

# GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES

### STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE September 16, 2013

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 16, 2013, 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 - 58 Absent - 0

Kevin Giddens	Earl Etheridge	David Brooks	Dexter Wood	Alan Ingram	Lisa Williams
Kirk Hoffman	Curt Miller (for M.Davis)	Jasper Jewell	Joe Lancaster	Jesse Crews	Pat Blenke
Evan Horton	Don Breedlove	Craig Parrott	Todd Mobley	Britt Ingle	Tony Arasi
Donnie Griggers	Phil McCrary	Tracy Sanford	Michael Thompson	Glenn Tidwell	Bill Truby
Steve Jones	Don Corr	J. T. Pollock	Marvin Fields	Scott Queen	Rudy Hampton
Milo Mathis	Tommy Stringer	Chad Campbell	Benjy Rogers	Bob Stinchcomb	Terry Rogers
Gary Long	Wayne Tootle	J.B. Arnold	Greg Oglesby	Larry Campbell	Lucia Norwood
Dave Hunter	Jim Finch	Jeff Beggs	Rusty Hudson	Donnie Drew	Gary Holmes
Kevin Dowling	Steve Nobles	Bruce Potts	Glenn White	Maria Bradley	Walter Wade
Michelle Masters	Eddie Payne	Carter Wilson	Jim Hughes		

## APPOINTMENTS

Motion was made by Earl Etheridge, seconded by Jesse Crews, 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.)

**Swainsboro High School** - Denise Warnock, Principal, presented the appeal for student Bryan J. Martin, requesting a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

**Motion** by Earl Etheridge, second by Dave Hunter, to deny the appeal.

**MOTION PASSED (Roll Call Vote #1 - Yes: 54, No - 2, Abstain - 2)**

**No:** Blenke and Hampton. **Abstain:** Crews and Arnold.

**Harrison High School** - Donnie Griggers, Principal, presented the appeal for student Promise Olaleye, requesting a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

**Motion** by Dave Hunter, second by Pat Blenke, to approve the appeal.

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

**North Oconee High School** - Terry Tuley, Football Coach, presented the appeal for student Thomas Carter, requesting a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

**Motion** by Tommy Stringer, second by J.B. Arnold, to deny the appeal.

**MOTION PASSED (Roll Call Vote #2 - Yes: 56, No - 2)**

**No:** Oglesby and Wilson.

**North Gwinnett High School** - Grady York, Athletic Director, presented the appeal for student Corey Manis, requesting a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

(continued)

Motion by Jesse Crews, second by Glenn White, to approve the appeal.

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

**Rockmart High School** - Steve Luke, Softball Coach, presented the appeal for student Jazzmyne Patrick, requesting a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

**Motion** by Earl Etheridge, second by Tommy Stringer, to deny the appeal.

**MOTION FAILED (Roll Call Vote #3 - Yes: 28, No - 29, Absent - 1)**

**Yes:** Giddens, Hoffman, Horton, Mathis, Hunter, Etheridge, Miller, McCrary, Stringer, Finch, Payne, Pollock, C. Campbell, Arnold, Potts, Wood, Mobley, Thompson, B. Rogers, Hudson, Hughes, Crews, Ingle, Tidwell, L. Campbell, Blenke, Hampton, Wade.

**No:** Griggers, Jones, Long, Dowling, Masters, Breedlove, Corr, Tootle, Nobles, Brooks, Jewell, Parrott, Sanford, Beggs, Wilson, Lancaster, Fields, Oblesby, White, Ingram, Queen, Stinchcomb, Drew, Bradley, Williams, Arasi, Truby, Norwood, Holmes.

**Absent:** T. Rogers.

**Motion** was made by Earl Etheridge, seconded by Kevin Giddens, and unanimously approved to come out of Executive Session.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*(Committee reports constitute motions by Chairman of the Committee, no seconds are required. **NOTE:** Proposals passed will go into effect for the 2014-15 school year unless specified to be "effective immediately.")*

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

Report presented by Wayne Tootle

The Committee **RECOMMENDED:**

1. Approval of the 2013-2014 audit and financial report (see attachment).

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

2. Amend **By-law 4.41d** (New 5): Individual with 20 years or more of service on the GHSA staff will be eligible for a Lifetime Pass.

