

VIRGINIA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE  
1642 STATE FARM BOULEVARD  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22911

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA FEBRUARY 2017

TIME: Tuesday, February 14, 2017

- 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Personnel and Operations Committee – Hilton Gardens, Thomas Jefferson Board Room – Mike Davidson, chair, Martin Grimm, Ty Gafford, Keith Perrigan, Mark Mear, Cecil Snead, Tommy Golding, Chris Robinson, Beth Hardy, Jim Stemple
- 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee – Hilton Gardens, Peter Jefferson Conference Room -- Danny Knott, chair, Eric Baylor, Matt Delaney, Tony Brads, Carol Fenn, Laura Sutton, Elie Bracy, Delegate – TBD, Jim Stemple
- 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Communications Committee – VHSL Office – Jeff Dietz, chair, Cliff Conway, Dave Melton, Dan Forgas, Felicia Bailey, TBD, Jim Stemple
- 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Policy and Programs Committee – VHSL Office – Paul Joseph, chair, Major Warner, Tim Teachey, Brad Qualls, Travis Gray, Eric Jones, Vanessa Wigand, Jim Stemple

Wednesday, February 15, 2017

TIME: 8:30 a.m. Full Executive Committee convenes

PLACE: Virginia High School League Office  
1642 State Farm Boulevard  
Charlottesville, VA

- I. **Roll Call:** Jim Stemple, chair, Martin Grimm, Paul Joseph, Brad Qualls, Matt Delaney, Chris Robinson, Major Warner, Cliff Conway, Laura Sutton, Tim Teachey, Jeff Dietz, Dan Forgas, Mike Davidson, Eric Baylor, Tommy Golding, Danny Knott, Ty Gafford, Travis Gray, Vanessa Wigand, Eric Jones, Elie Bracy, Dave Melton, Tony Brads, Carol Fenn, Mark Mear, Keith Perrigan, Cecil Snead, Beth Hardy, Felicia Bailey, and Billy Haun.

VHSL Staff: Tom Dolan, Joyce Sisson, Lisa Giles, Shawn Knight, Hannah Catherine Munro, Mike McCall, Lori O’Toole, David Hopkins and Lora Bickley.

- II. **Agenda Approval:**

- III. **Minutes:** The December 7, 2016, Executive Committee Minutes have been posted on the VHSL website and on BoardDocs. -- [Attach minutes](#)

IV. **Announcements and Call for New Business:**

- A. Room arrangements -- March
- C. Call for New Business

V. **Concerns from the Public:** The Executive Committee provides this agenda item at each of its meetings for the purpose of receiving citizen input on the operation of the League. Complete Guidelines for Public Comment before the Executive Committee may be found on page 23 of the 2016-17 Handbook, a key excerpt of which follows: In order to allow the Committee sufficient time for its other business, the total time allotted to public comments will generally be limited to thirty (30) minutes. (12-05) Individual speakers and/or groups will be limited to three minutes. There will be no discussion by the Executive Committee during this time. Individuals and/or groups will provide the VHSL with information regarding their presentation in advance in writing. Presentations will be included in the agenda.

As of February 3, we have received no requests.

VI. **Legal Report:** Nothing to report.

VII. **General Assembly Report:** **There** were two pieces of legislation introduced in the 2017 General Assembly that directly affected the Virginia High School League (VHSL).

- A. House Joint Resolution No. 546, was introduced by Delegate Dickie Bell. This bill would have directed the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to study the VHSL. This bill was referred to the Committee on Rules and was then tabled by this Committee on January 26, 2017.
- B. House Bill 1578, was introduced by Delegate Rob Bell. This bill, known as the Tebow Bill, would allow students who receive home instruction to participate in interscholastic programs. This bill was passed by the House Education Committee on January 18<sup>th</sup> and the House January 24<sup>th</sup>. On January 25<sup>th</sup>, the Senate referred this bill to the Committee on Education and Health.

