



# GHS

## "ITEMS OF INTEREST"

February 2023

### Video Review and NIL Proposals Expected at April SEC Meeting

This is a busy time in the GHS with Winter sports ending or moving toward championships and the beginning of Spring sports. Wrestling Duals are completed and championships will soon be decided in Traditional Wrestling, Dance, Game Day Cheerleading and Swimming & Diving.

Congratulations to the State Dual Wrestling Champions: Boys - Camden County (7A), South Effingham (6A), Jefferson (5A), Central-Carroll (4A), Columbus (3A), Rockmart (2A) and Mount Pisgah (1A). Carrollton won the first ever Girls Team Dual Championship and we congratulate them on this groundbreaking achievement.

There are several Items of Interest within the association and they are listed below.

- **Video Review for Football Championships:** The Executive Committee will vote at the Spring meeting on a proposal to allow video review in Football Championships played at locations that have the operational technology to do so. The goal is to get all calls right and certainly the move back to Mercedes Benz Stadium will allow us to have video review. There are many things to consider, such as how it will be done operationally, coach challenge and how many are allowed, booth review, what plays are eligible for review, etc. The GHS staff are working on the proposal and will be ready to submit to the Executive Committee in April.

- **Name, Image and Likeness:** NIL has certainly changed the NCAA landscape and the push to involve high school sports is nationwide. There are currently 28 state associations that have adopted policies to allow NIL activities for high school students. This is NOT pay-for-play and will protect the Intellectual Property of member schools as well as the GHS. However, a person's name image and likeness belongs to that person and most states now recognize this and allow NIL activities within the rules of amateur status, undue influence and recruitment.

We are currently evaluating other association policies, engaging NIL experts and working with our attorney, Alan Connell, to comprehensively assess the issue. We plan to have a policy to address NIL and adjust current by-laws that will protect the intellectual property of member schools and the GHS by the Spring meeting. We also want to allow individual students the right to use their own name, image and likeness. There is a lot of research left to do, but we expect to have something for consideration by the spring.

- **Mercedes Benz Stadium:** As I'm sure you know, the Football Championships are moving back to MBS. I want to thank Rich McKay and his staff for making this possibility a reality and it will certainly provide a great experience for our student-athletes and spectators. We are already involved in operational meetings to work out the details and prepare for a smooth transition to the MBS. The ability to play indoors will provide the best environment for the biggest games of the year.

Thank you for all you do for the young people of our state and as always feel free to contact me or any of the GHS staff if we can be of assistance.

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



Join the conversation on social media @OfficialGHS on TikTok, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube

**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION** Newsletter  
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- Executive Director -  
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 Football Playoffs, Coaches Education Program

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- Administrative Assistant -  
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**STACEY JONES** (extension 32)

- Administrative Assistant -  
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 Directory, Coaches' Clinics, Trophies & Medals

## GHSA Licensed Products

This month's featured licensees are: **Pickle Juice**, Official team management solution for player registration, booster concession payments & online fundraising ([www.picklejuiceapp.com](http://www.picklejuiceapp.com)); **RiverOak Photography**, **Athletic Image** ([theathleticimage.com](http://theathleticimage.com)), and **Unforgettable Moments** ([unforgettablemoment.com](http://unforgettablemoment.com)), official action photographers; **GameChanger** (<https://gc.com>), Official scorekeeping and team management partner of softball and baseball; and **Thrive Spirit**, providing high-intensity, holistic cheer and dance training with a focus on the whole athlete ([cheerdancethrive.com](http://cheerdancethrive.com)).

## Attention Basketball Coaches!

All teams advancing to the 2023 State Tournament beginning February 21-22 should go to the GHSA website for important information. Look for the headline that reads "Team Instructions for 2023 State Basketball Tournament." This information is available NOW.

## 2022 Flag FB State Champions

Congratulations to the third ever GHSA Flag Football State Champions. A third division was added in 2021 after two champs were crowned during the initial campaign in 2020. Winning in 2022 were Blessed Trinity (7A), Lithia Springs (5A-6A) and Southeast Bulloch repeating in A-4A. Photos of the other Football champions may be found on the next page.



