

SOUTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE
P.O. BOX 211575
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29221-6575
January 12, 2022

The Executive Committee of the South Carolina High School League met on January 12, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. at the SCHSL Office, 121 Westpark Blvd, Columbia, South Carolina. The following members were present: Jason Warren, Andy Rogers, Sony Bryant, Nicholas Pearson, Michael Stone, Laura Hickson, Kandace Bethea, Josh Trahan, Mike Beasley, Tony Folk, Andrea Pridgen, Ryan Brown, Kyle Boczkowski, Carlos Cave and Jason Holt.

Jason Warren called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Warren

Prayer led by Tony Folk

Appeals:

- Bishop England High School (attendance zone) – **DENIED**
- Wando High School (eligibility) – **PASSED**

Subcommittee Reports

Legislative (Sonya Bryant, Chair)

The following Constitution and By-law proposals were submitted for the 2022-2023 school year:

Constitution

Submitted by: SCHSL Handbook Review Committee

ARTICLE V – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Who May Join

Currently Reads:

- A. Public high schools, including public charter high schools, but excluding virtual schools, accredited by the South Carolina Department of Education whose principal or superintendent, with the approval of the governing board, agrees to conform to the rules and regulations of the South Carolina High School League shall be eligible for membership. Before being considered as a member of the South Carolina High School League, the public charter high schools must clearly define its attendance area for athletic eligibility, as the attendance area of the traditional public school in which the school is located.
- B. South Carolina private high schools, excluding virtual schools, accredited by an organization recognized by the United States Department of Education or the South Carolina Department of Education whose principal or superintendent, with the approval of the governing board, agrees to conform to the rules and regulations of the South Carolina High School League shall be eligible for membership. Before being considered as a member of the South Carolina High School League, the private school must clearly define its attendance area for athletic eligibility, as the attendance area of the traditional public school in which the school is located

- C. Junior high schools and middle schools accredited by the South Carolina Department of Education and 7th and/or 8th grades housed in the same building with a senior high school shall be eligible for associate membership, provided they fall under the governing board of a member school, and the principal, with the approval of the governing board, agrees to conform to the rules and regulations of the South Carolina High School League.
- D. Any high school not accredited by one of the above-mentioned agencies, and presently a member of the League, may retain membership as long as the school is approved by the Executive Committee of the South Carolina High School League for continuing membership.

Change to Read:

- A. Public high schools, including public charter high schools, ***with athletic programs***, excluding virtual schools, accredited by the South Carolina Department of Education whose principal or superintendent, with the approval of the governing board, agrees to conform to the rules and regulations of the South Carolina High School League shall be eligible for membership. Before being considered as a member of the South Carolina High School League, the public charter high schools must clearly define their attendance area for athletic eligibility, as the attendance area of the traditional public school in which the school is located.
- B. South Carolina private high schools ***with athletic programs***, excluding virtual schools, accredited by an organization recognized by the United States Department of Education or the South Carolina Department of Education whose principal or superintendent, with the approval of the governing board, agrees to conform to the rules and regulations of the South Carolina High School League shall be eligible for membership. Before being considered as a member of the South Carolina High School League, the private school must clearly define its attendance area for athletic eligibility, as the attendance area of the traditional public school in which the school is located.
- C. Junior high schools and middle schools, ***with or without athletic programs***, accredited by the South Carolina Department of Education and 7th and/or 8th grades housed in the same building with a senior high school shall be eligible for associate membership, provided they fall under the governing board of a member school, and the principal, with the approval of the governing board, agrees to conform to the rules and regulations of the South Carolina High School League.
- D. Any high school, ***junior high school, and/or middle school*** not accredited by one of the above-mentioned agencies, and presently a member of the League, may retain membership as long as the school is approved by the Executive Committee of the South Carolina High School League for continuing membership.

Rationale: This adds wording for who can join the League and the requirement to have athletic programs. Expands the opportunity for junior high and middle schools to join that do not offer athletic programs.

