

AASCA ATHLETIC DIRECTORS' MEETING

LOCATION: Crowne Panama

HOST SCHOOL: Balboa Academy, Panama

HOST AD: Mr. Robert Domenech

DATE: August 29-31, 2013.



MINUTES

#	NAME	SCHOOL	COUNTRY
1	Carmen Vilanova	Escuela Americana de El Salvador	El Salvador
2	Ernesto Argumedo	Panamerican School	El Salvador
3	Dylana Vincenti	American International School	Costa Rica
4	Frans Scholl	Lincoln	Costa Rica
5	Julio Porras	Marian Baker School	Costa Rica
6	Ela Hernandez	Escuela Americana de Tegucigalpa	Honduras
7	Glenda Pearson	Country Day School	Costa Rica
8	Anaite Rodas	On behalf of Colegio Maya	Guatemala
9	Juan Santamaria	Escuela Internacional Sampedrana	Honduras
10	Ryan Black	Mazapan	Honduras
11	Allan Secaida	Colegio Interamericano	Guatemala
12	Henry Gonzalez	Colegio Americano de Guatemala	Guatemala
13	Peter Smyth	International School of Panama	Panama
14	Robert Domenech	Balboa Academy	Panama
15	Hugo Cash	Lincoln Academy	Nicaragua
16	Oswaldo Ortiz F.	American Nicaraguan School	Nicaragua

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Items for Discussion

August 30

1. **WELCOME BY BALBOA ACADEMY DIRECTOR GENERAL, MS. HELEN KISER.**

Ms. Kiser greeted the 16 ADs attending the meeting. She expressed that on behalf of BA, she felt pleased to host the meeting, wished good luck to all and invited everyone to a welcoming dinner.

2. **SPORTSMANSHIP CONFERENCE.**

The conference continued with a presentation by Ms. Nicole Stump on SPORTSMANSHIP.

Videos, and other relevant research were shared and commented upon. A review of how AASCA schools are doing in enforcing these concepts among all parties (athletes, parents, coaches, and administrators).

3. **DG'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOW UP.**

In May 2013, AASCA DGs had their annual meeting and made several recommendations for topics ADs should discuss.

- **Revise AASCA policies to prevent students from traveling to tournaments and not playing.**

All coaches will make every effort possible to ensure every student plays a reasonable amount of time during the tournament. If this recommendation is not followed by the coach, his/ her school will take the necessary disciplinary measures with him/ her.

In the specific case of soccer, it was approved that from now on, players will be able to sub in and out during matches (as in basketball) to provide all students, regardless of their skill level, more opportunities to participate in the tournament.

- **ADs must come up with a new tiebreaker rule that does not involve score differential.**

The current tiebreaker policies were reviewed and ADs came to the conclusion that they respond to the needs of students and individual tournaments, basing their decisions on the day to day realities of running an ASCAA event. Up to this point host schools have been able to solve ties efficiently by just following the procedures below:

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Tiebreaker procedures:

The following tie breaking options will be used in case of a tie during the qualifying phase.

- a. Winner of head to head match.
- b. When 3 or more teams are tied, point average amongst the tied teams will be used.
- c. Points scored amongst the tied teams.
- d. Least number of red cards (technical fouls) throughout the qualifying phase.
- e. Least number of yellow cards throughout the qualifying phase.
- f. A coin toss.

4. REVISION OF THE ATHLETIC GENERAL GUIDELINES AS WELL AS RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR SOCCER, BASKETBALL AND VOLLEYBALL

Revised and updated.

Significant changes:

- In the large school division, soccer players can sub in and out during matches (as in basketball). Small schools have been doing it with no problems at all.
- All volleyball first place matches will be played to win two out of three sets to determine the champions.
- Creation of Gold, Silver and if needed, Bronze division in tournaments to keep the students' motivation high. (See details in the Rules and Regulations documents.)
- Modification of awards for the teams who are winners of the Sportmanship Trophy. (See details in the Athletic General Guidelines document).
- The Sportmanship award will be chosen by officials and team captains. (In the past the winners were chosen just by officials).
- Following DG's recommendations and to be equitable regardless of gender, it was approved that Boys' and Girls' championship games will alternate annually. Girls will play the championship game first in every year ending on an odd number. Boys will play their championship game first in every year ending on an even number.
- The measurements of the banners for the winners of the first and second place of each division will now be 75 cm x 150 cm. The previous measurements were 60 cm x 120 cm.

