



**MINUTES
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
September 13, 2023**

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 Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at the AIA Office, 7007 N 18th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85020.

President Jennifer Burks called the meeting to order at 8:28am.

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)
Matt Belden, 4A Conference (Glendale Union School District)
Nathan Slater, 5A Conference (Scottsdale School District)
Jennifer Burks, CAA, 6A Conference (Perry High School)
Tim Carter, Cognia (Yavapai County School Superintendent)
Jerry Jennex, Arizona School Administrators (Globe Unified School District)
Missy Townsend, CMAA, Arizona Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (Prescott High School)
David Hines, AIA Executive Director

Members Absent:

Steve Johnson, Arizona School Boards Association (CAVIT)

AIA Staff Present:

Mark Mignella, Legal Counsel
Jim Dean, Associate Executive Director
Erin Coy, Assistant Executive Director
Tayler Coady, Executive Administrative Assistant
Brian Bolitho, Chief Business Development Officer
Jake Litwiller, Chief Financial Officer
Dean Visser, Director of Athletics and Activities
Dan Nero, Director of Athletics
Tyler Cerimeli, Director of Athletics & Officials
Mary Wimmer, Tournament Coordinator

Guests:

Stephen McDowell
Jason Fekete

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:

- ✓ 8:28 am – 9:35 am
- ✓ 10:10 am – 10:15 am
- ✓ 10:25 am – 11:50 am

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**MEMBERSHIP COMMENTS**

None.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

The AIAAA Conference was held this past weekend in Prescott with over 200 athletic administrators in attendance. Emily Stephens presented to the Athletic Directors regarding spiritline programs and how to get their students involved through those programs.

Staff members will be attending the Sections 7&8 conference this upcoming weekend in Anchorage, Alaska. The eleven most western states make up Sections 7 and 8. A report of the conference will be presented at the October meeting.

The Arizona Sports Entertainment and Commissions has teamed up with the AIA to provide discounted hotel accommodations across Arizona during state tournaments for member schools and their communities. These discounted rates will be provided to the membership through a link provided to us by Arizona Sports Entertainment and Commissions.

FUTURE DATES

September 16-20, 2023	Sections 7&8 Meeting
September 21, 2023	District AD/Conference Chair Meeting
September 27, 2023	Bylaw Workshop – Lake Havasu
September 28, 2023	Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting
October 4, 2023	Student Leadership Advisory Committee Meeting
October 16, 2023	Executive Board Meeting
October 17, 2023	Winter Hardship Appeal Submission Deadline
	Conference Placement Appeal Deadline
October 18, 2023	District AD/Conference Chair Meeting
October 24-25, 2023	Winter Hardship Appeal Hearings
October 26, 2023	Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting
October 27, 2023	Winter Coaches Workshop Deadline

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

- Executive Board Meeting – August 14, 2023
- Executive Board Meeting – Hardship Appeals – Rd 1 – August 29, 2023

AIA Lifetime Passes

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

1. Kris Worley	Page	25 years
2. Tony Ramseyer	Mountain Pointe	26 years
3. Gilbert Rojas	Douglas	35 years
4. Mike Runge	Red Mountain	28 years
5. Rickey Fuller	Sahuaro	34 years
6. Shawn Duguid	Liberty	25 years
7. Aaron Coughanour	Liberty	25 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

- Madison Highland Prep** –VAR boys' soccer game to help fill **Leading Edge's** schedule.
- Show Low** – VAR/JV/FrSO volleyball game to help fill **Crismon's** schedule.
- Winslow** – VAR/JV/FrSo boys/girl basketball games to help fill **Chino Valley's** schedule.
- Ben Franklin** – VAR/JV boys' volleyball game to help fill **Gilbert Classical's** schedule.
- Westwood** – VAR/JV/FrSO boys' basketball game to help fill **Williams Field's** schedule.
- Bradshaw Mountain** – VAR/JV boys' volleyball game to help fill **Crismon's** schedule.

Cancellation Requests – Contest and/or Programs

<u>SCHOOL REQUESTING:</u>	<u>CANCELLED PROGRAM:</u>
1. Agua Fria	VAR Girls' Golf
2. Mingus Union	VAR Girls' Golf
3. Desert Heights	VAR Girls' Basketball
4. Deer Valley	VAR Girls' Golf
5. BASIS Flagstaff	VAR Boys/Girls' Swimming
6. North Canyon	VAR Girls' Golf
7. Dishchii'bikoh	VAR Football

SUB VARSITY PROGRAM CANCELLATIONS – 25

CONTEST(S) Cancelled: 137 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 financial report:

- ✓ Financial Report for August 2023

PROPOSED AMENDMENT – POLICIES AND PROCEDURES – SPORTS MEDICINE

43.3 CONCUSSION EDUCATION – *All student athletes shall complete the Brainbook online concussion education course. Student athletes participating in sports shall complete the course. All student-athletes shall complete the course prior to participation in practice or competition.*

