



GHSA

"ITEMS OF INTEREST"

February 2018

Please Teach Your Students to Win Humbly and Lose Gracefully

I had the opportunity recently to meet with several leaders at Georgia Farm Bureau, one of our primary sponsors. After getting to know each other for a while, they explained that shared values between our organizations are what initially attracted them to become involved with the Georgia High School Association.

From my perspective, Georgia Farm Bureau is a large organization with local goals. It is important to them to be an integral part of local communities and for their associates to be involved in positive ways. While it is a large company, they are focused on relationships in the communities throughout our state.

The GHSA is very similar in our approach. Our organization is large but we strive to serve our individual member schools and build strong relationships throughout our schools.

As the meeting continued, the conversation turned to sportsmanship. Again, our shared value is that all of our athletes and teams, along with those associated with them, demonstrate good sportsmanship. Several examples were provided to me when this was not the case with student athletes, coaches, and fans.

These examples of poor sportsmanship are certainly not the rule, but are becoming more prevalent throughout our events. Ejections from basketball games have already exceeded last year's totals and we have several weeks remaining in the season.

Social media has played its part in the extension of the negativity that arises from a rival game, a tough loss or a call that went the wrong way. From time to time, I believe it is beneficial to evaluate ourselves through the lens of good sportsmanship and ask if we are providing a good example for our athletes and those around us. Are we intentionally teaching fair play, ethical behavior and integrity?

Winning is important. As the saying goes, if it wasn't important they wouldn't keep score! However, I feel it is more important to win humbly. It is also important to lose gracefully.

We have a great opportunity to teach our young men and women life lessons through sport. Our students learn teamwork, the value of hard work, responsibility, the exuberance of success, and the disappointment of failure. Sportsmanship is simply being a good citizen in athletics. Our young people need you more than ever to teach and model for them those characteristics that will enable them to succeed in life.

I am grateful for the support of Georgia Farm Bureau but I am most grateful for their reasons for partnering with us. The values that prompted the partnership are ones that always should be in the forefront and weaved into our athletic programs.

The good sportsmanship you have the opportunity to instill in your athletes will enrich their lives and provide a lifetime of success.



– Dr. James R. Hines, Jr., Executive Director

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

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- 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

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 Coaches Education, Dues, Web Site Content, Entry Notification

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

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 - 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: **RiverOak Photography** (riveroakphotography.com); **Pinion Photography** (pinionphotography.com) & **Athletic Image** (theathleticimage.com), official action photographers; **Athletes For A Better World & Positive Athlete GA**, student character recognition partners (abw.org & georgia.positiveathlete.org); **Jolyn Clothing**, athletic swim and activewear company made for the women who inspire us. (Jolynclothing.com); and **Precision Pro Golf Company**, Precision Pro V400 golf laser rangefinder (precisionprogolf.com).

Attention Basketball Coaches!

All teams advancing to the State Tournament beginning February 16 should go to the GHSA website for important information. Look for the headline that reads "State Tournament Team Information Packet."

This information will be available on Monday, February 12, 2018.

GoFan Available for State Basketball

Through a partnership with GoFan (Huddle Tickets), all quarterfinal (Feb. 27-28), semifinal (March 3) and final (March 9-10 only - Georgia Tech's McCamish Pavilion) state basketball tournament game tickets will be available online.

GoFan is the trusted partner of the GHSA and has worked with over 150 schools throughout Georgia in the regular season. GoFan continues to receive tremendous feedback from fans and schools on the ease and convenience.

As team's advances in the playoffs, GoFan is a tremendous way to maximize pre-sale tickets. Full information will be placed in team playoff information.

Learn more about Go Fan at <https://www.huddletickets.com/gofan>.



STATE CHAMPIONS

FOOTBALL

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

7A	North Gwinnett High School
6A	Lee County High School
5A	Rome High School
4A	Blessed Trinity Catholic High School
3A	Calhoun High School
2A	Hapeville Charter School
A (public)	Clinch County High School
A (private)	Eagles Landing Christian School

TEAM DUAL WRESTLING

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

7A	Camden County High School
6A	Richmond Hill High School
5A	Buford High School
4A	Jefferson High School
3A	North Hall High School
2A	Social Circle School
A	Commerce High School

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

New MaxPreps TEAMS App Available

MaxPreps recently launched a new mobile app, **Teams by MaxPreps**. Designed specifically for high school coaches, the Teams app improves the sports experience by connecting the staff, parents, and athletes in a private community. Available for both iOS and Android, this free app is the newest addition to a suite of services that MaxPreps provides to high schools.

