

Private School Reclassification Proposal

Independent Schools above 1A Private desire to remain full members of the GHSA entitled to the same benefits as public schools. We are voluntarily imposing limitations on our membership status to enhance competition in the GHSA.

The GHSA Independent Schools above class 1A will remain as full members with the rights and privileges to compete and participate in all events available to non-Independent Schools including regular season contests, region championships, and a combined public-private post-season schedule.

Private schools above 1A are:

<u>School</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Current Classification</u>
Benedictine	810	4A
Blessed Trinity	970	5A
GAC	672	3A
Lovett	625	2A
Marist	809	4A
Pace	471	2A
St. Pius	1101	5A
Westminster	815	3A
Woodward	1082	5A

If any of the conditions stated above in this proposal change, impacted independent schools will need to re-evaluate the proposal in its entirety.

PROPOSAL: Independent schools recognize the need to support measures intended to improve the competitive balance across the GHSA membership. Under the current reclassification system, Independent Schools above 1A Private won a significant number of championships. In recognition of this, the independent schools above 1A private, which are predominantly located in the metropolitan Atlanta area, have agreed to the following two-phase approach:

Phase 1:

Effective this reclassification period, some of the Independent Schools above 1A private will self-select to move up to higher classifications for the 2022-2024 cycle as listed below.

- a. 3A: Lovett, Pace
- b. 4A: Benedictine, GAC, Westminster, Marist
- c. 5A: Blessed Trinity, Woodward, St. Pius

*No sports from Independent Schools above 1A Private will participate in 2A.

*Note: Independent Schools above 1A private are proposing to the GADA a model that separates Public from Private Director's Cup Awards.

Phase 2:

Independent Schools above 1A Private will voluntarily submit to the Competitive Balance Model to be implemented in the 2024-2026 Reclassification Period. Details outlining the Competitive Balance model are listed on the back of this proposal.

2024-2026 COMPETITIVE BALANCE MODEL

The competitive balance model (CBM) promotes a sport program up a classification or relegates a sport program down a classification based on their respective performances over the past two (2) years. No Independent school program may be relegated to a classification below those stated above. However, all programs may be promoted up one (1) classification every two (2) years without any upward limit.

For example: A two (2) year losing program for The Lovett School will not drop below 3A and a two (2) year losing program for Blessed Trinity will not drop below 5A.

CBM's have existed for multiple years in states around the country. The model defined below resembles the one in Alabama, because it is applied exclusively to independent schools and looks at two (2) year data.

Categories of Sports

Scoring for the CBM separates programs into two categories: Single Sports and Coed Sports.

Single Sports: Sports that field one varsity team are scored as single sports. They are:

Football, Baseball, Volleyball, Fast-Switch Softball, Wrestling, Cheerleading, One Act Play, Literary, Flag Football, Gymnastics, Slow-Pitch Softball, Wheelchair Track, Bass Fishing, Dance, Esports, Literary, Wheelchair Basketball

Coed Sports: Sports that compete as two separate gendered varsity teams are scored as coed teams. They are:

Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, Swimming and Diving, Tennis, Track and Field

Competitive Balance Model Scoring Table

CBM Points are awarded to individual teams each year.

<u>Placement</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Round of 16 (Top 16)	.5
Quarterfinals (Top 8)	1
Semifinals (Top 4)	2
Runner Up (2 nd)	3
State Champion	4

CBM points accumulated over a two (2) year period will trigger a promotion of an individual sport when it exceeds the following:

Competitive Balance Model Threshold

Teams that surpass the promotion threshold will move up one additional classification. Teams that score less than the relegation threshold will be eligible to move down one classification provided that classification is not lower than the baseline classification.

<u>Type of Sport</u>	<u>Promotion Threshold</u>	<u>Relegation Threshold</u>
Single Sports	More than 4 Points	Less than 1 Point
Coed Sports	More than 8 Points	Less than 2 Points

Calculating Competitive Balance Model

Independent School Athletic Directors are responsible for calculating their accumulated CBM points each year. These will be submitted to the GHSA prior to the reclassification period.