

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Thomaston, Georgia 30286

MINUTES

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
March 21, 2011

The semiannual meeting of the Executive Committee of the Georgia High School Association was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on March 21, 2011, at the Marriott Macon City Center, 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:

Present : 49 Absent: 1 - Lucia Norwood

Wes Taylor	Ed Pilcher	Wayne Tootle	Randy Garrett	Alam Ingram	Raynette Evans
Danny Cronic	Garrett Black	Rodney Walker	Kevin Hill	Jesse Crews	Debbie Ball
Earl Etheridge	Mike Davis	Richard Jones	Sam Barrs	Britt Ingle	Pat Blenke
Donnie Griggers	Bob Brannon	Mike Parris	Carror Wright	Glenn Tidwell	Tony Arasi
Christian Suttle	Lee Segars	Mike Cammack	Greg Oglesby	Scott Queen	Randall Edmunds
Dennis Stromie	Ron Sebree	Jay Russell	Dexter Wood	Duane McManus	Rudy Hampton
Gary Long	Don Corr	Jay Floyd	Glenn White	Larry Campbell	Terry Rogers
Dave Hunter	Tommy Stringer	Tracy Sanford	Jim Hughes	Donnie Drew	Walter Wade
					Gary Holmes

APPOINTMENTS

Motion was made, seconded, and approved to go into Executive Session to hear student eligibility cases. NOTE: Presentation of appeals were made while in Executive Session; all votes were taken while not in Executive Session. For clarity, the outcome of each vote is given after the statement of presentation.

Rick Higginbotham, Principal Elbert County High School, was present to give the eight-semester appeal for student Agustin Bravo. However, the student was not present, therefore the Committee could not hear the appeal.

Steve Fortenberry, Athletic Director Dunwoody High School, presented the appeal to the Committee for a waiver of the eight-semester rule for student Emilson Rivera.

Motion by Ron Sebree, second by Bob Brannon, to approve the appeal.

Motion Failed (voice vote)

Rick Barbe, Soccer Coach Lakeside High School, DeKalb, presented the appeal to the Committee for a waiver of the eight-semester rule for student Ever Mendoza.

Motion by Raynette Evans, second by Mike Cammack, to approve the appeal.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

Georgi Brown, Principal Rockdale County High School & Gene Baker, Asst. Supt. Rockdale County Schools, presented the appeal to the Committee for a waiver of the forfeiture penalties for playing an ineligible Volleyball player.

Motion by Glenn White, second by Dave Hunter, to deny the appeal.

Motion Passed to Deny (voice vote) Show of Hands Vote: Yes: 22; No: 17
(See reconsideration vote under New Business)

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Report presented by Wayne Tootle

The Committee recommended:

Allowing schools to play varsity football games on Thursday nights if both schools and their Superintendents are in agreement on the issue as long as the game time is 7:00 p.m. or earlier and as long as the travel distance between schools is 50 miles or less (one way). Games that don't meet the time and distance criteria will need the approval of the Executive Director.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

Set admission fees for early rounds of softball at \$7.00 for a doubleheader and \$5.00 for a single game. Admission fee for the State Tournament will be \$10.00 per day.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

Reinstating the membership dues and the catastrophic insurance assessments for the 2011-12 school year at the same rate as in 2009-10 school year.

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>DUES</u>	<u>INSURANCE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
AAAAA	\$300.00	\$525.00	\$825.00
AAAA	\$240.00	\$425.00	\$665.00
AAA	\$210.00	\$375.00	\$585.00
AA	\$180.00	\$270.00	\$450.00
A	\$120.00	\$220.00	\$340.00

Motion Passed (voice vote)

Approving the 2011-12 Budget as shown on the addendum sheet.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

Extending the contract of the Executive Director from June 30, 2012 to June 30, 2014

Motion Passed (voice vote)

Approving the policy on selling email addresses for school contact persons to interested parties at a fee that covers administrative costs.

Motion Failed (voice vote)

Approving a policy that new officiating associations will be recognized only when it can be demonstrated that the needs of member schools will not be met in a better way.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

The Board of Trustees denied the the following:

1. Proposal to keep the GHSA Online Rules Clinics open until the date of the first Contest.

The Board of Trustees tabled the following :

1. Changing the wording in By-Law 1.41 (b) as follows:
"The physical exam must be conducted by a licensed physician, doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant. ~~An M.D. or D.O. must evaluate the student's health history form.~~
(Tabled until after status of House Bill 303 is determined.)
2. Problems involved with GHSA and GAOA passes and this will be a matter for study in the coming year. Currently 22,343 GHSA passes are given and that does not include GAOA passes. Attention will also be given to having college and universities pay for passes to GHSA playoff events.

