



GHSA

"ITEMS OF INTEREST"

November 2019

AAASP Annual Aspire Awards Are Outstanding & Important!

I had the opportunity recently to attend the 2nd Annual Aspire Awards which is a celebration of many who have worked with Adapted Sports through the American Association of Adapted Sports Programs. It was an outstanding event and awards for advocacy, media, community-based program, school-based program, volunteerism, outstanding male and female athlete and the outstanding senior athlete were given (you can see a list of the award winners on the GHSA web site www.ghsa.net).

The partnership between the GHSA and AAASP is important and provides tremendous opportunities for students that would not ordinarily have them without adapted sports. I believe all of us became involved in coaching because of the benefits realized by student-athletes that are provided through sports participation.

Students learn to be good employees, citizens, husbands, wives, leaders and how to follow through participation in sports. In school, they drop out less, have better grades and demonstrate good behaviors. These are great goals we should have for all of our players.

It is my belief that we should provide these opportunities for all of our students, including those who are physically disabled. We all have these students in our schools and whether your school is big or small, we can find a way to make an adapted sports program work for your school and its students.

Please contact me and I will be happy to talk to you about our Adapted Sports Programs and look at ways to involve your students that qualify.

Congratulations to the 2019 Fast Pitch Softball Champions! The Elite Eight Tournament in Columbus was outstanding and special thanks go out to the Columbus Sports Council and the many volunteers who made this year's event a success. The ground crews were awesome, but we couldn't hold off the rain in the championship games Saturday afternoon. Thanks to the schools that hosted the games the following Monday, and congratulations again to our champions!

Volleyball, Cross Country and One Act Play will hold their Championships in early November. Thanks go out to Carrollton High School for hosting Cross Country Friday and Saturday, November 1-2. It is a great venue and we appreciate the many volunteers who make the meet a success every year.

The same can be said for Marietta and McEachern High Schools and the job they do with Volleyball, as well as the various schools hosting our One Act Play competitions on November 2 and 9. Thanks to all of these schools and school systems for their work to make the GHSA Championships the best anywhere!

As always, please give us a call if there is anything we can do for you.

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



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

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GHSA Licensed Products

This month's featured licensees are: **Honig's Whistle Stop** (honigs.com) **Cliff Keen** (cliffkeen.com), **Smitty Official's Apparel** (smittyusadyesub.com), officials uniforms, apparel and equipment; **Nfinity**, official cheerleading apparel (nfinity.com); **CheerSounds**, licensed provider of cheerleading & dance music (cheersounds.com); **Snapphound**, event photo platform to unlock fundraising opportunities from photos of their community events and experiences (ghsa.snapphound.com/events) and **Resilite**, official wrestling mat (resilite.com).

Watch 'Q&A With Dr. Hines' on Website

Watch "Q & A with Dr. Hines," a series of videos on GHSA.net about the Georgia High School Association and a variety of topics about scholastic sports and activities. The interview style format with GHSA Executive Director Robin Hines will provide insight into commonly asked questions and issues.

We encourage your school to place this link on your athletic website to further inform your community and parents. The project was produced by Consume Media (<https://consume-media.com/>).

Watch at <https://www.ghsa.net/qa-robin-hines-ghsa-executive-director>.

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GHSA Cheerleading State Championships on November 15-16

The 2019 GHSA Cheerleading State Championships will take place November 15-16 at the Columbus Civic Center.

Admission is \$12 per session and the civic center will be cleared between sessions each day. Please make sure your ticket purchase is for your team's session!

Absolutely **NO FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY** allowed from any mobile device (phone / iPad/ tablet) or cameras by spectators during the competition!

Fans can watch every session on Friday and on Saturday live exclusively on NFHSNetwork.com/GHSA for \$10.95 all-access pass.

