



# GHSAA

## "ITEMS OF INTEREST"

April 2018

### The Truth About Athletic Scholarships to College

By Bob Gardner, Executive Director of the NFHS  
and Robin Hines, Executive Director of the GHSAA

Many parents are trying to live the dream through their sons and daughters – the dream of landing a college athletic scholarship by specializing in a sport year-round. Unfortunately, most of these dreams are never realized.

The odds of a sports scholarship paying for even a portion of a student's college education are miniscule.

The College Board, a not-for-profit organization comprised of 6,000 of the world's leading educational institutions, reports that a moderate cost for college students who attend a public university in their state of residence is \$25,290 per year. The annual cost at a private college averages \$50,900.

Meanwhile, the most recent data from the NCAA reveals that the average Division I athletic scholarship is worth only \$10,400. More significantly, the same study shows that fewer than two percent of all high school athletes (1 in 54) ever wear the uniform of an NCAA Division I school.

Even if the dream is realized, parents likely will spend more money for club sports than they ever regain through college athletic scholarships. Thanks to the costs of club fees, equipment, summer camps, playing in out-of-state tournaments and private coaching, youth sports has become a \$15 billion-per-year industry.

There is an option, and it's a financially viable one: Encourage your sons and daughters to play sports at their high school.

In education-based high school sports, student-athletes are taught, as the term implies, that grades come first. The real-life lessons that students experientially learn offer insights into leadership, overcoming adversity and mutual respect that cannot be learned anywhere else.

Unlike club sports, coaches in an education-based school setting are held accountable by the guiding principles and goals of their school district.

And the cost of participating in high school sports is minimal in most cases.

While there is a belief that the only way to get noticed by college coaches is to play on non-school travel teams year-round, many Division I football and basketball coaches recently have stated that they are committed to recruiting students who have played multiple sports within the high school setting.

In addition, by focusing on academics while playing sports within the school setting, students can earn scholarships for academics and other talents – skill sets oftentimes nurtured while participating in high school activities.

These scholarships are more accessible and worth more money than athletic scholarships. While \$3 billion per year is available for athletic scholarships, more than \$11 billion is awarded for academic scholarships and other financial assistance.

Without a doubt, your sons and daughters will have more fun, make more friends and be better prepared for life beyond sport by participating in multiple sports and activities offered by the high school in your community.



Join the conversation on social media @OfficialGHSAA on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat

**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION** Newsletter  
 Issued monthly, September through April, by the Georgia High School Association, P.O. Box 271, Thomaston, GA 30286  
 Phone: 706-647-7473 Fax: 706-647-2638 Web: www.ghsa.net  
 OFFICE HOURS: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday

Vol. 36

April 2018

No. 7

**- GHSA STAFF -**  
**Areas of Responsibility**

**ROBIN HINES** (extension 41)  
 - Executive Director -  
 Administration, By-Law Interpretations, Hardship Rulings,  
 Football Playoffs, Coaches Education Program

**ERNIE YARBROUGH** (extension 27)  
 - Assistant Executive Director -  
 Basketball, Baseball, Softball, Officials Training

**DON CORR** (extension 34)  
 - Associate Director -  
 Soccer, Volleyball, Wrestling, Sports Medicine

**TOMMY WHITTLE** (extension 23)  
 - Associate Director -  
 Football, Literary, One-Act Play, Lacrosse

**CARROR WRIGHT** (extension 39)  
 - Associate Director -  
 Coach's Liaison, Compliance/Investigations, Sportsmanship

**PENNY PITTS MITCHELL** (extension 22)  
 - Associate Director -  
 Cheerleading, Title IX Compliance

**STEVE FIGUEROA** (extension 26)  
 - Director of Information/Media Services -  
 Media Coordination for State Events, Newsletter,  
 GHSA Constitution & Calendar, Web Site Content, Tennis

**PAM THOMPSON** (extension 30)  
 - Officials' Registrar -  
 Officials' Registration, Testing & Online Clinics, Service Awards

**TANYA ANDERSON** (extension 29)  
 - Administrative Assistant -  
 Event Sanctioning, School Passes, Directory,  
 Online Clinics for Coaches, Trophies & Medals

**JULIE JONES** (extension 24)  
 - Administrative Assistant -  
 Coaches Education, Dues, Web Site Content, Entry Notification

**SHERI EUBANKS** (extension 0)  
 - Receptionist -  
 Hardship Hearings, Fines, School System/Retiree Passes,  
 Publication Orders

