

# GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES

### STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE May 16, 2017

A called meeting of the State Executive Committee of the Georgia High School Association was called to order at 2:00 p.m., on May 16, 2017, at the Thomaston-Upson County Civic Center in Thomaston, Georgia, by Glenn White, President.

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

Roll call by Steve Figueroa, Media Director, showed the following: Present - 64 Absent - 2 (indicated by "A" below)

Greg Tillery	John Kelly	Wade Marchman	Joe Lancaster	Ruth Donahoo
Evan Horton	Josh Matthews	Henry Laws	Jarrett Luke	Justin Brown
Christian Suttle	Geep Cunningham	Jared Griffis	Mike Thompson	Steve Simpson
Steve Jones	Chris Brown	Britt Adams	Rex Hodges	Donnie Drew
Nathan Turner	David Shields	Ben Corley	Marvin Fields	Michelle Masters
Gary Long	Kelly Taylor	Frank Barden	Tim Barron	Regina Montgomery
Kirk Barton	Curt Miller	Harley Calhoun	Jasper Jewell	Pat Blenke
Mike Cammack	Phil McCrary	Selena Tumlin	Bradley Warren - A	Tony Arasi
Kevin Kinsler	Carter Wilson - A	Ulysses Hawthorne	Tim Armstrong	Wes Taylor
Earl Etheridge	Don Breedlove	Chad Campbell	John Pinson	Todd Mobley
Garrett Black	Tommy Stringer	Horace Dunson	Jesse Crews	Bobby McAllister
Kevin May	Jeff Battles	Bruce Potts	Randy Collins	Joe Sanfilippo
Nathan Hand	Jim Finch	Jeff Cooper	Glenn Tidwell	

**Motion** was made by Etheridge, seconded by Crews, and unanimously approved to adopt the agenda for the meeting.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

**Proposal** to amend Article IV, Section 3, Board of Trustees as follows:

Subparagraph "D" would be revised to delete the words "in exigent circumstances, as determined by the President".

**NOTE:** This is a **Constitutional Amendment** and this is the **second** vote.

**Motion passed** (unanimously)

#### NEW BUSINESS:

**Proposal** to reword By-Law 1.62, item "I" on Page 20 as follows:

First Option: The migratory rule (See 1.63) will be waived one time for boarding students only who enter the following schools: Ben Franklin Academy; Darlington; Riverside Military Academy; Tallulah Falls.

Second Option: The migratory rule (See 1.63) will be waived one time for boarding students only who enter the following schools: Ben Franklin Academy; Darlington; Riverside Military Academy; Tallulah Falls. This By-law will be effective for Darlington beginning with the 2017-2018 school year and for Ben Franklin Academy, Riverside Military Academy and Tallulah Falls beginning with the 2018-2019 school year.

**Motion** by Etheridge, second by Miller, to adopt Second Option

**Motion passed** (unanimously)

**Proposal** to adopt a "50% Sit Out Rule" (**See Addendum No. 1**):

**Motion** by Miller, second by Stringer, to table the proposal

**Motion to table passed** (62-2, White and Donahoo voting "no")

(more)

GHSA counsel Alan Connell then made a resolution at the behest of the Board of Trustees to honor retiring Executive Director Gary Phillips (See Addendum No. 2)

**Motion** by Taylor, second by Blenke, to adopt the resolution

**Motion passed** (unanimously)

Chairman Jesse Crews then presented the **BOARD of TRUSTEES'** recommendation for the new GHSA Executive Director, Dr. Robin Hines. Crews further stated that Hines would be given a three-year contract with a starting salary of \$125,000 per year beginning officially on June 1, 2017.

**Motion** by Shields, second by Long, to approve the recommendation of Hines.

**Motion passed** (unanimously)

Dr. Hines addressed the committee, saying how much he believed in the GHSA and how much he was looking forward to working with the staff and the Executive Committee.

There being no further business, a motion was made and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting.

## ADDENDUM NO. 1

### GHSA By-law 1.62 would be amended as follows:

- By adding the following language to the beginning of paragraph 1.62:

A transfer student who has established eligibility at a former school in grades 9-12 shall be immediately eligible at the new school **if the student falls within one of the exceptions set forth in subparagraphs (a) through (n) below AND is granted a waiver of the 50% sit out rule set forth in subparagraph (o) set forth below. If a waiver of the 50% Sit Out rule is not granted, the student shall not be eligible until he or she complies with the requirements of the 50% Rule.**

- By adding a new paragraph (o) as follows:

#### (o) 50% Sit Out Rule

- (1) If a student makes a **bona fide** move from one GHSA high school to another GHSA high school, he/she will be required to sit out (i.e. shall be ineligible) for the first 50% of all competitions for one calendar year from the date of transfer unless the “sending” high school waives the 50% sit out rule. The “receiving school” shall send a Form B 50% Waiver Application to the “sending school” requesting the school to sign off on the transfer. The “sending” school will have the opportunity to waive the 50% Rule, or the 50% Rule will remain in place. If the “sending school” does not waive the 50% Rule, the “receiving school” may appeal the application of the 50% Rule as hereinafter set forth, however, the ineligibility of the student shall continue pending the appeal.
- (2) The “receiving school” must first verify that a bona fide move has been completed. If a bona fide move has not occurred, the student is a migrant student under GHSA by-laws for one calendar year. If the school believes that a hardship exists, the school can file a hardship appeal with the GHSA (normal process). If a hardship is approved by the GHSA, the 50% Rule does not apply.
- (3) After the bona fide move has been verified, the “receiving school” will send a Form B 50% Waiver Application to the previous high school by fax, email or personal delivery. The “sending school” will have 10 school days from the date the Form B 50% waiver Application is sent to complete the form and return it to the GHSA office and the “receiving school” indicating whether or not it waives the 50% rule. If the school does not waive the 50% rule, the rule is then applicable. If the “sending school” does not return the Form B 50% Waiver Application to the “receiving school” within 10 days by fax, email or personal delivery, then the 50% rule for that student shall be deemed waived by the “sending school”.
- (4) If the “sending school” does not waive the 50% Rule, it must provide the basis for the refusal of the waiver on the Form B 50% Waiver Application. This will allow the “sending school” an opportunity to provide additional information needed if the “receiving school” appeals the decision (Example: undue influence, community member’s influence, personal trainers, or the transfer was athletic in nature). The “receiving school” may appeal the application of the 50% rule as hereinafter set forth.
- (5) If the “receiving school” wishes to appeal the application of the 50% Rule, it may do so by filing a request for appeal with the GHSA office within 20 days of the date the Form B 50%