A key feature of the Teams app is individual privacy protection. With a focus on inter-team communications, the Teams app will ensure secure in-app communication without the need to share personal information.

Another special communication feature will prevent users from getting overwhelmed with messages. Specific topics can be managed in unique conversations, so arranging a carpool for the upcoming tournament doesn't get mixed in with sharing position-specific practice times or ordering t-shirts. And all communication will automatically include read receipts, giving peace of mind that the message has been seen and received.

Beyond the team communication benefits, the Teams app reduces the stress on coaches by allowing them to manage permissions within their team community. App users can now be given specific access to update sports information and/or manage team communication. For example, coaches can allow a parent to manage communication without editing player stats.

Coaches that already use MP Coach, MaxPreps' existing coach-only mobile app, will be upgraded the next time they update their app. New coaches can download Teams from iTunes and Google Play stores.

The free app for Coaches, Athletes and Parents.

Nominations Still Open For Dooley Award

Athletes for a Better World nominations for the 11th Annual Vincent J. Dooley Awards are open until February 28, 2018. The athletic director at any school may designate the Senior Class male and female recipient of the Awards for their school. For information and a nomination form, visit: www.abw.org/awards/dooley-award-nomination/.



GHSA Reminders:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ITEMS: Anyone wishing to have an item included on the agenda for the spring State Executive Committee meeting must submit the item to the GHSA office by March 9, 2018. The spring State Executive Committee meeting will be held April 9, 2018 at the Marriott Macon City Center.

FOOTBALL SCHEDULES: Coaches and/or Athletic Directors are reminded that 2018 varsity Football Schedules are due in the GHSA office no later than March 1, 2018. If your school has hired a new coach for the 2018 season, please make sure he is made aware of this deadline.

OPEN MEET DEADLINE: Member schools are reminded of the deadline to notify the GHSA of entry in Open Meet State Events such as Volleyball, Lacrosse, Class A Soccer, Wrestling, Riflery and Gymnastics for the school year 2018-2019. The deadline for notification is April 1, 2018.

SPRING CHEERLEADING TRYOUTS: Cheerleading practice/tryouts are limited to a maximum of 10 consecutive days per school between February 1 and the last day students are in school. Once tryouts are complete, no further practices may be held until school is out.

DEAD WEEK: The mandatory "Dead Week" for this year is Sunday, July 1, 2018 through Saturday, July 7, 2018.

GHSA Seeks Host Sites

Each year, many schools contribute to the success of the GHSA programs by hosting a region/area or state event as a service to all member schools. The GHSA office soon will be determining sites for events for the 2018-19 year.

Sites are needed for the following events:

- Region Cheerleading
- Area Wrestling (Traditional and/or Team Duals)
- Sectional Wrestling (Traditional)
- Sectional Track
- Sectional Golf and State Golf

If your school would like to host one of the above events, please notify the GHSA office.

Team Dual Wrestling State Champions - 2018



7A: Camden County



6A: Richmond Hill



5A: Buford



4A: Jefferson



3A: North Hall



2A: Social Circle



Photographs of the state championship Dual Wrestling teams were provided by Cecil Copeland.



A: Commerce

Former GHSA Wrestling Coordinator Denis Tallini Elected to Hall of Fame

Recently-retired GHSA Associate Director and Wrestling Coordinator Denis Tallini is among seven individuals who will be inducted into the 2018 Georgia class of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

The Georgia Chapter inductees will be honored during the "Induction Weekend" of May 5-6. An induction social will be held on Saturday, May 5 at Northwood Country Club in Lawrenceville with the induction banquet on Sunday, May 6 at the Sonesta Gwinnett Place on Pleasant Hill Road in Duluth.

Tallini and the other six individuals will be inducted as "Lifetime Service to Wrestling" recipients in recognition of contributing at least 20 years to the sport of wrestling as a coach, referee or contributor. The Georgia inductees into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame are as follows:

Stacey L. Davis - current coach at Holy Innocents'; FILA/Olympic official and former GHSA official and head of Georgia Wrestling Officials Association; many years as coach of Team Georgia USA wrestling teams; former standout at North Carolina.

Jerry Goldstein - Current assistant coach at Lovett, past Georgia Tech and Florida assistant, longtime coach of Georgia Kids

programs for Walton HS and Morris Fitness, high school coach in Michigan and Georgia; Georgia Tech Hall of Fame.