VIII. **Committee Reports:**

A. **Finance:** Chairman Danny Knott will report findings and recommendations.

- 1. VHSL Financial Review of Balance Sheet and Income and Expense Report through December 31, 2016, including FY2017 Budget Narrative.

[Attach Reports](#)

- 2. VHSL Foundation, Inc., Review of Balance Sheet and Income and Expense Report through January 31, 2017. A copy of the January 31, 2016 report will be provided if it is completed by February 14.

Benefit Games update: [Attach Report](#)

Statement of Position: [Attach Report](#)

Donor List update: [Attach Report](#)

3. Present and Review Preliminary FY2018 budget and Budget Narrative. [Post budget](#)

4. Sponsorship update: Hannah Catherine Munro will provide a written report.

**B. Personnel and Operations:** Chairman Mike Davidson will make an oral report on his committee's findings and recommendations.

1. Information and approval of the position of Assistant Director for Athletics.

**C. Policy and Programs:**

1. Play-off Site Report/Update for 2016-17:

2. Governance legislation

3. Sites/Venues

4. Staff was instructed to study 30-3-1, Participation of Ineligible Student/Coach, and make recommendations for changes if any.

5. Review minutes of the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup>.

6. VHSL Chair-elect

7. Review Approved State Basketball Tournament Format – 2017-2023

**D. Communications:**

1. Review and selection of the website bids

2. Hall of Fame Update

**E. Strategic Planning:**

As part of the VHSL Strategic Planning process, the League hosted a series of strategic planning open forums. Dates and locations of meetings included:

January 10 – Harrisonburg High School

January 18 – Marion Senior High School

January 19 – William Fleming High School

January 25 – Colgan High School

January 31 – Clover Hill High School

February 1 – Churchland High School

More than 180 individuals attended the six forums. Attendees included principals, A.D.s, coaches, superintendents, corporate sponsors, students, school board members and VHSL Foundation board members.

Using the data from the VHSL membership survey, three issues were deemed critical:

- 1. **Operations & Finance**
- 2. **Policy, Programs & Governance**
- 3. **Communications**

Survey data is shared on the VHSL website. Click <http://www.vhsl.org/doc/upload/VHSL-member-survey-results.pdf> to access the results.

VHSL staff will continue to work with the steering committee members in refining the input that was collected.

Steering committee members included:

Eric Baylor, Chair, East Rockingham County HS	Darrell Wilson, 5A, Harrisonburg High School
B.J. Carroll, 1A, Galax High School	Noel, Deskins, 5A, Wakefield High School
John Ferguson, 1A/2A, Scott County Schools	Derek Farrey, Loudoun County Schools
Mike Goforth, 2A, Union High School	John Gordon, 3A, Fredericksburg City Public Schools
Dante Lee, 1A, George Wythe High School	William "Sam" Shipp, 4A, Woodgrove High School
Mike Davidson, Marion Senior High School	Terri Towle, 6A, Westfield High School
Steve Barnett, 4A/5A, Roanoke City Schools	Dave Huckestein, 6A, Colgan High School
Dean Hubbard, 1A, Altavista High School	Mark Dorsey, 1A, West Point High School
Steve Mayhew, 2A, Dan River High School	Lamont Davis, 3A, John Marshall High School
Tracy Richardson, 4A, E.C. Glass	Bill Lawson, 3A, Petersburg High School
Archie L. Freeman III, Wm. Fleming HS	Deborah, Marks, 6A, Clover Hill High School
Missy Hensley, 2A, Central High School	Nancy Farrell, 6A, First Colonial High School
Steve Heon, 3A, Western Albemarle HS	Deon Garner, 5A, Lindsay Middle School
Valerie Kibler, 5A, Harrisonburg High School	Beth Mair, 3A & 5A, Hampton City Schools
Rick Lilly, 4A, John Handley High School	Shawn Millaci, Churchland High School

Staff will provide additional information through an oral report.

