

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the South Carolina High School League.

ARTICLE II – MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the South Carolina High School League is to provide governance and leadership for interscholastic athletic programs that promote, support, and enrich the educational experience of students.

ARTICLE III – PURPOSE STATEMENT

The purpose of the League is to formulate and maintain policies in accordance with its mission and beliefs that will:

- safeguard the educational values of interscholastic athletic competition;
- advance high ideals of sportsmanship;
- develop and direct a program which will promote, protect and conserve the health and physical welfare of all participants; and
- promote uniformity of standards in all interscholastic athletic competition.

ARTICLE IV – BELIEF STATEMENT

We believe the South Carolina High School League, governed by its member schools, is the recognized state authority on interscholastic athletic programs.

We believe participation in interscholastic athletic programs is a privilege.

We believe interscholastic athletic programs should be student centered.

We believe interscholastic athletic programs should:

- enrich each student's educational experience;
- promote student academic achievement;
- promote good citizenship and a healthy lifestyle;
- foster involvement with a diverse population;
- promote fair play, honesty, sportsmanship and equity;
- promote the participation of students in athletics and multiple sports.

We believe properly trained administrators, coaches, officials, and related support staff promote the educational mission of the academic program of our schools.

We believe interscholastic athletic programs promote positive school/community relationships.

ARTICLE V – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Who May Join

- A. Public high schools, including public charter high schools with athletic programs, 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. Public high schools, including public charter high schools with athletic programs joining the League, shall be on probationary status and ineligible for the state playoffs during its first year of membership.
- B. South Carolina private high schools, excluding virtual schools with athletic programs, 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. Private high schools, with athletic programs joining the League, shall be on probationary status and ineligible for the state playoffs during its first year of membership.
- C. Junior high schools and middle schools with or without athletic programs, but excluding virtual 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 or affiliate 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.
- E. All sections of the Constitution not so noted will apply to members and associate members.

Section 2 How to Join

- A. Application for membership shall be made in writing to the coordinator of the region in which the school wishes to compete and to appropriate classification. Before being admitted, the application must be approved by two-thirds majority of the schools in the region and by the Classification Executive Committee. The South Carolina High School League Executive Committee must grant final approval. During periods of reclassification/realignment,

application for membership shall be made in writing to the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee for consideration and possible approval. The school must offer and field at least one female and one male League sponsored varsity sports team for the entirety of each sports season (i.e. Fall, Winter, and Spring) of the school year. A team consists of the minimum number equal to a starting line-up. Failure to meet this requirement will result in a fine not to exceed \$5,000 per sport season.

- B. If a school is unable to comply with the above, the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee may accept the school as a Member-At-Large.
- C. A school becomes a member when final approval for membership is approved by the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee and upon payment of its dues according to Section 5 below.

Section 3 Classification and Membership

- 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.
- C. Representatives of the schools in each class will meet and determine the divisions that are necessary. By vote of the Legislative Assembly, this may be delegated to a single committee representing all classifications or to a separate committee for each classification. The division of schools will be presented as a final document from the group(s) assigned to complete the task.
- 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.
 - 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.

- i. 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.

- E. Classification and region organization must be perfected and reported to the Commissioner by May 1 of each year. This organization will be determined by the executive committee of the classification.
- F. If a member school is an at-large member, and not assigned to a class or region, then that at-large member may participate against other member schools. The at-large member school may participate for a state championship if it does not require qualifying through the region.

Section 4 Membership Renewal

- A. A school's membership is renewed upon payment of its dues according to Section 5 below.
- B. If a school fails to pay its dues by December 1, the school will be fined \$50.00.
- C. If the dues and fines are not paid within thirty days, the school will have allowed its membership to lapse and will have to apply for membership under Section 1 above.
- D. The South Carolina High School League year shall be from July 1 to June 30.

Section 5. Dues

- A. Annual membership dues shall be based on each school's classification according to a schedule based on the school class. The schedule shall be set by the Legislative Assembly at the annual meeting by majority vote. The schedule shall be set forth in the rules of the South Carolina High School League.
- 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.
- C. Any school becoming a member of the South Carolina High School League will pay an initiation fee equal to a present member's proportionate share of the South Carolina High School League surplus at the end of the preceding year. This fee will be paid in addition to the school's annual dues.
- D. If the South Carolina High School League's cash surplus exceeds the South Carolina High School League's budget for the following year, the excess will be distributed to the schools in the form of credit on their dues for the following year.

