

## **Article I.**

### **NAME**

The name of this organization shall be: Florida Christian Conference ("FCC").

## **Article II.**

### **OBJECT**

The object of the FCC is, and shall be, to organize, to stimulate, to encourage, and to promote the athletic program with a purpose to foster a spirit of fair play, good Christian fellowship, true sportsmanship, and wholesome competition between Christian schools.

## **Article III.**

### **DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS**

3.1 Those participating in the opportunities and privileges herein provided and governed are expected to deport and conduct themselves as Christians, and to encourage good conduct by the spectators.

3.2 All games, conferences and non-conferences, between member schools are under all conference Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, and General Rules.

## **Article IV.**

### **SPORTS AREA**

The officers of the organization shall consist of the council made of principals from each member's school or their duly appointed representative.

## **Article V.**

### **GOVERNMENT**

The government of the league shall be democratic. Each school participating shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote by its delegate by voice or by ballot at the discretion of the President; a majority vote of members present is required to carry any measure.

## **Article VI.**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Principals of Christian schools shall be eligible for membership in the FCC. Schools represented by member principals shall have the chairman of the Board of Directors, or the Pastor (if a church-related school) and the principal sign the acceptance of the By-Laws. This application must be accompanied by a current publication of the School's yearbook, if the school publishes a yearbook. The school is on a probation period of one calendar year. The athletic teams will not be eligible for playoffs during this period. This ruling would only apply for schools making initial application, not those filling a renewal application.

6.1 Procedure: The principals who wish to maintain membership in this Association for the current year shall sign membership renewal application forms to be provided by the President. The application for renewal of membership shall be due at the February meeting, if it is to be accepted without penalty (\$50.00). In making application for renewal of membership in this Association, the principal shall certify that the governing board of his school has approved his continuing membership in the FCC, and compliance with the rules and regulations thereof.

6.2 Obligation: By signing the membership renewal application, each principal binds himself and the members of his faculty and/or staff to familiarize themselves with the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, and General Rules of the FCC and to instruct the student body in them, especially those who are candidates for interscholastic activities; to keep on file detailed scholastic, athletic, and attendance records of all students; to forward promptly to the FCC office all eligibility lists, reports, and records required; and to enforce the provisions of these By-Laws within his school.

6.3 Fees: To pay all fees and or fines as set by the FCC.

## **Article VII.**

### **DRESS CODE**

The FCC believes that schools participating in the various activities sponsored by this

organization should meet minimum standards of dress and hair for girls and boys. We believe that girls should be modestly dressed (I Timothy 2:9) and that long hair on boys and men is a shame (I Corinthians 11:14). No attempt is being made to govern the standard of the local school, and even higher standards than those set forth here are encouraged; however, all the FCC are required to meet the following basic standards:

7.1 Girls Code: Girls apparel shall not be more than three (3) inches from the top of the knee cap when in a standing position, and modest according to conservative standards. (Cheerleaders are required to wear spandex shorts under their uniform.) No item extraneous to the normal uniform may be worn in athletic competition. This includes jewelry, hats, etc. All tattoos for both boys and girls must be covered at all times during competition.

#### 7.2 Dress Code Violation

Procedure: Schools need to call immediately the FCC President and follow-up with a grievance report.

Action: FCC President will call school about alleged violation, and either the President or some other designated person will investigate the alleged violation immediately.

Penalty: If there has been a violation

1. If only a player or a few players, they must not play until the violation is corrected.
2. If an entire team is in violation, they must correct the matter immediately, or they will forfeit every game until violation is corrected.

### **Article VIII.**

#### **OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES**

8.1 President: The President of the FCC shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors, but shall have no vote except in case of a tie.

8.2 Board of Directors: The Board of Directors shall consist of one designated member from each member school of the FCC. Three of these directors shall be elected by the Board of Directors to serve on the Executive Committee of the FCC. One of the three will be the President of the FCC, elected by the Board of Directors. The whole Board of Directors shall also elect an alternate committee member to take the place of any member who is unreachable or cannot vote because his or her school is involved in the situation being discussed or handled. The Executive Committee shall be paid per month as follows: President-\$250, Executive Committee \$100 Alternate \$75.

8.3 Duties. The duties of the Board of Directors shall be as follows:

- 1.) To select the Three-Person Committee.
- 2.) To determine the amount of annual dues to be paid by member principals for the following year.
- 3.) To consider proposed amendments and rules and to act upon them.  
NOTE: Proposed amendments to the By-Laws must be submitted in writing to all members of the Board of Directors at least thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting.
- 4.) To elect an association Statistician whose duties are to maintain accurate and up to date (bi-weekly) records of schools schedules and standings. This person's honorarium will be determined by the Board of Directors each year before elections. (Currently \$125 per month)
- 5.) To designate interscholastic sports, giving them team or individual sports status.
- 6.) To make such other regulations not contrary to the provisions of the Association's Statement of Faith and their By-Laws as may be necessary for the proper conduct of its business.