SCHEDULE

Friday, November 15, 2019

- Session 1: Sectionals for Classes 2A, 3A and 4A
Doors open at 7:30 a.m. Session begins at 8:30 a.m.
- Session 2: Sectionals for Classes 5A, 6A and 7A
Doors open at 1:00 p.m. Session begins at 2:00 p.m.
- Session 3: FINALS for Class A and CoEd
Doors open when Session 2 cleared. Session begins at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 16, 2019

- Session 1: FINALS for Classes 2A, 3A and 4A
Doors open at 8:00 a.m. Session begins at 9:00 a.m.
- Session 2: FINALS for Classes 5A, 6A and 7A
Doors open at 1:00 p.m. Session begins at 2:00 p.m.



2019 State Cross Country Meet

Schedule at Carrollton High School

Friday, Nov. 1, 2019

9:00 am Boys 4A
9:45 am Girls 4A
10:30 am Boys 6A
11:15 am Girls 6A
12 noon Boys 5A
12:45 pm Girls 5A

Saturday, Nov. 2, 2019

8:00 am Boys A Private
8:45 am Girls A Private
9:30 am Boys 7A
10:15 am Girls 7A
11:00 am Boys 2A
11:45 am Girls 2A
12:30 pm Boys 3A
1:15 pm Girls 3A
2:00 pm Boys A Public
2:45 pm Girls A Public



Volleyball Finals on NFHS Network

The NFHS Network will stream live coverage of the GHSA Volleyball State Championships, presented by Mizuno, on Saturday, November 2 from Marietta and McEachern High Schools. Mobile tickets will be available on GoFan at <https://gofan.co/app/school/GHSA>.

If you can't be there in person, watch all the action at <https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/associations/ghsa>. Subscribing to the Network is just \$10.95 for a 30-day period or \$69.99 for an annual pass.



VOLLEYBALL FINALS

At McEachern HS
11:00 am - 1A/2A Private
1:30 pm - 1A/2A Public
4:00 pm - Class 3A

At Marietta HS
11:00 am - Class 4A
1:30 pm - Class 5A
4:00 pm - Class 6A
6:30 pm - Class 7A

State Fastpitch Softball Champions - 2019



7A: Mountain View



6A: Pope



5A: Locust Grove



4A: Heritage-Catoosa



3A: Ringgold



2A: Banks County



A (public): Gordon Lee



A (private): Mt. de Sales

School Broadcast Program Policy

All schools participating in the NFHS Network School Broadcast Program (SBP) have the rights to broadcast live (or delayed) any regular season contest involving their school with approval of the host home school.

If both schools are members of the NFHS Network SBP, then both schools may live-stream. We ask home game host schools to best accommodate these live-stream requests with respect to space limitations of the host facility.

If the NFHS Network is broadcasting regular season games that involve schools in the NFHS Network, then the school may also live-stream the event over its own NFHS Network SBP.

All schools participating in the NFHS Network SBP may live-stream any contest their team is participating in during the state playoffs (all sports) with the following exceptions: Cheerleading Sectionals, Football Semifinals, Basketball Semifinals and all neutral-site state final events.

If a member school NFHS Network SBP is broadcasting a state playoff event and a third-party producer wishes to live-stream the event, the member school gets preference. (This is usually coordinated with GHSA & NFHS Network to avoid such conflicts).

State Championships live-streams will be handled by NFHS Network in the following sports for 2019-20: Volleyball, Competition Cheerleading, Football, Swimming & Diving, Team Dual & Traditional Wrestling, Basketball, Soccer, Lacrosse, Track & Field and Baseball.

No fee is assessed member-school NFHS Network School Broadcast Programs. The GHSA will provide all NFHS Network member-school SBP programs a letter of permission for all post-season events and playoff contests if needed.

We require all commercial and other broadcast groups, radio and internet audio, and delayed video groups to request a letter of permission and pay a rights fee in advance before those affiliates are allowed to gain permission. This includes other member school programs not participating in the NFHS Network SBP.



One Act Play Finals Nov. 2 & 9

The GHSA State One Act Play Championships will be held November 2, 2019 for Classes 5A, 4A, and A Public, and November 9, 2019 for Classes 7A, 6A, 3A, 2A, and A Private. Admission is free at all sites.



