

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE September 17, 2012

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 17, 2012, at the Macon Marriott City Center, Macon, Georgia, by Dr. Gary Holmes, President.

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

Roll call by Steve Figueroa, Media Director, showed the following:

Monday : Present - 57 Absent - 1: Dexter Wood

Kevin Giddens	Earl Etheridge	David Brooks	Joe Lancaster	Alan Ingram	Lisa Williams
Kirk Hoffman	Mike Davis	Jasper Jewell	Todd Mobley	Jesse Crews	Pat Blenke
Evan Horton	Don Breedlove	Craig Parrott	Kevin Hill	Britt Ingle	Tony Arasi
Donnie Griggers	Phil McCrary	Tracy Sanford	Marvin Fields	Glenn Tidwell	Bill Truby
Christian Suttle	Don Corr	Craig Davis	Benjy Rogers	Kris Palmerton	Rudy Hampton
Milo Mathis	Tommy Stringer	Mike Parris	Greg Oglesby	Bob Stinchcomb	Terry Rogers
Gary Long	Wayne Tootle	J.B. Arnold	Rusty Hudson	John Thornton	Lucia Norwood
Dave Hunter	Jim Finch	Jeff Beggs	Glenn White	Donnie Drew	Gary Holmes
Ed Pilcher	Steve Nobles	Bruce Potts	Jim Hughes	Maria Bradley	Walter Wade
Michelle Masters	Eddie Payne	Carter Wilson			

APPOINTMENTS

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

Druid Hills High School - Trey Palmer, Athletic Director, presented the appeal for student Freedom A. Augmon, requesting a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

Motion by Pat Blenke, second by Tommy Stringer, to deny the appeal.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

North Springs High School - Tommy Amoroso, Athletic Director, presented the appeal for student Joshua Nelson, requesting a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

Motion by Tommy Stringer, second by Kevin Hill, to deny the appeal.

MOTION PASSED (Roll Call Vote #1 - Yes: 38 No: 16 Pass: 3)

Yes: Giddens, Hoffman, Horton, Suttle, Mathis, Long, Hunter, Pilcher, Masters, Breedlove, Stringer, Finch, Payne, Brooks, Jewell, Parrott, Sanford, C. Davis, Parris, Beggs, Potts, Wilson, Lancaster, Mobley, Hill, Fields, B. Rogers, Hudson, White, Hughes, Ingle, Tidwell, Palmerton, Stinchcomb, Thornton, Blenke, Truby, Norwood.

No: Griggers, Etheridge, M. Davis, McCrary, Tootle, Nobles, Arnold, Oglesby, Ingram, Crews, Drew, Bradley, Williams, Arasi, T. Rogers, Wade.

Pass: Corr, Hampton, Holmes.

Riverside Military Academy - Marc Paglia, Athletic Director, presented the appeal for student Dy'ves Jamon Martin, requesting a waiver of the eight-semester rule and academic ineligibility.

Motion by Wayne Tootle, second by Donnie Griggers, to approve the appeal.

MOTION FAILED (Roll Call Vote #2 - Yes: 21 No: 35 Pass: 1)

Yes: Hoffman, Horton, Griggers, M. Davis, Tootle, Payne, Jewell, Parrott, Sanford, C. Davis, Parris, Beggs, Wilson, Lancaster, Mobley, Oglesby, Hudson, Stinchcomb, Drew, Bradley, T. Rogers.

(continued)

No: Giddens, Suttle, Mathis, Long, Hunter, Pilcher, Masters, Etheridge, Breedlove, McCrary, Corr, Stringer, Finch, Nobles, Brooks, Arnold, Potts, Hill, Fields, B. Rogers, White, Hughes, Ingram, Crews, Ingle, Tidwell, Palmerton, Thornton, Williams, Blenke, Arasi, Truby, Hampton, Norwood, Wade.

Pass: Holmes.

Alpharetta High School - Kirk Alexander, Athletic Director, presented the appeal for student Julian Alexander Adams, requesting a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

Motion by Earl Etheridge, second by Glenn White, to deny the appeal.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

Dade County High School - Bradley Warren, Athletic Director, presented the appeal for student Colton Chappelle, requesting a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

Motion by Pat Blenke, second by Tommy Stringer, to deny the appeal.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

Chamblee High School - Dr. Ann Buskirk, psychologist for DeKalb County School System, presented the appeal for student Christopher Robinson, requesting a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

Motion by Jeff Beggs, second by Pat Blenke, to deny the appeal.