#### 8.4.1 Executive Committee and Duties:

Executive Committee: The Executive Committee shall consist of three people elected

at the Spring meeting. In the event that a school of which a member of the Committee makes an appeal or becomes a party to a controversy, that member shall be disqualified, and the alternate shall take his or her place on the Committee.

8.4.2 The Executive Committee shall act as a final court of appeal in all matters.

8.4.3 To enforce the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, and General Rules of the FCC.

8.4.4 The duties of the FCC President shall be:

- 1.) To manage and direct the affairs of this activities' association.
- 2.) To be informed of all funds received and disbursed by monthly financial statements to make such reports available to any desiring competition member.
- 3.) To issue a membership list of this Association as of September 1 each year, and to keep the members informed of any changes in the list.
- 4.) To prepare and issue to members necessary forms and other supplies.
- 5.) To receive and keep on file all reports from members.
- 6.) To pass upon eligibility of all students whose activities fall within the scope of the authority of the Association.
- 7.) To investigate all alleged violations of the rules of this Association which come to its attention, and to assess penalties for violations.
- 8.) To perform additional duties as assigned by the FCC Executive Committee in accord with expected responsibilities.

8.4.5 To approve all tournament and contest schedules, and to have general supervision over such tournaments and contests under rules and regulations of this Association.

8.4.6 To perform such other duties as may be necessary for the FCC.

8.5 To appoint an Association secretary to keep a record of all meetings and all correspondence of this Association. The secretary shall be paid \$75 per month.

#### **Article IX.**

##### **ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES**

President: Nominations for Committeemen shall be made at the annual meeting of this Association in the Spring. A 2/3 majority of the votes cast shall be required for election. If no majority prevails, second ballots shall be distributed, bearing the names of the two people who received the largest number of votes. The term shall begin in June following the election. An elections committee composed of three members shall canvas the ballots and certify the results. The committeemen shall be eligible to succeed themselves.

#### **Article X.**

##### **MEETINGS**

10.1 Annual Meetings: The President shall notify all members as to the exact time and place of the meetings. Representation at the annual meeting shall be by the principal or by some member of the faculty approved by him prior to the meeting. Each member principal or his duly authorized representative shall be entitled to one (1) vote. There shall not be any voting by proxy at this meeting. These meetings are mandatory for all member schools. A fine of \$150.00 will be assessed to any school that misses a meeting unless they are excused for an emergency by the President.

10.2 Executive Committee Meetings: The Executive Committee shall meet as necessary to consider Undue Hardship Appeals and other business as may be necessary. The President may call meetings as needed.

10.3 Board of Directors' Meeting: The Board of Directors shall meet when the exact time and place of the meetings have been fixed by the President. The President shall notify each officer and director of each meeting not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting. Officers' meeting may be called as needed--at least ten (10) days notice will be given unless an emergency exists.

#### **Article XI**

## **DUES**

The Annual Dues for \$600.00 are payable with the following options:

Single Payment: pay one payment due by August 1st.

Two Payments: first payment of \$300 due by June 1st, second payment of \$300 due by August 1st

Late Fee: if full payment is not received, a late fee of \$100.00 will be charged.

## **Article XII.**

### **AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY OF PRINCIPAL**

Definition: The term principal, as used in these By-Laws, refers to the supervising principal of the school, the one who signs the membership renewal application. He is held responsible by the Association for the enforcement of its rules and regulations for his school.

Financial: All funds received from sale of tickets to any athletic activity, shall go directly to the treasury approved by the school, (the principal or his representative) and shall be expended only for purposes approved by the principal. All funds received from sale of tickets or received at the gate of any activity or event, such as tournaments and other post or pre-season events other than regularly scheduled games shall go directly to the Association treasury. Any concession money received at such events shall go directly to the school hosting the event. If a school does not collect gate, they will not be reimbursed for expenses.

Contracts: The principal shall sign all contracts for interscholastic athletic competition and shall be responsible for compliance with contracts signed by him or his predecessor.

Eligibility The principal shall sign all eligibility lists and correspondence concerning eligibility, and be responsible for their accuracy, regardless of who compiles the information.

NOTE: The assistant principal or athletic director may sign eligibility lists or correspondence if the principal is ill or out of town, provided a statement to that effect appears on the eligibility list or correspondence.

Records: The principal or his representative shall keep on file in his office all records required to be kept by members of the Association.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct: Any principal who is found guilty of gross unsportsmanlike conduct, or who fails to control the conduct of his student body, faculty and/or followers within reasonable bounds shall be subject to a penalty not to exceed suspension from membership in this Association.

Supervision: All phases of interscholastic activities shall be under the principal's careful supervision. Any member principal who fails to mail his annual dues in an envelope postmarked later than June 1, shall be dropped from membership in this Association, but may be permitted to re-enter at any time upon application, paying a re-instatement fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) and the dues for the current year.

