GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE November 29, 2023

A meeting of the State Executive Committee of the Georgia High School Association was called to order at 10:00 a.m., on October 2, 2023, at the Thomaston-Upson County Civic Center by Jim Finch, President. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Curt Miller. The invocation was given by Carror Wright, Associate Director. Roll call by Steve Figueroa, Media Director, showed the following: Present - 70, Absent - 5 (indicated by "**A**" below)

Danny Redshaw John Small - sub Don Baker Jason Dopson Matt Moody Keith Gravitt - sub Kirk Barton Travis Techo - sub Jason Brett - A Steve Waters Cedric King	Todd Mooney Willie Cannon Tonya Sebring Steven Craft Brad Hayes Garrett Black Kelli Smith Mindy Johnson Paris Burd - sub Rendell Jackson Trey Henson - sub	Darrell Demastus Jeff Segars Jeff Battles Dexter Ricks Brooke Whitlock Shane Ratliff Andre Byrd Bobby Brewington Chuck Robinson - sub Michael Dowis Jeremy Rayburn	Greg Ellison Reggie Wilkes - A Lawrence Kelly Jasper Jewell Ronnie Massey David Wagner - sub Eli Connell Jarrett Luke Kevin Grooms Jesse Crews Myron Newton	Brian Montgomery Joshua Moore Barry Williams Kevin Petroski Mike Thompson Roger Holmes -sub Randy Cooper Shane Lasseter - sub Richard Ricketts Brad Dehem Chad Brown - sub	Heath Kennedy David Bell Don Tison Ron Duncan - sub Eli Dupree Don Norton Harley Calhoun Chad Jordan Steven Simpson Jose Fernandez Michelle Masters	Regina Montgomery Richard Woods - A David Colvard - A Eric Holland - A Stacey Bennett - sub Craig Davis Joe Sanfilippo Curt Miller Jim Finch
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Motion was made by Simpson, seconded by Crews, and unanimously approved to adopt the agenda for the meeting.

APPOINTMENTS:

<u>Alexander High School</u> - Jamie Stiltz, assistant Athletic Director, presented an appeal of a denial to move down from Class 6A to Class 5A.

Motion by Barton, second by Thompson to **Approve** the appeal. MOTION to **Approve PASSED** (unanimously)

<u>Effingham County High School</u> - Yancy Ford, Superintendent, presented an appeal of a denial to move down from Class 6A to Class 5A.

Motion by Crews, second by Waters to **Approve** the appeal. MOTION to **Approve PASSED** (unanimously)

<u>Eastside High School</u> - Jeff Cher, Principal, presented an appeal of a denial to move down from Class 5A to Class 4A. **Motion** by Craft, second by Grooms to **Approve** the appeal. **MOTION to Approve PASSED** (unanimously)

Holy Innocents' - Tony Watkins, Athletic Director, presented an appeal to return to Class 2A after requesting to move up to 4A. Motion by Montgomery, second by Crews to **Deny** the appeal.

MOTION to Deny FAILED (24-46: Baker, Mooney, Burd, Jackson, Henson, Ricks, Whitlock, Ratliff, Byrd, Kelly, Massey, Wagner, Connell, Crews, Newton, B. Montgomery, Moore, Williams, Holmes, Cooper, Lasseter, Brown, Calhoun, R. Montgomery voted yes.)

NEW BUSINESS:

Proposal for the reclassification of schools for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years to be ratified with the changes approved earlier in the meeting. (Reclassification Committee) **NOTE:** The classes were voted on individually, with the following results:

Class 6A

Motion by Jewell, second by Barton to **Ratify** the class. MOTION to **Ratify PASSED** (unanimously)

Class 5A

Motion by Waters, second by Whitlock to **Ratify** the class. MOTION to **Ratify PASSED** (unanimously) Class 4A Motion by Craft, second by Demastus to Ratify the class. MOTION to Ratify PASSED (unanimously)

Class 3A Motion by Kelly, second by Demastus to **Ratify** the class. MOTION to **Ratify PASSED** (unanimously)

Class 2A Motion by Battles, second by Crews to Ratify the class. MOTION to Ratify PASSED (unanimously)

Class A, Division 1 Motion by Thompson, second by Luke to Ratify the class. MOTION to Ratify PASSED (unanimously)

Class A, Division 2 Motion by Grooms, second by Finch to Ratify the class. MOTION to Ratify PASSED (64-6: Crews, Simpson, Tison, Calhoun, Bell, Dupree voted no)

NOTE: The finalized region alignments for the 2024-26 school years may be found at the end of these minutes.

