

# GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES

### STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 14, 2025

The Spring meeting of the State Executive Committee of the Georgia High School Association was called to order at 9:00 a.m., on April 14, 2025, at the Marriott Macon City Center by Jim Finch, President.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Curt Miller. The invocation was given by Carror Wright, Associate Director. Roll call by Marvin James, Media Director, showed the following: Present - 64, Absent - 2 (A below)

Danny Redshaw	Paris Burd	Darrell Demastus	Kevin Grooms	Davis Russell	Jose Fernandez	Richard Woods
Lee Heaberlin	Rick Sauls	Matt Hollis	Jesse Crews	Steven Craft	Michelle Masters	Josh Owens
Don Baker	Tonya Sebring	Greg Ellison	Myron Newton	Mike Cleveland	Regina Montgomery	Don Norton – A+
Jason Holcombe	Lamarr Glenn	Andrew Calhoun	Nyere Coy Brown	David Bell	David Colvard	Corrie Collier-s#
Matt Moody	Brooke Whitlock	Reggie Wilkes	Brian Montgomery	Winston Pearson	Rusty Courson-s+	Kevin Petroski
Nathan Turner	Brad Hayes	Lawrence Kelly	Brent Mashburn	Corian Roberson	Eric Holland	
Scarlett Grantham	Andre Byrd	Phillip Shiflet	Cory Dickerson	Eli Dupree	Craig Davis	
Jason Carrera	Charles Robinson	Matt Combs	Michael Thompson	Harley Calhoun	Joe Sanfilippo -A#	
Steve Waters	Rendell Jackson	Paul Standard	Fred Williams	Jeff Bryant	Jim Finch	
Jason Brett	Bobby Brewington	Eli Connell	Dawn Odom	Steve Simpson	Curt Miller	
Cedric King	Ricky Turner	Jeff Battles	Jeffrey Sloan		Stacy Bennett	
			Brad Dehem			

**Motion** was made by Jesse Crews, seconded by Steve Simpson, and unanimously approved to adopt the agenda.

**Motion** was made by Crews, seconded by Simpson to enter into executive session.

**Whitewater H.S.** – Jason Barnes, Athletic Director, presented an appeal for a student.

**Motion** by Curt Miller, seconded by Brad Dehem to approve the appeal. **Roll Call Vote Denies approval, 39-28 (see attached)**

**Motion** was made by Crews, seconded by Simpson to come out of executive session.

#### **PRESENTATIONS:**

1. Presentation by Jackson McClure for soft-padded helmets for girls' flag football. They own a company called Gamebreaker that supplies helmets for many girls' flag football and 7 on-7 teams across the country to help prevent concussions and injuries. Helmets are like guardian caps.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*(Committee reports constitute motions by the Chairman of the Committee, no seconds are required.)*

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

1. **Proposal** to increase the fine for missing deadlines for rules clinic, from \$100 to \$200 and revoke the coach's GHSA pass deadline. (Fall deadline August 15th, Winter deadline November 10th, Spring deadline February 9th) When a coach misses a deadline, they have until midnight on the 10<sup>th</sup> day following the rules clinic to complete the clinic. If rules clinic is not completed by the deadline, the coach cannot coach that sport and their GHSA pass will remain revoked for the duration of the time until the clinic is completed. If any school is found to be allowing a coach to coach without completing the clinic after the deadline, the school will be issued a lack of institutional control fine per case. (by-law 2.54 Appendix P)

**(VOTE: 13-0) Motion by Michael Thompson, seconded by Steve Simpson. Motion carries unanimously**

2. **Proposal** for Protective Headgear for Girls Flag Football – The GHSA recommends the use of protective headgear in girls flag football, by players on the field during practice and competition. Approved headgear shall be comprised of soft padded material with no plastic or metal material. The headgear should have a 5-star rating and shall be of the helmet design or halo design. NOTE: Ratings may be found on the Virginia Tech Helmet Lab website.

**(VOTE: 13-0) Motion by Scarlett Grantham, seconded by Michelle Masters. Motion carries unanimously**

3. **Proposal** to establish an Annual GHSA Citation Awards. Purpose to establish an annual award for individuals who have displayed a commitment to the GHSA, member schools, and student athletes over an extended period of time. The focus of this award is to recognize individuals who have been involved in promoting and leading local and statewide programs for the advancement of education-based athletics at the local and/or state levels. These awards shall be presented in the following fields: Girls Sports, Boys Sports, The Arts, Officiating, Administrative Support.

