



**MINUTES  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
September 23, 2021**

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 Thursday, September 23, 2021 at the AIA Office, 7007 N 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85032.

President William Duarte called the meeting to order at 8:35am.

**Members in Attendance:**

William Duarte, 1A Conference (Superior High School)  
Ricky Greer, 2A Conference (Hopi Jr./Sr. High School)  
Toni Corona, CAA, 3A Conference (Safford High School)\*  
Jeannine Brandel, 4A Conference (Flagstaff High School)  
Jim Dean, Ed.D., 5A Conference (Dysart School District)  
Jennifer Burks, 6A Conference (Perry High School)  
Tim Carter, Cognia (Yavapai County School Superintendent)\*  
Jim Love, Arizona School Boards Association (Flowing Wells Unified School District)  
Renee Regoli, Arizona Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (Queen Creek High School)\*  
Jerry Jennex, Arizona School Administrators (Globe Unified School District)  
David Hines, AIA Executive Director

**AIA Staff Present:**

Mark Mignella, Legal Counsel  
Joe Paddock, Assistant Executive Director  
Tayler Coady, Executive Assistant  
Brian Bolitho, Director of Business Development  
Brian Gessner, State Commissioner of Officials  
Denise Doser, Director of Finance\*  
Dean Visser, Sports Administrator  
Dan Nero, Tournament Coordinator  
David Shapiro, Tournament Coordinator  
Tyler Cerimeli, Official & Tournament Coordinator

**Guests:**

Matt Belden, Glendale District  
Shawn Rustad, Chandler District\*

*\*Indicates attendance via Zoom*

**LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT**

On a motion duly made, seconded and carried, President Duarte, 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:

- ✓ 8:35am – 9:08am
- ✓ 10:15am – 10:47am

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

**MEMBERSHIP COMMENTS**

None.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

The Sections 7&8 meeting was held September 19-22<sup>nd</sup> in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. A few topics of discussion during the meeting were:

- NIL (Name Image Likeness) for high school students
- Air Quality Concerns
- GoFan – Presentation was made by Brian Bolitho and Denise Doser.
- NCAA Basketball Event held in June
  - Discussion about allowing NCAA girls’ coaches one week to attend events
- Joe Paddock was named to the National Hall of Fame Review Committee
- Ashley Gronewold was named to the NFHS Spiritline Rules Committee

Veterans Memorial Coliseum will be the host site for state championship events for volleyball, basketball, wrestling and spiritline for the next three years. The 2A-6A volleyball state finales will be held on November 13, 2021.

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

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

**Approval of Minutes**

- August 16, 2021 – Executive Board Meeting
- August 31, 2021 – Executive Board Meeting – Hardship Appeals
- September 8, 2021 – Executive Board Meeting – Hardship Appeals

**AIA Lifetime Passes**

- |                       |                   |          |
|-----------------------|-------------------|----------|
| 1. Robert London      | Blue Ridge        | 31 years |
| 2. Phillip Echeverria | Williams          | 26 years |
| 3. Joe Hesse          | Gilbert           | 25 years |
| 4. Paul Ponce         | Mtn View – Marana | 28 years |

**Request for AIA Sanction/Intrastate and Interstate Activities – 2021-22 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 2021-2022 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.

**Conference/Region Meeting Minutes**

- Student Leadership Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – August 12, 2021
- 5A Conference Committee Meeting Minutes – August 12, 2021
- Southern Arizona Region Meeting Minutes – August 10, 2021

