

# GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES

### STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE October 4, 2021

A meeting of the State Executive Committee of the Georgia High School Association was called to order at 9:00 a.m., on October 4, 2021, at the Marriott Macon City Center by Glenn White, President.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Curt Miller. The invocation was given by Carror Wright, Associate Director. Roll call by Steve Figueroa, Media Director, showed the following: Present - 74, Absent - 1 (indicated by "A" below)

Randy McPherson	Carl Green	Darrell Demastus	Jim Finch	Davis Russell	Donnie Drew	Regina Montgomery
Evan Horton	Don Breedlove	Garrett Black	John Sanders	Brian Montgomery	Mark Farriba	Richard Woods - A
Matt Moody	Don Baker	Jeff Littleton	Doug Connelly	Rick Hurst	Scott Queen	David Colvard
Ed Shaddix	Steven Craft	Jeff Battles	James Jackson	Brian Turner	Julie Jones	Jason Miller
Tonya Sebring	Matt McDonald	Brooke Whitlock	Brent Mashburn	Jim Morrell	Chris Hanson	Philip Brown
Nathan Turner	Jody Dean	Marty Shiver	David Wagner	Jesse Crews	Brad Dehem	Craig Davis
Kirk Barton	Shane Ratliff	Charles Battles	Eli Connell	Bradley Warren	David Lowery	Joe Sanfilippo
Scarlett Grantham	Kevin May	Jasper Jewell	Cleve Edwards	Don Norton	Chad Jordan	Curt Miller
Jason Brett	Kelli Smith	Wes Shiver - sub	Michael Thompson	Harley Calhoun	Kevin Petroski	Glenn White
Steve Waters	Bobby Brewington	Michael Dowis	Von Lassiter	Michael Langston	Tommy Marshall	
Marty Jackson	Rendell Jackson	Shawn Peek	Myron Newton	Steve Simpson	Greg Ellison - sub	

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

**Motion** was made by Crews, seconded by Simpson, and unanimously approved to go into executive session to hear student appeals (Note: appeals were heard in executive session, but all votes were taken after coming out of executive session).

#### APPOINTMENTS:

**Cartersville High School** - canceled.

**Dalton Academy** - Matt Mederios, Principal, presented the appeal for student Nathalya Angelats, requesting a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

**Motion** by Warren, second by Breedlove to **Approve** the appeal.

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Report presented by Jesse Crews

The committee **RECOMMENDED:**

1. **Proposal** to amend GHSA by-laws such that if a student has been ruled eligible to participate by the GHSA, but it is later determined that such eligibility should not have been approved, any ineligibility to participate in future GHSA activities may be assessed as of the date that such ineligibility was determined. (**Vote:** 13-0)

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

2. **Proposal** to prohibit live animals from any indoor GHSA event, unless a signed permission letter is acquired from the principal of the school wishing to bring the animal and the principal of the host school (if different). A copy of this letter must be provided to the GHSA Office. Note: This does not include certified service animals. (**Vote:** 13-0)

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

3. **Proposal** to modify by-law 4.31-c on page 42 as follows (old text struck through, new text in italic): In order to have a State Championship in an Open Meet Event, there must be a minimum of ~~sixteen (16) teams participating~~ *thirty-two (32) teams participating...* (**Vote:** 13-0)

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

4. **Proposal** to replace by-law 4.42 with the following (new text in italic):  
**Lifetime Passes** are available to retired persons of the teaching profession, *and/or those retiring from the Georgia Teaching Retirement System, who served at least twenty (20) years in GHSA member school(s), grades 9-12 as a:*

(more)

