

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Thomaston, Georgia 30286

MINUTES

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
August 28, 2006

The semiannual meeting of the State Executive Committee of the Georgia High School Association was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on August 28, 2006, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Macon, Georgia, by Dr. Gary Holmes, President.

The invocation was given by Dr. Ralph Swearngin, Executive Director.

Roll call by Joyce Kay, Associate Director, showed the following:

Monday : Present - 49 Absent: 1: Region 5-A Representative

Wes Taylor	Ed Pilcher	Wayne Tootle	Scott Horton	Robert Douberly	Raynette Evans
Fred Price	Mike Davis	Charles Flowers	Jesse Crews	Britt Ingle	Lynda Martin
Earl Etheridge	Craig Davis	Wade Marchman	Molly Howard	Mike Carswell	Stuart Bennett
Danny Cronic	Robert Davis	Rodney Walker	Sam Barrs	Windle McKenzie	Tony Arasi
Donnie Griggers	Ronnie Smith	Charlie Henderson	Glenn Tidwell	Chuck Taylor	Randall Edmunds
Ed Spurka	Ron Sebree	Charles Wilson	Rob Weltz	Larry Campbell	Veta New
Gary Long	Alan Long	Mark Coleman	Glenn White	Donnie Drew	Ray Broadway
Dave Hunter	Tommy Stringer	Mark Chanell	Terry Rogers		Lucia Norwood
					Walter Wade
					Gary Holmes

GUESTS PRESENT:

Craig Custance, *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*
Sarah Meinecke, *Macon Telegraph*
Rusty Hudson, AD, Westminster School
Jerry Cauley, AD, Forsyth Central High School
Nathan Turner, North Forsyth High School

APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Ralph Swearngin, Executive Director, introduced members of the newly formed Legislative GHSA Overview Committee present: Representative Chuck Martin (Fulton County) and Senator John Wiles (Cobb County). Both Rep. Martin and Sen. Wiles spoke to the Committee concerning the purpose of the Overview Committee and the need to work together on issues of concern.

Motion was made, seconded, and approved to go into Executive Session to hear student eligibility issues.

Heard County High School - Joel Rogers, AD, Cindy Richardson, Eligibility Administrator, and Tim Barron, Football Coach, presented the appeal for student, Morris Williams, for a waiver of the overage rule.

Motion by Mike Carswell, second by Donnie Griggers, to approve the appeal.

MOTION FAILED (voice vote)

(continued)

Benedictine Military School - Kelly Burke, Principal, presented the appeal for student, Adam King, for a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

Motion by Mike Carswell, second by Donnie Griggers, to approve the appeal.

MOTION FAILED (voice vote)

Motion by Donnie Griggers, second by Charles Wilson, to be allowed to present the appeal for Harrison student, Robin McElroy, to the Committee for reconsideration (denied at the Spring, 2006 Meeting).

MOTION FAILED (Roll Call Vote) No: 40 Yes: 9

No: Taylor, Price, Etheridge, Cronic, Spurka, G. Long, Hunter, Pilcher, M. Davis, C. Davis, R. Davis, Smith, Sebree, A. Long, Stringer, Tootle, Flowers, Marchman, Walker, Coleman, Horton, Crews, Barrs, Tidwell, Weltz, White, Roberts, Douberly, Ingle, Carswell, McKenzie, Taylor, Campbell, Drew, Evans, Edmunds, New, Norwood, Holmes, Wade.

Yes: Griggers, Henderson, Wilson, Chanell, Howard, Martin, Bennett, Arasi, Broadway

Motion was made, seconded, and approved to come out of Executive Session.

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.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Report presented by Wayne Tootle.

The Committee recommended:

Establish a Policy on Practices in Hot Weather:

- (A) Beginning March 1, 2007, each member school shall have a written policy for conducting practices (all sports) during times of extremely high heat and/or humidity that will be distributed each year to players over the signature of the head coach. The policy shall include, but is not limited to:
 - (1) the time of day the practices are to be scheduled at various heat index levels
 - (2) the ratio of workout time to time allotted for rest and hydration at various heat index levels
 - (3) the heat index level that will cause practice to be terminated outdoors
- (B) Additionally, a scientifically-approved instrument that measures the heat index must be utilized at each practice to insure the written policy is being followed properly.