The committee then discussed the proposed Post Season Ranking Formula (PSRF). The committee agreed to make some modifications to the PSRF, specifically making the formula for gaining points the same for both public and private schools, and eliminating a paragraph about possibly combining public and private schools into one bracket if there are fewer than 24 teams playing a particular sport.

Motion by Barton, second by Craft to Approve the modified Post Season Ranking Formula. (See attached) MOTION to Approve PASSED (unanimously)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Robin Hines thanked the Reclassification Committee, and Chair Curt Miller, for all their hard work during the reclassification process. He also thanked Kevin Petroski for his work on the Post Season Ranking Formula.

Hines then announced to the committee that he intended to retire as Executive Director on August 1, 2024, although he said he would be flexible in staying on a little longer if needed to make the transition smoother for the incoming Executive Director.

Finch then retook the podium and complimented Dr. Hines on the job he has done as Executive Director, particularly with the state legislature. The committee then gave Dr. Hines a standing ovation.

Motion by Simpson, second by Crews, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

Reclassification Proposal 2024-26

Post Season Ranking Formula (PSRF)

Public and Non-Public Schools in Classes A DI, 2A and 3A will play in their assigned regions during the regular season, but private member schools will compete in a combined championship bracket of private member schools only. Public schools in Class A DI, 2A and 3A will participate in a separate championship bracket by assigned classification. The following format will be used for playoff seeding sports that the ranking formula is required.

Public & Private School State Playoff Qualification

Seed all of the Region Champions (1-8, or the number of region champs) by the school's post season ranking formula totals and all of the Region Runner-Up's (9-16, or starting at the seed below the lowest region champ) by the school's post season ranking formula totals and then seeding the remaining 3rd & 4th finishing place schools and At Large seeds strictly by the school's post season ranking formula (starting with the seed below the lowest region runner-up).

Example - Public Bracket - 4 public schools win the region and 5 public schools finish as the region runner-up; 15 public schools finish as #3 or #4 in the region; that's a total of 24 schools guaranteed a state playoff seed; the 8 remaining seeds are determined using the PSRF. All 3rd, 4th & At Large state playoff participants will be seeded based on PSRF.

Public Bracket

#1 Seed - Highest PSRF Region Winner
#2 Seed - Next Highest PSRF Region Winner
#3 Seed - Next Highest PSRF Region Winner
#4 Seed - Next Highest PSRF Region Winner
#5 Seed - Highest PSRF Region Runner-Up
#6 Seed - Next Highest PSRF Region Runner-Up
#7 Seed - Next Highest PSRF Region Runner-Up
#8 Seed - Next Highest PSRF Region Runner-Up
#9 Seed - Next Highest PSRF Region Runner-Up
#10 Seed - 3rd Place - Highest PSRF of 3rd, 4th Place & At Large
#11 Seed - 3rd Place
#12 Seed - At Large
#13 Seed - 3rd Place
#14 Seed - 4th Place
#15 Seed - 4th Place
#16 Seed - 4th Place

#17 Seed - At Large #18 Seed - At Large #19 Seed - 3rd Place #20 Seed - 4th Place #21 Seed - 4th Place #22 Seed - 3rd Place #23 Seed - At Large #24 Seed - 4th Place #25 Seed - At Large #26 Seed - At Large #27 Seed - 3rd Place #28 Seed - 3rd Place #29 Seed - At Large #30 Seed - At Large #31 Seed - 4th Place #32 Seed - 4th Place

Example - Private Bracket - 6 private schools win the region and 4 private schools finish as the region runner-up; 7 private schools finish as #3 or #4 in the region; that's a total of 17 schools guaranteed a state playoff seed; the remaining 15 seeds are determined using the PSRF. All 3rd, 4th & At Large state playoff participants will be seeded based on PSRF.

