



**MINUTES  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
March 18, 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, March 18, 2024 at the AIA Office, 7007 N 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85020.

President Jennifer Burks called the meeting to order at 8:27am.

**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)\*  
Nathan Slater, 5A Conference (Scottsdale School District)  
Jennifer Burks, CAA, 6A Conference (Perry High School)  
Tim Carter, Cognia (Yavapai County School Superintendent)  
Steve Johnson, Arizona School Boards Association (CAVIT)  
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:**

Matt Belden, 4A Conference (Glendale Union School District)

**AIA Staff Present:**

Mark Mignella, Legal Counsel  
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  
Dan Nero, Director of Athletics  
Tyler Cerimeli, Tournament Coordinator  
Mary Wimmer, Tournament Coordinator

**Guests:**

Travis Jack, Metz  
Meara Verna, Apache Junction  
Wendy Truvillion, Alhambra  
Zack Munoz, Phoenix Union District

**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:

- ✓ 8:27 am – 9:10 am
- ✓ 10:24 am – 10:55 am

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

None.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Basketball State Championships concluded March 2<sup>nd</sup> at Veterans Memorial Coliseum. Congratulations to all those in the tournaments. It was a great weekend of basketball.

Members have brought up concerns regarding individual sports and the transfer rule. Looking for clarification on the bylaw to ensure schools are applying the rule correctly. If a transfer student participates in an individual sport, they are eligible for competition after 50% of scheduled events. If an end of season invitational is added to the schedule that student would be ineligible.

As a reminder, the Athletic Director and Student Leadership Summits will be held on April 1<sup>st</sup> at Xavier College Preparatory from 9:00am – 3:00pm. Registration links have been sent out. Please get your students and yourself registered to attend! Registration deadline is March 25th.

**FUTURE DATES**

March 28, 2024	Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting
March 29, 2024	AIA Holiday – Office Closed
April 1, 2024	Student Leadership / AD Summit – Xavier College Prep
April 8, 2024	NIL Work Group
April 11, 2024	5A Conference Committee Meeting
April 15, 2024	AIA Executive Board Meeting
April 17, 2024	District AD / Conference Leadership Meeting
April 18, 2024	Beach VB Pairs Selection Meeting
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

**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 – February 20, 2024
- Legislative Council Meeting Minutes – March 1, 2024

**AIA Lifetime Passes**

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

1. Sandy Benally	Red Mesa	27 years
2. Greg Price	Liberty	27 years
3. Mark Northey	Skyline	30 years
4. Brooks Neumann	Yuma Catholic	25 years
5. Curt Leblanc	Payson	29 years
6. Kenneth Wantland	Florence	36 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**

- Rio Rico** – VAR softball game to help fill **Crismon's** schedule.
- Skyline** – VAR/JV boys' volleyball game to help fill **Eastmark's** schedule.
- Saguaro** – VAR baseball game to help fill **Crismon's** schedule.
- Cibola** – VAR baseball game to help fill **Yuma's** schedule.
- Winslow** – VAR/JV baseball game to help fill **Valley Christian's** schedule.
- Canyon View** – VAR baseball game to help fill **Kofa's** schedule.
- Desert Vista** – VAR/JV beach volleyball games to help fill **McClintock's** schedule.

**Cancellation Requests – Contest and/or Programs**

<b><u>SCHOOL REQUESTING:</u></b>	<b><u>CANCELLED PROGRAM:</u></b>
1. Tempe Prep	VAR Boys' Volleyball / Softball Programs
2. Combs	VAR Boys' Tennis Program
3. San Tan Charter	VAR Boys' Volleyball Program
4. North Canyon	VAR Boys' Tennis Program
5. ALA Anthem South	VAR Baseball Program
6. Gilbert Christian	VAR Boys' Tennis Program
7. Page	VAR Boys' Tennis Program
8. ALA Gilbert North	VAR Beach Volleyball Program
9. San Simon	VAR Girls' Track Program
10. Arete Prep	VAR Golf Program
11. San Tan Foothills	VAR Boys' Tennis Program
12. Coolidge	VAR Boys' Tennis Program
13. Phoenix Country Day	VAR Softball Program
14. Red Mesa	VAR Boys/Girls' Track Program

