



# GHSA

## *“Items of Interest”*

February 2009



The GHSA is indebted to the Atlanta Falcons and the Georgia World Congress Center Authority for their tribute to high school football inside the Georgia Dome. The “Helmet Wall” is even more impressive than what shows in the photograph. The only thing that would make this permanent addition to the Georgia Dome more spectacular would be 100% participation by our member schools that play football. If you have not sent a helmet from your school, please send one to:

Kendyl Moss - Director of Community Relations, Atlanta Falcons, 4400 Falcon Parkway, Flowery Branch, GA 30542

**Eligibility Seminar:** As all of us try to cut expenses, the mandatory eligibility seminar for Guidance Counselors and Athletics Directors will not occur this spring. The GHSA will be preparing a DVD that will be sent to each member school outlining eligibility rules and procedures. It is strongly recommended that each school gather those people responsible for filing eligibility forms to view this DVD. This material would also provide beneficial assistance to coaches who viewed this presentation. It is hoped that this presentation will be sent to schools in April.

– Ralph Swearngin, Executive Director

**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION** Newsletter

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Phone: 706-647-7473 Fax: 706-647-2638 Web: [www.ghsa.net](http://www.ghsa.net)

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

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

**RALPH SWEARNGIN** (extension 7)

- Executive Director -  
Administration, Interpretation of GHSA Rules,  
Hardship Appeals, Lacrosse, Volleyball

**GARY PHILLIPS** (extension 6)

- Assistant Executive Director -  
Student Eligibility, Community Coach Program,  
Cross Country, Wrestling, Track, Golf

**JOYCE KAY** (extension 5)

- Associate Executive Director -  
Finances, Entry Notification, Agendas,  
Literary, One-Act Play, Debate, Cheerleading, Riflery

**STEVE FIGUEROA** (extension 4)

- Director of Media Relations -  
Press Releases, Media Coordination for State Events, Newsletter,  
Football Schedules, Constitution, Calendar, Tennis

**JIM BULLINGTON** (extension 33)

- Technology Specialist -  
Web Page Supervision, Database Management, Technical Support

**PAM THOMPSON** (extension 30)

- Officials' Registrar -  
Officials' Registration, Test Scoring and Records

**DENNIS PAYNE** (extension 23)

- Associate Director -  
Football, Baseball, Swimming

**ERNIE YARBROUGH** (extension 27)

- Associate Director -  
Basketball, Soccer, Softball

**TANYA ANDERSON** (extension 2)

- Administrative Assistant -  
Sanctioning of Events, School Passes,  
Directory, Coaches' Clinic Attendance

**JULIE JONES** (extension 1)

- Administrative Assistant -  
Dues, Community Coach Program

**SHERI COKER** (extension 0)

- Receptionist -  
Lifetime Passes, School System Passes,  
Ejection Reports, Publication Orders

**GHSA Licensed Products**

Advanced orders for GHSA event T-shirts can be placed with All-Star Outfitters at [www.asoapparel.com](http://www.asoapparel.com) or call 678-569-0134 ... Action photos from select championship events can be found at Photographic Arts [www.schoolpix.biz](http://www.schoolpix.biz) / 678-393-1719 ... DVDs / VHS copies of GHSA televised games can be ordered from [www.gametapes.com](http://www.gametapes.com) / 206-285-8816 ... Visit the GHSA Store and a full list of GHSA sponsors and licensees at [www.ghsa.net](http://www.ghsa.net).

**2009-10 National Debate Topic**

The National Federation of State High School Associations has announced the voting on the National Debate Topic for school year 2009-10.

The winning topic is "Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase social services for persons living in poverty in the United States."

**STATE CHAMPIONS****FOOTBALL**

Congratulations to the following State Champions in Football:

AAAAA	- Camden County High School
AAAA	- Tucker High School
AAA	- Cairo High School
AA	- Buford High School
A	- Wesleyan School

**TEAM DUAL WRESTLING**

Congratulations to the following State Champions in Team Dual Wrestling:

AAAAA	- Collins Hill High School
AAAA	- Whitewater High School
AAA	- LaFayette High School
AA	- Jefferson High School
A	- Bremen 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.

