



GHSAA

"ITEMS OF INTEREST"

December 2015 / January 2016

Seasons Greetings and HAPPY NEW YEAR!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM YOUR GHSAA STAFF

Seated (L-R): Pam Thompson, Tanya Anderson, Julie Jones, Gary Phillips, Robin Bullington, Stacey Basilici and Sheri Brooks. Back row (L-R): Denis Tallini, Tommy Whittle, Jay Russell, Steve Figueroa, Ernie Yarbrough and Carror Wright.

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GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION Newsletter

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OFFICE HOURS: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday

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No. 4

- GHSA STAFF -**Areas of Responsibility****GARY PHILLIPS** (extension 21)

- Executive Director -
Administration, By-Law Interpretations, Hardship Rulings,
Football Playoffs, Coaches Education Program

JAY RUSSELL (extension 25)

- Assistant Executive Director -
By-Law Interpretations, Transfer Eligibility, Cross Country, Golf, Track

ERNIE YARBROUGH (extension 27)

- Coordinator of Officiating -
Basketball, Baseball, Softball, Officials Training

DENIS TALLINI (extension 34)

- Associate Director -
Lacrosse, Volleyball, Wrestling, Sports Medicine

TOMMY WHITTLE (extension 23)

- Associate Director -
Football, Literary, One-Act Play, Soccer

CARROR WRIGHT (extension 39)

- Associate Director -
Coach's Liaison, Compliance/Investigations, Sportsmanship

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 Program, Web Site Content, Entry Notification

SHERI BROOKS (extension 0)

- Receptionist -
Hardship Hearings, Fines, School System/Retiree Passes,
Publication Orders

ROBIN BULLINGTON (extension 33)

- Office Manager -
Budgeting and Finances, Dues, 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); **Musco Sports Lighting**, sports-lighting technology (musco.com); **FieldTurf**, official artificial turf (fieldturf.com); **Hudl**, official video exchange service (hudl.com); **Planet HS**, connecting schools online (planeths.com); **Jaxx Field Miracle**, Official field drying agent (jaxxusa.com); **Sports Imports**, official volleyball net systems (sportsimports.com); **COOLShirt Systems**, personal cooling systems (coolshirt.com); and **TeamIP**, official merchandiser (teamip.com).

STATE CHAMPIONS**CHEERLEADING**

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

AAAAAA	Lambert High School
AAAAA	Northgate High School
AAAA	Carrollton High School
AAA	Pierce County High School
AA	Coosa High School
A (public)	Commerce High School
A (private)	Mt. Paran Christian School
Co-Ed	Johns Creek High School

CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

AAAAAA Girls	- Mill Creek High School
AAAAAA Boys	- Marietta High School
AAAAA Girls	- Dunwoody High School
AAAAA Boys	- Clarkston High School
AAAA Girls	- Marist
AAAA Boys	- Marist
AAA Girls	- Westminster
AAA Boys	- Blessed Trinity
AA Girls	- Lovett
AA Boys	- Bleckley County High School
A Girls (public)	- Towns County High School
A Boys (public)	- Drew Charter
A Girls (private)	- Landmark Christian
A Boys (private)	- Landmark Christian

ONE-ACT PLAY

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

AAAAAA	- Lee County High School
AAAAA	- Allatoona High School
AAAA	- Perry High School
AAA	- Davidson Fine Arts
AA	- Thomasville High School
A (public)	- Georgia Military College
A (private)	- Lakeview Academy

SOFTBALL

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

AAAAAA	- Mill Creek High School
AAAAA	- Chapel Hill High School
AAAA	- Buford High School
AAA	- Calhoun High School
AA	- Gordon Lee High School
A (public)	- Georgia Military College
A (private)	- Eagles Landing Christian School

VOLLEYBALL

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

AAAAAA	- Walton High School
AAAAA	- Columbus High School
AAAA	- Buford High School
AAA	- Blessed Trinity
AA	- Holy Innocents'
A	- Calvary Day

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.

2015 GHSA-Tommy Guillebeau Football Championships

All Games Live from GA Dome On December 11th and 12th

The fourth annual GHSA-Tommy Guillebeau Football Championships, presented by Georgia Farm Bureau Insurance, will again be televised live by Georgia Public Broadcasting, this year from the Georgia Dome.

GPB's coverage will begin at 1:00 p.m., on Friday, Dec. 11 with the Class A public school championship game. Longtime high school football voice Tommy Palmer will call the game along with Atlanta sportscaster Sam Crenshaw. Niki Noto will work the sidelines for that game.

Game No. 2 on Friday will be the Class AAA game at 4:30 p.m., with Jon Nelson of GPB and former Atlanta Falcon Chuck Smith in the booth and Noto on the sidelines. The final game of the day will be the AAAAA championship with GPB's Matt Stewart and WGCL-TV's Larry Smith behind the microphones and Nelson on the sidelines at 8 p.m.

