



**MINUTES
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
November 20, 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 Monday, November 20, 2023 at the AIA Office, 7007 N 18th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85020.

President Jennifer Burks called the meeting to order at 8:23am.

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)
Steve Johnson, Arizona School Boards Association (CAVIT)
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

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
Tyler Cerimeli, Director of Athletics & Officials
Mary Wimmer, Tournament Coordinator

Guests:

Britni Hamblin	Sam Rose
LeiLani Hamblin	Molly Rose
Myli Hamblin	Shane Jones
Michael Blair	Anna Brubaker
Emery Blair	David Huffine
Bethany Blair	Aaron Frana
Gian Miller	Marion Zitting
Peyton Miller	David Bradshaw
Randy Leydecker	Rayco Branch
David Gonzalez	Carol Timpson
TJ Snyder	Shauna Hammon
Schelly Leydecker	Misty Nicol

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 – 8:44 am
- ✓ 2:53 pm – 4:00 pm

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**MEMBERSHIP COMMENTS**

Members from the Blue Ridge and Northland Prep soccer programs addressed the Board regarding girls' fall soccer and the challenges that would arise if moved to the winter.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Fall state tournaments have concluded except for the 4A-Open football state championship games. Tournaments have had a great turnout and competitiveness overall. Congratulations to all member schools that participated in the fall tournaments. A special congratulations to Hayden High School for winning its first state football title in over 50 years.

FUTURE DATES

November 30, 2023	Executive Board Agenda Item Deadline
December 4, 2023	NIL Work Group
December 11, 2023	AIA Executive Board Meeting
December 21, 2023	Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting
Dec 22 – Jan. 2, 2024	Holiday – AIA Office Closed
January 4, 2024	Executive Board Agenda Item Deadline
January 9, 2024	NIL Work Group
January 10, 2024	Student Leadership Advisory Committee Meeting
January 15, 2024	Holiday – AIA Office Closed
January 16, 2024	AIA Executive Board Meeting
	Spring Hardship Appeal Submission Deadline
January 17, 2024	District AD's and Conference Leadership Meeting
January 19, 2024	Legislative Council Agenda Item Deadline
January 23, 2024	Spring Coaches Workshop Opens
January 23-24, 2024	Spring Hardship Appeal Hearings – Conference
January 25, 2024	Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting
February 2, 2023	Spring Coaches Workshop Closes
February 7, 2024	Student Leadership Advisory Committee Meeting
February 8, 2024	Executive Board Agenda Item Deadline
February 12, 2024	NIL Work Group
February 14, 2024	District AD's and Conference Leadership Meeting
February 19, 2024	Holiday – AIA Office Closed
February 20, 2024	AIA Executive Board Meeting
February 22, 2024	Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting
March 1, 2024	Legislative Council Meeting

ACTION ITEMS:**CONFERENCE PLACEMENT APPEALS**

School	Enrollment	Initial Placement	Appealing To	Board Decision
Highland Prep	501	2A	1A	Denied
El Capitan	121	2A	1A	Denied
South Mountain	2203	6A	5A	Denied
San Miguel	219	2A	3A	Denied
Mountain Pointe	1688	4A	5A (5A to 6A)	Denied

REGION PLACEMENT APPEALS

School	Initial Placement	Appealing To	Program	Board Decision
ALA Ironwood	3A Metro	3A Central	All	Denied
Crismon	4A Black Canyon	4A East Sky	All	Approved
Cactus Shadows	4A Desert Sky	4A Skyline	Boys VB Only	Denied

DIVISION / SECTION PLACEMENT APPEALS

School	Sport	Initial Placement	Appealing To	Board Decision
Bradshaw Mountain	Swim	D II	D III	Denied
Peoria	B/G Cross Country	D II	D III	Denied
Anthem Prep	Tennis	D III Section VI	D III Section V or VII	Denied
Chaparral	B/G Swim	D II	D I	Approved
Chaparral	B/G Tennis	D II	D I	Approved
ALA Gilbert North	Boys Volleyball	4A	5A	Denied
ALA Queen Creek	Boys Volleyball	4A	5A	Denied

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 – October 16, 2023
- Grand Canyon Region Meeting Minutes – November 7, 2023

AIA Lifetime Passes

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

1. Shawn Sullivan	Peoria	29 Years
2. Debbi Miller	Camp Verde	30 years
3. Dave Miller	Camp Verde	27 years
4. Mike Epperson	Combs	30 years
5. Chuck Marsh	Show Low	27 years
6. Bryan Begay	Monument Valley	25 years
7. Ollie Whaley	Monument Valley	33 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