**7A: Blessed Trinity**



**5A-6A: Lithia Springs**



**A-4A: Southeast Bulloch**

# State Football Champions - 2022



**7A: Mill Creek**



**6A: Hughes**



**5A: Ware County**



**4A: Benedictine**



**3A: Sandy Creek**



**2A: Thomson**



**A, Division 1: Prince Avenue**



**A, Division 2: Bowdon**

# Team Dual Wrestling State Champions - 2023



**7A: Camden County**



**6A: South Effingham**



**5A: Jefferson**



**4A: Central-Carroll**



**3A: Columbus**



**2A: Rockmart**



**A: Mt. Pisgah**



**Girls: Carrollton**

## Slam Dunk, 3-Point Contest Info



The fourth annual GHSA Slam Dunk and Three-Point Shooting Contests, presented by BSN Sports, will be conducted in the coming weeks with finals to be held on March 9-11 at the Ralph Swearngin State Basketball Championships in Macon. This year will see the second Co-Ed (teams of one boy & one girl) three-point shooting competition as well as the original all-girls event. **Full rules and details may be found on the GHSA web site ([www.ghsa.net](http://www.ghsa.net)).**

For further questions, please contact Ernie Yarbrough, Assistant Executive Director: [ery@ghsa.net](mailto:ery@ghsa.net).

### BOYS SLAM DUNK CONTEST

- One entry per school.
- Participants must meet all GHSA eligibility standards.
- Special props/ gimmicks are not allowed. Participants may use one individual to assist.
- Video should be no longer than 30 seconds. In-game video will be accepted.
- To enter a video, users must first upload their video to one of the accepted platforms (YouTube, Vimeo, or Instagram) and then enter the video URL into that field.
- Entries accepted at <https://woobox.com/43w2c2> starting Monday, Jan. 30, through Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023.
- Gold, silver and bronze medals will be presented.

### SLAM DUNK KEY DATES

Jan. 30 - Feb. 12: Slam Dunk entries accepted.  
 Feb. 14 - 19: First Round voting on [GHSA.net](http://GHSA.net) and @OfficialGHSA.  
 Feb. 21 - 26: Semifinal Round voting among Top 8.  
 Mar. 11 - Top 3 advance to finals at State Championships in Macon

### GIRLS & CO-ED 3-POINT SHOOTING CONTESTS

- Participants must meet all GHSA eligibility standards.
- In Co-Ed competition, competitors must be from same school.
- Must wear official school uniform during the finals.

### 3-POINT KEY DATES

Feb. 11 (Sat.) – Preliminary sites: McIntosh County Academy, Model, Perry, Banks County, Buford, Cedar Shoals, Monroe-Albany & Griffin.  
 Feb. 25 (Sat.) – Semifinal Sites: Model, Perry & Banks County.  
 Mar. 9 (Thurs.) – Co-Ed finals at State Championships in Macon  
 Mar. 10 (Fri.) – Girls finals at State Championships in Macon

## Esports Registration Ends Feb. 10

The 2022-23 GHSA **Spring** Esports State Championships, powered by PlayVS, will be held on Saturday, April 29, at the University of West Georgia Coliseum.

The **deadline to register** is February 10 and the regular season competition begins on February 13. Information on how to register may be found on the Esports page of the GHSA web site ([www.ghsa.net](http://www.ghsa.net)).

Spring titles will be determined in Rocket League, Madden 23 and Splatoon 3.

Defending champion from the Fall of 2022 were Duluth (League of Legends), Valdosta (Smash Bros. Ultimate 5A-7A), Westminster (Smash Bros Ultimate A-4A) and Carrollton (Mario Kart 8).

The finals will be carried live on NFHS Network & Twitch. Spectators are welcome to attend the event free of charge.

## Important 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 17, 2023. The meeting will be held April 17, 2023 at the Marriott Macon City Center.

