

**NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPRING MEETING
Tuesday, MAY 2, 2023**

The spring meeting of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Board of Directors was called to order by President Rob Jackson at 8:30 a.m. at the NCHSAA Office in Chapel Hill. Members in attendance included President Rob Jackson, Vice President Chris Blanton, Past President Bobby Wilkins, Mark Byrd, Brian Carver, Chad Duncan, Stephen Gainey, Mark Garrett, Sam Jones, Jerome Leathers, Troy Lindsey, Fred Lynch, Andy McCormick, Tod Morgan, Tanya Turner, Bryan Tyson, Cathy Moore, and Larry Williford. Paige Badgett was absent.

Affiliate members included Vernon Aldridge representing the North Carolina High School Athletic Directors Association, Joe Franks of the North Carolina Coaches Association, Burt Jenkins of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, and Elbert Lassiter of North State Football Officials Association representing Officials and Regional Supervisors. Wendell Hall who represents the North Carolina School Boards Association was absent.

NCHSAA staff in attendance included Commissioner Que Tucker, Karen DeHart, Tra Waters, Brad Alford, Rhonda Dreibelbis, Tavares Toomer, Janna Fonseca, Cecil Mock, Pepper Hines, Juli Kidd, and Brandon Moree.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS: President Jackson began the meeting by welcoming the Board members and NCHSAA staff as well as individuals listening via live audio stream. He remarked on the 110 years that the Association has operated and that annually, there have been big issues to tackle. He thanked Tod Morgan and Vice President Chris Blanton for joining him in the legislative committee yesterday for comments regarding SB 636 and expressed appreciation for the partnership with the State Board of Education and in following the Memorandum of Understanding, all while holding true to the NCHSAA core values. He commended the Board for their proactive work in keeping the student first and foremost in mind.

COMMISSIONER'S REMARKS: Commissioner Tucker welcomed members of the Board, thanked them for attending, reminded them that their work has been fair and consistent on behalf of student-athletes across the state; she cautioned that challenges lie ahead.

President Jackson recommended approval of the winter Board of Director Meeting minutes.

*Lindsey made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting as presented, Garrett seconded. **Motion approved 18-0.***

Brad Alford, NCHSAA staff, presented the Consent Agenda for approval.

*Moore made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Byrd. **Motion approved 18-0.***

INVESTMENT MANAGER'S REPORT: Geoff Hudson and Jessica Standiford from The Fordham Group provided an update to the Board indicating that much of the past year, the federal reserve has raised rates and it's been a process to navigate but we are closing in on the end of this process. The NCHSAA portfolio is moderate risk versus reward by design to protect the funds yet have growth in the endowment funds. The average return has been around 8% and the funds have outperformed the benchmark. Rate of return for this year is 6.23%. The bank collapse has impacted the economy which will continue to slow. We need to lower exposure now, tap brakes to keep risk low and protect funds by shifting the allocation of equities and bonds in an advantageous manner while maintaining the target allocations specified in the NCHSAA Investment Policy Statement.

Jackson moved the meeting into a recess until 11:30 a.m. following committee work sessions.

President Jackson reconvened the Board at 11:30 a.m. for the afternoon work session of the full board and started by recognizing and holding a moment of silence for the former Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, Jimmy Tillman, who had served in this capacity since 2008, and had been a teacher, coach, and administrator for over 34 years before his recent passing.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: Marc Payne, previously co-chair of the committee with Jimmy Tillman, presented the report on behalf of the Nominating Committee, noting the committee's composition and representation of all eight (8) regions across the state. The committee met April 3, 2023 in the NCHSAA building to review the NCHSAA Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, specifically relating to the necessary make-up and selection process of NCHSAA Board members. Nominations received by member school administrators at the September 2022 Regional meetings and via online submissions were reviewed and recommendations were made to the Board to fill vacant positions effective July 1, 2023. The following will be proposed to the membership at the 2023 Annual Meeting on Thursday, May 4, 2023: Chris Blanton, principal of Watauga High school as President; Stephen Gainey, superintendent of Randolph County Schools as Vice-President; Rob Jackson, superintendent of Buncombe County Schools as Past-President; Henry Rice, athletic director at Pamlico County High School, representing region 2, 1A classification; Valerie Bridges, superintendent of Edgecombe County Schools, representing region 3, 1A classification; Jim Butler, principal at Richmond Senior High School, representing region 4, 4A classification; Allen Plaster, athletic director at East Forsyth High School, representing region 5, 4A classification; Don Phipps, superintendent of Caldwell County Schools, representing region 7, 4A classification; and Roy Turner to represent the NC Athletic Directors Association. Payne mentioned that the committee needs good nominations and noted that we lost another outstanding administrator in Jim Spivey who recently passed. President Jackson thanked Marc and the Nominating Committee for their work during this transition and expressed the need of high school athletics to be led by people in the field to ensure that all eight (8) regions of the state are represented.