ONE ACT PLAY FINALS

November 2

1A Public - at Crisp County
Class 4A - at Washington Co.
Class 5A - at Houston County

November 9

1A Private - at Warner Robins
Class 2A - at Upson-Lee
Class 3A - at Mary Persons
Class 6A - at Veterans
Class 7A - at Buford

Football Power Rating Procedures!

Below is the timetable and procedures for release of the final 2019 Class A Football Power Ratings, appeals and seeding of the playoff brackets, as well as the "At Large" playoff team in Classes 3A and 7A:

Nov. 4 - All Class A football coaches **MUST** check the power ratings and inform Tommy Whittle or Kevin Giddens immediately if there are any problems or mistakes.

Nov. 9 - Region winners in all classifications must be determined and results entered into the MaxPreps web site by the end of day.

Nov. 10 - MaxPreps' final Class A power ratings will be posted on the GHSA web site.

Nov. 11 - Region playoff qualifiers in classes 2-A through 7-A (except for the "At Large" teams) must be submitted to the GHSA office by 9:00 a.m.

Nov. 11:

(1) Any school that believes its final power rating is incorrect may file an appeal in writing to Tommy Whittle between 8-11 a.m., by fax (706-647-2638) or e-mail twhittle@ghsa.net. The appeal must include a complete list of results and points earned for each game!

(2) A GHSA Appeals Committee will verify the results (including any appeals), break any ties and determine the Class A playoff brackets.

(3) The results of the appeals and the Class A playoff brackets will be posted by 4:00 p.m., on the GHSA web site.

(4) **The "At Large" teams in Classes 3A and 7A** also will be determined at this time and posted to the brackets by 4:00 p.m., on the GHSA web site.

NOTE: Teams winning a Region championship will be placed in the Class A brackets (public school or private school) first based on their respective power ratings. Once the brackets are posted, no further appeals will be considered.



The NFHS Voice**No Linkage to CTE From Playing High School Football**

By Dr. Karissa L. Niehoff, NFHS Executive Director

When it comes to the long-term effects of concussions in sports, there is a wide range of information published. Unfortunately, much of the media coverage as it relates to high school sports – and particularly the sport of football – is misleading.

Recently, the Concussion Legacy Foundation introduced a public-service announcement comparing youth football to smoking. As the pre-teen football players puff on cigarettes, the voiceover says, "Tackle football is like smoking, the younger I start, the longer I'm exposed to danger."

The "Tackle Can Wait" campaign by the foundation is an attempt to steer children under the age of 14 into flag football. Although establishing a finite age may be difficult, reducing contact at youth levels is certainly a positive. USA Football is doing just that nationally through its Football Development Model. Likewise, the 51-member state associations of the NFHS have enacted limitations on contact during pre-season and practice sessions.

Our concern is the term "exposed to danger." These types of messages continue to spread unwarranted fear to parents. The "danger" refers to reports that players who incur repeated concussions can develop chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE).



A 2017 study from the Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA) linked CTE in the brains of deceased National Football League players. Even if this report is accurate, these are individuals who endured repeated blows to the head for 20 to 25 years BEFORE any concussion protocols were in place.

Less publicized is a study at the Peter O'Donnell Jr. Brain Institute, part of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. Studied were 35 former NFL players age 50 and older who had sustained multiple concussions throughout their careers. The findings showed no significant association between the length of the individuals' careers, the number of concussions and their cognitive function later in life.

Two studies, two different conclusions. Regardless of the outcome, however, they are not applicable to kids playing football before and during high school. There is

absolutely no linkage to CTE at these levels, and the word "danger" should not be part of the discussion.

A more applicable study was also published in JAMA in 2017. In a study of 4,000 men who graduated from Wisconsin high schools in 1957, there was no difference in cognitive function or decline between those who played football and those who did not as they reached 65 years of age.

With more than one million boys – and girls – playing the contact sport of football each year, severe injuries do occur from time to time, but parents should know that efforts to lessen the risk of a catastrophic injury, including head injuries, have never been stronger than they are today.

In fact, new data from the National High School Sports-Related Injury Surveillance Study indicates that concussion rates during football practices dropped from 5.47 to 4.44 concussions per 10,000 athletic exposures between the 2013-14 and 2017-18.