**FOOTBALL SCHEDULES:** Coaches and/or Athletic Directors are reminded that 2023 varsity Football Schedules are due in the GHSA office no later than March 1, 2023. If your school has hired a new coach for the 2023 season, please make sure he is made aware of this deadline.

**INTENT TO PARTICIPATE DEADLINE:** Member schools are reminded of the March 1, 2023 deadline to notify the GHSA of entry in **All Sports and Activities** for the school year 2023-2024.

**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 WEEKS:** Reminder that there are again two (2) mandatory "Dead Weeks" this year - Monday, May 29, 2023 through Sunday, June 4, 2023 **AND** Monday, July 3, 2023 through Sunday, July 9, 2023.

## 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 2023-24 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.

## **Bass Fishing State Qualifier #2 at Lake Oconee on February 18**

The second qualifying tournament in Bass Fishing will take place on Feb. 18 at Lake Oconee in Buckhead. Below is more information on the event:

### **Tournament Director:**

- Scott Ellison – MLF Big 5  
270.205.6864 or [scott.ellison@majorleaguefishing.com](mailto:scott.ellison@majorleaguefishing.com)

### **High School Fishing Contacts:**

- Joey Bray, National Youth Director SAF/TBF  
580.716.4251 or [Joey@federationangler.com](mailto:Joey@federationangler.com)
- Scott Ellison, MLF Big 5  
270.205.6864 or [scott.ellison@majorleaguefishing.com](mailto:scott.ellison@majorleaguefishing.com)

### **Practice:**

- Competition waters are open for practice until 5 p.m. on Feb. 17
- The purchasing of, or bartering for, information or the hiring of fishing guide services will not be permitted after Feb. 7.

### **Boat Operation:**

- Contestants are not permitted to drive the boat when the combustion engine is in operation. Each boat will be driven by a coach or volunteer driver. Contestants may operate the trolling motor. Coaches and volunteers may provide assistance, including information about locating and catching fish, but are not permitted to fish.

### **Catch & Size Limit:**

- Five bass per team; minimum 14 inches on largemouth and 12 inches on spotted bass.

### **License Requirement:**

- A Valid GA fishing license is required for students 16 and older.

### **Format:**

- Each GHSA approved school may enter up to six boats in each regional competition. The top 15 boats from each regional advance to the state Championship. One additional boat will advance from each regional for every 10 boats that compete over a minimum of 100 boats in the regional. Boats advance from the first event in which they qualified. If a boat has already qualified for the state championship, the next eligible boat will advance.

### **GHSA Contact:**

- Kevin Giddens - 706-647-7473 ext. 25 or [kevin@ghsa.net](mailto:kevin@ghsa.net)

### **Registration:**

- All anglers must pre-register online at [HighSchoolFishing.org](http://HighSchoolFishing.org) no later than Monday before the event at 8:00 a.m.

### **Mandatory Registration:**

- Friday, February 17, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
- Sugar Creek Marina, 353 Parks Mill Road, Buckhead, GA.30506
- Anglers, coaches & captains must attend.
- Pretournament meeting immediately following check-in.

### **Takeoff and Weigh-in on Feb. 18:**

- Takeoff: 7:30 a.m.
- Weigh-in: 3:30 p.m.

### **Items to Bring:**

- Signed liability release
- Personal floatation device
- Valid student ID
- Valid license for state waters to be fished if 16 or older
- Sunscreen & sunglasses
- Rods and reels
- Line cutters & needle-nose pliers
- Lures & tackle
- Rainsuit
- Jersey or shirt representing your school

**HIGH SCHOOL  
FISHING**  
TBF · STUDENT ANGLER FEDERATION · MLF



## **Traditional Wrestling State Tournament**

The 2023 GHSA Traditional Wrestling State Tournament will be held February 16-18 at the Macon Centerplex.

Girls will compete in their own single championship with 14 weight classes and boys' individual state titles will be contested in seven classifications with 14 weight divisions.

All matches on all mats will be streamed live on [NFHS Network](https://www.nfhs.com).

Tickets are \$15 per day or you can purchase a three-day All Tournament pass for \$35, or a two-day Tournament Pass for \$25 (good for either Thursday & Friday **OR** Friday & Saturday). All tickets are available on [GoFan](https://www.gofan.com) only!

