



**AGENDA
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
February 17, 2026
8:45 am – Meeting**

Call to Order President Missy Townsend

- 1. ROLL CALL**
- 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA – FEBRUARY 17, 2026**

REGULAR MEETING:

- 3. MEMBERSHIP COMMENTS**
- 4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**
 - Legislative Council – March 6, 2026

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- 5. 2024-2025 AUDIT PRESENTATION**
- 6. FUTURE DATES**

February 17, 2026	Spring Hardship Appeal Submission Deadline
February 23, 2026	4A Conference Committee Meeting // 6A Conference Committee Meeting
February 24-25, 2026	Spring Hardship Appeal Hearings
February 24, 2026	2A Soccer All-Conference Voting Meeting
February 25, 2026	District AD / Conference Leadership Meeting
February 26, 2026	3A Soccer All-Conference Voting Meeting // 3A Conference Committee Meeting
February 27, 2026	2A Conference Committee Meeting
March 3, 2026	2A Basketball All-Conference Voting Meeting
March 4, 2026	Student Leadership Advisory Committee Meeting // 3A BSKT All Conf Voting Mtg
March 6, 2026	Legislative Council Meeting
March 12, 2026	5A Conference Committee Meeting
March 16, 2026	Executive Board Meeting

7. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The following items may be enacted by one motion and approved as consent agenda items with or without discussion. Any item may, however, be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately if a Board member so requests.

(a) Approval of Minutes

- Executive Board Meeting – January 20, 2026
- Special Executive Board Meeting – February 4, 2026

(b) AIA Lifetime Passes

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

1. Eli Lopez	Mountain Ridge
2. Laurie White	Xavier College Prep
3. Douglas Eckhardt	Payson
4. Susan Prado	Apollo
5. Dr. John Bush	San Carlos
6. Gilbert Clauschee	Window Rock

(c) Request for AIA Sanction/Intrastate and Interstate Activities – 2025-26 Master Calendar

Rule: Article 10. Sanction Procedures. Section 10.1 Sanctioned Events

Sanction requests, 2025-26 Master Calendar. The master calendar is posted online at
<http://aiaonline.org/calendar/tournaments>

ACTION ITEMS:**8. SCHOOL VIOLATIONS****(A) Rule: Article 14. General Provisions, Section 4 Non School Participation****14.4 NONSCHOOL PARTICIPATION**

14.4.1 A student who is a member or becomes a member of a school team shall not practice, have practiced or compete with any other group, club, organization, association, etc., in that sport, **or derivative of that sport that is not already sanctioned by the AIA** during the interscholastic season of competition. This rule applies to the following team sports: football, flag football, baseball, basketball, volleyball, soccer, softball, track relay and swimming relay teams. For purposes of this rule, the interscholastic season of competition shall begin on the competition date as set in the policies and procedures of each sport and conclude with that particular team's final game. Any student violating the above rule shall forfeit his/her eligibility for a minimum of the balance of the season for that sport or up to a maximum of one calendar year.

DETERMINATION: An individual student may take private lessons anytime except during the school day or during school practice sessions. For purposes of this rule, individual private lesson means, and is limited to, **no more than two distinct** students and one coach/instructor. Schools shall not pay for, arrange or in any way provide these individual private lessons. Individual private lessons shall not be used to circumvent or evade the non-school participation rule and any such use of private lessons will be considered a violation of the non-school participation rule.

(1) LINCOLN PREPARATORY ACADEMY – Great Hearts Academies**Reported Violation:**

A girls' varsity basketball athlete participated in organized 3v3 practices and scrimmages during the HS season. The dates of the practices (1/21 and 1/28) and scrimmages (1/24 and 1/31) were during the season of sport for basketball. The family was unaware that this was a violation, and a family friend mentioned this to them and they came forward with this information and self-reported for accuracy. The student athlete competed in games at the JV level (San Carlos) and varsity (Pima and Glendale Prep) during this time frame. She did not compete in any other contest during this time frame.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contests forfeited. We will reassess and alter our current preseason information meeting handouts to place a high emphasis on Bylaw 14.4 and provide complete clarity to what that looks like during season of sport. This will be done for our general athletics meetings at the beginning of the year, and for out team-specific meetings that take place once teams are decided upon. By doing so both on a general level and an individual sport level we will be able to cite examples of what non-school participation may look like for different sports. The family was present for our general information meeting at the start of the year, and by placing a higher emphasis on the bylaw at this meeting it will open the door to families to ask clarifying questions regarding to their athlete's participation.

