

2A Conference Meeting Minutes
Zoom Video-Conference
May 8, 2020 - 9:30 am (MST)

- I. Call to Order: 9:38 a.m.
- o Motion to adjourn: Santa Rita (Blanco)
 - o Second: Valley (Yazzie)
 - o Vote: Yes=28 & No=0

II. Roll Call

Alchesay – not present	Lincoln Prep – not present	Santa Rita – present
Antelope – not present	Many Farms – not present	Scottsdale Christian - present
Arizona Lutheran – present	Miami – present	Scottsdale Prep - present
BASIS Phoenix – present	Morenci – present	Sedona Red Rock – present
Benson – not present	North Pointe Prep – present	St. Augustine - present
Bisbee – not present	Northland Prep - present	St. John Paul II - present
Camp Verde – present	Parker – not present	St. Johns – present
Chandler Prep – present	Phoenix Christian – present	Tempe Prep – not present
Cicero Prep – not present	Phoenix Country Day - present	Thatcher – not present
Desert Christian – not present	Pima – present	Tombstone – not present
Gilbert Classical – not present	Pinon – not present	Tonopah Valley – not present
Glendale Prep – present	Rancho Solano Prep – present	Trivium Prep – present
Globe – not present	Round Valley – present	Valley (Sanders) - present
Greyhills – present	San Carlos – not present	Valley Lutheran - present
Heritage Aca. Laveen –present	San Manuel – not present	Veritas Prep - present
Hopi – present	San Miguel - present	Willcox – not present
Leading Edge-Gilbert – not present	Santa Cruz – not present	

Total: 28 voting members to begin, 29 voting members after 10:03 am

Guests: Horizon Honors, Kingman Academy, NFL Yet, River Valley, San Tan Charter, Sequoia Charter, Sequoia Pathways, and AIA Officials (Tyler Cerimeli, Brian Gessner, Dan Nero, Joe Paddock, Dave Shapiro, and Dean Visser)

III. Approval of Minutes

- o Nov. 15, 2019
- o Feb. 28, 2020 (Informational Meeting Only)
- o Motion to approve minutes without changes: Phoenix Christian (Baker)
- o Second: Northland Prep (Elder)
- o Vote: Yes=28, No=0

IV. Approval of Agenda

- o Motion to approve agenda without changes: Valley Lutheran (Parsons)
- o Second: St. John Paul II (Walker)
- o Vote: Yes=28, No=0

V. Executive Board Report

- o COVID-19 Update (Joe Paddock)
 - Crisis Management Team
 - Composed of AIA Leadership, Conference Chairs and Executive Board Reps, and Community Reps.
 - The teams first meeting is being held on Tuesday, May 12th. Will be discussing recommendations from the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC), possible scenarios surrounding the summer and fall seasons, and begin to develop plans that can be presented to the membership and Executive Board.
 - SMAC
 - SMAC is our go to source for information on the COVID-19 situation.
 - SMAC will compose a list of recommendations for schools that the AIA will send out by June 1st.
 - One of the big things we must continue to look at is the disease might not have severe impacts on our student but many of our students live with individuals that fall within the high risk categories. We have to be cognitive of secondary level spreading due to the procedures, functions, and events at our schools.