- (a) Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent AND/OR  
 (b) Principal or Assistant Principal AND/OR  
 (c) Athletic Director AND/OR  
 (d) Coach of a sport/activity listed in the GHSA by-laws.  
 (e) GHSA staff member with 20 years or more of service.  
 (1) *Application should include the individual's permanent address and verification of years of service and must be signed off by retiring system Superintendent.*  
 (2) *Applications are available under Forms on GHSA website.*  
 (3) Years of service to the GHSA as a Region Secretary and/or Executive Committee member shall count towards the requirements to qualify for a GHSA Lifetime Pass.  
**NOTE: Individuals must be completely retired from coaching and teaching before applying for a pass. (Vote: 13-0)**  
**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**
5. **Proposal** to increase game fees in both regular-season and playoff contests for the next reclassification cycle. See Appendix "F" attached. **(Vote: 13-0)**  
**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**
6. **Proposal** to give the Executive Director the authority to approve eight-semester cases that are true hardships out of the student's control. **(Vote: 13-0)**  
**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**
7. **Proposal** to amend by-law 2.21(c) to read (new text in italic):  
 (2) The venue specific EAP *and AED* shall be accessible to all involved in a potential emergent situation *for practices, games or other athletic events.*  
 (3) All emergency equipment which is available onsite, including Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs), should be listed on the EAP, *stored in a safe place, be well-marked, and publicized.*  
 (4) The EAP should identify key personnel and their responsibilities to carry out the plan of action with a designated chain of command – *including documentation actions that need to be taken post emergency.* **(Vote: 13-0) Effective Immediately**  
**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**
8. **Proposal** to amend by-law 2.61 by adding the following new text:  
 (d) All practices will have a maximum length of three (3) hours.  
 (e) A maximum of two (2) practice sessions may be held in the same day. When multiple sessions are held, the maximum practice time is extended to five (5) hours. Sessions must be separated by a three (3) hour rest break in a cool environment and this rest break cannot include weightlifting or conditioning. When a double session practice day occurs, the following practice day must be a single session day. (Football contact guidelines must be followed.)  
 (f) Football participants complete the five (5) day acclimatization period that starts five (5) weekdays prior to the first official day of practice of each calendar year. **(Vote: 13-0) Effective Immediately**  
**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**
9. **Proposal** to amend by-law 2.67 by adding a new (b) as follows and re-lettering the rest:  
 (b) **Football Only:** Acclimatization and Re-Acclimatization (prior to October 1st)  
 (1) Acclimatization  
 a. Football practice may begin five (5) consecutive weekdays prior to the start date for football.  
 1. In the first five (5) days of practice for any student, the practice may not last longer than two (2) hours, and the student may wear no other protective football equipment except helmet and mouthpiece. **NOTE:**  
 (a) The time for a session shall be measured from the time the players report to the practice or workout area until they leave that area.  
 (b) During acclimatization practices, teams may hold a walk-through as long as there is at least a three-hour break between the two activities.  
 (2) Re-Acclimatization – Required for any athlete who misses five (5) consecutive days of practice for any reason.  
 a. Day 1 (Only COVID related cases can begin on last day of quarantine): 1.5 hours conditioning - helmets only  
 b. Day 2: 2 hours practice - helmets only  
 c. Day 3: 2.5 hours practice with helmets and shoulder pads  
 d. Day 4: 2.5 hours practice with full pads  
 e. Day 5: 2.5 hours practice with full pads or play a game. **(Vote: 13-0) Effective Immediately**  
**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**
10. **Proposal** to amend by-law 2.67 new "c" (was b) as follows (new text in italic):

(more)

(c) A scientifically-approved instrument that measures the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature must be utilized at each practice (prior to October 1st) to ensure that the written policy is being followed properly. WBGT readings should be taken at a minimum of every 30 minutes, beginning 30 minutes prior to the start of practice. All WBGT monitors shall be calibrated, at a minimum, every two (2) years or earlier if recommended by the manufacturer. (Vote: 13-0) **Effective Immediately**  
**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

11. **Proposal** to amend by-law 2.68 by adding a new (3) as follows and renumbering the rest:  
 (3) Any student-athlete who has been diagnosed with a concussion must fully return to school (if in session) for a full day prior to returning to practice. (Vote: 13-0) **Effective Immediately**  
**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

The committee **DENIED**:

1. **Proposal** that in Sectional and State Track & Field competitions, all qualifying athletes in Pole Vaulting will be weighed in on event day in the presence of the meet supervisor, and poles inspected to ensure that the competitor's weight and pole meets all safety requirements. Failure of the athlete to weigh in at or below the manufacturer's pole rating will result in the pole being disallowed for that day's competition. (Vote: 13-0)
2. **Proposal** to modify by-laws 4.14 and 4.35, and to reword Article IV, Section 9, item "A" as well as Article V, Section 1, Item "B" of the GHSA Constitution in order to give the authority to modify the GHSA sports calendar to the Board of Trustees and/or the State Executive Committee by majority vote. (Vote: 13-0)