**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 August 2021

**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:

**SCHOOL REQUESTING:**

1. Anthem Prep
2. Carl Hayden
3. Kingman
  
4. Lincoln Prep
5. Lourdes Catholic
6. Many Farms
  
7. Palo Verde
  
8. Ray
9. Rock Point
10. Santa Rita
11. The Gregory School
12. Baboquivari
13. Tohono O’Odham

**HEREBY CONSENT:**

- VAR Boys/Girls Swim Programs
- VAR Boys/Girls Golf Programs
- VAR Girls’ Golf Program
- VAR Boys/Girls Swim Programs
- VAR Boys/Girls Swim Programs
- VAR Boys’ Soccer Program
- VAR Football Program
- VAR Girls’ Volleyball Program
- VAR Girls’ Golf Program
- VAR Football Program
- VAR Boys/Girls Cross Country Program
- VAR Football Program
- VAR Girls’ Golf Program
- VAR Girls’ Golf Program
- VAR Girls’ Volleyball Program
- VAR Girls’ Volleyball Program

35 Sub Varsity Program Cancellations

**CONTEST(S) Cancelled: 101 total contests cancelled (VAR/JV/FR/SO)**

<b>Football – 47</b>	<b>Volleyball – 8</b>	<b>Cross Country – 21</b>	<b>Golf – 8</b>
<b>Swim - 8</b>	<b>Basketball – 9</b>		

**ADDITIONAL GAME REQUESTS**

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Board **approved** the following requests:

- A. **Salpointe Catholic** – an additional FR/JV/VAR volleyball game to help fill **Mica Mountain’s** schedule.
- B. **St. John’s** – an additional VAR boys’ soccer game to help fill **St. Michael’s** schedule.
  - a. *St. Johns has exceeded to help fill boys’ soccer for Madison Highland Prep*
- C. **Joseph City** – an additional FR/JV/VAR volleyball game to help fill **St. John’s** schedule.
- D. **Valley Lutheran** – an additional JV volleyball game to help fill **Madison Highland Prep’s** schedule.
- E. **Sabino** – an additional FR/JV/VAR volleyball game to help fill **Mica Montain’s** schedule.
- F. **Veritas** – an additional volleyball game to help fill **Highland Preps’** schedule.

On a motion made, seconded and carried the below additional game request was removed from the agenda as the game was cancelled.

- G. **Desert Vista** – an additional VAR football game to help fill **Cactus’** schedule.

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

Following review and discussion of the written and oral information presented, the Executive Board, in accordance with Article 15, Section 5, Paragraph 3, Subparagraph 2 of the AIA Bylaws, **approved** the following Legal Guardian request(s):

- ❖ Dobson High School

**STUDENT ELIGIBILITY APPEAL – PAPER REVIEW**  
**REQUEST FOR HARDSHIP ELIGIBILITY – MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION**

Principal Tanya Suydam and Head Football Coach Pete Delgado addressed the Executive Board and provided rationale for the request. Following review and discussion of the written and oral information presented, the Executive Board, in accordance with Article 15, Section 9 of the AIA Bylaws, **denied** the following Maximum Participation request(s):

- ❖ Baboquivari High School
- ❖ Baboquivari High School

**STUDENT ELIGIBILITY APPEAL**

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **approved** the following student eligibility appeals:

- Casteel High School
- San Tan Foothills

**EXCEPTION TO BYLAW 42.8.2 – ESPORTS**

In the event that an Esports team has to quarantine due to exposure to COVID-19, the team can request to play from home for the duration of their quarantine period. The request must be submitted to the AIA, via email, a minimum of 24 hours prior to the match starting and will be in effect for the duration of the quarantine period. Upon approval, the Esports team will notify the other competing teams of the granted exception. At the end of the quarantine period, the Esports team will resume competition as outlined in Article 48.8.2.

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **approved** the above exception for Esports.