- AIA Championship Gala (Joe Paddock)
 - The AIA's Championship Gala is moving to a digital format. It will be held on Sat. May 16th and streamed on azpreps365.com. It's important that we continue to recognize our student-athletes and schools.
- Officials Recruitment & Retention Incentive Program (Brian Gessner)
 - The program is designed to recruit new officials, mentor them, and create longevity. Data shows that officials that stay for 3 years continue as officials for many years.
 - Officials that recruit another to register receive a credit towards their annual registration fees.
 - Officials can earn more than one credit and they can accumulate over time.
 - In crunching the numbers, the impact on the revenue generated from the fees will be insignificant due to the new fees created.
 - Data was also looked at over the past 30 years. With every economic downturn, the number of officials increased. The AIA expects the number of officials to increase significantly due to our current economic situation.
- Possible Member School Fee to cover legal costs of Football Litigation (Joe Paddock)
 - The AIA Annual Budget allots for \$25,000 in legal fees. The current football litigation has incurred legal fees exceeding \$100,000.
 - Schools should expect a separate service charge this spring/summer to cover the cost of the legal fees. The amount spend after the \$25,000 is deducted will be divided by the number of member schools and that amount will be the service charge sent out.
 - A couple schools shared the desire for the schools involved in the litigation to cover the AIA's costs. Such a proposal would have to be agreed upon during the legal process. The chance of such a proposal occurring is very slim.
- Declaration Statement
 - The Executive Board is considering the development of a declaration statement that all member schools would have to sign and submit at the beginning of each school year. The declaration would include the school agreeing to the rules and decisions set forth by the Executive Board and Legislative Council.
 - The desire is to curb future litigation between member schools and the association.
- #FEEDTHEFRONTLINE Campaign (Joe Paddock)
 - Information regarding the campaign is up on azpreps365.com where anyone can make a contribution.
 - The campaign is raising money to provide a meal to healthcare workers and first responders, especially at facilities that don't receive the same recognition that other facilities do.
- Wrestling Divisions & Sections (Dean Visser)
 - The Wrestling Advisory Committee worked extremely hard on the proposal, especially Coach Wene from ALA and Coach Woodall from Morenci. The proposal attempted to create more equal sections within the 4 divisions. It was decided that each section should contain approximately 16 teams.
 - The Executive Board passed the proposal during their April Meeting.
 - The divisions and sections are available to view on the aiaonline.org website.
 - Chinle and Page were the only schools that submitted appeals of their placement. Both are appealing their placement in Division III and would like to compete at the Division IV level. It would help both schools significantly with travel and class time missed.
 - If their appeals are approved, 1 or 2 teams from the southern end of Section II may be asked if they would move to Section III to maintain section balance.
 - Individuals within each section are working on composing the wrestling schedules. Those individuals have been instrumental in composing the schedules throughout the past several years. Please contact those section reps for input.
- Fall Soccer Proposal (Joe Paddock)
 - Mike Elder emphasized that the proposal is centered on equity in the length of seasons. As we currently sit, the regular season for fall soccer only contains 8 weeks. The regular season for winter soccer contains 10 weeks. The condensed season forces schools in the fall to play more games per week and pulls students out of the classroom more often.
 - The Executive Board tabled the proposal in April and sent it to the SMAC committee for a recommendation. If the season is extended and allowed to start earlier (same time as football), will it create larger issues with heat acclimatization?
 - The SMAC committee met earlier in the week but the meeting consisted more of our current scenario surrounding COVID-19. They did not make a recommendation back to the Executive Board.
 - The Executive Board will vote on the proposal during their May 18th meeting.