The **SCHEDULE** is as follows:

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Classes</u>
<b>Thursday, February 16</b>		
7:00 am	Weigh-Ins	1A & 4A
8:00 am	Round of 12	1A & 4A
After previous	Round of 8	1A & 4A
After previous	Round 1 of WBs	1A & 4A
After previous	Semifinals & Conso. Quarters	1A & 4A
After previous	Conso. Semifinals	1A & 4A
12:00 noon	Weigh-Ins	5A & 6A
1:00 pm	Round of 12	5A & 6A
After previous	Round of 8	5A & 6A
After previous	Round 1 of WBs	5A & 6A
After previous	Semifinals & Conso. Quarters	5A & 6A
After previous	Conso. Semifinals	5A & 6A
<b>Friday, February 17</b>		
7:00 am	Weigh-Ins	2A & 3A
8:00 am	Round of 12	2A & 3A
After previous	Round of 8	2A & 3A
After previous	Round 1 of WBs	2A & 3A
After previous	Semifinals & Conso. Quarters	2A & 3A
10:00 am	Weigh-Ins	7A & Girls
11:00 am	Round of 12	7A & Girls
After previous	Round of 8	7A & Girls
After previous	Round 1 of WBs	7A & Girls
After previous	Semifinals & Conso. Quarters	7A & Girls
2:00 pm	Weigh-Ins	1A, 4A, 5A & 6A
4:00 pm	Conso. Finals	1A, 4A, 5A & 6A
After previous	<b>FINALS</b>	1A, 4A, 5A & 6A
<b>Saturday, February 18</b>		
8:00 am	Weigh-Ins	2A, 3A, 7A & Girls
9:00 am	Conso. Semifinals	2A, 3A, 7A & Girls
After previous	Conso. Finals	2A, 3A, 7A & Girls
After previous	<b>FINALS</b>	2A, 3A, 7A & Girls



## GHSA Swimming State Championships Take Place on Feb. 1-4

The 2023 GHSA Swimming State Championships will be held Feb. 1-4 at the Georgia Tech Aquatic Center.

The State Diving finals were scheduled to take place on January 31, 2023 at the Westminster School.

All swimming and diving finals will be streamed live on NFHS Network to any device for the one low price of \$11.99 good for 30 days of unlimited viewing.

There are scoring divisions for each meet (6A and 7A in the 6-7A session, and 1-3A and 4-5A in the 1-5A session). Teams will score points against teams in their scoring division only. The top three (3) male and female teams and individuals in each scoring division will be recognized and receive team trophies and medals for their performances.

Tickets are \$15.00 per day and are available ONLY at [GoFan](#). Information about how to buy tickets and spectator parking information may be found on the GHSA web site.



### SCHEDULE

#### Tuesday, January 31, 2023 – Westminster

(All Diving Events beginning with warm-ups at 7:00 a.m.)

#### Wednesday, February 1, 2023 – Georgia Tech

7:30 am - 9:00 am	7A Swimming Warm-Up
9:00 am - 1:00 pm	7A Swimming Prelims
4:30 pm - 6:00 pm	7A Swimming Warm-Up
6:00 pm - 9:30 pm	7A Swimming Finals

Prelims will be conducted in two 10-lane courses. The boys events will swim in the west pool (by the main scoreboard) and the girls will swim in the east pool by the diving well). Finals will be swum in one 10-lane course, the east pool.

#### Friday, February 3, 2023 – Georgia Tech

7:30 am - 9:00 am	6A Swimming Warm-Up
9:00 am - 1:00 pm	6A Swimming Prelims
4:30 pm - 6:00 pm	6A Swimming Warm-Up
6:00 pm - 9:30 pm	6A Swimming Finals

Prelims will be conducted in two 10-lane courses. The boys events will swim in the west pool (by the main scoreboard) and the girls will swim in the east pool by the diving well). Finals will be swum in one 10-lane course, the east pool.

