

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

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA MAY 2017

TIME: Wednesday, May 3, 2017

- 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 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 Rollison, Beth Hardy, Jim Stemple
- 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 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
- 4:00 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
- 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.** Finance and Personnel Committees will meet jointly

Thursday, May 4, 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 Rollison, 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, Lisa Giles, Shawn Knight, Hannah Catherine Munro, Mike McCall, Lori O’Toole, David Hopkins, Kelley Haney, Chris Robinson and Lora Bickley.

- II. **Agenda Approval:**

- III. **Minutes:** The February 15, 2017, Executive Committee Minutes have been posted on the VHSL website and on BoardDocs. -- [Attach minutes](#)

IV. **Appointment of Chairman-elect:**

12-3-5 Ordinary Succession to Chairman-elect-At the last regular meeting of the school year, the Executive Committee shall elect from among its principal members a chairman-elect of the League for a term of one year. Nominees for chairman-elect must have served on the Executive Committee for one year, must be eligible to serve on the Executive Committee for the subsequent two-year period and must secure the support for the position from their own region. Candidates for the position of chairman-elect must declare their intentions by the February Executive Committee meeting. In selecting the chairman-elect, the Executive Committee may consider a rotation among the classes subject to there being an eligible candidate from the appropriate group.

Based on rotation and interest, the position would be filled by 4A West. Major Warner had expressed an interest in serving as League Chairman, however, he recently accepted a position with the Fauquier County School Board office and therefore is ineligible. Committee member Cliff Conway (4A East) is an eligible candidate from his group meeting the criteria to become League Chairman. Having served on the committee, Cliff indicated he is interested in becoming the Chairman-elect for the 2017-18 school year, 4A East supports him, and staff recommends his approval.

[Attach letter and resume](#)

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

- A. Committee schedule and procedures
- B. Call for new business

VI. **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 April 19, we have received no requests.

VII. **Legal:** Executive Director Haun and Legal Counsel Craig Wood will attend the Annual NFHS Legal Conference. Executive Director Haun will make an oral report.

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 March 31, 2016.

POST MATERIALS

2. VHSL Foundation review of Balance Sheet and Income and Expense Report through March 31, 2016.
POST MATERIALS

- a. **Foundation Team Travel:** The VHSL Foundation has provided team travel for cross country, scholastic bowl and theatre. The amount of Foundation team reimbursement in 2016-17 was \$74,654.16 – Foundation paid out \$72,378.90 and VHSL paid out \$2,275.26. Specific amounts are divided: \$47,571.38 for cross country, \$15,509.71 for scholastic bowl and \$11,573.07 for theatre.

3. Proposed FY2018 Budget will be provided prior to the meeting. **POST MATERIALS**
4. League contribution to the Foundation: Based on the deficit experienced the last three years, if the FY2017 budget does not finish in the black, the Benefit Game monies will remain as part of the VHSL budget.
5. Approval of rebate on pre-sale tickets for football and basketball state championships for 2017-18; **staff recommends** maintaining rebate. Participating schools generated \$6609 in pre-sales in football and \$1806 in pre-sales in basketball.
6. Projected dues structure for 2018-19: At the December 2015 Executive Committee meeting, the committee voted to increase the activity fee from \$30 to \$50 and the insurance premium from \$5.75 to \$6.00 beginning with the 2017-18 school year. This would reflect the first increase in nine years. Then at the September 2016 meeting, the committee voted to modify the previously approved activity fee to reflect a decrease in the activity fee from \$50 to \$35 and leave the insurance fee at \$6.
7. Investment Policy – Davenport update: Dave Dunwody from Davenport will give a report to the Finance Committee on Wednesday and the full committee on Thursday.
8. Statement of Position -- Attach
9. Sponsorship: Hannah Catherine Munro will make an oral report.
 - i. Dominion Foundation: The Dominion Foundation has been given approval for a grant to support the VHSL Student Leaders programming.
 - ii. VACORP: The inaugural VHSL golf tournament is scheduled for June 26 at Spring Creek Golf Club in Gordonsville, VA. VACORP is sponsoring both the VHSL golf tournament and Hall of Fame Banquet.
 - iii. BSN: BSN has also committed to help sponsor the VHSL golf tournament.

- B. Personnel and Operations:** Chairman Mike Davidson will report findings and recommendations.

1. Conduct evaluation review of the executive director with executive committee. In accordance with the executive director's contract, his evaluation is to be placed on the May agenda. The League Chairman, in conjunction with the Personnel Committee, will meet with and evaluate the executive director annually, no later than May 15. The evaluation shall be in writing, using the VHSL Performance Assessment for Executive Director and the new rubric established at the February meeting. The Personnel Committee shall report the results of the evaluation to the executive committee in closed session. The evaluation includes a determination of how successful the executive director has been meeting goals that were established in September. These goals were:

Goal 1 – During the 2016-2017 year, the Executive Director and staff will analyze the FY 2017 VHSL operational budget, including revenues, expenditures, sponsorships, and spending. This evaluation will enable the VHSL to address the three-year trend of having a net loss of the operating budget and to create a FY 2018 budget that will better support the VHSL mission.

Goal 2 – The VHSL will be developing a new strategic plan during the 2016-2017 year. A component of this plan will be to develop a communication plan that addresses clear, concise, and transparent communication with all stakeholders: students, parents, membership, officials and coaches, and the general public. The plan will address providing accurate and up-to-date information on the website, communicating with membership staff, the process for making decisions and changes, and communicating the mission of the VHSL and the benefits to students who participate in interscholastic activities.

Goal 3 – During the 2016-2017 year, the Executive Director and staff will review the VHSL Employee Handbook. Information in each section will be evaluated and updated for accuracy. The salary and benefit section will be reviewed to ensure the VHSL compensation package, salary and benefits, is in alignment with competitive market levels. An additional section will be added to the handbook that addresses staff evaluations and focus on creating SMART (Strategic, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Timely) goals and a rubric for evaluating the goals.

