

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE September 15, 2014

The semiannual meeting of the State Executive Committee of the Georgia High School Association was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on September 15, 2014, at the Macon Marriott City Center in Macon, Georgia, by Glenn White, President.

The invocation was given by Carror Wright, Associate Director.

Roll call by Steve Figueroa, Media Director, showed the following: Present - 55, Absent - 3 (Indicated with "A" below)

Kevin Giddens	Earl Etheridge	David Brooks	Jeff Cooper	John Pinson	Lisa Fine
Kirk Hoffman	Curt Miller	Horace Dunson	Joe Lancaster	Jesse Crews	Pat Blenke
Evan Horton	Alan Daws	Britt Adams	Todd Mobley	Britt Ingle	A - Tony Arasi
Donnie Griggers	Phil McCrary	Dexter Wood	Mike Thompson	Glenn Tidwell	Wes Taylor
Steve Jones	Don Corr	J.T. Pollock	J.B. Arnold	Scott Queen	Jay Floyd
Nathan Turner	Tommy Stringer	Chad Campbell	Benjy Rogers	Lynn Dupree	A - Terry Rogers
Gary Long	Wayne Tootle	Marvin Fields	Tim Barron	Steve Simpson	Lucia Norwood
Dave Hunter	Jim Finch	Jasper Jewell	Tim Vick	Donnie Drew	Glenn White
Fred Maynard	Wade Marchman	Topher Byrnes	A - Bradley Warren	Maria Bradley	Lisa Moore Williams
Michelle Masters	Kevin May	Brent Mashburn	Jim Hughes		

Motion was made by Jesse Crews, seconded by Wayne Tootle, and unanimously approved to adopt the agenda for the meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

Motion was made by Nathan Turner, seconded by Jay Floyd, and unanimously approved to go into Executive Session to hear student eligibility appeals. (**NOTE:** Presentations were made in Executive Session; all votes were taken while not in Executive Session. For clarity, outcome of vote is given after each statement of presentation.)

Wesleyan School - Marc Khedouri, Athletic Director, presented the appeal for student Tony Taylor, requesting a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

Motion by Lucia Norwood, second by Scott Queen, to grant the appeal.

MOTION PASSED (Roll Call Vote #1 - Yes: 34, No: 21, Absent: 3)

Yes: Griggers, Jones, Turner, Long, Masters, Etheridge, Miller, Daws, McCrary, Tootle, Marchman, May, Brooks, Dunson, Wood, Fields, Jewell, Byrnes, Mashburn, Lancaster, Thompson, Vick, Pinson, Crews, Queen, Dupree, Simpson, Drew, Bradley, Blenke, Taylor, Norwood, White, Williams. **No:** Giddens, Hoffman, Horton, Hunter, Maynard, Corr, Stringer, Finch, Adams, Pollock, Campbell, Cooper, Mobley, Arnold, B. Rogers, Barron, Hughes, Ingle, Tidwell, Fine, Floyd. **Absent:** Warren, Arasi, T. Rogers.

Skip Yow, the GHSA Legislative Liaison, gave a report to the committee concerning issues in the State Legislature that pertain to the GHSA and how the outcome of the November election for Governor might affect the GHSA. He also spoke about the new legislative oversight committee that will be monitoring the actions of the GHSA.

Alan Sharp, the GHSA Marketing Director, gave a report on the GHSA marketing program and announced the renewal of the GHSA's largest sponsor, Georgia Farm Bureau. He also spoke about the GHSA in social media and about the new NFHS streaming network.

Alan Connell, the GHSA's Legal Council, spoke to the committee about his 35 years representing the GHSA and how the last five years have seen as many changes as the previous 30. He reviewed the GHSA's concerns about the new gun carry laws and how they are being addressed when GHSA events are held at off-campus venues.

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. Deleting By-Law 4.23 (e), Page 51; under Reclassification that reads as follows:
 - (e) Following the initial placement of schools into regions, each new region shall meet to audit the population numbers of its member schools.
 - (1) If the numbers are accurate, a written notice of approval shall be sent to the GHSA office.
 - (2) If there are discrepancies in the numbers, a written notice shall be sent to the GHSA office asking the Reclassification Committee to hear the appeal at the meeting that is scheduled to hear appeals of lateral transfers.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)
2. Constitutional Amendment: Article IV - Section 8 (**Note: This was the first vote and will require two (2) votes**):
 - A. Add: A President and a Vice President shall be elected as State Association officers at the spring meeting for a two (2)-year term after ratification of the reclassification plan.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)
3. Approving the 2013-14 Audit Report.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)
4. Changing the spring and fall meeting dates for the State Executive Committee for the year 2015-16 as follows: Fall 2015 meeting - August 15, 16, 17, 2015; Spring 2016 meeting - April 16, 17, 18, 2016.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)
5. Changing the designation of the current regular season football week "0" to week "1" and thus allowing teams a full 12 weeks to schedule 10 games without restriction instead of the current 11 weeks.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

The committee **DENIED**:

Allowing coaches to work with three (3) athletes at any given time in out-of-season skill building drills.