BASEBALL COMMITTEE:

Report presented by Gary Long

The Committee denied the proposal to change the dates of the baseball season on the GHSA Calendar.

BASKETBALL COMMITTEE:

Report presented by Raynette Evans

The Committee recommended:

Under "STATE TOURNAMENT", page 56 - A1 (First and Second Round Games)

- (a) If a school's boys and girls teams are to host a 1st and/or 2nd round game(s), the host school may schedule a double header on either date of the respective round.
- (b) A revised financial agreement will be in effect.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

The Committee denied:

1. The proposal to revise the distribution of playoff receipts for the semifinal and championship games with all money being divided evenly rather than according to the receipts of the day each team plays.
2. The proposal to revise the bracketing for the basketball playoffs so that teams are seeded according to a power rating system.

CHEERLEADING COMMITTEE:

Report presented by Sam Barrs

The Committee recommended:

Allowing cheerleaders to perform stunts that are in accordance with NFHS rules without mats at basketball games.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

ELIGIBILITY COMMITTEE:

Report presented by Glenn White

The Committee recommended:

(NOTE: Underline text indicates new wording; text that is struck-through indicates a deletion.)

Allowing all-male schools to have cheerleaders who are students at other schools by

AMENDING BY-LAW 1.21

EXCEPTION: All-male schools may enlist female students from other schools to be on sideline cheerleading squads as long as the following conditions are met:

- (a) Each cheerleader must be eligible at the school at which she is enrolled, and must have a signed release from an administrator at that school.
- (b) Each cheerleader must have a GHSA Pre-participation Physical Evaluation Form on file at the school where she will be cheering as well as at the school in which she is enrolled.
- (c) Each cheerleader must have insurance coverage comparable to all other participants in GHSA activities.
- (d) Supervision must be provided by the all-male school for all practices and games.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

By-Law 1.68 (New "c")

In order for a hardship appeal based on a financial hardship to be approved, the new school must provide proof that the family attempted to address the financial problem with the previous school, and that the need-based financial aid was insufficient to resolve the problem. Increases in tuition or other costs at a private school is not an automatic reason to grant the appeal because such fee increases are considered foreseeable, and not unavoidable. Documentation of the financial problem is required.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

By-Law 1.71b - change to read:

Evidence of undue influence includes, but is not limited to:

1. personal contact initiated by coaches, boosters, ~~and sponsors~~ or other school personnel in an attempt to persuade transfer
2. gifts of money, jobs, supplies, or clothing
3. free transportation
4. free admission to contests
5. an invitation to attend practices and/or games
6. a social event (other than an official schoolwide Open House program) specifically geared for prospective athletes
7. free tuition beyond the allowable standards found in By-Law 1.82
8. a coach asking a prospective student for contact information

Motion Passed (voice vote)

By-Law 1.71 d (New)

A school will be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate it could not be reasonably expected to be responsible for the actions of a booster who is found guilty of the recruiting/undue influence violations.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

By-Law 1.72 (New "c" and "d")

- c. The player who played for a coach at the former GHSA school followed that coach when he/she moved to another GHSA school. This is not applicable for dependent children of the coach.
- d. The situations in this by-law are considered to be violations even if a bona fide move has occurred, and the hardship appeal procedures are available to demonstrate that undue influence has not occurred.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

By-Law 1.81 (New "a", "b", and "c" - move existing "a" and "b" to "d" and "e")

- a. If tuition is charged it must be paid by a parent, legal guardian, or other family member with the exception of payments coming from need-based financial aid.
- b. It is not legal for donated funds to be designated for a specific student that are given by non-family members, businesses, churches, or other organizations except for programs specified in state law.

c. schools may not employ students to work off their tuition costs.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

By-Law 1.73 (New)

A booster shall be considered to be an extension of the school and must abide by all rules applied to coaches and other school personnel. The following persons or groups may be considered boosters; members of the school's Booster Club; alumni; parent, guardian, or relative of a student or former student; financial donor; or a donor of time and effort.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

Revise the current Form B that will require more extensive information about the transfer situation.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

Conduct a survey of member schools (public and private) about the number of tuition-paying students that are enrolled and the cost of that tuition at each school.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

The GHSA staff prepare an online training session dealing with GHSA rules on recruiting/undue influence, much like the recent online sessions dealing with eligibility rules.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

Hardship Committee decisions to grant an appeal shall be decided by a majority vote.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

FOOTBALL COMMITTEE:

Report presented by Earl Etheridge

The Committee received as information a report on the gate receipts of the 2010 semifinal football games that were staffed by the GHSA-designated crews.