Renewal of membership, however, shall not be permitted without the approval of the Board of Directors. A letter will be sent to all member schools that have not paid their dues by June 1st as a reminder. On July 1st, a certified letter will be sent notifying the school of their removal from the FCC and all its schedules if the dues are not paid.

Recruitment: Any school which is a member of the FCC that seeks to recruit in any way another athlete from a member school will be subject to a fine, probation or both based upon the decision of the executive board.

## **Article XIII.**

### **CONTRACTS**

13.1 Contracts are required for all interscholastic athletic contests between schools whose principals are members of this Association. To be valid, the contracts shall be executed upon the regular Association forms. The forms shall be furnished by the

Association. A contract may be canceled by the mutual consent of the parties to the contract. In case of failure of the parties to reach agreement concerning cancellation, the matter shall be referred to the Committee for adjudication. The decision shall be final and the provisions of the decree shall be carried out by the parties of the contract. Failure to comply with the decision of the Committee on the part of either member principal signing the contract within ten (10) days shall subject him to a penalty not to exceed suspension from this Association.

13.2 All contracts shall be postmarked thirty (30) days prior to the opening date of that sport season as set by the FCC schedule. Any deviation from regulation facilities per the adopted rule book must be noted in detail and contained in the contract or attached to it.

13.3 Contracts between member principals of schools shall be subject to cancellation, whenever either party to the contract shall propose to use, or shall allow to be used, as a member of his competing team, any student whose eligibility has not been approved by the Executive Committee- thus causing a forfeit by that school using said ineligible participant of all events in which he participated.

13.4 When a member principal is suspended from membership, all contracts which he has signed shall be null and void. However, other principals who are parties to the contracts with him may hold the dates for games contracted open and may renew the contracts when the suspended principal has been reinstated.

13.5 No contract may be entered into by member principals who purpose to bind them for interscholastic competition longer than two (2) years from the date on which the contract is signed.

NOTE: Details of contacts must be specific. Definite dates, site, financial arrangements, arrangements regarding the selection of officials and other items of interest to both parties should be specified. Indefinite terms such as "corresponding dates" are not binding on either party.

13.6 Any school dropping a sport may be subject to penalties if a school DOES NOT notify the FCC President a minimum of forty-five (45) days before said season begins. The fine will be \$50 per game that will be cancelled and the fine would be paid directly to the teams who are losing the games off their already established schedule. (example....If a team drops inside the 45 day window and has 14 conference games scheduled, they will pay \$100 to each of the teams affected for a total fine of \$700.00. Plus \$300.00 to the FCC for a total of \$1000.00) Penalties will be per General Rules 13.2 and a fine of \$300.00. Under the Executive Board direction schools with volleyball & soccer may only have to pay the \$300.00 fine due to not knowing school enrollment.

#### **Article XIV.**

#### **ELIGIBILITY LISTS AND REPORTS**

14.1 Eligibility Lists: The information shall be furnished on a form to be provided by the Association. The envelope, fax or email, containing any eligibility list shall be postmarked or faxed not less than seven (7) full days prior to the day on which the student listed thereon expects to participate in an interscholastic athletic contest.

NOTE: The names of candidates for teams in any sport must be postmarked at least seven (7) full days prior to the initial contest in which the student is to participate.

14.2 All requirements as to forms and eligibility apply to girls as well as to boys. This also includes cheerleaders for competition.

14.3 No student is eligible, regardless of his eligibility in other respects, until his name has been submitted on an eligibility form furnished by this Association and postmarked seven (7) full days prior to his participation.

14.4 Eligibility is by sport. When a student has been reported for a school year and declared eligible, he may participate in any and all sports during the school year so long as he maintains his current eligibility requirements. A new eligibility form shall

be submitted by sport.

14.5 Game Eligibility Lists: Members of this Association must exchange eligibility lists before each game.

Attention is called to the fact that copies of all eligibility lists are to be filed in the association office; and will be subject to spot checking.

14.6 Ineligibility Day: An athlete becomes ineligible the day the report cards are given out by his individual school.

14.7 Eligibility Day: An athlete may become eligible at the 3-week after date of report card given out from individual school.

14.8 Ejected coaches are not to participate in the next two divisional conference games. A written report is to be submitted to the office by both schools involved within seven (7) days. Coach's penalties will carry over to the next sport or year if needed. The violating coach will receive an automatic second game suspension and the violating school shall incur a \$100 fine. The Executive Committee can override this rule if they deem fit. (For instance, if an official went overboard.) **Committee will contact both schools.**

14.9 In the event of a player being ejected from a game, the player's coach and the opposing coach must submit a written report to the Conference office within seven (7) days. The ejected player will not be permitted to play in the next two conference/divisional games. The exception to this rule being football. Only one game suspension for football.