RECOMMENDED

ARTICLE V – MEMBERSHIP

Section 3D Classification and Membership

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 if required by state law or proviso, subsequent appeals may be made to the Appellate Panel.

Add:

- 1. The following rules and procedures shall apply to all appeals by member schools of their placement after realignment has been completed, provided the Constitution and Bylaws allow such an appeal. These rules and procedures shall apply to all realignment appeals regardless of when the realignment occurs, i.e. 2-year period vs. 4-year period. A school seeking to change its classification or region at any time between realignment periods shall be considered an appeal and follow these rules and procedures.**
 - a. When the League Commissioner publishes the completed realignment to the member schools, the Commissioner shall inform the member schools of any right to appeal and of the body or bodies designated to preside over each level of appeal, as may be provided and applicable under the current Constitution and Bylaws. The Commissioner shall also determine and inform the member schools of the deadline to commence a realignment appeal.**
 - b. To commence a realignment appeal, the superintendent or principal of the appealing school must deliver to the League Commissioner and the presiding officer of the body designated to hear the appeal a written appeal of its realignment placement on or before the deadline set by the Commissioner.**

An appealing school seeking to change classifications shall state the classification and region the school seeks to leave, the classification and region(s) in which the school wishes to be placed, and the grounds, therefore.

An appealing school only seeking to change regions within the same classification shall state the region the school seeks to leave, the region in which the school wishes to be placed, and the grounds, therefore.

An appealing school may propose more than one alternate placement as part of its appeal. Proposed placements not included in the written appeal will not be considered at any appeal level. Schools may not present joint appeals.

There is no required format for written appeals, provided the appeal contains the information required under this section. An appealing school may submit additional documentation and information prior to a hearing to support the grounds for its appeal.

- c. ***At the same time the appealing school commences its written appeal in accordance with Section b., it shall also give notice of its appeal to other member schools by delivering copies of its written appeal as follows:***

An appealing school seeking to change classifications shall deliver a complete copy of its written appeal to the principals of all schools in its current classification placement, and to the principals of all schools in the proposed classification placement(s).

An appealing school only seeking to change regions within the same classification shall deliver a complete copy of its written appeal to the principals of all schools within its current region placement and to the principals of all the schools in the proposed region placement(s).

- d. ***If the appealing school fails to timely deliver its written appeal to a school entitled to notice under Section c, then, promptly upon discovery of the lack of notice, the school entitled to such notice may notify in writing the Commissioner or the presiding officer of the body hearing the appeal of the lack of notice and its intent to respond to the appeal as allowed under these rules. The school alleging lack of notice must demonstrate that it did not receive timely notice and was denied the opportunity to respond in accordance with these rules and procedures.***

When the lack of notice is raised prior to the realignment appeal hearing, then prior to hearing the appeal, the presiding body shall determine whether (i) the school received timely notice in accordance with Section c and (ii) the school has been denied a full and fair opportunity to respond to the appeal in accordance with these rules. If the school demonstrates lack of notice and the opportunity to respond, the appeal hearing shall be delayed until the school entitled to such notice has had a full and fair opportunity to respond in accordance with these rules. The rescheduled appeal hearing shall proceed in accordance with all notice requirements and other rules and procedures contained herein.

When the lack of notice is not raised until after the realignment appeal is decided, the body who decided the appeal shall reconvene to determine whether (i) the school received timely notice in accordance with Section c; (ii) the school was unable to notify the Commissioner or the presiding body prior to the appeal hearing that it had not received the required notice; and (iii) the school entitled to notice was otherwise denied a full and fair opportunity to respond to the appeal in accordance with these rules. If the school demonstrates these three criteria, then the prior decision shall be vacated and the body who decided the appeal shall schedule a rehearing for the appeal, which shall proceed in accordance with all notice requirements and other rules and procedures contained herein.

