



**2016-2017**

**AAAAA**

**Constitution**

# **AAAAA CONFERENCE CONSTITUTION**

---

## **ARTICLE I - Name**

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the AAAAA Conference of the South Carolina High School League.

## **ARTICLE II - Purpose**

Section 1: The purpose of this conference is to strengthen the educational aims and the programs of activities which are held in common by members of the conference; to formulate and maintain policies that will safeguard the educational values of interscholastic competition; to cultivate high ideals of sportsmanship; to develop and direct a program which will promote, protect and preserve the health and physical welfare of all participants, and to promote uniformity of standards in all interscholastic competition.

## **ARTICLE III - Membership**

Section 1: Only members of the South Carolina High School League may become members of the conference.

Section 2: Applications for membership in this conference by a non-member school shall be made in writing to the Executive Committee of the conference.

## **ARTICLE IV - Officers**

Section 1: The officers of this conference shall be a President, a President-elect, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Past President. A principal or a former principal of a member school shall hold all offices.

Section 2: Should a vacancy occur in the office of the President in the interim between annual meetings, the President-elect should succeed him. Should a vacancy occur in other offices, the President shall appoint a successor.

Section 3: Officers of the conference shall be elected at the annual meeting of the conference. The conference year shall run from July 1 to June 30.

Section 4: The term of office shall be two years. Officers may be re-elected.

## **ARTICLE V - Executive Committee**

Section 1: The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of the AAAAA Conference and the principals who serve as region coordinators. A school will have only one voting member on the Executive Committee. If the region coordinator is also an officer in the conference, the region will elect a new region coordinator.

Section 2: The Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the conference, deciding all questions and performing all duties not provided for in the Constitution. The committee will decide all appeals and the ruling of this committee will be final. Any school filing an appeal to the AAAAA Conference shall bear all costs involved if their appeal is rejected.

Section 3: The calling of a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be left to the discretion of the President or a simple majority of the Executive Committee.

## **ARTICLE VI - Division of Conference**

Section 1: The conference will be divided into seven regions.

## **ARTICLE VII - Delegates**

Section 1: Delegates to the Legislative Assembly of the South Carolina High School League will be the seven principals who serve as Region Coordinators.

Section 2: The term of office shall be two years. Delegates may be re-elected.

Section 3: In the event that one of the delegates is unable to attend, he shall notify the President. The President shall appoint a substitute delegate provided he/she is a principal from the same region. The President shall appoint another officer to represent the conference in the event that he/she or the Past President cannot attend the Legislative Assembly.

## **ARTICLE VIII - Meetings**

Section 1: The AAAAA Principals and Athletic Directors will hold their fall meeting the first week in September. The Conference President will schedule the winter meeting that will take place the first week of February.

Section 2: The annual meeting shall be the spring meeting. The election of officers shall take place at this time.

Section 3: The President may call meetings for special purposes.

## **ARTICLE IX - Conference Championships**

Section 1: The conference shall sponsor and through its proper constituted committees completely control any and all championships where conference members take part. Championships shall be held in any activity where more than two-thirds of the members of the conference vote for it.

Section 2: The President of the conference shall appoint committees to take charge of the activities sponsored by the conference.

Section 3: The committee in charge of an activity will be responsible for promulgating rules and regulations governing that activity. The activity committee will be the initial step in all appeals relating to that activity.

## **ARTICLE X -Eligibility Rules**

Section 1: Any student participating in activities of this conference must be eligible under the eligibility rules of the South Carolina High School League.

## **ARTICLE XI - Dues and Fees**

Section 1: The conference shall require dues from each member school provided a majority of the conference members' vote for the same.

Section 2: The conference will not receive 2% of all football and basketball gross gate receipts beyond regional play until further notice.

## **ARTICLE XII - Balloting**

Section 1: Each member school shall have one vote for all balloting at the annual meeting and for other meetings of the conference.

Section 2: The principal of a member school, or his duly appointed representative, shall cast a vote.

## **ARTICLE XIII - Quorum**

Section 1: Forty-one percent of the membership shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

## **ARTICLE XIV - Parliamentary Authority**

Section 1: Robert's Rules of Order, revised, shall be the parliamentary authority for this conference.