The GHSA is to make the request that the State Board of Education consider adopting this proposal as a state rule.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

Delete the phrase "including summer activities" from By-Law 1.21.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote) EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

Establish a policy on "Open Events" (new By-Law 2.62 [d4]) to read:

In all GHSA sanctioned sports, there may not be any "open" competitions or exhibition performances that extend participation beyond the three levels of competition (i.e., varsity, JV, 9th grade) mandated in this By-Law. The only interscholastic contests in which results are disregarded are scrimmages or jamborees noted in the respective sport sections of the By-Laws.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

(continued)

Accepting the Finance Report/Audit Report given by the Executive Director.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

The Board of Trustees received as information:

- (1) A meeting will be held with organizations that work with literary competitions and a report will be given at the next Executive Committee meeting to look for better ways to administer those events.
- (2) The "dead week" will be interpreted as applying to school-organized activities only.
- (3) Preliminary inquiries are being made concerning expanding some retirement benefits for GHSA staff members.
- (4) A new, three-year contract with Georgia Public Broadcasting has been negotiated.
- (5) Report of the first meeting of the Executive Director and the Legislative Overview Committee.

BASKETBALL COMMITTEE: Report presented by Charlie Henderson

The Committee recommended:

Amend the format for First Round of Playoffs to allow doubleheaders when the host school is #1 and/or #2 seed in both boys and girls even when non-common opponents are involved.

- A. Must be by unanimous vote by all three schools involved with written approval of the principals of each school.
- B. Must be played on Saturday

MOTION PASSED (voice vote) **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**

Set the format for First Round that girls games be played on Friday and boys games be played on Saturday each year with no rotation.

MOTION FAILED Show of Hands: Yes - 22 No - 23

ELIGIBILITY COMMITTEE: Report presented by Glenn White

The Committee recommended:

Revise By-Law 1.45c to read:

An eighth grade student who has been retained for academic reasons is ineligible for participation on a sub-varsity high school team.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

Received as information:

The GHSA will retain its current policy on handling students whose end-of-course test scores are not back to the school by the first day of the second semester.

FOOTBALL COMMITTEE: Report presented by Earl Etheridge.

The Committee recommended:

Reword D-2, page 61, to read as follows:

At school workouts from the end of spring practice until the first day of practice in the fall, players may wear no other protective football equipment except helmets and mouthpieces for all voluntary workouts and passing league games. School teams may attend camps during the summer as long as they adhere to the above regulation.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

(continued)

Received as information:

1. Suggestion for restricting eighth grade students participating in spring football practice and make a study for the March meeting.
2. The new television contract will allow an additional championship game to be televised live at 3:00 on Saturday.

GYMNASTICS COMMITTEE:

Report presented by Lucia Norwood

The Committee recommended:

Moving the season forward by one week to have the State Meet the first weekend in May, beginning 2007-08.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

The Committee denied the proposals submitted by the Gymnastics coaches concerning several changes in procedures for qualifying for the State Meet. With further study a revised proposal is to be submitted at the Spring meeting.

OFFICIALS COMMITTEE: Report presented by Earl Etheridge

The Committee recommended:

Increase cheerleading officials pay as follows: \$7.00 per team up to 20 teams (minimum 12 teams), \$6.00 per team for each team above 20. (note: With this increase, cheerleading judges have been removed from the emergency travel pay procedure.)

MOTION PASSED (voice vote) EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

Keep in place the emergency travel pay approved by the Executive Committee in June 2006, through the 2007-08 school year at which time it will be reevaluated.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

Point of Emphasis:

In all sports in which GHSA sanctioned development camps are conducted, officials will be required to attend such camps once within a two year period to be considered for post season assignment.

RECLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE: Report presented by Earl Etheridge

The Committee recommended:

Isolation Policy: The Executive Director shall have the authority to work with any school that is geographically isolated within its region in order to resolve travel and time out of class difficulties.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

Received as information:

A proposal by Brooks County High School to classify with four classifications in the regular season, and eight classes for playoffs.

SOCCER COMMITTEE: Report presented by Dave Hunter
The Committee recommended:

Mandating completed games in playoffs:

(A) By-Law 2.93d - Note 2 (page 39): Football games played between schools from the same classification, and all region **and playoff** soccer matches must be played to completion. Any interrupted game must be replayed from the point of interruption. The school that is behind in the score may choose not to continue the game.