Goal 4 – During the 2017-2018 year, the VHSL will implement a new alignment for member schools, going from the current model of six groups and twelve regions to six groups and twenty-four regions. With the new alignment, the size of the Executive Committee will increase from thirty-one to forty-three members using the current guidelines for voting members. The Executive Director will work with staff, the executive committee, and membership during the 2016-2017 year to implement a governance system for the VHSL that will effectively and functionally work with the new group and regional alignment while continuing to provide representation for the member schools in each region.

2. Retirement News: Denise Marshall, bookkeeper, announced her retirement effective May 31. Denise has worked for the VHSL for 10 years in the financial department as assistant to the CFO. She also assisted in the Foundation area, assisting Hannah Catherine Munro with various facets of the Foundation. The position has been posted and David Hopkins hopes to be able to start interviews shortly.

3. Review and recommend salary adjustments for 2017-18:

C. **Policy and Programs:** Chairman Paul Joseph will report findings and recommendations.

1. State Calendar Event Proposal -- Attach
2. Review minutes from the March 9 Coaches Education Committee.
3. Review minutes from the March 27 Wrestling Weight Control Committee.
4. Review minutes from the February 14 Football Ratings Committee.
5. 3A West voted to increase the number of teams qualifying for the state golf tournament from 1 to 2 and to increase number of individuals qualifying from 3 to 6. The region would also recommend that the state tournament only be a one-day tournament.
6. State Events for 2017-18.
7. State Playoff Format.
8. Review legislation.
9. Film Festival Rubric.
10. Future wrestling legislation.

D. **Technology and Communications:** Chairman Jeff Dietz will report findings and recommendations.

1. rSchoolToday: An oral report will be made.
2. Status report on website – Logik7
3. Hall of Fame:

E. **Strategic Planning Update:**

[Attach](#)

IX. **Consent Agenda:**

- A. **Approval of Group Board Minutes: Staff recommends approval** of the March Group Board minutes. Action by Group Boards does not necessarily result in change(s) being sought.

[POST MINUTES](#)

- B. **Colonel Charles E. Sledge Scholarship/Virginia Student Journalist of the Year:** This is the only scholarship that is given from specifically designated League funds (established in honor of Virginia's legendary yearbook adviser). After reviewing 13 nominations, the scholarship selection committee unanimously recommends that Melanie Pincus of McLean High School be the recipient of this \$500 award.

C. **Editorial:**

100-3-1 School Participation-Virtually all schools include in their offering some form of dramatic activity, usually of the co-curricular type, such as class plays, club skits and the like. Few are able to provide opportunities for participation in dramatic art for all who might enjoy or profit from this experience. The theatre festival serves as a means of stimulating school interest in a type of vehicle which can be produced in a comparatively short time at little expense, so that a number of plays, rather than a

few, may be included in the school's drama calendar. A bill of three short plays, produced by the players of the same school or of neighboring schools, has proved to be a popular means of increasing the number of participants in the drama program as well as an effective means of providing general school and community entertainment.

Staff recommends approval.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

X. **Legislation:**

A. **Emergency items:** The following proposals are presented as an Emergency Amendment, requiring a three-fourths vote of approval, and would become effective immediately unless the Executive Committee incorporates into the legislation a later effective date. The Executive Committee may declare a proposed amendment to be an emergency amendment requiring prompt action.

1. **SECTION 100: INTRODUCTION. (submitted by Debate, Drama, Forensics Advisory Committee)**

100-1-1 Sponsored Activity-The League sponsors a competitive interscholastic program within groups leading to ~~conference~~ sectional, super-regional and state recognition in one form of dramatic activity: Theatre Festival.

Note: a super-region consists of 2 regions. Groups must, prior to the beginning of the season, determine the rotation of region pairings and hosting responsibility.

100-2-1 Purpose-The general purpose of this program is to stimulate interest and participation in dramatic art as a means of furthering the cultural and educational development of students in Virginia high schools. This purpose is best served when a large number of schools engage in the program on school and ~~conference~~ sectional levels. The theatre festival program is intended to motivate the development of a broad school drama program in which many students participate as well as to provide a means of evaluating and improving standards of school dramatic performance.

100-3-2 The principal should formulate plans for his/her school's participation in the theatre festival early in the school year and he/she should select the teacher or sponsor who will be in charge of the program well in advance of the dates for the ~~conference~~ sectional/super-regional festivals. As a general rule, four to six weeks are required for preparation and preliminary presentations before school and community audiences. The principal should also allow students and faculty who are participating in ~~conference~~, sectional, super-regional and state festivals the time and opportunity to participate in the total festival as audience and observers or critiques.

100-4-1 Program-The League's dramatic art program consists of a series of theatre festivals conducted on optional ~~conference~~, sectional, required super-regional and state levels within groups. Each participating school selects a play, in accordance with the regulations and suggestions given in Sections 100 and 101, and enters it in the appropriate ~~conference~~ sectional festival, if available, or in the appropriate super-regional festival. Schools receiving first and second place awards in ~~conferences~~ sectionals opting to hold a ~~conference~~ sectional festival, and all interested schools in ~~conferences~~ sectionals not opting to hold a ~~conference~~ sectional festival are eligible for participation in the super-regional festivals; schools opting to be rated for possible advancement to the state festival and receiving first and second place awards in the super-regional festivals are eligible for

participation in the state festival. A school may not change plays between rounds of competition. If a first-or-second-place school is unable to advance to the super-regional or state competition, the third-place school in the appropriate conference sectional or super-regional festival may compete at the next level. No replacements beyond third-place schools shall be permitted.

100-4-2 Schools in conferences sectionals which do not hold a festival must make known their desire to participate. ~~If possible, the League will arrange for a neighboring conference to invite the school.~~

100-5-1 Aids to Coaches and Sponsors-Whenever circumstances make it possible, the League sponsors clinics on dramatic and forensic activities in various sections of the state.

SECTION 101: THEATRE FESTIVALS.

101-1-1 Selection-Any script, including musical theatre, children's theatre and mime, may be selected and used in theatre festivals provided it meets the following qualifications:....