William Howington - 44 years of service as a championship winning high school coach (Winder-Barrow, Monroe Area and Dawson County) and/or GHSA official.

Pat McCance - successful head coach at Pebblebrook and Loganville, many years as McEachern associate head coach during their reign as top dog in GHSA wrestling; active member of the Atlanta Takedown Association.

Don St. James - Highly regarded coach at Etowah, Centennial and Cambridge; Former assistant coach at Tennessee; renowned clinician at numerous camps; coached 13 GHSA state champions; former collegiate standout at UGA and the University of Tennessee.

Denis Tallini - recently retired GHSA administrator; 31 years as a high school wrestling official in state of Louisiana where he was a mainstay on the mats for state and national level tournaments; remains active as an official in Georgia for Metro Atlanta WOA; former wrestler at University of Southwestern Louisiana.

Bruce Towson - longtime coach at Henry County and Luella, often coaching both middle school and high school teams; one of the pillars of wrestling in the south metro area; credited by many for the growth and success of wrestling in Henry County area.

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:

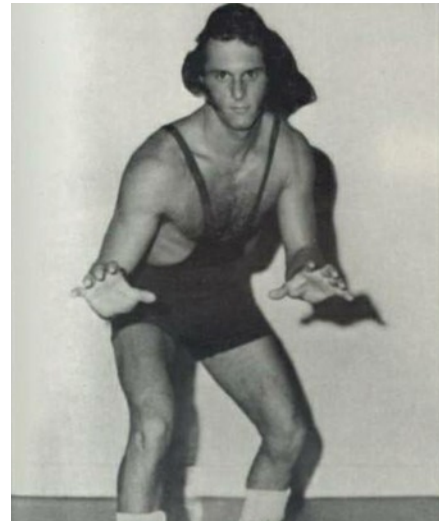
- Network Benefits – National exposure, post-season coverage, unlimited free video storage.
- Educational Benefits – Provide your students with the opportunities to produce, announce and broadcast professional events live online.
- Technology – HD Streaming Capability, Customized Graphics Package, Highlight 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 or 843-324-8694.

For current SBP schools, please contact your new Account Manager Jessi Hamilton at Jessi.Hamilton@nfhsnetwork.com or 404-920-3190.



**HIGH SCHOOL
HAPPENS HERE**



Denis Tallini in action as a collegiate wrestler in 1974 (above) and as a certified GHSA wrestling referee today (below)



Become An Official – Stay Connected to High School Sports

By Bob Gardner, Executive Director of the National Federation of State High School Associations and Robin Hines, Executive Director of the GHSA

They don't make the headlines, their names are not in the box scores and they don't make the all-star teams, but perhaps the most important individuals in high school sports are the contest officials.

These individuals are so important that, in fact, there would be no organized competitive sports at the high school level without the men and women who officiate these contests every day across the country. Subtract the dedicated men and women who officiate high school sports and competitive sports would no longer be organized; they would be chaotic.

In some areas, high school officials are retiring faster than new licenses are being issued. And junior varsity, freshmen and middle school games are



being postponed – or even cancelled – because there are not enough men and women to officiate them.

Anyone looking for a unique way to contribute to the local community should consider becoming a licensed high school official. For individuals who played sports in high school, officiating is a great way to stay close to the sport after their playing days have ended. Officiating helps people stay in shape, expands their social and professional network and offers part-time work that is flexible, yet pays. In fact, officiating is a form of community service, but with compensation.

Another benefit of officiating is that individuals become role models so that teenagers in the community can learn

the life lessons that high school sports teach. Students learn to respect their opponents and the rules of the game and the importance of practicing good sportsmanship thanks, in part, to those men and women who officiate. And the objectivity and integrity that high school officials display is an example that every young person needs to observe firsthand. In short, communities around the country will be stronger because of the life lessons that high school officials help teach the next generation.

Officiating is a great way to stay connected to sports and to give back to the local high school and community. We need dedicated men and women to become involved so that high school sports can continue to prosper for years to come.

Individuals interested in learning more about becoming a high school official, and even begin the application process, can do so at www.HighSchoolOfficials.com.

Basketball State Semifinal Sites Set

The GHSA Basketball Semifinals will be held March 2-3, 2018 at seven (7) sites around the state. Game times will be at 2:00, 4:00, 6:00 and 8:00 pm.

All games will be streamed on [NFHS Network](http://NFHSNetwork.com). Mobile tickets will be available at GoFan.