- e. ***Member schools entitled to notice of the realignment appeal under Section c. may provide written letters of support or opposition to any appealing school. Letters supporting or opposing a realignment appeal must be signed by the superintendent or principal of the member school and placed on official letterhead and must set forth the grounds for support or opposition. Letters must be delivered to the appealing school, with copies to the presiding officer of the body designated to hear the appeal and the League Commissioner, as soon as practicable but no later than five (5) business days after***

delivery of the written appeal. A school may submit additional documentation and information in support of or in opposition to the appeal prior to the hearing.

- f. The body designated to hear the appeal shall prepare a written notice and an agenda for any meeting at which realignment appeals will be heard. The notice and agenda shall include the date, time, and location of the meeting, each appealing school to be heard at the meeting, and the placement(s) proposed by each appealing school. The notice and agenda for realignment appeal hearings shall be delivered to the principals of the appealing schools and the principals of all other member schools entitled to notice of the appeal under Section c. as soon as practicable but no later than two (2) business days prior to the date of the appeal hearing. A realignment appeal not included on the meeting notice and agenda shall not be heard or discussed until after a written notice and agenda has been provided to the schools as required herein.**
- g. Any member school that has submitted a written letter of support for or in opposition to a realignment appeal in accordance with Section e., or any member school claiming it did not receive timely and/or sufficient written notice of the appeal in accordance with Section c., shall be heard at the appeal hearing, provided the following conditions are met:
 - i. The principal of the member school notifies the presiding officer in writing at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the hearing that it wishes to speak at the appeal hearing, along with a brief explanation of the basis for the request and the speaker's name; and**
 - ii. The comments by the member school at the appeal hearing are not duplicative of comments previously made by other member schools in attendance. Two or more member schools may designate one person to speak on behalf of all the schools.****

The provisions of this section do not prevent the presiding officer of the appeal hearing from reasonably restricting a member school's ability to speak in the interest of time, efficiency, or to otherwise maintain orderly proceedings.

- h. An appealing school must show "extraordinary circumstances," as defined in the League's bylaws, for an appeal seeking to set aside any written realignment guidelines or written criteria used to formulate the final realignment plan.**
- i. The realignment appeal hearing shall be scheduled to allow sufficient time for compliance with all notice requirements and response deadlines set forth in these rules and procedures. The hearing shall be recorded, and the recording and all written appeals, letters, notices, and any other documents received by the presiding body shall be made part of the record of the proceeding. After the realignment appeal hearing, the presiding body shall inform the parties of its decision. Following any meeting at which any realignment appeals were heard, the presiding officer shall as soon as practicable but no later than three (3) business days after the meeting provide written notice of each appeal decision to all member schools entitled to notice under Section c. and to the League Commissioner.**
- j. If there are subsequent levels of appeal provided by the Constitution and Bylaws, a member school may appeal an adverse decision by delivering a written notice of appeal to the League Commissioner and the presiding officer of the body designated to hear the**

next level of appeal within twenty-four (24) hours of the adverse decision that it intends to appeal. The written notice of appeal must also be delivered to all schools that previously provided letters of support or opposition in accordance with Section e. and all schools that were heard at the appeal hearing in accordance with Section g.

- k. Upon receiving a written notice of appeal, the League Commissioner (or designee) shall forward the record of the prior proceeding(s) to the body designated to hear the next level of appeal. At each subsequent level of appeal, the presiding body shall prepare and deliver a written notice of and an agenda for any meeting at which realignment appeals will be heard in accordance with Section f, and the hearings shall proceed in accordance with Section i.*
- l. At each subsequent level of appeal, review shall be limited to only proposed placements that were voted upon at the first level of appeal. The appealing school may supplement its prior submissions with additional documentation and information to support its grounds for appeal. However, the appealing school cannot change or amend its appeal to include proposed placements that were not voted upon at the first level of appeal. Schools that provided letters of support or opposition in accordance with Section e., or that were heard at the appeal hearing in accordance with Section g., may supplement their prior submissions. However, no school may participate in the proceedings at a subsequent level of appeal if it did not provide a letter pursuant to Section e. or was not heard at the first level of appeal pursuant to Section g.*
- m. Whenever possible, all written appeals, letters, notices and other documents required under these rules and procedures should be delivered by email.*
- n. Nothing in these rules and procedures should be interpreted to prevent a member school from having its appeal heard due to a technical violation of these rules that does not prejudice any other member school's rights to notice and to be heard as provided herein. However, at any level of appeal, the provisions of Section d. apply in situations where a member school alleges it has not received notice to which it is entitled under the rules.*

Rationale: This change adds the rules and procedures for schools wishing to appeal realignment with the corresponding section.