Prior Violation(s):

None.

8. SCHOOL VIOLATIONS – Cont'd**(B) Rule: Article 34. Wrestling, Section 1 Rules****34.1 RULES****34.1.4 Weight Certification Models**

34.1.4.1 *The AIA and its member schools will use the following guidelines based on the National Wrestling Coaches' Association (NWCA) Weight Certification Model:*

(1) PARADISE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL – *Paradise Valley Union School District***Reported Violation:**

A male wrestling athlete's weight certification was input into the OPC system on 1/20/26 with a weight of 168.6 and body fat percentage of 6.5%. Per bylaw 34.1.4.1 if a male athlete has body fat percentage below 7% the initial weight will be the lowest competitive weight allowed. This student wrestling on 1/21/26 at 165. He was not eligible to wrestle this weight class, and those matches must be forfeited. Regarding appealing the initial weight certification, per bylaw 34.1.4.1.1 any athlete who disagrees with the initial assessment may appeal one time. However, it must be within 14 calendar days and prior to their first contest. Once the athlete competed, they were no longer eligible to appeal the initial assessment. Regarding the documentation from the coach/father, the doctor did not use the approved procedure to complete a weight certification, so it does not supersede the initial assessment input by the school weight certification assessor. Since the athlete has competed the initial assessment will stand.

Schools Corrective Action:

Forfeited match along with competing at our proper weight, coaches will be in serviced, so they are aware of proper placement of weight class in the future.

Prior Violation(s):

None.

8. SCHOOL VIOLATIONS – Cont'd**(C) Rule: Article 14. General Provisions, Section 4 Non School Participation****14.4 NONSCHOOL PARTICIPATION**

14.4.1 A student who is a member or becomes a member of a school team shall not practice, have practiced or compete with any other group, club, organization, association, etc., in that sport, **or derivative of that sport that is not already sanctioned by the AIA** during the interscholastic season of competition. This rule applies to the following team sports: football, flag football, baseball, basketball, volleyball, soccer, softball, track relay and swimming relay teams. For purposes of this rule, the interscholastic season of competition shall begin on the competition date as set in the policies and procedures of each sport and conclude with that particular team's final game. Any student violating the above rule shall forfeit his/her eligibility for a minimum of the balance of the season for that sport or up to a maximum of one calendar year.

DETERMINATION: An individual student may take private lessons anytime except during the school day or during school practice sessions. For purposes of this rule, individual private lesson means, and is limited to, **no more than two distinct students** and one coach/instructor. Schools shall not pay for, arrange or in any way provide these individual private lessons. Individual private lessons shall not be used to circumvent or evade the non-school participation rule and any such use of private lessons will be considered a violation of the non-school participation rule.

(1) PALO VERDE HIGH SCHOOL – Tucson Unified School District**Reported Violation:**

Two male soccer athletes participated in Spartans intersquad scrimmage in front of scouts for Liga Mx Academy Club on 1/13/26. School was informed that they are no longer eligible because they were seen at a club practice. However, they did not participate in or play for the club team. They were invited by a former coach.

Schools Corrective Action:

Athlete have been removed from the program.

Prior Violation(s):

None.

8. SCHOOL VIOLATIONS – Cont'd**(D) Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 10 Transfer Rule**

15.10 TRANSFER RULE – Except as stated in 15.10.6, 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.

15.10.3 *In case of any subsequent transfer by the student, the student is ineligible for one year from the date of first attendance at the receiving school.*

(1) GREENWAY HIGH SCHOOL – Glendale Union High School District**Reported Violation:**

Student participated in soccer and went to Greenway during Freshman and Sophomore years of 22-23 and 23-24. Student transferred back to Ironwood for 24-25 year and sat 50% of soccer season. Student transferred back to Greenway after completing full year at ironwood and sat 50% of season before playing in any game at Greenway while he should have been out the entire season.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contest forfeited. Even though bylaws were checked, look at the subparagraphs to ensure accuracy.

Prior Violation(s):

None.