101-1-3 Each school participating in a conference, sectional, super-regional or state festival must bring a copy of its script to the festival site. If a challenge of material, performance, royalty, publication, etc. is made, the tournament director deems the challenge is legitimate, and a script on hand can assist in the investigation of said challenge, a school representative must provide the script on the spot. If the script is not made available immediately, the school will be disqualified. All disputes will be settled at the conference, sectional, super-regional or state level where the challenge was made.

101-2-1 Rules and Regulations-In all theatre festivals both individual representatives and member schools are required to observe and comply with all League rules and regulations set forth in Sections 26 through 33 of this *Handbook*, with the exception of those that make specific reference to athletics, as well as with those rules and regulations which govern the theatre festival program as set forth in Sections 100 and 101. All members of the cast and crew, as well as any person providing live music as part of the performance, must meet eligibility requirements. Violations of any of these rules render the offender liable to such disciplinary action as the appropriate ~~district~~ regional or state committee may impose.

101-2-2 Four critic judges shall be used at all League theatre festivals; however, if a festival director cannot secure four critic judges, or a secured judge cancels at the last minute, he/she may go ahead with the festival with three judges with the notification of all participating schools. Experience has shown that conference sectionals and regions that pay judges an honorarium and travel expenses frequently obtain the services of better qualified judges....

101-3-1 ~~Conference~~ Sectional Festivals-Failure of a school to compete in a conference sectional festival, if held, shall disqualify the school from participation in the super-regional festival. Failure of a conference-sectional, opting to conduct a festival, to conduct said festival on or before the deadline date shall disqualify its schools from participation in the super-regional festival.

101-3-2 Each school is limited to one entry in the conference sectional festival. Festival regulations and procedures are given in this section. The specific time, place and date for the festival is determined by the festival director, who is approved by the Conference Region Council. The names of the festival director and critic judges must be reported to the League Office at least two weeks in advance of the district sectional festival. Approval or disapproval of the critic judges selected if not on the list of recommended critic judges sent to the conference sectional festival

director will be sent within 48 hours if the backgrounds of the persons selected are given. The director is responsible for the conduct of the festival in accordance with League regulations. He/she is supplied by the League Office with a festival kit, containing all necessary instructions, critic judges' rating forms and supplies, well in advance of the deadline date for the festival.

101-4-1 Super-Regional Festivals-~~Super~~-Regional theatre festivals for all groups shall be held at sites chosen by the festival directors. A festival director for each super-region shall be chosen by the regional officers. The name of the festival director must be sent to the League office at least two weeks before the super-regional festival. The director is responsible for the conduct of the festival in accordance with League regulations. He/she is supplied by the League office with a festival kit similar to the ~~conference~~ sectional festival director's kit well in advance of the deadline for the festival.

101-4-2 Schools whose productions receive first and second place awards in ~~conferences~~ sectionals opting to hold a festival and up to two schools in ~~conferences~~ sectionals opting not to hold a festival are eligible to participate in super-regional festivals. However, a Region Council may, prior to the beginning of the season, approve more than two schools advancing from ~~conferences~~ sectionals which do not hold festivals. If a ~~conference~~ sectional does not hold a festival and the super-region does not opt prior to the beginning of the season to permit more than two schools to advance, it is up to the ~~conference~~ sectional to determine by some other system which schools will advance. A qualifying school may not change plays between rounds. (See 100-4-1.)...

Note: The foregoing regulations and procedures shall govern ~~conference~~, sectional, super-regional and state festivals.

101-5-1 State Festival-A state theatre festival for all groups shall be held annually on dates specified on the VHSL Activities Calendar. Only those schools opting to be rated for possible advancement to the state competition and whose productions receive first and second place awards in the super-regional festival shall be eligible to perform those plays in the state festival. (See 100-4-1.) Super-regions shall not advance more than two schools to the state festival; therefore, they must resolve ties or disputes in accordance with policies in the VHSL Theatre Manual since only two schools may qualify from each super-region to state....

101-8-1 Penalties-Any production that exceeds the maximum playing time of 35 minutes at any ~~conference~~ sectional or super-regional festival shall not be eligible to receive a first or second place ranking. Any school that does not secure permission from the publisher to produce the competition play and pay relevant royalties will be disqualified from competition.

101-9-1 Awards-Each ~~Conference~~ and Regional Council shall adopt a program of awards for its theatre festival competition. The Virginia High School League shall present trophies to first and second place productions at the state festival, and medals shall be presented to individuals whose number shall not exceed four selected by the judges for their outstanding performances.

Staff recommends approval.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

- 2. **FORENSICS: SECTION 110: INTRODUCTION. (submitted by Debate, Drama, Forensics Advisory Committee)**

Note: a super-region consists of 2 regions. Groups must, prior to the beginning of the season, determine the rotation of region pairings and hosting responsibility.

110-1-1 Contests-The League sponsors a competitive interschool program within groups, leading to ~~district~~, regional, super-regional and state championships in 10 forensic contests of two types, grouped for competitive purposes as follows:

(1) *Speaking*: Extemporaneous Speaking on Foreign and Domestic Affairs, Original Oratory and Impromptu Speaking...

~~110-3-4 Set the date for school forensic and debate meets (at least two weeks prior to the district meets) and plan such other preliminary meets as may be desirable or necessary.~~

Rationale: A school meet prior to the first level of tournaments is not standard practice....

110-5-1 Kits-A kit of materials and instructions containing the essential administrative items required in the conduct of a forensic or debate meet is supplied by the League Office to directors of ~~conference~~ regional and super-regional meets.

110-6-1 Rules and Regulations-In all speech contests, both individual representatives and member schools shall observe and comply with League rules and regulations set forth in Sections 26 through 33 of this *Handbook*, except those that apply exclusively to athletes, as well as with those rules which govern each specific contest as set forth in Section 110 through 119. Violations of any of these rules render the offender liable to such disciplinary action as the appropriate ~~Conference~~ Regional Committee may impose.