**SUB VARSITY PROGRAM CANCELLATIONS – 27**

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**CONTEST(S) Cancelled: 186 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:

- ✓ 2022-23 Audit Presentation

In accordance with Article 6, Section 5, Paragraph 15 of the AIA Bylaws, the Executive Board **approved** the following financial report:

- ✓ Financial Report for February 2024

**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS****MARCOS de NIZA HIGH SCHOOL** – *Tempe Union High School District*

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

**Reported Violation:**

Two student-athletes share the same first and last name, with a slight difference in one letter of the first name. The student-athlete who was cleared for wrestling never showed up for practice. In contrast, the other, whose name the coach thought was misspelled in Aktivate (formerly Register My Athlete), not only attended practice but also competed. However, despite participating in practice and competitions, this attending student-athlete was not cleared and did not have a physical on file within the athletics department.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Contests forfeited. The school has taken several corrective actions in response to recent events. These include forfeiting all matches, withdrawing the student-athlete from the state wrestling meet, and implementing school discipline for the coach as decided by their supervisor. Additionally, the AIA bylaws have been reviewed with the Head Coach and all coaching staff. To further address the issue, the Athletics Department and the Athletic Director have introduced an additional layer of reconciliation when submitting team rosters.

**Executive Board Action:**

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Marcos de Niza High School **Girls' Wrestling Program** on **Warning** for one year 3/18/24-3/18/25.

**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS** – Cont'd

**TUCSON HIGH SCHOOL** – Tucson Unified School District

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

**Reported Violation:**

Student skipped wrestling practice on 2/8

Student claimed coaches talked to his younger brother who attends Sierra MS about workout When speaking to his dad, he claims he went to accompany his younger MS brother for support Student admitted working out with the club (social media pics back this up).

Raymond Pina posted on social media about the event and claims to be an assistant wrestling coach at Sunnyside on 2/8, Coach Robert DeBerry called parents after finding out and let them know attending another school's club wrestling is not allowed.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

We will again emphasize this in our pre-season meeting. Currently we address it and have parents sign that they understand.

**Executive Board Action:**

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Tucson High School **Boys' Wrestling Program** on **Advisement** for one year 3/18/24-3/18/25.

**PUSCH RIDGE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY** – Private

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

**Reported Violation:**

A student participated with the high school boys' golf team without a current doctors' physical on file. The student was under the assumption he was cleared. When athletics ran final rosters, the infraction was found.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Student participation was suspended until a current doctor's physical was submitted.

**Executive Board Action:**

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Pusch Ridge Christian Academy **Boys' Golf Program** on **Warning** for one year 3/18/24-3/18/25.

**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS** – Cont'd

**NOGALES HIGH SCHOOL** – *Nogales Unified*

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

**Reported Violation:**

Student participated in tryouts and practices with softball prior to submitting preparticipation physical exam and additional documents to the Nogales High School Athletic Department.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

AD met with the new JV and Varsity coaching staff to remind them that only those students provided on their daily clearance rosters are permitted to attend and participate in tryouts and practices, and the consequences for allowing a student to participate when not cleared. Moving forward, coaches will ensure prior to the beginning of any practices/tryouts that all student-athletes present are on their clearance roster.

**Executive Board Action:**

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Nogales High School **Softball Program** on **Warning** for one year 3/18/24-3/18/25.