**(VOTE: 13-0) Motion to approve by Steve Waters and seconded by Kevin Petroski. Motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to Adjourn: Bobby Brewington**

**Second: Michael Thompson**

### **RECEIVED AS INFORMATION:**

1. Reclassification Committee President, Curt Miller, led an update on competitive balance. Corey Dickerson (Hart County), Shelly Cranford (Bleckley), Brad Dehum (Mt Vernon) and Eli Connell (Reclass Member) all addressed the committee concerning "competitive balance" and reclassification concerns. Next Reclass Meeting is TBA. The Reclass committee has previously met 4 times. Miller explains that he has spoken to 66 of the 68 members of the SEC regarding the status of reclassification and looking to meet with the remaining two members in the near future.

### **ELIGIBILITY COMMITTEE:**

1. Proposal for a change in policy 1.60 – 1.70 student eligibility was tabled until amendments are made by direction of GHSA attorney Alan Connell. Received as information.

#### **SWIMMING COMMITTEE: GHSA OFFICE**

1. Propose a fine for not following procedures when entering qualifying times. **(VOTE: 6-0)**

**Motion by Jim Finch, Seconded by Eli Connell. Motion carries unanimously**

#### **CHEERLEADING/DANCING COMMITTEE: GHSA OFFICE**

1. Proposal that Cheerleading rosters cannot be altered after the last regular season competition. **Motion by Davis Russell seconded by Rendell Jackson (VOTE:6-0) Motion carries unanimously**
2. Proposal to allow video review only for deduction calls for all cheerleading and dance competitions, only for State Championship.

**Motion by Mike Cleveland and seconded by Rendell Jackson (VOTE: 6-0) Motion carries unanimously**

**FINANCIAL REPORT** – Dr Tim Scott spoke about upcoming budget and possibly waiving dues for the 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive year along with another likely return share due to finances being in great status. The GHSA office will make that decision official in August 2025. Revenue is up but cost to host championships has also gone up. Salaries are up, due to adding new associate director, Merri Sherman.

**Motion Andrew Calhoun, seconded Michael Thompson to approve budget**

**DIRECTORS REPORT** – The GHSA now has more than 6,000 sporting officials which has increased from last year. Attendance with Football Championships has also improved with a large increase coming from Girls Flag Football. Basketball championship attendance numbers in Macon were trending upwards as well.

**LEGAL REPORT** – Alan Connell announced that the lawsuit with Lowndes County and GHSA has been resolved after more than five years. Connell states he is waiting on the judge to dismiss. No other cases are currently pending against GHSA; however, executive director, Dr. Tim Scott received a subpoena for open records regarding Gainesville HS; however Connell assures that things will be resolved soon.

**LEGISLATIVE REPORT** – Dr Robin Hines presented that the legislative session is over. There was an emphasis on school safety regarding the tragic 2024 school shooting at Apalachee HS. The “Riley Gaines Act” passed adhering to Title IX, not allowing biological males into girls’ sports.

During the session, an urging resolution for all girls to apply for Girls Flag Football was also passed. Special thanks to longtime associate director, Ernie Yarborough for his hard work in helping establish 307 GHSA schools to be active programs across the state.

Craig Davis addressed the SEC in regard to GACA raising awareness to fentanyl related deaths with the Safety Blitz Foundation.

***Simpson motioned to adjourn; Mike Thompson seconded.***

***Motion carries.***

## GHSA State Executive Committee – Roll Call Votes – April 14, 2025

Rep	Member	RC#1	RC#2	RC#3	RC#4
1-6A	Danny Redshaw	N			
2-6A	Lee Heaberlin	Y			
3-6A	Don Baker	N			
4-6A	Jason Holcombe	N			
5-6A	Matt Moody	N			
6-6A	Nathan Turner	N			
7-6A	Scarlett Grantham	Y			
8-6A	Jason Carrera	N			
1-5A	Steve Waters	N			
2-5A	Jason Brett	N			
3-5A	Cedric King	N			
4-5A	Paris Burd	Y			
5-5A	Rick Sauls	Y			
6-5A	Tonya Sebring	N			
7-5A	Lamarr Glenn	N			
8-5A	Brad Hayes	Y			
1-4A	Brooke Whitlock	N			
2-4A	Andre Byrd	N			
3-4A	Charles Robinson	Y			
4-4A	Rendell Jackson	N			
5-4A	Bobby Brewington	N			
6-4A	Ricky Turner	Y			
7-4A	Darrell Demastus	Y			
8-4A	Matt Hollis	N			
1-3A	Greg Ellison	N			
2-3A	Andrew Calhoun	Y			
3-3A	Reggie Wilkes	Y			
4-3A	Lawrence Kelly	N			
5-3A	Phillip Shiflet	Y			
6-3A	Matt Combs	Y			
7-3A	Paul Standard	N			
8-3A	Eli Connell	Y			
1-2A	Jeff Battles	Y			
2-2A	Kevin Grooms	N			
3-2A	Jesse Crews	Y			
4-2A	Myron Newton	N			
5-2A	Nyere Coy Brown	Y			

