disclosing.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Cienega High School **Boys' Soccer Program** on **Advisement** for one year 2/20/24-2/20/25.

MESQUITE HIGH SCHOOL - Gilbert Public Schools

Rule: Article 14. General Provisions, Section 4 Nonschool Participation (14.4.1)

Reported Violation:

A player on our Fr/So team missed a couple of Saturday practices in a row. When the Fr Coach asked her why she wasn't showing up, the student said she was playing for her AAU team.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contest forfeited. The bylaw about participating outside of the school team is part of the team meeting prior to the season. Student/Parent also signs to acknowledge. We will continue to share that information with our families and make it more of an emphasis with our younger players and any other families new to Mesquite and/or the AIA.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Mesquite High School **Girls' Basketball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 2/20/24-2/20/25.

PUSCH RIDGE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Rule: Article 14. General Provisions, Section 4 Nonschool Participation (14.4.1)

Reported Violation:

On Sunday, 1/21/24, a JV A boys' basketball player participated in a recreational men's league game. This was reported around 8:30 pm on 1/26. Our head coach was notified on Saturday morning around 10am 1/27. The family was called and confirmed that the student did play in the men's league. This was his first and only time committing this infraction and did not connect that a casual men's league pickup game would be a violation.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contests forfeited. Accusation was investigated by the AD by talking to the witnesses and calling the player's parents. Coach and player notified of the violation. Player has been suspended from participating in any remaining games. Coaches are investigating which games the student played in so we can notify the opponents. Opposing schools notified.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Pusch Ridge Christian Academy **Boys' Basketball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 2/20/24-2/20/25.

<u>ALHAMBRA HIGH SCHOOL</u> – Phoenix Union High School District Rule: Article 16. Penalties and Appeals, Section 2 Ineligible Player (16.2.1)

Reported Violation:

TGB reported the following: A boys' soccer player participated as an ineligible player in the soccer match between Trevor G. Browne and Alhambra on 1/25/2024. The student arrived at Trevor G. Browne around 5:55pm and was not included in the handwritten roster turned in by coach before the start of the game. Nevertheless, the student participated in the game wearing the number #17 jersey and according to their roster the #17 jersey was assigned to a different student.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contests forfeited. The coach will be suspended from coaching the next game, campus will submit a letter of reprimand and he will be reprimanded by the district for this egregious act of knowingly playing an ineligible player. The player will be removed from the roster for the next two games for not serving the one game suspension for being ejected on 1/24/24.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, <u>tabled</u> the above violation report until further information can be provided by the school.

<u>RAYMOND S KELLIS HIGH SCHOOL</u> – Peoria Unified School District Rule: Article 16. Penalties and Appeals, Section 2 Ineligible Player (16.2.1)

Reported Violation:

A boys' soccer athlete was playing with a UPSL team since 11/29/23.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contests forfeited. Follow up with the team about eligibility rules and playing with outside organizations. Make sure the coach understands the eligibility rules as well since he is new to the team. Start the 24-25 season with a review of eligibility and forfeiture rules so this doesn't happen again next season.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Raymond Kellis High School **Boys' Soccer Program** on **Advisement** for one year 2/20/24-2/20/25.

ST. JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Rule: Article 16. Penalties and Appeals, Section 3 Sportsmanship Rule (16.3.1)

Reported Violation:

A boys' soccer athlete was given a red card at the 78th minute of the match vs. Odyssey Institute on Saturday, 1/27. The student was not in agreement with the official's call, took the red card from the official, walked away and the card. During this sequence of events, the student used vulgar language towards the official. The student was then escorted from the area of play to the parking lot by his father, admin on duty (OI) and law enforcement.

Schools Corrective Action:

I, Steven Sanchez, the Athletic Director of St. John Paul II met with the student and his parents on the morning of Monday, January 29th. I explained to the student the severity of his actions during the match on 1/27. Per the ejection, the student will sit the first 2 contests of the next sport he plays. In addition, the student will sit an additional 4 contests at the beginning of the 24-25 soccer season. Lastly, the student will be handwriting 2 apology letters, 1 to the official and 1 to the AIA Office.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the St. John Paul II Catholic High School **Boys' Soccer Program** on **Warning** for one year 2/20/24-2/20/25.

SANTA CRUZ VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL - Santa Cruz District

Rule: Article 16. Penalties and Appeals, Section 3 Sportsmanship Rule (16.3.1)

Reported Violation:

Head Coach for Santa Cruz made physical contact with referee. He was upset about a ref not stopping play for an injured player. He was ejected from the competition.

Schools Corrective Action:

Head coach resigned from coaching before we could meet. He was going to be terminated regardless.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Santa Cruz Valley Union High School **Boys' Soccer Program** on **Warning** for one year 2/20/24-2/20/25.

MARYVALE HIGH SCHOOL - Phoenix Union High School District

Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 6 Age Limit / Birth Record Rule (15.6.1)

Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 7 Physical Examination Rule (16.7.1)

Reported Violation:

- a. A student was allowed to participate in an exhibition wrestling match at the age of 20. The Head Coach arranged and allowed the match.
- b. A student was not cleared to participate due to injury. the Head Coach allowed the student to wrestle a JV match without clearance.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contests forfeited. Head Coach was removed from the program. Interim Head Coach was named for the remainder of the season. Student A was removed from the team. Student B was suspended for one match.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Maryvale High School **Boys' Wrestling Program** on **Warning** for one year 2/20/24-2/20/25.

DEER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL – Deer Valley School District

Rule: Article 17. Coaches and Coaching, Section 4 Coach's / Sponsor's Code of Ethics (17.4.2.2)

Reported Violation:

Cactus AD contacted DVHS stating Freshman Boys Basketball coach was contacting a lower-level player about coming to Deer Valley to play. Cactus sent screenshot of communication.

Schools Corrective Action:

Coach was removed immediately from the Program. Review of AIA Bylaws and importance of following them was completed on 2/1/24 during Coaches meeting.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Deer Valley High School **Boys' Basketball Program** on **Warning** for one year 2/20/24-2/20/25.

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

ASA - David Verdugo - Santa Cruz Valley Unified School District, Rio Rico

On a motion made, seconded, and carried the Executive Board <u>approved</u> the above representative for the remaining of the 2023-2024 school year and for a new three-year term beginning July 2024 – June 2027.

There being no further business, and on a motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.

Respectfully submitted, David Hines, Executive Director