On Saturday, December 12, four teams will win state titles. Up first at 10:00 a.m., is the Class A private school title with Palmer and Crenshaw calling the action and Noto on the sidelines. At 1:00 p.m., it's the Class AA game with GPB's Gil Tyree and Tucker coach Bryan Lamar in the broadcast booth and Noto on the sidelines.

At 4:30 p.m., it's the Class AAAA title game with Nelson and Chuck Smith again. And at 8:00, the AAAAA final, with Stewart and Larry Smith calling the game. Mark Harmon and



Jackie Brittain will host all the pregame, halftime and postgame shows, which will feature interviews, trophy presentations, performances from some of the marching bands as well as special guests, including GHSA Executive Director Gary Phillips.

All games will be televised live throughout the state of Georgia and into parts of Florida, Alabama and Tennessee on Georgia Public Broadcasting and webcast live at GPB.org/sports and NFHSNetwork.com/GHSA.

GPB has nine television stations across Georgia and is in more than 98 percent of the homes in the state. GPB is the third largest PBS station in the country based on population reach and has been the most watched public station in the country on the days of the football championship broadcasts.

DVD orders of the championship games will be available at NFHSNetwork.com/GHSA. The games will be rebroadcast on GPB Knowledge, one of GPB's digital channels, from December 13-19 at 8:00 p.m. For more information on scheduling and finding GPB Knowledge, visit the website at <http://www.gpb.org/GPBKnowledge>.

Find out more about GPB's high school sports coverage on gpb.org/sports and at www.facebook.com/gpbsports.

AAASP Wins BlazeSports Triumph of the Human Spirit Award



Pictured (L to R) - Harlon Matthews, Coach/Coordinator Henry County School Adapted Sports Program (and top 10 USA Wheelchair Tennis Player was also honored), Tommie Storms AAASP Cofounder/Director of Operations, Michael Kutcher (movie star Ashton's twin brother and guest speaker), Bev Vaughn, AAASP Cofounder/E.D., and AAASP Board Member, Dr. Deborah Shapiro of GSU.

9th Annual Vincent Dooley Awards Now Accepting Nominations!

Athletes for a Better World announces the 9th Annual Vincent J. Dooley Awards and Scholarships for the 2015-2016 school year.

Nomination deadline is February 28, 2016.

The athletic director of each school may designate the male and female recipient of the Awards for their school, and their recipients may compete for a four-year, \$1,000 a year, scholarship.

For more information and the nomination form, go to the following: <http://www.abw.org/awards/dooley-award-nomination/>.



Girls State Cross Country Champions - 2015



AAAAAA: Mill Creek



AAAAA: Dunwoody



AAAA: Marist



AAA: Westminster



AA: Lovett



A (private): Landmark Christian



A (public): Towns County



Boys State Cross Country Champions - 2015



AAAAAA: Marietta



AAAAA: Clarkston



AAAA: Marist



AAA: Blessed Trinity



AA: Bleckley County



A (public): Drew Charter

Photographs in this newsletter of the state championship Cross Country teams were provided by **Pinion Photography**. Pictures of the winning Volleyball teams elsewhere in this newsletter were provided by **Cecil Copland** and **Dave Buschell**. And photos of the winning softball teams were provided by **Anne Appleton**.



A (private): Landmark Christian

State Softball Champions - 2015



AAAAAA: Mill Creek



AAAAA: Chapel Hill



AAAA: Buford



AAA: Calhoun



AA: Gordon Lee



A (public): Georgia Military



A (private): Eagles Landing Christian



State Volleyball Champions - 2015



AAAAAA: Walton



AAAAA: Columbus



AAAA: Buford



AAA: Blessed Trinity



AA: Holy Innocents'



A: Calvary Day

GHSA - December 2015 / January 2016 Calendar

December

- 4, 5 Semifinal Round State Football Playoffs
- 8 Hardship/Appeal Meeting
- 11, 12 Championship Round State Football Playoffs -- Georgia Dome
- 16 GHSA Office closed until January 4 for **Christmas Holidays**

January

- 9 Complete Dual Wrestling Area Tournaments
- 11 Earliest date for Gymnastics & Tennis practice
- 12 Hardship/Appeal Meeting
- 14-16 Dual Wrestling State Tournaments
- 18 M.L. King Day -- GHSA Office closed
- 18 Earliest date for Girls and Boys Track, Baseball and Soccer practice
- 25 Earliest date for Lacrosse practice
- 26 Hardship/Appeal Meeting
- 29-30 Traditional Wrestling Area Tournaments



The GHSA Staff Wishes You and Yours The Best of the Season



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