

# GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES

### STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 2, 2023

The Fall meeting of the State Executive Committee of the Georgia High School Association was called to order at 9:00 a.m., on October 2, 2023, 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 Steve Figueroa, Media Director, showed the following: Present - 75, Absent - 0

Danny Redshaw	Todd Mooney	Darrell Demastus	Greg Ellison	Brian Montgomery	Heath Kennedy	Craig McKinney - sub
Evan Horton	Willie Cannon	Jeff Segars	Reggie Wilkes	Joshua Moore	David Bell	Richard Woods
Ryan Dyer - sub	Tonya Sebring	Jeff Battles	Lawrence Kelly	Barry Williams	Don Tison	David Colvard
Jason Dopson	Steven Craft	Dexter Ricks	Jasper Jewell	Kevin Petroski	Bradley Warren	Eric Holland
Matt Moody	Brad Hayes	Brooke Whitlock	Ronnie Massey	Mike Thompson	Eli Dupree	Kevin Yancey
Nathan Turner	Garrett Black	Shane Ratliff	Paul Standard	Fred Williams	Don Norton	Craig Davis
Kirk Barton	Kelli Smith	Andre Byrd	Eli Connell	Randy Cooper	Harley Calhoun	Joe Sanfilippo
Jason Carrera	Mindy Johnson	Bobby Brewington	Jarrett Luke	Tim Gribben	Chad Jordan	Curt Miller
Jason Brett	Paris Burd - sub	Jarred Griffis	Kevin Grooms	Richard Ricketts	Steven Simpson	Jim Finch
Steve Waters	Rendell Jackson	Michael Dowis	Jesse Crews	Brad Dehem	Jose Fernandez	
Dwayne Davis - sub	Jeff Burch - sub	Jeremy Rayburn	Myron Newton	Rick Hurst	Michelle Masters	

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

#### APPOINTMENTS:

**Starr's Mill High School** - Shane Ratliff, Athletic Director, presented an eight-semester appeal for student Steven Barros.

**Motion** by Craft, second by Turner to **Approve** the appeal.

**MOTION to Approve PASSED (60-14-1, Roll Call No. 1 - Redshaw, Barton, Carrera, Ellison, Standard, Luke, Crews, Gribben, Bell, Tison, Dupree, Norton, Simpson, Finch voted no; Ratliff abstained)**

**Decatur High School** - Rodney Thomas, Athletic Director, presented an eight-semester appeal for student Tristan Strickland.

**Motion** by Jewell, second by R. Jackson to **Approve** the appeal.

**MOTION to Approve FAILED (28-47, Roll Call No. 2 - Turner, Craft, Black, R. Jackson, Burch, J. Battles, Brewington, Wilkes, Kelly, Jewell, Massey, Grooms, Newton, Moore, Petroski, F. Williams, Ricketts, Dehem, Kennedy, Jordan, Simpson, Fernandez, Woods, Colvard, Holland, Davis, Sanfilippo, Miller voted yes)**

**Decatur High School** - Rodney Thomas, Athletic Director, presented an eight-semester appeal for student K'Avinn Benton.

**Motion** by Montgomery, second by Grooms to **Deny** the appeal.

**MOTION to Deny PASSED (69-6 - Holland, Woods, Massey, Cooper, B. Williams, Brewington voted no)**

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Report presented by Nathan Turner

The committee **RECOMMENDED:**

1. **Proposal** to adopt a new officiating fee chart for the 2024-26 school years (see attached). (Vote: 14-0)  
**Motion Passed (Unanimously)**
2. **Proposal** to modify by-law 1.92-c on page 23 of the 2023-24 GHSA Constitution as follows (old text is struck out, new text in italic): Capitalizing on athletic ~~name~~ *performance* by receiving money or gifts with monetary value except college scholarships. **Effective Immediately** (Vote: 14-0)  
**Motion Passed (66-9 - Ricketts, Wood, Tison, Norton, Dupree, Griffis, Gribben, Hurst, B. Williams voted no)**
3. **Proposal** to add new by-law 1.97 on page 23 of the 2023-24 GHSA Constitution to read as follows: Students may receive consideration for the use of their own name, image and likeness (NIL). Guidance for NIL can be found in Appendix "N" of the GHSA Constitution (see attached). **Effective Immediately** (Vote: 14-0)

(more)

