

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
AGENDA
MARRIOTT / Macon City Center - MACON, GEORGIA
Magnolia Ballroom
April 18, 2016 - 9:00 a.m.

Call To Order	Glenn White, President
Pledge of Allegiance	Lisa Moore Williams, Vice President
Invocation	Carror Wright, Associate Director
Roll Call	Steve Figueroa, Media Director
Adoption of Agenda	Executive Committee

APPOINTMENTS:

Monday - 9:00 am:	Kevin Higgins, AD, Creekview High School Appeal of student eligibility - Dimitri Bowie (eight semesters)
Monday - 9:15 am:	Hunter Chadwick, Principal, King's Ridge Christian School Appeal of student eligibility - Hank Blain (eight semesters)
Monday - 9:30 am:	Denise Warnock, Principal, Swainsboro High School Appeal of student eligibility - Tyrone Kelsey (eight semesters)

COMMITTEE PROPOSALS:

BOARD of TRUSTEES

1. Proposal to reword By-Law 2.17 on page 32 to read as follows: A classification in any sport will be considered Regionalized when a majority of the schools (with a minimum of 5) in all regions participate in that sport. In sports where all classifications are not regionalized, the classes may be divided into Area assignments, and two or more classifications, or any portions thereof, may be combined at the discretion of the Executive Director. NOTE: Regions formed by the Reclassification Committee that consist of fewer than five teams may be exempted from this rule. (GHSA Office)
2. Proposal to reinstate Slow Pitch Softball as a varsity-only, state-championship sport to be played in the spring with four (4) designated Areas, beginning in the Spring of 2017. Note: Girls could play both slow pitch and fast pitch for their schools. (Earl Etheridge)
3. Proposal to increase the number of teams participating in the Class A playoffs (in power ranked sports) from 24 to 32 in each of the public and private divisions. (Region 4A)
4. Proposal to add new item "7" to By-Law 2.62 on page 36 to read as follows: Drones shall not be permitted to fly during any GHSA sanctioned contest in the event that contest officials determine it to be a safety concern for participants and/or spectators, or a detriment to the administration of the contest. (GHSA Office)
5. Proposal to revise By-Law 2.62 on page 36 to allow GHSA schools to play GISA and GICAA member schools provided there is a written Cross-Play contract used and providing the GISA and GICAA schools comply with all GHSA safety rules and requirements. Such competition shall not count towards GHSA post-season qualification nor GHSA power ratings. (GHSA Office)
6. Proposal to reword By-Law 2.72 (f) on page 41 to say that all first ejections of coaches and players will require completion of the NFHS Sportsmanship Course, and to delete by-law 2.72 (h) on page 41 so that all ejections, whether pre-season or regular season will carry the same penalties. (Region 4-AAAAAA)
7. Proposal to add new By-Law 2.99 on Page 44 to read as follows: All participant uniforms rules and restrictions shall be interpreted in accordance to Georgia law. The GHSA shall not enact or enforce any participant uniforms rule which prohibits religious expression of student athletes other than the rules of particular athletic events as adopted by the National Federation of State High School Associations. (GHSA Office)
8. Proposal to delete By-Law 4.52 (b-6) on page 54 requiring all officials' associations to use the Arbiter program as the official GHSA computer program for officiating business. (GHSA Office)
9. Proposal to use MaxPreps power ratings for baseball, football, basketball, softball and soccer to determine playoff spots from Region 1 in new Class 7A, and an as-yet-to-be-determined system for cross country and tennis. (Region 1, Class 7A)

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AGENDA, continued

10. Proposal to form a Competition Committee to create a tournament based on a power ranking formula or Georgia Power Index (GPI) and to adjust the current playoff bracket in new class 7A. (Region 5, Class 7A)
11. Proposal to restructure the membership dues of the GHSA, adding a fee for new Class 7A and adjusting the other class fees accordingly. (GHSA Office)
12. Proposal to accept the budget for the 2016-2017 school year. (GHSA Office)

