



4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Web: www.asaa.org

Adopted Minutes of the ASAA Board of Directors' Meeting May 5, 2025

More information may be obtained from an ASAA Board member (board@asaa.org) or from the ASAA office (907) 563-3723.

Call to Order — the meeting was called to order at 8:33 a.m. May 5, 2025.

Roll Call:

Region 1 – Patrick Callahan - Present
Region 2 – James Sickler - Present
Region 3 – Stacia Rustad - Present
Region 4 – Tim Helvey - Present
Region 5 – Jaime Cabral - Present
Region 6 – Wayne Sawchuk - Present
AASB – Margo Bellamy - Present
AASA – Jim Holien – Present
AASG – Leif Konrath-Bera – Present

Approval of the Consent Items –

- a. Approval of Minutes from February 17-18, 2025 Meeting
- b. Waiver Report
- c. Out-of-State Travel
- d. Contest Ejection Report
- e. Financial Report
- f. Cooperative Schools Report
- g. Endowment Report
- h. Eighth Grade Student Eligibility Request Report

Motion and second “to approve the consent items”
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)



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Ordering and Approval of the Agenda–

Motion and second “to approve the agenda as amended”
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Public Comments on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items – none

Reports – The Board of Directors was provided with the following reports:

- Board Members
- Student Government
- State Tournaments
- Finance Committee
- Officials
- Sponsorships/Marketing/Promotions
- Coaches and Admin Trainings
- TAD Reports
- Hall of Fame
- SMAC
- Activities Committees
- Executive Director



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Action Items – The Board of Directors acted as follows:

➤ **DI baseball conferences and berths:** motion and second “to change division student enrollment number for baseball from 850 to 650 and to create the following conference and berth assignments:

Cook Inlet (3 berths): Bartlett, Bettye Davis, Chugiak, Dimond, Eagle River, Service, South Anchorage, West Anchorage.

Railbelt (2 berths): Colony, Palmer, Soldotna, Wasilla

Mid-Alaska (1 berth): Lathrop, North Pole, West Valley

Southeast (1 berth): Juneau-Douglas, Ketchikan, Sitka

At-large berth (1 berth)”

Motion passed (6-2)

- Advisory: (Y) AASG
- (Y) Region 1, Region 2, Region 4, Region 5, ASA, AASB
- (N) Region 3, Region 6

Note: the teams in the “at-large” pool and the method for selecting the team will be determined by the December 2025 ASAA Board of Directors meeting.

➤ **DII baseball conferences and berth:** motion and second “create the following conference and berth assignments:

Northern Light (2 berths): Grace Christian, Homer, Kenai-Central, Kodiak, Houston, Redington.

Name TBD (2 berths): Delta, Hutchison, Monroe, Petersburg

However, in the event either conference has less than three teams complete the regular season, then the conference’s second berth will become an at-large berth.”

Motion passed (7-1)

- Advisory: (Y) AASG-
- (Y) Region 1, Region 2, Region 4, Region 5, Region 6 ASA, AASB



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- (N) Region 3

➤ **Classification “Opt-down” Policy:** motion and second “to adopt the Classification policy as presented.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: The change to the policy allows schools to request to “opt down” one classification level in an activity (for both or a single division) based on competitive performance. These requests would need to be made in conjunction with the reclassification cycle. In the event the school is allowed to “opt-down” it would not be post-season eligible its first year competing at the lower classification, but would be eligible in future years. As before, the Board may also allow schools to “opt-down” for financial, geographic and/or scheduling reasons, without the school losing playoff eligibility.

The adopted Classification Policy can be seen here:

<https://asaa.org/wp-content/uploads/board/Adopted-Classifcaiton-Policy.pdf>

➤ **Wrestling Duals Policy:** motion and second “to adopt following additions to the Wrestling policies:

Dual Tournaments

1. Results from different divisions (e.g., Division I and Girls) may not be combined to determine the dual winner.
2. Duals may not be scheduled within five (5) days of the conference tournaments.

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **ASAA Article 7 Section 5 amendment:** motion and second “to adopt the changes to Article 7 Section 5 bylaw as presented.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: The change to the bylaw changes the process for adding a sanctioned activity. The amended bylaw can be seen here:

<https://asaa.org/wp-content/uploads/board/Adopted-Article-7-Section-5.pdf>



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➤ **DII Wrestling Conference Placement:** motion and second “move Cordova, Redington and Houston High Schools into the Denali Conference for the activity of wrestling.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Basketball Conference Placement:** motion and second “to move Redington and Houston High Schools from the Eastern Conference to the Peninsula Conference for the activity of basketball. The Eastern Conference will be renamed the Southeast Conference, and the Peninsula Conference will be renamed the Southcentral Conference. One berth from the former Eastern Conference will become an at-large berth being awarded based on the RPI.”

