



# Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association

## Spring Caucus Meeting Agenda

Check in - [WADA Caucus Attendance/Yrs of Service/Certification](#) (retirements?)

1. Approval of Agenda
  - a. Motion - Shawn Groshek, Adams Friendship
  - b. 2nd - Joseph Krombos, Mauston
2. Approval of Minutes from Fall 2025 Meeting
  - a. Motion - Kevin Haglund, Ellsworth
  - b. 2nd - Brad Plueger, Tomah
3. Retirements of AD's end of 2026 school year
  - a. Contact Mark Kryka: [krykamj@gmail.com](mailto:krykamj@gmail.com) with new contact information
    - i. Please list name, school, home phone number, email and home address
    - ii. **Rick Schmidt, GET**
      1. 608-484-0716
      2. 15234 East Fairway Ave, Ettrick WI, 54627
      3. [rickschmidt1123@gmail.com](mailto:rickschmidt1123@gmail.com)
    - iii. **Mark Ambrose, La Crosse Central**
      1. 608-397-9487
      2. 3500 Robinsdale Ave, La Crosse WI 54601
      3. [papambrose4@gmail.com](mailto:papambrose4@gmail.com)
    - iv. **Jim Langkamp, Baraboo**
      1. No present to get contact information
4. Upcoming Scheduled Activities
  - a. LTI Opportunities around the WIAA Annual meeting
    - i. [LTC 503](#) (Innovative Strategies in Education-Based Athletics Management)
      1. April 23rd - WIAA Offices - 5 pm - 9 pm
      2. Contact Jeff Behrens if interested - [behrijef@pewaukeeschools.org](mailto:behrijef@pewaukeeschools.org)
    - ii. [CAA Exam](#) (for those who are eligible - paperwork required)
      1. April 24th following the WIAA Annual meeting - WIAA Offices
      2. Contact Jeff Behrens if interested - [behrijef@pewaukeeschools.org](mailto:behrijef@pewaukeeschools.org)
  - b. Summer Golf Outing - Registration opens April 1st
    - i. Tuesday, July 7, 2026 10:30 shotgun start
    - ii. @ Lake Arrowhead Golf Course - The Pines
      1. Register on WADA website or contact Shawn Groshek - [groshek\\_s@afasd.net](mailto:groshek_s@afasd.net)
  - c. New AD Workshop in Stevens Point - July 20, 2026
    - i. [LTC 508](#) (Legal Issues I - Liability for Sports Injuries and Risk Management)
      1. Monday morning (9 am - 1 pm)
    - ii. [LTC 504](#) (Legal Issues III - (Hazing, Constitutional Law, Disabilities Law, Employment Law & Labor Law)
      1. Monday afternoon (2 pm - 6 pm)
    - iii. **LTC classes are open to all WADA members**
5. Awards - DSA, AD of Year, WSA (**Must be current WADA/NIAAA members to nominate and/or receive these awards**)

- a. Distinguished Service Award - district nominee [Criteria and Past Winners](#)
    - i. [Nominations](#)
      - 1. Ron Pfaff, Mauston (Joseph Krombos nominated)
  - b. Athletic Director of the Year - district nominee [Criteria and Past Winners](#)
    - i. [Nominations](#)
      - 1. Mark Ambrose, La Crosse Central
  - c. Wisconsin Service Award - school recipient (record recipient on check in sheet)
    - i. If a blank plaque is desired, please note that. A plaque will not be ordered for schools who leave the cell completely blank.
  - d. Reminder for 2026-2027
    - i. [Milwaukee Bucks Perseverance Award](#) (December deadline)
      - 1. Start thinking about students in your school community who may be a good fit
    - ii. [WADA and NIAAA Scholarships](#) (April 1 deadline)
6. [WIAA Topics](#) - email questions/comments/thoughts/responses to Melissa Gehring - [mgehring@wiaawi.org](mailto:mgehring@wiaawi.org)
- a. WIAA Calendar and Contact Committee
    - i. [Athletic Director Summer Toolkit](#) - see email from Jake Beschta on March 24, 2026 with more information
      - 1. Discussion of how schools handled it. Some put limits on coaches still, others just let coaches do as they wished. Most liked the flexibility with the open contact.
    - ii. Annual meeting presentation preview
      - 1. Discussion of survey results and no change wanted for season lengths/game maximums
  - b. Annual Meeting (April 24)
    - i. Need to pre-register, if not, will need school credential
    - ii. Constitutional Amendments, [#1](#) [#2](#)
      - 1. With this Amendment #2, could a boys coach (for example soccer), be able to go coach girls soccer then? They coached girls in club season, and a girls position opened, so wanted to apply for the girls position, but are already in the boys position. What does that look like? Are they able to coach because it is a different sport, or are they not allowed since they are already in the school?
      - 2. [Letter from Advisory Council](#)
      - 3. [Summary of rationale](#)
        - a. Does the change of residency in Wisconsin change
  - c. Recommendations for changes for committee work/procedures
    - i. Conference Realignment suggestions (meeting April 14)
      - 1. No comments
    - ii. Competitive Balance suggestions (meeting April 8)
      - 1. Want more to be looked at about how teams get points. Getting to state is one thing, but if they can't compete at state the points should be different. There should be a point differentiation with how you do at state. Champions get more points than just those teams that make it.
      - 2. No reset for teams moving up and down. For the teams that appeal to move down, those that are getting moved up don't get to appeal getting moved up.
    - iii. Everyone in District 3 has changed to Bound platform besides SCC and MVC conferences. They are still Arbiter.
      - 1. WIAA needs a digital file of what every school/conference is on so schools know if they can receive/send contracts. Add to the school directory what platform

you are using at your school, so we know if they can send/recv contracts to certain schools.

