

1973 WL 26781 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

June 20, 1973

\*1 Mr. W. C. Hawkins  
District Superintendent  
Lexington District No. 5  
Lexington, South Carolina

Dear Mr. Hawkins:

In response to your question, whether the school board or the school have the authority to require a coach to pay a fine imposed by the South Carolina High School League or the school?

I have checked the rules and regulations of the South Carolina High School League and find there is no rule or regulation which would allow the High School League to levy a fine against a particular individual. According to the League's regulations a fine is simply imposed against the member school and does not specify and particular coach or other individual involved.

I have also taken a thorough examination of the South Carolina Code of Laws and find no prohibition against the School Board's passing a fine imposed by the South Carolina High School League on to the coach responsible for the violation.

However there is nothing which would prohibit the school board from taking such action. If the board requires the coach to pay the fine it would establish a precedent which should be applied uniformly in order to avoid an equal protection situation. It is my opinion that the board should consider placing a rule of this nature within its regulations so as to put coaches in the future on notice that any fine levied against the school as a result of a rule violation by the coach, who is assumed to have full knowledge of said rule, will be paid by the coach responsible.

If you have other questions about this or if I can be of further help to you in any way, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Hardwick Stuart, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General

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