**Motion Passed (65-10** - Ricketts, B. Williams, Griffis, Norton, Dupree, Hurst, Ellison, Gribben, F. Williams, Grooms voted no)

### GYMNASTICS COMMITTEE

Report presented by Nathan Turner

The committee **RECOMMENDED**:

1. **Proposal** that gymnasts may have a spotter/coach stand between the board and table for round off entry vaults without a deduction. **Effective Immediately** (Vote: 4-0)  
**Motion Passed (Unanimously)**
2. **Proposal** that schools hosting meets will be responsible for paying the judges for that meet. **Effective Immediately** (Vote: 4-0)  
**Motion Passed (Unanimously)**
3. **Proposal** that the Capital Cup warm-up format be allowed. However, schools will be expected to pay an extra \$10.00 per judge. **Effective Immediately** (Vote: 4-0)  
**Motion Passed (Unanimously)**

### LACROSSE COMMITTEE

Report presented by Nathan Turner

The committee **DENIED**:

1. **Proposal** to allow 10 consecutive days in the fall for Fall Ball, with the purpose of teaching skill, improving performance and reducing the risk of injury. (Vote: 6-0)
2. **Proposal** to modify by-law 2.69-b, which currently allows one (1) coach to work with up to four (4) athletes in skill building drills, to allow a coach to work with as many as seven (7) athletes in Girls Lacrosse during the off season. (Vote: 6-0)
3. **Proposal** to allow coaches to coach outside (club) teams throughout the year as long as there are no more than three (3) players on the outside team's roster that are from the coach's GHSA member school. (Vote: 6-0)

### RECLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE

Report presented by Curt Miller

The committee **RECOMMENDED**:

1. **Proposal** that Class A D2 shall consist of the smallest (approximately 50) football playing public schools. Non-football playing public schools that classify as Class A D2 will be placed in Class A D2 regions. (Vote: 12-2, Petroski and Ricketts voting no)  
**Motion Passed (69-6** - Petroski, Kennedy, Bell, Fernandez, Jordan, Mooney voted no)
2. **Proposal** that schools shall be divided into six classifications based on the following approximate percentages: Class 6A (largest 14%); Class A (smallest 26%); Classes 2A, 3A, 4A and 5A (24-26% of the remaining schools divided equally among the four classes). (Vote: 14-0)  
**Motion Passed (Unanimously)**
3. **Proposal** that all schools competing in classes A, AA and AAA will be assigned regions by the GHSA office. Teams will compete within their regions during the regular season. At the end of the regular season, the private schools from A, AA and AAA will compete in a combined championship bracket. At the end of the regular season, public schools will compete in a championship bracket in their respective classes. The GHSA office will use a power rating format to seed the playoffs in both public and private school brackets in A, AA and AAA. (Vote: 12-2, Petroski and Ricketts voting no)  
**Motion Passed (53-18-4**, Roll Call No. 3 - Mooney, Cannon, R. Jackson, Dowis, Rayburn, Ellison, Standard, Grooms, Moore, Cooper, Dehem, Kennedy, Bell, Jordan, Fernandez, Masters, Woods, Colvard voted no; Petroski, Ricketts, Davis, Sanfilippo abstained)
4. **Proposal** that the reclassification committee and the GHSA office shall form a subcommittee to study a Competitive Balance model for the next reclassification cycle. (Vote: 14-0)  
**Motion Passed (Unanimously)**
5. **Proposal** that all proposals to be considered by the reclassification committee must be presented in writing to the GHSA office at least one week prior to the meeting at which those proposals will be considered. (Vote: 14-0)  
**Motion Passed (Unanimously)**

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**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Robin Hines called on Assistant Executive Director Ernie Yarbrough to present the 2022-23 Official of the Year awards. Yarbrough also reminded the committee of the fact the GHSA will be hosting the National Association of Sports Officials annual convention in 2024 and asked the schools for help in making this event great. Hines also called on GHSA council Alan Connell, who gave a brief legal update. Connell also urged the committee members to get to know their legislators.

Hines gave the committee an update on the GHSA finances, which were much improved over last year at this time.