## **ARTICLE XV - Amendments**

Section 1: Proposed amendments shall be acted upon at a regular meeting and a two-thirds majority of the representatives of member schools present and voting shall be required for adoption.

Section 2: Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the President at least thirty days prior to the regular meeting.

Section 3: Proposed amendments must be submitted to member schools not less than ten days prior to the regular meeting.

# BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE I - Amendments

- Section 1: By-laws and regulations for this conference may be adopted, amended, or repealed at any regular meeting by a two-thirds majority vote.
- Section 2: Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the president at least 30 days prior to the regularly scheduled AAAAA meeting.
- Section 3: Proposed amendments must be submitted to member schools not less than 10 days prior to regularly scheduled meetings.
- Section 4: "Amendments meeting the provisions of Section 2 and Section 3 will require a simple majority vote at the annual meeting."
- Section 5: The provisions of Article 1, Sections 2 and 3, may be omitted at the annual meeting provided the following occur:
- Proposed amendments must be submitted to the appropriate standing committee.
  - The committee must present the proposal to the body with a vote of support or non-support.
  - The proposed amendments must meet the approval of 2/3 of the member schools present and voting.

## ARTICLE II - Division of Conference

Section 1: The AAAAA Conference shall be divided into seven regions for all athletic activities. 2016-2018, the regions will be:

<b>I</b>	<b>II</b>	<b>III</b>	<b>IV</b>
Easley JL Mann TL Hanna Westside Woodmont	Greenwood Hillcrest Laurens Mauldin Riverside Wade Hampton (G)	Boiling Springs Byrnes Dorman Gaffney Spartanburg	Clover Ft. Mill Nation Ford Northwestern Rock Hill
<b>V</b>	<b>VI</b>	<b>VII</b>	
Blythewood Dutch Fork Irmo Lexington River Bluff Spring Valley White Knoll	Carolina Forest Conway Socastee South Florence Sumter West Florence	Ashley Ridge Fort Dorchester Goose Creek James Island Stratford Summerville Wando West Ashley	

Section 3: At the annual meeting each year the members of each region will elect a principal to serve as region coordinator for the next school year. The coordinator will call meetings to decide on the sites and the method of determining regional champions in accordance with the rules of the AAAAA Conference.

### **ARTICLE III - Championships**

Section 1: The conference shall sponsor championships in football, competitive cheer, girls & boys basketball, baseball, girls & boys golf, girls & boys track, girls & boys tennis, wrestling, volleyball, softball, girls & boys soccer, girls & boys swimming, girls & boys cross-country and girls & boys lacrosse.

### **ARTICLE IV - Committees**

Section 1: Standing Committees of the conference shall be composed of three or more principals. Each region will select a representative member for each standing committee. The president shall designate the chairman.

Section 2: The Athletic Director shall serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member on the committee with their principal.

Section 3: The Standing Committees shall be as follows:

Finance	Nominating	Tennis
Volleyball	Constitution/Bylaws	Wrestling
Football	Soccer	Golf
Basketball	Track/Cross Country	Competitive Cheer
Softball/Baseball	Swimming	Lacrosse
Brackets		

Section 4: During those years when realignment of the South Carolina High School League occurs, the Executive Committee of the AAAAA Conference shall serve as the AAAAA Realignment Committee to compose the regional alignment.

- I. The AAAAA President will instruct the officers and region coordinators that they will comprise the above (reclassification) committee. If an officer is also a region coordinator, then that region will elect another region coordinator.
- II. The committee's first called meeting will be at the annual spring meeting of the AAAAA conference. This meeting will be called after the region coordinators for the next year have been elected. Procedure for reviewing plans will be decided at this time.
- III. At the fall principal's meeting of a realignment year, the dates for this committee's meetings will be given. **Note:** The 135-day enrollment will not be available at this time but those schools expecting and who can show hardships should make these available to the committee at this time.
- IV. At the winter principal's meeting, the committee will present those plans, which it recommends to be studied for final presentation to the conference.
- V. The number of schools that will make up the AAAAA Conference will be distributed to those regions as recommended by the Executive Committee of AAAAA.
- VI. This committee will make the final decision to give to the AAAAA representative on the SCHSL Executive Committee.