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5. **PRESENTATION ON CONNECTING CURRICULUM.**

The reflection was led by Peter Smyth, Athletic Director at ISP. Interaction among participating ADs took place on how they run their Extracurricular Sports Program:

The hiring of coaches, program philosophies, ways to motivate students to participate in extracurricular sports, intramural games, scheduling conflicts when competing with local schools.

6. **NIAAA PRESENTATION.**

Presentation on NIAAA (National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association) by Juan Santamaria (ISP). Benefits, steps to be enrolled, etc.

7. **SCHOLARSHIP FOR AASCA ATHLETES**

Ms. Ela Hernandez (AST) shared some information on how her school has invited scouts-coaches from some USA colleges to attend the AASCA basketball tournament for large schools in October 2013. This represents a great opportunity for our athletes to be observed and eventually possibly obtain an athletic scholarship.

This would be an extra motivation for our varsity students to practice harder and increase performance.

8. **CROSS COUNTRY RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Following the DGs recommendations, ADs developed the Cross Country Rules and Regulations based on IAAF Rules and from the experience received from the ADs who have already hosted AASCA Cross Country events in the past.

9. **MISCELLANEOUS**

- The basketball “traveling plaque” is already full and the soccer and volleyball will soon be as well. It was decided that the school with the most tournament wins for each sport will keep the corresponding plaque permanently.
- The winners of each tournament will no longer receive a “rotating plaque”. Instead a rotating plaque will be given to the schools winning the Sportsmanship award. The first winner in the new era will arrange for a plaque to be made, basing the design on the one currently in existence and reimbursement will be requested to AASCA by that

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school through their DGs or Superintendents. The traveling plaque has to display the winning schools year by year.

- MBS, who is hosting the Small schools volleyball tournament on April 2-6 2013, need authorization from AASCA to allow other non- AASCA schools to participate as guests in the case that they do not get enough AASCA schools able to participate. Not many small schools are planning to participate at MBS because of another official AASCA tournament (Soccer on March 5-9 2013 at Panamerican School also in Costa Rica) scheduled in the same semester and teams from other countries may not come. (Two trips in just four weeks may be difficult to afford for many parents).

Another alternative would be to permit AASCA Junior varsity teams from large schools to participate at this event to be hosted by MBS (also as guests).

- The AASCA logo will be redesigned. The new AASCA logo will be used in AASCA sports events as soon as AASCA makes it official.
- The new fees for participating in AASCA sport events will be incorporated into the Rules and Regulations documents and are effective starting the school year 2013-2014. *\$ 900.00 per team. Volleyball & basketball; 600.00 per team. Cross Country; \$ 400.00 per team.*
- Statistics for all sport events from 1992 up to 2013 were updated and are ready to be put in the AASCA web page.

10. ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF ATHLETIC DIRECTORS

Mr. Oswaldo Ortiz F. (ANS) was unanimously reelected as President for the term 2013-2015.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO DGs

Athletic Directors hereby request that the Director Generals approve an annual Athletic Directors' conference. There are many activities that require ADs to meet more frequently. For example:

- a. To evaluate tournaments from the previous year. There are critical issues that have to be followed up on and that cannot wait for too long. Four AASCA sport events are organized a year and at around 1300 students are involved.
- b. To revise and update Rules and Regulations. AASCA sport events follow both AASCA and international competitions and we have to adapt the rules to our AASCA tournaments' reality.
- c. To guide new ADs and make them aware of what AASCA events are all about. This is especially important for new ADs who will host events for the first time. This will permit them to organize better tournaments.

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- d. To provide more Professional Development opportunities that will enhance the knowledge and capabilities of ADs in many important topics that affect the organization of AASCA PE and extracurricular programs.
- e. Yearly meeting will permit ADs to think and rethink the topics better. Currently they feel the time constraint when meeting biennially, as there are always too many topics to be covered within the allotted time.

Recommendations to be taken into account every year by HS Principals and DGs before their meetings in the Spring when they approve the AASCA schedule for the following year . (This should be shared as a reminder by the President of AASCA ADs around April)

1. Avoid scheduling two AASCA tournaments of the same sport in the same country during the same week. (One is hosted by a small school and the other hosted by a large school). This suggestion is made to guarantee having access to a sufficient number of the best referees possible at each tournament.
2. For each division, schedule only one official tournament per semester. This will guarantee that the majority of students and schools, participate in both. If two official tournaments are scheduled in a single semester, the risk is taken that parents allow their children to participate only in one of them because of financial issues. Also having two official events in the same semester and especially if they are very close one from the other, creates logistical problems for the traveling teams in terms of arranging transportation, injury recovery, etc.
3. Avoid scheduling AASCA sport events on the same date as other important events such as SATs.