110-6-2 In ~~conference~~ regional, super-regional and state contests, the judges shall determine at least first-, second- and third-place winners in forensics, first- and second-place in policy debate, first- and second-place in Public Forum, and first-, second-, third- and fourth-place winners in Lincoln-Douglas debate; and first, second, third and fourth place winners in Student Congress. No ties shall be declared for any awards or alternates in ~~conference-regional~~, super-regional or state contests. Each region shall be responsible for resolving disputes in accordance with policies in the VHS Forensics and Debate Manual so that no more than three individual entries per event in forensics, three in policy debate, three in Public Forum, four in Lincoln-Douglas debate and twelve in Student Congress advance to state.

SECTION 111: FORENSIC MEETS.

111-1-1 Program-The League program in forensic activities consists of a series of meets conducted on school, ~~conference~~ regional, super-regional and state levels. The program for individual events (speaking and oral interpretation) culminates with the state meets held annually. The program originates within each member school desiring to participate. ~~The Each school conducts a school meet to determine its champions and to qualify them for~~ may enter two students or duo teams per category, not to exceed 17 total entries in the conference regional meet.

Rationale: A school meet prior to the first level of tournaments is not standard practice. The 17 entries per school has been the standard for no fewer than 12 years, probably longer, as shown in 111-4-2.

First, second and third place ~~conference~~ regional winners are eligible to compete in the super-regional contests. If a first, second or third place team or individual is unable to advance to the super-

regional tournament, the fourth alternate team or individual in the appropriate regional tournament may compete at the next level and will be inserted in the schematic pairings in the vacated spot without regard to protection. If the fourth alternate team or individual is unable to advance to the super-regional tournament, the fifth alternate team or individual in the appropriate regional tournament may compete at the next level and will be inserted in the schematic pairings in the vacated spot without regard to protection. No replacements beyond fifth place teams or individuals shall be permitted.

Rationale: Historically, the first level of forensic competition has not been very competitive. With reclassification, regionals as the first level of competition will be robust. For this reason, alternates through fifth should be permitted, but only at the regional to super-regional level.

First, second and third place super-regional winners are eligible to compete in the state championship meet held annually on the dates specified in the VHSL Activities Calendar. If a first, second or third place team or individual is unable to advance to the ~~regional~~ or state tournament, the fourth place team or individual in the appropriate ~~conference~~ or super-regional tournament may compete at the next level and will be inserted in the schematic pairings in the vacated spot without regard to protection. No replacements beyond fourth place teams or individuals shall be permitted....

~~**111-3-1 School Meets** School forensic meets shall be held not later than two weeks before the conference meet to determine school championships in each of the contests comprising the meet and to qualify winners for participation in conference meets.~~

~~**111-3-2** Procedures for school meets parallel in general those followed in conference, regional and state meets. The principal, or some person designated by him/her as meet director, is responsible for the conduct of the meet in accordance with these regulations and procedures.~~

Rationale: A school meet prior to the first level of tournaments is not standard practice.

~~**111-4-1 Conference Regional Meets** Conference Regional forensic meets shall be held not later than the deadline date specified in the VHSL Activities Calendar to determine ~~conference~~ regional championships in each of the contests comprising the meet and to qualify winners for participation in the super-regional meet. Failure of a ~~conference~~ region to conduct a meet on or before this deadline date shall disqualify ~~conference~~ regional winners from participation in the super-regional meets.~~

PM 111-4-1, 111-5-1 FORENSICS/Director Attendance (9-95)-Every ~~conference~~ regional and super-regional forensics director shall attend one of the speech rules clinics. If a director is unable to attend, the ~~conference~~ region or super-region should consider replacing him/her.

111-4-2 Each school is limited to a maximum of two entries in each of the contests comprising the ~~conference~~ regional meet, with each school limited to no more than seventeen entries total. No student shall represent his/her school in more than one contest.

111-4-3 Meet regulations and procedures are given hereafter in this section. The specific date, time and place of the meet is determined by the appropriate ~~Conference~~ Regional Council, which likewise designates the meet director. The director is responsible for the conduct of the meet in accordance with League regulations. He/she is supplied by the League Office with a meet kit containing all necessary instructions, judges' rating forms and contest supplies well in advance of the deadline date for the meet.

111-4-4 ~~Conference~~ Regional meets shall be structured following one of four options:

(1) Option A: ~~Conference~~ Regional forensics meets shall consist of three preliminary rounds of competition followed by a final championship round. Multiple sections of no more than six competitors per event per round shall be used. At the conclusion of the three preliminary rounds, the six finalists will be announced in each event. The final round will immediately follow the posting. One judge shall be used for each preliminary round and three judges shall be used for each final championship round. Judges shall not see the same event more than once per tournament.

(2) Option B: ~~Conference~~ Regional forensics meets shall consist of three rounds of competition. This could be three consecutive rounds of competition or two preliminary rounds followed by a final round of six competitors. Multiple sections of no more than six competitors per event per round shall be used. If there are three consecutive rounds, two judges shall be used for each round. If there are two preliminary rounds followed by a final round, two judges shall be used in the preliminaries and three judges shall be used in the final round. One judge shall not see the same event more than once per tournament.

(3) Option C: A two-round forensics tournament shall be used at the ~~conference~~ regional level. Multiple sections of no more than six competitors per event per round shall be used. At least two judges should evaluate each round with no judge judging the same event more than once in a tournament.

(4) Option D: If fewer than eight competitors participate in each event of the ~~conference~~ regional forensics tournament, a one-round tournament may be used at the ~~conference~~ regional level. If a one-round format is used, three judges shall be used....

111-5-1 ~~Super-Regional Meets~~-~~Super~~-Regional forensic meets shall be held not later than the deadline date specified in the VHSL Activities Calendar to determine super-regional championships in each of the contests comprising the meet and to qualify winners for participation in the state meet. Failure of a super-region to conduct a meet on or before the deadline date shall disqualify regional winners from participation in the state meets.

PM 111-4-1, 111-5-1 FORENSICS/Director Attendance (9-95)-Every ~~conference~~ regional and super-regional forensics director shall attend one of the speech rules clinics. If a director is unable to attend, the ~~conference~~ region or super-region should consider replacing him/her.

111-5-2 First, second and third place winners in each ~~conference~~ regional meet are eligible to compete in the super-regional meet....