In addition, repeat concussion rates in all sports declined from 0.47 to 0.28 per 10,000 exposures during that period.

After considering all the available research, we encourage parents to let their kids play their sport of choice in high school, but we would discourage moving away from football – or any contact sport – solely based on the fear of developing CTE later in life.

Nominations Still Open for 13th Annual Vince Dooley Awards

DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 28, 2020

Athletes for a Better World announces the 13th Annual Vincent J. Dooley Awards and Scholarships for the 2019-2020 school year. The athletic director of each school may designate the Senior Class male and female recipient of the Awards for their school, and their recipients may also compete for a four-year, \$1,000 a year, scholarship.

For more information and the Nomination Form, please go here: <http://www.abw.org/awards/dooley-award-nomination/>

Each year, every high school in Georgia is invited to select one male and one female senior athlete to receive the Dooley Award. The award recipients are chosen for their distinguished character, teamwork, and citizenship. All award recipients are reviewed by a selection committee, who choose 10 boys and 10 girls as finalists. The Dooley Scholarship is then presented to one male and one female athlete.

All recipients are invited to attend a banquet in Spring 2020 to receive their awards. If you have questions, please contact Brad Catherman at bcatherman@abw.org.

Adopt the Code for your team or school:

Because I am a role model and have the opportunity and responsibility to make a difference in the lives of others, I commit to this Code. I will take responsibility and appropriate actions when I fail to live up to it.

As an individual:

- I will develop my skills to the best of my ability and give my best effort in practice and competition.
- I will compete within the spirit and letter of the rules of my sport.
- I will respect the dignity of every human being, and will not be abusive or dehumanizing of another either as an athlete or as a fan.

As a member of a team:

- I will place team goals ahead of personal goals.
- I will be a positive influence on the relationships on the team.
- I will follow the team rules established by the coach.

As a member of society:

- I will display caring and honorable behavior off the field and be a positive influence in my community and world.
- I will give of my time, skills, and money as I am able for the betterment of my community and world.

Playing On Another Team - Your Call To Officiate

When your playing days end you can still "Stay in the Game" by becoming an official in the Georgia High School Association. Many officials are former athletes at various levels who love the game and are now able to contribute to the experience of current athletes, coaches, and spectators.

Please complete the following information to be contacted by a member of the respective local association in the sport(s) indicated or go online to complete at: <https://www.ghsa.net/playing-another-team-your-call-officiate>



Mail to: Georgia High School Association, 151 South Bethel Street, Thomaston, GA 30286

First Name * Last Name *

City of Residence *

Email Address *

Phone Number *

Preferred Method of Contact *


By Email

By Phone

Sports/Activities of Interest *

Baseball, Basketball, Cheer/Spirit, Dance, Football, Gymnastics

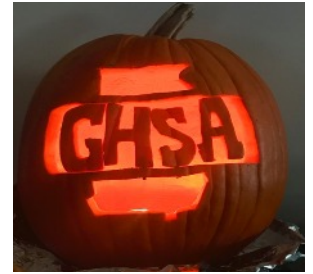
Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Volleyball, Wrestling



GHSA - November Calendar - 2019

November

- 1, 2 State Cross Country Meet
- 2 State One-Act Play (Classes A Public, 4A & 5A)
- 2 Volleyball State Finals
- 8 Earliest date for Wrestling match & Basketball game
- 9 End Football Regular Season
- 9 Complete Region Cheerleading (Class A & Coed Sectionals)
- 9 State One-Act Play (Classes A Private, 2A, 3A, 6A & 7A)
- 12 Hardship/Appeal Meeting
- 15 Coed & A Cheerleading Finals (Sectionals for 2A through 7A)
- 15, 16 First Round State Football Playoffs
- 16 Cheerleading State Finals (Classes 2A through 7A)
- 22, 23 Second Round State Football Playoffs
- 28 **Thanksgiving Day** - GHSA Office closed 27th through 29th
- 29, 30 Quarterfinal Round State Football Playoffs



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



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



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