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

3. For playoff events that are held at multiple, centralized sites, when venue expenses exceed 45% of the revenue for that day at that site, the GHSA will pay the excess expenses.

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

4. Surveying member schools about the development of Wheelchair Tennis competitions.

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

The Committee **RECEIVED AS INFORMATION:**

1. Proposal to evaluate the procedures used for the GHSA Reserve Fund when the next Executive Director has been chosen.

2. Establish the interview procedures for the Executive Director search process as follows:

a. Interviews with applicants to be held on October 2-3, 2013

b. Called Executive Committee meeting to be held on October 16, 2013, to vote on the candidate selected by the Board of Trustees.

### **BASEBALL COMMITTEE:**

Reporter: Don Corr

The Committee **RECOMMENDED:**

Adding an additional week of preseason practice for Baseball – starting 4 weeks before the date of first contest.

**MOTION PASSED (Roll Call Vote #4 - Yes: 54, No - 4)**

**No:** White, Hudson, L. Campbell and Oglesby.

(continued)

The Committee **RECEIVED AS INFORMATION:**

Allowing two weeks of arm conditioning prior to the first date for practices in Baseball. No bats of any kind allowed.

**ELIGIBILITY COMMITTEE:**

Reporter: Glenn White

The Committee **RECOMMENDED:**

1. Proposal to remove the term "Carnegie" from all notations about units used for student eligibility.

**MOTION PASSED** (unanimously)

2. Proposal to amend **By-law 1.62c:** The student was enrolled in a non-member private school in Georgia or was boarded at a school out of state and, without a bona fide move, transferred to a GHSA member school that serves his area of residence as long as:

(1-3) remain as printed

(4) "it is the initial move of the student from a non-member school serving his area of residence. (Note: Rules about joint custody transfers overrule the one-time transfer restriction in this by-law.)"

**MOTION PASSED** (unanimously)

3. Proposal to amend **By-law 1.62f:** "If one of his/her parents or the custodial parent is a certified teacher or administrator teaching at the receiving school. This opportunity is available one time only at any given school. (Note: Rules about joint custody transfers overrule the one-time transfer restriction in this by-law.)"

**MOTION PASSED** (unanimously)

4. Proposal to amend **By-law 1.62h:** "Students who are U.S. citizens returning from a foreign country shall be eligible as long as they live in the school's service area and are eligible according to age, eight-semester, and academic rules."

**Motion** by Jesse Crews, seconded by Wayne Tootle, to table this proposal until GHSA attorney Alan Connell can review the exact language.

**MOTION (TO TABLE) PASSED** (unanimously)

5. Re-write **By-law 1.68** as follows:

"Hardship applications may be filed by an administrator at a member school when a student does not meet the standards of eligibility outlined in By-laws 1.50 (academic issues) and 1.60 (transfer issues).

a) The GHSA Constitution (Art. IV; Sec. 5; Subsection B4) specifies that the hardship issues must be beyond the reasonable control of the persons involved.

b) The process for appealing a decision of the Hardship Committee is outlined in the GHSA Constitution (Art. IV; Sec. 9; Subsection C&D).

c) [remain as published]"

**MOTION PASSED** (unanimously)

6. New **By-law 1.96:** "Players attending national camps or all-star events may keep reasonable benefits for housing, meals, and transportation. Players may keep only equipment that is commemorative in nature and/or used in the process of the event's workouts."

**MOTION PASSED** (unanimously)

The Committee **RECEIVED AS INFORMATION:**

1. Proposal to amend **By-law 1.42(a2)** in regard to the number of high school graduation credits that a student may earn in middle school before entering high school by establishing a cap on the number of units earned to read "(2) the course is taken as an advanced course and student has not accumulated more than five (5) units of credit toward graduation."

**FOOTBALL COMMITTEE:**

Reporter: Earl Etheridge

The Committee **RECOMMENDED:**

(continued)

1. Establish a \$250.00 penalty for schools that change their football schedules after June 1. NOTE: Appeal procedures are available.

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

2. Change the bye week for Class A football teams in the post-season playoffs to the third round. EXAMPLE: For 2014, all classifications will play first and second round games on the same week; when Classes 2A-6A are playing quarterfinals, Class A will have a bye; all classes will play semifinals and finals on the same week.

