

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Thomaston, Georgia 30286

MINUTES

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
August 24, 2009

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 24, 2009, at the Holiday Inn Conference Center, Forsyth, 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 - 50

Wes Taylor	Robert Davis	Wayne Tootle	Scott Horton	Robert Douberly	Raynette Evans
Fred Price	Jack Webb	Jay Russell	Jesse Crews	Glenn Tidwell	Debbie Ball
Earl Etheridge	George Bailey	Wade Marchman	Sam Barrs	Ray Tootle	Patrick Blenke
Danny Cronic	Curt Miller	Rodney Walker	Carror Wright	Larry Campbell	Don Rooks
Donnie Griggers	Mike Davis	Mark Kelly	Greg Oglesby	Rob Weltz	Randall Edmunds
Ed Thayer	Ron Sebree	Alan Long	Dexter Wood	Duane McManus	Rudy Hampton
Gary Long	Charles Wilson	Mark Coleman	Glenn White	Scott Queen	Terry Rogers
Dave Hunter	Tommy Stringer	Bobby McAllister	Jim Hughes	Donnie Drew	Lucia Norwood
					Walter Wade
					Gary Holmes

GUESTS PRESENT:

Jerry Cauley, Forsyth Central High School
Nathan Turner, North Forsyth High School
Skip Yow, GHSA Legislative Liaison

APPOINTMENTS

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

West Hall High School - Dr. Greg Williams, Athletic Director, presented the appeal for student, Brian Ernst, for a waiver of the eight-semester rule. Student also spoke to the Committee.

Motion by Earl Etheridge, second by Wayne Tootle, to approve the appeal.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

Chamblee High School - Tim Walsh-Athletic Liaison, and Michael Truitt-father of the student, presented the appeal for student, Michael Truitt, for a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

Motion by Sam Barrs, second by Lucia Norwood, to approve the appeal.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

(continued)

Tucker High School - Franklin Stephens-Athletic Coordinator, and Stephanie Starks-mother of the student, presented the appeal for student, Stephen Starks, for a waiver of the eight-semester rule. Motion by Wayne Tootle, second by Jesse Crews, to deny the appeal.

MOTION PASSED TO DENY (voice vote)

Chestatee High School - Chip Underwood, Athletic Director, presented the appeal for student, Jeremy Wilkins, for a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

Motion by Ed Thayer, second by Jesse Crews, to deny the appeal.

MOTION PASSED TO DENY (voice vote)

Riverside Military School - Scott Sloan, Athletic Director, presented the appeal for student, Richard Preston Tribble, for a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

Motion by Raynette Evans, second by Don Rooks to approve the appeal.

MOTION FAILED (voice vote) **Show of Hands: Yes - 20; No - 24**

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 Earl Etheridge.

The Committee recommended:

Create a line item in the 2010-11 budget in the amount of \$75,000.00 that will help fund adapted sports with the American Association of Adapted Sports Programs.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

Approve the audit of GHSA finances for the 2008-09 school year. A copy of the audit is available from the GHSA office upon request.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

Place a moratorium on the expansion of GHSA playoffs until economic conditions improve sufficiently to warrant such expansion.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

Move the fall Executive Committee meeting one week earlier in August beginning with 2010.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

Approve the resolution to meet the necessary requirements of the revised IRS Code for the 403(b) plan for the GHSA staff.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

The Committee denied:

The request that Darlington School be named in By-Law 1.62 (l) as a boarding school that is exempt from the migratory rule.

The request to have the GHSA school year officially end on May 1 so coaches may become involved in coaching non-school teams that would compete throughout the summer months.

(continued)

The Committee received as information:

The discussion on the improvement for GHSA clinics and tests and other technological innovations.

The Committee tabled:

Discussion of the participation of 8th grade students in sub-varsity athletics, and the survey of member schools about this issue.

The proposal to delete By-Law 1.62 (l) that grants exceptions to the migratory rule for boarding schools.

The GHSA office will gather more information for the spring meeting on this issue.

BASKETBALL COMMITTEE: Report presented by Fred Price

The Committee recommended:

That the GHSA collect data on ticket sales/attendance for the first rounds of the girls playoff games held on Friday as opposed to those on Saturday.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

The Committee denied the request to move early-round playoff games to a neutral site.

GOLF COMMITTEE: Report presented by Danny Cronin

The Committee recommended:

That substitutions be allowed up until 6:00 pm the day before the start of the event as long as the student is on the roster submitted to the Region Secretary and that the substitution is made at the open position.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

The Committee denied the request to expand the girls' tournament to allow 2nd and 3rd place region medallists to advance to the State Meet.

The Committee received as information:

The request to modify all state golf tournaments by expanding the field of entrants and extending the tournament to 36-hole, two-day tournaments.

LITERARY COMMITTEE: Report presented by Glenn White

The Committee recommended:

Delete references in Quartet, Trio, and Solo requiring that music presented to the judges be an original and not a photocopy. Schools are still responsible for adhering to copyright laws.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

Accept the Georgia Forensic Coaches Association's proposal to leave Debate rules and regulations as they are presently for the 2009-10 school year under the auspices of the GHSA (including dates, team format, classifications). Beginning with the 2010-11 school year, the Georgia Forensic Coaches Association has requested that all governance of Debate be given to their organization and no longer be under the GHSA.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

OFFICIALS COMMITTEE: Report presented by Earl Etheridge

The Committee received as information:

1. A survey of issues raised at the Georgia Athletic Officials Association Conference. The GHSA will answer the issues raised and will communicate to schools about the need for better security measures.
2. The GHSA Officials Advisory Committee and the GHSA staff will prepare a report on evaluation procedures for the Officials' Committee for the March meeting.
3. A discussion on the registration issues involved in GHSA Basketball Camps
4. A discussion about the placement of information about officiating requirements currently found in the GHSA Accountability handbook for Officials - possibly placing that information in the GHSA Constitution & By-Laws.
5. A discussion on the possibility of doing regular-season scheduling electronically.
6. A discussion of local football officiating associations using seven officials in certain Saturday nights during the regular season.
7. A discussion of the new NFHS football rule mandating that all coaches be in the team box when the ball is live.
8. A handout outlining the issues that are relevant to officials being considered independent contractors.

RECLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE: Report presented by Earl Etheridge

The Committee received as information the discussion of the procedures that will be used and the schedule followed in the upcoming reclassification process for 2010-2014.

Basis for Count:

Public Schools: Average of the Spring 2009 and Fall 2009 FTE counts

Private Schools: FTE count as of September 8, 2009 (no multiplier used)

NOTE: Projected FTE counts where there has been a new school opened, a consolidation of schools, or a major realignment of attendance zones must be submitted to the GHSA by October 1, 2009

Late October: (depending on when D.O.E. data is available)

GHSA office will place the numerical ranking of all member schools and will delineate the five classifications on the GHSA website

Schools will have two weeks after information placed on web site to:

- (a) appeal the validity of the FTE count
- (b) submit a written notice to play at a higher classification

Mid November:

GHSA Reclassification Committee will meet to place schools in regions

GHSA office will place region alignments on the GHSA web site

Schools will have two weeks after information is placed on the web site to file an appeal for a lateral transfer to another region

Mid December:

GHSA Reclassification Committee will hear appeals regarding lateral transfers

Early January: (tentative date: January 12, 2010)

The GHSA Executive Committee will have a specially-called meeting to:

- (a) hear appeals from the December Reclassification Committee meeting
- (b) ratify the reclassification of schools for 2010-2014

SOCCKER COMMITTEE: Report presented by Dave Hunter

The Committee recommended:

Approve a clarification on page 76, Region/Area, Section A, #6 - add NOTE: When figuring "goals allowed" or "goal differential" in matches decided by penalty kicks, the winning team will have 1 goal added to their game score and the losing team will have no goal added regardless of the number of penalty kicks that were made by either team.

Effective Immediately.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

TENNIS COMMITTEE: Report presented by Robert Douberly

The Committee denied the proposal to allow coaching between all games and between points.

The Committee received as information:

The proposal to change the policy on match play for individual participants.

TRACK COMMITTEE: Report presented by Fred Price

The Committee tabled until the Spring meeting the proposal to hold Sectional Track Meets to qualify for the State Meet whereby the top four finishers advance out of the Region meet.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Ralph Swearngin, Executive Director, presented several points to the Committee to include: attendance down in playoffs as well as regular season; twelve new schools opening in 2009-10; superintendents have received forms for any new schools in 2010-11; eligibility seminars and rules clinics are now online to help cut down on travel costs.

Dr. Swearngin reminded members of the importance of fulfilling responsibilities, especially at Hardship and Appeal meetings, and that their willingness to be a part of GHSA programs was very much appreciated.

Dr. Swearngin commended the GHSA staff and announced that five staff members have received National recognition by being chosen to serve on NFHS Committees: Joyce Kay on the Spirit Rules Committee, Gary Phillips on the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee; Dennis Payne on the Baseball Rules Committee; Ernie Yarbrough on the Basketball Rules Committee, and himself on the Football Rules Committee and the Summer Meeting Advisory Committee. A volunteer worker will be added to the staff, Denis Tallini, who will be working with the wrestling weight management program as well as other duties.

Dr. Swearngin called on Skip Yow, who spoke briefly about the current legislative issues; and Alan Sharp, who gave a report on two new partnerships: teamIP - merchandise partner that includes a new GHSA online store, and Play-On! Sports - providing multi-platform distribution of Georgia high school sports content.

(continued)

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Scott Horton, second by Sam Barrs, that schools must have contracts in place for all football scrimmage games and a school will be fined if contract is broken.

MOTION PASSED (voice vote)

Motion by Scott Horton, second by Earl Etheridge, that all non-region softball games be held to a two-hour time limit and that region games be held to the same limit if agreed upon by both coaches prior to the game.

Horton rescinded the motion and will submit to the Softball Committee for the spring meeting.

There was lengthy discussion concerning the new Reclassification process.

Motion by Rodney Walker, second by Sam Barrs, that the FTE number for Class AAAAA be dropped to 1825 or more.

MOTION FAILED (Roll Call Vote: Yes - 18; No - 30; Pass - 1; Absent - 1)

Yes: Etheridge, Davis, Stringer, W. Tootle, Walker, McAllister, Horton, Crews, Barrs, Wood, Hughes, Douberly, R. Tootle, Campbell, Evans, Ball, Rogers, Wade

No: Taylor, Price, Cronic, Griggers, Thayer, Long, Hunter, Webb, Bailey, Miller, Davis, Sebree, Wilson, Russell, Marchman, Kelly, A. Long, Coleman, Oglesby, White, Tidwell, Weltz, McManus, Queen, Drew, Blenke, Rooks, Edmunds, Hampton, Norwood

Pass: Holmes Absent: Wright

Motion by Bailey to take the concerns to the Reclassification Committee for further study and brought back to the full Committee. Motion died for lack of second.

Motion was made and unanimously approved to adjourn.