Private Bracket

#1 Seed - Highest PSRF Region Winner	#17 Seed - 4th Place
#2 Seed - Next Highest PSRF Region Winner	#18 Seed - At Large
#3 Seed - Next Highest PSRF Region Winner	#19 Seed - 3rd Place
#4 Seed - Next Highest PSRF Region Winner	#20 Seed - At Large
#5 Seed - Next Highest PSRF Region Winner	#21 Seed - At Large
#6 Seed - Next Highest PSRF Region Winner	#22 Seed - At Large
#7 Seed - Highest PSRF Region Runner-Up	#23 Seed - At Large
#8 Seed - Next Highest PSRF Region Runner-Up	#24 Seed - 4th Place
#9 Seed - Next Highest PSRF Region Runner-Up	#25 Seed - At Large
#10 Seed - Next Highest PSRF Region Runner-Up	#26 Seed - At Large
#11 Seed - 3rd Place - Highest PSRF of 3rd, 4th Place & At Large	#27 Seed - At Large
#12 Seed - 4th Place	#28 Seed - At Large
#13 Seed - 3rd Place	#29 Seed - At Large
#14 Seed - At Large	#30 Seed - At Large
#15 Seed - At Large	#31 Seed - At Large
#16 Seed - 4th Place	#32 Seed - At Large

The GHSA Office will build a platform in the MIS system that implements the following requirements:

- Every Class A DII-6A school team enters their schedule in the MIS system (Schedule will be locked before 1st game).
 - Each school enters their teams schedule on the MIS platform for all contests; Contests against out of state schools and non GHSA member schools will be calculated using winning percentage only.
 - All postponed contests should be rescheduled.
 - Canceled contests will need approval from the GHSA office to reschedule a replacement opponent.
 - Forfeited contests count in a school's formula and the appropriate points should be applied (If a school chooses to accept the forfeited contest points, any additional scheduled game played will not be calculated into the school's formula).
 - However, if a school chooses to not accept the forfeited contest points, the additional "makeup" contest will be calculated into the school's formula. The school must choose which option to accept before the makeup contest is played.
- All contests against GHSA member schools will be used to calculate the school's PSRF regardless of classification. Schools will not earn additional points for playing schools in higher classifications.
- All member schools must enter their scores in the MIS system for the schedule entered in the system (scores will be locked after being submitted).

GHSA Post Season Ranking Formula will contain:

o Winning Percentage (WP) is calculated by taking a team's wins divided by the number of contests played.

- Home win equals 0.9, Away win equals 1.1, neutral site and non GHSA win equals 1.
- For sanctioned tournaments and play dates, if an opponent plays against the host at the host site, a home win equals 0.9 and an away win equals 1.1. All other contests, not involving the host, would be considered a neutral site and a win equals 1.
- All Region tournament contests will be considered a neutral site and a win equals 1.
- o **Opponents' Winning Percentage** (OWP) is calculated by taking the average of the WP's for each of the team's GHSA opponents with the requirement that all contests against the team in question are removed from the equation.
- o **Opponents' Opponents' Winning Percentage** (OOWP) is calculated by taking the average of each GHSA Opponent's OWP. Note that the team in question is part of the team's OOWP.
- MIS system would calculate the ranking using the evaluation formula for each Class A DI-3A team by sport.
- GHSA Post Season Ranking Formula will be published on the GHSA website for public viewing.
- Tiebreakers for equal ranking

-Head to Head Result -GHSA Tiebreaker in ByLaws

GHSA Post Season Ranking Formula:

PSRF = (WP*0.35) + (OWP*0.35) + (OOWP*0.30)

WP – Winning PercentageOWP – Opponents' Winning Percentage against GHSA opponents onlyOOWP – Opponents' Opponents' Winning Percentage against GHSA opponents only

WP – is calculated by taking a team's wins divided by the number of contests it has played. Home win equals 0.9, Away win equals 1.1, neutral site and non GHSA opponents win is 1.

OWP – is calculated by taking the average of the WP's for each of the team's GHSA opponents with the requirement that all contests against the team in question are removed from the equation.