Waiver Application was sent to the “sending school”. Appeals of the 50% Rule will be heard initially by a Hearing Officer appointed by the Executive Director. Hearings shall be scheduled by the Hearing Officer as needed throughout the state. Notice of the hearing shall be given to both the sending and receiving schools and each will have the opportunity to present evidence relevant to the issue. The receiving school will have the burden of proof to establish that the transfer was not motivated by athletic considerations. The decision of the Hearing Officer may be appealed by either school to the GHSA Appeals Board and thereafter to the GHSA Executive Committee by following the appellate procedures set forth in the GHSA Constitution, however, the decision of the Hearing Officer granting or denying the waiver shall remain in effect until overturned.

6) Unless waived, the student’s 50% sit out will start the day of his enrollment and continue for one calendar year. An athlete is required to sit out half of the season in consecutive weeks. (“Bye weeks” or “off weeks” shall not count toward the total games in which the student shall be required to sit out.) This may include playoffs or wrapping around for the following season. If the student participates in an activity that has already started, the student will sit out the assigned amount of games to include playoff games or wrapping around to the following season. The student is eligible to practice during the sit out time. The sit out requirement is in effect for all sports in which the student athlete participates. Therefore, if the student participates in 3 sports, they will be required to sit 50% in all 3 sports.

For Example: A football player transfers after the 6<sup>th</sup> game is played, the student will be required to sit out the next four games. If the team qualifies for the playoffs, the student must sit during the first playoff game. If the team advances, the student is eligible for the 2<sup>nd</sup> playoff game. In the same example, if the team does not qualify for the playoffs, the student will have to sit out the 1<sup>st</sup> game of the following year to meet the 5 game sit out requirement.

**The sport specific 50% sit out times are listed below:**

Football	5 games
Cheerleading	3 meets
Softball	13 games
Cross country	5 races
Volleyball	9 matches
Swimming	5 meets
Basketball	13 games
Wrestling	10 meets/dates
Gymnastics	5 meets
Tennis	9 matches
Soccer	9 games
Track	5 meets
Baseball	15 games
Lacrosse	9 games
Golf	6 matches

- By amending Article IV Section 9 B. of the GHSA Constitution to add the words “**or his designee**” to the end of the first sentence. (This is a constitutional change and will require two votes).

**Form B 50% Waiver Application – Response from Sending School**

This form must be submitted by the school from which the student is transferring (“sending school”) to the GHSA office and the school to which the student is transferring (“receiving school”) within ten school days from the date the receiving school sent the form to the sending school. The Receiving school shall submit the form to the Athletic Director of the sending school by fax, email or personal delivery. Failure of the sending school to submit this form within the required 10 school days indicates that the student transfer has been granted a waiver on the 50% Rule.

Yes or No      To the best of your knowledge, is page 1 of this Form B correct?

If No, please provide additional information: (Or attach documentation)

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Yes or No      Was the student eligible for athletic participation when he/she left your school?

Yes or No      Was the student removed, or suspended, or did he/she quit an athletic program while enrolled at your school?

Yes or No      Would the student be prohibited from participation in athletics had he/she not transferred schools?

Yes or No      Based on your knowledge, are you willing to **waive the 50% Rule** for this athlete?

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Print Name of Former Principal

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Signature of Former Principal

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Print Name of Former Athletic Director

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Signature of Former Athletic Director

Please provide any pertinent information that you may have as it relates to this athlete. Please list the specific reasons of why your school is not waiving the 50% Sit Out Rule. This information may be used in the event of a Transfer or Hardship Appeal: (Or attach documentation)

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## ADDENDUM NO. 2

### RESOLUTION OF THE GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

#### HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### GARY L. PHILLIPS

**WHEREAS**, Gary L. Phillips assumed the role of the fifth Executive Director of the Georgia High School Association in 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to assuming that office, Gary L. Phillips previously served the students of the State of Georgia as a coach, teacher and principal for many years dedicating his time, energy and many skills to the students of the schools he served; and

**WHEREAS**, as Executive Director of the GHSA, Gary L. Phillips was a strong champion, defender and enforcer of the association, its rules and member schools;

**WHEREAS**, as Executive Director of the GHSA, Gary L. Phillips worked tirelessly and unselfishly for the benefit of the GHSA and the students of its member schools; and

**WHEREAS**, due to his integrity, vision and leadership, the GHSA conducted quality athletic and literary competitive events in a fair, impartial and unbiased manner; and

**WHEREAS**, he has earned the respect, admiration and appreciation of not only the GHSA and its member schools, but also of The National Federation Of State High School Associations and its leadership and member associations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the GHSA commend Gary L. Phillips for his exemplary service, leadership and vision, congratulate him on his retirement, and extend sincere best wishes for his continued health and happiness in his retirement.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be made a part of the perpetual minutes of the GHSA.