14.10 No student can be added to an eligibility list inside the 15 days period from the end of any sports season. Example: If the end of a regular season is the 30th then the last day to add students to an eligibility sheet would be the 15th.

This does not apply to bringing up JV players at the end of a JV season to be used in a varsity game. Example: Bringing up a JV player to the Varsity roster after the JV team was eliminated from playoffs.

## **Article XV.**

### **ELIGIBILITY OF ATHLETES - PRIOR TO THE GAME**

15.1 Bona Fide Student: In order to represent a school in any branch of athletics, or activity, a player or contestant must be a bona fide student of that school--bona fide meaning one who is regularly enrolled and in regular attendance who meets in addition, the requirements as set forth in other sections of this article. Boys in grades 7-12 and girls in grades 6-12 are eligible in varsity sports.

15.2 Undergraduate: He must not have graduated.

15.3 Age: A student may participate in varsity interscholastic athletic competition until reaching the age of 19 years 9 months, so far as age is concerned. Upon reaching the age of 19 years 9 months the student shall be ineligible for further participation in interscholastic athletic competition.

A junior varsity student may participate in interscholastic athletic competition until reaching the age of 16 years 9 months, so far as age is concerned. Upon reaching the age of 16 years 9 months the student shall be ineligible for further participation in interscholastic athletic competition. This rule may not be waved by the Executive Committee for any reason.

15.4 Limit of Eligibility: The limit of opportunity for eligibility for each student shall be four (4) consecutive years from the time he enters the ninth (9th) grade. A student shall be considered a 9<sup>th</sup> grader when promoted by the FCC school or another school into the 9<sup>th</sup> grade from the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. If a parent chooses or the school chooses to hold an 8<sup>th</sup> grader back, a petition to the FCC shall be made to declare their athletic eligibility status.

A that he shall be considered as having entered the ninth grade only if he attended a minimum of twenty (20) days during the school

year. No student above the tenth (10th) grade will be allowed to play on the Junior Varsity level.

15.5 Scholastic Requirement - Previous School Year: A student who failed to pass four (4) unit (academic) subjects the previous school year shall be ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition during the first grade period of the current school year. The academic subjects referred to here shall be four (4) of these: Bible, English, Math, Science, History (Social Studies) Foreign Language. The requirements for the unpassed unit subjects must be met under the following conditions: (to be eligible the 1st nine week period of the current year)

1. Attendance in a regularly organized summer school under the direction of, or approved by, the student's school.
2. Through the extension division of a university.

NOTE: A unit subject, as the term is used in eligibility requirements, consists of a subject for which a full unit's credit toward graduation is regularly given by the school for 180 days of successful work or its equivalent, or half unit's credit for 90 days, whether consecutive or not, successful school work or its equivalent.. A "Conditioned" or "Incomplete" subject is a failure.

NOTE: If for some reason a student does not take at least four (4) of the above mentioned subjects, he must have passed all of the major subjects he did take. An explanation will then be required by the Executive Committee as to the reason for the student's academic load. The Executive Committee will rule as to the eligibility of the student.

15.6 Scholastic Requirements - Current School Year: A student who was ineligible because of his previous school year's record at the beginning of the school year may not become eligible until the end of the first grading period of the six (6) or nine (9) weeks. To be eligible during the second grading period, he must have a passing grade in each of his academic subjects for the first grading period. His eligibility from the point at the end of the school year shall be determined in a previous paragraph. A student who is ineligible for the first grading period may become eligible on the first day of the second grading period, if all other requirements have been met. The name of the student must be submitted to the committee on an annual eligibility list.

15.7 Athletes in an ACE School: An athlete must complete satisfactorily three (3) paces per nine (9) weeks in each course he is taking or two (2) paces per six (6) weeks in each course he is taking. This depends on the school, as to whether they are on a 6 or 9 weeks grading period. This means by the end of the first 9 weeks, 3 paces in each course must be completed and by the semester 6 paces must be completed and so on. In an ACE school, it is not always easy to determine when a student enters the ninth grade. If it becomes difficult, it will be determined by his age: If the school does not consider him in the ninth grade, the Conference will if he has turned fifteen (15) before September 1. The student will have four (4) years of eligibility from this date (Section 15.4).

15.7A Athletes in home schools must report grades to the school administrator every six (6) or nine (9) weeks and will be subject to the same rules set forth for the traditionally schooled athletes.

15.8 A student who was eligible at the beginning of the school year because of his previous school year's record shall be eligible during the first grading period of the current school year, except for lack of attendance, improper conduct, or other valid reasons which may cause his principal to declare him ineligible before the end of the grading period. His eligibility during any grading period after the first shall depend upon his record for the prior quarter. To be eligible during any grading period after the first, he must have a passing grade in each of his subjects for the grading period just closed. All students must maintain a "C" average with no "F" on their report card. Academic potentials will be considered by Executive Committee if a student is

unable to maintain a "C" average.

