



Board of Directors Meeting – Agenda Item

Date: April 27, 2015

General Business Item:

Action: X
Discussion: _____
Presentation: _____
Information: _____

Committee Item:

Committee Name: _____
Action: _____
Discussion: _____
Presentation: _____
Information: _____

Topic:

The University of Miami has requested a waiver of FHSAA Policies in order to begin their summer football camp on Sunday, May 31st. This impacts two Policies affected are: 20.2 – Summer Defined, and 4.1.7 – Sunday Practices. On March 11th, I emailed all Board Members of this request and informed you of my placing this on the Action Agenda for our April Meeting.

Detailed Information (brief statement--background, observations, etc.):

See Attachment – A copy of the email requesting this waiver is attached

Executive Director Recommendation:

The Executive Director Recommends approval for this year only.

Rationale:

Alternative to Recommendation:

Data Source:

Impact:

Individual/Committee Submitting Item

Dr. Roger Dearing
FHSAA Staff Member Presenting Item

Signature

Roger Dearing
Signature

Subject: Camp Date Appeal Request
Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 7:40:54 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: Golden, Alfred James Jr.
To: Roger Dearing
CC: Denarvise Thornton, Craig Damon, strappy@fhsaa.org, Justin Harrison

Good evening FHSAA Football Board of Directors,

The University of Miami football staff and I would like to respectfully request an appeal of the FHSAA policy in regards to the start of the FHSAA calendar and when participation in football camps by student-athletes is permitted.

In particular, we would like to ask the FHSAA committee to review the following reasons as to why we think the FHSAA should allow the State of Florida High Schools to attend the South Florida Shootout at the University of Miami on May 31, 2015 as opposed to June 1, 2015:

1. When the decision was made to first organize our camps for 2015 in June of 2014, we referred to our compliance department and the NCAA calendar. The NCAA office determined that May 31, 2015 is the first official date that universities can host football camps during the months of June and July. This is a unique situation in that typically the NCAA calendar and the FHSAA calendar are congruent. This is the first time since May of 2011 that there are 5 Sundays in the month of May instead of the traditional 4 Sundays. Since Sunday, May 31, 2015 falls on the beginning of the week and leads into the first week of June, the NCAA calendar recognizes Sunday, May 31, 2015 as part of the June/July clinics and camps window. We therefore respectfully request that the FHSAA share the same thoughts as the NCAA office and recognize Sunday, May 31 as part of the June calendar.
2. We did not want to have a camp of this size and magnitude (approx. 1000) on the same day as the SAT and ACT tests, which are scheduled for Saturday, June 6, 2015 (SAT) and Saturday, June 13, 2015 (ACT).
3. We also did not want to conflict with the Miami Dolphins 7 on 7 Tournament, which is annually held on the second weekend of June, which this year is Saturday, June 13, 2015 and Sunday, June 14, 2015.
4. The significance of this date is very important because it's not only the first day that universities can officially conduct football camps, it also is tied into our 2nd Annual South Florida Football Festival, which is scheduled to be held on Saturday, May 30, 2015 at the University of Miami. The SFFF is an annual football clinic hosted by the University of Miami and the football coaching staff not only to celebrate the high school coaches who have done a great job coaching the student athletes in the State of Florida, but also to provide the State of Florida high school coaches the opportunity to learn and share ideas from not only from the University of Miami football staff, but also other colleges and pro football teams in the South Florida region in FAU, FIU and the Miami Dolphins. This is an incredible opportunity for the State of Florida High School Coaches to get the chance to interact with several Division I BCS Programs and the local NFL franchise in the South Florida region. We coordinated the coaching clinic and football camp together to put the best package available to maximize the State of Florida high school coaches and student athletes' development and growth in football knowledge and competition, while also trying to decrease the financial costs related to

traveling to and from the South Florida region. With a relatively low clinic fee in \$40 and only \$15 per camper for the shootout, we are providing the best opportunity financially for the State of Florida high school coaches and student athletes to afford to travel and attend the clinic and camp on May 30-31. In addition, for those schools that are traveling from distance, hotel availability and pricing is at a mildly reasonable rate during the time period of May 30-31. The lack of hotel room availability and the increasing costs of hotel arrangements also become a factor.

5. With all the time, energy, and planning of the two events as it relates to scarcity of university facility availability and the costs of hosting the clinic and camp on the May 30-31 weekend, it would be an unfortunate occurrence if the South Florida Football Festival Coaches Clinic and the South Florida Shootout were unable to be held on their original respective dates of Saturday, May 30 and Sunday, May 31, 2015.

In closing, the staff and I truly appreciate your time and energy in regards to this situation and trust that you will make the best decision with the thoughts of the State of Florida Student Athletes and High School coaches in mind. We hope that the bullet points provided above is enough information for the FHSAA Board to approve the decision to allow the South Florida Shootout to be held on Sunday, May 31, 2015.

Gratefully,

Al Golden
Head Football Coach
University of Miami