- F. **Football Ratings Committee:** Assistant Director Dolan will make an oral report from the committee’s meeting on February 14.
- G. **Sportsmanship Committee:** Tom Dolan will make an oral report.
- H. **Coaches Education Committee:** Shawn Knight will give an oral report.

IX. **Consent Agenda:**

- A. At its November 2014 annual meeting, the Scholastic Publications Advisory Committee (SPAC) recommended an update to the VHSL Newspaper Evaluative Criteria. The committee met in December 2015 to draft a revision, then followed up in early 2016 with a second draft. After the second draft, the document was forwarded to newspaper judges across the country for feedback. With the feedback that was received, the committee completed a third draft, then shared it with advisers/schools from July-October 2016. Members of SPAC also presented the draft to advisers and answered any questions/concerns at the VHSL Media Championships in Fredericksburg, Roanoke, and Richmond

during the first week of October 2016. Committee met in December 2016 at its annual meeting and, satisfied with the process and updates to contemporary standards, recommended an immediate adoption of the new criteria (see attached final draft version) for the current school year.

Those taking part in this process were Heidi Craft (Atlee), Taren Meekins (Glen Allen), Shelly Norden (Kettle Run), Matthew Pearman (Monticello), and Beth Skaggs (Osborn Park/Colgan).

[Attach Document](#)

**Staff recommends approval.**

**February Executive Committee vote:** \_\_\_\_\_

X. **Legislation:**

A. **First-vote items:** The following proposals are first-vote amendments. If a proposal receives a majority vote of approval at any meeting, it would be adopted if approved by a two-thirds affirmative vote at the next scheduled meeting and would become effective July 1, 2017. Proposed amendments not approved on first- or second-vote shall be null and void.

1. **12-2-1 Membership – submitted by Executive Director**

**12-1-1 Membership**-The Executive Committee shall be composed of ~~31-37~~ voting members including: ~~one principal from each region, at each group level (1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A) for a total of 12~~ 18 principals; one representative from the State Department of Education; eight division superintendents of schools; one representative from the Virginia School Boards Association; one Virginia citizen appointed by the Executive Committee from the PTA Board of Managers; six supervisors of athletics/activities at a member school, one from each group level (1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A); and two members of the Virginia General Assembly. Terms for members of the Executive Committee are limited to a maximum of four consecutive years except (a) the term of a member shall be extended as necessary for the member to serve a full term on the National Federation of State High School Associations Board of Directors and the term of the chairman may be extended one year if necessary in order to serve as past chairman and ~~(b) the term of each supervisor of athletics/activities shall be two years.~~ The Executive Director of the League shall serve as a non-voting member of the Executive Committee. Each individual member of the Executive Committee must be a current member of the group or organization they represent and must be selected in accordance with procedures set forth in 12-1-2 through 12-1-9.

**Rationale:** This aligns the handbook with the results of the recent survey (185 schools participating) in which 70% chose the addition of six principals as the best governance model moving forward. This choice increases the Executive Committee voting members from 31 to 37.

**Staff recommends that Executive Committee take into consideration the vote by the member schools from the survey but also take into consideration the conversations from the Strategic Planning discussions.**

**February Executive Committee vote:** \_\_\_\_\_

2. **28A-7-1 – Transfer Rule – submitted by Executive Director**

**PM 28A-7-1 (3) TRANSFER RULE/Site Designated Programs (5-15)-Students who have established eligibility in a school and subsequently change into or out of a site designated program (Academy, Specialty Program, etc.), in that school, will be ineligible for 90 school days.**

**Staff recommends approval.**

**February Executive Committee vote:** \_\_\_\_\_

3. **27-2-8 Penalty and SECTION 30: PENALTIES – Fines – submitted by Executive Director**

**27-2-5 Coaches Education Requirement-**A VHSL-approved course in principles of coaching and sports first aid is required of all first time athletic coaches....

