



**MINUTES
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
April 15, 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 Monday, April 15, 2024 at the AIA Office, 7007 N 18th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85020.

President Jennifer Burks called the meeting to order at 8:23am

Members in Attendance:

William Duarte, 1A Conference (Superior Jr./Sr. High School)
Tierra 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)
David Verdugo, Arizona School Administrators (Santa Cruz Valley Unified School District – Rio Rico)
Missy Townsend, CMAA, Arizona Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (Prescott High School)
David Hines, AIA Executive Director**

Members Absent:

Steve Johnson, Arizona School Boards Association (CAVIT)

AIA Staff Present:

Mark Mignella, Legal Counsel
Jim Dean, Associate Executive Director
Eric 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
Tyler Cerimeli, Tournament Coordinator
Mary Wimmer, Tournament Coordinator

Guests:

Richard Obert
Tommy Eubanks
Mark Ernster
Adam Larsen
Darien Schoolcraft
Pete Jelovic
Tamee Gressett
Gretchen Hann

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:

- ✓ 8:23 am – 9:36 am
- ✓ 10:40 am – 12:42 pm

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**MEMBERSHIP COMMENTS**

None.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

The Athletic Director and Student Leadership Summit took place at Xavier College Prep on Monday, April 1st with over 400 students and 280 Administrators. Positive feedback from both Athletic Directors and Students that attended. The feedback is greatly appreciated and will help us to improve for the summit next year. Mark your calendars... the Athletic Director and Student Leadership Summit will be held at next year Xavier College Prep on Monday, April 14, 2025.

The AIA Champions Gala will be held on May 19th at the Vista Center for the Arts in Surprise. We look forward to recognizing and honoring all our wonderful student athletes.

Process information was provided to the Board regarding the Executive Director Evaluation.

FUTURE DATES

April 17, 2024	District AD / Conference Leadership Meeting
April 18, 2024	Tennis Sports Advisory Committee Meeting
April 20, 2024	Tennis Seeding Meetings
April 22, 2024	4A Conference Committee Meeting
	6A Conference Committee Meeting
April 24, 2024	Student Leadership Advisory Committee Meeting
April 25, 2024	Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting
	Positive Coaching Alliance Board Meeting
May 2, 2024	3A Conference Committee Meeting
May 3, 2024	2A Conference Committee Meeting
May 8, 2024	Beach Volleyball Sports Advisory Committee Meeting
May 9, 2024	5A Conference Committee Meeting
May 10, 2024	3A Baseball/Softball All Conference Voting
May 13, 2024	NIL Work Group
May 14, 2024	2A Baseball/Softball All Conference Voting
May 15, 2024	Boys' Volleyball Sports Advisory Committee Meeting
May 19, 2024	AIA Champions Gala
May 20, 2024	Executive Board Meeting
May 23, 2024	Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting

ACTION ITEMS:**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

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

Approval of Minutes

- Executive Board Meeting – March 18, 2024

AIA Lifetime Passes

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

1. Mark Gronewold	Peoria District	40 Years
2. Johnny Williams	Peoria District	28 years
3. Jim Brunenkant	Flowing Wells	25 years
4. Raul Hodgers	Desert View	35 years
5. Howard Yauney	Williams Field	35 years
6. Randall Clifford	Williams Field	26 years
7. Rick Miles	Williams Field	25 years
8. Carlos Chavez	Douglas	25 years
9. Chris Gilmore	Westwood	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

- Brophy Prep** – Fr/So baseball game to help fill **Desert Mountain's** schedule.
- McClintock** – VAR softball game to help fill **Mountain View (Mesa)'s** schedule.

Cancellation Requests – Contest and/or Programs

<u>SCHOOL REQUESTING:</u>	<u>CANCELLED PROGRAM:</u>
1. Lourdes Catholic	VAR Boys/Girls' Tennis Programs
2. BASIS Phoenix	VAR Golf Program
3. Santa Rita	VAR Softball Program

SUB VARSITY PROGRAM CANCELLATIONS – 7

CONTEST(S) Cancelled: 198 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 March 2024

2024-2025 BUDGET PROPOSAL

On a motion made, seconded, and carried the Executive Board **approved** the proposed 2024-2025 budget.