8. SCHOOL VIOLATIONS – Cont'd**(E) Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 12 Recruitment Rule**

15.12 RECRUITMENT RULE – *There shall be no recruitment of athletes. Recruitment is defined as the act of influencing a student to enroll in a school or to transfer from one school to another in order that the student may participate in interscholastic athletics. 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.*

15.12.4 Interpretations

15.12.4.14 PRIOR CONTACT – *Prefatory statement: In an effort to preserve and promote competitive fairness, and consistent with the AIA's mission to ensure that academics remain the primary focus of its member schools, the Prior Contact rule is an effort to deter recruiting of student-athletes and minimize athletically motivated transfers. However, the rule applies regardless of whether there is any evidence of athletic motivation or recruitment.*

(1) FOUNTAIN HILLS HIGH SCHOOL – *Fountain Hills District***Reported Violation:**

A male football athlete was interested in transferring to FHHS. I reached out to the guardian to make them aware of the AIA transfer rules because our registrar was out that week and unable to handle the enrollment. I was very specific that the student was not to participate in any athletics until the registrar returned and enrolled him. I was informed on 1/13/26 that the student had shown up twice to football workouts. The coach who supervised the workouts is an assistant that does not work on campus. He says he was not aware that the student was not enrolled and that the student mentioned to him being a new student who started this semester (statement attached).

Schools Corrective Action:

Student will not have football eligibility at Fountain Hills High School for one calendar year starting on 1/6/26 (the first of two football workouts he attended while being enrolled in another school).

Prior Violation(s):

None.

8. SCHOOL VIOLATIONS – Cont'd**(F) Rule: Article 10. Sanctioned Procedures, Section 1 Sanctioned Events**

10.1 SANCTIONED EVENTS – *During the season, in sports and activities that are governed by the AIA, member schools shall only participate with or against the following: AIA member high schools; out-of-state or Canadian high schools that are in good standing or approved by their respective association. Violation of this rule subjects the offending member school to loss of all privileges of membership for one year and/or such penalty as the Executive Board is authorized to impose under Article 16.*

(1) VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL – Valley Union High School District**Reported Violation:**

On 11/29 boys' basketball coach transported the team to Tucson to participate in a scrimmage against a non-school affiliated club team. The trip and competition were conducted without prior authorization or notification from the AD or the school administration.

Schools Corrective Action:

The coach found to be in violation was immediately removed from the head coach position. He was required to complete online coaching courses. Prior to this incident, I had already developed a comprehensive coaches' handbook, which was pending board approval at the time. In addition, monthly coaching meetings with the AD were established for all coaching staff.

Prior Violation(s):

None.

8. SCHOOL VIOLATIONS – Cont'd**(G) Rule: Article 11. Schedules of Contests and Scheduling Contracts, Section 4 Schedule Contracts****11.4 SCHEDULE CONTRACTS – VARSITY / JUNIOR VARSITY / FRESHMAN/SOPHOMORE**

11.4.1 *To facilitate the preparation of master schedules for all sports, a school must commit by March 15 of the current school year as to whether or not it will participate in a particular varsity sport the following school year.*

Rule: Article 17. Coaches and Coaching, Section 4 Coach's / Sponsor's Code of Ethics**17.4 COACH'S / SPONSOR'S CODE OF ETHICS**

17.4.1 *It shall be the responsibility of a coach to follow the directions provided in the following Coach's Code of Ethics. Violations of the first three items of the Code may result in a sanction to the offending school.*

(1) DESERT HEIGHTS PREP ACADEMY**Reported Violation:**

Girls' basketball coach removed team from court prior to the end of the contest.

Schools Corrective Action:

Administration met with the coach to discuss the violations. We reviewed the sportsmanship rules, forfeit of contest rules and reviewed our own athletic handbook regarding the violations and reiterated the programs visions and philosophies or practicing sportsmanship. Coach is no longer with the school/program.

Prior Violation(s):

None.