Jackson moved the meeting into a lunch recess until 12:45 p.m. following the Nominating Committee Report.

President Jackson reconvened the Board at 12:45 p.m. for the afternoon discussion and committee reports of the full Board.

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION:

Hobgood Charter School (HCS)- At the winter 2022 Board Meeting, HCS was placed into a conference and at the time, the Board did not have any documentation to suggest that this placement would have adverse effects. HCS reached out to NCHSAA indicating that this placement would not work. The request was for reconsideration after receiving confirmation that the Four Rivers Conference would release Hobgood Charter School and the Atlantic Five Conference was willing to accept HCS.

***Motion by Garrett to move Hobgood Charter School into the Atlantic Five Conference
Second made by Morgan.
Approved 18-0; Effective 7/1/2023***

Amendment Vote- President Jackson thanked the Board and the membership for getting out the word about the Bylaw vote and then recognized Commissioner Tucker for comments. The Amendment passed by a more than three-quarters vote of the membership with 300+ voting affirmative; 38 of the 432 schools did not submit votes. Moving forward, there will be many decisions to make as a result of this Bylaw change, such as the Board make-up, which is currently based upon four classes. Other items to consider include, but are not limited to, drawing the lines, conferences, classes by sport, and playoff structure.

President Jackson recommended forming a task force made of Board members and some non-Board members to create a draft addressing these areas of concern.

Memorandum Of Understanding Update (with SBOE) – Commissioner Tucker expressed that staff has operated within guidelines of the MOU; met the 3/15/2023 deadline to submit audit and 990 to the State Board of Education; Board officers and several staff members met with SBOE leadership several weeks ago to discuss eligibility rules. SB 636 would switch authority to administer eligibility rules from “administering organization” (NCHSAA) to Superintendent of Public Instruction. But until this bill is signed into law, the NCHSAA will operate per the MOU in cooperation with the State Board of Education. NCHSAA counsel indicated that the NCHSAA will follow the law and if the law changes, we will comply accordingly.

President Jackson called for a motion to enter closed Executive Session to discuss confidential student matters.

Motion was made by Lindsey and seconded by Garrett;

Approved 17-0 (Note: Cathy Moore left early due to a schedule conflict).

NCHSAA Board of Directors entered closed Executive Session at 1:10 p.m.

President Jackson called for a motion to call the meeting back to order in Open Session at 2:10 p.m.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Lindsey; Approved 17-0.

REVIEW & OFFICIATING COMMITTEE REPORT: Mark Byrd, chairperson, presented on behalf of the committee.

1. Discussed the comprehensive listing of violations and penalties, noting that men’s basketball and baseball had an increased number of violations/penalties.
2. Discussed the ejection report for period of 11/16/22 to 4/17/23. Noted that ejections were up from this time last year and 69% of member schools had at least one ejection to-date; football and men’s soccer ejections were down while number of coach ejections increased as well as increase in number of ejections for showing disrespect/contact with an official.
3. Will recommend approval of recommendations from Regional Supervisor Interview Committee regarding hiring of five regional supervisors (four in swimming & diving; one in basketball).
4. Discussed three vacant Regional Supervisor positions.
5. Revisited the recommendation approved at winter Board Meeting from Carolina Umpire Association regarding time limit on JV baseball games. Survey results were shared from baseball coaches regarding their lack of input on this item.
6. Reviewed a recommendation by the NC Basketball Coaches Association to approve adoption of the 35-second shot clock in basketball using a three-year phase in period.
7. Will recommend approval of a recommendation from the Swimming & Diving Officials Advisory Committee to approve an increase in pay for swimming and diving officials.
8. Reviewed updated recommendations from the Officiating Ad-hoc Committee; The committee will bring forth the following recommendation tomorrow: to approve creation of an Officials Advisory Council which will function under the auspices of the NCHSAA, with affiliate Board member representing officiating as council chair, and serving under the guidance of the Assistant Commissioner of Officiating and the Commissioner.

POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT: Tod Morgan, vice-chairperson, presented on behalf of the committee.

1. Will recommend approval of a policy drafted by the Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) Committee. Noted that 27 states have adopted a policy for high school level, and this has been an ongoing topic for several years.
2. Pending approval of item #1 above, will recommend updating language in the Amateur Rule to reflect money may be accepted by a student-athlete in accordance with the NIL Policy.
3. Will recommend approving the removal of word “disqualification” from the ejection report form. Disqualifications will remain in place but not noted on the form to avoid unnecessary confusion.
4. Will recommend approving that ALL coaches must be AED/CPR certified prior to first practice date with an effective date of 2024-2025 school year.

5. Will recommend approval of moving the language “change of schools must be contemporaneous with the change in residence” from section 1.2.10(j) to 1.2.10(e) in the current NCHSAA Handbook.
6. Reviewed a recommendation made by Rosewood High School to remove “the entire county in which the member school is located” from 1.2.1(a)(2) and 1.2.11(b)(1)(iii).
7. Reviewed and discussed the Scholastic Requirement relative to course work from a non-member school, seniors on track to graduate, and audited courses.

SPORTS COMMITTEE REPORT: Troy Lindsey, chairperson, presented on behalf of the committee.

1. Reviewed a recommendation by the NC Softball Coaches Association to approve mandatory bat testing for post season play with the NCHSAA purchasing a bat testing machine for each county. After much discussion, the committee suggested amending the original recommendation and will recommend approval of mandatory bat testing during the regular season and at state championships with NCHSAA purchasing two machines per region (16 total) and creating testing protocols. Much discussion ensued regarding who will conduct the testing, where will bat testing be conducted, who will “keep” each machine.
2. Will recommend approval of another game-ending rule for softball in which a game is terminated if a team is ahead by 15 runs after three complete innings (submitted by NC Softball Coaches Association).
3. Reviewed a recommendation by the NC Softball Coaches Association to approve allowing JV softball rostered players to participate in seven (7) additional innings at the Varsity level in a week and to allow JV pitchers six (6) extra innings of pitching OR the seven (7) innings of play at a different position or as a DP.
4. Reviewed a recommendation by the NC Soccer Coaches Association to allow freshman and sophomores only to participate in three (3) halves of soccer on the same day.
5. Will recommend approving requirement to use a conversion chart to determine qualifying times and lane assignments for the Indoor State Track Championships (submitted by the NC Cross Country & Track Coaches Association).
6. Will recommend approval to require full regular season meet results to be entered into NCPrepSwimming within 48 hours of the completion of the meet (submitted by the Swimming & Diving Advisory Committee).
7. Reviewed a recommendation by the Southern Piedmont 1A/2A Conference to amend NCHSAA Handbook rule 4.14.1(g)(2) to allow two multi-team events per week, with the multi-team event permitted to include a round robin tournament with up to six teams.
8. Will recommend use of Maxpreps RPI rankings for seeding of teams and selection of wildcards in dual team tennis.
9. Will recommend approval to eliminate tournament language from NCHSAA Handbook in the sports of baseball, basketball, lacrosse, soccer, and softball and to revert to a season limit of 24 games for these sports (submitted by NCHSAA staff).
10. Discussion regarding future format of regional and finals for men’s and women’s basketball. In the past two years, venue sizes have been inadequate to accommodate crowds and for years, coaches have been requesting a final four format. Committee will bring forward a recommendation to approve a change in format of regionals and state championships to create a final four format. This will establish a format that doesn’t change every year and all games will be hosted at one site (Discussion brought forward by NCHSAA staff for consideration).
11. Reviewed and discussed data from 2022-23 season relative to the 5-quarter rule in basketball.

FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Chris Blanton, chairperson, presented on behalf of the committee.

1. Reviewed the investment accounts based on 3/31/2023 account statements and four-year summary. The Fordham Group spoke to the committee regarding reallocation of equities and bonds to protect portfolio.