OOWP – is calculated by taking the average of each GHSA Opponent's OWP. Note that the team in question is part of the team's OOWP.

Team A loses to Team B at home Team A wins against Team B on the road Team A loses to Team C on the road Team A is 1-2

Examples:

Team A loses a home game, wins an away game, and loses an away game.

WP = 1.1 (away win) / (1.1 (away game) + 1.1 (away game) + 0.9 (home game) = 0.35483

Team A has played Team B twice and Team B WP would be counted twice. Team A has played Team C once and Team C WP would be counted once.

OWP = (0/1 + 0/1 + 2/2) / 3 (number of opponents- Team B, Team B, Team C) OWP = 0.3333

OOWP = (Team B's OWP + Teams B's OWP + Team C's OWP) / 3.

OOWP = (0.000 + 0.000 + 0.500) / 3 = 0.1667

Team A's PSRF = (WP * 0.25) + (OWP * 0.50) + (OOWP * 0.25)

Team A's PSRF = (0.35483 * 0.35) + (0.33333 * 0.35) + (0.16667 * 0.30) = 0.29086

Examples:

Team A loses a home game, wins an away game, loses an away game, wins against larger classification, and wins against smaller classification.

WP = 1.1 (away win) + 1.4 (larger classification win) + 0.6 smaller classification win / (1.1 (away game) + 1.1 (away game) + 0.9 (home game) + 1.4 (larger classification game) + 0.6 (smaller classification game) = 0.60784

Team A has played Team B twice and Team B's WP would be counted twice. Team A has played Team C once and Team C WP's would be counted once. Team A has played Team D once and Team D WP's would be counted once. Team A has played Team E once and Team E WP's would be counted once.

OWP = (0/1 + 0/1 + 2/2 + 1/1 + 0/1) / 5 (number of opponents- Team B, Team B, Team C) OWP = 0.4000

OOWP = (Team B's OWP + Teams B's OWP + Team C's OWP) / 3.

OOWP = (0.000 + 0.000 + 0.500) / 3 = 0.16667

Team A's PSRF = (WP * 0.35) + (OWP * 0.35) + (OOWP * 0.30)

Team A's PSRF = (0.60784 * 0.35) + (0.4000 * 0.35) + (0.16667 * 0.25) = 0.40274

Sports Using the Postseason Ranking Formula

Baseball	Soccer
Basketball	Tennis
Football	Volleyball
Lacrosse	Wrestling Duals
Softball - Fastpitch	Wrestling Traditional

Sports with Separate Championships that do not use the Ranking Formula -A Qualifying Event will Determine which Schools Advance to the State Playoffs/Tournament/Meet

Competitive Cheerleading Cross Country Track & Field Golf

Sports/Activities without Separate Championships and without using the Ranking Formula

Bass Fishing
Competitive Dance
Game Day
eSports
Flag Football

Gymnastics

One Act Play Literary Riflery Softball - Slow Pitch Swimming & Diving (State Qualifying Times)

Ratified 11-29-23

1-AAAAAA (6) Camden County Colquitt County Lowndes Richmond Hill Tift County Valdosta

<u>5-AAAAAA (7)</u>

Cherokee Etowah Marietta North Cobb North Paulding Walton Wheeler

2-AAAAAA (5) Carrollton Chapel Hill Douglas County East Coweta Westlake

<u>6-AAAAAA (9)</u> Alpharetta Denmark Forsyth Central Innovation Academy* Lambert North Atlanta North Forsyth South Forsyth West Forsyth

<u>AAAAAA (57)</u>

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3-AAAAAA (8) Campbell Harrison Hillgrove McEachern Osborne Paulding County Pebblebrook South Cobb

<u>7-AAAAAA (8)</u> Berkmar

Brookwood Duluth Meadowcreek Norcross North Gwinnett Parkview Peachtree Ridge

(* Schools Not Playing Football)

<u>4-AAAAAA (7)</u>

Archer Grayson Grovetown Heritage, Conyers Newton Rockdale County South Gwinnett

<u>8-AAAAAA (7)</u>

Buford Central Gwinnett Collins Hill Dacula Discovery Mill Creek Mountain View

<u>1-AAAAA (9)</u>

Bradwell Institute Brunswick Effingham County Evans Glynn Academy Greenbrier Lakeside, Evans South Effingham Statesboro