#### Saturday, February 4, 2023 – Georgia Tech

8:30 am - 10:00 am	1A-5A Swimming Warm-Up
10:00 am - 1:00 pm	1A-5A Swimming Prelims
4:30 pm - 6:00 pm	1A-5A Swimming Warm-Up
6:00 pm - 9:30 pm	1A-5A Swimming Finals

Prelims for all 1-5A schools will be conducted in two 10-lane courses. The boys events will swim in the west pool (by the main scoreboard) and the girls will swim in the east pool by the diving well). Finals will be swum in two 10-lane courses simultaneously, the 4-5A schools will swim the east pool, the 1-3A schools will swim in the west pool.

For ALL sessions (prelims and finals) teams will have a scheduled arrival time window, early arriving teams will NOT be allowed into the building until their scheduled check-in time.

### Dance State Championships Feb. 11

The GHSA will hold the 2022-23 Dance State Championships on Saturday, February 11, 2023.

The event will take place at the Macon Centreplex beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Dance teams can compete as coed or all-girl in genres of Jazz, High Kick, Hip Hop and Pom.

Tickets are \$15.00 and will be sold exclusively on GoFan, no box office sales.

The center will be cleared between the first and second sessions, so be sure your tickets are for the correct session.

Session No. 1 begins at 8:30 a.m., and includes competition in the A-2A division and the 3A-4A division.

Session No. 2 begins at 12:30 p.m., and will see champions crowned in the 5A-6A division and the Class 7A division.

### Game Day Championships Feb. 24

The 2023 Game Day Cheerleading Championship, in partnership with Varsity Brands, Inc., will be held on February 24 on the campus of Columbus State University. Admission is \$15.00 per person. Tickets are available ONLY on GoFan, and the ticket is good for the entire day's event.

The competition divisions will be A-2A, 3A-4A, 5A-6A, 7A and Dance. Teams will compete in areas they use to lead a crowd at a game on "Game Day" at a football or basketball game.

There are three segments on which they will be judged: cheer, band chant, and fight song. The teams scoring the highest in these three segments will be the finalists and will then combine all of these areas in an additional three-minute routine.

The event will stream live on the NFHS Network.



## GHSA Partners with Wanamaker Corporation

The Georgia High School Association (GHSA) announces a multi-year partnership with Wanamaker Corporation, creator of the GHSA Golf app and iWanamaker golf event management software. The GHSA Golf app powered by iWanamaker is a robust and scalable golf event management platform designed specifically for high school golf. The partnership makes iWanamaker and the GHSA Golf app the official online event management, player rosters, live scoring, and rankings hub for GHSA Golf. The iWanamaker platform will be the official event management software for all GHSA regular and postseason tournaments, advancements and state-tournament qualifying. The agreement begins with the 2023 spring GHSA golf season.

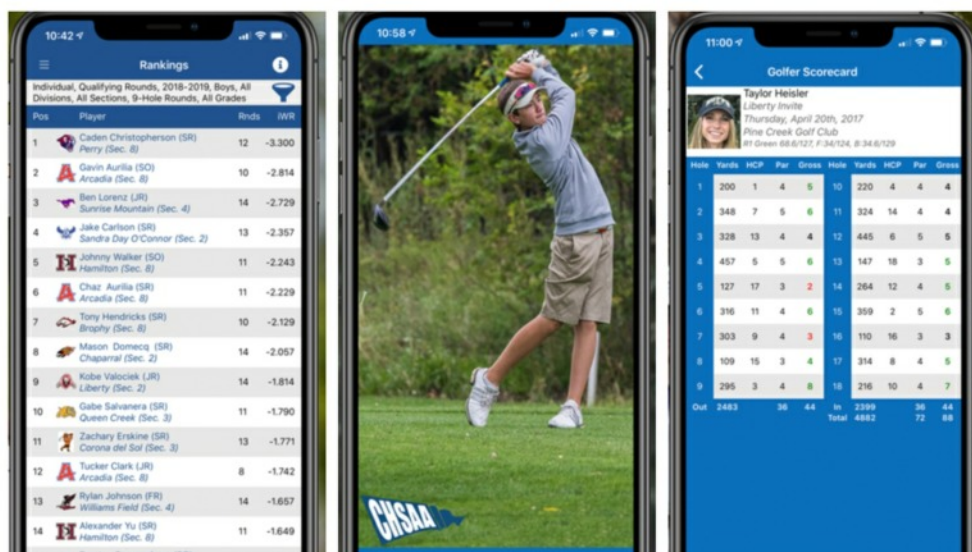
Through its proven Golf Tournament Management Platform (iWanamaker and associated native apps), the platform will also provide athletic directors, coaches and student-athletes free access to schedules, live leaderboards, player scorecards, rankings and more. Spectators must purchase a ticket to access content and a portion of the ticket revenue is shared with the GHSA and its member schools.

