

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

DECEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

TIME: Tuesday, December 2, 2003
5:00 p.m. Finance Committee
6:00 p.m. Personnel Committee

Wednesday, December 3, 2003
9:00 a.m. Full Committee

PLACE: VHSL Office
1642 State Farm Boulevard
Charlottesville, Virginia 22911

- I. **Roll Call:** Karen Whetzel, Larry Compton, Mary Whitley, Rob Carpenter, Charlie Ostlund, Pete Koste, Perry Pope, George Porterfield, Paul Custis, Dave Jeck, Tom Fitzgibbons, Vanessa Wigand, Lee Wise, Charles Turner, Clint Stables, Dave Baker, John Walker, Bob Grimesey, Oliver McBride, Mike Willis, Gary Silvey, Gerald Thompson, Bryan Gordon, Lynn Terhar, Delmer Botkin and Ken Tilley.

Members absent: Lou Tonelson, Dan Cross, Russ Potts and Bob Tata.

Also attending were VHSL staff Bob Button, Jim Garman, Tom Zimorski, Joyce Sisson, Bruce Patrick, Hannah Catherine Munro and Lora Bickley, as well as VHSL intern Heather Field; Bruce Phelps, Virginia Beach City Public Schools; Wayne Martin, Chesapeake City Public Schools; Paul Jansen, Fairfax County Public Schools; Jon Almquist, Sports Medicine Committee representative; Craig Wood, VHSL legal counsel and James Fox, Education Consultant.

- II. **Agenda Approval:** It was moved and seconded and the committee voted 24-0 to approve the agenda as presented.
- III. **Minutes:** Rob Carpenter moved, Larry Compton seconded and the committee voted 24-0 to approve the minutes from the September 17 Executive Committee meeting as amended below and the special called meeting of the Executive Committee on September 30.

Page 10 of the September 17 minutes should read as follows:

Ken Tilley announced the Foundation Board is working on two fund raising projects, a golf tournament and a Century Club which consists of 100 people willing to raise a minimum of \$1000 each for the Foundation.

- IV. **Announcements and New Business:** Executive Director Tilley reviewed the schedule for the meeting and members were asked to review the accommodations listing for the March Meetings in Richmond.

The following new business items were noted:

- A. The eligibility of foreign students whose exchange program is no longer CSIET-approved.
 - B. Region II requests the VHSL Executive Committee give the executive director authority to make emergency decisions and calendar changes.
 - C. Region II requests the VHSL go back to the original football calendar dates; if that fails, the new dates should be mandated by the VHSL.
 - D. Clarification on competition cheer squads.
 - E. Request from Nelson County High School to approve an Invitational State Indoor Track Meet for Group A schools.
 - F. The Region VI Superintendents Group has requested that the Executive Committee give consideration to the option of redistricting every four years as opposed to the current two-year cycle.
- V. **Concerns from Public:** James Fox, Education Consultant, addressed the committee on the feasibility of moving girls tennis to the fall and keeping boys tennis in the spring.

VI. **Legal Report:**

- A. Legal Counsel Craig Wood reviewed the highlights of the court case that brought us to the point of making the decision on the tennis seasons. He also gave an overview of the Executive Committee's responsibility when hearing appeals.
- B. Executive Director Tilley reported on the following:
 - 1. The VSBA held a workshop on "The Overtime Time Bomb" which Bruce Patrick attended.
 - 2. An extended eligibility case involving Centreville High School.
 - 3. The VHSL will work with the DOE and VASS to define the eligibility criteria of transfer students based on the No Child Left Behind program.
 - 4. Legislation needs to be drafted to clarify the interpretation when students/parents knowingly provide false information. One suggestion would be to amend Handbook 30-5-3 Specific Penalty for Giving False Information.