RECOMMENDED

Constitution
ARTICLE V – MEMBERSHIP
Section 5B Dues

Submitted by: SCHSL Handbook Review Committee

Currently Reads:

- B. All annual dues will be payable on July 1.
1. Membership will terminate if not paid by December 1.
 2. Schools playing football must pay dues by September 15 to be eligible to play the current season.

Change to Read:

- A. All annual dues will be payable on July 1.
1. Membership ***dues will increase \$100*** if not paid by ***September 15***.

Rationale: This will provide consistency with payment of dues for all schools with one set date with the removal of the separate date for schools playing football and adding a fine for schools who do not meet the deadline.

NOT RECOMMENDED

Constitution
ARTICLE VI – ADMINISTRATION
Section 1B 1, 4, 7 & 10 South Carolina High School League Officers and Executive Committee

Submitted by: SCHSL Handbook Review Committee

Currently Reads:

- B. The governing body shall be the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee composed of the president, the vice president and the following:
1. Administrators (superintendents, assistant superintendents, secondary principals or assistant principals) representing each class and elected by their class delegates of the Legislative Assembly.
 4. A representative of the South Carolina Association of Secondary School Principals, elected by said Association, which person is actively serving as a high school principal.
 7. A representative of the associate members of the South Carolina High School League, elected by these members.
 10. Up to five members at large, representing superintendents, assistant superintendents, and principals may be appointed by the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee to insure gender, geographical, ethnic, private schools and charter schools representation. Up to three of the at-large members will be selected by the S.C. Association of School Administrators to insure gender, geographical and ethnic representation. Geographical areas for representation are as defined in the Bylaws.

Change to Read:

B. The governing body shall be the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee composed of the president, the vice president and the following:

1. Administrators (superintendents, assistant superintendents, secondary principals or assistant principals) representing each class and elected by their class delegates of the Legislative Assembly. ***At least one elected class representative must be an actively serving principal who is a member of the South Carolina Association of Secondary Schools Principals.***
4. A representative of the ***non-traditional (i.e. charter, private, and/or magnet) schools principals*** elected by said ***schools***, which person is actively serving as a high school principal.
7. A representative of the associate members of the South Carolina High School League, elected by these members, ***which person is actively serving as a middle school principal or assistant principal with athletic programs.***
10. ***A minimum of three members*** at large, representing superintendents, assistant superintendents, and principals may be appointed by the S.C. Association of School Administrators to insure gender, geographical and ethnic representation. Geographical areas for representation are as defined in the Bylaws.

Rationale: This change would reduce the number of Executive Committee members by combining the requirement for representation from the South Carolina Association of Secondary Schools Principals with the selection of at least one classification representatives who is an active member, and combining the position for private, charter and magnet schools to have one representative from the selected schools.

NOT RECOMMENDED

Constitution

Submitted by: SCHSL Handbook Review Committee

ARTICLE VI – ADMINISTRATION

Section 1C South Carolina High School League Officers and Executive Committee

Currently Reads:

C. The vice-president shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Legislative Assembly. The election of the vice-president of the League shall be rotated among the classifications within the South Carolina High School League. The presidency and vice-presidency will be two-year terms respectively.