- A. **Safford** – VAR boys/girls soccer game to help fill **Santa Rita's** schedule.
- B. **Fort Thomas** – VAR boys/girls' basketball games to help fill **Baboquivari's** schedule.
- C. **Prescott** – VAR boys' volleyball game to help fill **Lee Williams'** schedule.
- D. **Catalina** – VAR boys/girls' soccer game to help fill **Santa Rita's** schedule.
- E. **Cibola** – VAR/JV boys/girls tennis match to help fill **Somerton's** schedule.
- F. **Pusch Ridge** - VAR/JV girls' basketball game to help fill **Crismon's** schedule.
- G. **Arizona Lutheran** - VAR boys' basketball game to help fill **Phoenix Christian's** schedule.
- H. **San Luis** - VAR boys/girls tennis match to help fill **Somerton's** schedule.
- I. **Gila Ridge** – VAR boys/girls tennis match to help fill **Somerton's** schedule.
- J. **Yuma** – VAR/JV boys/girls tennis match to help fill **Somerton's** schedule.
- K. **Hayden** – VAR/JV boys/girls' basketball game to help fill **San Manuel's** schedule.
- L. **Casteel** – VAR Girls' Basketball game to help fill **Crismon's** schedule.
- M. **Trivium Prep** – VAR girls' basketball game to help fill **Anthem Prep's** schedule.
- N. **Casteel** – JV/FR/SO boys' basketball game to help fill **Basha's** schedule.
- O. **Rock Point** – VAR/JV boys/girls basketball game to help fill **Shonto Prep's** schedule.
- P. **Grand Canyon** – VAR boys' basketball game to help fill **Shonto Prep's** schedule.
- Q. **Valley Christian** – VAR boys' basketball game to help fill **Highland Prep's** schedule.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS – Cont'd

Cancellation Requests – Contest and/or Programs

<u>SCHOOL REQUESTING:</u>	<u>CANCELLED PROGRAM:</u>
1. San Tan Charter	VAR Boys' Soccer Program
2. Mountain Pointe	VAR Girls' Soccer Program
3. ALA Ironwood	VAR Girls' Basketball Program

SUB VARSITY PROGRAM CANCELLATIONS – 9

CONTEST(S) Cancelled: 162 total contests cancelled (VAR/JV/FR/SO)

<u>SCHOOL CANCELLING:</u>	<u>DOES NOT CONSENT:</u>
1. Tempe Prep	Mohave Accelerated – VAR FB
2. Marana	Snowflake – JV FB

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 October 2023

SPORTS REQUESTS – NEXT 2 YEAR BLOCK

- 1A-3A Small School Open – Basketball
- 4A-6A Big School Open – Soccer
- Boys Volleyball – 3A Conference
- Girls' Flag Football – 4A Conference

On a motion made, seconded, and carried the Executive Board **approved** the additions for the 2024-2026 block.

FALL SOCCER DISCUSSION

Discussion took place regarding the support of the Fall soccer season from 3A and 2A. Both conferences are in support of having the fall soccer seasons remain with the current 13 girl's programs and 30 boys' programs.

REQUEST – GLOBE / MIAMI – CO-OP

Globe Unified School District and Miami Unified School District are requesting permission to field a cooperative boys' soccer team for the 2023-24 school year.

On a motion made, seconded, and carried the Executive Board **approved** the co-op with Miami and Globe for the 2023-24 boys' soccer season. The program will not be eligible for post-season.

NEW MEMBER SCHOOLS – APPLICATIONS

- American Leadership Academy – Mesa North
- American Leadership Academy – Sierra Vista
- Desert Star Academy

On a motion made, seconded, and carried the Executive Board **approved** the above schools to continue in the new member application process of scheduling a site visit.

- Valiant College Prep

On a motion made, seconded, and carried, the Executive Board **denied** the application from the above school.

NEW MEMBER SCHOOLS – BALLOTING

- White Mountain Christian Academy
- Rough Rock

On a motion made, seconded, and carried the Executive Board **approved** the above school applications be balloted by the membership.

APPEAL – STUDENT PARTICIPATION – WRESTLING

- Sunnyside High School
- Desert Vista High School

On a motion made, seconded, and carried the Executive Board **tabled** the following item for December after more information has been gathered.

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

Rule: Article 15, Student Eligibility Rules, Section 9 Maximum Participation Rule

15.9 **MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION RULE** – After a student first enrolls in the ninth grade, he/she has a maximum of eight semesters of opportunity and a maximum of four seasons of opportunity in each sport or activity. **Semesters 1-8 must be consecutive.**

- ❖ Catalina Foothills High School

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

SCHOOL VIOLATIONS

CARL HAYDEN HIGH SCHOOL – *Phoenix Union High School District*

Rule: Article 24. Football, Section 5 Number of Games in Season (24.5.3)

Reported Violation:

Three varsity football student athletes participated in a lower-level game. They had 7 total quarters of play.

