

**Legislative Assembly Meeting
March 16, 2021
Columbia, South Carolina**

Sam Tuten, President of the SC High School League Executive Committee, called the meeting to order.

Jamie Johnson delivered the invocation.

Associate Commissioner Amy Boozer conducted the roll call of delegates. No delegate was present for Class AAAA – Region 7 and Class AA – Region 6. All others were present in person or via proxy.

A motion to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2020, Legislative Assembly Meeting was approved.

Commissioner's Report:

Commissioner Jerome Singleton delivered a report on the financial status of the League. As of March 15, 2021, the operating account had a balance of \$245,104.54, and investment accounts totaled \$1,977,979.44. Collectively, the SC High School League is in a good financial position.

Constitutional Amendment Proposals:

Mrs. Helen McFadden served as Parliamentarian during the Legislative Assembly.

The following proposals were presented to the delegates for their vote:

Constitution

Article: V. Membership

Section: 3 A & B Classification and Membership

Submitted by: SCHSL Commissioner

Currently reads:

- A. The membership will be divided into a minimum of three (3) classifications and a maximum of six (6) determined by enrollments in grades 9-11. The reclassification process will use the 45 ADM (Grades 9-11) from each school during the fall semester of odd number realignment years. The realignment will become effective the fall semester of the following even-numbered year, for a period of two (2) years.
- B. The number of classifications will be determined by the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee. In making this decision the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee will consider the number of schools to be in each of the resulting classifications and the number of regions into which these will be further divided. The schools will be divided among classifications, numerically, as evenly as possible, based on school enrollment count.

Change to read:

- A. The membership will be divided into a minimum of three (3) classifications and a maximum of six (6) determined by multiple factors to include enrollments in grades 9-11. The reclassification process will use the 45 ADM (Grades 9-11) from each school during the fall semester of odd number realignment years. The realignment will become effective the fall semester of the following even-numbered year, for a period of two (2) years.**

- B. The number of classifications will be determined by the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee. In making this decision the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee will consider the number of schools to be in each of the resulting classifications and the number of regions into which these will be further divided. The schools will be divided among classifications, as evenly as possible, based on multiple factors to include school enrollment count.**

Rationale:

The change provides the committee(s) charged with creating the Reclassification/Realignment document, flexibility in considering other factors that may help to create a more competitive balance.

Passed

A motion to approve passed with a vote of 148.23 to 65.61.

Constitution

Article: V. Membership

Section 3 D

Submitted by: SCHSL Commissioner

Currently reads:

D. Any appeals from the classification and/or region placements will be heard by the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee, or its designee. The South Carolina High School League Executive Committee may delegate classification and/or region appeal duties to Classifications Executive Committees selected to represent the member schools of the class, which will determine the appeal as to region assignment. Member schools may appeal decisions made by the Classification Appeals Committee to the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee and Appellate Panel.

Change to read:

D. Any appeals from the classification and/or region placements will be heard by the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee, or its designee. The South Carolina High School League Executive Committee may delegate classification and/or region appeal duties to Classifications Executive Committees selected to represent the member schools of the class, which will determine the appeal as to region assignment. Member schools may appeal decisions made by the Classification Appeals Committee to the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee, and if required by state law or proviso, subsequent appeals may be made to the Appellate Panel.

Rationale:

The change further clarifies the authority of the Appellate Panel.

Passed

A motion to approve passed with a vote of 200.63 to 10.33.

Bylaws

Article: VII. League Passes

Submitted by: SCHSL Commissioner

Currently reads:

- A. The South Carolina High School League office will issue identification cards (passes) to member schools according to the following plan and only League passes will be honored for League playoff contests.

Change to read:

- A. The South Carolina High School League office will issue identification cards (passes) to member schools for entry into South Carolina High School League sponsored athletics events according to the following plan and only South Carolina High School League passes will be honored for League playoff contests.**

Rationale:

This change clarifies the intended use of the League Passes.

Passed

A motion to approve passed with a vote of 205.83 to 0.