MOTION PASSED (Roll Call Vote #3 - Yes: 42 No: 14 Pass: 1)

Yes: Giddens, Hoffman, Suttle, Mathis, Pilcher, Masters, Etheridge, M. Davis, Breedlove, Corr, Stringer, Tootle, Finch, Payne, Brooks, Jewell, Parrott, Sanford, C. Davis, Parris, Beggs, Potts, Lancaster, Hill, Fields, B. Rogers, Hudson, White, Hughes, Crews, Ingle, Tidwell, Palmerton, Stinchcomb, Thornton, Drew, Bradley, Blenke, Truby, Hampton, T. Rogers, Wade.

No: Horton, Griggers, Long, Hunter, McCrary, Nobles, Arnold, Wilson, Mobley, Oglesby, Ingram, Williams, Arasi, Norwood.

Pass: Holmes.

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.

Tom Upchurch, President Emeritus of the Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education, spoke to the committee about his group's stance on the upcoming vote regarding the Charter School bill.

Skip Yow, the GHSA Legislative Liaison, gave a report to the Committee concerning issues in the State Legislature that pertains to education. He specifically spoke about the upcoming vote on legislation pertaining to charter schools.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Report presented by Wayne Tootle

The Committee recommended:

Adding under "Qualifications to Coach:" **By-law 2.51(f) and (g) (new)**

(f) If a currently certified faculty-coach at a GHSA school loses his/her teaching position because of a reduction in force action, that school may petition the Executive Director in writing for that individual to continue to coach without going through community coach training.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

(g) A teacher at a non-member school who is hired to be a coach at a member school must complete the GHSA Community Coach Education program and may not be a head coach. A consent form between the two schools must be completed annually.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

(continued)

BY-LAW 2.17 (Editorial Change for Clarification)

Region and Area Divisions: A classification in any sport will be considered **regionalized** when a majority of the schools (with a minimum of 5) in all regions participate in that sport. In sports where all classifications are not regionalized, the classes may be divided into area alignments and the classifications may be combined.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

BY-LAW 2.25 (ADD AT END)

A proposal brought to the Executive Committee and not approved by a subcommittee and/or the full Executive Committee, may not be submitted for three meetings after the previous submission unless a substantive change has been made to that proposal.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

BY-LAW 2.62(d6) (NEW)

No athlete will be allowed to compete in a GHSA game or contest (even in post-season play) unless accompanied by certified professional school personnel whose names have been submitted to the GHSA as coaches. Those students chaperoned by someone other than a certified professional will not be allowed to compete.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

Approved the 2011-2012 Audit Report and Financial Report. **Addendum:** Finance Report. (NOTE: Audit reports are available by written request.)

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

DENIED:

Proposal to modify By-Law 2.62(a) to allow GHSA member schools to compete against GISA member schools during the regular season.

ELIGIBILITY COMMITTEE:

Report presented by Glenn White

The Committee tabled:

A proposal to review and clarify By-law 2.61c that deals with practice activities during the school day. ("A player who participates in a GHSA sport may not participate in practices during the sport season that occur during the school day even if that practice is not a part of the school's practice activity.")

DISCUSSION ITEMS: Eligibility rules that have become overly restrictive because of educational innovations and/or program cuts due to economic issues.

FOOTBALL COMMITTEE:

Report presented by Earl Etheridge

The Committee recommended:

When WBGT reaches the 87-92 range during a practice, players may continue to wear football pants with pads still in them rather than forcing a switch to shorts.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

WBGT readings should be taken every hour beginning 30 minutes before the scheduled beginning of practice.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

A "walk through" is defined as a one-hour period of time in which:

- a. No protective equipment may be worn
- b. No contact work may occur
- c. No full-speed drills may be held

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

(continued)

During the five acclimatization practices, teams may hold a walk-through as long as there is a two-hour break between the two activities.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

A walk-through may not be held on days when two practices are conducted.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

If a practice is interrupted for a weather-related reason, the "clock" on that practice will stop and will begin again when the practice resumes.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

All heat illness policies are in effect for voluntary workouts that are held outside the sport season and during the summer.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

The committee tabled a request to review last year's decision to not allow players to wear shoulder pads at summer camps.