5-AAAAA (8)

Alexander East Paulding Kennesaw Mountain Lithia Springs New Manchester Rome South Paulding Villa Rica <u>2-AAAAA (6)</u> Coffee Houston County Lee County Northside, Warner Robins Thomas County Central Veterans

<u>6-AAAAA (8)</u> Creekview Lassiter Pope River Ridge Riverwood Sequoyah Sprayberry Woodstock

<u>3-AAAAA (8)</u> Banneker Dutchtown

AAAAA (61)

Banneker Dutchtown Hughes Lovejoy McIntosh Morrow Newnan Northgate

7-AAAA (7) Chattahoochee Gainesville Johns Creek Lanier Milton Roswell Seckinger

(* Schools Not Playing Football)

<u>4-AAAA (8)</u> Arabia Mountain Chamblee Decatur Dunwoody Lakeside, DeKalb Shiloh Tri-Cities Woodward Academy

8-AAAAA (7)

Alcovy Apalachee Clarke Central Habersham Central Jackson County Loganville Winder-Barrow

<u>1-AAAA (6)</u> Benedictine New Hampstead Perry Ware County Warner Robins Wayne County

5-AAAA (10) Sub Region A Cross Keys Marist North Springs Northview Tucker Sub Region B Clarkston Druid Hills Lithonia Southwest DeKalb St. Pius X 2-AAAA (10) Sub Region A Eagle's Landing Eagle's Landing Christian Stockbridge Union Grove Woodland, Stockbridge Sub Region B Hampton Jones County Locust Grove McDonough Ola

<u>3-AAAA (7)</u> Central, Carroll Griffin Harris County Jonesboro Mundy's Mill Northside, Columbus Starr's Mill

AAAA (61)

(* Schools Not Playing Football)

4-AAA (8) Creekside Drew Forest Park Jackson, Atlanta M. L. King Mays Midtown Pace Academy

<u>6-AAAA (5)</u> Blessed Trinity Cambridge Centennial Kell Westminster 7-AAAA (8) Allatoona Cartersville Cass Cedartown Dalton Hiram Southeast Whitfield Woodland, Cartersville <u>8-AAAA (7)</u> Cedar Shoals East Forsyth Eastside Flowery Branch Madison County North Oconee Walnut Grove

<u>1-AAA (6)</u> Bainbridge Cairo Dougherty Monroe Peach County Westover

5-AAA (8) Cedar Grove Douglass, Atlanta Luella Mt. Zion, Jonesboro North Clayton Riverdale Stephenson Stone Mountain 2-AAA (9) Fayette County LaGrange Mary Persons Sandy Creek Spalding Trinity Christian Troup County Upson-Lee Whitewater

<u>3-AAA (10)</u> <u>Sub Region A</u> Groves Liberty County Long County Southeast Bulloch Windsor Forest <u>Sub Region B</u> Beach Calvary Day School Islands Jenkins

AAA (63)

<u>7-AAA (7)</u> Adairsville Calhoun Gilmer Heritage, Catoosa LaFayette Northwest Whitfield

Ridgeland

Johnson, Savannah

(* Schools Not Playing Football)

4-AAA (9) Aquinas Baldwin Cross Creek Harlem Hephzibah Howard Richmond Academy West Laurens Westside, Augusta

<u>8-AAA (6)</u> Cherokee Bluff East Hall Jefferson Monroe Area Oconee County West Hall

<u>6-AAA (8)</u> Chestatee Dawson County Greater Atlanta Christian Johnson, Gainesville Lumpkin County North Hall Pickens White County

<u>1-AA (8)</u> Carver, Columbus Columbus Hardaway Jordan Kendrick Shaw Spencer Sumter County

<u>5-AA (8)</u> Carver, Atlanta Coretta Scott King Academy* Hapeville Holy Innocents' KIPP Atlanta Collegiate Lovett Therrell Washington 2-AA (6) Callaway Jackson Morgan County Pike County Rutland Westside, Macon