2024-2025 MEETING DATES

On a motion made, seconded, and carried the Executive Board **approved** the 2024-2025 Meeting Dates.

The meeting dates include meetings for the Executive Board, Legislative Council, New AD Workshops, Coaches Courses, and the AD / Student Leadership Summit. Hardship appeal hearing and deadlines are also included.

SCHOOL VIOLATIONS

EMPIRE HIGH SCHOOL – *Vail Unified School District*

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

Reported Violation:

On Sunday, March 11, 2024 one of our assistant varsity baseball coaches threw batting practice to several Empire varsity baseball players.

Schools Corrective Action:

The assistant coach has been suspended indefinitely, and all Empire coaches across all sports and all levels will be reminded of this policy.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Empire High School **Baseball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 4/15/24-4/15/25.

SCHOOL VIOLATIONS – Cont'd

EMPIRE HIGH SCHOOL – *Vail Unified School District*

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

Reported Violation:

In the varsity baseball game at Rio Rico on 3/7/24, one of our assistant coaches who was managing the game in our head coach's absence, inserted a pitcher who needed another day's rest. Athlete threw 64 pitches on 3/4/24 and therefore, needed three days rest. He threw 17 pitches after only two days rest in the game at Rio Rico.

Schools Corrective Action:

Pitch counts for all levels will be reviewed by the head coach with all assistant coaches before the next game.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Empire High School **Baseball Program** on **Warning** for one year 4/15/24-4/15/25.

CHANDLER HIGH SCHOOL – *Chandler Unified School District*

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

Reported Violation:

Chandler High had a 10th grade pitcher exceed the 95-pitch count during a game vs Skyline High School on March 30, 2024. The Chandler coach called Skyline to report the violation.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contest Forfeited. The school will do a better job of cross-referencing pitch count among multiple coaches. Coaches will work with one another each inning to verify the accuracy of the number of pitches a player has thrown.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Chandler High School **Baseball Program** on **Warning** for one year 4/15/24-4/15/25.

DOBSON HIGH SCHOOL – *Mesa Public Schools*

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

Reported Violation:

A student played in a Sunday baseball league with his father.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contest Forfeited. The coach previously addressed this bylaw at least twice to the student-athletes and at the parent meeting with the parents. The coach is contacting each parent to review the bylaw and confirm their understanding of this bylaw.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Dobson High School **Baseball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 4/15/24-4/15/25.

SCHOOL VIOLATIONS – Cont'd

YUMA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL – *Catholic Diocese of Tucson*

Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 10 Transfer Rule (15.10.2)

Reported Violation:

The two female track athletes were transfers that joined the team late and were not on the roster when eligibility and clearance were checked. Our off-campus coach is in her first year and she didn't know they were transfer students and thought the students were eligible and they were allowed to participate within two track meets. Both students are required to sit 50% of the track events due to being transfer students.

Schools Corrective Action:

The two female track athletes were transfers that joined the track team late and were not on the roster when eligibility and clearance were checked. Neither of the girls earned a state qualifying mark or time within the two meets. Our track coach was hired one week into the track season. She is off campus and didn't go through our coaches workshop which is where we explain our policies and procedures. Moving forward we will make sure late additions to the roster are properly cleared through the Athletics Office prior to practicing and competing.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Yuma Catholic High School **Girls' Track and Field Program** on **Warning** for one year 4/15/24-4/15/25.

PARKER HIGH SCHOOL – *Parker Unified*

Rule: Article 32. Volleyball, Section 5 Number of Games in Season (32.5.3)

Reported Violation:

Parker High School's player number 17 played 7 sets in a regular season game. He played 3 sets for JV and 4 sets for Varsity.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contest Forfeited. The 6-set rule for players has been reviewed with the coaching staff. This is the first violation for this coach of 25+ years. It was an oversight that will not happen again.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Parker High School **Boys' Volleyball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 4/15/24-4/15/25.