111-5-4 Procedures for super-regional meets parallel in general those followed in ~~conference~~ regional meets. Super-regions may choose any one of the four options listed in Section 111-4-4 for conducting the regional forensics tournament. Super-regions are encouraged to have at least a two-round tournament to determine super-regional championships and to qualify winners for participation in the state meet.

111-6-1 Honorarium and Travel Expense-Experience has shown that ~~Conference~~ Region Councils which pay judges an honorarium plus travel expense find the judging situation to be much improved.

111-7-1 State Meets-State meets for all groups shall be held not later than the deadline dates specified in the VHSL Activities Calendar to determine state championships in each of the contests

comprising the meet. Entrants shall be the first, second and third place winners of super-regional contests. In addition to declaring first, second and third place individual champions in each event by group classification, a team champion and runner-up shall be determined....

Staff recommends approval.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

3. SECTION 112: EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING. (submitted by Debate, Drama, Forensics Advisory Committee)

Note: a super-region consists of 2 regions. Groups must, prior to the beginning of the season, determine the rotation of region pairings and hosting responsibility.

112-1-1 Introduction-The League sponsors a program in extemporaneous speaking leading to championships in each group. These contests are held as part of the school, ~~conference~~, regional, super-regional and state forensic meets....

112-7-1 Penalties-In each contest, the contestant shall be given a 30-second grace period beyond the time limit for that event. Any student going over the grace period may not rank first in the round. No other penalty for a time violation shall be assessed. Any contestant at any ~~conference~~, regional, super-regional or state contest who violates any other regulation in this section shall be disqualified.

Staff recommends approval.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

4. SECTION 113: ORIGINAL ORATORY. (submitted by Debate, Drama, Forensics Advisory Committee)

Note: a super-region consists of 2 regions. Groups must, prior to the beginning of the season, determine the rotation of region pairings and hosting responsibility.

113-1-1 Introduction-The League sponsors a program in original oratory leading to championships on all levels within each group. These contests are held as part of the ~~school~~, ~~conference~~, regional, super-regional and state forensic meets....

Staff recommends approval.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

5. SECTION 114: IMPROMPTU SPEAKING. (submitted by Debate, Drama, Forensics Advisory Committee)

Note: a super-region consists of 2 regions. Groups must, prior to the beginning of the season, determine the rotation of region pairings and hosting responsibility.

114-1-1 Introduction-The League sponsors a program in impromptu speaking leading to ~~school~~, ~~conference~~, regional, super-regional and state championships....

Staff recommends approval.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

6. SECTION 115: ORAL INTERPRETATION. (submitted by Debate, Drama, Forensics Advisory Committee)

Note: a super-region consists of 2 regions. Groups must, prior to the beginning of the season, determine the rotation of region pairings and hosting responsibility.

115-1-1 Introduction-The League sponsors a program in oral interpretation leading to championships on all levels within each group. Championships are determined in storytelling, prose interpretation, poetry interpretation, serious dramatic interpretation, humorous dramatic interpretation, serious duo interpretation and humorous duo interpretation. These contests are held as part of ~~school, conference,~~ regional, super-regional and state forensic meets....

115-3-1 Oral Interpretation Regulations-Oral interpretation events require the use of published work. Selections used shall be cuttings from published, printed material, the approved list of online sources, the approved list of apps, or e-books that also exist in published printed format. Recorded material not printed and published is prohibited. If a selection is challenged, a school representative must be able to identify the printed source or e-book on the spot and will be asked to produce an original or copy of an original to verify publication. For online sources, a school representative must provide a printed copy of the complete, original text with cuts denoted, in addition to a digital copy loaded from the original source link. For apps, a school representative must be able to identify the published material by accessing it on the spot via the app. If publication cannot be verified to the satisfaction of the tournament director, the student will be disqualified. All disputes will be settled at the ~~conference,~~ regional, super-regional or state level where the challenge was made....

115-5-1 Prose Interpretation Contest Regulations-Each contestant shall read one prepared published prose selection of his/her own choice with a total reading time of not more than ten minutes. The contestant should preface his/her reading with an introductory statement which will give the audience a better understanding of the selection read, provided this total time does not exceed ten minutes. Contestant must present the same selection in each round of a given tournament. Adjudicator will not provide time signals. The use of a manuscript is required. No reader may use a prepared prose selection, adaptation or cutting that he/she has read in a conference, regional, super-regional or state contest in a previous year.

115-6-1 Poetry Interpretation Contest Regulations-Each contestant shall read one prepared published poem or poetic group of his/her own choice with a total reading time of not more than ten minutes. The contestant should preface his/her reading with an introductory statement which will give the audience a better understanding of the selection read, provided this total time does not exceed ten minutes. Contestant must present the same selection in each round of a given tournament. Adjudicator will not provide time signals. The use of a manuscript is required. No reader may use a prepared poetry selection, adaptation or cutting that he/she has read in a conference, regional, super-regional or state contest in a previous year.

115-7-1 Serious Dramatic Interpretation Regulations-Each contestant shall present one selection of a serious nature chosen from published material. Contestant must present the same selection in each round of a given tournament. The selection should emphasize character

development through consistent use of distinct voices, focal points and postures. Adaptations may be for the purpose of continuity only. The contestant should preface the selection with an introductory statement that will give the audience a better understanding of the selection, provided the total time does not exceed ten minutes. Adjudicator will not provide time signals. The use of a manuscript is prohibited. No contestant may use a selection, adaptation or cutting that he/she has used in a conference, regional, super-regional or state contest in a previous year. Properties or costumes are not permitted. Movement is allowed, but such movement should be restricted to bending (knees and/or waist); leaning, twisting or swiveling; and no walking. Use of body (gestures, appropriate audience/eye contact, etc.) to suggest character is permitted.

115-8-1 Humorous Dramatic Interpretation Regulations-Each contestant shall present one selection of a humorous nature chosen from published material. Contestant must present the same selection in each round of a given tournament. The selection should emphasize character development through consistent use of distinct voices, focal points and postures. Adaptations may be for the purpose of continuity only. The contestant should preface the selection with an introductory statement that will give the audience a better understanding of the selection, provided the total time does not exceed ten minutes. Adjudicator will not provide time signals. The use of a manuscript is prohibited. No contestant may use a selection, adaptation or cutting that he/she has used in a conference, regional, super-regional or state contest in a previous year. Properties or costumes are not permitted. Movement is allowed, but such movement should be restricted to bending (knees and/or waist); leaning, twisting or swiveling; and no walking. Use of body (gestures, appropriate audience/eye contact, etc.) to suggest character is permitted.