**ROBIN BULLINGTON** (extension 33)  
 - Office Manager -  
 Budgeting and Finances, Playoff Finances, Staff Procedures

**STACEY BASILICI** (extension 32)  
 - Administrative Assistant -  
 Non-transfer Eligibility, Literary & One-Act Play Liaison,  
 School Contact Coordinator

## GHSA Licensed Products

This month's featured licensees are: **Jostens**, official championship jewelry ([jostens.com](http://jostens.com)); **Musco Sports Lighting**, leader in developing sports-lighting solutions ([musco.com](http://musco.com)); **FieldTurf**, official artificial turf ([fieldturf.com](http://fieldturf.com)); **Hudl**, official video exchange service ([hudl.com](http://hudl.com)); **Formetco Sports**, Official scoreboard / LED video system ([formetco.com/sports](http://formetco.com/sports)); **Sports Imports**, official volleyball net systems ([sportsimports.com](http://sportsimports.com)); **College Football Hall of Fame**, the perfect destination for family, football and fun! ([cfbhall.com](http://cfbhall.com)); and **TeamIP**, official merchandiser ([teamip.com](http://teamip.com)).

## STATE CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

### BASKETBALL - Boys

7A	Meadowcreek High School
6A	Hughes High School
5A	Warner Robins High School
4A	Upton-Lee High School
3A	Greater Atlanta Christian School
2A	Thomasville High School
A (Public)	Wilkinson County High School
A (Private)	Aquinas High School

### BASKETBALL - Girls

7A	Westlake High School
6A	Lovejoy High School
5A	Buford High School
4A	Spalding High School
3A	Johnson-Savannah High School
2A	Laney High School
A (Public)	Greenville High School
A (Private)	Wesleyan School

### LITERARY

7A	Kennesaw Mountain High School
6A	Sequoyah High School
5A	Buford High School
4A	Columbus High School
3A	Bremen High School
2A	Gordon Central High School
A (Public)	Georgia Military College
A (Private)	Lakeview Academy

Winning a State Championship is an outstanding achievement for the GHSA schools, athletes and coaches, and a distinction that should create a great deal of pride in the community.

## Sharks Win 6th AAASP Title in Row

The Houston County Sharks won their sixth consecutive AAASP Wheelchair Basketball State Championship when they defeated the West Georgia Wolverines 36-27 on March 8 at the Macon Centreplex. The rest of the state basketball champions are pictured on Pages 4 & 5 of this newsletter.



Photographs of all the state championship Basketball teams in this newsletter were provided by Ty Freeman.

## St. Pius X Catholic Transforms Stadium Experience With Musco's LED Lighting

When St. Pius X Catholic High School decided to improve the lighting at George B. Maloof Stadium, it needed a solution that would virtually eliminate glare and light spill, conserve energy, and improve visibility and playability on the field.

School leaders decided to partner with Musco and have its Total Light Control—TLC for LED™ technology installed at the stadium.

Musco's system replaced the previous metal halide equipment, and utilized the facility's existing concrete poles.

While there are a number of LED fixtures on the market, the performance of LED sports lighting varies greatly, and Musco's distinctive complete-system approach delivers far superior results.

The new LED lighting greatly improves on-field visibility, enhances the experience for spectators, and virtually eliminates glare and spill from impacting neighbors. "The lights are



turning us very well, and I've received several phone calls from other schools asking about them," said John Favier, Director of Operations. "The quality speaks for itself when people come play on the field."

Energy consumption at the stadium will be reduced by 65 percent compared to typical metal halide equipment, and Musco's long-term parts and labor warranty eliminates maintenance costs for the next decade.

And with Control-Link® Controls and Monitoring system, the school can

turn the lights on and off remotely using Musco's mobile app, web-based software, or 24/7 call center.

"The ease of scheduling and immediate power-on are huge benefits for our school," Favier said. "Not to mention how terrific Musco's customer service is."

For more information about Musco Lighting and the TLC for LED system, please contact Jeremy Jordan at 678-428-7700 or via e-mail at [Jeremy.jordan@musco.com](mailto:Jeremy.jordan@musco.com) or Rob Staples at 706-870-2177 or [rob.staples@musco.com](mailto:rob.staples@musco.com).

### 'Gold Week' is April 9-14, 2018

In honor of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month this September, the Georgia High School Association (GHSA) is partnering with the Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research (Rally) to "Go Gold" for childhood cancer awareness during spring sports the week of April 9-14.