2. Reviewed the 2022-23 sports comparisons report versus previous years. Noted that basketball report is not yet complete but in a good spot at this time.
3. Reviewed the 2022-2023 budget through 3/31/23. Noted that initial projection was to finish the fiscal year in the red by approximately \$500,000. Due to good playoff attendance, NCHSAA ticket revenue share will be better than anticipated and thus, we will not finish as much in the hole as expected. Committee expressed appreciation for all partners who support the NCHSAA.
4. Will recommend approval of maintaining membership dues at \$1.00 per pupil for each member school. Noted that it would not be wise to reduce the dues given that the operating budget is projected to finish in the red.
5. Will recommend to approve increasing Cheer Invitational registration fee from \$25.00 per participant to \$35.00. Expenses to run the Cheer Invitational event doubled in the past year from approximately \$85,000 to more than \$167,000.00 due to increase in contracted services and product costs.
6. Reviewed ticket revenue share retained by NCHSAA and participating schools. The committee will bring forth a recommendation to approve that ticket revenue share retained by NCHSAA and by participating schools for each round of bracketed sports and in regional and state championship events for individual sports will remain the same as in 2022-2023.
7. Reviewed 2021-2022 grants awarded and project status. Will bring forth a recommendation by Grant Selection Committee to formally accept the 2022-2023 grant awards totaling \$156,897.69. Recommendation from Endowment Advisory Committee that the Association use interest earnings from the Education | Health, Safety, & Wellness Endowment Fund to fund education-based grants in the focus areas of education and health, safety & wellness; continue funding all other education-based grants from General Endowment Fund.
8. Will recommend approval of the recommendation from the Endowment Advisory Committee that the Association use interest earnings from Education | Health, Safety, & Wellness Endowment Fund to fund up to 50% of the costs associated with member schools achieving NFHS Honor Roll status and administrators becoming CAA/CMAA certified within a given fiscal year. This helps provide professional development opportunities to ensure that member schools have qualified athletic administrators and coaches which positively impacts the student-athlete experience.
9. Will recommend approval of the Endowment Advisory Committee recommendation to provide a 5% distribution from the General Endowment Fund interest earnings and up to a 5% distribution from the Education | Health, Safety, & Wellness Endowment Fund (or the actual amount needed to cover up to 50% of reimbursement costs for member schools to achieve NFHS Honor Roll status and for professional administrators to achieve CAA and CMAA certifications, whichever is less).
10. Reviewed recommendation from NC Softball Coaches Association requesting NCHSAA to purchase one bat testing unit per county (tied to agenda item #1 on Sports Committee agenda). Potential for recommendation to come to Board tomorrow.
11. Status report provided regarding Foundation Study Commission's work since tasked following the winter 2022 Board meeting to review and initiate the process for creating a Foundation. Nonprofit legal counsel spoke to the committee regarding the article of incorporation and bylaws. The committee will bring forth a recommendation that the Board approve continuing the process to create a Foundation.

President Jackson: Jackson revisited the Bylaw amendment and creation of a task force to examine the many questions related to the newly passed Bylaw amendment (Bylaw VI) and suggested that seven (7) Board members plus some outside voices, per staff and Board recommendation, be tapped to serve in this capacity. The following Board members volunteered to serve: Tod Morgan, Larry Williford, Andy McCormick, Chad Duncan, Bryan Tyson, Sam Jones, and Brian Carver. He asked staff to enlist task force members, perhaps individuals who submitted the original bylaw proposal.

President Jackson thanked the Board and Foundation Study Commission for their work and noted that the meeting would be streaming live again tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m.

Motion by Lindsey to adjourn the meeting for this afternoon, second by Morgan. Approved 17-0.

Jackson adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

**NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPRING MEETING
Wednesday, May 3, 2023**

The spring meeting of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Board of Directors was called to order by President Rob Jackson at 9:00 a.m. at the NCHSAA Office in Chapel Hill. Members in attendance included President Rob Jackson, Vice President Chris Blanton, Past President Bobby Wilkins, Mark Byrd, Brian Carver, Chad Duncan, Stephen Gainey, Mark Garrett, Sam Jones, Jerome Leathers, Troy Lindsey, Fred Lynch, Andy McCormick, Cathy Moore, Tod Morgan, Tanya Turner, Bryan Tyson, and Larry Williford. Paige Badgett was absent.