**PROPOSAL – SWIM AND DIVE – ALIGNMENTS**

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **approved** the swim and dive alignments for Emergency Legislation:

- **Currently states:**
  - Swim / Dive – Divisions I – III
    - Division I – 2,101 and greater enrollment / (24 individual qualifiers, 16 relays)
    - Division II – 2,100 – 1,201 enrollment / (24 individual qualifiers, 16 relays)
    - Division III – 1,200 and lower enrollment / (16 individual qualifiers, 8 relays)
- **What is currently in place:**
  - Swim / Dive – Divisions I – III
    - Division I – 2,101 and greater (with 1 exception) (32 ind. Qualifiers, 24 relays) = 44 school (26.8%)
    - Division II – 2,100 – 1,212 (with 3 exceptions) (32 ind. Qualifiers, 24 relays) = 58 schools (35.3%)
    - Division III – everyone else including exceptions (24 ind. Qualifiers, 16 relays) = 62 schools (37.8%)
- **What is proposed:**
  - Swim / Dive – Divisions I – III
    - Division I – top 30% of schools (32 ind. Qualifiers, 24 relays)
    - Division II – next 30% of schools (32 ind. Qualifiers, 24 relays)
    - Division III – lowest 40% of schools (24 ind. Qualifiers, 24 relays)

**BEACH VOLLEYBALL – PAIRS TOURNAMENT**

In an effort to keep up with the growth of beach volleyball the Beach Volleyball Advisory Committee is seeking approval to expand the beach volleyball pairs tournament from 16 pairs per division to 24 pairs per division.

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **approved** the expansion for the beach volleyball pairs tournament.

**PRIOR CONTACT LANGUAGE**

The following language was presented to the Executive Board regarding the Prior Contact Rule:

- 15.12.4.14 **PRIOR CONTACT** – Prefatory statement: In an effort to preserve and promote competitive fairness and equity, 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.

Despite compliance with the other provisions of AIA Bylaws, a student who transfers from one school (sending school) to another school (receiving school) is ineligible in the sport involved for one year from the date of attendance at the receiving school, if any of the following circumstances existed during the one year preceding the transfer:

- The student participated **or practiced** as an individual, on a school team, or on a non-school team coached, directed, supervised, managed, coordinated, owned or operated by any of the receiving school’s coaches (in the sport involved), administrators or parents.
- The student participated **or attended** an open gym, open weight room, or open athletic facilities at the receiving school. For this circumstance, the sport involved is deemed to be any interscholastic sport in which the student has participated **or practiced** during the current or previous school year.
- A coach at the receiving school has served as a personal trainer, coach, conditioner or instructor for the student. For this circumstance, the sport involved is deemed to be any interscholastic sport in which the student has participated **or practiced** during the current or previous school year.
- The student participated **or attended** a camp, clinic, combine, showcase or similar event where a coach, trainer, or instructor in the sport involved at the receiving school worked, whether on a paid or volunteer basis.

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **approved** the above language for Emergency Legislation.

**PREP SCHOOL PARTICIPATION**

The Executive Board has requested that AIA Staff develop language addressing the participation of students at prep schools.

**HARDSHIP APPEAL PROCEDURES**

Following the original Hardship Appeal review dates, the Hardship Appeal Committees would like approval to meet on a monthly basis to review any appeals that are received after the initial review date.

Rationale: In previous years, Hardship Appeals were sent to the committees upon receipt of the appeal. This caused a burden on the appeals committee, did not provide for a means to discuss the appeal leaving committee members to vote in isolation regarding the appeal. At times, it was difficult for the Chair of the committee to receive votes from the committee. This caused a report back to the receiving school to be undetermined and necessitated in multiple follow up by the Chair and AIA staff.

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **approved** the above procedures.

**RULE INTERPRETATION – HAIR ADORNMENTS**

Matt Belden, Glendale Union High School District requested a rule interpretation from the Executive Board regarding the NFHS rule for hair adornments.

After consulting with Lindsey Atkinson at the NFHS, the clips in question were determined to violate the NFHS rule.

**REQUEST – REPLACEMENT OF A COMPLIMENTARY PASS**

14.11.2.1.2 *Replacement of a Complimentary Pass - A request for replacement of a complimentary pass must be approved by the AIA Executive Board.*

- ❖ Seton Catholic Prep – Julie Grindey, Dean of Students

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **approved** the above request once the \$25 fee has been paid.