- Please note that the championships for fall soccer don't have to be completed until the 23rd week within the AIA Standardized Calendar. For 2020-21, that is the first week of December. Even if the proposal is voted down and the season cannot start earlier, the playoffs could be moved back in November to allow 10 regular season weeks of competition.
 - Spiritline Changes (Joe Paddock)
 - Ashley Gronewold and Lindsey Larsen have been working very hard on making some important changes to Spiritline based on the certification requirements for coaches.
 - It will be broken in to 2 categories.
 - Cheer – involves stunting and higher risk items. All cheer coaches will be required to meet the safety certifications in order for their teams to compete.
 - Dance – doesn't involve the stunting. Dance coaches won't have to meet the same level of certifications for their teams to compete.
 - The new information can be found on the aiaonline.org website under activities and spiritlines.
 - Please note that all of the Mandatory Fall Coaches Meetings will be held via telecommunication.
 - 2A, 5A, & AIAAA Executive Board Rep Selections (Joe Paddock)
 - The Executive Board had some very tough decisions in April. There were great candidates to select from and we appreciate everyone that submitted applications.
 - The selections are:
 - 2A – Ricky Greer from Hopi
 - 5A – Jim Dean from the Dysart District
 - AIAAA – Marcus Williams from the Chandler District
 - Congnia – Tim Carter from the Yavapai Schools. Tim filled the spot earlier in the year that was open following Travis Udall's resignation.
 - Football Scheduling Update (Joe Paddock)
 - On hold awaiting pending litigation
 - The hearings are taking place as we meet, May 7th and 8th.
 - Each Conference has their schedules complete. The 2A is working on filling 10 games that were left open as Sedona dropped their football program earlier in the week.
 - If you have seen a copy of those schedules, please understand they are only drafts. Do not lock anything in as they are subject to change depending the results of the litigation.
 - We will not have a ruling on the litigation before May 18th and of course it could take longer to review the items. If we do receive a ruling by the 18th and it goes in the AIA's favor, the current schedules will be a go. The conferences will enter them in the AIA system and they hopefully will be released to the each school within their portal later in the week.
 - If the ruling goes in the favor of the schools, the schedules will need to be changed. At the 2A level, it could cause some significant changes that could impact regions and the schedules could need a complete overhaul. That would delay the release of the 2A schedules in to June.
 - No matter what direction the ruling goes, the AIA doesn't anticipate that the Football Classification Bylaw will be required to change but it is in the realm of possibility.
 - Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and resulting restrictions, each school playing an out of state opponent should verify those games and make sure those schools along with our own will be allowed to travel out of state. If not, those games will need to be canceled and replacements found. This should be done for all sports and not just football.
 - Football Advisory Committee – exploring an adjustment to the mercy rule. Currently, a running clock is used in the 2nd half of games when there is a 42-point spread between the teams. If the point spread falls under 42 points, the game clock returns to normal timing rules. The adjustment will allow the clock to run for the entire 2nd half once the 42-point spread has been reached. Even if the point spread falls under 42, the clock will continue to run for the remainder of the game.
 - A straw poll showed all 29 member schools in attendance were in favor of the change.

VI. Consent Agenda

- Sport Specific Advisory Council Representatives
 - Tennis Coach - Michele Caporali - Chandler Prep
 - Softball Admin – Shawn Lytle – Chandler Prep
- AD of the Year – Dan Wall – Camp Verde
- Glen Treadaway Sportsmanship Award – Many Farms
- Ratification Vote of the Consent Agenda: Yes=29, No=0

VII. Old Business

- Veterans' Memorial Coliseum (VMC) Feedback
 - Larger Scoreboards (Double the Size)
 - Expect officials to ask your scorer's table before each game if your clock and horn are in sync.
 - Mercury & Suns are making many upgrades (Bathrooms, Internet, Wifi, seating, etc.)
- Volleyball State Playoff Format – 2020 (Tyler Cerimeli)
 - Wed. Nov. 4th – State Play-In Games
 - Sat. Nov. 7th – Round of 16 & Quarterfinals (HS in Valley)
 - Fri. Nov. 13th – Semifinals (Evening Time Slot-HS in Valley)
 - Sat. Nov. 14th – Championship (VMC)
 - We're hopeful that the Championship Saturday will improve the atmosphere and increase attendance.
 - Game time will be opposite of Cross Country
- Track State Format – 2021 (Dave Shapiro)
 - Sat. May 1st – 1A & 2A State Track Meet
 - The 2A will qualify 16 individuals per event. There will be a slow heat of 8 runners and a fast heat of 8 runners with no prelims needed.
 - Sat. May 8th - Open State Track Meet
 - Top 9 times/heights/distances from the Conference State Meets qualify
 - Pre-Qualifying Times for Distance Events will not be used.
- State Wrestling Format – 2021 (Dean Visser)
 - Feb. 18th, 19th, and 20th – VMC
 - VMC will be able to run 10 mats simultaneously and possibly 12.
 - If needed, the 17th might be used for competition as well since we have seen a large increase in participation on the girls' side.
 - Discussions taking place by the WAC in developing a Meet of Champions
 - WAC is also discussing the possibility of a Team State Meet.
 - Hoping it puts some emphasis back on duals and the team component of the sport
- Scheduling
 - Scheduling Timeline/Reclassification
 - All Sports Schedules have been released (Excluding Football, wrestling, and fall soccer)
 - Each AD has access to add, move, and cancel games
 - Schools can request to play an extra game to help those schools that have lost games due to some schools canceling programs.
 - The start of the fall seasons may be delayed. Those decisions are dependent on the Governor's and State Education Offices.
 - The AIA and SMAC will only make recommendations but the final decisions reside with each individual school.