BASEBALL COMMITTEE

Proposal to reword General Information, Item "C" on page 56 to read: The maximum number of games allowed (not including state playoffs) is thirty (30) of which at least four (4) must be played as doubleheaders. This limit of 30 includes any region tournament games. Note: All doubleheaders must be played on non-school days. (Region 7-AAAAA)

BASKETBALL COMMITTEE

Proposal to return the quarterfinal round games of the state tournament to the sites of the higher-seeded teams beginning in 2016-17. (GHSA Office)

CHEERLEADING COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to limit cheers/dances that include "stomping" only to the gym floor. (Worth County HS)
2. Proposal to limit to sixteen (16) the number of cheerleaders allowed in uniform at courtside at away games, region basketball tournaments and all state playoff basketball games. (Worth County HS)
3. Proposal to limit cheer apparel for all performances to the traditional cheer skirt and top long associated with cheerleading. (Worth County HS)

COACHES COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to add an item (4) to By-Law 2.62(f) on page 36 to read as follows: (f) (4) A school may not scrimmage another school that is counting the scrimmage as a regular-season contest. (GHSA Office)
2. Proposal to add new item (g) to By-Law 2.52 on page 34 to read as follows: No member school shall employ or utilize a community coach for an activity who coached a non-GHSA team in that same activity within the past twelve (12) months if any of the GHSA school's players participated on the non-GHSA team. (GHSA Office)

ELIGIBILITY COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to revise By-Law 1.62 (a) (3) on page 19 to read as follows: The following factors, although not conclusive, may be evidence of relinquishment of the former residence: Selling the residence and vacating it; OR vacating the residence and listing it for sale at a fair market value; OR vacating the residence and leasing it to another (other than a relative) at fair market value; OR abandoning the residence and shutting off the unnecessary utilities. NOTE: When a family claims multiple residences, the residence for which they apply for a homestead exemption will be declared the primary residence provided the family spends the majority of their time at this residence. (GHSA Office)
2. Proposal to revise By-Law 1.62 (c) on page 19 as follows: The student was enrolled in a non-member private school ~~or was boarded at a school out of state~~ and without a bona fide move, transferred to a member school that serves his area of residence as long as: . . . (Region 8-AAAAAA)
3. Proposal to revise By-Law 1.62 (e) (4) on page 19 as follows: The foreign exchange program must randomly assign students to schools by a method that insures that no student, school, or other interested party may influence the assignment for athletic purposes. "Direct Placement" foreign exchange students must go through the hardship appeal process to become eligible. (GHSA Office)
4. Proposal to revise By-Law 1.62 (g) on pages 19-20 as follows: The student has one of the following family related circumstances which shall constitute a waiver of the "bona fide move" rule:
 - a) There is a **Superior Court Final Order** changing permanent physical custody of the student from one parent to the other parent and the student moves to the residence of the parent receiving custody in a new service area and attends the member school serving that service area.

AGENDA, continued

- b) There is a **Superior Court Final Order** awarding permanent joint physical custody to the parents and the student elects to move from the residence of one parent to the residence of the other parent in a new service area and attends the member school serving that area of residence. Provided, however, that such an election can be made only once each calendar year and the Final Order must have specifically awarded the parents "joint physical custody" of the student. An award of "joint legal custody" shall not suffice for purposes of this paragraph.
- c) There is a death of the custodial parent with whom the student resided and the student moves to live with the other parent in a new service area and attends the member school serving that area of residence.
- d) There is a military transfer of one or both custodial parents that requires a change of residence of the student to a new service area and the student attends the member school serving that area of residence.

NOTE: Eligibility forms for transfer eligibility under paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) above must be accompanied by certified copies of applicable Court Orders. Eligibility forms for transfer eligibility under paragraph (4) above must be accompanied by true and correct copies of verifiable deployment orders. (GHSA Office)