Motion passed (7-1)

- Advisory: (Y) AASG
- (Y) Region 1, Region 2, Region 3, Region 4, Region 6, ASA, AASB
- (N) Region 5

➤ **State Championship Roster Policy:** motion and second “adopt the following language as the State Championship Roster Policy:

B. Team Sports

All teams must submit their official state tournament roster through the School Activities Reporting System (SARS) no later than two weeks before the start of the tournament. This roster must include each athlete’s uniform number. While player positions and heights are optional, any information provided will be published in the official tournament program.

Teams are allowed to list up to three (3) additional athletes beyond the maximum roster size on the tournament roster as specified in Bylaw Article 7, Section 10.

For each game, teams must also submit a game roster by the deadline outlined in the applicable game rules. The game roster must not exceed the maximum number of players allowed, as specified in Bylaw Article 7, Section 10. Only athletes listed on the official tournament roster are eligible to be included on a game roster, provided the maximum limit is not exceeded.”

Motion passed (6-2)

- Advisory: (Y) AASG-
- (Y) Region 2, Region 3, Region 4, Region 6, ASA, AASB



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- (N) Region 1, Region 5

➤ **Cross Country Berths:** motion and second “to change the cross country berths as follows

DI Region 5...Top 10 finishers + all members of the winning team

DIII Region 1

Aleutians East – top 3 finishers and all members of the winning team

Bering Staits - top 3 finishers and all members of the winning team

Lower Kuskokwim – top 3 finishers

North Slope- top 4 finishers and all members of the winning team

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Wrestling Berths:** motion and second “to change the wrestling berths as follows

DII Wrestling

Denali from 2 to 3 berths

Southeast from 2 to 3 berths

At-Large from 4 to 2 berths

Girls

Cook Inlet from 1 to 2 berths

Denali from 1 to 2 berths

Great Alaska from 2 to 1 berth

Mid-Alaska from 2 to 1 berth

Motion passed (7-1)

- Advisory: (Y) AASG
- (Y) Region 1, Region 2, Region 3, Region 4, Region 5, ASA, AASB
- (N) Region 6

➤ **FY26 Operating Budget:** motion and second “to approve the FY26 Operating Budget as presented.

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **AKIAAA Donation:** motion and second “to approve a \$20,000 donation to the Alaska Interscholastic Activities Administrators Association for the purposes of supporting their



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professional development program efforts. AKIAAA will provide reports as to how the funds were spent throughout the FY26 school year.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **ASAA Investment Policy:** motion and second “to approve the ASAA Investment Policy”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **ASAA Article 6 Section 1.C amendment:** motion and second “to adopt the changes to Article 6 Section 1.C bylaw as presented.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: The amendment changes the Contracts/Schedules of Contest and Events bylaw as well as the penalties for a contract violation. The amended bylaw can be seen here:

<https://asaa.org/wp-content/uploads/board/Adopted-Article-6-Section-1.pdf>

➤ **Cross Country Dates:** motion “to change the first practice date for cross country running to July 28, 2025 and the first contest date to August 8, 2025 for the 2025 season.”

(Motion failed – no second)

➤ **Hockey Seeding:** motion and second “to adopt the use of the RPI for both seeding and selecting any at-large berths for the activity of hockey”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Adaptive Track & Field Awards:** motion and second “to adopt the following awards system for adaptive Track & Field:

Awards:

Individual medallions for the following adaptive athletes

- 1st place medallion for 1-3 participating athletes in each event.
- 1st and 2nd place medallions for 4-7 participating athletes in each event.
- 1st -4th place medallions for 8 or more participating athletes in each event.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)



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➤ **Adaptive Track & Field Notification Requirement:** motion and second “to adopt the following notification system for adaptive Track & Field:

Each school may bring up to four (4) adaptive athletes. School must notify ASAA 30 days prior to the state meet which events they will be competing in. They may compete in field events, the 800, the 1600, 3200 meters.

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Adaptive Track & Field 800 meter participation:** motion and second “to adopt the following system for adaptive Track & Field participating in the 800 meters:

Adaptive athletes will compete at the division their school is designated (DI or DII). Athletes will race in the prelims.