**27-2-6 State and Local Knowledge Requirement-**All athletic coaches are required to complete a VHSL Component....

**27-2-7 Child Abuse Recognition, CPR, and AED Requirement-** Effective July 1, 2017, consistent with the Code of Virginia requirement of teachers, all coaches, athletic and activities, are required to complete a child abuse recognition and intervention course that meets Virginia Board of Education guidelines....

**27-2-8 Penalty-**The participation of a coach who does not complete this requirement in the prescribed time shall constitute ~~the use of an ineligible coach and result in penalties as prescribed in 30-3-1~~ a \$300.00 fine to the school.

**SECTION 30: PENALTIES**

**FINES:** In addition to other penalties, fines not to exceed the following schedule will be imposed on member schools. Monies from fines shall only be used for student and member school services....

**\$300**

- Damage of school/facility property (in addition to cost of replacement/repair of property)
- Substitute players or bench personnel enter the playing field/court during a verbal or physical altercation
- Team personnel who engage in excessive unsportsmanlike conduct before, during or after the contest, scrimmage, jamboree or
- Benefit Game
- Coach who does not complete the requirements outlined in Coaches Education Requirements; State and Local Knowledge Requirement and Child Abuse Recognition, CPR, and AED Requirements in the prescribed time

**RATIONALE:** 27-2-8 addresses concerns about the game forfeiture portion of the penalty referenced in the legislation approved by second-vote of the Executive Committee on December 7, 2016. This measure removes the game forfeiture penalty in lieu of a fine only.

**Staff recommends approval.**

**February Executive Committee vote:** \_\_\_\_\_

4. **128-5-1 Rules and Regulations (Film Festival) – submitted by Executive Director**

**128-5-1 Rules and Regulations**-Member schools are required to observe and comply with all League rules and regulations set forth in Sections 26 through 33 of the Handbook, with the exception of those that make specific reference to athletics, as well as with those rules and regulations which govern the Film Festival program as set forth in Sections 128-136. All members of film crews including but not limited to writer, director, ~~lead cast~~, cinematographer, editor, musicians, sound and lighting must meet eligibility requirements. A violation of any rule in this section, if discovered and reported before the end of the competition, will result in disqualification and redistribution of awards as necessary.

**PM 128-5-1 Eligibility**-Film Festival participants are subject to all eligibility rules except the Scholarship Rule.

**RATIONALE:** In just two years, common themes and plotlines already saturate the submission pool. Eliminating cast from this list allows filmmakers to select whomever it chooses as its talent in all roles, which opens up the types of plots that can be written instead of focusing on teen-centered stories. ( 81% of film coaches are in favor of omitting the eligibility requirement for lead cast.)

**Staff recommends approval.**

**February Executive Committee vote:** \_\_\_\_\_

5. **128-5-4 Rules and Regulations (Film Festival) – submitted by Executive Director**

**128-5-4** The school submitting a film must fully credit all ~~participants~~ crew on MEL and all participants in credits.

**RATIONALE:** This change distinguishes who must be eligible, but also dictates proper crediting for all contributors to the project.

**Staff recommends approval.**

**February Executive Committee vote:** \_\_\_\_\_

6. **128-8-1 Rules and Regulations (Film Festival) – submitted by Executive Director**

**128-8-1 Film Crews**-A film crew may consist of writer, director, ~~lead cast~~, cinematographer, editor, musicians, sound and lighting personnel, etc.

**RATIONALE:** There are many other jobs that could be included in this list. We do not want to restrict those other possibilities.

**Staff recommends approval.**

**February Executive Committee vote:** \_\_\_\_\_

7. **128-9-1 Rules and Regulations (Film Festival) – submitted by Executive Director**

**128-9-1 Content**-The content and choice of the topics for films is important. Schools ~~should~~ must create work which is honest in its fundamental concept, which is suited to the emotional development of the students, and which is handled with taste and restraint. Content ~~should~~ must be appropriate to the audience for which it

is presented and in support of contemporary community standards. It is important that advisers review questionable content, language, use of firearms or other weapons or use of tobacco or other drug with the principal prior to recording. The principal’s signature on the entry form will indicate approval of final film. Competition directors will not disqualify a film approved by the principal based on content, though it may receive a lower ranking/rating/score.

