

**HALL COUNTY SCHOOLS COACHES’ RULES AND PROTOCOLS**

**RELATED TO TRANSFERS AND RECRUITMENT**

An unfortunate reality of the current state of high school athletics is the movement of student-athletes from one to school another solely for the reason of playing on a certain sports team. We have seen more than our fair share of high profile athletes, who begin their high school years at one school, achieve success, only to transfer to another school. Whenever this happens, an underlying suspicion of recruitment permeates the community.

Given that, we must take whatever step necessary to maintain integrity among our coaches and administrators.

Therefore, the following guidelines are immediately in place and each high school principal is charged with making sure the coaches under your leadership adhere to them:

* Whenever a coach is contacted (via phone, email, text, personal contact, etc.) by parents, players, or spokesperson for families about possible transfer into their school, the coach is to refer that person to the principal of the school. Politely let them know that, as a coach, you are not allowed to speak with them until you have been authorized by your principal to do so. Otherwise, an unintended infraction may occur that could affect the coach, the school, and the student-athlete.
* As soon as the coach ends the conversation (via phone, email, text, personal contact), he/she is to email the principal of the school immediately (and CC the athletic director) with the following information:
  + Name(s) of person making contact, including name of student-athlete
  + School of current enrollment (if known)
  + Date and time contact was made
  + Manner of contact (phone, text, email, etc.)
  + Message conveyed to them
  + Note: As a courtesy, the coach should contact the coach of the school of the student’s current enrollment to alert him/her that a contact had been made regarding transferring. The coach may also experience being notified by one of his players or parents about another school having contacting them about transferring. The same guidelines would apply.

Gordon Higgins, Director of Community Relations and Athletics