ARTICLE VI – ADMINISTRATION

Section 1 South Carolina High School League Officers and Executive Committee

- A. The officers shall be a president, vice-president and the commissioner. All committee members, excepting the commissioner, the State Superintendent of Education or designee, the representative of the South Carolina School Boards Association, the representative of the associate members of the League and the representative of the officials, shall be employed at a member high school during their tenure in office. During their tenure in office, each member below, who must be certified by the State Department of Education in order to hold their employment, must be employed with a member school or as an administrator over member schools.
- 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.
 - 2. The State Superintendent of Education or a designee, which designee shall be an employee of the State Department of Education.
 - 3. A representative of the South Carolina Association of School Superintendents, elected by the said Association, which person is actively serving as a superintendent.

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.
 5. A representative of the South Carolina School Boards Association, elected by said Association, which person is actively serving as a board member.
 6. A representative of the South Carolina Athletic Coaches Association, elected by said association and actively coaching at the high school level in a member school.
 7. A representative of the associate members of the South Carolina High School League, elected by these members.
 8. A representative of the certified game officials of the South Carolina High School League, elected by the game officials, which person is actively serving as a game official.
 9. A representative of the South Carolina Athletic Administrators Association, elected by the said Association and currently serving as an athletics director at the high school level *or district athletics director over multiple high schools*.
 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.
- 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 at least 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.
- D. It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the Legislative Assembly and all meetings of the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee.

Section 2 Qualifications and Terms for Executive Committee

- A. Superintendents, assistant superintendents, principals, assistant principals, and other school administrators of member schools shall be eligible to hold office in the South Carolina High School League. The president and vice-president must be superintendents, assistant superintendents, principals, assistant principals or other school administrators at the time of their election to office in the South Carolina High School League.
- B. 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.

- C. A South Carolina High School League executive committee member, other than the State Superintendent of Education and the members at-large, shall not serve successive terms in any capacity, except when a member holds office in a nationally recognized athletic organization. After a person has been off the committee for four years, they will be eligible to return. This restriction does not apply to the vice-president or to a person who is appointed to fill an unexpired term.
- D. A person selected to fill the remainder of another person's term under section B above shall be eligible to succeed himself/herself.

Section 3 Vacancies on Executive Committee

- 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.
- B. If a South Carolina High School League Executive Committee representative changes his/her status so that he/she is no longer a member of the group which he/she was elected to represent, he/she must relinquish his/her place on the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee and a new representative will be selected in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

Section 4 Meetings

- A. The South Carolina High School League Executive Committee will have four scheduled meetings each year. These will be held on or around August 15, November 25, January 15 and February 25.
- B. Other meetings of the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee shall be called based on the following:
 - 1. At the discretion of the president,
 - or
 - 2. At the request of any five members of the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee.

NOTE: In either case, a quorum of the full executive committee members will have to be available to conduct the meeting.

Section 5 Powers and Duties of the Executive Committee

- A. The South Carolina High School League Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the South Carolina High School League, deciding all questions and performing all duties not delegated in the constitution. The South Carolina High School League Executive Committee will have the authority to interpret sections of the constitution using notes and examples where appropriate. No note or interpretation shall be a part of the constitution for more than two years. The Legislative Assembly shall determine whether or not the note or interpretation shall be a permanent portion of the constitution.
- B. The South Carolina High School League Executive Committee shall hear appeals from classification executive committee decisions and protests between schools in different classifications.
- C. The South Carolina High School League Executive Committee shall hear appeals of decisions made by the commissioner and/or his or her designee, Eligibility Hardship Appeals Committee and any of the region or classification decisions which are appealable. 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.
1. Appeals may be heard at any properly convened meeting of the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee. Appeals to be heard at regularly scheduled meetings must be filed in writing at least seven days prior to the meeting.
 2. Any school granted a special meeting of the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee to hear an appeal to a ruling shall pay the expenses of the meeting if the ruling of the commissioner is sustained.
- When an appeal is scheduled, the superintendent and principal of all schools involved in the matters leading to the hearing shall be notified in advance of the hearing.
- D. The South Carolina High School League Executive Committee shall adopt and promulgate the Rules and Regulations of the League consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the League. Such shall be published to the membership on a regular basis and may be amended by the Legislative Assembly by majority vote at the annual meeting provided that the member proposing same shall give notice of his/her proposal with the call to the meeting.

Section 6 Powers and Duties of the Commissioner

- A. The commissioner shall be employed by the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee who shall determine the term of employment, duties, salary and expenses.
- B. The commissioner will have charge of all funds of the South Carolina High School League and his/her designee will make a detailed report at the Legislative Assembly of all monies collected and paid out by the South Carolina High School League. He/she shall pay out all monies under instructions from the South Carolina High School League Executive

Committee and shall furnish a bond in the sum of \$100,000.00. The South Carolina High School League will pay this premium.