Change to Read:

C. The *president and* vice-president shall be elected *by the members of the Executive Committee* at the annual *April* meeting. *The president and vice-president shall be elected from among the members of the Executive Committee completing their second year on the committee.* The presidency and vice-presidency will be a *one-year* term respectively. *Should a vacancy occur at either of these two officers' positions, it will be the responsibility of the Executive Committee to select a replacement.*

Rationale: This change would allow the Executive Committee to elect a committee member who has served on the committee and will have knowledge for the duties and expectations of these positions. It also reduces the terms that would be served in these positions to one year.

RECOMMENDED

Constitution

Submitted by: SCHSL Handbook Review Committee

ARTICLE VI – ADMINISTRATION

Section 2B Qualifications and Terms for Executive Committee

Currently Reads:

B. With the exception of the State Superintendent of Education, the officers and the members at large, the term of office for each executive committee member shall be four years. The terms of office for the members at large shall be two years. Elections shall be staggered so one class representative and at least one association representative will be elected each year. Should a member of the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee cease to hold the position which initially qualified him/her as a member of the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee, then the individual's position shall be declared vacant and another person selected to fill the balance of the term. The replacement shall be selected by the same group or association from which the vacating member was elected.

Change to Read:

With the exception of the State Superintendent of Education, *selected* officers and the members at large, the term of office for each executive committee member shall be four years. The terms of office for the members at large shall be two years. Elections shall be staggered so one class representative and at least one association representative will be elected each year. Should a member of the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee cease to hold the position which initially qualified him/her as a member of the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee, then the individual's position shall be declared vacant and another person selected to fill the balance of the term. The replacement shall be selected by the same group or association from which the vacating member was elected.

Rationale: This adds the word *selected* to address the president and vice president who are selected from the Executive Committee. Also identifies when classifications or associations selecting a replacement for a vacancy to complete the term. It clarifies the terms for anyone who falls under these guidelines.

RECOMMENDED

Constitution
ARTICLE VI – ADMINISTRATION
Section 3A Vacancies on Executive Committee

Submitted by: SCHSL Handbook Review Committee

Currently Reads:

A. Should a vacancy occur in the office of the president in the interim between Legislative Assembly meetings, the vice-president shall succeed him/her.

Change to Read:

A. Should a vacancy occur in the office of the president in the interim between **annual April** meetings, the vice-president shall succeed him/her.

Rationale: To parallel if a change is made for the Executive Committee to select the President and Vice-President, it would occur at the annual April meeting and no longer would be decided at the Legislative Assembly meeting.

RECOMMENDED

Constitution
ARTICLE VI – ADMINISTRATION
Section 5 – C Powers and Duties of the Executive Committee

Submitted by: SCHSL Handbook Review Committee

Currently Reads:

C. The South Carolina High School League Executive Committee shall hear appeals of decisions made by the commissioner.

Add:

The South Carolina High School League Executive Committee shall not reduce any program sanction and or fines below the established minimum for verified League violations committed by member schools.

Rationale: This change would prohibit the Executive Committee from reducing any program sanction and or fine below the established minimum for verified League violations committed by member schools.

RECOMMENDED

Constitution
ARTICLE VII – LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
Section 1 Delegates

Submitted by: SCHSL Handbook Review Committee

Currently Reads:

D. Associate members will elect two delegates, each of whom will have one vote.

Delete:

D. Associate members will elect two delegates, each of whom will have one vote.

Rationale: The deletion would allow only member schools to have a vote and eliminate the two associate member delegates one vote.

NOT RECOMMENDED

By-Laws
ARTICLE III - STUDENT ELIGIBILITY
Section 4 Academic Requirements

Submitted by: SCHSL Handbook Review Committee

Currently Reads:

B. To participate in interscholastic athletic activities, students in grades 9-12 must achieve an overall passing average in addition to the following:

1. To be eligible in the first semester a student must pass a minimum of five Carnegie units applicable toward a high school diploma during the previous year. At least two units must have been passed during the second semester of summer school.
2. To be eligible during the second semester the student must meet one of the following conditions:
 - a. If the student met first-semester eligibility requirements, then he or she must pass the equivalent of four, $\frac{1}{2}$ units during first semester.
 - b. If the student did not meet first-semester eligibility requirements, then he or she must pass the equivalent of five, $\frac{1}{2}$ units during the first semester.