Affiliate members included Vernon Aldridge representing the North Carolina High School Athletic Directors Association, Joe Franks of the North Carolina Coaches Association, Burt Jenkins of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, and Elbert Lassiter of North State Football Officials Association representing Officials and Regional Supervisors. Wendell Hall who represents the North Carolina School Boards Association was absent.

NCHSAA staff in attendance included Commissioner Que Tucker, Karen DeHart, Tra Waters, Brad Alford, Rhonda Dreibelbis, Tavares Toomer, Janna Fonseca, Evan Sauer, Cecil Mock, and Brandon Moree

President Jackson applauded the Board of Directors continued focus on the student-athletes and adherence to the core values of the NCHSAA and thanked them for their hard work yesterday. Jackson remarked that while it is always great to hear from the Student Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC) member at the Board Meeting, due to AP testing this week, our SAAC member could not attend to provide the report.

SAAC REPORT: Evan Sauer, the Director of Development, Marketing, and Student Programs for the NCHSAA, presented on behalf of the SAAC group. Sauer mentioned that he was a high school athlete playing baseball at Leesville Road High School. He discussed past and future endeavors of the SAAC including the Student Leadership Conference which took place in Greensboro on April 22, 2023. 44 schools were represented with over 140 student-athletes hailing from as far as Brunswick County in the east to McDowell County in the west. The theme of this year's conference was "Life Beyond Sports" and was a huge success with speakers providing great insights and motivational thoughts. In the future, the SAAC has lofty goals to hold 2 SAAC-led sessions at the NCCA Clinic in July regarding the state of high school athletics from the student-athlete perspective to engage coaches and administrators in a Q&A style format. Sauer expressed thanks to the Board for their support for the SAAC program during the year.

President Jackson spoke about the recent national meetings he has attended where he hears how fortunate the NCHSAA is to have great partnerships with organizations such as the NCCA and NCADA. He then introduced the affiliate Board members for their respective reports.

REGIONAL SUPERVISORS & OFFICIALS REPORT: Elbert Lassiter, Regional Supervisor for the North State Football Officials Association presented on behalf of the Regional Supervisors and Officials. He shared the appreciation expressed by officials for the 10% pay raise provided by actions the Board took at the winter Board Meeting. He then expressed excitement for the Review and Officiating Report and recommendation regarding establishing an Officials Advisory Council. Concerns about recruitment and retention of officials continues to exist. It may be the pay, it may be their treatment, and it may be the nature of the times in which we live. We must become creative in the recruitment and retention of officials as we move forward.

NORTH CAROLINA ATHLETIC DIRECTORS' ASSOCIATION: Vernon Aldridge, Assistant Executive Director, presented on behalf of the group. He highlighted the close working relationship and continued partnerships with the NCHSAA and the NCCA to offer opportunities for student-athletes. Aldridge

reiterated that the NCADA stands with the NCHSAA which has provided a great experience for student-athletes for over 100 years. This year the NCADA celebrated its 50th anniversary as an organization. They continue to push administrators to see professional development opportunities such as CAA and CMAA. He wrapped up his report with the following upcoming events: NCADA Breakfast: July 18, 2023 at NCCA Clinic; NCADA Summer Leadership sessions at NCCA: July 17-19, 2023; NIAAA Conference: December 15-19, 2023; NCADA Conference, March 17-19, 2024.

NORTH CAROLINA COACHES ASSOCIATION: Joe Franks, Executive Secretary, presented on behalf of the group. Noted the collaborative effort between the Coaches Association and the NCHSAA specifically around the Coaches Clinic annually in Greensboro. Noted the dates of the NC Coaches Clinic in Greensboro for Monday, July 17, through Wednesday, July 19, 2023. This will be the last year for the All-Star Football Game to be played in July. Their Board voted to move that contest to December. He highlighted that they are celebrating their 75th anniversary as an organization and like the NCHSAA who has been around for 100 years, you don't exist that long unless you're doing something right. NCCA supports the NCHSAA and sees first-hand how it works for the student-athletes and schools in NC.