**CSG Offers Fundraising Program**

CSG Sportscoatings, a licensee of the GHSA, is offering a new and unique fundraising opportunity to member schools - the Cover3Kit. The Cover3Kit is the only system of EPA registered products proven to offer long term reduction of germs and bacteria, including staph and MRSA. Schools may sign up online at [www.csgrp.com/fundraising](http://www.csgrp.com/fundraising).

For questions and materials, contact a CSG representative at (248) 299-2593. CSG Sports Coating will provide antimicrobial treatment to the wrestling mats at the upcoming GHSA Traditional Wrestling State Championships.

**Wrestling Mats For Sale**

Dollamur wrestling mats used at the GHSA Traditional Wrestling State Championships are for sale at discounted prices to GHSA member schools. Contact Ben Vobian at Dollamur at 800-886-0186.

## GHSA Reminders:

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ITEMS:** Anyone wishing to have an item included on the agenda for the March State Executive Committee meeting must submit the item to the GHSA office by February 20, 2009. The State Executive Committee meeting will be held March 23, 2009 at the Holiday Inn in Forsyth.

**FOOTBALL SCHEDULES:** Coaches and/or Athletic Directors are reminded that 2009 varsity Football Schedules are due in the GHSA office no later than March 1, 2009. If your school has hired a new coach for the 2009 season, please make sure he is made aware of this deadline.

**OPEN MEET DEADLINE:** Member schools are reminded that April 1, 2009 is the deadline to notify the GHSA of entry in Open Meet State Events such as Volleyball, Slow Pitch Softball, Lacrosse, AA/A Soccer, Wrestling, Riflery and Gymnastics for the school year 2009-2010. The form for notification can be found on the GHSA web site.

**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.

## GHSA Seeks Host Sites

Each year, there are many schools that 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 2009-10 year. Sites are needed for the following events:

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

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

## GHSA Wrestling on Web

The GHSA Traditional Wrestling State Championships will stream live online and on demand on [www.GHSA.net](http://www.GHSA.net) on Saturday, February 21 at 5 p.m. The Webcast will be produced by Score Atlanta and PlayOn Sports. Presenting sponsors are Verizon Wireless, US Marines and GEMC.

## GHSA News & Notes

Equip It (Equip-It.com) is a new official GHSA licensee of athletic facilities equipment. Contact Jon Willis at 678-873-8504. ... Verizon Wireless is the presenting sponsor of the 2009 GHSA Swimming & Diving State Championships on Feb. 11-14. ... The GHSA Volleyball State Championships were watched online by 2,825 live and 6,430 on demand unique viewers from Nov. 1 to Jan. 20. ... The GPB TV ratings for the Football State Finals were 31% higher in 2008 (AAAA: Tucker vs. Marist – 2.3 rating & AAAAA: Peachtree Ridge vs. Camden Co. 2.7 rating) vs. 2007 (AAAA: Northside, WR vs. Ware County – 1.7 rating & AAAAA: N. Gwinnett vs. Lowndes – 2.1 rating). ... DVDs of GHSA televised and Web broadcasts can be ordered at [Gametapes.com](http://Gametapes.com).

## Attention Basketball Coaches!

**BASKETBALL ROSTERS NOW DUE:** All basketball teams (boys and girls) must submit their varsity roster to the Georgia Sports website at [gasports.com](http://gasports.com). The website will instruct you on how to enter your roster. Do NOT submit your roster to the GHSA Office.

Steve Copeland's phone number is 404-259-3838 if you have any problems or questions.

**BASKETBALL STATE TOURNAMENT:** All teams advancing to the State Tournament should go to the GHSA website for important information concerning the tournament. Look for the headline that reads "State Tournament Team Information Packet". This information will be available on Monday, February 23.

**SHIRTS ARE MANDATORY FOR FANS:** Please remember that shirts must be worn at all times at GHSA basketball games.

It has come to our attention that some fans are coming in with painted chests and no shirts. This will NOT be allowed for the upcoming tournaments and should not be allowed for regular-season games.

In accordance with GHSA By-Laws, Basketball - Section H - 7 "All spectators must wear shirts during the games."

## GHSA Official Balls

Coaches and school administrators are reminded that the GHSA State Executive Committee has approved "Official" balls for all GHSA state playoff events.

Listed below are the balls that will be provided for GHSA state playoff events. These balls are effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2013.