**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS****MICA MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL** – Vail School District

*Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 7 Physical Examination Rule (15.7.1)*

**Reported Violation:**

Football player was practicing without a current physical

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Head coach of each program will take attendance not assistant or manager. The list will come from cleared to participate on Register My Athlete that Athletic secretary will print out. The head coach will also check on his RMA account daily for cleared athletes and communicate with all levels. Also the incident will reflect on Frosh/Soph Head coach and Varsity head coach post season evaluation.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Mica Mountain High School **Activities Program** on **Warning** for one year 9/23/21-9/23/22.

**HIGHLAND HIGH SCHOOL** – Gilbert Public Schools

*Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 7 Physical Examination Rule (15.7.1)*

*Rule: Article 17. Coaches and Coaching, Section 1 Coaching Qualifications (17.1.3)*

**Reported Violation:**

Coach allowed four cheerleaders to participate in activities without having their physical on file with the athletic office. Situation was discovered and students were sent home and not let back out until they were cleared through the athletic office. Additionally through further investigation, it was found that the past coaches would receive compensation for working events during the school year that was not generated through district generated compensation process.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Head Cheer coach resigned from her position. The program has named an interim coach and the athletic department will re-educate to all coaches the importance of making sure athletes are cleared, and documenting their sport specific process with the athletic office on how they will handle the clearance processes as the head coach of their program. We found the compensation violation to be an isolated incident to the cheer program, but will communicate with all programs to remind them the rules on compensation during the school year per both AIA and GPS policies.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Highland High School **Activities Program** on **Warning** for one year 9/23/21-9/23/22.

**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS** – Cont'd

**ST DAVID HIGH SCHOOL** – *St. David School District*

*Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 7 Physical Examination Rule (15.7.1)*

**Reported Violation:**

An athlete on the girls cross country team practiced without a current physical exam on file.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

The student was removed from practice until the physical exam was complete and on file in the office (this has been completed). Coach was given a verbal warning and had a meeting with administration to ensure that all athletes have a current physical prior to practicing.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the St. David High School **Activities Program** on **Warning** for one year 9/23/21-9/23/22.

**HIGHLAND HIGH SCHOOL** – *Gilbert Public Schools*

*Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 10 Transfer Rule (15.10.1.3)*

**Reported Violation:**

A swimmer swam in a meet vs Queen Creek when they were a double transfer and should have been ineligible for the season. Student is a home schooled student and when registering, students' family failed to correctly answer the questions "has this athlete been a member of another team at a different school in the past 12 months" that would have alerted the school to this student being a transfer. Additionally the coach is brand new and did not have the ability to recognize that the student was new to the team, which is the other safeguard we have in place in our programs. Additionally there were three other transfer swimmers that participated in the first meet that the coach misunderstood that they needed to sit the first 50% of the season and through they just had to sit half the meeting.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Contest forfeited. We have reviewed with our coaches to make sure they are aware of any new athletes coming out for their sport that are not freshman and did not compete with them the previous year. This coach was a first year coach so he did not have the previous knowledge and I have been clearer in the communication that 50% sit is for the first half of the season and you may not pick and choose which meets. Those swimmers will sit their required 50% of matches before participating.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Highland High School **Boys' Swim Program** on **Advisement** for one year 9/23/21-9/23/22.



**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS** – Cont'd**MIAMI HIGH SCHOOL** – *Miami Area Unified*

*Rule: Article 2. Membership, Section 5 Responsibility of School Administrators (2.5.2.2/2.5.2.3)*

**Reported Violation:**

Miami's entire football team left the sideline and entered the playing field, during our game vs. Bisbee. One coach charged the field as a reaction to a gesture by one of the opposing coaches. Some players on the field attempted to hold back the coach with other behaved inappropriately. The officials should have ejected each player on the field. This did not happen, however it was a clear violation of Bylaw 16.3.2.3. Although this is a call that isn't normally self-reported, I am self-reporting the violation which in turn leads to an ejection of each of the players that left the sideline.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Contest Forfeited. The coach who initially violated the bylaw has been suspended. Another coach was suspended for his post-game conduct on the field. The AD addressed the team and coaches immediately after the game in the locker room separately. School administration is looking into anger management training for both coaches and athletes. Friday's game vs Catalina will be a forfeit.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Miami High School Football Program on **Warning** for one year 9/23/21-9/23/22.