In most cases on a traditional or AB block schedule, the following example would apply:

- If eligible first semester, must pass four subjects
- If not eligible first semester, must earn 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ units

In a 4X4 block schedule where units or $\frac{1}{2}$ units are granted at the end of the first semester the following will apply:

- If eligible first semester, must earn 2 units
- If not eligible first semester, must earn 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ units

Change to Read:

B. To participate in interscholastic activities, students in grades nine through twelve must achieve an overall passing average and either:

- 1. Pass at least four academic courses, including each unit the student takes that is required for graduation; or***

The required courses are as followed:

- English/Language Arts 4 Units.***
- U.S. History and Constitution 1 Unit.***
- Economics (1/2 Unit), Government (1/2 Unit) 1 Unit.***
- Other Social Studies 1 Unit.***
- Mathematics 4 Units.***
- Science 3 Units.***
- Physical Education or ROTC 1 Unit***
- Computer Science (Including Keyboarding) 1 Unit.***

- 2. Pass a total of five academic courses. Students must satisfy these conditions in the semester preceding participation in the interscholastic activity, if the interscholastic activity occurs completely within one semester or in the semester preceding the first semester of participation in an interscholastic activity if the interscholastic activity occurs over two consecutive semesters and is under the jurisdiction of the South Carolina High School League.***

In most cases on a traditional or AB block schedule, the following example would apply:

- For first or second semester, must pass four academic subjects and all required academic subjects up to four or any five academic subjects.***

In a 4 X 4 block schedule where units or ½ units are granted at the end of the first semester the following example will apply:

- Use the criteria same as traditional or A/B block schedule with the following considerations:***
 - Full unit academic courses/subjects will count as two courses***
 - Half unit academic courses/subjects will count as one courses***

C. Academic courses are those courses of instruction for which credit toward high school graduation is given. These may be required or approved electives. All activities currently under the jurisdiction of the South Carolina High School League remain in effect. The monitoring of all other interscholastic activities is the responsibility of the local boards of trustees. Those students diagnosed as handicapped in accordance with the criteria established by the State Board of Education and satisfying the requirements of their Individual Education Plan (IEP) as required by Public Law 94-142 are permitted to participate in interscholastic activities. A local school board of trustees may impose more stringent standards than those contained in this section for participation in interscholastic activities by students in grades nine through twelve.

D. The State Board of Education may grant a waiver of the requirements of this section.

1. This waiver may be granted when a written statement from a school district superintendent and athletic director has been received stating circumstances, including, but not limited to:

- a. A student's ineligibility to participate in interscholastic activities is due to misinformation concerning eligibility requirements being provided by district personnel;**
- b. a student's ineligibility to participate in interscholastic activities is due to a long-term absence as a result of a medical condition, but the student has been medically cleared to participate by his health care practitioner; or**
- c. any reasonable circumstance as determined by the State Board of Education.**

Rationale: This change would align the academic requirements for student-athletes with the State Board of Education requirements for students.

RECOMMENDED

By-Laws

Submitted by: SCHSL Handbook Review Committee

ARTICLE III – STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Section 4 - 5 Academic Requirements

Currently Reads:

5. A course that is dropped after the 20th day of a semester with a failing average will be considered as a failed course when determining academic eligibility for the following semester.

Change to Read:

5. A course that is dropped after the 20th day of a semester with a failing average will be considered as a failed course when determining academic eligibility for the following semester. ***A course with WF (withdrew failing) will be considered as a failed course when determining eligibility. The WF equals a numeric value of a 50 average on the transcript. WP (withdrew passing) will be excluded and will not be factored in on the eligibility.***

Rationale: To provide a numerical grade for a course with WF (withdrew failing) that would be used in determining overall passing average.