115-9-1 Serious Duo Interpretation of Literature-Each duo team must present one selection of a serious nature chosen from a single published work. Though the material may contain humorous tones, the climax and resolution must be a serious dramatic nature. Contestant must present the same selection in each round of a given tournament. Each interpreter may present one or more characters and either or both may present narration. A selection must maintain the author's intent, characters and words as written, except for minor use of transitions, unless written permission is granted by the author or publisher for modification and/or adaptation of the published work. No contestant may use a selection, adaptation or cutting that either member of the duo team has used in a conference, regional, super-regional or state contest in a previous year....

115-10-1 Humorous Duo Interpretation of Literature-Each duo team must present one selection of a humorous nature chosen from a single published work. Though the material may contain serious tones, the climax and resolution must be of a humorous nature. Contestant must present the same selection in each round of a given tournament. Each interpreter may present one or more characters and either or both may present narration. A selection must maintain the author's intent, characters and words as written, except for minor use of transitions, unless written permission is granted by the author or publisher for modification and/or adaptation of the published work. No contestant may use a selection, adaptation or cutting that either member of the duo team has used in a conference, regional, super-regional or state contest in a previous year....

Staff recommends approval.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

7. SECTION 116: DEBATE. (submitted by Debate, Drama, Forensics Advisory Committee)

Note: a super-region consists of 2 regions. Groups must, prior to the beginning of the season, determine the rotation of region pairings and hosting responsibility....

116-1-1 Introduction-The League sponsors four forms of debate: Policy, Lincoln-Douglas, Student Congress and Public Forum....

116-3-1 Preparation-Schools planning to participate in the debate program are urged to make preparations well in advance of the date for ~~school or conference~~ regional tournaments. Organization of a debate club early in the fall session and a series of intramural club debates are recommended. A schedule of interscholastic debates prior to the ~~district~~ regional tournament is suggested.

PM 116-3-1 DEBATE/Source Materials (3-06)-Any student who opts to use a laptop in debate competition must provide his or her own laptop and is not allowed connectivity to other computers, persons, or the Internet....

116-4-1 Policy Debate Contest Rules and Regulations-Each school entering Policy debate on the ~~conference~~ regional level may enter in each event a maximum of two two-speaker debate teams, each of which is prepared to debate both sides of the resolution.

116-4-2 Each ~~conference~~ region entering the super-regional meet may certify first, second and third place teams in each event to the super-regional meet. Each super-region entering the state meet may certify first, second and third place teams in each event to the state meet. If one of the first three Policy teams is unable to advance to the super-regional or state tournament, the fourth place Policy team in the appropriate ~~conference~~ regional or super-regional tournament may replace the Policy team unable to attend. No replacements beyond fourth place shall be permitted. Each super-region shall be responsible for resolving ties or disputes in accordance with policies in the VHSL Debate Manual so that it advances no more than three teams to state.

116-5-1 Lincoln-Douglas Contest Rules and Regulations- Each school entering Lincoln-Douglas debating on the ~~conference~~ regional level will be afforded the option of entering a maximum of three Lincoln-Douglas debaters, each of whom is prepared to debate both sides of the resolution.

116-5-2 Each ~~conference~~ region entering the regional meet shall qualify a maximum of four debaters to the regional meet. Each region entering the state meet shall qualify a maximum of four debaters to the state tournament. If one of the first four debaters is unable to advance to the regional or state tournament, the fifth place debater in the appropriate ~~conference~~ regional or super-regional tournament may replace the debater unable to attend. No replacements beyond fifth place shall be permitted, and each region shall be responsible for resolving ties or disputes in accordance with policies in the VHSL Debate Manual so that it advances no more than four Lincoln-Douglas debaters to state....

116-6-3 The number of representatives or senators participating determines whether the meet is divided into multiple chambers. In general, 24 representatives or senators per chamber is ideal, with chambers ranging in size from 15 to 30 members. If there is to be more than one chamber, schools and regions should be split equally between or among chambers. At the regional tournament, each chamber should meet between two and four sessions, as determined by the Clerk of Congress. At state, each chamber will meet in four sessions, with a fifth Super Session set for any group split between two chambers. The Super Session will include all students placing in the top half of the two split chambers. Each school qualifying for the state tournament in a group with split chambers will provide one bill or resolution to be considered for the Super Session docket, and that bill or resolution must be submitted electronically on the ~~the~~ Student Congress website at least one week in advance of the state tournament....

116-7-1 Public Forum Debate Contest Rules and Regulations-Each school entering Public Forum debate on the ~~conference~~ regional level may enter a maximum of two, two-speaker debate teams, each of which is prepared to debate both sides of the resolution.

116-7-2 Each ~~conference~~ region entering the super-regional meet may certify first, second and third place teams in each event to the regional meet. Each region entering the state meet may certify first, second and third place teams in each event to the state meet. If one of the first three Public Forum teams is unable to advance to the regional or state tournament, the fourth place Public Forum team in the appropriate ~~district~~ region or super-regional tournament may replace the Public Forum team unable to attend. No replacements beyond fourth place shall be permitted. Each region shall be responsible for resolving ties or disputes in accordance with policies in the VHSL Debate Manual so that it advances no more than three teams to state....

116-8-1 Debate Tournaments-~~Conference~~, regional, super-regional and state tournaments in Policy debate, Lincoln-Douglas debate, Student Congress and Public Forum shall be held not later than the dates specified in the VHSL Activities Calendar.

116-8-2 A student may participate in Policy, Lincoln-Douglas, Student Congress and/ or Public Forum debate but may participate in only one form of debate at the ~~conference~~, regional, super-regional and state tournaments....