**MOTION WITHDRAWN** by 7-0 vote of football committee on September 16, 2013.

The Committee **RECEIVED AS INFORMATION:**

1. Concerns about equipment allowed at summer football camps and possible rules changes at a later meeting.
2. For the 2013 season only: Allow Class A schools to count games against schools playing a non-region schedule in the Class A Power Ratings because of the late withdrawal of Southwest Atlanta Christian Academy from football.

**GOLF COMMITTEE:**

Reporter: Joe Lancaster

The Committee **RECOMMENDED:**

1. All State Golf Tournaments will be 36-hole events for all classifications and genders.

**MOTION FAILED (Roll Call Vote #5 - Yes: 22, No - 36)**

**Yes:** Griggers, Jones, Mathis, Long, Dowling, McCrary, Nobles, Payne, Brooks, Parrott, Potts, Wilson, Lancaster, Thompson, Fields, Oblesby, Hughes, Bradley, Williams, Arasi, Hampton, Wade.

**No:** Giddens, Hoffman, Horton, Hunter, Masters, Etheridge, Miller, Breedlove, Corr, Stringer, Tootle, Finch, Jewell, Sanford, Pollock, C. Campbell, Arnold, Beggs, Wood, Mobley, B. Rogers, Hudson, White, Ingram, Crews, Ingle, Tidwell, Queen, Stinchcomb, L. Campbell, Drew, Blenke, Truby, T. Rogers, Norwood, Holmes.

2. Entry fees will be assessed for teams and individuals to cover both days. The entry fees to cover both days will be as follows: Boys' teams: \$180.00; Girls' teams: \$120.00; Individual medalists: \$30.00.

**MOTION WITHDRAWN** after the failure of No. 1 above

3. Change the playing distances required for all Regional Golf Tournaments as follows: Boys: 6,200 yards; Girls: 5100 yards. **[Effective Immediately]**

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

4. Change the playing distances required for all Sectional Golf Tournaments as follows: Boys: 6,500 yards; Girls: 5500 yards. **[Effective Immediately]**

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

5. Change the qualifying scores for advancement to post-season competitions to:

<b><u>CLASS</u></b>	<b><u>BOYS</u></b>	<b><u>GIRLS</u></b>
AAAAAA	330	300 (3 scores)
AAAAA	340	330 (3 scores)
AAAA & AAA	350	330 (3 scores)
AA	360	220 (2 scores)

**[Effective Immediately]**

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

6. Change the number of individual qualifiers that will advance out of the Region Tournament.
  - a) At the conclusion of regional competition, the top individual not on a qualifying team will advance.
  - b) At the conclusion of sectional competition, 8 individuals will advance.

**[Effective Immediately]**

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

**GYMNASTICS COMMITTEE:**

Reporter: Lucia Norwood

The Committee **RECOMMENDED:**

1. The top 12 teams and the top 24 individual gymnasts will qualify for the State Qualifying Meet based on regular season competitions. **[Effective Immediately]**

**Motion** by Jesse Crews, seconded by Kevin Giddens, to table the proposal

**MOTION (TO TABLE) PASSED (Roll Call Vote #6 - Yes: 54, No - 3, Absent - 1)**

**No:** Wood, McCrary and Hudson. **Absent:** T. Rogers.

**LITERARY COMMITTEE:**

Reporter: Tracey Sanford

The Committee **RECOMMENDED:**

1. Mandating a progressive program of judges' training for One Act Play competitions.

a) 2013: At least one judge in each region or sub-region competition must have completed the training program.

b) 2014: At least two judges in each region or sub-region competition must have completed the training program

c) 2015: All judges in each region or sub-region competition must have completed the training program.

**[Effective Immediately]**

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

2. Requesting the Calendar Committee to review the dates for Region and State One Act Play competitions in regard to conflicts with Cheerleading and Cross Country State Championship competitions.

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

**OFFICIALS COMMITTEE:**

Reporter: Earl Etheridge

The Committee **RECOMMENDED:**

1. Mandating the use of Arbiter as the official GHSA computer program for officiating business beginning July 1, 2014, and strongly recommends that local associations use Arbiter as soon as possible.

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

2. Increase the registration fees for officials by \$2.00 per official.

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

The Committee **RECEIVED AS INFORMATION:**

1. Discussion of statewide training procedures.

2. Discussion of the procedures used by the Evaluation Committees in various sports.

**RECLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE:**

Reporter: Earl Etheridge

The Committee **RECOMMENDED:**

1. Maintain the six classification structure currently used with the same division of Class A public and private schools.