8. SCHOOL VIOLATIONS – Cont'd**(H) Rule: Article 22. Basketball, Section 5 Number of Games in Season****22.5 NUMBER OF GAMES IN SEASON**

22.5.3 *No player shall participate in more than six (6) quarters/night.*

(1) MARCOS DE NIZA HIGH SCHOOL – *Tempe Union High School District***Reported Violation:**

A male basketball player participated in 7 quarters on the same night. He participated in 4 quarters in the JV game and 3 quarters in the Varsity game.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contest Forfeited. I met with the coaching staff and went over the rules violation of a student playing in 7 quarters. We discussed ways in which this can be avoided in the future and put systems in place for it to not happen again.

Prior Violation(s):

None.

(2) HIGHLAND PREP – *Highland Prep Academies***Reported Violation:**

Due to injuries and lack of available players, boys' basketball head coach played two student athletes on JV and Varsity over the allotted quarters allowed. Student athletes participated in 3 quarters on JV and 4 quarters on varsity against Kingman High School on 2/3/26.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contest Forfeited. Upon discovery and investigation, AD reached out at affected school to submit forfeiture of games due to the ineligible players. Head coach has been educated and trained on AIA rules regarding AIA eligibility and allotted quarters an individual can play per night. Highland Prep has forfeited both the JV and Varsity games against Kingman due to this violation.

Prior Violation(s):

None.

8. SCHOOL VIOLATIONS – Cont'd**(I) Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 10 Transfer Rule**

15.10 TRANSFER RULE – Except as stated in 15.10.6, 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.

15.10.3 *In case of any subsequent transfer by the student, the student is ineligible for one year from the date of first attendance at the receiving school.*

(1) GILBERT HIGH SCHOOL – Gilbert Public Schools**Reported Violation:**

Two student athletes transfer 550 forms from the sending school designated that the students were to sit 50% of the season, when in fact the students should have sat for the entire boys' basketball season or play at the sub-varsity level. Awareness of this situation was made after the students sat 50% of the season.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contest Forfeited. Follow up procedures with sending schools will be revised. This violation was due to the incorrect information provided by the sending school combined with me being a first-year athletic director at Gilbert High School. Moving forward there will be a change in policy in how our transfers are cleared for participation.

Prior Violation(s):

None.

9. CANCELLATION REQUESTS – CONTEST AND/OR PROGRAMS

Rule: Article 11. Scheduling of Contest and Schedule Contracts. Section 4 Schedule Contracts – Varsity / Junior Varsity / Freshman. Paragraph 4 Cancellation or Postponement – Contest or Program. Subparagraph 1

11.4.4.1 A Varsity contest or program which could have a bearing on a regional or state play-off shall not be cancelled or forfeited without prior approval by the AIA Executive Board.

SCHOOL REQUESTING:

1. Morenci
2. Sedona
3. Ash Fork/Seligman
4. Mayer
5. Duncan
6. BASIS Flagstaff
7. Willcox

HEREBY CONSENT:

VAR Spring Golf Program
VAR Baseball Program
VAR Softball Program
VAR Baseball Program
VAR Boys/Girls Track Program
VAR Girls' Beach Volleyball Program
VAR Boys/Girls Tennis Program

SUB VARSITY PROGRAM CANCELLATIONS – 13

CONTEST(S) Cancelled: 191 total contests cancelled (VAR/JV/FR/SO)

10. ADDITIONAL GAME REQUESTS

- A. **Alhambra** – additional VAR/JV boys' volleyball games to help fill **Central's** schedule.
- B. **Payson** – additional VAR/JV/FrSo boys' basketball games to help fill **Chinle's** schedule.
- C. **Payson** – additional VAR/JV softball games to help fill **St. John's** schedule.
- D. **Vista Grande** – additional VAR girls' soccer game to help fill **Combs'** schedule.
- E. **Mogollon** – additional VAR softball game to help fill **Mayer's** schedule.
- F. **Cibola** – additional VAR/JV softball games to help fill **Somerton's** schedule.
- G. **Cienega** – additional VAR/JV baseball games to help fill **Walden Grove's** schedule.
- H. **Alhambra** – additional VAR/JV baseball games to help fill **ALA Gilbert North's** schedule.
- I. **Kingman** – additional VAR/JV baseball games to help fill **Somerton's** schedule.
- J. **Thunderbird** – additional VAR softball game to help fill **Sunnyslope's** schedule.

11. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY APPEAL – ARTICLE 16.3.3.1

TIME	SCHOOL
9:40 AM	Peoria High School

12. ADJOURNMENT