- 3 or less adaptive athletes participating, all athletes will race 3 heats in their division of the race and qualifiers to finals will be the top 2 in each heat and the next 2 fastest time.
- 4-8 adaptive athletes, adaptive athletes will compete in their own heat and DI and DII will be combined for the heat.
- More than 8 adaptive athletes across the state, berths to state will need to be determined.

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Gold Lifetime Passes:** motion and second “approve the nominations for those to be honored with an ASAA Gold Lifetime Pass.

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Chugiak/Eagle River High School Co-op Request:** motion and second “softball co-op request for Chugiak and Eagle River High Schools.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Bristol Bay High School Volleyball:** motion and second “to approve Bristol Bay High School participating in 2A volleyball in its former conference for the remainder of the current classification cycle”



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(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Wrestling Event Management Software:** motion and second “to remove all reference to Trackwrestling in ASAA policies and to replace it with Wrestling Event Management Software.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Board Directives and Discussions: The Board of Directors engaged in discussions and provided direction as follows:

➤ **Baseball At-Large Selection Committee:** discussed using various systems such as the RPI to assist a selection committee in determining at-large selections. Also discussed if the “at-large” pool should be made up of all teams not earning an automatic berth or only the last team out from conference tournaments. The Board will make this determination prior to the start of the baseball season.

➤ **Timeline for allowing schools to “opt-down”:** discussed how schools should be allowed to go ahead and request to “opt-down” by next year’s October Board meeting, but also how ASAA will need to eventually sync it with the existing classification timeline. The solution could be to make the school ineligible for the play-offs until they align with the three year “reclassification policy” cycle.

➤ **Wrestling Duals Policy:** discussed the issue with small duals involving a great deal of forfeits, and how the Wrestling Committee Coaches is still working on a solution to this issue.

➤ **Student Eligibility Committee:** A committee made up of two individuals from each Region was formed to review the eligibility requirements for student participation beginning next year.

➤ **RPI Formulas:** reviewed several different formulas that could be used to replace the current one.

➤ **Technology:** discussed the committee made up of several school district’s IT departments reviewing other school activities reporting systems. The work of this group is to determine if a reviewed system would be compatible with the school’s district’s requirements. If approved by the committee, the ASAA Board will then review the product in terms of how it compares to our existing system. Currently the committee is reviewing one school activities reporting system.



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- **AKIAAA:** discussed how AKIAAA could take over the management of some programs currently falling under ASAA. Such as coordinating the Statewide Scheduling Meeting, while also conducting professional development opportunities the same day. Conducting professional development in conjunction with other state events.

- **TAD Policy:** discussed allowing schools to substitute their own educational courses in place of those offered by ASAA and changing the timeline in which a subsequent offense could occur for tobacco related offenses.

- **Rifle:** discussed a request from Region 6 to see the activity of rifle change in such a way to qualify for a state championship event. This would require Region 6 and Region 4 to coordinate their current seasons. ASAA will help facilitate such a meeting.

- **Student Mental Health:** discussed that mental health challenges can create genuine hardships that may warrant a transfer rule waiver. However, the Board is also aware that some students may cite mental health concerns inappropriately to obtain eligibility in cases that would not otherwise be approved. This presents a difficult but important balance: supporting students in need while maintaining the integrity of ASAA's rules. For this reason, ASAA may begin requiring documentation from qualified mental health professionals attesting a specific clinical diagnosis.

- **Flag Football rules:** discussed how ASAA will be using the new NFHS Flag Football rules next season while maintain the same size playing field, overtime rules and mercy rule. ASAA will develop a handout highlighting the rules that have changed.

- **Southeast Softball Conference:** discussed how both Ketchikan and Sitka may be requesting to “opt-up” in softball and how that could impact both conferences and berths. This could result in an 8-team DI Softball tournament.

- **Open Teams:** discussed concerns that some school may be having player (particularly in baseball) “swing” between varsity, junior varsity and/or “open” teams. This could lead into the need to set a daily/weekly innings limit similar to the quarters limit in basketball.



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Hearings –

- W.V. Student

Recognition - none

Motion to Adjourn

Motion and second to Adjourn
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Upcoming Board Meetings and Workshops

1. June 4, 2025 (Zoom)
2. October 5, 2025 Board Workshop (Anchorage)
3. October 6-7, 2025 Board Meeting (Anchorage)
4. December 8-9, 2025 Board Meeting (Anchorage)
5. February 16-17, 2026 Board Meeting (Anchorage)
6. May 4-5, 2026 Board Meeting (Kodiak)