15.9 In an instance where a student is ineligible due to grades on a report card, his grades may be recomputed in a tri-weekly basis on an accumulative basis. Example: nine (9) weeks average for twelve (12) weeks, fifteen (15) weeks, etc., until the next report card. Example: An athlete has a 66 (F) average on his report card (9 week). He may become eligible at the three weeks report if he has at least an 82 average on this report. The nine weeks is three - 3 week periods. Therefore, the grade is counted three times (66, 66, 66) and the 3-week report is counted once (82). These four 3-week (66, 66, 66, 82) would average a grade of 70. When a school deems that a student who was ineligible has become eligible, the school will report the actual grades to the FCC. The school should submit grade book proof of both the old grade and the new grade.

15.10 Attendance Requirements: A student who was not in attendance during any part of the last four (4) weeks of the previous school year, and, therefore, failed to pass four (4) full unit subjects with his class, may not make the deficiency under any circumstances. He is ineligible for the first grading period of the current school year regardless of the cause of his absence or failure to pass the required four (4) units.

15.11 Transfer Students: A transfer student may represent the school to which he transfers seven (7) full days from the postmark date of the eligibility form on which his name appears. The school may not send a student's name in for eligibility until he/she has attended school. (ie...if a student enrolls over Christmas break, the school would be able to submit that student for eligibility on the first day back from break and the student would be eligible 7 days later).

A student changing schools in the summer is not considered a transfer student. A student leaving one FCC school for another will be ineligible for FCC competition until the school bill has been satisfied. The executive committee will be able to evaluate potential hardships where a parent and a school may disagree on the amount owed. The student must have a waiver of financial clearance if transferring from one FCC school to another FCC school. This waiver must be signed by both administrators showing a \$0 balance.

NOTE: If the school is in the same association as the school from which the student transfers, a waiver must be obtained from the principal of the school the student is leaving before he will be eligible to participate.

15.12 Any student playing on any high school varsity or junior varsity team will not be eligible to participate in or on any teams simultaneously. Once a student participates on a varsity team, he cannot move to a junior varsity team for the remainder of the sport's season. Junior Varsity players may move up once.

15.13 Parental Consent: He shall present a statement of parental consent each year before participation in any interscholastic athletic event. This statement shall be filed in the principal's office.

15.14 Health Certificate. He must secure, each school year and file in the principal's office, a physician's certificate prior to the beginning of practice to the effect that he is physically fit for interscholastic athletic competition.

15.15 Ineligible Participant: A student who has been ruled eligible (academically) for interscholastic athletic competition upon information furnished which later is found to be misinformation of such a nature that he was not, in fact, eligible at the time he was so ruled, shall be ruled ineligible for the remainder of that grading period and the following two (2) grading periods thereafter. In addition, all games in which he participated will be forfeited.

15.16 Amateur Status: A student may not participate in any activity of this Association unless he is an amateur. A student who has accepted remuneration, gift,



or donation for participation in a sport or participated under an assumed name becomes a professional and is thereafter disqualified from further participation in any activity in the Association for a period of one (1) year Reference to a "gift or donation" is not intended to preclude acceptance of medals, trophies, pins, ribbons, of small intrinsic value presented by the sponsoring organization. Sweaters or jackets may be accepted by a student, provided they are presented by the school they represent.

Question. Does violation of the amateur role in one sport make a student ineligible in other sports?

Answer: Yes.

15.17 Willful Violations. A student who knowingly and willfully violates the eligibility provisions of these By-Laws can thereafter be forever ineligible to represent a school of which the principal is a member of the Association.

15.18 Unsportsmanlike Conduct: Any student who strikes, curses, or threatens an official during a game or at any other time because of resentment over occurrences or decisions during a game, or who fails to maintain a standard of conduct satisfactory to the principal of the school he attends and the FCC can be ineligible for a period of six (6) weeks. The Committee or the Board of Directors on appeal may restore his eligibility prior to the expiration of the six (6) weeks when in its opinion the student has been properly disciplined by the authorities of the school which he attends and the student signs a written statement of his intention to comply with the contest,

15.19 Ineligible Students at Games: An ineligible student shall not be allowed in athletic uniform during an athletic contest.

15.20 The following policy has been established concerning co-educational participation in conference athletic contests: Players will participate in sports sponsored for their gender and will not be allowed to participate in co-educational contests under league sponsorship or sanction except for the sports of golf and cross country..

15.21 All FCC conference team rosters shall be comprised of a minimum of 60% bonafide full time students. Home school participant shall be limited to 40% of the team's roster Example: A team with a roster of 10 athletes would be limited to 4 home school participants. The existing home school group, Calvary Lakeland. shall be exempt from this legislation.