"We are honored to partner with the Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research to encourage our schools to bring attention to this worthy cause," said Dr. Robin Hines, GHSA executive director. "The GHSA and its member schools are affected by this disease far too often, and we are excited to do our part to raise awareness and funds for researching childhood cancers. We encourage everyone to 'Go Gold' in April!"

Georgia high school students and parents can fundraise and "Go Gold" by wearing gold T-shirts, wristbands and ribbons, in compliance with school uniform and dress codes, throughout the entire month of April. Then, the week of April 9, Georgia high school athletes are encouraged to "Go Gold" at home games and meets by wearing gold apparel and accessories that comply with the following GHSA uniform restrictions:

- Soccer, baseball, tennis and lacrosse teams can wear gold jerseys, socks or wristbands at home games

For more information on how to get involved with Rally, or to donate, visit [RallyFoundation.org](http://RallyFoundation.org) or @RallyFoundation on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

### NFHS School Broadcast Program Update

The NFHS Network Sports School Broadcast program provides schools access to streaming software and technology platform. The NFHS Network School Broadcast Program is already being used by over 1,500 schools across the country.

Any Georgia school can be part of a program that includes the following:

- Network Benefits – National exposure, post-season coverage, unlimited free video storage.
- Educational Benefits – Provide your students with the opportunities to produce, announce and broadcast professional events live online.
- Technology – HD Streaming Capability, Customized Graphics Package, Highlight Creator.
- Generate Revenue – Schools can generate revenue from fundraising, advertising and subscription sales.
- Service – A dedicated team comprised of a territory manager and an account manager.
- Training – NFHS Network has many training tools available including one-on-one training options, online training, and school mentoring.
- Support – Production Tech support, Subscription Customer Service, and Event Marketing support.

If you would like more details about the NFHS Network School Broadcast Program, please contact: Matt Abramson at [Matt.Abramson@nfhsnetwork.com](mailto:Matt.Abramson@nfhsnetwork.com) or 843-324-8694.



**HIGH SCHOOL  
HAPPENS HERE**



# State Basketball Champions - 2018



**7A Girls: Westlake**



**6A Girls: Lovejoy**



**5A Girls: Buford**



**4A Girls: Spalding**



**3A Girls: Johnson-Savannah**



**2A Girls: Laney**



**A (private) Girls: Wesleyan**



**A (public) Girls: Greenville**



# State Basketball Champions - 2018



**7A Boys: Meadowcreek**



**6A Boys: Hughes**



**5A Boys: Warner Robins**



**4A Boys: Upson-Lee**



**3A Boys: Greater Atlanta Christian**



**2A Boys: Thomasville**



**A (private) Boys: Aquinas**



**A (public) Boys: Wilkinson County**



**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**AGENDA**  
**MARRIOTT / Macon City Center - MACON, GEORGIA**  
**Magnolia Ballroom**  
**April 9, 2018 - 9:00 a.m.**

Call To Order .....	Glenn White, President
Pledge of Allegiance .....	Lisa Moore Williams, Vice President
Invocation .....	Carror Wright, Associate Director
Roll Call .....	Steve Figueroa, Media Director
Adoption of Agenda .....	Executive Committee