Constitution
Article: VIII – Appellate Panel
Section 1 Powers and Duties
Submitted by: SCHSL Commissioner

Currently reads:

Section 1 Powers and Duties

The Appellate Panel shall be the final authority in all appeals involving member schools. Member schools must have the ability to appeal a ruling of the subdivisions, conferences, or regions of the South Carolina High School League. The Appellate Panel must provide the final ruling in any appeal brought against a decision on appeal from the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee. Decisions of the Appellate Panel shall be the final administrative appeal. Any school or person granted a meeting of the Appellate Panel to hear an appeal shall pay the expenses of the meeting if the ruling of the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee is sustained. Individual(s) not representing a school must post a \$200 deposit prior to their appeal.

Change to read:

The Appellate Panel shall be the final authority in appeals involving member schools and consistent with the scope of authority given to the Appellate Panel under state law or proviso. Decisions of the Appellate Panel shall be the final administrative appeal. Any school or person granted a meeting of the Appellate Panel to hear an appeal shall pay the expenses of the meeting if the ruling of the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee is sustained. Individual(s) not representing a school must post a \$200 deposit prior to their appeal.

Rationale:

This change further clarifies the authority of the Appellate Panel.

Passed

A motion to approve passed with a vote of 194.45 to 11.38.

Bylaws
Article: III. Student Eligibility
Section: 10 Transfers

Submitted by: Fox Creek High School

Currently reads:

A transfer student will be ineligible for a period of one calendar year at the new school unless he/she transfers under one of the circumstances set forth in subsections (A) through (N) below and only if he/she meets the following two criteria irrespective of whether he/she moves under one of the circumstances set forth in subsections (A) through (N).

Change to read:

A transfer student will be ineligible for a period of one calendar year at the new school unless he/she transfers under one of the circumstances set forth in subsections (A) through (N) below and only if he/she meets the following two criteria irrespective of whether he/she moves under one of the circumstances set forth in subsections (A) through (N). An ineligible transfer student meeting the two criteria, but not any of the

circumstances of subsection (A) through (N) may compete with LIMITED ELIGIBILITY in any sport with a letter of support from the principal of the school from which the athlete is eligible. An ineligible transfer student meeting the two criteria, but not any of the circumstances of subsection (A) through (N) may compete with ELIGIBILITY in any sport they did not participate in at their previous school and must have a letter of support from the principal of the school from which the athlete is eligible. The student cannot have participated in the sport in which he/she wishes to be certified during the current school year. This type of transfer of eligibility is only allowed once every (365 days) calendar year and is applicable to inter-district and intra-district transfers.

Rationale:

This change allows a student to participate with FULL ELIGIBILITY in a sport or sports, he/she has not participated in during the previous sport(s) season(s) at their previous school. It also ensures that a child be permitted LIMITED ELIGIBILITY at any school they attend provided age and grade guidelines are met. The intent is to promote extracurricular activity amongst all students to help promote positive social-emotional health.

Failed

A motion to approve failed with a vote of 82.51 to 123.3.

Other Business:

A motion to delegate the SC High School League Staff to conduct the 2022-2024 reclassification/realignment process **passed with a vote of 193.91 to 11.89.**

A motion to keep the current membership dues structure of: Class AAAAA - \$3,500 per school; Class AAAA - \$2,500 per school; Class AAA - \$2,000 per school; Class AA - \$1500 per school; Class A - \$1,000 per school; Middle Schools - \$350 per school **passed with a vote of 192.16 to 13.67.**

New Business:

Sam Tuten recognized the outgoing member of the Executive Committee, Class AAAAA Representative, Jason Johns.

He then recognized the new Class AAAAA Representative, Dr. Luke Clamp.

Mr. Tuten shared in his closing remarks that those in leadership roles should view their positions, not as positions of power, but of servanthood. He offered his words of encouragement to impact the lives of others in a positive way; to make your voice heard; to act under your own convictions and act with passion.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,


Jerome Singleton, Commissioner
SC High School League.