**iWanamaker & GHSA will announce a Zoom call for GHSA Golf Coaches & ADs the week of Feb. 6-10 to explain more about the platform and how to get started on the GHSA Golf App.**

“GHSA is pleased to join with Wanamaker Corporation,” GHSA Executive Director Robin Hines said. “This enables our fans, parents, media, student-athletes and school officials to receive real-time golf results as they follow their favorite teams during regular and postseason events.”

Wanamaker Corporation, the pioneer of online secure scoring for high school golf, has long served multiple state high school associations. The GHSA joins thousands of schools, leagues, and governing bodies already using Wanamaker Corp technologies to streamline golf tournament setup, player registration, secure scoring, rankings, and data management.

“We are excited to partner with the GHSA to bring online secure scoring, accurate golfer rankings and increased scoring integrity to all members of the Georgia high school golf community,” Wanamaker Corporation CEO Doyle Heisler said. “Georgia has so much passion for golf, and together with the GHSA, we are excited to help increase awareness and grow the sport across the state.”







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# SCHOOL SPIRIT NIGHT

50 TICKETS GETS YOUR SCHOOL/CLUB LOGO ON OUR GAME JERSEYS



**SAT. FEBRUARY 25**  
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SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT: [WWW.GEORGIASWARM.COM/SCHOOL-SPIRIT-NIGHT](http://WWW.GEORGIASWARM.COM/SCHOOL-SPIRIT-NIGHT)



Thank you all for your interest thus far in our inaugural GHSA Soccer night!

Our early bird pricing will conclude at the end of January and pricing will increase from \$15 to \$20. With great seating options still available, we would love to help your team secure your seats before pricing increases or we sell out!

Please reach out to Matthew Carter at [matthew.carter@atlutd.com](mailto:matthew.carter@atlutd.com) for more information.



v



**SATURDAY, FEB 25 | 7:30 PM**

**Note: For teams to secure seats and sit together, coaches must reach out directly.**

A purchase link is also available for any family or friends wishing to attend. Visit <https://fevo.me/ghsa> and enter promo code:

**GHSA**

## GHSA - February/March Calendar - 2023

### February

- 1 Deadline for notification of entry in Literary; Earliest date for Golf practice
- 1 & 3-4 State Swimming Meet
- 3, 4 Traditional Wrestling Region/Area Tournaments
- 6 Earliest contest date for Baseball, Lacrosse and Track
- 7 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 11 Traditional Wrestling Sectional Tournaments; Dance State Championship
- 13 First practice date for Slow Pitch Softball
- 16 Slow Pitch Softball first contest date
- 16-18 Traditional Wrestling State Tournament
- 18 Complete Region Basketball; First contest date for Golf
- 20 File Region Basketball winners by 9 a.m.
- 21 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 21, 22 First Round State Basketball Tournaments
- 24 Game Day Cheerleading State Championship
- 24, 25 Second Round State Basketball Tournament
- 28 Quarterfinal Round State Basketball Tournament

### March

- 1 Football Schedules due; Deadline for notification of entry in **ALL** sports (2023-24)
- 1 Quarterfinal Round State Basketball Tournament; Complete Area Riflery
- 3, 4 Semifinal Round State Basketball Tournament
- 7 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting

## GHSA Sponsors