VII. **Committee Reports:**

- A. **Finance** Committee: Paul Custis, acting Finance Chairman, reported the following items discussed by this committee.
 - 1. Recommended the membership fee be increased from \$500 to \$600 and the activity fee from \$20 to \$25 effective with the 2004-05 school year.
 - 2. The CPA Audit found the League finances in sound order.
 - 3. Recommended the formation of an Oversight Committee, consisting of five voting members from the Executive Committee to represent a cross section of representatives to act on emergency situations (such as hurricanes, snipers, etc.) and other matters such as corporate sponsorship approvals where convening the full Executive Committee would not be feasible.
 - 4. Recommended the approval of the Marines as a corporate sponsor.
 - 5. Recommended extending the Gatorade® contract through the 2005-06 school year.
 - 6. Approved the offer by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes to sponsor the Executive Committee luncheon at the March 2004 meeting.
 - 7. Approved the offer by a company wishing to remain anonymous to fund the \$30 fee for all VHSL schools to access the National Wrestling Coaches Association web based Optional Calculator. Approval is subject to staff review of the site content, marketing information, and products offered by the company.
 - 8. Approved waiver of the fine for Bath County High School's failure to attend the Area Meetings due to AD's emergency surgery.
 - 9. Approved the \$1.00 rebate on pre-sale tickets to high schools qualifying for the football finals and the basketball semifinals and finals for the 2003-04 school year.
 - 10. Recommended approval of the policy for receiving tournament reports and dealing with late submissions (Appendix A).
 - 11. Recommended that the sanction processing fee be increased from \$15 to \$25 if the sanction request is received by the VHSL more than 15 days prior to the event, and increase the fee for late submission from \$40 to \$100 (which includes the processing fee) for sanctions that are received by the VHSL within 15 or fewer days before the event.
 - 12. Recommended keeping the regional tournament income share to the League at the present 35%.
 - 13. Denied requests from George Washington and Waynesboro High Schools to waive late membership payment penalties.
 - 14. Denied a request from Carroll County Intermediate School for administrators passes to VHSL events.

John Walker moved, Charlie Ostlund seconded and the committee voted 21-0 (Turner, Ostlund and Fitzgibbons absent for vote -- Fitzgibbons absent for remaining votes) to approve the Finance Committee report as presented.

- B. **Personnel:** Charlie Ostlund, Personnel Committee vice-chair, reported the following items discussed by this committee.
 - 1. Recommended to increase input from the entire Executive Committee in monitoring the executive director's goals for 2003-04.

2. Recommended sending a performance assessment survey of the executive director and staff to approximately 100 randomly selected administrators.

C. **Appeals Committee:** Assistant Director Tom Zimorski directed the committee to the appeals summary and based on discussion by the committee will work with DOE and VASS to draft legislation to address the No Child Left Behind program in regard to transfer students.

D. **Redistricting and Reclassification:** Bob Grimesey, Superintendent Region VI representative, reported his superintendent's group request to consider redistricting every four years as opposed to the current two-year cycle. Executive Committee representatives were asked to discuss with their groups the possibility of extending the effective classification period from two years to four years, allowing for consideration of special cases in the interim and to bring back any feedback at the March meeting.

E. **Coaches Education:** Bruce Patrick and Jon Almquist gave an oral report.

F. **Sport Medicine:** Bruce Patrick and Jon Almquist gave an oral report on skin infections and the Wrestling Weight Control Program.

VIII. **Unfinished Business:**

A. **VHSL share of regional tournament income:** Refer to VII. A (11).

B. **Tennis seasons alignment:** Assistant Director Sisson and Executive Committee member Rob Carpenter gave a brief overview of the committee meeting and provided members with comprehensive survey results. The committee spent considerable time discussing those results.

Gary Silvey moved, Perry Pope seconded and the committee voted 13-10 (Carpenter, Compton, Custis, Grimesey, McBride, Stables, Turner, Whetzel, Whitley and Willis voting no) to move girls tennis in all classifications to the fall and boys tennis in all classifications will remain in the spring.

Lee Wise moved, Bryan Gordon seconded and the committee vote 20-0 (Porterfield, Ostlund and Turner absent for vote) to approve the following calendar dates for girls tennis in 2004-05:

Girls Tennis (Team)	Practice Begins:	August 2
	First Contest:	August 13
	District Deadline:	October 13
	Region Deadline:	October 20
	State Quarterfinals:	October 26
	State Semis:	October 29
	State Finals:	October 30

Girls Tennis (Individual)	Practice Begins:	August 2
	First Contest:	August 13
	District Deadline:	October 13
	Region Deadline:	October 20
	State Quarterfinals:	November 5
	State Semis:	November 5
	State Finals:	November 6

C. **Policy for submitting event financial reports and income:** Refer to Appendix A.

D. **All-girls golf competitions:** The Eastern and Northern Region athletic directors were asked to bring forward to the March meeting a proposed amendment to the Contest Limitation Rule to allow for the possibility of additional all-girls golf tournament.

E. **State Basketball Motel Reimbursement:** This item was tabled until after this year's tournament.

Editorial Changes

Section 76-2-2 State (Indoor Track) Meet Entries: District/
regional directors can verify participants
advancing via a state qualifying meet.

Adopted 23-0

X. **Action Agenda:**

A. **2004 Football Schedules:** John Walker moved, Gerald Thompson seconded and the committee voted 21-2 (Carpenter and Turner voting no) to adopt the following position relative to the 2004 football schedules.