- C. The commissioner shall have control of all protests, contests, and appeals, subject to review of the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee which can, for cause, overrule his/her decisions.
- D. The commissioner may set aside the provisions of the governance documents concerning eligibility if he/she determines that special conditions exist.

ARTICLE VII - LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Section 1 Delegates

- A. The legislative power of the South Carolina High School League shall be vested in a Legislative Assembly, composed of delegates representing the membership.
- B. Each classification will have one delegate representative from each region. At least one-third of the delegates in each classification must be superintendents or superintendent's designee to include assistant superintendent or district athletics director.
- C. Each classification will be permitted one vote for each 1,000 (or major part of 1,000) students represented by the class.
- D. Associate members will elect two delegates, each of whom will have one vote.
- E. At the time of his/her, election, a delegate to the Legislative Assembly must be a superintendent, a principal, or a school administrator officially designated as such by the governing board if the administrator is neither principal nor superintendent, he/she must have at least six years' experience certified by the State Department of Education.
- F. By November 15 delegates and alternates to the Legislative Assembly for the ensuing year shall have been elected by all classifications and submitted to the commissioner. Failure to submit the delegate(s) by this date may cause the loss of the delegate(s) for that year.

Section 2 Annual Meeting

- A. The annual meeting of the Legislative Assembly shall be held on or before the second Wednesday in April.
- B. The purpose of this meeting shall be to consider legislative proposals and resolutions submitted by members of the South Carolina High School League and to consider the adoption of notes and interpretations of the Executive Committee.
 - 1. Proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws must be submitted to the commissioner by the principal or superintendent of a member school prior to January 1.

The Commissioner may also submit proposed amendments to the Constitution and/or Bylaws for consideration and/or legislative action.

2. The commissioner shall submit the proposed amendments to the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee prior to January 15.
 3. The South Carolina High School League Executive Committee will publish the proposed amendments, including recommendations for permanent placement of notes and interpretations, in the January Bulletin of the South Carolina High School League with its recommendations on each proposal.
- C. The president and the commissioner, or a designee, shall be speaker and secretary respectively of the Legislative Assembly. The secretary shall record the minutes of all Legislative Assembly meetings and provide copies to each member school.
- D. The Legislative Assembly, by majority vote, may edit any amendment or resolution submitted for legislative action.
1. A two-thirds majority shall be required for adoption of a proposed amendment to the Constitution and/or Bylaws and a majority shall be required for the adoption of a resolution.
 2. The president, in case of a tie vote, shall cast the deciding ballot.
- E. A delegate must be present at the Legislative Assembly in order to vote.
- F. Any delegate speaking must first give his/her name and the school area represented.
- G. The South Carolina High School League, as determined by the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee, will pay expenses of the delegates.
- H. Any superintendent or principal who has submitted a proposed amendment may speak to the amendment if he/she has made a request to speak in writing at least one week prior to the annual meeting of the Legislative Assembly. Said speaker is limited to five minutes.
- I. The most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, will govern the procedures of the Legislative Assembly, and the Executive Committee will employ a professionally certified parliamentarian.
- J. The South Carolina High School League Executive Committee will have the responsibility of clarifying amendments by using interpretations and notes. The interpretations and notes of the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee shall be effective for only twenty-four months unless adopted by the Legislative Assembly as a portion of the Constitution or Bylaws.
- K. The Legislative Assembly recognizes and appreciates that any change in state or federal law which affects the activities of this organization shall supersede the governing documents of this organization which are its Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations.

ARTICLE VIII – APPELLATE PANEL

Section 1 Powers and Duties

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.

Section 2 Membership

The Appellate Panel shall consist of seven members who shall serve four-year terms. Members are appointed in the following manner: One person appointed by the legislative delegations of each congressional district. Members of the Appellate Panel may not concurrently serve as officers of any the South Carolina High School League subdivisions, classifications, or regions and may not have served as a member of the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee within the last three years.

Section 3 Evidence

In order to support a position before the Appellate Panel using newly discovered evidence, the party seeking to use newly discovered evidence must establish that the newly discovered evidence:

1. will probably change the result if considered by the Appellate Panel,
2. has been discovered since the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee hearing,
3. could not have been discovered with due diligence before the South Carolina High School League Executive Committee hearing
4. is material to the issue, and
5. is not merely cumulative or impeaching.