#### **FOOTBALL COMMITTEE**

Report presented by Steve Waters

The committee **RECOMMENDED**:

**Proposal** to allow girdles and thigh pads (no football pants) during the summer whenever there is competition between schools. (Vote: 8-0)  
**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

#### **GYMNASTICS COMMITTEE**

Report presented by Nathan Turner

The committee **RECOMMENDED**:

1. **Proposal** that an individual must score at least 9.0 in Vault and Floor Exercise in three (3) regular-season meets in order to qualify for those events in the Preliminary Meet. (Vote: 5-0) **Effective Immediately**  
**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**
2. **Proposal** that for teams that do not qualify as a team, there will be a limit of four (4) individuals from that team allowed to qualify for a specific event. (Vote: 5-0) **Effective Immediately**  
**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**
3. **Proposal** that if a gymnast qualifies at Preliminaries but can't advance because of injury or illness, the next individual would move up to that spot. (Vote: 5-0) **Effective Immediately**  
**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

#### **RECLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE**

Report presented by Curt Miller

The committee **RECOMMENDED**:

1. **Proposal** to increase the multiplier from the current 2.0 to 3.0 to account for students residing outside the designated attendance zone for all member schools. (Vote: 14-5)  
**MOTION PASSED (56-15-3)** Roll call vote No. 1: **Yes** - McPherson, Horton, Moody, Shaddix, Sebring, N. Turner, Barton, Grantham, Brett, Waters, M. Jackson, Green, Baker, Craft, McDonald, Dean, Ratliff, May, Smith, Brewington, R. Jackson, Black, Littleton, Whitlock, M. Shiver, C. Battles, Jewell, W. Shiver, Peek, Finch, Connelly, J. Jackson, Mashburn, Wagner, Connell, Edwards, Thompson, Lassiter, Newton, B. Montgomery, Hurst, B. Turner, Morrell, Crews, Warren, Norton, Langston, Simpson, Ellison, R. Montgomery, Colvard, J. Miller, Brown, Davis, White, C. Miller. **No** - Breedlove, Demastus, J. Battles, Dowis, Sanders, Calhoun, Farriba, Queen, Jones, Hanson, Dehem, Lowery, Jordan, Petroski, Marshall. **Abstain** - Russell, Drew, Sanfilippo.)

2. **Proposal** to modify by-law 4.23-b-3 as follows (old text struck out, new text in italic): Children of certified ~~teachers~~

(more)

*professionals* at the high school (grades 9-12) and military active duty dependent children will not be subject to the out-of-zone Multiplier even if they live outside the school's designated attendance zone. (**Vote:** 19-0)

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

3. **Proposal** to remove the part of by-law 4.23-b that prevents schools from being bumped up into Class 7A because of the application of the multiplier while keeping the prohibition on schools being bumped out of Class 1A. (**Vote:** 15-4)

**MOTION PASSED (66-8)** (Voting No - Demastus, Dehem, Jones, Marshall, Farriba, Hanson, Queen, Petroski.)

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Robin Hines started his report by having the committee recognize Tommy Whittle, who retired as an associate director of the GHSA this past summer. Hines mentioned Whittle's stellar career as a coach and administrator at the high school level, as well as his service to the GHSA.

Hines then called upon GHSA attorney Alan Connell, who gave the group a brief update of several legal issues still unresolved after several years. Hines praised Connell for the great job he has done for the the GHSA for the past four decades.

Hines informed the committee of a recent marketing agreement with TPG that he hopes will greatly benefit the GHSA in the coming years. He also updated the group on the NFHS Network, encouraging all member schools to take advantage of the current free pixellot program.

Hines also told the committee how well the GoFan ticket purchasing plan was going, as it saw a huge jump in revenue last school year with more increases expected in the future.

He then briefly went over the recent audit of GHSA finances, telling the group that the organization had received "a tremendously healthy" report with no issues. Hines also mentioned the excellent year GHSA had financially despite the pandemic.