**RATIONALE:** These are not suggestions, but mandates.

**Staff recommends approval.**

**February Executive Committee vote:** \_\_\_\_\_

8. **129-2-1 Narrative; 130-2-1 Documentary; 131-2-1 Animation; 132-2-1 Experimental; 133-2-1 Commercial/PSA (Film Festival) – submitted by Executive Director**

**129-2-1 Length**-Narratives must be no shorter than five minutes and no longer than eight minutes in length. Time includes opening titles and closing credits.

**130-2-1 Length**-Documentaries must be no shorter than five minutes and no longer than eight minutes in length. Time includes opening titles and closing credits.

**131-2-1 Length**-Animated films must be no shorter than two minutes and no longer than eight minutes in length. Time includes opening titles and closing credits.

**132-2-1 Length**-Experimental films must be no shorter than three minutes and no longer than eight minutes in length. Time includes opening titles and closing credits.

**133-2-1 Length**-Commercials must be thirty or sixty seconds exactly in length. PSAs may be up to 60 seconds in length. Time includes opening titles and closing credits, if any.

**RATIONALE:** Clarity.

**Staff recommends approval.**

**February Executive Committee vote:** \_\_\_\_\_

9. **Film Festival – Various sections – Bases for Evaluation – submitted by Executive Director**

**129-3-1 Bases for Evaluation**-The criteria for evaluation shall include, but not be limited to: technical elements, storyline, acting/performance.

~~129-3-2~~ Technical elements may include:

- (1) Cinematography: focus, framing, composition, shot selection, lighting
- (2) Editing: transitions, pacing, sequence, special effects
- (3) Audio: clear, mixed effectively, appropriate
- (4) Graphics: titles, captions, credits, etc.
- (5) Mise en scene: location, set, props, costuming, makeup...

~~129-3-3~~ Storyline may includes: subject matter, development of story (planning, cohesiveness, flow), entertainment or educational value, original script and dialogue, and creativity.

~~129-3-3~~ Acting/performance may includes: characterization, interpretation, appropriate movement, realistic performance and casting.

~~130-3-2~~ Subject matter may includes: topic (interesting, educational, informative...), creativity and/or originality, scriptwriting, primary and secondary sources provide differing POV, and voiceover compliments storytelling.

~~130-3-3~~ Technical elements may include:

- (1) cinematography: focus, framing, steadiness, composition, variety/B-roll, lighting
- (2) editing: transitions, pacing, special effects, sequence
- (3) audio: clear, mixed effectively, appropriate
- (4) graphics: titles, captions, credits, etc.
- (5) production value

~~131-3-2~~ Technical elements may include:

- (1) cinematography: focus, framing, composition, shot selection, lighting
- (2) editing: transitions, pacing, sequence, special effects
- (3) audio: clear, mixed effectively, appropriate
- (4) graphics: titles, captions, credits, etc.
- (5) Mise en scene: location, set, props, costuming, makeup...)
- (6) Sound effects
- (7) Fluid movement of stop motion
- (8) Nuances of rendering details

~~131-3-3~~ Storyline may includes: subject matter, development of story (planning, cohesiveness, flow), entertainment or educational value, original script and dialogue, and creativity.

~~131-3-4~~ Acting/Performance may includes: characterization/personification, interpretation, appropriate movement, realistic performance, and casting.

~~132-3-2~~ Creativity may includes:

- (1) Subject matter is thought-provoking, makes statement
- (2) Ambiguity
- (3) Challenges traditional filmmaking techniques

~~132-3-3~~ Artistic merit may includes value as a work of art, avant-garde, and impressionistic.

~~132-3-4~~ Sensory appeal may includes the engagement of the senses (smell, taste, sound, sight and touch), visual impact (color, light, tone...), and mood.