Rep	Name	RC#1	RC#2	RC#3	RC#4
6-2A	Bryan Montgomery	Y			
7-2A	Brent Mashburn	Y			
8-2A	Corey Dickerson	N			
1-AD1	Michael Thompson	N			
2-AD1	Fred Williams	Y			
3-AD1	Dawn Odum	Y			
4-AD1	Jeffery Sloan	Y			
5-AD1	Brad Dehem	Y			
6-AD1	Davis Russell	N			
7-AD1	Steven Craft	N			
8-AD1	Mike Cleveland	N			
1-AD2	David Bell	N			
2-AD2	Winston Pearson	N			
3-AD2	Corian Roberson	N			
4-AD2	Eli Dupree	N			
5-AD2	Rusty Courson (sub)	N			
6-AD2	Harley Calhoun	N			
7-AD2	Jeff Bryant	N			
8-AD2	Steven Simpson	N			
At Large	Jose Fernandez	Y			
At Large	Michelle Masters	N			
At Large	Regina Montgomery	N			
GDOE	Richard Woods	Y			
GSBA	David Colvard	Y			
GSSA	Eric Holland	Y			
GASSP	Stacy Bennett	N			
GACA	Craig Davis	O			
GADA	Corrie Collier (sub)	N			
President	Jim Finch	N			
Vice-Pres.	Curt Miller	Y			
At Large	Kevin Petroski	Y			
		Y	N		
	Totals(67)	28	39		

<b>GHSA Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>		<b>Budget</b>	
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>2024-25</b>		<b>2025-26</b>	
Books & Publications	\$1,000.00		\$200.00	
Invitational/Region Tournaments	\$175,000.00		\$210,000.00	
State Tournaments & Playoffs	\$3,700,000.00		\$4,500,000.00	
Dues	\$109,530.00	Waived	\$119,580.00	Waived
Insurance Fees (Members)	\$202,470.00	Waived	\$215,860.00	Waived
Community Coach Registration	\$525,000.00		\$600,000.00	
Trophies & Awards	\$6,000.00		\$15,000.00	
Fines	\$300,000.00		\$350,000.00	
GHSA Pass Replacement Fee	\$500.00		\$0.00	
Interest Income	\$800.00		\$1,200.00	
Miscellaneous Income	\$500.00		\$500.00	
Rule Books	\$1,500.00		\$400.00	
GHSA Pass for Officials	\$35,000.00		\$35,000.00	
Officiating Department	\$225,000.00		\$225,000.00	
Corporate/Vendor Partnerships	\$1,000,000.00		\$1,500,000.00	
Contingency Acct (Member Share)	\$325,000.00	Year #3	\$0.00	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$6,607,300.00</b>		<b>\$7,772,740.00</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>				
Payroll Taxes	\$110,000.00		\$120,000.00	
Professional Fees	\$60,000.00		\$60,000.00	
Retirement Expense	\$140,000.00		\$160,000.00	
Salaries & Wages	\$1,234,000.00		\$1,300,000.00	
State Tournaments/Playoffs	\$2,700,000.00		\$3,500,000.00	
State Meets (Non-Athletic)	\$50,000.00		\$75,000.00	
Clinics & Exams	\$18,000.00		\$18,000.00	
Evaluations	\$20,000.00		\$20,000.00	
Insurance Expense	\$925,000.00		\$925,000.00	
Occupancy Expense	\$50,000.00		\$75,000.00	
Travel Expense/Meetings	\$110,000.00		\$175,000.00	
Outside Services	\$105,000.00		\$90,000.00	
Office Supplies/Equipment	\$15,000.00		\$15,000.00	
Postal/Parcel Delivery	\$15,000.00		\$15,000.00	
Telephone	\$12,000.00		\$12,000.00	
Service Contracts	\$22,000.00		\$25,000.00	
Community Coach Program	\$150,000.00		\$160,000.00	
Trophies & Medals	\$120,000.00		\$125,000.00	
Dues & Subscriptions	\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00	
Flowers & Honoraria	\$1,500.00		\$3,500.00	
Marketing Expenses	\$5,000.00		\$10,000.00	
Member Share	\$325,000.00		\$335,440.00	
Licensing (Payout to Schools)	\$45,000.00		\$80,000.00	
Adaptive Sports	\$75,500.00		\$75,500.00	
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$300.00		\$300.00	
Officiating Department	\$225,000.00		\$250,000.00	
NFHS Books/Publications	\$68,000.00		\$100,000.00	
Student Athlete Leadership*	\$0.00		\$25,000.00	
Sports Medicine	\$3,000.00		\$20,000.00	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$6,607,300.00</b>		<b>\$7,772,740.00</b>	
<b>*Added as line item - previously included in Travel Expense/Meetings</b>				