The locations are as follows:

Site	Class	Date
Valdosta State	A - Public	Sat., March 3
Columbus State	A - Private	Fri., March 2
Ga. College & St. U.	AA	Sat., March 3
Armstrong State	AAA	Sat. March 3
Ft. Valley State	AAAA	Fri., March 2
Ft. Valley State	AAAAA	Sat., March 3
West Georgia	AAAAAA	Sat., March 3
Buford City Arena	AAAAAAA	Sat., March 3



Schedule for Class A Power Rating Appeals

Below is the timetable and procedures for release of the final 2018 Class A Basketball Power Ratings, appeals and seeding of the playoff brackets, as well as the "At Large" playoff teams in Class 7A:

Feb. 10: Region tournaments in all classes must be completed and results entered into MaxPreps web site.

Feb. 12: State qualifiers from each region in Classes 2A through 7A (except for the 7A "At Large" teams) must be submitted to GHSA office by 9:00 a.m.

Feb. 12: MaxPreps' final power ratings will be posted on the GHSA web site.

Feb. 13:

(1) Any Class A school that believes its final power rating is incorrect may file an appeal in writing to GHSA basketball coordinator Ernie Yarbrough (ery@ghsa.net) between 8-11 a.m. The appeal letter must be accompanied by a complete list of results and points earned for each game.

(2) A GHSA Appeals Committee will meet to verify the results (including the appeals), and to break any ties.

(3) The results of the appeals and the resulting playoff brackets will be posted that day on the GHSA web site.

Notes:

(1) Teams winning a Region championship will be placed in the Class A brackets (public school or private school) first based on their power rating numbers.

(2) Once the brackets are posted, no further appeals will be considered.

State Swimming and Diving Meets

The 2018 **State Swimming and Diving Championships** will be held on February 1-3 at the Georgia Tech Campus Recreation Center in Atlanta. Admission is \$12 per day.

Free admission will be allowed for the following: 1. Swimmers and divers qualified and entered in the State Meet; 2. Coaches that are listed on the Swimming and Diving Coaches list; 3. Four girls and four boys designated as substitutes by the coach on the team list; 4. Two team attendants or trainers as listed on the team roster; 5. Those normally allowed free admission, such as GHSA passes, will continue to be admitted by signing the pass list.

Schedule of Events:

Thursday:

Feb. 1 9:00 am Diving Finals for 6A-7A (warmup at 7:00 am)
Feb. 1 3:00 pm Diving Finals for A-5A (warmup at 1:00 pm)

Friday:

Feb. 2 9:00 am Swim Prelims for 6A-7A (warmup at 7:00 am)
Feb. 2 6:00 pm Swim Prelims for A-5A (warmup at 4:20 pm)

Saturday:

Feb. 3 11:30 am Swim Finals for 6A-7A (warmup at 9:30 am)
Feb. 3 5:30 pm Swim Finals for A-5A (warmup at 3:30 pm)

Order of Swim Events: (boys events precede girls events)

200-yard Medley Relay
200-yard Freestyle
200-yard Individual Medley
50-yard Freestyle
100-yard Butterfly
100-yard Freestyle
500-yard Freestyle
200-yard Freestyle Relay
100-yard Backstroke
100-yard Breaststroke
400-yard Freestyle Relay

Qualifying Standards - Swimming

BOYS	EVENTS	GIRLS
1:51.00	200-yard Medley Relay	2:07.00
1:55.00	200-yard Freestyle	2:07.00
2:12.00	200-yard Individual Medley	2:24.00
:23.50	50-yard Freestyle	:26.50
:58.00	100-yard Butterfly	1:05.00
:52.00	100-yard Freestyle	:58.50
5:20.00	500-yard Freestyle	5:40.00
1:40.00	200-yard Freestyle Relay	1:53.00
1:00.00	100-yard Backstroke	1:06.00
1:07.00	100-yard Breaststroke	1:15.00
3:44.00	400-yard Freestyle Relay	4:12.00

Qualifying Standards - Diving

A diver may become eligible for the State Meet using a 6-dive sheet or an 11-dive sheet.

1) 6-DIVE: The degree of difficulty of dives 2-6 when totaled shall be equal to or more than 10.4 for both boys and girls. The score to be achieved must be 200 points or more.

2) 11-DIVE: The minimum degree of difficulty for optional dives shall be 11.5 for girls and 12.0 for boys. The score to be achieved for both boys and girls is 270 points or more.

Sectional, State Wrestling Tournaments

Sectional Traditional Wrestling Tournaments will be held on Friday and/or Saturday, February 2-3, 2018.

