

**PALMETTO
ATHLETIC
ASSOCIATION**

**Conference
Constitution**



ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the **PAA Conference**. Member organizations at the time of this adoption are as follows: **New Hope Gladiators, Spartanburg Huskies, North Warriors and TBA.**

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this association, a volunteer organization, is to provide independent member organizations the resources and competitive environment through mentoring based programs that establish a foundation for excellence based on integrity, sportsmanship, and leadership.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP and CONFERENCES

Section I

This association is established in accordance with a statewide pattern of organization and operated within that framework. Only programs that operates independently with 501c(3) may become members of the Palmetto Athletic Association. No rules or requirements of the association shall in any way conflict with or be contrary to the spirit, letter, or intent of the constitution of the Palmetto Athletic Association.

Section II

The membership will be divided into four (4) Regions: Region 1-Upper State, Region 2-Midlands, Region 3-Low Country and Region 4-Pee Dee Area.

The number of teams in each region will be determined by the Palmetto Athletic Association Committee. In making this decision the Palmetto Athletic Association Competition Committee will consider the number of members to be in each of the regions. The members will be divided as evenly as possible, based on location.

Section III

Applications to enter or leave this region by a program shall be made in writing to the Region Coordinator of the region. This coordinator will act upon the application in accordance with whatever authorization the Palmetto Athletic Association rules permit, and will submit this application to member organizations at a called region meeting. A majority of the eligible voting membership will be necessary for an organization to enter or leave this region.

ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATION

Section I

Part A

The **governing body** of this region shall be the Competition Committee. This committee shall be composed of the executive committee, a region coordinator/president, a president-elect, a secretary-treasurer, and a representative from each of the remaining schools.

Part B

The **Competition Committee** must be **administrators** or **athletic directors** from member organization. No two members of the Competition Committee will come from the same member school.

Part C

In case of a protest, a Competition Committee person representing all organizations involved in the protest will not be entitled to attend the meeting of the Competition Committee while the voting takes place. If a tie results, the protest will be denied.

Part D

The Competition Committee shall have the power to declare champions or winners in all region activities. This committee shall also have the power to consider and act upon protest of member organization, provided such protests are in the jurisdiction of this region.

Part E

The Competition Committee shall interpret the provisions of the constitution.

Section II

Athletic Directors or Assistant Athletic Directors of member schools are **eligible to hold office** in this region. Anyone may serve as a member of any committee, with the exception of the Competition Committee, or represent his organization at any meeting, in the absence of the athletic director. The president will be elected in compliance with Palmetto Athletic Association regulations.

Section III

Part A

Three regular **meetings** of the association shall be held annually. Dates and times for these meetings are as follows: the **second Monday in October, the third Wednesday in February, and a third meeting to be held no later than May 15th** of each school year. The exact date for the third meeting shall be set by the conference president and member organization shall be duly notified by the secretary-treasurer. Officers for the next school year shall be elected at the May meeting.

Part B

Called meetings may be held at any time the president (acting for the Competition Committee) sees fit.

The secretary will notify the athletic directors of the meetings. The time and location of the meeting will be decided by the association coordinator/president.

Part C

Any school not represented at a regular or called meeting will be **fined \$25.00**. The fine should be paid by the next scheduled meeting. If not paid by that time, the fine is doubled. All fine notifications will be mailed to the principal.

Part D

Only members eligible to hold office in the association will be recognized by the chair at meetings. All new business will be submitted by the Athletic Director of each member school.

ARTICLE V - SPORTS

Section I

Part A

The Region Coordinator shall appoint a chairperson at the February meeting for each sport for the following year who will have general supervision of the region competition for that sport. The chairperson will also serve as Publicity Director and must be an Athletic Director or head coach from a member organization.

Part B

All schedules for all sports will be presented at the Spring Conference Meeting for the upcoming year. If changes are made to the region schedule, the AD's of all organizations involved in the changes must agree in writing.

Part C

The sports chairperson will notify the Region Coordinator of Palmetto Athletic Association of region winners on or before the date established in the Palmetto Athletic Association Handbook.

Region Sports Chairs

Football -	TBD	Basketball -	TBD
Track-	TBD	Volleyball-	TBD
7on7 Football-	TBD	Flag Football-	TBD

Region Chairs responsibilities:

1. *Establishing meeting dates for playoff determination*
2. *Coordinating MVP and All-Region selections*
3. *Forwarding all information concerning all-region selections and awards to the region president in a timely manner to facilitate ordering from the supplier(s)*

Part D

The region coordinator shall appoint a constitutional committee when necessary which will be composed of three (3) athletic director, assistant athletic directors or head coaches from member organizations.