116-9-1 Tournament Limitations-No individual or team may participate in more than 16 tournaments during the school year, excluding VHSL ~~conference~~, regional, super-regional and state tournaments. A student who registers at and participates in a debate tournament under a name other than his/her own or under a name other than his/her bona fi de school name shall be disqualified from participating in the ~~conference~~, regional, super-regional and state debate tournaments.

PM 116-10-2 DEBATE TOURNAMENTS/Substitutions-Debate teams advancing from the ~~conference~~ regional to the super-regional tournaments and from the super-regional to the state tournament are expected to remain intact. However, under unusual circumstances a school may substitute one member of a team advancing to the next tournament. Such circumstances as illness or an unexpected family commitment may justify a substitution. A substitution may not be allowed for a debater who is aware of another commitment on the dates of the super-regional or state tournament at the time of entry into the ~~district~~ regional tournament.

If a substitution for one member of a debate team is necessary, the principal may call the League office and explain the circumstances giving the name of the student unable to attend the tournament and the name of that student's replacement. The decision on the substitution will be based on the information given. If a first- or second-place team is unable to advance to the super-regional or state tournament, the third-place team in the ~~conference~~ regional or super-regional tournament may replace the team unable to attend. No replacements beyond third-place teams will be allowed. If a team member is replaced for the super-regional tournament, he may not rejoin the team for the state tournament.

PM 116-11-1 DEBATE TOURNAMENT/Limitations (2-89)-This section was interpreted to address individual and two-person team limits rather than the total number of debate tournaments a school may enter.

Staff recommends approval.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

8. SECTION 126: SCHOLASTIC BOWL. (submitted by Debate, Drama, Forensics Advisory Committee)

Note: a super-region consists of 2 regions. Groups must, prior to the beginning of the season, determine the rotation of region pairings and hosting responsibility....

126-1-1 Sponsored Activity-The League sponsors academic competition called Scholastic Bowl Within groups leading to ~~conference~~, regional, super-regional and state recognition....

126-4-1 Program-The League's Scholastic Bowl competition begins at the ~~conference~~regional level with optional regular season and/or ~~conference~~ district tournament competition designed to determine two schools that will advance to a regional tournament. Each region participating will hold a tournament to select first place and second place teams to advance to a super-region tournament. Each super-region will hold a tournament to select first place and second place teams to advance to a state-tournament. If a first or second place school is unable to advance to the super-regional or state-competition, the third place school in the appropriate ~~conference regional~~ or super-regional tournament may-compete at the next level. No replacements beyond third-place schools shall be permitted.–Deadline dates for ~~conference regional~~ and super-regional tournaments and the date of the state tournament-are published in the annual official VHSL Calendar.

126-4-2 ~~Conference Regional~~ Qualification-~~Conferences~~ Regions can qualify two schools to a Regional tournament through regular season and/or district tournament competition as determined by the ~~Conference Regional~~ Council. If no regular season or district tournament is held, then the regional tournament shall be all-in. If no more than two schools in a region want to participate, the ~~conference region~~ may designate the school(s) as the ~~conference's region's~~ representative(s) in a regional tournament. Failure of a ~~conference region~~, opting to conduct a tournament, to conduct the tournament on or before the deadline date may disqualify its schools from participation in the super-regional tournament. Any disputes about which school should represent a region at the super-region tournament must be resolved within VHSL rules and regulations at the regional level so that no more than two schools advance.

126-4-3 The specific time, place and date for the ~~conference regional~~ tournament is determined by the tournament director, who is approved by the ~~Conference Regional~~ Council. The name of the tournament director must be reported to the League office at least one month before the ~~conference regional~~ tournament. The director is responsible for the conduct of the tournament in accordance with League regulations. If a ~~conference region~~ opts to use questions provided by the state commissioner, the tournament director must meet all deadlines and requirements established by the commissioner. The League office will supply tournament directors with a festival kit, containing all necessary instructions, well in advance of the deadline date for the tournament.

126-4-4 Super-Regional Tournaments-The specific time, place and date for the tournament is determined by the tournament director, who is approved by the regional officers. The name of the tournament director must be reported to the League office at least one month before the super-regional tournament. The director is responsible for the conduct of the tournament in accordance with League regulations. If a super-region opts to use questions provided by the state commissioner, the tournament director must meet all deadlines and requirements established by the commissioner. The director is supplied by the League office with a tournament kit similar to the ~~conference regional~~ tournament kit well in advance of the deadline for the tournament. Any

disputes about which school should represent a super-region at state must be resolved within VHSL rules and regulations at the super-regional level so that no more than two schools advance.

126-6-1 Competition Format-~~Conferences~~ Regions and super-regions holding qualifying tournaments must follow state guidelines governing the tournament format. The state guidelines are not mandatory for regular season competition or for tournaments independent of the VHSL series.

126-6-2 Tournament Format-Each team advancing to the state competition will compete in a round-robin tournament within its own classification group (1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A). The team with the best win-loss record shall be declared the state champion, and the team with the second best win-loss record shall be runner-up. ~~Conferences~~ Regions and super-regions may use either a double-elimination or a round-robin format....

126-14-1 Awards-Each ~~Conference~~ and Regional Council shall adopt a program of awards for its Scholastic Bowl competition. The Virginia High School League shall present trophies to the teams placing first and second in the championship game in each group. Medals, not to exceed 12 per team, will be awarded to the individual team members of the first and second place teams in each group.

Staff recommends approval.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

B. **Second-vote items:** Each of the following proposals received a majority favorable vote in February. To become effective in July, each shall require a two-thirds favorable vote in May.

9. **12-2-1 Membership – submitted by Executive Director (Recommended 2/15/17 by a vote of 24-0)**

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.