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Make/Model</u>
Baseball	WILSON A1010
Basketball	WILSON WAVE Boys: B0610 Girls: B0611
Football	WILSON F1003 or F1005
Soccer	BRINE "Championship"
Softball - FP (optic yellow 12")	WILSON A9011 BSST
Volleyball	SPALDING TF5000



## Winter Sports Championships - 2009



**Class AAAAA Dual Wrestling:  
Collins Hill**



**Class AAAA Dual Wrestling:  
Whitewater**



**Class AAA Dual Wrestling:  
LaFayette**

**Class AA Dual Wrestling:  
Jefferson**



Photos of the championship teams represented in this newsletter were provided by **Photographic Arts**. Other photos from the various GHSA state events can be found at [www.schoolpix.biz](http://www.schoolpix.biz).



## Winter Sports Championships - 2009

**Class A Dual Wrestling:  
Bremen**



## Fall Sports Championships - 2008



**Class AA Football: Buford**



**Class AAAA Football: Tucker**



**Class AAA Football: Cairo**

## Fall Sports Championships - 2008



**Class A Football: Wesleyan**



**Class AAAAA Football: Camden County**

## GHSA Officials / Coaches Clinics

By-Law #2.54, page 37 of the 2008-09 GHSA Constitution and By-Laws states: Every coach at a GHSA member school must attend a **GHSA-sponsored rules clinic** if he/she coaches the following sports: football, softball, volleyball, riflery, cheerleading (spirit and/or competitive), basketball, lacrosse, wrestling, swimming and diving, track, baseball, soccer and gymnastics.

- (a) A fine per coach who does not attend a clinic will be assessed to the school.  
 (b) All Community Coaches are reminded that clinic attendance is mandatory for them, also.

Following is a listing of the remaining 2008-09 GHSA Rules Clinics for coaches and officials.  
**Weeknight clinics begin at 7:30 p.m. Saturday clinics begin at 10 a.m., unless otherwise noted.**  
**ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED.**

**NOTE: All BASKETBALL, CHEERLEADING, FOOTBALL, GYMNAS-TICS, RIFLERY, SOFTBALL, SWIMMING, VOLLEYBALL and WRES-TLING clinics have been completed.**

### **SOCCER**

**Code:** C = Coaches, R = Returning Officials, N = New Officials  
 Coaches may attend any clinic listed  
 February 7 ..... Oconee County HS, Commons (C/R/N)

### **TRACK & FIELD**

February 2 ..... Carrollton High School, Field House  
 February 4 ..... Calhoun High School, Auditorium  
 February 5 ..... Lovejoy High School, Commons  
 February 7 ..... Thomson High School, Cafeteria  
 February 7 ..... Ware County High School, Cafeteria

### **LACROSSE**

February 7 ..... Marist School, Gym (B/G)

### **BASEBALL**

February 2 ..... Columbus High School, Cafeteria  
 February 2 ..... Dalton High School, Theatre  
 February 4 ..... Statesboro High School, Media Center  
 February 4 ..... Wheeler High School, Auditorium  
 February 5 ..... Evans High School, Auditorium  
 February 5 ..... Norcross High School, Auditorium  
 February 9 ..... Vidalia High School, Cafeteria  
 February 9 ..... Savannah Country Day, Auditorium  
 February 9 ..... Westover High School, Auditorium  
 February 11 ..... Oconee County High School, Cafeteria  
 February 11 ..... Northside High School, WR, Auditorium  
 February 12 ..... Lowndes High School, Cafeteria  
 February 12 ..... Woodward Academy, Chapel  
 February 16 ..... GHSA Office, Thomaston  
 February 18 ..... Whitewater High School, Auditorium  
 February 18 ..... Rome High School, Commons  
 February 19 ..... Ware County High School, Cafeteria  
 February 19 ..... Habersham Central High School, Cafeteria



## State Swimming and Diving Meets

The 2009 **State Diving Championship** will be held Wednesday and Thursday, February 11-12, at The **Marist School**. NOTE: This is a change from the original site.

The 2009 **State Swimming Championships** will be at The **Westminster School** on February 12-14.

Admission is \$7 per day or two days for \$10 at either site. A 3-days pass is available for \$15 at the swim venue.