**FLAGSTAFF HIGH SCHOOL** – *Flagstaff Unified School District*

*Rule: Article 24. Football, Section 8 Out-of-Season Football Activities (24.8.1)*

**Reported Violation:**

On Saturday, 8/7/21 my football team went to their team camp. In previous years we have gone during the first weekend of permissible practice but went a week earlier this year due to the start of school. The coach did a run with the athletes and had them wear their helmets. This was brought to my attention through a social medial post and I immediately spoke with the coach regarding the bylaw. Helmets were not worn again during camp.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Coach and I reviewed the football bylaws making sure that we are better aware of the differences in off season and in season practices and focus on when each starts and ends. Coach will also be sharing his weekly plans with me so that we can review and make sure we are in compliance.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Flagstaff High School Football Program on **Advisement** for one year 9/23/21-9/23/22.

**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS** – Cont'd

**NORTH CANYON HIGH SCHOOL** – *Paradise Valley Unified School District*

*Rule: Article 41. Sports Medicine, Section 5 Heat Acclimatization (41.5.1)*

**Reported Violation:**

Our football coach was practicing a player at 2:30pm in order to get him an additional cleared practice. It was during a time when he should not have been practicing outside. He violated the heat acclimatization period.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

We met with the coach and gave clear written directives that were also submitted to the district AD. In addition, we have an additional training for the coaching staff on the importance of the policies in place.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the North Canyon High School **Football Program** on **Warning** for one year 9/23/21-9/23/22.

**BENSON HIGH SCHOOL** – *Benson Unified*

*Rule: Article 41. Sports Medicine, Section 2 Opioid Education (41.2)*

**Reported Violation:**

Junior and Senior athletes had not completed the opioid education course.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Once the error was discovered, the athletes completed the opioid education program immediately.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Benson High School **Activities Program** on **Advisement** for one year 9/23/21-9/23/22.

**MORENCI HIGH SCHOOL** – *Morenci School District*

*Rule: Article 41. Sports Medicine, Section 2 Opioid Education (41.2)*

**Reported Violation:**

Student athletes had not completed the opioid education course.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Once discovered that the students had not completed the appreciate form, all members of the football, volleyball and swim teams have completed the Opioid Education Course.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Morenci High School **Activities Program** on **Advisement** for one year 9/23/21-9/23/22.

**HARDSHIP APPEALS**

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

**San Tan Charter** Shawn Lytle - Athletic Director, Parent, Student

**Horizon** Paper Screened

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:

<b><u>School/Appeal</u></b>	<b><u>Granted/Denied</u></b>
San Tan Charter	Granted – 50%
Horizon	Denied

**FUTURE DATES**

September 28, 2021	Bylaw Workshop – Scottsdale District
September 29, 2021	Bylaw Workshop – Dysart District
September 30, 2021	Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting District Athletic Director Meeting
October 1, 2021	October Enrollment Numbers Open
October 7, 2021	October Enrollment Numbers Closes
October 18, 2021	Executive Board Meeting Winter Sports Hardship Appeals Submission - Deadline
October 19, 2021	Conference Placement Appeals – Deadline
October 21-22, 2021	Conference Placement Appeals
October 26-27, 2021	Winter Sports Hardship Appeal Hearings
October 28, 2021	Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting District Athletic Director Meeting
October 29, 2021	Winter Coaches Workshop Deadline
October 30, 2021	Winter Coaches Optional Zoom Q&A

There being no further business, and on a motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned at 12:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David Hines  
Executive Director