

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

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES MAY 2006

TIME: Tuesday, May 2, 2006
2:00 p.m. Personnel Committee
4:00 p.m. Finance Committee

Wednesday, May 3, 2006
8:30 a.m. -- Full Executive Committee

PLACE: Rotunda A
DoubleTree Hotel
990 Hinton Heights Road
Charlottesville, Virginia

- I. **Roll Call:** Don Bock, Robbie Patton (Region IV alternate for Dale Holt), Billy Haun, John Hall, Steve Reedy, Rob Arnold, Mike Lane, Mary Whitley, Perry Pope, Bill Clendaniel, Paul Vecchione, Lou Tonelson, Vanessa Wigand, Charles "Mike" Harris, Dave Stuckwisch, Clint Stables, Randy Thomas, John Walker, Bob Grimesey, Oliver McBride, Gwen Edwards, Wes Saxon, Pat Ferguson, Mike Davidson, Bryan Gordon, Denise Bowman-Scott, and Ken Tilley.

Members absent: Bob Tata and Russ Potts.

Also in attendance were VHSL staff Jim Garman, Tom Zimorski, Joyce Sisson, Bruce Patrick, Lisa Giles, Hannah Catherine Munro and Lora Bickley as well as Bruce Phelps, Virginia Beach City Schools; Paul Jansen, Fairfax County Public Schools; Wayne Martin, Chesapeake City Schools; Dr. Bonnie Wilson, VASS; Lowell Lemons, Waynesboro City Schools and R&R Chairman; Harry Ward, VSBA; William Gouldthorpe, Amherst County High School; Bill Stewart, Millbrook High School; Jason Barbe, Sherando High School; Art Lawrence, Glenvar High School; Phil Levine, Oakton High School, Francis Dall, Westfield High School; Vito Perriello and Jon Almquist, Sports Medicine Advisory Committee.

- II. **Agenda Approval:** Bob Grimesey moved, Denise Bowman-Scott seconded and the committee voted 26-0 to accept the agenda as presented.

- III. **Minutes:** The March 8, 2006 Executive Committee minutes were approved as presented.

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

New Business: Executive Directory Tilley noted that with Mary Whitley accepting a position with the State Department of Education, the committee needs to select a new League Chairman for 2006-07; Lou Tonelson will comment on sportsmanship in the Eastern Region.

- V. **Concerns from Public:** None.

- VI. **Redistricting and Reclassification:** R&R Chairman Lowell Lemons addressed the committee concerning the R&R's Recommend Plan for 2007-08 and 2008-09. He felt the committee kept on task in considering geography and balance when hearing the appeals presented on April 4.

Bob Grimesey moved, Denise Scott-Bowman seconded to approved the R&R Plan as presented after the April 4 appeals hearing. Perry Pope moved, Lou Tonelson seconded and the committee voted 12-14 (Patton, Haun, Pope, Tonelson, Clendaniel, Vecchione, Gordon, Ferguson, Harris, Stables, Wigand, Saxon voting yes) to move Osbourn Park from the Cedar Run District to the Cardinal District. Thus the amendment motion failed. The committee voted 25-1 (Pope voting no) to approve the original motion to accept the R&R Plan as presented after the April 4 appeals hearing.

VII. **Committee Reports:**

A. **VASS:** Dr. Bonnie Wilson, VASS representative and co-interviewer, gave an overview of the study conducted on the VHSL Staff Compensation and Organizational Structure which included objectives and recommendations in six areas:

- (1) Organizational Structure
- (2) Job Descriptions and Job Titles
- (3) Compensation Scale
- (4) Revenue Sources
- (5) Use of Technology
- (6) Building and Grounds

Executive Director Tilley urged the committee to give strong consideration to implementing recommendations.

The committee directed that the VASS recommendations should be linked to the Strategic Plan initiative wherein they could be prioritized with cost/revenue projections and an implementation schedule could be proposed.

B. **Finance:** League Chairman Don Bock reported on the following:

1. Reviewed the presentation of the VASS Study;
2. Income is up through the winter season;
3. Presently there are 61 members of the 2006 Century Club;
4. Team reimbursements for 2005-06 are recommended at 100%;
5. Continue \$1 rebate on presale tickets for state championship football and basketball games for 2006-07;
6. The insurance premium will increase \$0.50 per student athlete;
7. Most ticket prices will increase for state events to \$7;
8. In the sports of golf and tennis, if the facilities permit, charge \$7 for state meets;
9. Salary increase for staff of 3% and step raises where applicable;
10. Foundation income is \$542,232;
11. Recommended no action on Hurricane Katrina donation to Louisiana and Mississippi;
12. Recommended income from the Benefit Games, approximately \$21,000, be transferred to the Foundation;
13. Jim Garman is working with county officials to correct a major drainage problem;
14. A committee will be formed to study passes at state events.