**Section II - Football
Part A**

The method of declaring the region champion and the order of finish will follow these guidelines:

1. Each team must play each member of the region.
2. In the event any organization refuses to play any other organization in the same region, that organization becomes ineligible for any all region nominees, region player or coach of the year nominees, play-off berth, and forfeits to all other teams for the purpose of declaring play-off positions.
3. The champion and the order of finish are declared by region records.
4. If two teams are tied for the region championship, or a playoff position, the winner of the regular season game will be declared the champion or the higher seed and the loser the lower seed.
5. If three teams are tied at the end of a season and one of the organization defeated the other two, that team will be declared the highest seed and the team winning the game between the two remaining will be the next highest seed.
6. If three or more teams with identical region records tie, the following tie-breaking point system will be used to break the tie:
(Note: Once the three-way tie has been broken, go back to head to head.)
7. **If head to head does not settle the tie, go to tie-breaking step 1.**

TIE-BREAKING STEPS

Step 1. Region Point System

The following point value will be used in assigning points for a win within the region:

1 st Place.....	5 points	5 th Place.....	1 points
2 nd Place.....	4 points		
3 rd Place.....	3 points		
4 th Place.....	2 points		

If two teams are tied for a region position, each team will be acknowledged as that particular seed when the point system is used.

(Example: If two teams are tied for 3rd place, any win against either team would be assigned 3rd place points

Step 2. Points Allowed System

- 2.1 The team that gives up the fewest points in games involving the tied teams shall be seeded higher.
- 2.2 If still tied from above, the team that gives up the fewest points in all region games shall be seeded higher.

In games decided by "over time procedure", the team that loses will add only 1 point to regulation final score for purposes of figuring points allowed, and not the final score of the over-time procedure.

Step 3. Final Resolution System

This procedure shall refer to all regularly scheduled region and non-region games, excluding tournament games.

- 3.1 The higher seed will be the team whose opponents have the highest winning percentage.
- 3.2 The higher seed will be the team whose opponents have won the most games.
- 3.3 Coin toss - Odd man out or third place - back to head to head.

Part B

In the case where a **game** is **suspended**, the site, time, and location when play resumes will be made with the agreement of both organizations.

Section III - Basketball, Volleyball, Flag Football, 7on7 Football

Part A

The method of declaring the region champion and the order of finish will follow these guidelines:

1. In order for a member organization to qualify for participation in the state tournament, the organization must play all other member organization as scheduled by the region.

The intent of the above section is to ensure that all region teams play on a home and home basis. The above rule shall not be interpreted so as disqualify two (2) teams from participation in the state tournament because of administrative conflicts, inclement weather, or other unforeseen circumstances, so long as such changes are agreeable to both schools. A game won by forfeit would be considered a game played. The region Executive Committee would decide whether or not an agreement between two organizations not to play a game meets the conditions of being an administrative conflict, the result of inclement weather, or some other unforeseen circumstances.

2. The champion and the order of finish are declared by region records.
3. If two teams are tied for the region championship, or a playoff position, and one of the teams has won both regular season games, that team shall be declared the champion or the higher seed and the other team shall be declared the lower seed.
4. If two teams are tied for the region championship, and these teams have split during the regular season, they will be declared co-champions with the tie-breaking system being used to determine the higher-seeded team for playoff purposes.

TIE-BREAKING STEPS

Step 1. Region Point System

The following point value will be used in assigning points for a win within the region:

1 st Place.....	5 points	4 th Place.....	2 points
2 nd Place.....	4 points	5 th Place.....	1 points
3 rd Place.....	3 points		

If two teams are tied for a region position, each team will be acknowledged as that particular seed when the point system is used.
 (Example: If two teams are tied for 3rd place, any win against either team would be assigned 3rd place points.)

Step 2. Points Allowed System

- 2.1 The team that gives up the fewest points in games involving the tied teams shall be seeded higher.
- 2.1 If still tied from above, the team that gives up the fewest points in all region games shall be seeded higher.

In games decided by "over time procedure", the team that loses will add only 1 point to regulation final score for purposes of figuring points allowed, and not the final score of the over-time procedure.

5. If two teams are tied for any playoff position other than the region championship, and these teams have split during the regular season, **Step 1** and, if necessary, **Step 2** will be used to break the tie.
6. If three teams or more are tied for the region championship, or a playoff position, the ties will be broken in the following manner:

- a. "Head to head region competition among the teams tied."

Example:	Team A	3 wins	1 loss
	Team B	2 wins	2 losses
	Team C	1 win	3 losses

If one team has the most wins in head to head competition among the tied teams, it will be the higher seed and the head to head procedure will be repeated with the remaining teams.

- b. If head to head competition does not settle the ties, the Tie-breaking system (**Step 1 and Step 2**) will be used.

