

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES November 27, 2018

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Georgia High School Association was called to order at 10:00 a.m., on November 27, 2018, at the GHSA office in Thomaston, Georgia, by Glenn White, President.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Lisa Moore Williams. The invocation was given by Associate Director Carror Wright.

Roll call by Media Director Steve Figueroa showed the following: Present - 10; Absent - 0

Gary Long
Steven Craft

Curt Miller
Jim Finch

Joe Lancaster
Jasper Jewell

Jesse Crews
Michelle Masters

Glenn White
Lisa Moore Williams

Motion by Long, second by Crews, to adopt the agenda.

Motion Passed (unanimously)

APPOINTMENTS:

Motion was made by Miller, seconded by Jewell, and unanimously approved to go into Executive Session to hear student eligibility appeals. (NOTE: Presentations were made in Executive Session; all votes were taken after voting to come out of Executive Session. For clarity, outcome of vote is given after each statement of presentation.)

Sprayberry High School - Jamey Stiltz, Athletic Coordinator, presented the appeal for student Igor Luiz Arruda Martins, requesting a waiver of the eight semester rule.

Motion by Jewell, second by Miller, to **Approve** the appeal.

MOTION to Approve PASSED (unanimously)

Marietta High School - Andy Dorsey, Athletic Director, presented the appeal for student Ezekiel Godwin-Nwachukwu, requesting a waiver of the eight semester rule.

Motion by Miller, second by Crews, to **Approve** the appeal.

MOTION to Approve PASSED (9-1, with Finch voting "no")

OLD BUSINESS:

The following are Constitutional proposals and require two votes. This is the **Second vote**. These proposals were unanimously approved at the October 1, 2018 meeting of the Executive Committee.

Proposal to amend Article IV, Section 9A on page 11 by adding to the end of the first sentence the following language: ". . . , including but not limited to, declaring a student ineligible to compete in GHSA activities for a period of time of up to four (4) years." (GHSA)

MOTION to Approve Passed (unanimously)

Proposal to amend Article IV, Section 13B on page 13 by adding to the end of the second sentence the following language: ". . . , including but not limited to, declaring a student ineligible to compete in GHSA activities for a period of time of up to four (4) years." (GHSA)

MOTION to Approve Passed (unanimously)

NEW BUSINESS:

Proposal to change the Fast Pitch Softball State Tournament as follows: Divide the 32-Team playoff bracket into eight, 4-team "Sub Sectional" quadrants, with the No. 1 seed in each quadrant being the host school. The eight "Sub Sectional" sites would use a double-elimination format, with the winner and runner-up advancing to a "Super Sectional" tournament.

(more)

Each classification would then have two, 8-team "Super Sectional" tournaments using a double-elimination format, with the winner and runner-up advancing to the "Final Four" double-elimination tournament in Columbus. (GHSA)

Motion by Crews, second by Long, to **Table** the proposal and send to Softball Committee in April.

MOTION to Table Passed (unanimously)

Proposal to change Section 11 "Softball" Art. "C" as follows (new text in italic, old text struck through): C. The maximum number of softball games allowed (~~not including region or state playoffs~~) shall be: *thirty (30) games including games during the regular season, invitational tournaments, and region tournaments.*

~~1. Region tournament shall be structured so that no school will play more than eight (8) games in the tournament. (GHSA)~~

Motion by Crews, second by Long to **Table** the proposal and send to Softball Committee in April.

MOTION to Table Passed (unanimously)

Proposal to reword By-Law 1.72-d on page 22 of the Constitution as follows (new text in italic, old text struck through): d. The player who played for a coach ~~at a former GHSA school~~ *at one school (GHSA member or non-member) and subsequently* followed that coach when he/she moved to ~~another~~ *another a GHSA school or changed schools within the GHSA membership.* (This is not applicable to dependent children of the coach). (GHSA) **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**

Motion by Crews, second by Lancaster, to **Approve** the proposal.

MOTION to Approve Passed (unanimously)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Executive Director Robin Hines asked the Board if they felt the GHSA should develop a policy about the practice of giving saline IVs to football players in the light of a recent media story highlighting the issue in some Georgia schools. The Board felt overwhelmingly that the GHSA should not make policy when it comes to medical issues, but rather leave that up to the local school boards and/or the doctor and patient. Dr. Hines also discussed whether or not the GHSA should mandate health insurance for all student-athletes in addition to the catastrophic insurance the GHSA helps pay for.

The upcoming football state championships at the Mercedes-Benz Stadium was the next topic addressed by Dr. Hines. He urged the board members to help get the word out to all participating schools that they should buy presale tickets at their respective schools to avoid a box office fee of \$7.50 per ticket that will be added to tickets purchased at the MB Stadium. Hines also discussed the almost-certain fact that the championship games will be moved to Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 11 and 12, because the Atlanta United soccer team apparently will be hosting the MLS championship game on Dec. 8 after their recent 3-0 win over the NY Red Bulls.

Hines concluded his report by going over some possible scenarios for reclassification that included returning to a two-year cycle, going back to six classifications and separating the Class A schools into different regions completely for all sports.

Motion by White, second by Crews to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION Passed (unanimously)