**Motion** by Simpson, second by Crews, to adjourn the meeting.

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

# APPENDIX 'F'

Game Fee Chart

**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

2020-22/**2022-24**

Sport/Contest	Varsity	Sub-Varsity	State Playoffs
Baseball	Crew of two: \$70.00/ <b>\$75.00</b> Crew of three: \$60.00/ <b>\$65.00</b>	\$57.00/ <b>\$60.00</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> three Rounds - \$115.00/ <b>\$125.00</b> Semis & Finals - \$125.00/ <b>\$135.00</b>
Basketball	\$62.00 Crew of three/ <b>\$67.00</b>	\$50.00/ <b>\$54.00</b>	1st three Rounds-\$150.00/ <b>\$160.00</b> Semis & Finals - \$160.00/ <b>\$170.00</b>
Cheerleading/Dance	\$10.00/ <b>\$10.70</b> Per Official (Upto12Teams) \$8.00/ <b>\$8.60</b> Per Official (Over 12 Teams)	Same as Varsity	\$185.00/ <b>\$195.00</b> Per Sectional \$160.00/ <b>\$170.00</b> Per Session
Football (Crew of six) Flag Football (3)	\$112.00/ <b>\$120.00</b> Per Official Clock/Chain - 1/2 Game Fee (Flag) \$30.00/ <b>\$40.00</b> Per Official	\$65.00/ <b>\$70.00</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> three Rounds-\$150.00/ <b>\$160.00</b> Semis & Finals - \$165.00/ <b>\$175.00</b> (Flag) - \$45.00/ <b>\$60.00</b>
Gymnastics	\$60.00/ <b>\$65.00</b>		\$75.00/ <b>\$80.00</b>
Lacrosse	\$78.00/ <b>\$83.00</b>	\$68.00/ <b>\$73.00</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> three rounds - \$100.00/ <b>\$110.00</b> Semis & Finals - \$125.00/ <b>\$135.00</b>
Soccer	Crew of two: \$78.00/ <b>\$83.00</b> Crew of three: \$60.00/ <b>\$64.00</b> Sideline judge - 1/2 Game Fee	Crew of two - \$65.00/ <b>\$70.00</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> three rounds- \$440.00/ <b>\$460.00</b> Semi & Final -\$450.00/ <b>\$470.00</b>
Softball	(FP)\$68.00/ <b>\$73.00</b> - Single Game \$60.00/ <b>\$65.00</b> - Doubleheader (SP) \$44.00/ <b>\$50.00</b> – Per Game	\$50.00/ <b>\$54.00</b> - Single Game \$46.00/ <b>\$50.00</b> JV/JV Double Header	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Round - \$95.00/ <b>\$105.00</b> Elite Eight - \$105.00/ <b>\$115.00</b> (SP) \$60.00/ <b>\$65.00</b>
Swimming	\$52.00/ <b>\$56.00</b> - 22 Events or Less Add \$2.00/ <b>\$2.50</b> Per Heat or Diver		\$175.00/ <b>\$185.00</b> Per Day
Volleyball/per match	Best of 3: \$50.00/ <b>\$55.00</b> Best of 5: \$70.00/ <b>\$75.00</b>	Best of 3: \$41.00/ <b>\$44.00</b> Best of 5 : \$63.00/ <b>\$67.00</b>	1st 3 rounds - \$90.00/ <b>\$100.00</b> Semis & Finals - \$105.00/ <b>\$115.00</b> (Line Judge ½ game fee)
Wrestling /per match	Dual Match - \$80.00/ <b>\$86.00</b> Tri or Quad Match - \$70.00/ <b>\$75.00</b> Individual Match - \$5.00/ <b>\$5.50</b>	Dual Matches - \$61.00/ <b>\$65.00</b> Individual Match - \$4.50/ <b>\$5.00</b>	Duals: \$77.00/ <b>\$85.00</b> Per Dual Trad: \$5.50/ <b>\$6.00</b> Per Match

**Regular Season “Travel Fees:” (1) Official \$25.00/\$30.00 (2) Officials \$34.00/ \$40.00 (3) Officials \$39.00/ \$50.00**

NOTE: Travel fees are based on a “per crew/per competition day” basis. Add \$5.00/**\$7.00** per official for contests that require more than three contest officials. Fees applied as “Travel Fees” must be used to compensate contest officials for travel- related expenses. Travel Fees are negotiable for Invitational Tournaments. Travel Fees do not apply to State Tournament contests. **For travel of 100 miles one-way or more the “travel fees” are doubled.**

**The fees indicated on this chart are to be applied to all GHSA sanctioned contests and are non-negotiable.**