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION: Burt Jenkins presented on behalf of the group. Noted the collaborative conversation that is ongoing between DPI, Commissioner Tucker, and the various members of the Board and their districts. Noted that Gfeller-Waller audits have been done and that only one district is out of compliance. Highlighted the Middle School Manual update that DPI does annually. They try to mirror the NCHSAA regulations to make the transition easier for parents, students, and administrators. Thanked the NCADA and NCCA for their partnership.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION: Wendell Hall, representative for SBOE, was absent due to schedule conflicts.

President Jackson thanked the affiliate Board members for their respective reports and expressed appreciation for their continued support of the NCHSAA and acknowledged that it takes all of us working together on behalf of NC student-athletes. He called for a 10-minute break at 9:35 a.m.

President Jackson called the Board Meeting back to order at 9:45 a.m. and expressed appreciation for the work of the Board and Staff yesterday.

REVIEW & OFFICIATING COMMITTEE REPORT: Mark Byrd, chairperson, presented on behalf of the committee.

1. Discussion regarding violations and penalties; Point of emphasis: Main reason for penalties was exceeding the number of games/week; areas of basketball and baseball had highest incidents and in baseball, many for use of technology; Commissioner Tucker mentioned the need for schools to promote the NFHS #BenchBadBehaviour messaging and that poor sportsmanship and bad behavior continue to present a challenge.
2. Discussed the ejection report for period of 11/16/22 to 4/17/23. Noted that fewer schools were involved in ejections and 69% of member schools have an ejection. Point of emphasis: The number of coach ejections are up and there is a large increase in ejections for disrespect/contact with an official.
3. Recommend approval of five recommendations from Regional Supervisor Interview Committees for five regional supervisors:
 - a. Mandy McMillan as Southeast Swimming & Diving Regional Supervisor
 - b. Richard Wilson as Eastern Swimming & Diving Regional Supervisor
 - c. Bradley Greene as Northwest Swimming & Diving Regional Supervisor
 - d. Callie Davis as interim Central Swimming & Diving Regional Supervisor
 - e. Elizabeth Crowe-Covington as Piedmont Association Basketball Regional Supervisor

Motion approved 18-0
4. Heard update of the three vacant Regional Supervisor positions.

5. Discussed the time limit on JV baseball games. President Jackson asked that this item be placed on the Winter Board Meeting schedule for further review.
6. Discussed the adoption of the 35-second shot clock in basketball using a 3-year phase in period. Committee made a motion for Commissioner Tucker to form an ad hoc committee to study the impact (i.e. finances, game play, etc.) of shot clock use. **Motion approved 18-0.**
7. Recommend approving an increase in pay for swimming and diving officials: Referee from \$53.50 flat fee to \$70.00, Stroke & turn judge, starter, diving judge from \$27.50 flat fee to \$40.00. Point of emphasis is that this will bring their pay in line with other sports officials' pay. **Motion approved 18-0.**
8. Recommend approval of creation of Officials Advisory Council (OAC) which will function under the auspices of the NCHSAA, with the affiliate Board member representing officiating as council chair, and OAC serving under the guidance of the Assistant Commissioner of Officiating and the Commissioner. This council will have nine members – one per NCHSAA region and one retired member. **Motion approved 18-0.**

POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT: Cathy Moore, chairperson, presented on behalf of the committee.

1. Recommend approving a policy drafted by the Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) Committee. Noted that 27 states have adopted a policy for high school level. Point of emphasis: Implementation of this policy necessitates much education and training for families, parents, students, school personnel, including superintendents. Group acknowledgement that this is a work in progress and ongoing attention will be given to implement the policy. A FAQ sheet was suggested. **Motion approved 15-3.**
2. Recommend updating language in the Amateur Rule to reflect money may be accepted by a student-athlete in accordance with the NIL Policy. Revision of this rule is necessary given the new NIL policy. **Motion approved 18-0.**
3. Recommend approving the removal of the word 'disqualifications' from the ejection report form. Disqualifications will remain in place but not noted on the form to avoid unnecessary confusion. **Motion approved 18-0.**
4. Recommend approving that ALL coaches (includes part-time, volunteer, and non-faculty coaches) must be AED/CPR certified prior to first practice date. A transition year (2023-2024) will be given with full implementation of this policy in 2024-2025. **Motion approved 18-0.**
5. Recommend moving the language "change of schools must be contemporaneous with the change in residence" from section 1.2.10(j) to 1.2.10(e) in the current NCHSAA Handbook. **Motion approved 18-0.**
6. Reviewed a recommendation made by Rosewood High School to remove "the entire county in which the member school is located" from 1.2.1(a)(2) and 1.2.11(b)(1)(iii). No action taken.
7. Discussed the Scholastic Requirement relative to course work from a non-member school, seniors on track to graduate, and audited courses. Point of emphasis: Adults failing at member schools puts staff in a bad position with these situations.