Step 3. Final Resolution

This procedure shall refer to all regularly scheduled region and non-region games, excluding tournament games.

- 3.1 The higher seed will be the team whose opponents have the highest winning percentage.
- 3.2 The higher seed will be the team whose opponents have won the most games.
- 3.3 The higher seed will be determined by a coin toss.

Part B

In the case of a suspended game, the following guidelines will be followed:

1. If the first game of a home and away schedule between two (2) region teams is suspended, that game will be completed before the second game is played at the site of the second game. The home team of the second game will provide officials. If the second game is not completed due to the completion of the first suspended game, the second game will be completed at the site of the first game.
2. If the second game is not completed due to causes not involving the first game, that game will be completed at the site of the second game.

Section IV - Track

The method of declaring the region champion and the order of finish will follow these guidelines:

1. The track chairperson shall set the date, place, and time as well as make all the arrangements for conducting the region track meet.
2. The region will budget \$400.00 for the running of the region track meet.
3. Qualifiers for the state track meet will be determined by the Palmetto Athletic Association Handbook.
4. The winning teams at the region meet will be the region champions.

ARTICLE V - TROPHIES AND AWARDS

Conference Championship trophies will be awarded when there are three (3) or more teams participating in that sport. Each organization is responsible for the expense of their All-Region plaques or certificates.

Section I

The awarding of trophies will follow these guidelines:

Part A

The Palmetto Athletic Association will award a trophy to the conference champion in all sports. In the event of ties, all teams will receive championship trophies.

Part B

Trophies will be purchased for conference champions in any sport that the Palmetto Athletic Association requires a champion for state playoff competition.

Section II - All-region Awards**Part A**

1. All-region selections are determined by a school's position in the final standings.

a. Football

Place	# of selections
1 st	5
2 nd	4
3 rd	3
4 th	2
5 th	1
6 th	1

b. Basketball**Volleyball****7on7 Fball**

Place	# of selections
1 st	3
2 nd	2
3 rd	2
4 th	1
5 th	1
6 th	1

Part B

The Region will recognize the **Most Valuable Player** in each sport in which a champion is named. **The region will have the expenses of these awards.** This award will be voted on by the coaches before all-Region is selected. The voting process will follow the following guidelines:

1. Nominations will be separate from All-Region balloting. Each organization may nominate one player.
2. All-region nominations will be made at a mandatory meeting determined by each sport chair.
3. After nominations, the coaches will vote in rank order. (Example: if three (3) players are nominated, the top choice gets three points, the next best gets two points, and one point is awarded last choice.) The player who accumulates the most points will be the region MVP. The MVP will be selected first and will not be considered for position selection.
4. A coach may vote for his or her own player. Only one person may vote per school.

Part C

The Sports Chairperson will contact each coach who is responsible for getting the names of his/her selections. These will be sent to the chairperson as soon as possible.

Part D

The **Coach of the Year** for each sport will be the coach of each region championship team.

Part E

The association will recognize an organization exhibiting the best sportsmanship each year. This will be decided by votes given by the directors and athletic directors of each member organization.

ARTICLE VI - FEES

The membership fees will be \$100.00 per team if paid prior to June 1st of each year and \$150.00 if paid thereafter. Affiliate membership fee will \$25.00 if paid prior to June 1st of each year and \$50 if paid thereafter.

\$25 deposit will be required when membership application is submitted to the association. Payments can be made in installments until membership fees are paid in full. The fee must be paid prior to May 31st to avoid late fee.

ARTICLE VII - ELIGIBILITY

Any student participating in the activities of this region must be eligible according to the eligibility rules of the Palmetto Athletic Association.

ARTICLE VIII - PROTESTS, COMPLAINTS, ETC.

Section I

All protests, except those concerning eligibility, shall be made to the Executive Committee of the association. The Executive Committee shall have the power to make rulings on all protests or unresolved situations within the region.

Section II

A written copy of the protest or complaint must be filed with the president prior to consideration of the protest. A copy must also be sent to the administrator and athletic director of the member program against which the protest is registered. The protest must be registered within seven (7) days.

Section III

In any controversy arising from region affairs, each member organization involved will designate one official representative to speak for and handle all correspondence (oral and written) for the member program until the controversy is resolved.

ARTICLE IX - LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The delegate to the Legislative Assembly of the Palmetto Athletic Association will be the region coordinator/president of the region, or his appointed delegate. This delegate will vote on constitutional amendments as instructed at association meetings.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

Section I

Proposed amendments to this constitution must be submitted in writing to the region coordinator/president and secretary-treasurer (who will forward a copy to each member school) at least thirty (30) days prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Section II

Proposed amendments shall be acted upon at the next meeting. A majority of the member organizations present and voting shall be required for adoption.