GOLF COMMITTEE: Report presented by Evan Horton

The Committee recommended:

Require all Area/Region and Sectional Golf Tournaments to play at a distance equal to or longer than the required distances for the State Tournaments: Boys – 6500 yards; Girls – 5500 yards. (Effective immediately)

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

Each school will pay an entry fee to participate in the GHSA State Tournaments as follows: Boys' team - \$120.00; Girls' team - \$80.00; Individual qualifiers - \$20.00. The checks would be made payable to the golf course to help cover their costs and lost revenue. (Effective immediately)

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

Each school will pay an entry fee to participate in GHSA Sectional Tournaments as follows: Boys' teams - \$120.00; Girls' teams - \$80.00; Individual qualifiers - \$20.00. The checks would be made payable to the golf course to help cover their costs and lost revenue. (Effective immediately)

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

In addition to the low scorer from a non-qualifying team in each region tournament advancing to the State Tournament to play for the individual title, the four lowest scores from the sectional tournament whose teams do not qualify for the State Tournament will also advance as individuals at the State Tournament.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

SOCCER COMMITTEE: Report presented by Dave Hunter

The Committee denied:

A proposal to allow high school Soccer coaches to coach a club team that has no more than five (5) players on the roster from the high school where the coach coaches and the players attend.

SWIMMING & DIVING COMMITTEE: Report presented by Rusty Hudson

The Committee recommended:

A proposal to score the top twenty (20) places in the GHSA State Swim Meet instead of the present 16 places.

(continued)

MOTION FAILED (Roll Call Vote #4 - Yes: 10 No: 45 Pass: 1)

Yes: Mathis, Long, Hunter, Brooks, Jewell, Parrott, Wilson, Hudson, Palmerton, Stinchcomb.

No: Giddens, Hoffman, Horton, Griggers, Suttle, Pilcher, Masters, Etheridge, M. Davis, Breedlove, McCrary, Corr, Stringer, Tootle, Finch, Nobles, Payne, Sanford, C. Davis, Parris, Arnold, Beggs, Potts, Lancaster, Mobley, Hill, Fields, B. Rogers, White, Hughes, Ingram, Crews, Ingle, Tidwell, Thornton, Drew, Bradley, Williams, Blenke, Arasi, Truby, Hampton, T. Rogers, Norwood, Wade.

Pass: Holmes.

TENNIS COMMITTEE:

Report presented by Bob Stinchcomb

The Committee recommended:

A proposal to replace the current GHSA rules against stacking (page 86, B1a-c) with:

1. Stacking of one's lineup is strictly prohibited in any regular-season match, invitational tournament, or state tournament match. An obvious attempt to stack a lineup (i.e., use a player or doubles team below their relative ability level on the team) may result in the immediate disqualification of the entire team.

2. For each regular-season match, the coach will choose three players (A, B, & C) to play singles and two pairs of players (D1 & D2) to play doubles that day. The best players of A, B, & C must play the #1 position in singles and the weakest player must play #3 singles. The best doubles team of D1 and D2 must play #1 doubles.

3. It is not stacking to alternate from match to match during the regular season the positions of A and B, B and C, and even A and C if the players are of relatively equal ability. Likewise, D1 and D2 could alternate if these teams are of relatively equal ability.

4. It is not stacking if players alternate from singles to doubles and vice versa, from match to match in the regular season as long as the singles players being used that day are listed from #1 to #3 according to ability, and the best doubles team plays #1 doubles. (Effective immediately)

MOTION PASSED (Roll Call Vote #5 - Yes: 53 No: 2 Pass: 1)

Yes: Giddens, Hoffman, Horton, Griggers, Suttle, Mathis, Long, Hunter, Masters, Etheridge, M. Davis, Breedlove, McCrary, Corr, Stringer, Tootle, Finch, Nobles, Payne, Brooks, Jewell, Parrott, Sanford, C. Davis, Parris, Arnold, Beggs, Potts, Wilson, Lancaster, Mobley, Hill, Fields, Hudson, White, Hughes, Ingram, Crews, Ingle, Tidwell, Palmerton, Stinchcomb, Thornton, Drew, Bradley, Williams, Blenke, Arasi, Truby, Hampton, Rogers, Norwood, Wade.