<u>6-AA (6)</u> Columbia Drew Charter School* Miller Grove Redan Salem South Atlanta <u>7-AA (9)</u> Coahulla Creek Lakeview-Ft. Oglethorpe Murray County North Cobb Christian North Murray Ringgold Rockmart Sonoraville Union County

AA (58)

3-AA (6)

Cook

Appling County

Crisp County

Pierce County

Tattnall County

Savannah Arts Academy*

(* Schools Not Playing Football)

<u>4-AA (9)</u> Burke County Butler Davidson Fine Arts* Glenn Hills Johnson, Augusta* Josey Laney Technical Career Magnet* Thomson

<u>8-AA (6)</u> East Jackson Franklin County Hart County Hebron Christian Academy Prince Avenue Christian Stephens County

<u>1-A Division I (7)</u> Bacon County Berrien Brantley County Fitzgerald Jeff Davis Thomasville Worth County

5-A Division I (18) Sub Region A Fellowship Christian Galloway* King's Ridge Mount Vernon Mt. Bethel Christian* Mt. Pisgah Christian St. Francis Weber School* Weslevan Sub Region B Atlanta International* B.E.S.T Academy Ben Franklin Academy* DeKalb School of the Arts* Landmark Christian Mt. Paran Christian Paideia* Walker Whitefield Academy

<u>A Division I (78)</u> 2-A Division I (10) 3-A Divi

Sub Region A ACE Charter Bleckley County Central, Macon Northeast Southwest Sub Region B Dodge County Dublin East Laurens Jefferson County Washington County

<u>6-A Division I (7)</u> Bremen Darlington Haralson County Heard County Model Pepperell Temple <u>3-A Division I (7)</u> Savannah Christian Savannah Country Day St. Vincent's Academy* Swainsboro Toombs County Vidalia Woodville-Tompkins*

7-A Division I (9) Armuchee Chattooga Christian Heritage Coosa Dade County Dalton Academy* Fannin County Gordon Central Gordon Lee

(* Schools Not Playing Football)

4-A Division I (10) Sub Region A Greenforest Christian* McNair Southwest Atlanta Christian* Towers W. D. Mohammed* Sub Region B Jasper County Lamar County Putnam County Social Circle Utopian Academy

8-A Division I (10)

Sub Region A Banks County Commerce Elbert County Rabun County Tallulah Falls* Sub Region B Athens Academy Athens Christian Barrow* Oglethorpe County Providence Christian

1-A Division II (15) Sub Region A Calhoun County* Early County Pataula Charter Quitman County* Randolph-Clay Southwest Georgia STEM* Stewart County* Terrell County Sub Region B Baconton **Baker County*** Miller County Mitchell County Pelham Seminole County Spring Creek

2-A Division II (8) Atkinson County Brooks County Charlton County Clinch County Echols County* Irwin County Lanier County Turner County

3-A Division II (12) Sub Region A Emanuel County Institute Jenkins County Metter Portal Screven County Steam Academy* Sub Region B Bryan County Claxton McIntosh County Academy Savannah Savannah Classical* Savannah Early College*

A Division II (80)

(* Schools Not Playing Football)

<u>4-A Division II (7)</u> Dooly County Hawkinsville Montgomery County Telfair County Treutlen Wheeler County Wilcox County

5-A Division II (9) Georgia Academy for Blind* Georgia Military College Georgia School for Innovation* Glascock County Hancock Central Johnson County Stilwell Arts* Twiggs County Wilkinson County

458 Schools

<u>6-A Division II (10)</u> <u>Sub Region A</u> Central, Talbotton Chattahoochee County Marion County Rainey-McCullers* Webster County* <u>Sub Region B</u> Crawford County Furlow Charter* Macon County Schley County Taylor County 7-A Division II (11) Sub Region A Bowdon Georgia School for Deaf* Manchester Mt. Zion, Carroll Trion Sub Region B Atlanta Classical* Elite Scholars Academy* Fulton Leadership Academy* Genesis Innovation* Georgia Fugees Academy* Greenville 8-A Division II (8) Greene County Lake Oconee Academy Lincoln County Taliaferro County* Towns County Warren County Washington-Wilkes Woody Gap*