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

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

**APPENDIX 'F'**  
**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

Sport/Contest	Varsity	Sub-Varsity	State Tournament
Baseball	Crew of two: \$80.00 Crew of three: \$70.00	\$60.00	1st Three Rounds: \$135.00 Semis & Finals: \$150.00
Basketball	Crew of Three: \$75.00 Shot Clock - 1/2 Game Fee	\$60.00	1st Three Rounds: \$165.00 Semis & Finals: \$180.00
Cheer	\$11.50 Per Team (12 Teams) \$9.60 Per Team (13 Teams+)	Same as Varsity	\$207.00 Per Sectional \$180.00 Per Session (Finals)
Dance	Panel of Four: \$160 Panel of Five: \$135.00 (+\$50.00 every hour over three)	Same as Varsity	\$195.00 Per Session
Football (Crew of Six)	\$128.00 Per Official ECO/Chain: 1/2 Game Fee	\$75.00 Per Official	1st Three Rounds: \$170.00 Semis & Finals: \$185.00
Flag Football (Crew of Three)	\$48.00 Per Official	Same as Varsity	\$70.00 Per Official Chain Crew: 1/2 Game Fee
Gymnastics	\$70.00 Per Official		\$90.00 Per Official
Lacrosse	\$88.00 Per Official	\$75.00 Per Official	1st Three Rounds: \$115.00 Semis & Finals: \$140.00
Soccer	\$88.00 Per Official Sideline Judge: 1/2 Game Fee	\$75.00 Per Official	1st Three Rounds: \$460/Crew Semis & Finals: \$475/Crew
Softball (Fast Pitch)	\$78.00 Per Umpire	\$55.00 Per Umpire	Super Regionals: \$110.00 Elite Eight: \$120.00
Softball (Slow Pitch)	\$58.00 Per Umpire		Sectionals & Finals: \$75.00
Swimming	22 Events or Less: \$60.00 Add \$2.50 Per Heat/Diver		\$190.00 Per Day
Volleyball	Best of three: \$60.00/Match Best of five: \$80.00/Match	Best of three: \$45.00/Match Best of five: \$70.00/Match	1st Three Rounds: \$105.00 Semis & Finals: \$120.00 (Line Judge 1/2 Game Fee)
Wrestling	Dual Match: \$86.00 Tri/Quad Match: \$75.00 Individual Match: \$5.50/Match	Dual Match: \$65.00 Individual Match: \$5.00	Duals: \$85.00 Traditional: \$6.00/Match

**REGULAR SEASON TRAVEL FEES: (1) Official \$30.00 (2) Officials \$40.00 (3) Officials \$50.00 (4+) Add \$7.00 per official.**

NOTE: Travel fees are based on a "per crew/per competition day" basis. Fees applied as travel fee must be used to compensate contest official's travel related expenses. Travel fees may be negotiated for "Invitational & Region Tournaments". Regular season travel of more than 100 miles one-way are doubled. Travel fees for State Tournament contests are a "flat fee" of \$25.00 per official.

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

# APPENDIX 'N'

## GUIDELINES REGARDING NAME, IMAGE AND LIKENESS (NIL)

The GHSA does not specifically prohibit students from engaging in certain commercial activities as individuals. These activities, commonly referred to as name, image and likeness (NIL), will not put a student's amateur status at risk provided the student meets all the requirements for maintaining amateur status in compliance with GHSA by-law 1.92-c and providing there is no violation of by-laws prohibiting influencing a student to attend or remain at a member school under GHSA by-law 1.70 (Recruiting/Undue Influence/Following The Coach).

A student-athlete may benefit from the use of their name, image and likeness (NIL) in compliance with GHSA by-law 1.92-c provided:

- The compensation is not contingent on specific athletic performance or achievement.
- The compensation is not provided as an incentive to enroll or remain enrolled at a specific school.
- The compensation is not provided by the school or any person acting as an agent for the school.

The following guidelines are in effect for NIL activities:

- **Intellectual property** - No "marks" may be used including, but not limited to, school logos, school name, school uniforms, school mascot, or any trademarked GHSA logo or acronyms.
- No school apparel or equipment shall be worn, which includes school name, school uniforms, school logo, school mascot or any apparel displaying trademarked GHSA logos or acronyms.
- No member school facility may be used for the purpose of name, image and likeness activities.
- No activities in conflict with a member school's local school district policy may be endorsed. (Examples include, but are not limited to, tobacco products, alcohol products and controlled substances.)
- Students and their families should seek professional guidance as to how NIL activities could impact collegiate financial aid and/or tax implications, among other issues.
- Within seven (7) calendar days after entering into any type of NIL contract/agreement, a student, or the student's parents/guardians, must notify the Principal or Athletic Director of the student's school of entering into that agreement.