VIII. New Business

- 2020-21 State Playoffs
 - State Play-In Games
 - Continue using them for Volleyball, Basketball, Baseball, and Softball?
 - The discussion surrounded that they have been a positive experience for our student-athletes. It provides 24 schools in those sports and opportunity to experience a playoff atmosphere.
 - It also allows the best field of 16 teams to participate in the state tournament, since the 2A Conference qualifies 2 schools per region. The 2A conference is the only conference that does so in the state.
 - That has been evident the past several years as 2 or 3 upsets typically occur during the state play-in games.
 - Motion to continue using state play-in games for the 2020-21 school year for volleyball, basketball, baseball, and softball: Northland Prep (Elder)
 - Second: Scottsdale Prep (Ediger)
 - Vote: Yes=28, No=1
 - Continue automatic qualifying 2 teams from each region in to the state play-in games?
 - Motion to continue qualifying 2 teams from each region in to the state play-in games in volleyball, basketball, baseball, and softball: Chandler Prep (Lytle)
 - Second: St. Johns (Bradshaw)
 - Vote: Yes=29, No=0

- Do we continue to re-seed the State Tourney following the Play-In Games?
 - The discussion surrounded that it rewards the top 8 seeds for their strong regular seasons. They know that they play the winner of one game. That will aid in scouting, transportation planning, and preparation.
 - It will also aid the AIA and allow them to possibly set the state tournament times and venues at an earlier date, especially when trying to pair schools up to ensure their boys' and girls' play back to back and at the same venue.
 - Motion to not reseed the state tournaments following the state play-in games in volleyball, basketball, baseball, and softball: Phoenix Country Day (Lewis)
 - Second: St. John Paul II (Walker)
 - Vote: Yes=29, No=0
- AD's also showed interest in using the same format for state play-in games in soccer. The information will need to be shared with the 3A conference. They will need to approve the same format since their schools also participate in the same conference for soccer.
- Football
 - Fri. Nov. 6th – 1st Round at High Seeds
 - Fri. Nov. 13th – Quarterfinals at High Seeds
 - Sat. Nov. 21st – Semifinals at HS Venue in Valley (Both Semis at the same Venue)
 - Fri. Nov. 27th – Championships at HS Venue in Valley (Same site as 3A)
 - Thanks for the feedback in the survey
- Cross Country
 - Wed. Nov. 4th & Thu. Nov. 5th – Sectionals
 - Moved off weekend to limit overlap with winter sports and provide more consistency with rest days between the sectionals and state meets.
 - Dave Shapiro will send out the specific date for each sectional meet, so the host schools can lock down the venues.
 - Sat. Nov. 14th – Championships at Cave Creek G.C.
- Baseball
 - Tue. May 4th – State Play-In Games
 - Fri. May 7th – 1st Round at Goodyear Baseball Complex
 - Sat. May 8th – Quarterfinals at Goodyear Baseball Complex
 - Fri. May 14th – Semifinals at Goodyear Baseball Complex
 - Mon. May 17th – Championships at Tempe Diablo Stadium
- Softball
 - Wed. May 5th – State Play-In Games
 - Fri. May 7th – 1st Round at Rose Mofford Complex
 - Sat. May 8th – Quarterfinals at Rose Mofford Complex
 - Fri. May 14th – Semifinals at Rose Mofford Complex
 - Tue. May 18th – Championships at ASU's Farrington Stadium
- Basketball
 - 24 team state tournament proposal
 - No interest in a 24-team state tournament. The state play-in games accomplish the same thing. The conference schools obtain the revenue and it is one less thing for the AIA to worry about and schedule.
 - 1st 2 Rounds
 - Both at High Seeds (Sat & Tue)
 - Both at HS Venues in Valley (Fri & Sat)
 - Both played in Prescott/Prescott Valley (Fri & Sat)
 - Is it possible to play Boys and Girls on the same day?
 - Each option has several pros and cons. There was interest in trying to play the games on dates that weren't back to back. It is very beneficial for our student-athletes but the idea of midweek games could cause more class time missed, decrease attendance, and increase the cost of travel for schools and spectators.
 - The use of Prescott and Prescott Valley for the 2A state tournament has been difficult on schools due to the high cost of lodging. The conference looked at all venue options for early round games that draw large crowds. The Findlay Toyota Center is the only venue that the AIA is able to book consistently that can host over 5,000 people. Unfortunately, the other venues in the state that hold over 5,000 people are few and far between and are very tough to book.
 - Motion to play the 1st 2 rounds of the 2A state basketball tournaments in Prescott/Prescott Valley (Fri & Sat): St. Johns (Bradshaw)
 - Second: Greyhills (Grey)
 - Vote: Yes=23, No=6