43.4 CONCUSSION POLICY

43.4.1.1 *All AIA Participating schools must have a concussion policy on file: The policy must address the following:*

- Concussion Education
- Removal from Play
- Return to Play
- *Return to Academics*

43.4.5 Return to Academics

- *Cognitive rest, including reduced screen time, may be recommended for the first 24-48 hours.*
- *Student-athletes can engage in sub-symptom cognitive activities as tolerated.*
- *Cognitive exertions should be stopped if concussion symptoms exacerbation is more than mild and brief and may be resumed once symptoms have returned to their prior level. Mild symptom exacerbation is typically brief and does not delay recovery.*
- *Schools should have policies to facilitate academic support, especially those that address factors that may prolong return to the classroom (e.g. High symptom burden, social determinants of health).*
- *Not all student-athletes will need academic support or a return to learn strategy.*
- *While return to learn and return to sport strategies can occur in parallel, student athletes should complete return to learn before unrestricted return to sport.*
- *Returning an athlete to the classroom following a concussion should follow a return to learn progression.*

Recommended by the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee.

On a motion made, seconded, and carried, the Executive Board **denied** the above proposed amendment.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY APPEAL

- Gila Ridge High School

On a motion made, seconded, and carried, the Executive Board **approved** the above student eligibility appeal.

HARDSHIP APPEAL DETERMINATION – RECONSIDERATION

- Salpointe Catholic High School

On a motion made, seconded, and carried, the Executive Board **denied** the above request for reconsideration.

SCHOOL VIOLATIONS**GILBERT CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL** – *Gilbert Christian Schools*

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

Reported Violation:

A late addition to our spiritline roster was allowed to participate in 2 practices prior to completing the required Brainbook and Opioid courses. We were notified of the violation by the head coach after she realized her name was not on the pre-approved list provided by our department. The required courses were completed and submitted immediately upon this discovery.

Schools Corrective Action:

We will continue to use our thorough system of screening and pre-approving registrations, which includes providing a list of cleared names to our coaches. Our coach discovered and reported this violation on her own, so everyone involved is very aware that a mistake was made, but we will review the bylaws with the entire coaching staff and put even more emphasis on confirming eligibility of late additions.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Gilbert Christian High School **Spiritline Program** on **Advisement** for one year 9/13/23-9/13/24.

CRISMON HIGH SCHOOL – *Queen Creek Unified*

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

Reported Violation:

A 9th grade student came out to practice to watch and was helping as a manager for the FR/SO team. The lower-level coaches talked to him and did not check "Register My Athlete" for his clearance and gave him gear to start practicing without checking to see if the student was cleared. He was allowed to practice in helmet to get his conditioning done and did not check with athletic office to see if he was cleared.

Schools Corrective Action:

The head JV coach has been met with and discussed the importance of checking the Register My Athlete account. He has also been instructed from this point forward if any new student is to come out, they must bring him a clearance note from the athletic office before any gear is to be distributed. The equipment manager has also been informed to check RMA for all students to make sure they are cleared before checking any gear out.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Crismon High School **Football Program** on **Warning** for one year 9/13/23-9/13/24.

SCHOOL VIOLATIONS – Cont'd

GILBERT HIGH SCHOOL – *Gilbert Public Schools*

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

Reported Violation:

- Student was granted permission by his coach and practiced with team. He had a completed AIA physical evaluation; however the student did not submit it to our school's Athletics office.
- Student was granted permission by his coach and practiced with the team. He had yet to turn in a valid physical. His previous physical evaluation was last completed in February of 2023.
- These were both discovered late afternoon on 8/16/23. Both boys and girls cross-country coaches were addressed the next day (please see below).

Schools Corrective Action:

The boys cross-country coach was relieved of his coaching duties on campus within 24 hours of the Athletics office receiving this information. The same applies to the girls cross-country coach. Although this is not a direct violation within her program, the teams practice together and the coach was aware of the situation as well. The two students mentioned earlier will not be allowed to practice until they receive full clearance from our Athletics office.

Executive Board Action:

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

FLORENCE HIGH SCHOOL – *Florence Unified School District*

Rule: Article 43. Sports Medicine, Section 2 Opioid Education (43.2)

Reported Violation:

The opioid education course was left out of the clearance process (RMA) for FHS athletes. The error was brought to our attention when we had a new student athlete register for school and clearance to participate in Fall sports.

Schools Corrective Action:

We have instructed all fall FHS athletes to complete the Opioid ASAP. We have added the Opioid certificate to our clearance process through RMA.

Executive Board Action:

Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Florence High School **Activities Program** on **Advisement** for one year 9/13/23-9/13/24.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Respectfully submitted,
David Hines, Executive Director