



**MINUTES**  
**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING – VIRTUAL**  
**December 6, 2021**

In accordance with Article 6, Section 3, Paragraph 1 of the Arizona Interscholastic Association, Inc. (AIA) Constitution, a meeting of the Executive Board was held virtually on Monday, December 6 2021 via Zoom.

President William Duarte called the meeting to order at 8:30am.

**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)  
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

**Members Absent:**

Jim Love, Arizona School Boards Association (Flowing Wells Unified School District)

**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  
David Shapiro, Tournament Coordinator  
Ashley Gronewold, Tournament Coordinator

**Guests:**

Garye LaFevers  
Aaron Dille  
Rob Villa  
Joe Goodman  
Steve Botkin  
Whitney Holland  
Shawn Lytle  
Acacia Davis  
Jacob Martinez

**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:

- ✓ 8:30am – 9:30am

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:****MEMBERSHIP COMMENTS**

None.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Kris Kurtenbach met with six focus groups last week to discuss the knowledge and understanding of educational athletics. The focus groups consisted of principals, athletic directors, coaches, students, teachers and parents.

The 2A and 3A Conference state football championships concluded last weekend with a great support from the community and schools. The 4A/5A/6A Conference and Open Division state football championships will take place this weekend (December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>) at Arizona State University to conclude the 2021 fall sports championships.

**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**

- November 15, 2021 – Executive Board Meeting

**AIA Lifetime Passes**

1. Frank Johnny Endfield	Alchesay	36 years
2. Stephen Mason	Cactus Shadows	25 years
3. David Snyder	Cactus Shadows	32 years
4. Richard Contreras	Vista Grande	29 years
5. John Warren	Sahuaro	36 years
6. Rusty Pagano	Mountain View Mesa	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 relected 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**

- 5A Conference Committee Meeting Minutes – November 18, 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 November 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. Catalina
2. Immaculate Heart
3. San Tan Charter
4. North Phoenix Prep
5. Tombstone
6. Barry Goldwater
7. Santa Rita
8. San Manuel

**HEREBY CONSENT:**

- VAR Boys/Girls Wrestling Programs
- VAR Girls' Basketball Program
- VAR Girls' Soccer Program
- VAR Boys' Soccer Program
- VAR Girls' Soccer Program
- VAR Girls' Soccer Program
- VAR Girls' Soccer Program
- VAR Girls' Soccer Program
- VAR Boys/Girls Track Programs

69 Sub Varsity Program Cancellations

**CONTEST(S) Cancelled: 40 total contests cancelled (VAR/JV/FR/SO)**

Football – 2

Basketball – 23

Soccer – 9

Wrestling – 6

**ADDITIONAL GAME REQUESTS**

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

- A. **Duncan** – an additional VAR boys' basketball game to help fill **Tombstone's** schedule.
- B. **Valley Lutheran** – an additional VAR/JV boys' basketball game to help fill **Madison Highland's** schedule.
  - a. *Valley Lutheran exceeded in girls' volleyball to assist Madison Highland Prep's schedule.*
- C. **Patagonia Union** – an additional VAR boys' basketball game to help fill **Lourdes Catholic's** schedule.
- D. **Show Low** – additional VAR/JV/FR girls' basketball games to help fill **St. Johns'** schedule.
- E. **Desert Ridge** – an additional VAR boys' basketball game to help fill **Williams Field's** schedule.
- F. **Desert Ridge** – an additional VAR girls' basketball games to help fill **Williams Field's** schedule.
- G. **Window Rock** – an additional VAR/JV boys/girls basketball games to help fill **Valley Sanders** schedule.
- H. **Campo Verde** – an additional JV girls' soccer game to help fill **Hamilton's** schedule.
- I. **San Tan Charter** – an additional VAR/JV boys' basketball game to help fill **ALA Gilbert North's** schedule.
- J. **Canyon Del Oro** – an additional VAR/JV/FR boys' basketball game to help fill **Mica Mountain's** schedule.

**REQUEST – EXCEPTION TO ARTICLE 22.5 – BASKETBALL****22.5 NUMBER OF GAMES IN SEASON**

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

**EXCEPTION:** 2A/1A, because of their limited enrollment, may permit a player to participate in an unlimited number of quarters/night during the season.

Valley Christian is requesting an exception to the quarter limit rule for Valley Christian girls' basketball team so that they can play five (5) JV games and use a couple of the girls for more than six (6) quarters on those nights so they can get some of the young girl's a few games of experience.

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

**REQUEST – DOUBLE ELIMINATION – 3A CONFERENCE**

The 3A Conference is requesting that they be permitted to have double elimination for the finale 4 teams in the state baseball tournament.

Garye LaFevers entered the meeting to present on behalf of the 3A Conference. Based on the oral and written information, on a motion made, second and carried the Executive Board **approved** the above request for the 2021-2022 school year.

**APPEAL – CANCELLATION FINE**

Coronado High School is appealing the cancellation fine that has been imposed for the varsity football contest cancellation with American Leadership Academy – Gilbert North.

Rob Villa, Coronado High School Athletic Director, enter the meeting to discuss the appeal. Based on the information provided, on a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **rescinded** the cancellation fine imposed to Coronado High School.