~~132-3-5~~ Technical elements may include:

- (1) cinematography: focus, framing, composition, shot selection, lighting
- (2) editing: transitions, pacing, special effects
- (3) audio: clear, mixed effectively, appropriate
- (4) graphics: titles, captions, credits, etc.

~~133-3-2~~ Persuasive Merit may includes: thought provoking, encourages viewer to act (make purchase, become involved...), memorable/branding, and emotional appeal.

~~133-3-3~~ Technical Elements may include:

- (1) cinematography: focus, framing, composition, shot selection, lighting
- (2) editing: transitions, pacing, special effects
- (3) audio: clear, mixed effectively, appropriate, sound effects
- (4) graphics: titles, captions, etc.

~~133-3-4~~ Creativity may includes: subject matter, message content, entertainment or educational value, and originality.

**RATIONALE:** Providing suggestions is helpful, but encouraging creativity and innovation is the goal. When that goal is achieved, sometimes it transcends or even eliminates standardized criteria. Specific criteria may be elaborated on in the VHSL Film Festival Manual. Also, as electronic platforms for evaluation are made available, criteria are more easily integrated into those platforms when they are flexible. *Rationale applies to all subsequent stricken Bases for Evaluation.*

**Staff recommends approval.**

**February Executive Committee vote:** \_\_\_\_\_

**10. SECTION 134: PREVIEW AND OFFICIAL SELECTION PROCESS –submitted by Executive Director**

**SECTION 134: ~~PREVIEW AND~~ OFFICIAL SELECTION PROCESS.**

~~134-1-1~~ **Preview Jury** In a first round of judging, a ~~m~~Members of the Selection Committee Jury (filmmakers, film educators, critics and film enthusiasts) will, independently and without consultation, review each submission in its entirety. All films will be ~~scored, rated and critiqued~~ evaluated in writing and ranked.

~~134-1-2~~ **Official Selection** Total preview results will be tallied, The festival director or designee shall then compile the results, and the eight best highest scoring films will be reviewed by the Selection Committee who will, by consensus, select eight films from in each category to will become Official Selections. In the event of a tie, jurors will consult to make a decision.

**RATIONALE:** The initial intent of the two phase jurying process was to mimic a system of advancement common in other VHSL activities. Determining Official Selections and Best Films can be done in a single step, and the content is unchanged from one phase to the next, so a two phase process is unnecessary. 75% of film coaches are in favor of eliminating the two phase jurying process.

Language also taken from 135-2-2 and incorporated herein.

Should a film be removed, disqualified or otherwise withdrawn from the Festival after Official Selection announcement has been made, the next highest scoring film (1<sup>st</sup> Alternate) will take its place. No alternates beyond 1<sup>st</sup> shall be permitted as an Official Selection.

**RATIONALE:** Alternates are customary in every VHSL activity. In Season Two, a school withdrew its Official Selection after realizing it violated a rule. To fill that slot, the next highest scoring film was accepted. This formalizes the procedure.

**Official Selections will be screened at the VHSL Film Festival, ~~and adjudicated by a three member Grand Jury to determine Best Films in each category, and the film with the best ranking in each category will be designated Best Film.~~**

Staff recommends approval.

February Executive Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_

**11. SECTION 135: STATE FILM FESTIVAL – submitted by Executive Director**

~~**135-2-1 Evaluation** Three jurors for each film category shall comprise the Grand Jury at the State Film Festival.~~

**RATIONALE:** Jurying is done electronically. There is no need for jurors to be on site. Further, eliminating the two phase jurying process also reduced the need for 5 jurors. 80% of film coaches are in favor of reducing jury pool from 5 to 3.

~~**135-2-2** Each juror, independently and without consultation, will review, rank, score, rate and critique in writing all Official Selections in their category. The festival director or designee shall then compile the results. The production with the lowest total of three ranks shall be declared the Best Film in its respective category. In the event of a tie in total rank, the decision will be given to the tied production with the highest total of the three scores. In the event there is still a tie, jurors will consult in making a decision.~~

**RATIONALE:** This wording has been relocated and incorporated into Section 134.

Staff recommends approval.

