



*National Interscholastic Athletic  
Administrators Association*

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

*February 2023*

February 28, 2023

Dear Section 1 Colleagues:

I hope you all well as we begin to wind down the winter season and look not only toward spring sports but also to warmer weather. As I look out my window in New Hampshire, last week there was no longer any snow on the ground, but we had a storm last week and it is currently snowing today! I am certainly enjoying the longer days of daylight.

I would like to welcome Ann Trytko to our leadership group. Massachusetts Executive Director Fran Whitten will be retiring at the end of June and Ann has begun shadowing him and will transition into that role in July. I know everyone in this group will do what we can to help support both Fran and Ann as well as all of Massachusetts in that transition.

This year, I will also be working closely with Sean Dowling as we transition the Section 1 leadership and Board representation to him at the conclusion of NADC2023 in December in Orlando.

I have recently returned from Indianapolis and our February Board of Directors meetings. It was great to be together in person and get to know the new board members. It was also an honor to have Section 1 member, Damian Frassinelli lead his first meetings as President of the NIAAA. Below are some updates from our meetings.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or if there is anything I can do to help you and your state. I look forward to meeting with you all in May at our Section 1 meeting in Rhode Island and am excited that President Frassinelli, President-Elect Tol Gropp, and Associate Executive Director Rich Barton will be joining us for our meeting in Section 1.

Stay warm and safe. See you all soon.

Sincerely,

Lisa Gingras, CMAA – New Hampshire  
[gingrasL@nashua.edu](mailto:gingrasL@nashua.edu)

## NIAAA News and Information



**2022 President Frassinelli's Theme:** Our PATH Together  
Purpose, Aspiration, Trust, Humility

### **Board Goals**

The 2023 Board goals include items relative to mental health of the Athletic Administrator and student-athlete, exploring virtual professional development opportunities, preparing for the 6<sup>th</sup> Strategic Plan, and increasing and promoting membership involvement.

### **Membership**

Membership at the end of 2021-22 rebounded and surpassed 13,000. Currently we have over 14,000 members with about 2900 expiring before the end of the 2022-23 year.

### **Professional Development & Certification**

Webinars continue to be popular. [Click here](#) for a list of spring offerings.

There are three new courses in progress for release in December with several others in the pipeline for 2024 and 2025 release.

### **Professional Outreach Program**

Each state is eligible once every three years.

Section 1 states and next availability – 7 of our 8 states are eligible THIS YEAR.

Connecticut	2023	New Jersey	2023
Maine	2023	New York	2025
Massachusetts	Approved 2023	Rhode Island	2025
New Hampshire	2024	Vermont	2023

### **National Initiative Assistance Network (NIAN)**

2023 Initiative is No Kid Hungry

### **NIAAA Points of Emphasis Brochure**

[Click here](#) for the brochure which highlights the NIAAA

### **5<sup>th</sup> Strategic Plan**

All 35 items were reviewed, discuss, and progress noted. The only item which has not yet begun is selecting the 6<sup>th</sup> Strategic Plan committee. That will be done in July 2023 for work to begin in 2024.

### **Future Board Positions** ([click here](#) for full document)

December 2023 in Orlando 5 will roll off the Board including Past-President Mike McGurk

- **Section 1 rep from NJ Sean Dowling** replacing Lisa Gingras
- Also Section 4, 7, Region C At-Large

After that for Section 1 rep is NY, RI, VT, CT, ME, MA, NH

Next Region A At-Large election will be in 2025 in Tamps

### **Committees and interest**

Anyone interested in participating on one of the NIAAA committees, please complete the interest application which can be found [here](#).

Current committees include: Accreditation, Awards, Certification, Coaches Education, Conference Advisory, Credentials, Endowment, Hall of Fame, Membership, Mentoring, National Initiative and Assistance Network, Professional Development, Publications, Resolutions, Retired, Sports Facilities, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

### **National Conference Schedule**

December 15-19, 2023	Orlando, Florida
December 13-17, 2024	Austin, Texas
December 12-16, 2025	Tampa, Florida

The Conference Advisory Committee met in January and RFPs for 2026 went out in February. Once NADC26 is solidified, RFPs for 2027 will go out.

For more information about NADC visit <https://www.adconference.org/>

## **Section 1 News and Information**

### **Section 1 Meeting**

The spring 2023 Section 1 Meeting will take place on Monday, May 8, beginning at 8:30 am at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick, RI.

Future Section meeting rotation

- 2024 Connecticut
- 2025 Massachusetts
- 2026 New York

After that it is ME, NJ, NH, VT

### **Scholarship Information**

Please submit your state male and female scholarship winners to me by April 1<sup>st</sup> for selection of Section winners before our Section meeting in March.

### **Section 1 Institute**

Dates and location for Summer Institute 2023 are still TBD

## Awards and Deadlines

Award of Merit – selected by Board of Directors. Nominations can be submitted at any time.

Thomas E Frederick Award of Excellence – selected by Past Presidents

Frank Kovalesk Professional Development Award – nominations due to me at least one week prior to spring section meeting. [Click here for nomination form.](#)

NFHS Citation – due to NIAAA office by April 1. [Click here for nomination form.](#)

Bruce D Whitehead Distinguished Service Award – due to NIAAA office by April 1. [Click here for nomination form.](#)

Hall of Fame – state nominations due to NIAAA office by July 1. [Click here for nomination form.](#)

State Award of Merit – nominations due to NIAAA office anytime throughout the year but by October 1 to be included in winter IAA publication. [Click here for nomination form](#)

### **Items to send to me prior to the Section meeting in May (I will send reminders as deadlines approach):**

- Frank Kovaleski nominations
  - Currently in the pool (nominees remain in pool for 3 years from initial nomination)
    - Robert Palazzo (RI)
    - Jim Wright (NY)
- State Scholarship winners