15.22 Participation in Reserve Officer's Training Corps (ROTC) – A student eligible to participate in FCC Sports as a home school student or that attends an FCC school may participate in the ROTC program at the local high school in grades nine through twelve. To take this class, a student is considered registered/enrolled at the local high school for academic and attendance purposes, it is not considered a violation of FCC bi-laws. This would be the only approved class that an athlete can take at the local high school and maintain athletic eligibility in an FCC school.

## **Article XVI.**

### **UNDUE HARDSHIP CASES**

16.1 Authority. The Executive Committee shall have authority to set aside the effect of any eligibility rule, except the age limit upon an individual student when, in its opinion, the rule works an undue hardship on the student.

16.2 Procedure, The Executive Committee shall meet to consider requests to have the rules set aside for the benefit of the individual students and shall consider such request at the meetings held for that purpose. The dates shall be set by the President. All principals who have filed requests to have the affect of the rules set aside for individual students shall be notified by mail of the time and place of the next meeting at which such requests will be considered not less than ten (10) days before the meeting. Meetings may be called by the President for the express purpose

of considering individual hardship cases upon the request of a member principal.  
16.3 The decision of the Executive Committee to set aside the affects of the rule in each individual case shall be a majority vote, and such decision shall not be considered as setting a precedent for other cases of somewhat similar nature.

#### **Article XVII.**

#### **AMENDMENTS**

17.1 An amendment shall become effective as determined by the Board of Directors.  
17.2 Limitation on Reconsideration: Any amendment which is adopted as provided by this Article may not be considered for repeal until two (2) years from the meeting at which the Board of Directors voted to submit it to the members for adoption.  
17.3 Any proposed amendment which is rejected by the Board of Directors or which is submitted by it to the members and fails to receive a majority vote for adoption may not be reconsidered until two (2) years from the meeting of its original consideration.

17.4 The provisions of paragraphs 3 or 4 of this section shall not apply if one-half of the members request that an amendment be resubmitted before the lapse of two (2) years, and if the Board of Directors of a fifty-one percent (51%) majority vote orders its resubmission earlier.

NOTE: Any situation not covered by these By-Laws or General Rules shall be adjusted by the Three-Man Committee.

## **General Rules of Competition**

### **Section I**

#### **POSTPONED GAMES**

Games shall not be postponed unless it is mutually agreed by both coaches. Games shall not be postponed unless above agreement is reached and notice given at least three (3) school days prior to the scheduled game.

### **Section II**

#### **PLAYING OF POSTPONED GAMES**

2.1 Postponed games shall be played before the completion of the regular season.

2.2 The last scheduled game in a season, if postponed, shall be played during the first week following the ending of the season.

2.3 Concerning the eligibility of players for contested or replayed games, the following was concluded:

Only players who, at the time of the original contest, were eligible according to school and conference policy, who were listed in the original book and who were dressed and physically capable of playing in the original contest shall be allowed to play in a replayed game.

### **Section III.**

#### **SCHEDULED GAMES**

All games required on the master schedule must be played during the time allotted for the regular season, and before the tournament dates.

### **Section IV.**

#### **GAMES NOT PLAYED**

Any games tied or postponed--not played off as stated above, shall be counted as a loss for both teams.

### **Section V.**

#### **CLOTHING**

All players must wear proper clothing. All teams should wear their assigned colored shirts with numbers. The teams must be uniformly attired--shirts, shoes, and socks

appropriate for the sport or occasion. Officials shall not permit any person not meeting these standards to participate in the game.

#### **Section VI.**

##### **OFFICIAL RULES**

6.1 Official's decisions shall be final at all games.

6.2 Officials at each contest must be FHSAA approved officials and not connected with the school in which they are officiating. (7 year limitation)

They may not be relatives of any players or coaches. FHSAA rule books will be the official guide. (Penalty for violation is forfeiture of all games involved)

6.3 Officials may not be used more than 4 times in one season.

6.4 : Three officials must be scheduled to work all Varsity Boys Basketball playoff games. Three officials must be scheduled to work all Varsity Girls Basketball playoff games.

6.5 No staff members of any FCC school or church member is allowed to officiate any JV or Varsity game or match.

6.6 Any schools athlete(s) protesting the national anthem that athlete(s) will be subject to suspension for a minimum of 1 year.

#### **Section VII.**

##### **THE SCORER AND TIME-KEEPER**

Each team should furnish one (1) score-keeper to assist the official. Rules in official rule books apply to scores and timers, The home team shall apply to scores and timers. The home team shall furnish the official score-keeper and time-keeper. No student is permitted to be the official score-keeper or time-keeper or line judge.

#### **Section VIII.**

##### **AWARDS**

8.1 Awards Defined: No awards of any kind having a utilitarian value of more than \$1.00 may be made by members of this Association by any individual organization whatsoever to players for participation in interscholastic athletics. Medals, trophies, ribbons, pins, letters, sweaters, and jackets are hereby declared to be of decorative value rather than utilitarian value, within the meaning of this article and may be awarded by the school which the student represents or by this Association.