February Executive Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_

**12. SECTION 135: STATE FILM FESTIVAL – submitted by Executive Director**

~~**135-2-3** All Official Selections schools will receive a complete report of jurors’ scores and written comments evaluations and rankings. Entrants must accept without reservation the decisions rendered by the jurors.~~

**RATIONALE:** For ease of festival management, different electronic platforms for evaluation are being explored. “Score” may not always be the most accurate or descriptive terminology in some cases. 85% of film coaches are in favor of using electronic ballots.

Staff recommends approval.

February Executive Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_

B. **Second-vote Items:** The following proposal received a majority favorable vote in December. To become effective in July, each shall require a two-thirds favorable vote in February.

13. **54-16-1 District Scheduling and 54-16-2 Deviation from District Scheduling Requirement (Recommended 12-7-17 by a 26-0 vote)**

**54-16-1 District Scheduling**-Every school in a district must play all other schools within a three classification spread in regular season play in all sports. Schools are not required but may choose to play above the three-classification spread within their district.

**54-16-2 Deviation from District Scheduling Requirement**-by unanimous vote of all members, a district may request of the Executive Committee to deviate from the requirement in a district to play all other school within a three classification spread in regular season play in all sports.

**Rationale:** This was one of the Alignment Committee’s original approved tenants of the six classification restructure. While it was historically preserved in Alignment Committee minutes approved by the Executive Committee it was never formally added to the handbook.

Staff recommends approval.

December Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

XI. **Action Agenda:**

A. **2017-18 Tentative VHSL Meeting Dates:**

**2016-17 Meeting Dates**

- September 21, 2016 – Executive Committee
- October 12, 2016 – Hall of Fame***
- October 13, 2016 – Group Boards/Membership (DoubleTree in Charlottesville)***
- December 7, 2016 – Executive Committee
- February 15, 2017 – Executive Committee
- March 9, 2017 – Group Boards***
- March 10, 2017 – Membership***
- May 4, 2017 (Thursday) – Executive Committee

**Proposed 2016-17 Meeting Dates**

- September 20, 2017 – Executive Committee
- June 25, 2017 – Hall of Fame***
- October 11, 2017 – Group Boards/Membership (DoubleTree in Midlothian)***
- December 6, 2017
- February 14, 2017
- March 8, 2018 – Group Boards***
- March 9, 2018 – Membership***
- May 3, 2018 (Thursday) – Executive Committee

Staff recommends approval.

February Executive Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Handbook Changes:**

1. Remove all references to Conference from VHSL handbook.

**Rational:** Conferences will no longer exist after this year.

**Staff recommends approval.**

**February Executive Committee vote:** \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Request taking the following handbook proposal for discussion to Group Boards with action in May**

Remove sports and activities from the hard copy handbook making the VHSL handbook purely a regulations document. List all VHSL sports and activity rules under those specifically designated areas on our website. After section 33 in the handbook craft a statement that says:

VHSL approved rules governing sports and activities can now be found under their appropriate individual designated location on the VHSL website.

**Rationale:** Access to the bound document is extremely limited. Coaches, parents and even some administrators find it difficult to maneuver through the 250+ pages when looking for the answer to a question. Outside of administrators most, especially parents, do not know where to otherwise find the answer to such questions as:

- The details for pitch count rest.
- When a wrestler receives his/her growth pound allowance.
- Regional requirements for advancement in Forensics.

This change should help with transparency.