"To minimize changes to football schedule conflicts, district and regions that are in unanimous agreement to begin play on the "zero date" may do so if it does not impact their opponents. However, if any schools cannot agree to a workable solution with their opponents and continue to encounter scheduling conflicts, they must follow the intended playing dates adopted last December by the VHSL Executive Committee."

B. **Calendar Date Changes for 2004-05:**

- 1. **Field Hockey and Volleyball:** A request to change the start date for field hockey and volleyball from Aug. 8 to Aug. 2 and the first contest date from Aug. 30 to Aug. 23 died for lack of motion.
- 2. **Basketball and Wrestling:** Gerald Thompson moved, Larry Compton seconded and the committee voted 6-17 (Compton, Gordon, Jeck, Porterfield, Terhar, Thompson voting yes) to change the start date for basketball and wrestling from Nov. 15 to Nov. 8 (thus the motion failed).
- 3. **Group AA Swim Meet Dates:** Bob Grimesey moved, Charles Turner seconded and the committee voted 23-0 to move the Group AA State Swim Meet to Feb. 18-19 since the UVA pool is not available on the scheduled dates of Feb. 11-12.

C. **Playoff Sites for 2004-05:** Pete Koste moved, Bryan Gordon seconded and the committee voted 23-0 to approve the following playoff sites:

Combined events

- a. Cheer (A, AA, AAA) – Siegel Center, Richmond
- b. Winter Basketball (A, AA, AAA) – Siegel Center, Richmond
- c. Wrestling (A, AA) – Salem Civic Center
- d. Cross Country (A, AA, AAA) – Great Meadows
- e. Girls Golf – Open (invitations received from Region I and Region II)

Group A

- a. Girls Volleyball -- With Group AA
- b. Boys Golf – Lonesome Pine Country Club -- tentative
- c. Girls Tennis -- Region A

Group AA

- a. Field Hockey – Region I --Jamestown or Lafayette
- b. Boys Golf – Warren County High School hosts
- c. Swim & Dive – UVA
- d. Girls Volleyball – Region IV (Region III)
- e. Indoor Track (AA) – Virginia Tech, tentative
- f. Girls Tennis -- Region I

Group AAA

- a. Field Hockey – National Training Center, Virginia Beach, Frank Cox High School hosts
- b. Boys Golf – Hanover High School hosts -- Independence Golf Club
- c. Girls Tennis – Northern Region
- d. Boys Volleyball – Hanover High School
- e. Girls Volleyball – Hanover High School
- f. Girls Gymnastics – Deep Run High School
- g. Indoor Track – George Mason University (tentative)

- h. Swim/Dive – Northwest Region
- i. Wrestling – Oscar Smith HS

D. **Reentry Policy:** Rob Carpenter moved, Dave Baker seconded and the committee voted 23-0 to adopt the following reentry policy:

Because of the differing nature of team and individual tournament formats, uniqueness of facilities, and local security policies, a general re-entry policy is not feasible. A re-entry policy that would permit spectators to re-enter an event without paying a new admission fee will be decided on a case-by-case basis. The policy on whether or not re-entry will be permitted would be communicated in the tournament format and posted at the tournament entrance for each event. If re-entry is not permitted, spectators who leave the premises and subsequently return will be required to purchase a new ticket.

E. **Clover Hill's request for Central Region Basketball Tournament Finals:** Pete Koste moved, Bob Grimesey seconded and the committee voted 23-0 to approve Clover Hill's request to allow Central Region to hold its 2004 region basketball finals on Monday, Mar. 1.

F. **Riverbend High School:** Oliver McBride moved, John Walker seconded and the committee voted 23-0 to assign Riverbend High School Spotsylvania, to Battlefield District, Region I, Group AA for the 2004-05 subject to Region I review and approval since Riverbend might be over the cutoff for Group AA status.

XI. **Consent Agenda:** George Porterfield moved, Bob Grimesey seconded and the committee voted 23-0 to pull Riverbend High School from the assignment of new schools and approve the Consent Agenda which included the following:

A. **Approval of the October 2003 Group Board Minutes.**

B. **Assignment of new schools opening in 2004 to the following districts, regions and classifications:**

King's Fork High School, Suffolk, to Southeastern District; Eastern Region; Group AAA
Freedom High School, Woodbridge, to Cardinal District, Northwest Region, Group AAA
Battlefield High School, Haymarket, to Cedar Run District, Northwest Region, Group AAA

C. **Cheer Waiver Request:** By a previous vote of 19-0, the committee approved allowing any competition cheer squads to participate on or before Nov. 8, even if their district tournament was held earlier, as long as they do not exceed five competitions.

D. **Salem's request for approval of contests with "outside" teams:** Approved Salem's (S) request to include club teams in their regular season lacrosse schedule.