Section 5: The chairman of each committee shall prepare a written report detailing the rules and regulations governing his committee's activity for the following school year for distribution at the annual meeting.

#### **ARTICLE V**

Section 1: Schools will exchange a minimum of 25 tickets for all football contests.

#### **ARTICLE VI**

Section 1: Nothing contained in these amendments or bylaws shall supersede the Constitution and Bylaws of the South Carolina High School League.

#### **ARTICLE VII**

Section 1: The secretary of the conference shall be paid an honorarium of \$300.00.

Section 2: The treasurer of the conference shall be paid an honorarium of \$300.00.

Section 3: The athletic director's secretary shall be paid an honorarium of \$300.00.

#### **ARTICLE VIII**

Section 1: Any combination of schools request where the combined enrollment of the combining schools exceeds the enrollment of the largest AAAAA school will be denied. This will be based on the 135-day count of the previous year as it pertains to the largest school and the requesting combinations.

# **SPORTSMANSHIP**

Sportsmanship is a general way of thinking and behaving. In order for school activity programs to continue to be positive educational experiences, fans and participants need to be cognizant of the necessity for good sportsmanship and the means by which it is attained.

Fans attend athletic contests to cheer for and support their team and coaching staff, to enjoy competition, and to demonstrate appreciation for the athletes' skills. Fans should avoid booing, jeering, or making negative antagonistic remarks to participants and other fans.

All viewing fans and participants in high school contest should:

- Show respect for the opponent at all times and treat them as guests.
- Show respect for the officials. Good sportsmanship is the willingness to accept and abide by the decisions of the officials.
- Know, understand, and appreciate the rules of the contest. Good sportsmanship suggests the importance of conforming to the spirit as well as the letter of the rules.
- Maintain self-control at all times. Good sportsmanship is concerned with the behavior of not only the participants, but also the fans.
- Permit only positive behavior to reflect on your school and its activities.
- Win with character and lose with dignity.

It is suggested that administrators and athletic directors of school see to the following communication items:

- Coaches' expectations regarding sportsmanship of his/her players.
- Principal's expectations regarding sportsmanship to his/her student body (pep rally, assembly).
- A statement on "Sportsmanship" in the football program.
- A PA announcement before the beginning of each game on "Sportsmanship."

## **THINGS GOOD HOST SCHOOLS DO**

1. Prior to the start of a sports season, send a packet of information to visiting schools. Suggested contents may include:

- Maps of school site, directions, & preferred driving routes
- Phone numbers of school and home phone numbers of principal and athletic director, fax number of school
- Agreement on provision of refreshments, pre- or post- game meals, etc.
- Hospital used in case of serious injury of athletes
- Instructions for parking of buses of teams, bands and fans
- Specific of warm-up areas
- Half time information
- Complimentary tickets (if applicable) and instructions for use
- Provisions for press box and video personnel
- Locker room and shower arrangement

2. Arrange for a greeter or escort to meet coaches/team upon arrival.



3. Demonstrate a respectful and welcoming attitude towards the visiting coach and his/her staff.
4. Provide for a secure locker room.
5. Provide emergency medical technicians, EMS units and /or certified trainer on site if at all possible. Have a physician on call or available at the site if possible.
6. Emphasize on PA system the definition and importance of sportsmanship.
7. Provide, to the best of your ability, a safe and easy exit after the contest.

### **THINGS GOOD VISITING SCHOOLS DO**

1. Inform the host coach of your estimated time of arrival.
2. Make known to the host coach your needs (half-time refreshments, pre-game meals, etc.)
3. Supervise and maintain control of your athletes from arrival until departure.
4. Protect and respect host school property, equipment, and facilities.
5. Leave bench area and locker rooms clean of refuse (pick up trash, etc.)

### **SECURITY**

It is the responsibility of the host school to provide a safe and controlled atmosphere. Each school should comply with Article VIII, Section 9 of the High School League Constitution. Participants, coaches, and fans should expect to enjoy an athletic contest without threat or concern for their safety or wellbeing. The visiting school has a mutual obligation to contribute towards this objective.