2. Frustration in some using Arbiter and others using Bound. Arbiter communication and set up has been really bad. Others have gone Bound and are up and running.

## 7. WADA Mentorship Program

- a. Contact Gender Rep (Hilary Stanek [hilary.stanek@hillsboroschools.org](mailto:hilary.stanek@hillsboroschools.org)) to become a mentor for next year
- b. AD departures - contact gender rep to then contact the new AD
- c. Mentoring - [state mentorship program](#)
  - i. Mentor Coordinator: Jeremy Schlitz, Madison District AD
  - ii. Assistant Mentor Coordinator: Leigha Sponsel, Madison Memorial Assistant AD

## 8. WADA/NADC Conference Information

- a. WADA - Nov. 7-10, 2026 at the Kalahari Resort
  - i. Theme: Leaders Lead
  - ii. Grant for first time attendee - apply on WADA website (**will open late summer**)
  - iii. Presenters for sessions - Tara Rose - [roseta@scfschools.com](mailto:roseta@scfschools.com)
    1. Reach out to Tara about presenting, or if you have a topic that you'd like to see presented on
  - iv. Moderators for sessions - Jenny Bandow - [jbandow@luxcasco.k12.wi.us](mailto:jbandow@luxcasco.k12.wi.us)
    1. Please reach out to Jenny if you would like to help introduce a speaker and welcome the speaker for a presentation
  - v. Administrative Assistants topics/presenters - email: Leigha Sponsel - [lksponsel@madison.k12.wi.us](mailto:lksponsel@madison.k12.wi.us)
  - vi. Door Prize per District - remind as conference gets closer
    - 2026 - South Central & Badger
    - 2027 - Coulee
    - 2028 - Dairyland
    - 2029 - Mississippi Valley
    - 2030 - Ridge & Valley
    - 2031 - Scenic Bluffs
  - vii. Vendors - discount on registration
    1. \$25.00 if refer new vendor - Contact Jim Sekel: [jsekел.wada@gmail.com](mailto:jsekел.wada@gmail.com)
    2. 50% off for corporate sponsor - Contact Jeff Sitz: [jksitz@gmail.com](mailto:jksitz@gmail.com)
- b. NADC - Dec. 11-15 at Phoenix Convention Center in Phoenix, Arizona

## 9. WADA Membership/Involvement

- a. [Dual WADA/NIAAA membership](#) - liability coverage, course discounts, life insurance, etc.
- b. Election/Nominees (**Must be current WADA/NIAAA members**)
  - i. District Rep, Gender Rep and Scholarship Committee
  - ii. Two (2) year term to start July 1st of 2026-27 school year:
    1. 2, 4, 6 (Even years)
  - iii. District Rep ([page 4 of WADA By-laws](#)):
    1. Attend WADA Summer Board Retreat
    2. Attend 3 seasonal WIAA Sports Advisory meetings
    3. Run Caucus meetings (Fall and Spring)
    4. Attend all WADA Board meetings
  - iv. Gender Rep ([page 5 of WADA By-laws](#)):
    1. Attend 3 seasonal WIAA Sports Advisory meetings

2. Take minutes at caucus meetings (Fall and Spring)
3. Assist Mentor Coordinator with new AD's
- v. Scholarship Committee:
  1. After WIAA Annual Meeting, stay to meet and discuss nominees
- vi. WADA Vice President (page 9 of WADA By-laws)
  1. Open for nominees (deadline Oct. 1)

#### 10. Reminders

- a. **AD Toolbox Folder** - Please send best practices to your gender and/or district representative to have your ideas added to the AD Toolbox. Looking for best practice surrounding **Coaches, Parents, Student Athletes, Event Logistics, Athletic Director Support, Administrative Assistant Support, and Mental Health**. This would be made public and available for all to view online.
  - i. Session materials from WADA and NADC 2025 are live
- b. Website Information
  - i. WADA website - <https://www.gowada.org/>
  - ii. Utilize WADA and NIAAA website for information/materials
    1. [NIAAA certification information](#)
- c. WADA Vendors
  - i. Please utilize and support them as needs arise at your school

#### 11. WADA Roundtable Topics and Discussion

- a. Opportunities to get involved with WADA
  - i. Are there areas we are missing and/or not currently considering?
  - ii. How can we make WADA better?

#### 12. Open comments/discussion

- a. **Coaches Ejections: should be treated the same as students, parents ejections. Coaches should have to complete the sportsmanship course like parents, and then sit a game as an example. There needs to be something more to hold them accountable and fair treatment for coaches as there is for kids and fans.**
  - i. Want a discussion about the expectations for coach ejections for unsportsmanlike ejections.
  - ii. Being brought up at sportsmanship committee

#### 13. Adjourn

- a. Motion - Rick Schmidt, GET
- b. Second- Mark Ambrose, La Crosse Central