XII. **Discussion and Information Agenda:** Ken Tilley reviewed the following items for the committee's information.

- A. **Area Eligibility Meetings:** 15 schools didn't attend and have been fined. Total attendance 464; 78 principals; 16 assistant principals; 220 athletic directors; 14 assistant principal/athletic directors; 26 assistant athletic directors; 82 guidance directors; 7 athletic secretaries; 14 division athletic coordinators; 3 coaches; and 4 administrative aides.
- B. **VSBA Conference Presentation:** Approximately 60 people attended the VHSL workshop session at the Annual VSBA Conference in November. Ken Tilley covered the relationship between VSBA and VHSL, the scope of programs and services, eligibility rules and appeals, redistricting and reclassification, and goals for 2003-04. Steve Koleszar introduced the session, and Dan Cross was also in attendance.
- C. **VHSL Student Leaders Conference:** Registration materials and a tentative schedule have been posted on the VHSL website. Region representatives are encouraged to promote participation in this event.
- D. **VTSF Project Update:** Staff continues to note progress with efforts at Monticello and Nelson County High Schools to promote tobacco prevention initiatives. Unfortunately, our RFP to begin a similar program at Page County High School was not accepted this month. We will try again in January.

- E. **Staff Reports:** Bob Button, Joyce Sisson and Bruce Patrick gave brief overviews of the state culminating events for the fall.
- F. **Equity and Diversity Open Forum:** Approximately 60 people attended the Open Forum in October, and the discussion was productive.
- G. **National Swim Records Appeal:** The response from NISCA President Dana Abbott to Virginia Beach Schools Superintendent Tim Jenney declining to accept Virginia's request that performances set at the 2003 VHSL Group AAA State Swim Meet be recognized as national records was noted.
- H. **Car Donations:** The VHSL Foundation is a member of America's Car Donations Charities Center, the largest car donation center in the country. Through this program the Foundation can raise funds via donated vehicles from charitable contributors.
- I. **2003 Autumn Harvest Food Drive:** Total pounds raised this fall were 39,725. Food Lion raised 21,432; Farm Bureau raised 12,612; VHSL schools raised 5,681.
- J. **NFHS News:** The November/December issue highlights numerous items of interest including (1) volleyball rally scoring; (2) Make the Point promotions; (3) Speech, Debate and Theatre directors conference -- noting Bob Button in photo on page 27; and (4) two VHSL tennis players who are commended for their outstanding sportsmanship -- noting article on page 38.
- K. **Henry County Consolidation:** Fieldale-Collinsville will consolidate with Bassett and Laurel Park will consolidate with Magna Vista effective with the 2004-05 school year. This will affect membership numbers and scheduling (football, in particular). The new enrollment of Bassett will be 966 (up from 514) in grades 9-11 and Magna Vista will be 931 (up from 598) in grades 9-11.

XIII. **Review October Group Board and Membership Meeting and Preview of March meetings:** The committee reviewed the schedule of the March meetings, noting that the Group Board and Membership Meetings will be held under the same format as the October meeting (group boards and membership meetings to be held on the same day) under the following time schedule:

Thursday, March 11	8:00 -- 9:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
	8:30 -- 9:30 a.m.	Issue Credentials
		Open Forum
	9:30 -- 10:45 a.m.	Group Board Meetings
	10:45 -- 11:00 a.m.	Break
	11:00 -- 12:30 p.m.	Membership Meeting

XIV. **New Business:**

1. **Foreign Exchange Programs:** Gary Silvey moved, Bryan Gordon seconded and the committee voted 2-18-2 (Silvey and Gordon voting yes, Grimesey abstaining) to waive the non-approved status of American International Cultural Student Exchange for a one-year period (thus the motioned failed). Students in that program are not eligible and would need to appeal on an individual basis.
2. **Competition Cheer Squads:** Gary Silvey moved, Gerald Thompson seconded and the committee voted 7-14 (Gordon, Silvey, Thompson, Turner, Wigand, Willis and Wise voting yes) to permit a school that has cheer, sideline or competition, to start at the beginning of the fall season and have try-outs at that time (thus the motion failed).
3. **Group A State Indoor Track Invitational:** It was the consensus of the Group A representative that this invitational would need to comply with the current policy of allowing only eight schools to compete in this culminating event.

NOTE: It was later determined that this event would not be a State Indoor Track Invitational but would be held as a sanctioned meet held prior to the end of the season in order to allow participation by any Group A schools that sponsored indoor track. This was done with the understanding that the winning schools would not be termed Group A Boys or Group A Girls Indoor Track Champions.

4. Took no action on a request from Virginians for a Healthy Future for the VHSL to support a resolution to raise the excise tax on cigarettes.

XV. **Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.