

RULES COMMITTEE MINUTES
Tuesday, February 13, 2024
2:00-3:00 PM ET

PRESENT	Mary Gable Laura Anastasio Laura Cyr Ben Rasmussen Michael Rodriguez Tenneal Wetherell	Maryland Commissioner Connecticut Commissioner Maine Commissioner Utah Commissioner Delaware Commissioner Oregon Commissioner	Chair
EXCUSED	Phil Cantrell Davina French Rene Sanchez	West Virginia Commissioner North Dakota Commissioner Vermont Commissioner	
STAFF	Cherise Imai Lindsey Dablow	Executive Director Training and Operations Associate	

ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair Mary Gable (MD) at 2:02 PM ET.

ITEM 2 – ROLL CALL

2. Training and Operations Associate Lindsey Dablow called roll. A quorum was established.

ITEM 3 – APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

3. **Commissioner Ben Rasmussen (UT) motioned to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Michael Rodriguez (DE). Motion carried.**

ITEM 4 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4. **Commissioner Rodriguez motioned to approve the minutes from August 8, 2023, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen. Motion carried.**

ITEM 5 – REPORTS

5. **Executive Committee (EXCOM)** – The EXCOM met on December 8, 2023, and January 18, 2024. Commission Chair and Louisiana Commissioner Ernise Singleton (LA) shared a letter from 11 state chief education officers asking the Department of Defense (DoD) to share data on students who enlist in the military following high school. The states want to use this data to report on post-high school outcomes.

6. Chair Gable reported the national office processed two open records requests for the state of Tennessee. The Chair noted both requests were closed. Chair Gable reported the EXCOM met with Penn State researchers and the DoD Defense-State Liaison Office (DSLO) to review findings presented in the *State Implementation of Four Initiatives to Support Military-Connected Students* report. The Chair stated that EXCOM was preparing a response for the DSLO to provide feedback on the study per their request.

7. Chair Gable informed the Committee that Compliance had referred New Jersey and Mississippi to the EXCOM for noncompliance. The EXCOM directed Executive Director (ED) Cherise Imai to contact those Commissioners to offer support and bring the two states back to compliance.

8. Chair Gable informed the Committee that Finance reviewed the Commission's current financial outlook and contractual agreement and had recommended the EXCOM hold the 2024 Annual Business Meeting (ABM) in person in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The EXCOM members voted in agreement.

9. **National Business** – Chair Gable yielded the floor to Executive Director (ED) Cherise Imai, who reported the current onboarding of the Blue Star Families ex-officio group.

10. ED Imai informed the Committee of a congressional resolution that is in process for Month of the Military Child. The national office is working with multiple states to obtain and confirm sponsors and will draft the one-pager that will be sent out once confirmed.

11. ED Imai informed the Committee of the addition of two new staff to the national office. A communications associate and an operations coordinator have been hired to begin work in March 2024.

12. ED Imai reported on her attendance at the Army Senior Leadership Development Seminar in Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia. The commission had an information table where attendees shared their awareness of the Compact and information about the Compact was provided to a broad audience.

ITEM 6 - OLD BUSINESS

13. **FY24 Case and Inquiry Report** – Chair Gable introduced Ms. Dablow back to discuss the *FY24 Case and Inquiry Report*. The national office received thirty-four inquiries or cases since July 2023. Ms. Dablow noted twenty-nine of these cases were closed. Fifty-two percent of cases came from parents, with twenty-one percent from Commissioners. Fifty-two percent of cases were not related to the Compact. These percentages were consistent with FY23 data.

14. Ms. Dablow reported that highly impacted or Tier 1 states continue to process the most cases, with an uptick in overseas and DODEA cases or inquiries received. Compact 101 trainings have been provided at different times to try and accommodate persons overseas.

15. **FY23-25 Strategic Plan Review** – Chair Gable commented on and commended the Rules Committee for their review of the Commission's policies and current rules in collaboration with Compliance and the EXCOM. Five new rules were passed and completed at 2023 ABM.

16. Chair Gable informed the Committee of the two outstanding Action Items the Rules Committee will begin working on in February 2024.

ITEM 7 – NEW BUSINESS

17. **Case Resolution Process** – Chair Gable introduced the Case Resolution Process document to the Committee and asked for comments on the process or the Case and Inquiry Form. Ms. Dablow advised that the Compliance Committee reviewed the document and had no recommended edits other than to define the process better for families to understand.

18. Chair Gable opened the floor for discussion on cases regarding athletics or sports to restructure the chain of appeal. The Member states mentioned whether they have a state athletic director or a state athletic association that act as the highest point of contact. Some states allow for the state superintendent to override athletic directors or athletic associations while others do not move those cases up to the state level. Members agreed to come up with language and verbiage to make the process more consistent for all states to follow. The Committee decided to table the discussion for the next meeting in April 2024.

19. Chair Gable introduced the Case and Inquiry Template that the national office created to assist school liaisons and commissioners with tracking calls and cases. ED Imai outlined the creation of the template and how it was designed. Ms. Dablow informed the Committee that school liaisons have asked for the template before and use it for case tracking. The Members discussed how many cases get elevated to the Compact Commissioner of their state per year and how often the template would be used. Commissioner Rasmussen suggested to run the template through mid-year Tier Group meetings to collect feedback regarding commissioner usage of the template and how to collect data. Chair Gable agreed to this suggestion.

20. **Promulgation of Rules Memos** – Chair Gable reminded the Committee of the February 28, 2024 deadline for new Rules proposals or amendments to existing Rules. A memo is to be sent out reminding commission members of the upcoming deadline. A second memo will then be sent as an annual reminder of the process for submitting Rules proposals or amendments. The Members consented to the memos and deadlines.

ITEM 8 – OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

21. **Feedback for the EXCOM** – No comments or feedback were provided for the EXCOM.

22. **Next Rules Committee meeting: April 9, 2024, 2:00 PM ET** – Chair Gable informed the members of the next meeting date.

ITEM 10 – ADJOURNMENT

23. **Commissioner Gable called to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Rasmussen motioned. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez. Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 2:54 PM ET.