8.2 Any student who accepts an award during a playing season, other than those given by the school which he attends, the Association to which that school belongs, or this Association, shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition.

NOTE: Participation in any kind of advertising scheme for the promotion of private enterprise, in which there is compensation to the student, is considered a violation of this rule.

8.3 Trophies: A team will receive no more than one (1) for a season's play.. .the highest achieved. An individual MVP trophy will be given at each championship game.

#### **Section IX.**

##### **PLAYOFF AND FACILITIES**

9. 1 In the event of a tie at the end of the regular season, the following criteria will be followed to determine tournament seeding in FOOTBALL.

1. In the event teams A and B have identical win/loss records, the game played between A and B during the season will be the determinant for placing. If still a tie, points scored between tied teams will decide.

2. In the event teams A, B, and C have identical win/loss records, the above procedure will be used unless the following occurs: If A defeats B, and B defeats C, and C defeats A, a total point's score for all games will be used. If still tied between A, B and C flip coin.

In the event of a tie at the end of the regular season, the following criteria will be followed to determine tournament seeding in BASKETBALL.

1. The record between the teams involved will be used .. who beat who. In the event of multiple teams, the records between the teams in the tie will be used. If still a tie, point differential between tied teams will decide.

2. If there is still a tie after the point differential, flip a coin.

3. Basketball playoff format for Varsity Girls and Boys only: 6 teams from each division, with #1 and #2 receiving byes in the first round of a 4 round tournament

J.V. Boys: top four teams from each side.

Three officials must be scheduled to work all Varsity Boys Basketball playoff games.

Three officials must be scheduled to work all Varsity Girls Basketball playoff games.

**SOCCKER:**

Tied Games - Regular Season Play: Remain tie.

Tied Games - Tournament and Championships: Tournament and championship games which are tied at the end of regulation time shall be resolved by following current FHSAA protocol.

In the event of a tie at the end of the regular season, the following criteria will be followed to determine tournament seeding in SOCCER.

1. Head- to-head competition.

2. Points earned during regular season play.

3. In the event of multiple ties, you should then let the division record of the teams involved be the next tie-breaker, i.e. games played only among "A" East Division.

4. Coin Toss

In the event of a tie at the end of the regular season, the following criteria will be followed to determine tournament seeding in VOLLEYBALL.

1. Regular season conference record.

2. The record between the teams involved will be used who beat who.

3. The team with the best game, not match, win/loss ratio.

4. Points scored between tied teams.

5. Flip a coin.

J.V. Girls: top four teams from each side for the playoffs.

In the event of a tie at the end of the regular season, the following criteria will be followed to determine tournament seeding in BASEBALL and SOFTBALL.

1. Regular season conference record.

2. The record between the teams involved will be used who beat who. In the event of multiple teams, the records between the teams in the tie will be used. Then, the runs between the teams in the tie will be used.

3. If there is still a tie after the point differential, flip a coin.

9.2 College and/or Professional sites will be sought for all Championship Games, provided they are financially feasible. The main concern is whether these sites will be financially feasible.

9.3 Play-off games are mandatory, just as in the regular season. No school may be exempt except by approval of the Executive Committee. If a school forfeits, they will be charged a forfeiture fine and will not be eligible for playoffs on that sport the following year.

## **Section X.**

### **FORFEITURE, GRIEVANCE REPORTS, PROBATION**

10.1 Any school who encounters a problem with a school, field, event, or personnel are expected to file a grievance report and submit this report to the Association office and the other school/schools involved, for the purpose of monitoring and correcting such problems.

10.2 Forfeitures: A fine of \$300.00 and referee expenses (if applicable) are to be paid to the school offended prior to the end of the season.

10.3 If neither school is eligible, a LOSS will be given to each school, unless it can be rescheduled.

10.4 A school may be dismissed or put on probation by the executive committee if they deem it necessary at any time during the year. A school that is put on probation will not be eligible for playoffs the remainder of the year, and must be brought before the Board of Directors, to be voted on in order to renew membership the following year. Probation generally will be a result of multiple valid grievance reports to the FCC or an act of gross misconduct by the students, administration, coach or fans.

10.4a In the event that a school is dismissed or put on probation after the season starts, all conference games will be vacated.

#### **Section XI.**

##### **FINANCES**

11.1 Staff Passes: Staff passes will be provided by the Conference each fall. It is MANDATORY that each school accepts these when conference schools are in competition. EXCEPTION: PASSES ARE NOT VALID AT POST or PRE-SEASON TOURNAMENTS.

11.2 Travel Expenses: Individuals traveling for the conference will receive \$.50 per mile and ten (\$10) per meal. This would not be given if their school is involved and they would be traveling anyway.