No: Pilcher, Rogers.

Pass: Holmes.

DENIED:

A proposal for non-region, regular season tennis matches to use a collegiate format of six (6) singles matches and three (3) doubles matches with individual players allowed to play in both singles and doubles matches.

TRACK & FIELD COMMITTEE:

Report presented by Jeff Beggs

The Committee recommended:

A proposal that the GHSA institute Sectional Cross Country Meets with a similar format as is used in Track and Field.

MOTION FAILED (Roll Call Vote #6 - Yes: 8 No: 47 Pass: 1)

Yes: Griggers, Mathis, Long, Hunter, Breedlove, Finch, Jewell, Beggs.

No: Giddens, Hoffman, Horton, Suttle, Pilcher, Masters, Etheridge, M. Davis, McCrary, Corr, Stringer, Tootle, Nobles, Payne, Brooks, Parrott, Sanford, C. Davis, Parris, Arnold, Potts, Wilson, Lancaster, Mobley, Hill, Fields, B. Rogers, Hudson, White, Hughes, Ingram, Crews, Ingle, Tidwell, Palmerton, Stinchcomb, Thornton, Drew, Bradley, Williams, Blenke, Arasi, Truby, Hampton, T. Rogers, Norwood, Wade.

Pass: Holmes.

(continued)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Ralph Swearngin, Executive Director, gave a brief report to the Committee covering several topics including the increase of hardship appeals and eligibility investigations and how more and more schools and school systems are policing themselves, which is the way things are supposed to work.

At the request of Lucia Norwood, he also spoke briefly on how the GHSA office will be organized now that long-time associate director Joyce Kay has retired and introduced new staff member Denis Tallini.

Dr. Swearngin called on Alan Sharp, who spoke on the rapid changes in technology the past few years and reported on the upcoming launch of the newly designed GHSA web site. He also mentioned some new GHSA sponsors.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Earl Etheridge, second by Wayne Tootle, to give the GHSA office the authority to amend the Class A football power rankings that erroneously included language that would have counted games against teams playing non-region schedules in conflict with GHSA by-law 2.16.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

Motion was made and unanimously approved to adjourn.

ADDENDUM

2011 - 2012 FINANCIAL REPORT (As of June 30, 2012)

REVENUE	\$4,108,468.17
EXPENSES	\$3,346,361.90
DISTRIBUTIONS TO SCHOOLS	\$ 804,747.73
ENDING SHORTFALL	\$ 15,072.37

MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES:

Six corporate partners did not send in their payments to the GHSA before the end of the fiscal year, and that totaled \$121,000.00.

RESERVE FUNDS: ** (As of August 22, 2012)

MONEY MARKET FUNDS	\$ 49,408.00
LONG TERM INVESTMENTS	\$2,750,181.00
TOTAL RESERVES	\$2,799,589.00

Increase in Portfolio:

Year-to-date: 10.4% Last 12 months: 12.3% Last 5 years: 2.8%

The published investment policy of the GHSA is in the process of being revised for presentation and approval at the April meeting of the Executive Committee. The policy was approved in 2004 and has not been revised significantly since then. The original goal was to accumulate reserve funds comparable to one year's budget. As the budget has increased over the past several years, this has become very difficult.

Since the reserve fund was created in the early 1990's, the GHSA has never taken money out of the investment accounts. The fund has increased 4.7% since its inception, and that has out-performed the S&P 500 index.

The GHSA investments are managed by CITIGROUP GLOBAL MARKETS INC. (Smith Barney). The portfolio is allocated as follows: Fixed Income: 30%; Equities: 68%; Cash: 2%

CURRENT STATUS (As of September 13, 2012)

Current Bank Balance (Operating Account)	\$212,381.20
Money Market Account	\$ 31,055.00
TOTAL:	\$243,436.20