(B) Page 73 - new "N": All region and playoff soccer matches must be played to completion unless the team that is behind chooses not to complete the match. Matches that are interrupted by weather or mechanical difficulties will be replayed from the point of interruption.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote) **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**

Modify the seating requirements to host a playoff match (page 74 D-1) as follows:

A/AA - 750; AAA - 1000; AAAA - 1500; AAAAA - 2000

MOTION PASSED (voice vote) **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**

Add new D-4, page 74, (playoffs) to read: The playing area must be configured in such a way that spectators must enter through an admission gate.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote) **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**

Add new D-5, page 74, (playoffs) to read: The field must be sufficiently lighted to allow for night play for all semifinal and championship matches.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote) **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**

Received as information:

There will be a further study of a proposal from the Atlanta Silverbacks for the possible use of their stadium for championship matches.

SPORTSMANSHIP COMMITTEE: Report presented by Lucia Norwood
The Committee recommended the criteria for Sportsmanship Awards (See Attachment)
This GHSA Criteria may be used by any Region in selecting their winners, or they may use criteria already in place by their Region.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

TENNIS COMMITTEE: Report presented by Robert Douberly
The Committee recommended:

Change the format of post-season play to home matches for second and quarterfinal rounds (as has been done prior to 2005-06). The tennis calendar will be as follows:

Regular season ends April 21

First Round completed by Friday, April 27

Second Round completed by Wednesday, May 2

Quarterfinals completed by Tuesday, May 8

Semifinals and Finals played on May 11-12 at a neutral site

MOTION PASSED (voice vote) **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**

(continued)

Received as information:

Results of the survey of member schools concerning moving the tennis season, which was 2 to 1 to keep tennis in the Spring.

TRACK COMMITTEE: Report presented by Robert Davis

The Committee recommended:

In 2007 and 2008, the 4 x 800 meter relay will be a demonstration event at the region meets. All regions would report the participation numbers for the event using a special form. In 2008, the 4 x 800 meter relay would be a demonstration event at the State Track Meets. A form to collect participation data and criteria will be presented at the March meeting, 2007.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

Begin the first day of practice in Cross Country in 2007 on August 1.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ralph Swearngin, Executive Director, welcomed new Committee Members, commended GHSA staff, reported on various aspects of GHSA services to member schools such as meetings with the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, the Coaches Sports Medicine Seminar, Student Leadership Conference. He also spoke of the changes in the materials used for the Community Coach Certification program, new GHSA website, placing GHSA Constitution & By-Laws on website.

A financial report of the recent audit was given to the Committee. (approved during the Board of Trustees report)

Dr. Swearngin called on Gary Phillips, who gave a report on the new Wrestling Weight Management Program; Alan Sharp, who gave a report on the growth of the marketing of GHSA and high school sports to include two new licensees (Gatorade and Southern Orthopaedic Specialists); and Skip Yow, who presented information on the Legislative GHSA Overview Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

Second vote on the Constitutional changes as follows (changes are underlined):

Article 3, Section 3B:

Classification of public schools shall be based on F.T.E. (active enrollment) using the average of the counts of semester #2 and semester #3 of the preceding reclassification cycle secured from the Department of Education based on grades 9-12. ~~This count is based on figures from the nine (9) months immediately preceding reclassification.~~

Delete first existing NOTE and replace with: Classification for the school years 2008-09 and 2009-10 shall be based on the reports of spring semester 2007 and fall semester 2007. (Leave second existing NOTE.)

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

(continued)

Article 3, Section 3C:

Classification of private schools shall be based on enrollment information furnished by schools for grades 9-12 for the ~~nine (9) months~~ fall semester immediately preceding reclassification.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Mike Carswell, second by Lucia Norwood, to institute a fine of \$250.00 for each coach ejected from a GHSA contest (in addition to the sit-out rule).

MOTION FAILED (voice vote)

Motion by Jesse Crews, second by Raynette Evans, to institute a fine of \$100.00 for each coach ejected from a GHSA contest (in addition to the sit-out rule).

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

Motion was made and unanimously approved to adjourn.