**Staff recommends approval.**

**February Executive Committee vote:** \_\_\_\_\_

- D. **Physical Form:** The SMAC committee recommends the following language be added to the VHSL Physical Form under the Insurance Section on page 4:

*To access quality, low-cost comprehensive health insurance through FAMIS for your child, please contact Cover Virginia by going to [www.coverva.org](http://www.coverva.org) or calling 855.242.8282.*

**Staff recommends approval.**

**February Executive Committee vote:** \_\_\_\_\_

- E. **Approval of Barbara Southard as the 2017 Larry Johnson SMAC Recognition Award winner:**

**Staff recommends approval.**

**February Executive Committee vote:** \_\_\_\_\_

F. Include action on any specific items designated by committee reports or New Business:

XII. Discussion and Information:

A. **March Meeting Schedule/Notes:**

**Thursday, March 9**

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.  | Breakfast and Distribution of Credentials  |
| 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.  | Group Board Officers Meet with Staff   |
| 8:30 a.m. -- 9:30 a.m. | Breakout   |
|                        | 1. Qualifying Teams from Region to State Play -- (Sports/Activities Specific venues – golf, cheer, swim & dive, indoor track, activities)  |
|                        | 2. Governance – executive committee region representative rotation (ex. always 50%-50% -- 2 principals, 2 ADs, etc.)   |
|                        | 3. Goals for Strategic Plan  |
| 9: 45 a.m. – 12:00     | Group Boards – include on agenda the discuss how teams and individuals will advance to state level competitions and discuss how they can provide a coordinated plan for advancement from region to state play. |
| 12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Staff meets with group board officers – discuss group board meetings – options for plan for advancement from region to state play and governance rotation.   |

**Friday, March 10**

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.   | Breakfast and Distribution of Credentials |
| 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  | Membership Meeting                        |
| 11:45 a.m. -- 1:00 p.m. | Regional Meetings                         |

B. **NFHS Winter Meeting:** Billy Haun attended the NFHS Annual Winter Meeting the first week in January.

Topics covered included roundtable discussion and presentations on:

- Arbiter: Officials and New Productions
- NFHS Network/Digital Ticketing – NFHS reports this initiative is doing well.
- Music Royalties – there are lawsuits against some states.
- Connecticut Concussion Coalition – gave out some false information.
- Pennsylvania Officials
- Military Compact
- Gender “Non-conforming”
- Girls Wrestling: Programs and weigh-ins
- #My Reason Why Campaign – this program has gone well
- Media Training – Daylong session – hope to have this as a summer topic in Providence

- Sports Specialization Study – definite trend nationwide. Some states are having difficulty fielding teams, especially in girls sports.
- Fair Labor Standards Act
- Officials Campaign – NFHS kicking off a new campaign
- Summer Meeting

B. **VHSL Ken Tilley Student Leaders Conference:** Schools are encouraged to register by the **March 31** early bird deadline to receive the best rate, and no later than **April 14**. This year's event promises to be one of our best and will include nationally recognized keynote speakers: Stephon Ferguson Kyle Scheele & Keith Hawkins. For more information on the SLC go to: <http://www.vhsl.org/activities.page232>. We hope to see you at Freedom High School in South Riding.

D. **NFHS National High School Spirit of Sport Award: NFHS National High School Spirit of Sport Award:** In 2008, the NFHS developed its "National High School Spirit of Sport Award," which is conferred to eight section winners as well as one national winner. The recipient could be a coach, athletic administrator, trainer, student-athlete or any others associated with a school or school's athletic program. The award seeks to recognize those individuals who exemplify the ideals of the positive spirit of sport that represent the core mission of education-based athletics. The award may be given in recognition of a specific act or for an activity of longer duration. VHSL received no identified nominations but selected a final candidate to forward to the NFHS for consideration.

E. **NFHS Heart of the Arts Award:** In 2014, the NFHS developed the National High School Heart of the Arts Award, a companion to the National High School Spirit of Sport Award that recognizes an activities student who has exhibited exemplary sportsmanship and/or citizenship, has exceeded normal expectations in assisting others within the school or community; and/or has overcome adversity or a challenging circumstance. We received two nominations for consideration.

XIII. **Consideration of New Business Items:**

XIV. **Business from the Floor:**

XV. **Adjournment:**