SPORTS COMMITTEE REPORT: Troy Lindsey, chairperson, presented on behalf of the committee.

1. Reviewed a recommendation by the NC Softball Coaches Association to approve mandatory bat testing for post season play with the NCHSAA purchasing a bat testing unit for each county. Committee amended the original recommendation to recommend approval of mandatory bat testing to the NCHSAA rules for regular season play and direct staff to create procedures for testing and selection of tester.
 Procedure: -The NCHSAA will provide two bat-testing machines and develop procedures for procuring a tester and testing machines per region.
 --Bat testers must use the USA Softball Bat List for specific bat pressures
 Note: some bats, i.e. Easton Ghost will fall in the illegal range; however, these bats can be legal based on different pressure allowances
 --Once tested, an approved bat will receive a sticker applied by the bat tester
 --All bats being used at the State Championship game will be tested and may run the risk of being "thrown out" if bat fails. **Motion approved 18-0.**

2. Recommend approval of another game-ending rule for softball in which a game is terminated if a team is ahead by 15 runs after three complete innings (submitted by NC Softball Coaches Association). **Motion approved 18-0.**
3. Reviewed a recommendation by the NC Softball Coaches Association to approve allowing JV softball rostered players to participate in 7 additional innings at the Varsity level in a week. And to allow JV pitchers six (6) extra innings of pitching OR the 7 innings of play at a different position or as a DP. Committee did not make a recommendation for approval.
4. Reviewed a recommendation by the NC Soccer Coaches Association to allow freshman and sophomores only to participate in three (3) halves of soccer on the same day. Committee asked this item be tabled and requested that Sports Medicine Advisory Committee review the impacts with report to Board at the 2023 winter meeting.
5. Recommend approving requirement to use a conversion chart to determine qualifying times and lane assignments for the Indoor State Track Championships (submitted by the NC Cross Country & Track Coaches Association). **Motion approved 18-0.**
6. Recommend approval to require full regular season meet results to be entered into NCPrepSwimming within 48 hours of the completion of the meet (submitted by the Swimming & Diving Advisory Committee). **Motion approved 18-0.**
7. Reviewed a recommendation by the Southern Piedmont 1A/2A Conference) to amend NCHSAA Handbook rule 4.14.1(g)(2) to allow two multi-team events per week, with the multi-team event permitted to include a round robin tournament with up to six teams. Committee did not make a recommendation, feeling this is an isolated issue.
8. Recommended use of Maxpreps RPI rankings for seeding of teams and selection of wildcards in dual team tennis. **Motion approved 18-0.**
9. Recommended approval of a change in the current format of basketball regionals and state championships creating a final four format. This establishes a format that doesn't change every year and all games will be hosted at one site. **Motion approved 18-0.**
10. Recommended eliminating tournament language from NCHSAA Handbook in the sports of baseball, basketball, lacrosse, soccer, and softball and to revert to a season limit of 24 games for these sports (submitted by NCHSAA staff). **Motion approved 18-0. Note: Increase in # of games for lacrosse**
11. Committee shared an update on the basketball 5-quarter rule data from 2022-2023 season.

FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Chris Blanton, chairperson, presented on behalf of the committee.