11.3 Gate Charges: Conference playoffs 1/4 finals - Adults seven dollars (\$7.00) and students four dollars (\$4.00) with \$20 max for a family (immediate only). Conference semi-finals and finals will be: Adults (\$7.00), Students (\$4.00) with a \$20 max for a family (immediate). Each school is to set its own admission charge for regular season games but must not exceed six dollars (\$6.00) for adults and four dollars (\$4.00) for students unless approved by the Executive Committee.

#### **Section XII.**

##### **DUES, FEES, AND FINES**

12.1 All fines are to be paid prior to the next season of play. If not, each game must be forfeited until this is paid.

12.2 A financial report on ALL FCC tournament games must be completed and mailed to the conference office within seven (7) days of the event.

12.3 A \$50.00 fine will be enforced (payable to the conference) for violations concerning non-conference games between conference members. Involving conference games, forfeiture will be the penalty; no fine.

12.4 Non-Conference Games. A \$50.00 fine will be levied against schools which violate any conference rule or regulation other than breach of contract.

12.5 A school will be fined \$150.00 for an unexcused absence from a regularly scheduled FCC meeting.

12.6 Schools who drop from a sport after the schedule is posted will be fined (\$300.00) and will not be eligible for playoffs the following year (in that sport).

#### **Section XIII.**

##### **Miscellaneous POLICY**

13.1 Pep Bands, Music, Announcers, etc. Pep bands, music, announcers are to play only during time-outs, dead balls, pre-game, and half-time. They are not to conflict with the opponent's activities. Bands and drill teams from visiting teams must make prior arrangements to perform, and free admission will not be guaranteed.

13.2 Schools who drop a sport within 45 days of the first scheduled game (per the master schedule) The fine will be \$50 per game that will be cancelled and the fine would be paid directly to the teams who are losing the games off their already established schedule. (example....If a team drops inside the 45 day window and has 14 conference games scheduled, they will pay \$100 to each of the teams affected for a total fine of \$700.00. Plus \$300.00 to the FCC for a total of \$1000.00) Under the Executive Board direction schools with volleyball & soccer may only have to pay the \$300.00 fine due to not knowing school enrollment.

13.3 Sharing your Gripes with the Media: When a school has a problem with another school or with officials, do not make this known to the media. Matters of this type need to be kept between ourselves and/or the officials. This presents a bad testimony to the public. Violators of this may be subject to a fine.

13.4 All games played between member schools will be under the jurisdiction of this rule book whether it is "conference" or "non-conference". If eligibility rules or any other rules are broken during a non-conference game, the school will be fined by the FCC. Conference games will be brought under the forfeiture rule.

13.5 Varsity Volleyball matches shall consist of 3 out of 5 games. Junior Varsity matches shall consist of 2 out of 3 games.

13.6 Games scores for all played divisional games must be turned into statistician by the next day. Failure to do so will result in a \$50.00 per game not reported. Playoff games need to be reported after the game. Failure to do so will result in a \$50.00 fine.

13.7 Both participating schools must send games scores to the statistician the next business day (exception: the next day during the last two (2) weeks before playoffs and during playoffs).

13.8 Current Sports Offered by The Florida Christian Conference:

Fall Sports

Boys Only Varsity Soccer, Girls only JV & Varsity Volleyball

Winter Sports

Boys JV & Varsity Basketball, Girls JV & Varsity Basketball

Spring Sports

Boys only Baseball, Girls Only Softball, Co-Ed Golf

13.9 The following is the amount of players that will be the final number per sport for All Conference. Soccer 12, Volleyball 12, Varsity Boys & Girls Basketball 12 each, Baseball & Softball 10 each

## **Section XIV.**

### **What We Believe**

Adopted from the AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

We believe that the Bible, both the Old and New Testaments, was verbally inspired of God, and is inerrant and is our only rule in matters of faith and practice. We believe in creation, not evolution; that man was created by the direct act of God and in the image of God. We believe that Adam and Eve, in yielding to temptation of Satan, became fallen creatures. We believe that all men are born in sin. We believe in the Incarnation, the Virgin Birth, and the Deity of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We believe in the vicarious and substitutional Atonement for the sins of mankind by shedding of His blood on the cross. We believe in the resurrection of His body from the tomb, His ascension to Heaven, and that He is now our Advocate, we believe that He is personally coming again. We believe in His power to save men from sin. We believe in the necessity of the New Birth, and that this New Birth is through the regeneration of the Holy Spirit. We believe that salvation is by grace through faith, plus nothing minus nothing, in the atoning blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We believe that this statement of faith is basic for Christian fellowship and that all born-again men and women who sincerely accept it and are separated from the world of apostasy and sin can, and should together in peace, and that it is their Christian duty to promote harmony among Believers.

Membership will not be afforded to those associated with, members of, or in accord with the World Council of Churches, the National Council of Churches, the Modern Charismatic Movement, or the Ecumenical Movement.

