



SOUTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

Jerome P. Singleton, Commissioner
P. O. Box 211575
Columbia, South Carolina 29221-6575
Phone: 803-798-0120 Fax: 803-737-0029 www.schsl.org

To: Tom Gallus, Principal
From: Jerome Singleton, Commissioner
Subject: Time of scheduled appearance before Executive Committee
Date: July 26, 2018

You are scheduled to appear before the Executive Committee on August 2, 2018 to present your case for the volleyball suspension. The meeting will be held at the South Carolina High School League Office, 121 Westpark Boulevard, Columbia, South Carolina. Your scheduled appearance time is 10:30 am.

Please refer to page 1 of the League's By-Laws for the procedures to be used when making appeals to the Executive Committee. You are to forward copies of your request brief to members of the Executive Committee. Each committee person must receive a complete copy of all pertinent information prior to the meeting. You will have 10 minutes to make your presentation to the Committee.

Date: August 2, 2018
Time: 10:30 am
Site: South Carolina High School League
121 Westpark Boulevard
Columbia, South Carolina



1030

Hanahan High School

6015 Murray Avenue
Hanahan, SC 29410



Mr. Tom Gallus, Principal

(843) 820-3710

July 23, 2018

Mr. Singleton,

Hanahan High School had a volleyball practice on Monday, July 2, 2018 during the mandated dead week. I am writing to appeal the fine and scrimmage limitation that was handed down to us by the South Carolina High School League. Although there is no denying that a practice was held, we were going through a unique transition period at Hanahan High School on the day of the practice.

My tenure at Hanahan High School officially began on Sunday, July 1, 2018. On the date of the illegal practice, my first area of concern was to meet with one of our administrators to discuss the upcoming school year. While this meeting going on, our head football coach walked into the gymnasium to see volleyball practice going on. This practice consisted of one coach with ten girls doing volleyball drills. The football coach alerted the volleyball coach that they were in a dead period. This is also our volleyball coach's first year coaching volleyball and she was unaware of the dead period as this was her first summer coaching the team. At the time of the incident, Hanahan High School was without an Athletic Director as well as our AD took a position as the Principal at Berkeley Middle College two weeks prior.

As soon as I found out about this practice, I sent an email to the entire staff alerting them that there should be no practice or conditioning as we were in a dead period. Also, one of the preventative measures that were implemented is that we will have a coaches meeting at the beginning of the school year to discuss rules and regulations as well as in June before the summer season begins.

I am very understanding of this rule and why it is in place. In no way was Coach Keesee trying to gain a competitive advantage by having a practice. Without leadership above her directing her, she was unaware of the strict guidelines in place by the SCHSL. It is a coach's responsibility to understand all policies that are in place and going forward, I can assure you that this will never happen again during my time at Hanahan High School. With all of this being said, I ask that you please consider lowering the fine and scrimmage days that were lost due to this honest mistake by a new, young, coach excited for the upcoming season.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Tom Gallus
Principal
Hanahan High School



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TO: Thomas Gallus, Principal -- Hanahan High School

FROM: Skip Lax, Associate Commissioner -- SCHSL

DATE: July 18, 2018

The Executive Committee has instructed the League Office to be very consistent in the enforcement of rules and regulations. The "Guidelines for Disciplines" are on page 15 of the Rules & Regulations section of the League Handbook.

In accordance with these instructions, your school is being fined **\$500.00** for the following reason(s):

- ☐ Necessary paperwork missing prior to participation
- ☐ Submission of ineligible student(s) on Certificate of Eligibility
- ☐ Permitting an ineligible student to participate
- ☐ Unsportsmanlike conduct by player, coach, school or spectators
- ☐ Participation prior to submission on the Certificate of Eligibility
- ☒ Violation of the Open Season Practice Schedule

In addition, the Volleyball program may not begin their first day of practice until July 28, 2018 and is limited to one pre-season scrimmage (See page 6 of Rules & Regulations).

If you should have any questions, please contact this office. Payment of the fine, or a written request for an appeal to the Executive Committee, must be received in this office within fifteen days of receipt of this correspondence.

*Failure to pay a fine within 60 days -- additional \$50.00 will be added.

**NOTE: THE LEAGUE DOES NOT ACCEPT PERSONAL CHECKS FOR FINES OR LATE FEES. PLEASE SEND CHECK/MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:
SC HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE**



Hanahan High School

6015 Murray Avenue
Hanahan, SC 29410



Mr. Tom Gallus, Principal

(843) 820-3710

July 9, 2018

Dear Mr. Lax,

I am writing to self-report the Hanahan High School Volleyball team for holding a practice on Monday, July 2, 2018 which is a dead week for all sports. The practice consisted of ten players and one coach. Practice was held from 7:30 AM until approximately 9:40 AM.

Although this is inexcusable, I do feel it necessary to provide you with more information making this very unique. July 2, 2018 was my first day as the Principal at Hanahan High School, and we currently do not have an Athletic Director as this was also our former Athletic Director's day as a Principal at Berkeley Middle College. Our coach, Andrea Keesee, is preparing for her first season as a coach as well.

As a coach, it is important to understand the rules and regulations that are put in place by the South Carolina High School League to create an environment that is safe for all student-athletes. In this case, Coach Keesee was not up to date on the regulations to summer practices and was in violation.

The plan to prevent from such an occurrence from ever happening again will be implemented. Hanahan High School will have a meeting with all coaches in the fall of 2018 prior to the first day of school to educate our coaches on rules and regulations of the SCHSL. We will also meet in the spring prior to the coaches leaving for summer break to educate the coaches on rules and regulations of the SCHSL. An email was already sent by the Principal to the entire Hanahan High School staff on the afternoon of July 2, 2018 with a link to the dates of open and closed season as it appears on the SCHSL website and a reminder that we were in a dead week. We will do better as an administrative staff to ensure all of our coaches will be aware of all important dates in the years to come.

Thank you,

Thomas Gallus
Principal
Hanahan High School