GOLF COMMITTEE:

Report presented by Danny Cronic

The Committee recommended:

Regular Season: Rule B3 (New):

If a coach receives information from an artificial device (as defined by USGA rules), and passes that information on to a player during a competition, it is grounds for disqualification.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

LACROSSE COMMITTEE:

Report presented by Donnie Griggers

The Committee recommended:

Under General Information, page 73, I-2 - change to read:

Regular season matches between teams in different classifications that are tied at the end of regulation play will end in a tie. For teams in the same classification, overtime will be played according to the overtime rules published by US Lacrosse and endorsed by the NFHS.

a. Team will play two (2) overtime periods of three (3) minutes each.

b. If the score is tied at the end of the second overtime period, a third overtime period will be played where the first team to score will be declared winner.

c. NOTE: This format will be used in all tournaments and the GHSA Playoffs.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

Add new Area Competition section, page 73:

A. Each Area shall have a written tie-breaker procedure in order to seed teams for the playoffs.

B. An Area may choose to use the GHSA tie-breaker procedure:

1. Winning percentage against all teams in the Area
2. Head-to-Head competition among teams that are tied
3. Goals allowed in head-to-head competition between teams that are tied
4. Goal differential in head-to-head competition between teams that are tied (maximum of 10 goals per game)
5. Goals allowed in all Area games
6. Goal differential in all Area games (maximum of 10 goals per game)
7. Winning percentage against all teams in same classification
8. At any point in the process where ties can be broken so that only two teams remain tied, consideration of head-to-head competition will be invoked. If the tie is completely broken for all teams involved at any step in the process, the tie-breaker process is completed.

C. If the Area is subdivided, then the same procedures listed above should be used.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

RECLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE: Report presented by Earl Etheridge

The Committee recommended:

Placing New Manchester High School (Douglas County) in Region 5-AAAA (South) for the 2011-12 school year due to changes in district boundaries that have occurred recently.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

A new reclassification plan for the 2012-2014 cycle that involves four classifications that will be split into two tiers each based on population sizes of the schools in each region. This will produce eight championships in regionalized sports.

Substitute motion by Jesse Crews, seconded by Wayne Tootle, that this proposal lay on the table until the next State Executive Committee Meeting.

Motion Passed to lay on table (voice vote)

SOCCER COMMITTEE: Report presented by Dave Hunter

The Committee recommended:

Under General Information, page 75, "H" - Delete #2. This will allow all sub-varsity soccer matches to be played with 35-minute halves.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

SWIMMING COMMITTEE: Report presented by Donnie Griggers

The Committee recommended:

Under General Information, page 79 - Add A4 (New) and renumber existing #4 and #5:
For divers, the maximum number of dual meet competitions using the six-dive format is ten. Additionally,

divers may compete in five invitational meets using the eleven-dive format.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

The Committee received as information:

1. Proposal to score the top 20 finishers at the State Swim Meet
2. Concerns about the State Meet getting too large
3. Evaluation of the State Meet held at Georgia Tech
4. Proposals to change qualifying times in several events

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Ralph Swearngin, Executive Director, gave a report to the Committee that included current financial data, the successful competitions held this year, and how well the organization has continued to adjust to the challenges faced. He emphasized the importance of understanding the missions of the GHSA and of working together toward accomplishing those missions. He reiterated that the role of the organization is to establish policy and the GHSA staff is to implement those policies on a day to day basis.

Dr. Swearngin called on the following for a report:

Alan Sharp, GHSA Marketing Director, updated the Committee on the GHSA Marketing Program that continues to enhance the GHSA brand. He gave an update on the new GHSA Retail Licensing program that has recently been launched.

Skip Yow, the GHSA Legislative Liaison, updated the Committee on Legislative actions that could affect the GHSA and/or member schools and discussed several Legislative Bills that may still be passed. He emphasized the importance of contacting state legislators on proposed bills that concern the schools, education, and/or the GHSA.

OLD BUSINESS

Second vote on Constitutional Amendment:

Section 9D.3. Appellate Procedure - add the following:

(a) An appeal of an eligibility decision must be based on one or more of the following reasons:

(1) There is substantial new information to be submitted that was not heard by the previous group

(2) There is an allegation that a GHSA rule was misapplied

(3) There is an allegation that due process was not given in previous considerations

All appeals shall set forth the basis for the appeal and facts supporting the same and shall be screened by the Executive Director for compliance with this rule prior to scheduling a hearing.

(b) An appeal of a decision by the Executive Director must be based on one of the following reasons:

(1) There is an allegation that a GHSA rule was misinterpreted

(2) There was an absence of due process given by the Director

Motion Passed (voice vote)

Dave Hunter gave a report on the work by the Ad Hoc Committee on Recruiting/Undue Influence.