1. Reviewed investment accounts based on 3/31/2023 account statements and four-year summary.
2. Review and discussion of sports comparisons report versus previous years.
3. Reviewed 2022-2023 budget through 3/31/23. Noted that initial projection was to finish the fiscal year in the red by approximately \$500,000.
4. Recommended maintaining membership dues at \$1.00 per pupil for each member school. Noted that it would not be wise to reduce the dues given that the operating budget is projected to finish in the red. **Motion approved 18-0.**
5. Recommended increasing in Cheerleading Invitational registration fee from \$25.00 per participant to \$35.00. Expenses to run the Cheer Invitational event doubled in the past year from approximately \$85,000 to more than \$167,000.00 due to increase in contracted services and product costs. **Motion approved 18-0.**
6. Recommended that ticket revenue share retained by participating schools and NCHSAA for each round of bracketed sports and in regional and state championship events for individual sports remain the same as in 2022-2023. **Motion approved 18-0.**
7. Recommended approval of Grant Selection Committee recommendation to accept the 2022-2023 grant awards totaling \$156,897.69 and recommendation from Endowment Advisory Committee that the Association use interest earnings from the Education I Health, Safety, & Wellness Endowment Fund to fund education-based grants in the focus areas of education and health, safety & wellness; continue funding all other education-based grants from General Endowment Fund. **Motion approved 18-0.**

8. Recommended approval of Endowment Advisory Committee recommendation that the Association use interest earnings from Education I Health, Safety, & Wellness Endowment Fund to fund up to 50% of the costs associated with member schools achieving NFHS Honor Roll status and administrators becoming CAA/CMAA certified within a given fiscal year. **Motion approved 18-0.**
9. Recommended approval of the Endowment Advisory Committee recommendation to provide a 5% distribution from the General Endowment Fund interest earnings and up to a 5% distribution from the Education I Health, Safety, & Wellness Endowment Fund (or the actual amount needed to cover up to 50% of reimbursement costs for member schools to achieve NFHS Honor Roll status and for professional administrators to achieve CAA and CMAA certifications, whichever is less). Point of emphasis: Over the past 10 years, \$19,249,538.00 in endowment earnings has been distributed to membership. **Motion approved 18-0.**
10. Recommended that NCHSAA purchase two bat testing machines per NCHSAA region and fund this purchase with interest earnings from the Education I Health, Safety, & Wellness Endowment Fund. **Motion approved 18-0.**
11. Recommended moving forward with the creation of a Foundation to further enhance transparency between annual operating budget and endowment funds and to provide a perpetual resource for initiatives and membership programs. President Jackson thanked the Foundation Study Commission members for their work. **Motion approved 18-0.**
12. Referenced general personnel changes which were discussed yesterday during work session.

President Jackson, at the conclusion of the committee reports, again thanked the Board and staff for their work yesterday and today noting that much discussion had ensued. He expressed appreciation for everyone's work ethic.

COMMISSIONER'S CONCLUDING COMMENTS: Commissioner Tucker reminded board members about the virtual Annual Business Meeting tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. and shared that the NCHSAA will host its Annual Awards Celebration on June 14, 2023 in Greensboro at Piedmont Hall. Awards will be presented, and lunch served. Tucker extended a heartfelt thank-you to the Board members for their tremendous work over the past two days and throughout the school year. She noted that she can serve as Commissioner because of the support of a Board of Directors who believes in education-based athletics. The Commissioner also thanked the staff and noted that all items approved will enhance opportunities for student-athletes across the state. She reminded the Board that now all approved policies and rules must be submitted to the State Board of Education for their review and approval, per the Memorandum of Understanding. Commissioner Tucker wrapped up by thanking President Rob Jackson, Vice-President Chris Blanton, and Past-President Bobby Wilkins for their leadership and commended the graduating Board members for their service as they move off the Board.

PRESIDENT'S CONCLUDING COMMENTS: President Jackson thanked the Commissioner and staff for their amazing work in support of the mission of the Association on a daily basis. He highlighted the Board's efforts including working through a global pandemic to find ways to provide opportunities for student-athletes; working with the State Board of Education and General Assembly in a transparent fashion and with fidelity; and commended past Boards for their foresight and this Board for being careful stewards of the endowment funds to help the member schools, noting again the \$19,249,538.00 in earnings distributed over the past ten years.

He called for a motion to enter into closed Executive Session to discuss confidential student information and indicated to the Board and anyone listening to the audio feed that the meeting would conclude immediately following the closed session. **A motion was made by Garrett to go into Executive Session and to adjourn the Spring Meeting of the Board immediately afterwards; seconded by Morgan. Approved 18-0. (Meeting was adjourned at 11:15)**