**MOTION PASSED (Roll Call Vote #7 - Yes: 50, No - 7, Absent - 1)**

**No:** L. Campbell, Oglesby, Bradley, Fields, Parrott, B. Rogers, Nobles. **Absent:** T. Rogers.

2. Classify schools on the FTE count of student populations for grades 9-12.

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

3. Conduct a survey of member schools (public and private) about the number of students who reside outside the school's service area.

**MOTION PASSED (Roll Call Vote #8 - Yes: 56, No - 1, Absent - 1)**

**No:** Drew. **Absent:** T. Rogers.

(continued)

4. Create a task force to study the results of the survey of students living outside the school service area to determine if there is a need to deal with that situation in future reclassification procedures. [Vote 12-1]

**MOTION PASSED (Roll Call Vote #9 - Yes: 56, No - 1, Absent - 1)**

**No:** Drew. **Absent:** T. Rogers.

The Committee **RECEIVED AS INFORMATION:**

1. Plan to assist isolated schools with the development of a "pod system" that allows schools to play regular season games against teams located near them, and then qualify for the playoffs in their assigned region.

2. A review of the "Reclassification Calendar" for the fall.

### **SOFTBALL COMMITTEE:**

Reporter: Don Corr

The Committee **RECOMMENDED:**

1. Proposal to allow time limits to be used at varsity invitational tournaments as follows:

- a. No game may be less than five (5) innings regardless of the time limit (4.5 innings if the home team is ahead)
- b. No time limit may be less than 90 minutes
- c. If the game is tied when the time limit expires, the International Tie-breaker must be implemented until a winner is determined.

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

### **SWIMMING COMMITTEE:**

Reporter: Rusty Hudson

The Committee **RECOMMENDED:**

1. Proposal for the 2014 GHSA State Meet to be a three-day event with an increase in admission fees to \$12.00 per day. [**Effective Immediately**]

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

2. Proposal to mandate an online clinic for Swimming & Diving Coaches about administrative procedures for qualification for the State Meet.

**MOTION PASSED (unanimously)**

### **WRESTLING COMMITTEE:**

Reporter: Tracey Sanford

The Committee **RECEIVED AS INFORMATION:**

1. Proposal to allow alternates from the Region Tournament to weigh-in at the Sectional Tournament in case a qualifier is unable to compete.

2. Proposal to change the Traditional Tournament to determine individual champions but no team scoring, and have only four classifications in the Traditional Tournament.

3. Discuss information accumulated concerning the number of matches in which an individual may wrestle in a season as requested by the Wrestling Committee at the last meeting.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Dr. Ralph Swearngin**, Executive Director, welcomed the new committee members and congratulated Assistant Director Gary Phillips on his being chosen to receive the annual NFHS Citation Award, which goes to an individual who has made significant contributions to high school sports on both the state and national levels. Dr. Swearngin also

(continued)

emphasized the importance of full compliance with state laws and GHSA rules concerning concussion management and player safety. Dr. Swearngin also called on GHSA attorney Alan Connell to review procedures for open meetings compliance and to show the new form he has developed for that purpose.

**Alan Sharp, the GHSA Marketing Director**, spoke on the increasing value of the GHSA brand and the marketing growth of the past 10 years.

**Skip Yow, the GHSA Legislative Liaison**, gave a report to the Committee concerning issues in the State Legislature that pertain to education.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Motion** by Dave Hunter, seconded by Tommy Stringer, to modify **By-law 4.22d**, adding the following: "Note: football may be exempted from the isolation policy."

**MOTION PASSED** (Roll Call Vote #10 - Yes: 54, No: 2, Absent: 2)

**No:** Nobles, Fields. **Absent:** T. Rogers, Hughes.

**Motion** by Jesse Crews, seconded by Wayne Tootle, to take the following proposal off the table and to accept the new wording of GHSA attorney Alan Connell: Amend **By-law 1.62h**: "Students who are U.S. citizens that have been enrolled in 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 PASSED** (unanimously)

Jeff Beggs spoke on the importance of having certified athletic trainers at every GHSA sporting event.

There being no further business, the President adjourned the meeting.