The Traditional Wrestling Finals, presented by the Georgia Army National Guard, will be held on Thursday through Saturday, February 8-10, 2018 at the Macon Centreplex. Tickets for the State Finals are \$7 Thursday and \$10 on Friday and Saturday (all day), or a total tournament ticket will be sold for \$24.

Sectional Tournaments will be held at the following sites:

7A (Top 8 Qualify for State Finals): Sec. A (Areas 1, 2, 7, 8) Sec. B (Areas 3, 4, 5, 6)	Lowndes Mill Creek
6A (Top 8 Qualify for State Finals): Sec. A (Areas 1, 2, 4, 5) Sec. B (Areas 3, 6, 7, 8)	Alexander Lanier
5A (Top 8 Qualify for State Finals): Sec. A (Areas 1, 2, 3, 4) Sec. B (Areas 5, 6, 7, 8)	Union Grove Buford
4A (Top 8 Qualify for State Finals): Sec. A (Areas 1, 4, 5, 6) Sec. B (Areas 2, 3, 7, 8)	Woodward Jefferson
3A (Top 4 Qualify for State Finals): Sec. A (Areas 1, 4) Sec. B (Areas 2, 3)	GACS Bremen
2A (Top 4 Qualify for State Finals): Sec. A (Areas 1, 2) Sec. B (Areas 3, 4)	Toombs County Rockmart
A (Top 4 Qualify for State Finals): Sec. A (Areas 1, 3) Sec. B (Areas 2, 4)	Irwin County First Presbyterian

The Schedule for the **State Finals** is as follows:

Date/Time	Event	Classes
Thursday, Feb. 8		
10:00 am	Weigh-Ins	4A & 5A
11:00 am	Coaches' Meeting	4A & 5A
12:00 - 2:00 pm	Round of 16	4A & 5A
12:00 pm	Weigh-Ins	6A & 7A
1:15 pm	Coaches' Meeting	6A & 7A
2:00 - 4:00 pm	Round of 16	6A & 7A
4:00 - 6:00 pm	Quarters, Round 1 WBs	4A & 5A
6:00 - 8:00 pm	Quarters, Round 1 WBs	6A & 7A
8:00 - 9:00 pm	2nd Round WBs	4A & 5A
Friday, Feb. 9		
8:00 am	Weigh-Ins	A, 2A & 3A
9:15 pm	Coaches' Meeting	A, 2A & 3A
10:00 am - noon	Quarterfinals	A, 2A & 3A
10:00 am	Weigh-Ins	6A & 7A
12:00 - 1:00 pm	2nd Round WBs	6A & 7A
1:00 - 3:00 pm	Semis & Conso. Quarters	A, 2A & 3A
1:00 pm	Weigh-Ins	4A & 5A
3:00 - 4:30 pm	Semis & Conso. Quarters	4A & 5A
4:30 - 6:00 pm	Semis & Conso. Quarters	6A & 7A
6:00 - 7:00 pm	Consolation Semifinals	A, 2A & 3A
7:00 - 8:30 pm	Consolation Semifinals	4A, 5A, 6A & 7A
Saturday, Feb. 10		
8:00 am	Weigh-Ins	All Classes
10:00 - 11:30 am	5th & 6th place Conso Finals	All Classes
11:30 a.m. - 1 pm	3rd & 4th place Conso Finals	All Classes
2:30 pm	Opening Ceremonies	All Classes
3:00 pm	FINALS Begin	All Classes
(Awards ceremony immediately after finals)		

GHSA - February/March Calendar - 2018

February

- 1-3 State Swimming & Diving Meets
- 2, 3 Traditional Wrestling Sectional Tournaments
- 5 Earliest contest date for Soccer and Track
- 6 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 8-10 Traditional Wrestling State Tournaments
- 11 Complete Region Basketball
- 12 File reports of Region Basketball winners by 9 a.m.
- 12 Earliest contest date for Baseball and Lacrosse
- 12 Earliest date for Golf practice
- 16, 17 First Round State Basketball Tournaments
- 17 First contest date for Golf
- 19 First practice date for Slow Pitch Softball
- 20 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 21, 22 Second Round State Basketball Tournaments
- 24 First contest date for Slow Pitch Softball
- 27, 28 Quarterfinal Round State Basketball Tournament

March

- 1 Football Schedules due into GHSA Office
- 3 Semifinal Round State Basketball Tournament
- 6 Complete Region/Area Literary; Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 7-10 Final Round State Basketball Tournament

GHSA Sponsors