- Fry. Feb. 26th – Semifinals at VMC (Same site as 3A)
 - Sat. Feb. 27th – Championships at VMC (Same site as 1A & 3A)
 - Thanks for the feedback in the survey
- Election of Officers
- President
 - Ricky Greer cannot complete his term through the 2020-21 school year after being selected as the 2A Exec. Board Rep
 - Which direction do we want to go in filling the position?
 - The 2-year term was developed since the disparity in the workload differs from the first year of a 2-year block to the 2nd year. The 2nd year is filled with reclassification and scheduling responsibilities that increase the workload immensely.
 - The 2A conference decided in the spring of 2018 to initiate the 2-year term. The president would serve his/her first year with the heavier workload and his/her second year with the lighter workload. It has worked well and allows the president to go out on a better note.
 - The conference can change back to 1-year terms, re-start the 2-year term now where the heavier workload will accompany the 2nd year, select an interim to serve out the remainder of the vacated term, etc. The President-Elect stated that he has no preference and is good with any of the options.
 - Motion to fill the vacated term with an interim conference president: Valley (Yazzie)
 - Second: Phoenix Christian (Baker)
 - Vote: Yes=29, No=0
 - President Ricky Greer opened the floor for nominations:
 - Duane Ediger – Scottsdale Prep
 - No other nominations were made
 - Motion to close the nominations: Northland Prep (Elder)
 - Second: Greyhills (Grey)
 - Vote: Yes=29, No=0
 - Congrats to Duane Ediger of Scottsdale Prep on being selected as the Interim 2A Conference President for the 2020-21 school year.
 - President-Elect
 - May need to be filled following the selection of the President
 - Vote was not needed, as the position was not vacated with the selection of an Interim Conference President.

IX. Additional Items

- Champions Gala
 - Will be broadcast live on azpreps365.com – Sat. May 16th

X. Upcoming Meetings

- Baseball/Softball All-Conference Selection Meeting – Tue. May 19th 10:00 am – AIA Offices: **Cancelled**
- 2A Conference Fall Meeting – Sun. Sept. 13th 4:15 pm – Prescott Resort Granite Mountain Room

XI. Adjourn: 12:35 p.m.

- Motion to adjourn: Scottsdale Christian (Dall)
- Second: Northland Prep (Elder)
- Vote: Yes=29 & No=0