## 2012-2013 GHSA BUDGET

### REVENUE:

CATEGORY/SUBCATEGORY	2012-13 Budget	2012-13 Actual
BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 31,137.00
INVITATIONS & REGION TOURNAMENTS	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 122,572.59
PREFERRED VENDOR SALES	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 181,856.57
STATE TOURNEYS & PLAYOFFS	\$2,250,000.00	\$2,326,997.09
DUES	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 102,150.00
INSURANCE FEES (MEMBERS)	\$ 165,000.00	\$ 175,154.00
COMMUNITY COACH REGISTRATION	\$ 325,000.00	\$ 441,042.00
TROPHIES & AWARDS	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 23,515.48
FINES	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 208,177.90
REFUNDS	\$ 2,000.00	0
INTEREST INCOME/FUND TRANSFER	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 360.94
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 25.00
RULE BOOKS	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 38,224.00
OFFICIATING DEPARTMENT	\$ 375,000.00	\$ 390,669.00
CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 527,251.00
MEDIA PARTNERSHIPS	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 62,000.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$4,082,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,631,132.57</b>

### EXPENSES:

CATEGORIES/SUBCATEGORIES	2012-13 Budget	2012-13 Actual
PAYROLL TAXES	\$ 56,000.00	\$ 48,530.82
PRINTING	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 28,521.12
PROFESSIONAL FEES	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 28,858.20
RETIREMENT EXPENSE	\$ 79,000.00	\$ 74,373.69
SALARIES AND WAGES	\$ 700,000.00	\$ 653,232.14
STATE TOURNEYS AND PLAYOFFS (A)Expenses; (B) Schools Reimbursements	\$1,500,000.00	(A) \$ 643,354.40 (B) \$ 997,447.75
STATE MEETS (NON-ATHLETIC)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 28,223.53
CLINICS AND EXAMS	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 22,664.84
EVALUATIONS	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 16,153.19
INSURANCE EXPENSE	\$ 775,000.00	\$ 863,072.65
OCCUPANCY EXPENSE	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 29,135.77
TRAVEL EXPENSES	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 79,535.47
OUTSIDE SERVICES	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 134,140.71
OFFICE SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 28,881.79
POSTAGE AND PARCEL DELIVERY	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 38,219.58
TELEPHONE	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 18,337.85
SERVICE CONTRACTS	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 61,730.54
COMMUNITY COACH PROGRAM	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 163,849.21
TROPHIES & MEDALS	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 71,851.15
DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,080.00
FLOWERS & HONORARIA	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 4,628.51
REFUNDS	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 0
MARKETING EXPENSE	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 55,950.53
LICENSING SERVICES (Royalties to Schools)	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 49,622.74
DISABILITY SPORTS	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 493.20
OFFICIATING DEPARTMENT	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 81,880.80
NFHS RULES BOOKS/PUBLICATIONS	\$ 95,000.00	\$ 134,600.25
SPORTS MEDICINE PROJECT	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$4,082,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,463,370.42</b>

**BUDGET SURPLUS: \$167,762.15**

## 2012-2013 FINANCIAL REPORT

### OPERATIONAL FUND

<b>REVENUE:</b>	<b>\$4,631,132.57</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>	<b>\$4,463,370.42</b>
<b>REIMBURSEMENTS TO SCHOOLS:</b>	<b>\$1,047,070.49</b>
<b>BUDGET SURPLUS:</b>	<b>\$ 167,762.15</b>

### RESERVE FUND [AS OF AUGUST 31, 2013]

<b>MONEY MARKET FUNDS:</b>	<b>\$ 116,572.66</b>	<b>( 3.4%)</b>
<b>STOCKS</b>	<b>\$ 2,161,295.06</b>	<b>(66.5%)</b>
<b>GOVERNMENT SECURITIES</b>	<b>\$ 979,613.49</b>	<b>(30.1%)</b>
<b>TOTAL VALUE:</b>	<b>\$ 3,257,481.21</b>	

### GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The published investment policy of the GHSA was approved originally in 2004 and was revised at the April 2013 meeting of the Executive Committee. The original goal was to accumulate reserve funds comparable to one year's budget. However, as the budget has increased over the past several years, this goal was not manageable and was not necessary.
2. Since the reserve fund was created in the early 1990's, the GHSA has NOT 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.
3. The GHSA investments are currently managed by CITIGROUP GLOBAL MARKETS INC. (Smith Barney).