**APACHE JUNCTION HIGH SCHOOL** – *Apache Junction Unified School District*

*Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 12 Recruitment Rule (15.12.4.14)*

**Reported Violation:**

A student transferred to AJ this year from ALAGN. He played in the first tournament game yesterday which was my fault. I thought that since the game did not count toward our record in any way that he could play. We did prepare him to sit the first half of the regular season. Secondly, the student has played for a club team organization in the past that is run by one of our volunteer assistant coaches. I knew he had played in the fall for our coach but I did not know about the past. The 550 form did not indicate any knowledge of prior contact.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Our tournament game against Combs is forfeited and I will not be returning as the Athletic Director for the 24/25 school year. The coaches have been counseled about the prior contact rules. In the future Coach will be providing the high school with a roster of all AZ Select Club Baseball Teams so that we can cross reference it with any incoming students.

**Executive Board Action:**

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Apache Junction High School **Baseball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 3/18/24-3/18/25.

**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS** – Cont'd

**SAN TAN CHARTER SCHOOL**

*Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 12 Recruitment Rule (15.12.4.14)*

**Reported Violation:**

We played a student-athlete in last night's game February 21st who transferred to us this year and played club ball with our new head coach before they enrolled in San Tan Charter School. There was another student-athlete who this applies to but they have not played in a game this year yet.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Contests forfeited. Whenever we have a transfer come in and complete the 550 form I will confirm with my assistant that the student-athlete did not play a club sport with any of our coaching staff.

**Executive Board Action:**

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the San Tan Charter High School **Baseball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 3/18/24-3/18/25.

**EASTMARK HIGH SCHOOL** – Queen Creek Unified

*Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 12 Recruitment Rule (15.12.4.6)*

**Reported Violation:**

Eastmark High School is a 7-12 grade school. An 8th grade student at Eastmark High School was serving as a team manager for the high school team assigned to scorebook and other similar duties. He entered drills to fill in for an absent player. He is a member of the Eastmark High School 8th grade team and the Boys Basketball class and is cleared by the athletics office for participation.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Due to poor interpretation, "Normal Community contact" will be a defined topic at all Head coach meetings moving forward. Proper protocols for working within the 7-12 model will be reestablished as well. Staff discipline will be assigned to Freshman coach.

**Executive Board Action:**

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Eastmark High School **Boys' Basketball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 3/18/24-3/18/25.

**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS** – Cont'd**CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL** – Peoria Unified School District

Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 11 Amateur Rule (15.11.1.1)

**Reported Violation:**

On February 26<sup>th</sup> I was made aware of a social media post made by a football athlete where he advertised that shirts could be bought at HYPERLETE.com. In the post he was wearing the Centennial uniform. I met with the parents and student that morning as part of my investigation. Here are my findings:

- The student asked the company if he could get involved and the company shared with him that he could earn a percentage of the sales.
- The student was not aware of the NIL restrictions. He had seen other athletes that were on the site and reached out to the company to get involved.
- Parents were not aware that the student had set up the account until he showed them the website where they could purchase the shirts for a football game.
- No contracts were offered or signed.
- The HYPERLETE rep never talked to the parents.
- No purchases of the students' shirts were made (IMG\_4756). Student received no money.
- The site was posted and taken down in less than 48 hours.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Student removed the posts from his social media. He also contacted HYPERLETE and requested that his page be removed. He did so immediately and willingly upon being made aware of the AIA Bylaw. HYPERLETE took it down in 2 minutes. (IMG\_4765). Centennial will include clear language about NIL restrictions in our parent meetings in the future. Centennial will educate our athletes immediately and include the Bylaw information in future trainings with our coaches and athletes. The student has been advised that he will be ineligible for the 2024 football season due to this violation.

**Executive Board Action:**

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, **accepted** the Centennial High School violation report.

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

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

**Reported Violation:**

On 2/25 an assistant JV Coach took his daughter who is on varsity and his daughter's friend who is on JV to the MVT cages to hit. When I finally was personally able to speak with the JV Coach he said he didn't even think about it as his daughter and this other girl (both freshman) are friends and have done hitting together on many occasions through little league and growing up years.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

MVT has a brand new head coach and jv coaches in place. These coaches had heard the rule before, but where this JV coach was concerned he was just being a nice dad trying to get some reps in. Softball coaching staff has a meeting with me on 2/27 to review policy regarding this violation but also to do a review of other common infractions such as one-to-one training and non-school participation.