**COMMITTEE PROPOSALS:****BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

1. **Proposal** to require an automatic video review by the head of the appropriate officials association to make sure that the ejection was warranted whenever any player is ejected from a football game. (Region 6-AAAA)
2. **Proposal:** In By-Law 2.66 on page 38, delete wording "Only one day and/or night preceding a school day per week may be used for a contest or activity with a starting time of 6:00 PM or later." And delete items a. & b. Renumber remaining items c. & d. as new "a" and "b" under the heading "Weekday Contests." (GHSA office)
3. **Proposal** to change wording in By-Law 4.57 on page 56 by eliminating the following: "Current year members of the GAOA (Georgia Athletic Officials Association) are entitled to free admission to all GHSA sanctioned events, only if they are currently registered with the GHSA Office." Replace with the wording below:
  1. The GHSA Office will offer GHSA Contest Officials ID Cards with the following conditions.
    - a. Must be registered with the GHSA Office in the current year and previous year. (Exception: Current year first-year GHSA registered officials.
    - b. The cards will be optional to registered contest officials.
    - c. These cards will be clearly distinguishable in design and marking.
    - d. Card Fee: \$15.00 in addition to regular season GHSA registration fee." (GHSA office)
4. **Proposal** to allow rising eighth graders (current seventh graders) to try out for sub-varsity cheerleading, softball or volleyball teams at a high school in the spring providing they attend a feeder school of that high school and meet all eligibility requirements. (Region 3-AAAAA)
5. **Proposal** that all Class A power-ranked sports (baseball, basketball, football and softball) allow games with out-of-state teams to count (as they currently do in football only) and for teams to receive "bonus" points for playing teams from higher classifications (as they currently do in football only). (Townsend County HS)
6. **Proposal** to delay counting games towards power ratings for Class A teams in the sports of basketball and baseball until two weeks after the regular-season's first play date for that sport as listed by the GHSA Beginning and Ending dates OR until after the previous season's state championships are all completed. Note: games could be played prior to this, but would not count towards power ratings. (Athens Academy)
7. **Proposal** to split the sports of soccer, wrestling and volleyball into public and private state championship divisions in Class A beginning with the 2018-19 school year. The GHSA office would determine the Area or Region alignments in each sport necessary to accomplish this. (GHSA office)
8. **Proposal** to return to bi-annual meetings of the full State Executive Committee (spring and fall) beginning with the 2018-19 school year. Note: This return to two meetings per year would negate the necessity of increasing the size of the Board of Trustees, which would remain with its current makeup. (GHSA office)
9. **Proposal** to reword By-Law 1.94 on page 23 to increase the amount of "Symbolic awards" (i.e. non-cash) paid by the local school from the current limit of \$250 per year, per student to \$400 per year, per student. Note: **Effective Immediately.** (GHSA office)

**BASEBALL COMMITTEE**

**Proposal** to require member school to use the "Game Changer" or "Pitch Kount" programs for documenting pitch counts at all levels of play. (GHSA office)

**BASKETBALL COMMITTEE**

1. **Proposal** to eliminate item A-1 under "STATE TOURNAMENT" on page 61 (including items a. b. and c.) Replace with new item A- 1 as follows (items 2-8 remain as is):
  1. In each of the first three rounds, there are two dates on which games may be scheduled. The host school shall determine the playing date for single games.
    - a. In the event that both the boys and girls team from the same competing schools meet in the first three rounds of the State Tournament, the home school may schedule a doubleheader on either date of the respective round.
    - b. In the event that both the boys and girls team from one school are designated as the home school, but the opponents are from two different schools, a doubleheader may be scheduled on either day of the respective round with the approval of all schools involved. (NOTE: In this case a revised three-school financial report shall be submitted.) (GHSA office)
2. **Proposal** to move the beginning of basketball practice one week earlier in October (to start practice Oct. 22 instead of Oct. 29 in 2018). (Region 3, Class 7A)

(more)

## AGENDA, continued

3. **Proposal** to give both schools of the same seed meeting in the quarterfinal round of the state playoffs until 3 p.m., the day after the second-round games are played to find and agree on a neutral site to play the game. The state office will conduct the universal coin flip roughly around 3:15 p.m., that Friday (day after the boys Elite 8) for those same-seeded teams unable to agree on and secure a neutral site. (Region 4, Class 5A)

### CHEERLEADING COMMITTEE

**Proposal:** In order to be eligible to compete in Region/Sectionals/State, a cheerleading team must compete in three (3) sanctioned competitions during the competitive regular season. (GHSA office)

### FOOTBALL COMMITTEE

1. **Proposal** to use seven (7) officials on the field for all state playoff football games and to remove one member of the four-member chain crew to help offset the cost of the additional on-field official. (GHSA office)
2. **Proposal** to allow fall scrimmage games to involve three (3) different schools with each playing one half against the other two, as is already allowed in Spring games. (GHSA office)

### GYMNASTICS COMMITTEE

**Proposal** to reword items G. and H. on page 77 under "Preliminary Meet" to read as follows: G. All **individual competitors** must qualify in the Preliminary Meet. H. Substitutions made after the Preliminary Meet for team competitors must be on the current roster submitted by the coach. (GHSA Office) **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**

### SOCCER COMMITTEE

1. **Proposal** to replace the current overtime structure of two five-minute "halves" with one (1) extra period of 15 minutes in length. (Mill Creek HS)
2. **Proposal** to replace the current penalty kick order with an A-B-B-A format instead of the current method of having one team go first or last in each round of kicks depending on a coin toss. (Mill Creek HS)