Schools Corrective Action:

Carl Hayden lost competitions – no forfeit needed.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Carl Hayden High School **Football Program** on **Advisement** for one year 11/20/23-11/20/24.

FLAGSTAFF HIGH SCHOOL – *Flagstaff School District*

Rule: Article 32. Volleyball, Section 5 Number of Games in Season (32.5.3)

Reported Violation:

During the 3rd set of the Varsity game, with Flagstaff leading 2-0, one of the Flagstaff players dove for a ball. Her arm got caught on the floor and she snapped her forearm, leaving it in an unnatural position with it partially folded up and out.

The player was in immense pain and screaming. Once she was removed, we finished the 3rd set and lost. During the 4th set a player went into the rotation who had played 3 JV sets and 3 Varsity sets. As soon as the coach realized who was on the court, she subbed the player out. The player participated in 1 pass, 1 dig and 4 serves.

Schools Corrective Action:

Contest Forfeited. This violation was due to the traumatic injury witnessed by the team. My coach was in distress and was operating on autopilot. Coach Haglin was trying to hold up the team while keeping her emotions in check and did not realize who was on the court. As soon as she recognized the situation, she subbed out the player.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Flagstaff High School **Girls' Volleyball Program** on **Advisement** for one year 11/20/23-11/20/24.

SCHOOL VIOLATIONS – Cont'd

BAGDAD HIGH SCHOOL – *Bagdad Unified*

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

Reported Violation:

Our wrestling coach opened the wrestling room a couple of Sundays to allow players to workout, open mat format.

Schools Corrective Action:

He is a new coach and doesn't work on campus. I met with him, counseled him on the bylaw, and we have stopped any further Sunday activities.

Executive Board Action:

The Executive Board, in accordance with Article 16, Section 1 of the AIA Bylaws, placed the Bagdad High School **Wrestling Program** on **Advisement** for one year 11/20/23-11/20/24.

MADISON HIGHLAND PREP

Rule: Article 17. Coaches and Coaching, Section 4 Coach's / Sponsor's Code of Ethics (17.4.3.3)

Reported Violation:

During a conversation between MHP's Head football Coach and the sideline official regarding an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty, MHP's Head Coach made unintentional contact with the official while gesturing with his left hand. The official issued a second unsportsmanlike conduct penalty, and the Head Coach was ejected. The ejection report supports that all conversations between the officials and the coaches remained calm.

Schools Corrective Action:

Head Coach has been advised to keep his hands in his pockets and out of conversation heretofore. Additionally, the MHP Coaching staff has created a corrective action response to enforce appropriate interaction with game officials and ensure the game officials are treated with the respect they deserve. That plan has been attached to this report.

Executive Board Action:

On a motion made, seconded, and carried the Executive Board **tabled** the above violation report.

POINT DIFFERENTIAL – BASKETBALL

A point differential of 20 is being proposed to align with MaxPreps.

On a motion made, seconded, and carried the Executive Board **approved** with Emergency Legislation the point differential. The 20-point differential will be retroactive for all games prior to the November 20th Board meeting.

HARDSHIP APPEALS

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

- Northwest Christian** David Inness - Athletic Director, Parent, Student
- St. Mary's** Jose Lucero - Athletic Director, Parent, Student
Mingus Union – Yancey DeVore – Athletic Director
- Cesar Chavez** Daniel Dodge - Athletic Director, Parents
Betty Fairfax – John-Martin Rigsby – Athletic Director
- ALA Ironwood** Ryan McCurdy - Athletic Director, Parent, Student
Valley Christian – Greg Haagsma – Athletic Director
- Millennium** Remigio Gordillo - Athletic Director, Parents, Student
Valley Vista – Dr. Croteau – Superintendent, Nestor Felix – Athletic Director, Craig Mussi – District Athletic Director
- ALA West Foothills** Kayla Legge - Athletic Director, Parent, Student
Valley Vista – Dr. Croteau – Superintendent, Nestor Felix – Athletic Director, Craig Mussi – District Athletic Director
- Sahuaro** Steve Botkin - Athletic Director, Parent, Student
Catalina Foothills – Ryan Tkalcevic – Athletic Director
- Cienega** Parents
Sabino – David Garwacki – Athletic Director

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:

<u>School/Appeal</u>	<u>Granted/Denied</u>
NW Christian	Granted
St. Mary's	Denied
Cesar Chavez	Granted
ALA Ironwood	Denied
Millennium	Denied
ALA West Foothills	Denied
Sahuaro	Granted
Cienega	Granted

There being no further business, on a motion made, seconded, and carried, the meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
David Hines, Executive Director