Motion by Hunter, second by Earl Etheridge, to continue with this Committee for another year for additional study and possible proposals.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

NEW BUSINESS

Motion was made by Earl Etheridge, seconded by Jesse Crews, to name the GHSA Football Championships after former Executive Director, Tommy Guillebeau, who was instrumental in establishing those games at the Georgia Dome. The Executive Director is asked to study and make a proposal for the best method to carry this out.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

Pat Blenke gave a report to the Committee of the recent ruling by the NCAA Eligibility Center concerning core courses in math that could affect the NCAA eligibility of athletes applying to Georgia universities. Additional information will be provided on the GHSA website.

Motion by Dennis Stromie, second by Donnie Griggers, to reopen discussion on the Rockdale County High School appeal.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

Motion by Dennis Stromie, second by Donnie Griggers, to reverse the decision on the Rockdale County High School appeal.

Motion Failed Roll Call Vote: No: 36 Yes: 9 Pass: 1

No: Taylor, Etheridge, Suttle, Stromie, Long, Hunter, Pilcher, Davis, Segars, Corr, Stringer, Tootle, Walker, Jones, Parris, Cammack, Floyd, Sanford, Garrett, Hill, Barrs, Wright, Wood, White, Hughes, Ingram, Ingle, Tidwell, McManus, Campbell, Drew, Arasi, Edmunds, Hampton, Rogers, Wade

Yes: Cronic, Griggers, Black, Russell, Oglesby, Queen, Evans, Ball, Blenke

Pass: Holmes

Ed Pilcher requested that consideration be given to rotating play dates between classifications in the Basketball Semifinals to help with revenue for those weekday games.

Motion was made by Jim Hughes, seconded, to elect Jesse Crews President.

Motion was made by Raynette Evans, seconded by Dave Hunter, to reelect Gary Holmes as President. Gary Holmes was reelected President. Show of Hands: Holmes - 29 Crews - 17

Motion was made by Jesse Crews, seconded by Wayne Tootle, to re-elect Walter Wade as Vice President.

Motion Passed (voice vote)

Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to adjourn.

2011-2012 GHSA BUDGET

REVENUE:

CATEGORY/SUBCATEGORY	2010-2011	2011-2012
BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
INVITATIONS & REGION TOURNAMENTS	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 90,000.00
PREFERRED VENDOR SALES	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
STATE TOURNEYS & PLAYOFFS	\$2,200,000.00	\$2,237,000.00
DUES	0	\$ 95,000.00
INSURANCE FEES (MEMBERS)	0	\$ 160,000.00
COMMUNITY COACH REGISTRATION	\$ 260,000.00	\$ 300,000.00
TROPHIES & AWARDS	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
FINES	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
REFUNDS	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
INTEREST INCOME/TRANSFER OF FUNDS	\$ 314,000.00	\$ 0
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
RULE BOOKS	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 63,000.00
OFFICIATING DEPARTMENT	\$ 337,000.00	\$ 350,000.00
CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS	\$ 260,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
MEDIA PARTNERSHIPS	-----	\$ 30,000.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$3,820,000.00	\$3,837,000.00

EXPENSES:

CATEGORIES/SUBCATEGORIES	2010-11	2011-2012
PAYROLL TAXES	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 53,000.00
PRINTING	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
PROFESSIONAL FEES	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
RETIREMENT EXPENSE	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 74,000.00
SALARIES AND WAGES	\$ 613,000.00	\$ 631,000.00
STATE TOURNEYS AND PLAYOFFS (Expenses Plus Reimbursement to Schools)	\$1,500,000.00	\$1,425,000.00
STATE MEETS (NON-ATHLETIC)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
CLINICS AND EXAMS	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
EVALUATIONS	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
INSURANCE EXPENSE	\$ 760,000.00	\$ 760,000.00
OCCUPANCY EXPENSE	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
TRAVEL EXPENSES	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
OUTSIDE SERVICES	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
POSTAGE AND PARCEL DELIVERY	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
TELEPHONE	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
SERVICE CONTRACTS	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
COMMUNITY COACH PROGRAM	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
TROPHIES & MEDALS	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
FLOWERS & HONORARIA	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
REFUNDS	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
MARKETING EXPENSE	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 90,000.00
LICENSING SERVICES (Expenses + Reimbursement to Schools)	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
DISABILITY SPORTS	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
OFFICIATING DEPARTMENT	\$ 105,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
NFHS RULES BOOKS/PUBLICATIONS	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 85,000.00
SPORTS MEDICINE PROJECT		\$ 10,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,820,000.00	\$3,837,000.00