**Executive Board Action:**

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Mountain View Mesa High School **Softball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 3/18/24-3/18/25.



**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS** – Cont'd

**MOHAVE HIGH SCHOOL** – *Colorado River Union High School District*  
*Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 3 Enrollment Rule (15.3.1)*  
*Rule: Article 21. Baseball, Section 2 Season of Sport (21.2.4)*

**Reported Violation:**

During the winter season, I informed a student athlete and his father that he is not eligible to play at our school as he is an ASU online prep student. Last week our baseball coach turned in a travel roster that had this student on the list. This list was not brought to my attention until hours after our bus had left. I immediately called the bus and spoke with our coach informing him that this student was not a student of ours and was not eligible to participate or even dress in a uniform. I also informed him that a second athlete on that bus was not cleared to play, that student had not completed his heat acclimatization time. It was later discovered that two more athletes had not completed their acclimation time either. These students all participated in the Lake Havasu baseball game. Two played in the Peoria game, the other was suited up but did not play.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Contests forfeited. After further questioning on how this came to be I discovered that the parents of one student contacted a member of our board stating I would not clear a “homeschool” student. This board member reached out to our superintendent who forwarded our district policy on homeschool students to all staff members as well as coaches.

**Executive Board Action:**

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Mohave High School **Baseball Program** on **Advisement** and **Activities Program** on **Warning** for one year 3/18/24-3/18/25.

**MOHAVE HIGH SCHOOL** – *Colorado River Union High School District*  
*Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 7 Physical Examination Rule (15.7.1)*  
*Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 8 Parental or Legal Guardian Consent Rule (15.8)*

**Reported Violation:**

Shortly after our baseball team departed for Phoenix, I checked the travel list and found one young man was not cleared. This student was not cleared by our athletic office to compete. We have no physical/insurance/or any required paperwork completed by the student or his family. I called our coach and had the bus turned around; Mohave has forfeited this competition.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Contest forfeited.

**Executive Board Action:**

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Mohave High School **Baseball Program** on **Warning** for one year 3/18/24-3/18/25.

**SCHOOL VIOLATIONS** – Cont'd

**ALHAMBRA HIGH SCHOOL** – *Phoenix Union High School District*  
*Rule: Article 16. Penalties and Appeals, Section 2 Ineligible Player (16.2.1)*

**Reported Violation:**

TGB reported the following: A boys' soccer player participated as an ineligible player in the soccer match between Trevor G. Browne and Alhambra on 1/25/2024. The student arrived at Trevor G. Browne around 5:55pm and was not included in the handwritten roster turned in by coach before the start of the game. Nevertheless, the student participated in the game wearing the number #17 jersey and according to their roster the #17 jersey was assigned to a different student.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Contests forfeited. The coach will be suspended from coaching the next game, campus will submit a letter of reprimand and he will be reprimanded by the district for this egregious act of knowingly playing an ineligible player. The player will be removed from the roster for the next two games for not serving the one game suspension for being ejected on 1/24/24.

**Executive Board Action:**

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, **accepted** the Alhambra High School violation report contingent upon information from the Phoenix Union High School District.

**APOLLO HIGH SCHOOL** – *Glendale Union High School District*  
*Rule: Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules, Section 6 Age Limit / Birth Record Rule (15.6.1)*

**Reported Violation:**

The Apollo Baseball team had two players that turned 19 prior to Sept. 1 and that participated in the first 4 regular season games of the season.

**Schools Corrective Action:**

Contests forfeited. There are times when EL students transfer from out of country, and they enter a cohort that does not match their age. This was the case for two student athletes on our baseball team. The athletic office will be more diligent and check the ages of students who are on each sport's rosters prior to competition.

**Executive Board Action:**

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Apollo High School **Activities Program** on **Advisement** for one year 3/18/24-3/18/25.

There being no further business, and on a motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the meeting adjourned at 10:55 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Hines,  
Executive Director