Mike Harris moved, Denise Bowman-Scott seconded and the committee voted 26-0 to accept the Finance Committee report.

B. **Personnel:** Personnel Chairman John Hall reported on the following from his committee:

1. Reviewed the VHSL Employee Handbook and noted that Ken Tilley and Craig Wood will update the Handbook.
2. The League should initiate a new Strategic Plan, with staff to present an overview at the September meeting.
3. Revisions should be made to the staff evaluation process such that the evaluation instrument is based on the job description and includes measurable performance goals that are consistent in format. In addition, the Executive Director's evaluation schedule will include a mid-year evaluation in December, a report to the full committee for input in March, and final evaluation in May.

Gwen Edwards moved, Wes Saxon seconded and the committee voted 26-0 to go into executive session as specified under 2.2.3711A (1) to discuss the performance of an employee.

Gwen Edwards moved, Wes Saxon seconded and the committee certified 26-0 that to the best of each member's knowledge that during the executive session only such public business matters as were identified in the executive session motion were heard, discussed or considered.

Bill Clendaniel moved, Denise Bowman-Scott seconded and the committee voted 26-0 to reconvene in public session.

Paul Vecchione moved, Billy Haun seconded and the committee voted 26-0 to accept the Personnel Committee report.

C. **Calendar:** Mike Davidson moved, John Hall seconded and the committee voted 26-0 to approve the 12-Football Playing Date calendar as presented for the 2007-08 school year Assistant Director Sisson was directed to prepare the 2008-09 calendar using comparable dates based on 2007-08.

D. **Wrestling Weight Control Program:** Recommendations are presented as Emergency Legislation (see 88-4-1 below).

E. **Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC):** Region representatives are asked to discuss the NFHS Considerations for Fall Pre-Season Practice with colleagues and coaches and provide feedback at the September meeting.

VIII. **Legislation:**

Emergency Legislation

28-4-2 (2) Scholarship Rule Exceptions Adopted 26-0
Repeating 8th graders to be consistent with Exception (9)

68-4-2 Football Schedules and Practices Adopted 25-1
68-8-5 Regional Championships (Beginning 2007-08) (Pope voting no)
Give regions the authority to adopt expanded region football playoff format without extending the season.

Amended in 68-4-1 (5) to delete the underlined words semifinals and

68-8-4 Regional Representation Adopted 26-0
68-8-5 (3) Regional Championships
Since 68-4-2 and 68-8-5 proposals were passed, this matches the new playoff option language

88-4-1 Wrestling Weights Adopted 24-0-2
Improve Weight Control procedures (Gordon, Davidson abstaining)

Amended to include the following language:

Wrestlers weighing in at the official weigh in at a weight lower than permitted....

Second-vote:

68-6-1 Football Rating Scale Adopted 24-2
(To eliminate the disparity in points within each division) (Hall, Lane voting no)

30-5-1 (8), 30-5-1 (9) Specific Penalties Adopted 26-0
(Place responsibility for rules knowledge with the head coach)

54-6-4 (1) (b)	Jamborees (Give greater flexibility in scheduling options prior to the regular season)	Adopted 26-0
27-2-4	State Clinic Attendance Requirement (Apply same state rules clinic standards and expectations to lacrosse)	Adopted 26-0
68-8-4	Regional Representation (football) (Add another tie-breaking option before a random draw)	Adopted 26-0

IX. Action Agenda:

- A. **State Level Activities Bid Policy and Playoff Sites:** Denise Bowman-Scott moved, Wes Saxon seconded and the committee voted 26-0 to accept the following:

State Event Bid Procedures:

Any region may bid to host a state-level activity. Bid forms and criteria for hosting a state event will be posted on the VHSL website. A letter of interest to host a state event and a completed VHSL State Event Application Form should be filed with the League office by September 1 prior to the school year when the event would take place. League staff will present a report on all bids and applications to the VHSL Executive Committee for review at its September meeting. Consideration will be given to how well the respective site meets the established criteria, financial aspects of the proposal, geographical balance and travel factors. Bids may be submitted on a multi-year basis; in general, a minimum of two years and a maximum of four could be considered. The report would include recommendations with justification as to which bid(s) should be awarded, and the Executive Committee would act on those recommendations. It is possible that additional information might be necessary before acting on certain events; in those cases and when no bids have been received for an event or if the staff does not feel the bid meets minimum required standards, action could be deferred to December or March.