- 5. Proposal to add a new item "j" to By-Law 1.62 on page 20 as follows: If approved by the local board of education, students enrolled in a magnet school shall be allowed to participate in GHSA extracurricular activities as a member of the school team for the school which they would ordinarily attend according to local board of education attendance policy. Provided, however, that:
 - a) If the magnet school offers the activity in which the student elects to participate, the student shall be required to participate as a member of the magnet school program in that activity.
 - b) Students at magnet schools may not participate in GHSA extracurricular activities at both the magnet school and the school that the student would ordinarily attend. Those students must elect to participate in GHSA extracurricular activities at only one school. For example, students could not play basketball at the magnet school and football at the home school.
 - c) The election of the student to participate in GHSA extracurricular activities for either the magnet school or the school the student would ordinarily attend shall be binding for the current school year.
 - d) Such students shall be required to comply with all GHSA eligibility and other rules. The member school shall be required to provide to the GHSA a copy of the local board of education approval of such participation. (GHSA Office)

FOOTBALL COMMITTEE

- 1. Proposal to adopt the same Contact Limits for Spring Practice as currently exist for Pre-Season Practice, beginning with Spring of 2017. Item (D) "3-b" on page 69: Pre-Season & **Spring** Practice. (GHSA Office)
- 2. Proposal to add new item "d" under D-3 on page 69 that adopts the Pre-Season Contact Limits for Summer Football Camps, with the added condition that the ONLY form of Full Contact allowed is **Thud**, effective Summer of 2016. (GHSA Office)
- 3. Proposal to add new G-6 on page 70 to read as follows: Schools which participate in Spring Practice will be allowed to play a Spring Game with another school in place of their last (10th) practice of the Spring, effective Spring of 2017. (Earl Etheridge)
- 4. Proposal to add new G-7 on page 70 to read as follows: Schools will be limited to attending no more than three (3) Team Contact Camps per Summer, effective Summer of 2016. (Earl Etheridge)

GOLF COMMITTEE

- 1. Proposal to make all state golf tournaments two-day, 36-hole events with entry fees of \$30.00 for an individual player, \$120.00 for a girls team and \$180.00 for a boys team. (Columbus HS)
- 2. Proposal to allow golf to have a one-week floating period in the month of September for practice and evaluation. (Columbus HS)
- 3. Proposal that coaches be allowed to coach their players during the play of any hole as long as there is no slowing of the pace of play. Schools would still be limited to only two designated coaches. (Columbus HS)

LACROSSE COMMITTEE

- 1. Proposal to revise By-Law 2.93 (suspended or terminated games involving teams of different classifications) to add Lacrosse to the list of sports which are included by c-1, c-1a and c-1b. (GHSA Office)
- 2. Proposal to approve the following plan for state competition in 2016-18: Classifications 6A and 7A will form one division while A through 5A will form the second division. (GHSA Office)

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AGENDA, continued

LITERARY COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to add Literary to the activities requiring coaches to complete a GHSA-sponsored rules clinic (By-Law 2.54 on page 35). Effective school year 2016-17. (GHSA Office)
2. Proposal to change item "C" on page 102 to read as follows: In Literary, a student may represent their school in not more than two (2) individual events and a group event OR in two (2) group events and one individual event. Effective school year 2016-17. (GHSA Office)

OFFICIALS COMMITTEE

Proposal to restructure the "Game Fee Chart" to implement a \$3.00 per assignment increase for contest officials during regular-season assignments. (Region 3-AAAAA)

SOCCER COMMITTEE

Proposal to hold six (6) championships in soccer, achieved by combining portions of adjacent classifications in classes A through 4A. Classes 5A, 6A and 7A will hold championships as usual. (GHSA Office)

SOFTBALL COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to revise item "C" under General Information on Page 84 to read: The maximum number of softball games allowed (not including region or state tournaments playoffs) shall be ~~twenty-eight (28)~~ twenty-six (26) games either head-to-head competition or in invitational tournament games. (Region 7-AAAAA)
2. Proposal that only the Final Four teams in each classification will advance to Columbus. The first, second and third rounds will be best-of-three formats played at the sites of the higher-seeded teams. (Region 4-AAAAA)

SPORTSMANSHIP COMMITTEE

Proposal to reword By-Law 2.77 (page 41): Unsporting acts committed by players or coaches will be handled as follows:

- a) If the inappropriate behavior occurs after the expiration of a contest, but while the officials still have jurisdiction as referenced in the NFHS rule book, the official may eject the player or coach and published penalties for ejections will apply.
- b) If the inappropriate behavior occurs after the officials' jurisdiction has ended, but the official(s) witness the behavior, a Game Report shall be filed with the GHSA office and administrative penalties will be assessed against the school of the guilty parties by the Executive Director.
- c) In the case of repeat offenders of unsporting acts, the Executive Director will be authorized to levy penalties against the school regardless of whether or not an ejection has occurred. (GHSA office)

SWIMMING COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to approve the following plan for state competition in 2016-18: Classifications 6A and 7A will form one division while A through 5A will form the second division. (GHSA Office)
2. Proposal to add new item 4 under State Meet (General Information) on page 86 to read: Member schools will be required to pay \$4.00 per athlete, \$3.00 per event and \$10.00 per relay event.
 - a) fees are payable to Atlanta Swimming
 - b) fees are due on the first day of swimming competition
 - c) fees not paid within one week are subject to a 100% late fee (Region 6-AAAA)

TRACK COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to change the entry procedures for Cross Country. The new process will allow individual regions to set deadlines which parallel current entry procedures in Track. (Region 7-AAAAA)
2. Proposal to use four (4) Area meets instead of eight (8) Region meets to qualify teams and individuals for the state Cross Country meet in new Class 7A only. (Region 7-AAAAA)

VOLLEYBALL COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to add new pay scale for officials in a best-of-5 format match as follows: single varsity match-\$65; single sub-varsity match - \$60; multiple varsity match - \$55; multiple sub-varsity match - \$50. (GHSA Office)
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AGENDA, continued

2. Proposal to approve the following plan for state competition in 2016-18: Classifications for Volleyball will combine all or part of classes, resulting in six (6) state championships. (GHSA Office)

WRESTLING COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to approve the following plan for state competition in 2016-18: Classifications for Traditional Wrestling will combine all or part of classes, resulting in five (5) state championships. (North Forsyth HS)
2. Proposal to change the protocol (Constitution, page 101: Wrestling State Sectional Tournament item F. 3. and State Finals Tournament Section C.) to allow alternates to weigh in and enter the tournament if a qualifying wrestler fails to make weight on the day of the event. (Northside-Columbus HS)
3. Proposal to rename the current state tournament to the "Classification" State Championship tournament and have the top three (3) place finishers in each weight class of the "Classification State Championship" participate the following weekend in the "State" Championship Tournament. (Jackson County HS)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Gary Phillips will address the committee on several issues and introduce some guest speakers.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Proposal to combine all or part of classifications, resulting in a total of five (5) championships in Dual Wrestling (Region 2, Class 6A).
2. Proposal to require the use of Fully Automated Timing systems at all region track meets and seed the State Meet from these times, thus eliminating the need for Sectional Track Meets. (Appling County HS)
3. Election of President and Vice President of GHSA for a two-year term.

ADJOURNMENT

SCHEDULE OF SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS - Spring 2016

(Meetings Will Be Held at the Marriott Macon City Center Hotel)

SATURDAY, April 16

6:00 pm Board of Trustees (Private Dining Room)

SUNDAY, April 17

9:00 am Baseball Committee (Salon A)
Soccer Committee (Salon B)

9:30 am Literary Committee (Salon A)
Volleyball Committee (Salon B)

10:00 am Eligibility Committee (Salon A)
Officials Committee (Salon B)

11:00 am Softball Committee (Salon A)
Sportsmanship Committee (Salon B)
Swimming Committee (Magnolia C/D)

SUNDAY, April 17 (continued)

1:00 pm Cheerleading Committee (Salon A)
Track Committee (Salon B)

2:00 pm Basketball Committee (Salon A)
Coaches Committee (Salon B)

2:30 pm Wrestling Committee (Salon B)

3:00 pm Lacrosse Committee (Salon A)
Golf Committee (Salon B)
Football Committee (Magnolia C/D)
(Note: Dr. Bud Cooper will give presentation on Heat Illness to the football committee; everyone is welcome to attend)

4:30 pm Hospitality Room (Salon B)