RECOMMENDED

By-Laws

Submitted by: SCHSL Handbook Review Committee

ARTICLE III – STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Section 4 – 8 Academic Requirements

Currently Reads:

A maximum of two credit recovery units may be used toward eligibility to include the two units presently allowed in summer school. A credit recovery course must be accepted by the State Department of Education for graduation. To be eligible for recovery credits, the student must have received a minimum grade of 50. For eligibility purposes, a passing grade of “p” will equal a numerical grade of 60. Credit recovery/incompletes must be completed by the second Monday in August for first-semester eligibility and by the second Monday in March for second-semester eligibility.

Change to Read:

A maximum of two credit recovery units may be used toward eligibility to include the two units presently allowed in summer school. A credit recovery course must be accepted by the State Department of Education for graduation. To be eligible for recovery credits, the student must have received a minimum grade of 50. For eligibility purposes, a passing grade of “p” will equal a numerical grade of 60. Credit recovery/incompletes must be completed by the second Monday in August for first-semester eligibility and by the second Monday in March for second-semester eligibility. ***If a grade of FA (failure due to absences) is assigned, it will be factored into the student’s overall semester as a grade of 50.***

Rationale: To provide a numerical grade for students who FA (failure due to absences) that would be used in determining overall passing average.

RECOMMENDED

By-Laws

Submitted by: Sterling J. Mosby, Hannah-Pamplico High School

ARTICLE III – STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Section 10 Transfers

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 following circumstances set forth below 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:

All High School students will be entitled to one transfer during their eligibility period. Athletes must enroll before day one of school at the new school of attendance. The athlete must also have signed permission from the previous and current principal. After the student uses their one-time transfer, 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 following circumstances set forth below in sections A through N 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.

Rationale: 1) Large districts already have the ability to get intra-district transfers. This would help single-member districts. 2) If we truly are about giving kids chances, this enables them to enjoy programs that some districts may have. 3) Some member schools are allowed to take in transfer students and they are immediately eligible for athletics. If you are a traditional public school those students have to sit out a calendar year if they do not fall under A-N subsections. We should make it fair across the board for all students to get an opportunity.

NOT RECOMMENDED

By-Laws

Submitted by: Mary Nell Anthony, Greenville Tech Charter

ARTICLE III – STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Section 10 Transfers

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 transferring student will be fully eligible to participate in athletics as long as the transfer occurs by the first day of school at the school to which they are transferring. Any students transferring after the first day of school 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).

Rationale:

The proposed change to this by-law allows students to transfer by the first day of the new school year and carry full eligibility at the new school. This proposal supports South Carolina State Law with regard to a student's and parent's right to select the best educational opportunity for their situation. This proposal also simplifies transfer rules so that they only potentially prevent athletic participation if a transfer occurs during the school year.

NOT RECOMMENDED

By-Laws

Submitted by: SCHSL Handbook Review Committee

ARTICLE III – STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Section 11 Guardianship

Currently Reads:

A legally appointed guardian will have the same status as a parent under the following circumstances:

- A. Both parents are deceased.
- B. Both parents reside outside the contiguous United States and the parents are United Citizens.
- C. A student becomes a ward of the court, and the Department of Social Services assumes legal guardianship.
 - 1. In this case, the parents of the former guardians retain no legal rights to or control over the student.
 - 2. Foster parents will be recognized immediately.
- D. A student becomes the ward of an orphanage.

Add:

E. Student resides in the same residence with a guardian(s) other than the parent for 365 consecutive days with no change in guardianship.

Rationale: This clarifies a practice that has always been used.

RECOMMENDED

By-Laws

Submitted by: Handbook Review Committee

ARTICLE III – STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Section 13A, B & C Effects of School Disciplinary Actions

Currently Reads:

- A. A student dismissed from his/her school or facing disciplinary action can return to his/her original school and use credits earned in another school-sponsored program in his/her school district in order to meet the academic requirements for athletic eligibility.
- B. This student will lose eligibility if the student is dismissed or removed from the school he/she was attending at the time of the disciplinary action. The student will be ineligible for a minimum of 45 school days, inclusive of the days spent at the other school-sponsored program. Summer school days do not count towards the 45 days.
- C. A student under suspension from school may not participate in an activity of the League.