SCHOOL VIOLATIONS – Cont'd**FLORENCE HIGH SCHOOL** – *Florence District*

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

Reported Violation:

In a game against Tonopah on 3/29 we played an ineligible player. #22, a sophomore, had a pitch count of 50 pitches recorded on Game Changer against San Tan on 3/27, which meant he was supposed to have a 2-day rest. Our coaching staff made an honest mistake and put him in the game on 3/29. The student threw 16 pitches on 3/29.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contest forfeited. The coach will assign an assistant coach to verify eligible pitchers for every game. The coach will report pitch counts to the athletic office after every game.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Florence High School **Baseball Program** on **Warning** for one year 4/15/24-4/15/25.

BRADSHAW MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL – *Humboldt Unified*

Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 10 Transfer Rule (15.10.1)

Reported Violation:

We had a home school student play in a varsity baseball game that he shouldn't have played in until the hardship paperwork was completed. Unfortunately, the coach nor the Athletic Director were aware this athlete had played at another school. The mom had talked to the Athletic Secretary and it was never stated that he played for another school. When dad filled out our paperwork needed for doing weekly eligibility (which we start 2 weeks after the season starts) it came out that he had played for Glendale High School the previous year. We then looked at our RMA (RMA and the questions asked don't really pertain to home school students). Up until now we have relied on the conversations the Athletic Secretary has asked to get any information we need to know if a homeschool student is a transfer student. We have now added an additional question to catch any home school students in RMA for the 2024-25 School year.

Schools Corrective Action:

We have decided to create a backup to catch any home school students so it is not dependent on the Athletic Secretary to find out if they have transferred. We have created a one sheet page of questions that they have to answer themselves and then we have added a question on RMA to notify the AD if they have been to another school.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Bradshaw Mountain High School **Activities Program** on **Advisement** for one year 4/15/24-4/15/25.

Matt Belden abstained.

SCHOOL VIOLATIONS – Cont'd

DESERT EDGE HIGH SCHOOL – *Agua Fria Union High School District*
Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 12 Recruitment Rule (15.12)

Reported Violation:

A member of the football coaching staff responded directly to a parent on social media. The parent was asking for feedback on high schools due to their child transferring. The coach responded directly to the parent which could be perceived as suggesting Desert Edge as a possible destination. Additional comments to the parent from the coach could be viewed as influencing. No school administrator, athletic coach or employee of a high school district shall engage in recruitment either by direct contact with a student or indirectly through parents, legal guardians, common school employees, directors of summer athletic programs or other persons who are in a position to influence the student's choice of a school.

Schools Corrective Action:

Desert Edge High School corrective actions:

- Continued in-service for all coaches regarding recruitment bylaws.
- In-service on the do's and don'ts of social media for all coaches.
- Executive Session is requested to discuss specifics of the corrective action plan.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Desert Edge High School **Football and Boys' Track and Field Programs** on **Probation** for the 2024-2025 school year.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY APPEAL – CENTENNIAL

Centennial High School is appealing the 1-year suspension of a student athlete due to a violation of the NIL bylaw.

On a motion made, seconded, and carried the Executive Board reduced the penalty of a one-year suspension to two games (20% of season) for the 2024 football season.

HARDSHIP APPEALS

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

Hamilton Brett Plamer - Athletic Director, Parent, Student, Attorney

Yuma Cecile Lopez - Athletic Director, Parents, Student, Attorney

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>
Hamilton	Granted
Yuma	Granted

COMMITTEE MEMBER NOMINATIONS – EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS (2A, 5A, AIAAA)

In accordance with Article 6, Section 4, Paragraph 1 of the AIA Constitution, the Executive Board selected the following to serve as members for the **2024-2027** term:

3A Toni Corona – Safford High School – Athletic Administrator

6A Jennifer Burks – Perry High School – Athletic Administrator

There being no further business, and on a motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the meeting adjourned at 1:47pm.

Respectfully submitted,
David Hines,
Executive Director