- B. **Sites for approval for 2006-07:** Wes Saxon moved, Denise Bowman-Scott seconded and the committee voted 25-1 (Tonelson voting no) to approve the following state sites:

Group AAA

Field Hockey – Oakton High School (all expenses will be paid by Oakton with the exception of team reimbursement – includes officials fees)

Football – Todd Stadium and possibly Darling Stadium

Boys Golf -- Bide-a-wee Golf Course, Portsmouth -- Heritage High School (Newport News) to host

Girls Open Golf -- Forest Greens, Forest Park High School to host

Girls Gymnastics -- Oscar Smith High School

Lacrosse -- Westfield High School

Swim/Dive -- GMU Freedom Center, Manassas Campus

Wrestling – Robinson Secondary (with Northwest Region hosting)

Group AA

Field Hockey -- Christopher Newport University

Football -- Liberty University

Boys Golf -- Roanoke Country Club, Salem High School to host

Girls Open Golf -- Forest Greens, Forest Park High School to host

Indoor Track -- Liberty University

Lacrosse -- Westfield High School

Outdoor Track -- Harrisonburg High School

Swim/Dive -- University of Virginia

Wrestling -- Salem Civic Center

Group A

Boys Golf -- Piankatank River Golf Club, Middlesex and Mathews High Schools to host
Football -- James Madison University
Girls Open Golf -- Forest Greens, Forest Park High School to host
Outdoor Track -- Radford University
Wrestling -- Salem Civic Center

Academic Activities

Theatre (all) -- Martin Luther King Performing Arts Center, Charlottesville
Scholastic Bowl (all) -- William & Mary
Debate (all) -- Liberty University
Forensics (all) -- TBA

C. These sites had already been approved for 2006-07:

Cheer (A, AA, AAA), Siegel Center, Richmond
Cross Country (A, AA, AAA) -- Great Meadow
Indoor Track -- AAA -- George Mason University
Outdoor Track -- AAA -- Todd Stadium, Newport News

D. Siegel Center, Richmond, had already been approved through 2014-15 for volleyball and basketball

D. **Out-of-Season Practice Rule:** Wes Saxon moved, Clint Stables seconded and the committee voted 12-13-1 (Bock, Haun, Reedy, Arnold, Lane, Tonelson, Gordon, Davidson, McBride, Edwards, Grimesey, Thomas and Walker voting no; Whitley abstaining) to approve substitute language in Appendix 5 – VHSL Policy Manual. Thus, the motion failed.

John Walker moved, David Stuckwisch seconded and the committee voted 5-21 (Harris, Stuckwisch, Thomas, Grimesey, Walker voting yes) to strike the Out-of-Season Rule from the VHSL Handbook. Thus, the motion failed.

X. **Consent Agenda:** Denise Bowman-Scott moved, Lou Tonelson seconded and the committee voted 26-0 to approve the consent agenda which included the following:

A. March 2006 Group Board Minutes.

B. Christopher K. Sopher of Annandale High School as the recipient of the Colonel Charles E. Savedge Scholarship / Virginia Student Journalist of the Year.

C. SPAC (Scholastic Publications Advisory Committee) members as: Rebekah Woodie (James River, Region C), Elizabeth Milne (Tabb, Region I), Valerie Penton (Harrisonburg, Region II), and Chad Rummell (Oakton, Northern Region) to serve a three-year staggered term.

D. DDFAC (Debate, Drama, Forensics Advisory Committee) members as: Jenny Johnson (Graham, Region IV), Ron Richards (Broad Run, Region II), Deon Garner (Warwick, Eastern Region), and Judy Wilson, Principal (John Battle, Region C) to serve a three-year staggered term.

E. SBAC (Scholastic Bowl Advisory Committee) committee as: Elaine Argabrite (Radford, Region A), Jamie Scharff (George Mason, Region B), Veverlyn Lee (York, Region I), Holly Frazier (Heritage, Region III), Marilyn Williford (Churchland, Eastern Region), and Deb Tyson (AD, Albemarle, Northwest Region) to serve a three-year (staggered) term.

F. Advisory Committee Policy: A list of Advisory Committees with terms and vacancies will be posted in May of each year. Anyone interested in serving on a VHSL Advisory Committee will be invited to complete a letter of interest, and regions will also be asked to submit candidates for consideration -- no later than September 1. As much as possible, regions should nominate three candidates: a male, a female and a minority. For committees where no applicants are forthcoming, staff will seek candidates. Criteria for consideration in serving will include but not be limited to experience, degree of interest, region/geographic distribution and

diversity in representation. Staff will present committee recommendations to the Executive Committee for approval in September. Staff has authority to fill any subsequent vacancies as necessary until the following fall.