Change to Read:

- A. A student ***expelled, dismissed***, or under suspension from school may not participate in an activity of the League.

Rationale: This change removes the requirements for 45 days in addition to adding wording clarifying when a student cannot participate in an activity of the League due to disciplinary actions from the school.

RECOMMENDED

By-Laws

Submitted by: Toshawanka Mahone, Andrews High School

ARTICLE III – STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Section 16 E Ineligible Participants

Currently Reads:

E. If the school knowingly played the ineligible student, the Commissioner may fine and/or discipline the school, program or team, to include fine, warning, restrictive probation, or probation.

Change to Read:

E. If the school knowingly played the ineligible student, the Commissioner may fine and/or discipline the school, program or team, to include fine, warning, restrictive probation, or probation.

F. If a school is forced to forfeit more than one game that affects playoff seeding, the school shall be ineligible for the play-offs in that sport.

Rationale: To punish the schools that committed the infraction, while not punishing the other schools in that classification. Schools that have to forfeit multiple contests that affect play-off seeding often only get a lower seed, but still are allowed to participate. This punishes the teams they end up playing, as the team that did not break the rules is forced to play that is much better than what they are seeded. For example, a region champion should not have to play a team in the first round that also won its region but was dropped to 4th place because of forfeits. The team that committed the infraction should be punished, not the other schools in the bracket.

RECOMMENDED

By-Laws

Submitted by: SCHSL Handbook Review Committee

ARTICLE V - PROTESTS

Section 3C Replacing Ineligible Teams in Play-offs

Currently Reads:

C. If the team with the ineligible player won the last elimination game prior to the time declared ineligible, the game shall not count and the team with the eligible players shall continue in the elimination.

Change to Read:

C. Other than the first round and semifinals, if the team with the ineligible player won the last elimination game prior to the time declared ineligible, the game shall not count, the position is vacated, and the opposing team in the next round will receive a Bye.

Rationale: This change would not allow a team other than first round and/or semi-finals to advance in the playoffs due to a player of the opposing team being declared ineligible.

RECOMMENDED

Activities Committee (Carlos Cave, Chair)

The activities committee received a request from River Bluff High School to extend the soccer playoff schedule by one week due to safety concerns and demands on student-athletes. The activities committee voted 6-6 to table the discussion to get input from the medical community and classifications.

A motion made by Mr. Holt, seconded by Dr. Bethea, to table the vote to get more information passed 15-0 (16 members present).

Personnel & Finance Committee (Jason Warren, Chair)

- The League distributed the 2020-2021 independent audit report. There were no questions from the committee at this time.
- A recommendation to allow membership to middle schools with no athletics was unanimously approved by the personnel & finance committee. The membership fee for these middle schools would be \$200.00 and each school would receive two (2) HSL passes. A motion by the Executive Committee to approve passed 15-0 (16 members present).
- Mr. Singleton discussed the need for an event manager at State Football that would handle every detail of the event. No vote was taken at this time.
- A request from Mr. Singleton to hire an assistant commissioner was discussed. The personnel & finance committee will look at the feasibility of the new position at the next meeting in April 2022. No action was taken at this time.

A motion made by Mr. Finneran, seconded by Mr. Beasley, to go into Executive Session to discuss the Commissioner's evaluation passed 15-0 (16 members present).

A motion made by Mr. Finneran, seconded by Mr. Trahan, to exit Executive Session passed 15-0 (16 members present).

A motion to support the recommendation of the personnel & finance committee regarding Mr. Singleton's evaluation passed 15-0 (16 members present).

The next Executive Committee meeting is on February 9, 2022.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Sincerely,

Jerome Singleton, Commissioner

Note: In all votes, the President only votes in the event of a deciding vote.