The committee **RECEIVED AS INFORMATION**:

Review of the Catastrophic Insurance premiums for 2014-2017.

CHEERLEADING COMMITTEE

Report presented by Wayne Tootle

The Committee **DENIED**:

Establishing travel reimbursement for cheer officials for all associations as follows:

- A. Cheer officials would be paid \$.56 per mile once they exceed 30 miles one way (60 miles round trip).
- B. Cheer officials would be encouraged to carpool and only the drivers would be paid for mileage.
- C. Associations would be encouraged to assign officials who are closest to assignments that were a long distance.
- D. Officials would be paid transportation for invitationals, regionals, sectionals and state.

The committee **RECEIVED AS INFORMATION**:

Proposal to define/clarify By-Law 2.56 (page 35): Officials or an assignor of officials may not be a head coach or an assistant coach at a GHSA school in the same sport.

ELIGIBILITY COMMITTEE

Report presented by Pat Blenke

The Committee **RECOMMENDED**:

Adopting the following new by-law: A student that transfers from a GHSA member school to an independent school

entering the GHSA in the next school year must be enrolled at the entering independent school by January 31 of the year preceding their becoming a member to be eligible and not in violation of the transfer rule.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

FOOTBALL COMMITTEE

Report presented by Earl Etheridge

The Committee **RECOMMENDED**:

1. Allowing schools that have a scrimmage game/games canceled or suspended due to inclement weather to have the following options:
 - A. Play the game on another night during the calendar week that the game was missed. (GHSA rules define a calendar week as from Sunday to Saturday. Sunday competition is not allowed).
 - B. Play the game during another week that you do not have another scrimmage or regular season game scheduled. No scrimmage game can be scheduled after the school's first varsity contest.
2. All applications for summer camps at GHSA schools or other facilities must be submitted by May 1, and all subsequent correspondence to complete the application must be completed by May 15.
3. Equipment allowed in summer (contact) camps is limited to helmets, shoulder pads and mouthpieces. Compression-style shorts or any other shorts that have thigh pads and/or girdle pads are NOT allowed.

The committee **RECEIVED AS INFORMATION**:

1. Discussion of when Wet Bulb readings are required for ALL sports.
2. Discussion concerning the amount of allowable contact work during a week of football practice.

LACROSSE COMMITTEE

Report presented by Lynn Dupree

The Committee **RECOMMENDED**:

1. Proposal to Edit item "D" under General Information (page 77) to read: The number of Lacrosse matches allowed (not including state tournaments) shall be eighteen (18). If a region/area chooses to hold a region/area tournament, those matches must be included as part of the 18-game total allowed. Note: **Effective Immediately.**

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

LITERARY COMMITTEE

Report presented by Jim Finch

The Committee **RECOMMENDED**:

1. Section L1 - Dramatic Interpretation. Proposal to change as follows (A & B together below):
 - A. Change name of event to Oral Interpretation.
 - B. Separate contests will be held in Humorous, Dramatic, and Duo Oral Interpretations in all classifications.
 - B.1 The selection should be of good literary value and appropriate to the contest.
 - B.3 A student may participate in only one individual contest in Oral Interpretation, but may also enter in the group event of Duo as per GHSA Rules.
2. Section L2 - Essay. Proposal to change as follows:
 - A. Separate contests will be held in Argumentative, Personal, and Rhetorical Essay in all classifications.
 - B.1c Three topics will be selected as appropriate for each essay discipline, or type of essay.
 - B.1d A student may participate in only one contest in Essay.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

3. Section L3 - Extemporaneous Speaking. Proposal to change as follows:
 - A. Separate contests will be held in Domestic and International Extemporaneous Speaking in all classifications.
 - B.5 A student may participate in only one contest in Extemporaneous Speaking.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

SWIMMING COMMITTEE

Report presented by Maria Bradley

The Committee **RECOMMENDED**:

1. Requiring all teams that qualify for the State Meet to present their complete coaching roster by January 15. This list must be electronically generated and submitted by the Athletic Director or Principal. Note: **Effective Immediately.**
MOTION PASSED (unanimously)
2. Increasing the number of entries in the consolation finals at the State Swim Meet from 8 to 10. The championship finals would thus be increased from 8 to 10 also, and 20 places would be scored rather than 16. Note: **Effective Immediately.**
MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

TRACK & FIELD COMMITTEE

Report presented by Tommy Stringer

The Committee **DENIED**:

1. Proposal to add the 4 x 800 meter relay to the "Schedule of Events" at the State Track Meets. This would increase the event total from 16 to 17.
2. Proposal to alter the format of the boys and girls State Track Meets. The proposal is to combine genders at the two current sites and split the two meets by classification with half competing at Jefferson and half at Albany.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Gary Phillips reminded the committee about the requirement for all schools to have an emergency action plan in place, citing a recent example where a student's life was saved. He also informed the group that the Privit Profile program for electronic filing of physicals is now free to all schools. He also told the committee about a new program to redistribute items from the dismantling of the Georgia Dome over the next couple of years. And he concluded by speaking about the new "Blue Week" to help fight prostate cancer to go along with the established "Pink Weeks" that help fight breast cancer.

OLD BUSINESS

1. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT: ARTICLE III - SECTION 2 - Subsection D (Second vote)
Delete current "d" and add: The number of classifications and regions together with the assignment of schools therein shall be submitted to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee, by majority vote, may approve, reject, or modify in any way the proposals submitted by the Reclassification Committee.
MOTION PASSED (unanimously)
2. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT: ARTICLE IV - SECTION 2 - Subsection D [new] (Second vote)
The Executive Committee shall have the authority to appoint smaller committees to address issues related to the operation of the Association and its regulated activities, and to consider proposals made by such committees. The authority of the Executive Committee shall be plenary in all matters pertaining to the Association and it may accept, reject, or modify any proposals made or action taken by any committee, the Board of Trustees, the Appeal Board, the Hardship Committee, or the Executive Director.
MOTION PASSED (unanimously)
3. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT: ARTICLE IV - SECTION 2 - Subsection E [new] (Second vote)
Each member of the Executive Committee shall have the right to vote on all matters coming before the full Executive Committee.
MOTION PASSED (unanimously)
4. ARTICLE IV - SECTION 9 - Subsection H (Second vote)
Delete sentence: Members of the Hardship Committee and the Appeal Board will not be eligible to vote (those members who heard a specific case) as a member of the Executive Committee when an appeal goes before the full Executive Committee.
MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

5. Proposal to reconsider the addition of By-Law 1.62 (h), which was tabled at the September, 2013 meeting: Students who are U.S. Citizens who have been enrolled in a high school in a foreign country for the equivalent of at least one full semester shall, upon return to the U.S., be eligible to participate at a GHSA member school provided that the student lives in the new school's service area and is otherwise eligible under GHSA age, eight-semester, academic and other eligibility rules.

Motion by Pat Blenke, second by Dave Hunter, to remove this proposal from the table and send it to the Eligibility Committee for further study and possible rewording, to be presented again at the Spring Executive Committee meeting.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Maria Bradley, second by Wayne Tootle, to send to the Eligibility Committee for study the practice of Charter Schools using non-certified employees as coaches.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

Motion by Donnie Griggers, second by Jesse Crews, to temporarily delete by-law 1.62 (b) on page 19 of the Constitution and to have the Eligibility Committee study the passage for possible rewrite or modification.

MOTION PASSED (Roll Call Vote #2 - Yes: 40, No: 14, Abstain: 1, Absent: 3)

Yes: Giddens, Hoffman, Horton, Griggers, Turner, Hunter, Maynard, Miller, Daws, McCrary, Stringer, Tootle, Finch, Marchman, May, Brooks, Pollock, Campbell, Jewell, Mashburn, Cooper, Lancaster, Mobley, Thompson, Arnold, B. Rogers, Hughes, Pinson, Crews, Ingle, Tidwell, Simpson, Drew, Bradley, Fine, Taylor, Floyd, Norwood, White. **No:** Jones, Long, Masters, Corr, Dunson, Adams, Wood, Fields, Byrnes, Barron, Vick, Queen, Dupree, Williams. **Abstain:** Blenke. **Absent:** Warren, Arasi, T. Rogers.

Motion by Pat Blenke, second by Maria Bradley, to delete item 4.41 (f) on page 53 of the Constitution concerning passes for members of the Georgia General Assembly (which they are not allowed to accept).

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

Motion by Wayne Tootle, second by Jesse Crews, to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)