



**NIAAA Section 1 Newsletter – October, 2016**  
**Gary Stevens, CMAA – Section 1 Representative, NIAAA Board of Directors**

**Section 1 Website Address: [www.section1niaaa.org](http://www.section1niaaa.org)**

Section 1 Colleagues:

As I write this report, I am nearing the end of my second year in my term as your representative on the NIAAA Board of Directors. It has been a tremendous professional experience for me personally, and I am both honored and humbled to serve as your voice on such an esteemed group of athletic directors. Section 1 has a long history of leadership in the NIAAA, and a number of our members over the years have had the opportunity to serve as presidents of the organization. Being your representative is a responsibility that I embrace in the great tradition of sectional and national leaders from our eight states. As always, I am open to your feedback and input as I serve as your proxy on the national board.

One of the most enjoyable parts of my work in this capacity is the opportunity to travel around our section and attend conferences and meetings in our states. As I mentioned in my June newsletter, I have visited six of our eight states during my tenure and plan to travel to New Hampshire and New Jersey in 2017. Having attended these conferences has afforded me an opportunity to meet some fantastic people and develop new friendships and relationships that will last long after my tenure as your representative is over. I am so impressed and inspired by the passion for education-

based athletics that I have observed during my visits to the states in our section and know that high school athletics is in very capable hands throughout the region. Please continue to carry the torch for our model of education-based athletics and continue to demonstrate the leadership in your communities that keeps our brand alive and well. The student-athletes, coaches, and communities that you serve depend upon your leadership to provide high quality programs.

I also have had the privilege to serve as an instructor in two NIAAA Leadership Training Courses at the Section 1 Summer Institute held in Brewster, Massachusetts in late June. This annual professional development event started with the visionary leadership of Walter Sargent of Yarmouth, Massachusetts and Dennis Fries of Irondequoit, New York and has served the needs of athletic administrators from around the country for more than a decade. A few years ago Walt and Denny turned over the directorship of this program to Peter Shambo of Pennfield, New York and Steve Young of New Rochelle, New York, and this event continues to offer professional learning in a unique Cape Cod setting. I want to offer my personal thanks to Peter and Steve (along with Paul Wheeler of Lyndon Institute in Vermont) for planning and administering this event and for the opportunity to serve as one of your instructors. Your commitment to this event has allowed scores of athletic administrators to pursue their education and earn certifications while building valuable connections with others. The Section 1 Summer Institute is certainly a model that is worthy to emulate.

As always, the major purpose of this newsletter is to provide you with an update on some of the current happenings within our association and our section. If I can be of any assistance to you, I encourage you to contact me by e-mail ([gary.stevens@thorntonacademy.org](mailto:gary.stevens@thorntonacademy.org)) or telephone (207-282-3361 ext. 4406).

I hope that each one of you has had a productive fall and wish you the best of luck in your respective winter seasons. I look forward to seeing many of you at the National Conference for Directors of Athletics in Nashville in early December and during my state visits in the upcoming year.

Gary Stevens, CMAA

Thornton Academy

Saco, Maine

NIAAA Board of Directors – Section 1

Representative

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## **NIAAA Board of Directors October Conference Call Meeting Highlights**

The NIAAA Board of Directors met via conference call on October 18, 2016. Among the highlights:

1. The Board reviewed the current financial report as presented by Executive Director Mike Blackburn.
  - a. Income and expenses indicated in the report also include funds for the National Conference for Directors of Athletics – the NIAAA has responsibility for managing the collection and disbursement of funds for this event this year.
  - b. Actual total income for the year is 10% above projections. Certification income is 27% behind projections, but Leadership Training Institute income is up by 44% (\$32,716).
  - c. The Endowment Fund is down from the same point as last year as there is no golf tournament or fun run this year at the National Conference.
  - d. Reserve Fund assets are up \$439,736, including \$269,900 transferred from the checking and savings funds during the year
  - e. In general, financial reports are tracking as expected.
  - f. Currently income exceeds expenses by \$178,599.
2. At the July meetings, the Board of Directors authorized the NIAAA staff to expend surplus money from last year's budget towards specific projects to benefit the association and its membership. Mike Blackburn reported that the Learning Management System (that will support on-line CAA and other LTI initiatives) has been purchased as well as some needed office equipment and software.
3. The NIAAA POP Manual has been loaded onto the NIAAA Portal and reflects changes made by the officers.
4. The Board of Directors approved the following committee appointments:
  - a. Certification Vice-Chairs – Tol Gropp (Idaho) and Jacob von Scherrer (Florida)
  - b. Sports Turf – Jonathan Vincent (Kentucky)
  - c. Currently all committee membership and officer slots have been filled.
5. The Board of Directors approved a series of professional grant and outreach applications submitted by state athletic administrator associations
6. Washington-Lee High School in Arlington, Virginia was approved for an NIAAA Quality Program Award.
7. The Board discussed new federal guidelines regarding the Fair Employment Standards Act. (New guidelines exist regarding levels of salaried workers exempt from the 40-hour overtime statutes.) Staff salaries and work schedules have been adjusted to be in compliance with this law.

8. The Board of Directors will be meeting at the National Conference for Directors of Athletics in Nashville. The group reviewed the schedule for those meetings and Board activities during that event.
9. NIAAA President-Elect Rich Barton of Utah reported on the recent Leadership Training Coordinators meeting in Indianapolis. 47 states were represented at this event, and several new or refurbished courses (LTC 510, 610, 715) were piloted. There was also discussion about potential content for new courses. Dr. Jarrod Spencer (Mind of the Athlete) was also in attendance and spoke to the group.
10. The NIAAA is ready to begin on-line testing for the CAA exam at the National Conference. The program will be piloted in Nebraska and Ohio prior to that event.
11. A number of schools in the country are piloting eRecruit. More information will be available about his product in coming months.
12. Mike Blackburn and Phil Rison talked about the NIAAA's insurance coverage and how it impacts liability at NIAAA events.