G. 2007 State Forensics Tournament date change from March 24 to March 31.

XI. **Legal Report:** Ken Tilley presented information on the Annual NFHS Legal Meeting.

XII. **Unfinished Business:** Staff continues to develop criteria for hosting state events.

XIII. **Discussion and Information:** The following items were presented:

A. **NFHS T-Mobile Proposal:** At the NFHS Winter Meeting, considerable time was spent discussing a strategic partnership proposal from T-Mobile. Among the objectives are: (1) to build awareness of the long-term value and importance of student involvement in high school sports and activities and (2) to preserve, protect and enhance the state associations by providing messaging, marketing assistance and use of today's technology. There would also be an invitational holiday basketball tournament involving four girls teams and four boys teams that are members of a state association. No state would be obligated to allow its teams to participate.

The advantages of this proposal are (1) a sophisticated national marketing initiative to boost awareness of high school associations and their programs, (2) a National Student Leaders Conference with substantial corporate support, (3) other educational initiatives approved by NFHS, (4) significant financial support to the NFHS and to state associations. Disadvantages of the proposal include concerns that the concept of a national invitational basketball tournament is contrary to the philosophy of the NFHS and state associations.

B. **Proposed wrestling legislation:** Region representatives were directed to obtain feedback from their region on the following legislation for possible action in September.

54-8-1 Contest Limitations: No member school may permit its athletes or teams to compete in more than the total number of regular season interscholastic contests, meets or tournaments specified below for each sport either on the varsity or sub-varsity level. In the sport of tennis participants would be limited to three matches per day; in wrestling, the limit is five matches per individual per day over no more than two days. Wrestling Duals would count each day of competition as one contest date.

Baseball -- 20....

Wrestling -- 12

C. **Equity Committee:** Minutes of the March 10 Equity Committee meeting were shared with the committee.

D. **Sports Illustrated and Atlas/Athena Healthy Lifestyles Conference:** Four Virginia schools will be announced as recipients of a grant to sponsor this program at their schools during the 2006-07 school year.

E. **Achievement Awards:** Nearly 406 students from 181 schools were nominated to receive the League's highest individual honor.

F. **VHSL Student Leaders Conference:** More than 750 students and adults representing at least 55 schools registered to attend the Tenth Annual VHSL Student Leaders Conference and Sportsmanship Summit at Riverbend High School on April 28-29.

G. **Appeals:** Summary of appeals from 2005-06 to date was shared with the committee.

H. **VIAAA Conference:** VHSL staff was involved in the 34th Annual VIAAA Conference, "Leaders on Duty", on March 29-April 1 in Norfolk. Joyce Sisson represented the League throughout the conference as staff liaison to the VIAAA; Joyce and Ken gave a VHSL Q&A Update. The 35th Annual VIAAA Conference will be held on March 28 - April 1 at the Norfolk Marriott,

I. **Hall of Fame:** The formal announcement of the Class of 2006 (induction to be held October 17) will take place later this spring and will be included in Weekly Update.

J. **New VHSL Logo:** Staff is exploring the development of a new or alternate logo.

K. **Review of March Meetings, preview of October Meetings and future League Meetings:** Staff is looking at options for holding future March meeting.

XIV. **2006-07 Meeting Dates:** The committee unanimously agreed on the following dates:

September 21, 2006
Oct. Group Boards/Membership -- Oct. 18, 2006
December 6, 2006
March 7, 2007
March Group Boards -- March 8, 2007
March Membership -- March 9, 2007
May 2, 2007

XV. **Recognition of Retiring Committee Members:** The following members were recognized for their service to the League: Lou Tonelson, Paul Vecchione, Perry Pope, Brian Gordon and Chairman Don Bock. Executive Director Tilley was recognized for 20 years of service to VHSL.

XVI. **New Business:**

A. **New League Chairman:** Denise Bowman-Scott moved, Bob Grimesey seconded and the committee voted 25-0 (Hall abstaining) to select John Hall, principal of Salem High School, Salem as the League chairman for the 2006-07 school year. (Note: This action was necessary in view of the unexpected and sudden resignation of Mary Whitley as principal at Mathews High School. It follows duties of the Executive Committee, Section 12-3-1 of the VHSL By-Laws: "The Executive Committee may take such emergency action that it deems necessary as a result of legal exigencies or other significant extenuating circumstances. This action must be approved by a three-fourths vote of the Executive Committee members present and voting. All such emergency actions by the Executive Committee shall be reported at the next regularly scheduled Annual Meeting of the League membership. Any emergency action taken by the Executive Committee shall pertain only to the instant matter and shall not be considered precedential.")

B. **Sportsmanship:** Lou Tonelson reported that Eastern Region schools were working with the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame on a Sportsmanship Initiative for student involvement to increase sportsmanship awareness.

XVII. **Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.