Staff recommends approval.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

- 10. **28A-7-1 – Transfer Rule – submitted by Executive Director (Recommended 2/15/17 by a vote of 24-0)**

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.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

- 11. **27-2-8 Penalty and SECTION 30: PENALTIES – Fines – (Recommended 2/15/17 by a vote of 23-0-1)**

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.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

12. 128-5-1 Rules and Regulations (Film Festival) – (Recommended 2/15/17 by a vote of 17-7)

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.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

13. 128-5-4 Rules and Regulations (Film Festival) (Recommended 2/15/17 by a vote of 16-8)

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.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

14. 128-8-1 Rules and Regulations (Film Festival) (Recommended 2/15/17 by a vote of 16-8)

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.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

15. **128-9-1 Rules and Regulations (Film Festival) (Recommended 2/15/17 by a vote of 24-0)**

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.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

16. **129-2-1 Narrative; 130-2-1 Documentary; 131-2-1 Animation; 132-2-1 Experimental; 133-2-1 Commercial/PSA (Film Festival) (Recommended 2/15/17 by a vote of 24-0)**

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.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

17. **Film Festival – Various sections – Bases for Evaluation (Recommended 2/15/17 by a vote of 24-0)**

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: (a) General criteria will remain in Handbook. Specific criteria will be moved to Film Manual. (b) As electronic platforms for evaluation are made available, criteria are more easily integrated into those platforms when they are less detailed. For these electronic platforms, we’d use the general criteria. (c) In some cases, the specific criteria limits creativity. 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. *Rationale applies to all subsequent stricken Bases for Evaluation.*

Staff recommends approval.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

18. SECTION 134: PREVIEW AND OFFICIAL SELECTION PROCESS (Recommended 2/15/17 by a vote of 24-0)

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 (1st Alternate) will take its place. No alternates beyond 1st 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.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

19. SECTION 135: STATE FILM FESTIVAL (Recommended 2/15/17 by a vote of 24-0)

~~**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.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

20. **SECTION 135: STATE FILM FESTIVAL (Recommended 2/15/17 by a vote of 24-00**

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.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

XI. **Action Agenda:**

A. **Approval of the VHSL Calendars 2017-18 through 2021-22:** [Attach calendars](#)

Staff recommends approval.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

B. **Approval of State Sites for 2017-18: To be updated and posted later.**

Staff recommends approval.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

C. **Approval of State Championship Format.**

Staff recommends approval.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

D. **2017-18 Executive Committee Meeting Dates:** **Staff recommends** combining the December and February meetings into a single January meeting, thus eliminating one meeting and having the Executive Committee meet three times a year. The VHSL Handbook (12-5-1 Meetings) indicates "The Executive Committee shall hold at least three meetings yearly. It shall meet in special session on call of the League Chairman or Executive Director."

Staff recommends January 23-24, 2018 with a snow date of January 30-31, 2018.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

E. Approval of the Strategic Plan for 2017-18 through 2019-20.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

F. Approval of the revised VHSL Handbook as a regulation document only and move all sports and activity rules under those specifically designated area on our website.

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.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

G. Approval of Varsity Spirit Cheer Contract – Talking Points attached.

Staff recommends approval.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

H. Approval of Coaches Ed Minutes: [Attach minutes](#)

Staff recommends approval.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

I. Approval of Football Ratings Committee Minutes: [Attach minutes](#)

Staff recommends approval.

May Executive Committee vote: _____

XII. **Discussion and Information:**

- A. **Achievement Awards:** Achievement Awards are being evaluated by the committee and the final selections will be made by the end of the month. The Achievement Award luncheon is scheduled for Monday, May 15 at the Omni Charlottesville. Under 200 applications this year again which has been trending that way for since 2008.

- B. **VHSL Ken Tilley Student Leaders Conference:** A record 906 students and adults from 49 schools registered to attend the Twenty-first Annual VHSL Ken Tilley Student Leaders Conference and Sportsmanship Summit at Freedom High School (South Riding) on April 28-29. An oral report will be given and conference materials will be available. Congratulations Freedom High School and their students and staff for hosting an extraordinary event. Lisa Giles will give an oral report.

- C. **VIAAA Conference – March 28-31:** Tom Dolan, Shawn Knight, Chris Robinson, Kelley Haney, Hannah Catherine Munro, and Billy Haun attended all or portions of the VIAAA Conference held at the Hotel Roanoke on March 28-31, 2017. Topics presented included athletic administration, NCAA recruiting rules, dangers of PED, legal issues, and safe game management. Executive Director, was the speaker for the VHSL session. This was the VIAAA’s 45th annual conference, and it was, once again, an outstanding conference. More than 150 directors of student activities were in attendance.

- D. **Hall of Fame:** Mike McCall will give an oral report.

Virginia High School Hall of Fame, June 25, 2017
3:00 PM - Registration
4:00 PM - Doors Open
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, Charlottesville
Tickets: \$35
Tickets will be available for on-line purchase after May 1.

- E. **Inaugural VHSL Golf Tournament** -- Monday, June 26, respectively.

VHSL Inaugural Golf Tournament, Monday, June 26, 2017
Spring Creek, Gordonsville, VA
Captain’s Choice
11:00 AM – Shotgun Start
To register and pay for the VHSL Golf Tournament click <https://gofan.co/app/school/VHSL/Golf>.

- F. **Creative Writing:** A total of 30 schools entered the state championship in creative writing this year. The folders have been delivered to judges at James River Writers, and results are expected the first week of May.

- G. **NFHS Summer Meeting:** Eight (8) administrative staff will attend the 98th Annual NFHS Summer Meeting. Lisa Giles will moderate the topic “Successful Use of Study Advisory Committees”. Tom Dolan will serve as moderator for the Baseball Discussion Forum.

- H. **Vito Perriello Citizenship Award:** Sixteen females and six males submitted applications for the Vito Perriello Citizenship Award. The award is named in memory of longtime VHSL Sports Medicine Advisory Council Chair Vito Perriello. The selection committee will award one male and one female

with a \$1000 scholarship. A criterion for selection includes exemplary citizenship and heavily weighs students' interest in furthering their education in medicine or an allied health field.

I. **Appeals:** [Matrix attached](#).

J. **Debate:** Lisa Giles will give an oral report on this year's tournament and the next two tournaments to be held at Randolph-Macon.

XIII. **Executive Committee Recognitions:** Carol Fenn, Jeff Dietz, Paul Joseph, Brad Qualls, Chris Robinson, Major Warner and League Chairman Jim Stemple.

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

XV. **Business from the Floor:**

XVI. **Adjournment:**