### SWIMMING COMMITTEE

1. **Proposal** to have the GHSA provide 1st and 2nd place medals for all individual finishers in the four championship divisions at the state meet. Note: Currently only team awards are approved in the two new divisions. (GHSA office)
2. **Proposal** to raise the qualification score for 11-dive meets from 270 points to 300 points. The state meet would then move to six dives. Note: All divers would be allowed to perform six dives with the top 10 scorers qualifying for the dive finals. (GHSA Office)

### TENNIS COMMITTEE

**Proposal** to move the tennis season two weeks later (example using this year's dates: begin practice on Jan. 22; first contest on Feb. 12, last play date on April 28 and state finals on May 19). (Region 4, Class 7A)

### VOLLEYBALL COMMITTEE

1. **Proposal** to reword item No. 1 under E. Miscellaneous Information on page 96 to read as follows: In accordance with National Federation rules, the use of artificial noisemakers shall be prohibited. (GHSA office)
2. **Proposal** to use MaxPreps power ratings to seed the entire bracket for the playoffs, rating the teams from 1 to 32 and placing them in the bracket accordingly. The top 16 rated teams would host first-round matches unless an Area champion were rated lower than their opponent, in which case the Area champion would host the first-round match. (Region 4, Class 7A)

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Robin Hines will address the committee on several issues and introduce some guest speakers.

### ADJOURNMENT

## SCHEDULE OF SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS - Spring 2018

(Meetings Will Be Held at the Marriott Macon City Center Hotel)

#### SUNDAY, April 8

9:00 am	Board of Trustees (Private Dining Room)
11:30 am	Gymnastics Committee (Salon A)
12-1 pm	Lunch (on your own)
1:00 pm	Swimming Committee (Salon A) Basketball Committee (Salon B)
1:30 pm	Cheerleading Committee (Salon A) Baseball Committee (Salon B)

#### SUNDAY, April 8 (continued)

2:00 pm	Tennis Committee (Salon A) Volleyball Committee (Salon B)
2:30 pm	Soccer Committee (Salon A) Football Committee (Salon B)
3:00 pm	Special Presentations - Dragonfly & PlayVS esports (Magnolia Ballroom)
4:30 pm	Hospitality & Tribute to Gary Phillips (Magnolia Ballroom)

## GHSA - April Calendar - 2018

### April

- 1 Deadline for notification of entry in Gymnastics, Lacrosse, Riflery, Class A Soccer, Golf, Slow Pitch Softball, Volleyball and Wrestling for 2018-19
- 9 State Executive Committee meeting in Macon
- 11 Slow Pitch Softball Sectional Tournament
- 14 Complete Riflery Semifinals and Region Tennis
- 14 Gymnastics State Preliminary Meet
- 16 Report Region Tennis & Riflery Semifinals results to GHSA Office by 9 a.m.
- 17-18 Slow Pitch Softball State Tournament
- 19 Complete Area/Region Soccer
- 20 Complete First Round State Tennis (2A - 7A) and Area Tennis (Class A)
- 20 State Gymnastics Meet; Report Area/Region Soccer winners
- 21 Complete Region Baseball and Track
- 23 Report Region Baseball, Tennis & Track results to GHSA Office by 9 a.m.
- 24 Girls First Round State Soccer (5A, 6A & 7A)
- 25 Boys First Round State Soccer (5A, 6A & 7A)
- 26 Complete Second Round State Tennis (First Round for Class A)
- 26 Girls First Round State Soccer (A, 2A, 3A & 4A)
- 26-27 State Baseball Playoffs - First Round
- 27 Boys First Round State Soccer (A, 2A, 3A & 4A); Report Tennis winners
- 28 Sectional Track Meets; Complete Area Lacrosse; State Riflery
- 30 File reports of Sectional Track and Area Lacrosse winners by 9 a.m.

### GHSA Sponsors







# GEORGIA'S HOME TURF



PROUD SPONSORS OF THE



[fieldturf.com](http://fieldturf.com)





# 2018 GHSA CHAMPIONSHIP CHOSEN TO DEBUT LATEST SELECT GRAPHICS



GEORGIA'S  
CHOICE



Official Match Ball of GHSA Soccer  
Royale – NFHS/IMS



TEAM  
COLORS



[www.selectsportamerica.com](http://www.selectsportamerica.com)  
Alpharetta, GA