

**SOUTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE**  
**P.O. BOX 211575**  
**COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29221-6575**  
**April 9, 2025**

The Executive Committee of the South Carolina High School League met on April 9, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the SCHSL Office, 121 Westpark Blvd, Columbia, South Carolina. The following members were present: Nicholas Pearson, Dr. Adam Lanford, Jimmy Armstrong, Coby Brandyburg, Cheryl Burgess, David Byrd, Ray Cooper, Samuel Fuller, Dr. Harrison Goodwin, Matthew Hiers, Kathy Hipp, and Joe Monmonier.

Nicholas Pearson called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Nicholas Pearson

Prayer led by Coby Brandyburg

A motion made by Matthew Hiers, seconded by David Byrd, to approve the minutes from February 19, 2025, and February 27, 2025, meetings passed 12-0 (12 members present).

**Appeals:**

- Ashley Ridge High School (Request for Sanction Relief) – **MODIFIED DECISION – Uphold the SC High School League sanction relief with the modifications of:**
  1. The fine of \$1000 remain in place.
  2. No probation for the football program.
  3. Accept the self-imposed sanctions provided by Ashley Ridge High School.
  4. Athletic Director must attend training provided by the League Office before the school year is over.
- Legion Collegiate Academy (Request for At-Large Membership) – **MODIFIED DECISION – APPROVED – pending reconciled previous debts from the prior membership.**
- Carvers Bay Early College and Career High School (Request for Student Eligibility) – **MODIFIED DECISION – APPROVED – pending support letter from previous school.**
- Virtus Academy of South Carolina (Erskine) - (Request for At-Large Membership) – **APPROVED**

**Sub-Committee Reports**

**ACTIVITIES:**

**Proposal 1:**

The SCTCCCA has proposed the deadline for declaring for participation in the Class A State cross country meet shall be 8 days prior to the State Qualifier at Noon. **NOT APPROVED**

**Proposal 2:**

The SCTCCCA has proposed that the SCHSL would drop the rule from track and field that requires an athlete to compete in a minimum of two meets prior to the region/qualifier meet. **NOT APPROVED**

**Proposal 3:**

The SCTCCCA has proposed that the SCHSL eliminates the qualifying standards in the track and field state series (4x800, 1600, 3200). The vertical jumps would still follow the minimum starting heights in the SCHSL handbook. **NOT APPROVED**

**Proposal 4:**

The SCTCCCA has proposed that the starting height and subsequent heights in the vertical jumps end in 0's and 5's. **APPROVED**

**Proposal 5:**

The SCTCCCA has proposed that ties for the qualifying series for the state championship be determined by the following:

1. All Ties will be broken according to the NFHS rule book.
2. If a tie cannot be broken according to the rule book, the athlete with the best season performance will advance.
3. If athletes have equal season best performances, the athlete who has the greatest number of occurrences of the at season best will advance.
4. If a tie cannot be broken using the first 3 steps, (a coin flip will determine the advancer) OR (none of the tied athletes will advance). **NOT APPROVED**

**Proposal 6:**

Barnwell High School has proposed moving the start of the fall sports calendar up one day, from Friday, August 1, to Thursday, July 31. **APPROVED**

**Proposal 7:**

Proposal by the League Office to eliminate the pre-season window and requirement that all games played during this time must be in a tournament. All regular season contests would begin ten days earlier, which is when the pre-season window started traditionally. **APPROVED**

**Proposal 8:**

Proposal by the League Office to adopt a mercy rule in soccer and basketball. **APPROVED**

**Proposal 9:**

Proposal from the SC Tennis Coaches Association to add a week to the boys tennis season, bringing them to the same number of weeks as the girls season in the fall. **APPROVED**

**Proposal 10:**

Proposal from the SC Lacrosse Coaches Association to add a week to the end of their regular season. **APPROVED**

**Proposal 11:**

Proposal from the SC Lacrosse Coaches Association to allow for shoulder pads to be worn during the October open season ~~while still requiring that no full contact be allowed.~~ **APPROVED**

**Proposal 12:**

Proposal from SC Soccer Coaches Association to allow sub varsity contests to end in a tie. **APPROVED**

**Proposal 13:**

Proposal from the Middle School Task force to adjust the dates Middle School football teams can wear shoulder pads and full pads. **APPROVED**

**Proposal 14:**

Proposal from the League Office to modify the length of suspensions for volunteer coaches and student athletes when ejections occur. **APPROVED**

**Proposals 15:**

Proposal from Spartanburg High School to allow football players the ability to play 2 quarters on Thursday night and two quarters on Friday night. **NOT APPROVED**

**Proposal 16:**

Proposal from League Office to change the recommended start times in playoffs. **APPROVED**

**PERSONNEL & FINANCE:**

- Football Officials Regular Season Game Fee – **APPROVED**
- State Playoff Format & Ticket Prices
  - Football contest ticket - **APPROVED**
  - Basketball (Semi-Finals and Finals) – Day Ticket – **APPROVED**
- Venue Site – 2025 SCHSL Football Championship – SC State University – **APPROVED**
- Venue Site – 2026 SCHSL Basketball Semifinals – Florence Center & Neutral Site & Finals – Colonial Life Arena - **APPROVED**
- 2025-2026 Budget – **APPROVED**
- NFHS Annual Summer Meeting Budget – **APPROVED**

**Other Business:**

**Report from Commissioner Singleton**

- New 2025-2026 Executive Committee President
  - Dr. Adam Lanford, Principal – Powdersville High School – **APPROVED**
- New 2025-2026 Executive Committee Vice-President
  - Kathy Hipp, Superintendent, Anderson School District 3
- Outgoing Executive Committee Member:
  - Nicholas Pearson, President
- 2025-2026 Tentative Executive Committee meeting dates - **APPROVED**
  - July 31 and August 1, 2025 (Tuesday & Wednesday)
  - November 12, 2025 (Wednesday)
  - January 14, 2026 (Wednesday)
  - January 21 and January 22, 2026 (Reclassification/Realignment)
  - April (TBD)
  - Others as necessary

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting passed 11-0 (11 members present).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Sincerely,

*Jerome Singleton, D.D.*

Dr. Jerome Singleton, Commissioner

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