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:

February 11	1 p.m.	Diving - AAAAA
February 12	1 p.m.	Diving - AAAA/AAA/AA/A
February 12	5 p.m.	Swim Prelims for AAAAA
February 13	5 p.m.	Prelims for AAAA/AAA/AA/A
February 14	1 p.m.	Finals - AAAAA
February 14	6 p.m.	Finals - AAAA/AAA/AA/A

### 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
1:52.00	200-yard Medley Relay	2:08.00
1:56.00	200-yard Freestyle	2:08.00
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
1:41.50	200-yard Freestyle Relay	1:54.00
1:00.00	100-yard Backstroke	1:06.00
1:08.50	100-yard Breaststroke	1:16.00
3:46.00	400-yard Freestyle Relay	4:14.00

### 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 Saturday, February 13-14, 2009.

The State Finals for all five classifications will be held on Thursday through Saturday, February 19-21, 2009 at the Arena at Gwinnett Center. Admission prices for the State Finals are \$7 on 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:

<b>AAAAA:</b>	West (Regions 1, 4, 5, 6)	Lowndes
	East (Regions 2, 3, 7, 8)	Camden County
<b>AAAA:</b>	West (Regions 1, 4, 5, 7)	Upson-Lee
	East (Regions 2, 3, 6, 8)	Glynn Academy
<b>AAA:</b>	West (Regions 1, 2, 5, 6)	Riverwood
	East (Regions 3, 4, 7, 8)	Eagles Landing
<b>AA:</b>	West (Regions 1, 4, 5, 7)	Henry County
	East (Regions 2, 3, 6, 8)	Jefferson
<b>A:</b>	West (Area 1)	Gordon Lee
	East (Area 2)	Social Circle

The Schedule for the **Sectional Tournaments** is as follows:

Date/Time	Event
<b>Friday, Feb. 13</b>	
2:00 - 4:15 p.m.	Weigh-Ins
5:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Round of 16
8:00 - 9:30 p.m.	Round of 8
9:30 - 10:30 p.m.	1st Round WBs
<b>Saturday, Feb. 14</b>	
9:00 - 10:30 a.m.	2nd Round WBs
10:30 a.m. - noon	Semis & Con. Quarters
noon - 1:30 p.m.	Con. Semis & Semis for 9th
1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Con. Finals & 9th place
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Finals

The Schedule for the **State Finals Tournament** at the Arena at Gwinnett Center is as follows:

Date/Time	Event	Class
<b>Thursday, Feb. 19</b>		
1 - 4:00 p.m.	Weigh-Ins	2A, 3A, 4A & 5A
5:30 - 10 p.m.	Round of 16	2A, 3A, 4A & 5A
<b>Friday, Feb. 20</b>		
8 - 9:30 a.m.	Weigh-Ins	1A
9 - 11:15 a.m.	1st Round WBs	2A, 3A, 4A & 5A
11:15 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Quarters	All Classes
3 - 5:15 p.m.	2nd Round WBs	2A, 3A, 4A & 5A
5:15 - 7 p.m.	Con. Quarters	All Classes
7 - 9:30 p.m.	Semifinals	All Classes
<b>Saturday, Feb. 21</b>		
10 a.m. - noon	Con. Semifinals	All Classes
noon - 2:00 p.m.	Con. Finals	All Classes
5:00 p.m.	FINALS	All Classes

## GHSA - February Calendar - 2009

### February

- 2 Earliest date for Baseball, Girls Track, Golf and Lacrosse practice
- 6 Deadline for notification of entry in Literary
- 6, 7 State Debate Finals
- 6, 7 Traditional Wrestling Area Tournaments
- 9 Earliest contest date for Soccer, Tennis and Gymnastics
- 10 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 11-14 State Swimming & Diving Meets
- 13, 14 Traditional Wrestling Sectional Tournaments
- 16 Earliest contest date for Golf, Lacrosse and Boys Track
- 19-21 Traditional Wrestling State Tournaments
- 21 Complete Region Basketball
- 23 File reports of Region Basketball winners by noon
- 23 Earliest contest date for Baseball and Girls Track
- 24 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 27, 28 First Round State Basketball Tournaments

### March

- 3, 4 Second Round State Basketball Tournaments
- 6, 7 Quarterfinal Round State Basketball Tournaments

## GHSA Sponsors