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### NIAAA Section 1 Treasurer's Report

<b>Starting Balance – July, 2016</b>	<b>\$9117.41</b>
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***Deposits***

Connecticut Dues	\$1000.00
Maine Dues	\$800.00
New Hampshire	\$600.00
New Jersey Dues	\$1000.00
New York Dues	\$1000.00
Rhode Island Dues	\$600.00
Vermont Dues	\$600.00
<b><i>Total Deposits</i></b>	<b><i>\$5600.00</i></b>

***Expenditures***

Connecticut Scholarship Reimbursement	\$245.00
<b><i>Total Expenditures</i></b>	<b><i>\$245.00</i></b>

<b>Current Balance – October 22, 2016</b>	<b>\$14,472.41</b>
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## **Section 1 Leaders Set to Receive National Honors**

Section 1 will be well represented at the annual NIAAA awards ceremonies held at the National Conference for Directors of Athletics in December. One long-time Section 1 leader will be inducted into the NIAAA Hall of Fame while another will receive the association's prestigious Thomas E. Frederick Award. In addition, four athletic directors from the section will receive NIAAA Distinguished Service Awards at the conference banquet scheduled for Tuesday, December 13.

NIAAA Past President and former New York athletic director Dennis Fries will be inducted into the NIAAA Hall of Fame. Denny, who is retired as athletic director of Irondequoit High School, is his state's liaison to the NIAAA and has been an important voice in our section and throughout the country for many years. Denny was co-founder of the Section 1 Summer Institute and has presented multiple times at national conferences. He has been a leader in utilizing technology to enhance the work and performance of athletic directors. Denny is a very deserving recipient of the association's highest honor – our section is proud of and salutes you!

Susan Robbins, athletic administrator in Yarmouth, Maine, has been selected to receive the Thomas E. Frederick Award. Susan is the chairperson of the NIAAA Awards Committee and a former Associate Director in the Maine Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. Congratulations also go to Susan on this recognition for her service to the student-athletes of her school, state, and the country in general.

Four Section 1 leaders will receive NIAAA Distinguished Service Awards at the conference banquet. Michael Lunney of Rhone Island will be joined on the stage by Peter Shambo (New York), Josh DiColo (New Jersey), and Todd Sampson (Maine). Lunney was a section representative on the NIAAA Board of Directors while Shambo is currently the co-director of the Section 1 Summer Institute. Both DiColo (Publications) and Sampson (Credentials) are committee chairs. Congratulations to all of these deserving individuals from your section colleagues!

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## **Section 1 Leadership News**

Congratulations to Fran Whitten, who has been selected as the next Executive Director of the Massachusetts Secondary School Athletic Directors Association. Fran replaces John Lynch, who previously served in that position. Fran is recently retired from his position as the athletic administrator at Westborough (Massachusetts) High School and is looking forward to serving his Bay State colleagues in this capacity. Fran will be hosting the 2017 spring section meeting in Hyannis, Massachusetts in March.

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## **National Conference News**

The NIAAA and National Federation of State High School Associations are finalizing plans for the upcoming national conference in Nashville. This event promises to be one of the highest attended national events in the history of the NIAAA and is scheduled for the beautiful Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Conference Center. Please note that all of the NIAAA's block of rooms for the Gaylord have been sold out, and work is underway to secure lodging in the area for those who have not yet registered

The NIAAA is also offering a conference app for attendees to use in relation to this event. "Pushes" for upcoming events, complete schedules, facility maps, and other features will be included on this tool. Conference attendees will receive e-mails detailing how to access the conference app.

The NIAAA and NFHS are also proud to announce the opening and closing general session speakers for this event. Clark Kellogg, who is currently an analyst for CBS during its telecasts of NCAA Division I men's basketball, will lead off the conference at the opening general session on December 10 at 5:30 PM. Kenny Davis, the captain of the 1972 United States Olympic men's basketball team that lost in a controversial fashion to the Soviet Union at Munich, will be featured during the closing session on December 13 at 1:00P PM.

Other features of the conference include:

1. "Talkin' and Tradin'" Key Issues Discussion – December 10 – 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
2. Hot Topic Session on building professional relationships with coaches – December 13 – 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM
3. Sports Law Year in Review with Lee Green – December 13 – 10:45 AM – 11:45 AM

In addition, the conference will feature numerous workshops and an opportunity to take several NIAAA Leadership Training Institute courses. For more information and a current program of events, please consult the NIAAA website at [www.niaaa.org](http://www.niaaa.org)

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## **Future National Conference for Directors of Athletics**

- December 9-13, 2016 – Nashville, Tennessee – Gaylord Opryland

- December 8-12, 2017 – Phoenix, Arizona – Sheraton/Hyatt/Convention Center
- December 14-18, 2018 – San Antonio, Texas – Marriott Hotels/Convention Center
- December 14-17, 2019 – National Harbor, Maryland – Gaylord National
- December 11-15, 2020 – Tampa, Florida – Marriott Waterside/Convention Center, Embassy Suites
- 2021 – Narrowed down to Salt Lake City, Denver, Anaheim, or San Diego
- 2022 – Open
- December 26-19, 2023 – Orlando, Florida - Marriott World Center