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

Athletic Director, Aaron Dille 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, **approved** the following Maximum Participation request(s)

- ❖ Higley

**APPEAL – VIOLATION SANCTION**

Mountain View Mesa High School is requesting to appeal the sanction of Probation placed on the Dance/Pom Program for one year.

**MOUNTAIN VIEW MESA HIGH SCHOOL** – Mesa Public Schools

*Rule: Article 39. Spiritline, Section 4 Rules / Regulations (39.4)*

**Reported Violation:**

At homecoming assembly the Pom team performed a dance routine that included a stunt. The rule that was violated states that hair must be secured during a stunt and our team had their hair down.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

I held a meeting with our head pom coach. We agreed that for all future events to avoid interpretation they will have their hair pulled back and secured.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Mountain View Mesa High School **Dance/Pom Program** on **Probation** for one year 11/15/21-11/15/22.

Athletic Director, Joe Goodman addressed the Executive Board and provided rationale for the appeal request, following review and discussion of the written and oral information presented, the Executive Board, on a motion, second and carried **rescinded** the sanction of Probation and placed the Dance/Pom program on **Warning** for one year.

## **SCHOOL VIOLATIONS**

### **CIENEGA HIGH SCHOOL** – *Vail School District*

*Rule: Article 17. Coaches and Coaching, Section 4 Coach's / Sponsor's Code of Ethics (17.4.2.1)*

#### **Reported Violation:**

On 11/12/21 the girls' assistant basketball coach offered a cash incentive to the girls' basketball team to improve effort at practice. One athlete was selected as winner and was told she was going to be given \$100 cash as her prize for effort in practice. On 11/15/21, the coach attempted to pay the athlete before practice. The athlete turned down the payment knowing it was against the AIA policy and fear of possible NCAA implications. Head coach was not aware of the initial offer. Once head coach saw the attempted payment, assistant coach was asked why he was trying to pay the athlete but did not report the incident to administration. Athletes parents called the athletic department to report the incident to administration.

#### **Schools Corrective Action:**

Once administration was made aware of the incident, an investigation was started and several members of the basketball team were interviewed with the principal and athletic director present. It was determined that the information provided was correct and the assistant coach was at fault. Assistant coach was asked to resign his position as assistant basketball coach and submit his letter of resignation on 11/17/2021. Head coach received a letter of director from administration for his failure to report the incident once he was made aware of it occurring. We have addressed this issue with the coach and feel as an organization a similar incident will not happen again.

#### **Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Cienega High School **Girls' Basketball Program** on **Warning** for one year 12/6/21-12/6/22.

### **AMERICAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY – GILBERT NORTH** – *American Leadership Academy*

*Rule: Article 39. Spiritline, Section 4 Rules / Regulations (39.4)*

#### **Reported Violation:**

ALA Gilbert North Cheer program was involved in homecoming and wore their hair long.

#### **Schools Corrective Action:**

ALA Gilbert North administration has addressed the issues and bylaws with the head cheer coach in private. We have talked about the importance of safety for all athletes under our stewardship. We have also met with all of our head coaches at our monthly coaches meeting about the importance of the details of each program and their individual bylaws. The head coach has committed to having all cheerleaders in complete compliance moving forward.

#### **Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the American Leadership Academy – Gilbert North **Spiritline Program** on **Advisement** for one year 12/6/21-12/6/22.

**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS** – Cont’d

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

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

**Reported Violation:**

Student in wrestling practiced without a current physical on file with the athletic office.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Educate the head coach about the importance of having the correct paperwork on file for each student participating. Refer to RMA regularly. Possible suspension if not taken care of immediately.

**Executive Board Action:**

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Coconino High School **Wrestling Program** on **Warning** for one year 12/6/21-12/6/22.

**HARDSHIP APPEALS**

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

**Sahuaro**

Steve Botkin - Athletic Director, Parent  
**Mica Mountain** – Whitney Holland – Athletic Director

**Ben Franklin**

Shawn Lytle – Athletic Director  
**Casteel** – Ryan Ridenour – Athletic Director, Basketball Coach

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>
Sahuaro	Granted – 50%
Ben Franklin	Denied

Following review and discussion of the additional written information presented, the Executive Board, affirmed denial of the following hardship eligibility requests:

<b><u>School/Appeal</u></b>	<b><u>Granted/Denied</u></b>
Flagstaff	Denied
Rancho Solano	Denied

**DIVISION / SECTION PLACEMENT APPEALS**

- Notre Dame Prep – Tennis Program
  - Division II Section II ~~to~~ Division II Section V or Section VI

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **approved** the placement appeal and placed Notre Dame Preparatory into Division II Section VI.

**FUTURE DATES**

December 10-14, 2021	NIAAA Conference
December 16, 2021	Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting
	District Athletic Director Meeting
	Football Reclassification Meeting
December 17, 2021	Football Placements Posted to AIA website
December 21, 2021	Football Placement Appeal Deadline
December 23-31, 2021	Holiday – AIA Office Closed

There being no further business, on a motion made, seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Hines,  
Executive Director