



GHSA

“Items of Interest”

February 2011

Reclassification Committee Looking at Many Different Plans

The recent ice and snow was able to shut down schools in a large part of Georgia, but those weather conditions did not stifle the rumor traffic across the state. A number of calls have come in to the GHSA staff in regard to rumors about reclassification plans the GHSA will implement beginning in the fall of 2012.

The GHSA Reclassification Committee met in October and will meet again in early February to “test out” innovative plans that might solve some of the perceived problems with the existing classification of GHSA schools. Many of the complaints with the existing region structures will be difficult to fix, and some of the complaints are actually contradictory. For example: In Class AAAAA, there are concerns that the gap between 1,900 students and 3,500 students is too big; but others are concerned because there are not as many teams in AAAAA as there are in AAAA. Obviously, those two opinions contradict each other.



It is no secret that there is a level of discontent between public and private GHSA schools, and toward single-school city systems. Some of the issues here involve decisions made by the Georgia General Assembly or are caused by urban population clusters. These are issues which the GHSA has limited ability to change.

The Reclassification Committee is still looking for ways to cut down the travel time that takes students out of classes, and the travel costs that continue to mount. In some parts of the state, it is difficult to keep schools competing against schools of like size and still keep the travel reasonable. There is also a strong concern about having a small number of schools in some regions while other regions are made up of a large number of schools.

The Reclassification Committee is currently investigating several plans, and it is hoped that one plan will be presented at the March meeting of the Executive Committee for approval. This could be merely a “tweaking” of the existing structure, or it could be a radical plan to change the number of classification and/or the number of state championships. Stay tuned for more information over the next several months.

– **Ralph Swearngin**, Executive Director

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION Newsletter

Issued monthly, September through April, by the Georgia High School Association, P.O. Box 271, Thomaston, GA 30286

Phone: 706-647-7473 Fax: 706-647-2638 Web: www.ghsa.net

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

Vol. 29**February 2011****No. 5**

- 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

This month's featured licensees are: **Hot Head Technologies**, monitoring solution designed as an aid in the prevention of heat-related illness (hotheadtechnologies.com); **Hibiclens & Hibistat**, antiseptic antimicrobial skin cleanser (hibiclens.com), **Don Jackson Photo**, official action photographer (jacksonphoto.net) and **PlayOn Sports**, providing everything your school needs to produce your own video streaming Web channel (playonsports.com). View a complete list of GHSA licensees at www.ghsa.net/licensing.

STATE CHAMPIONS**FOOTBALL**

Congratulations to the following State Champions in Football:

- | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|
| AAAAA | - Brookwood High School |
| AAAA | - Chattahoochee High School |
| AAA | - Sandy Creek High School |
| AA | - Buford High School |
| A | - Clinch County 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.

NAIA Eligibility Center

The NAIA has nearly 300 college campuses in the U.S. and Canada. Each year, 60,000 NAIA student-athletes have the opportunity to play top-notch college athletics while competing for one of 23 national championships in 13 different sports.

NAIA schools provide these student-athletes a first-class education with a personal touch, the hallmark of small-college campus life, by offering \$450 million in financial aid.

High school administrators and counselors are encouraged to create a profile for their school at www.PlayNAIA.org by clicking on "Are you an Administrator?" to get started. Creating a profile will help ensure a smooth communication link between the NAIA Eligibility Center and a student's high school when receiving transcripts and making eligibility determinations.

Students who want to play NAIA sports for the first time in Fall 2011 or later need to register with the NAIA Eligibility Center.

Students can register by visiting www.PlayNAIA.org and creating a profile with facts about their academic history and sports experience.

High school students with at least a 3.0 GPA after junior year and the minimum required test scores (18 ACT or 860 SAT) qualify for an early decision on eligibility, and should have their counselors send their transcripts after the completion of junior year.

More information about NAIA college sports, the NAIA Eligibility Center, and the new eligibility determination process can be found at www.PlayNAIA.org.

Your college sports experience starts here.

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 18, 2011. The State Executive Committee meeting will be held March 21, 2011 at the Marriott, Macon City Center, in Macon.

FOOTBALL SCHEDULES: Coaches and/or Athletic Directors are reminded that 2010 varsity Football Schedules are due in the GHSA office no later than March 1, 2010. If your school has hired a new coach for the 2010 season, please make sure he is made aware of this deadline.

OPEN MEET DEADLINE: Member schools are reminded that April 1, 2011 is 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 2011-2012. 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.

DEAD WEEK: Coaches and administrators are reminded that the mandatory "Dead Week" for this year is Sunday, July 3, 2011 through Saturday, July 9, 2011.

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 2011-12 year. Sites are needed for the following events:

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

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

Attention Basketball Coaches

BASKETBALL ROSTERS NOW DUE: All basketball teams (boys and girls) must submit their varsity roster to the Georgia Sports website at prepcountry.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 14.

Home 'Pink' is OK for April 4-9

In observance of "Calling for the Cure" cancer awareness week, the GHSA will allow member schools to wear "pink" uniforms at their HOME events during the week of April 4 - 9.

This ruling holds true for ALL spring sports being played during this time period.

If a school does NOT have a home contest during this week, they may request to be allowed to wear pink at a home contest either the week prior to or the week following April 4-9. Schools should contact their GHSA sports coordinator with this request.

The home team **must** inform the visiting team that pink uniforms will be worn, and the visiting teams must wear their normal "dark" uniforms at these events.

Also a reminder that the GHSA will allow member schools to wear "pink" jerseys at their HOME basketball games during the week of February 7 - 12.

Game officials will be using "pink" whistles during that same week.

GHSA Events on TV and Internet!

GHSA.tv will Webcast the February state championships in Swimming & Diving and Traditional Wrestling. The GHSA Swimming & Diving State Championship, presented by Verizon Wireless, will video stream live on internet TV from the Georgia Tech Aquatic Center on Saturday, Feb. 12 at 1:00 pm (AAAAA Finals) and 6:00 pm (A-AAAA finals).

GPB Sports will televise the GHSA Traditional Wrestling State Championship, presented by the U.S. Army, on Saturday, Feb. 19 at 4:00 pm. The event will also be video streamed live on GHSA.tv with the championship final action of all 14 weight classes on each of the five (5) classification mats. This is the first time that all five mats and matches will be available live on GHSA.tv.

Both events will also be available on Comcast On Demand and Charter on Demand in the Get Local and High School Sports section. DVDs will be available on GHSA.tv.

Join the GHSA on Facebook & Twitter. Become a Fan of the GHSA on Facebook.com/OfficialGHSA and Follow us on Twitter.com/OfficialGHSA to get the latest news, play-off/championship info, finals scores and media.



State Football Champions - 2010

Class AAAAA
Brookwood
Broncos



Class AAAA
Chattahoochee
Cougars

Class AAA
Sandy Creek
Fighting Patriots



State Football Champions - 2010



Class AA
Buford
Wolves

Class A
Clinch County
Panthers



Photographs in this newsletter of the state championship cheerleading teams were provided by Jackson Photo (jacksonphoto.net).

GHSA and GPB Team Up for Another Five Years!

GPB Media (Georgia Public Broadcasting) has announced that its 15-year partnership with the Georgia High School Association will be extended through fiscal year 2016 with a new 5-year contract.

GPB and GHSA will continue their successful collaboration on the State Championship finals for Football, Cheerleading and Basketball, and look for new opportunities to work together in bringing Georgians more high school sports excitement.

GPB Media and GHSA have partnered to bring Georgians over 220 championship final games featuring schools from



every classification.

GPB and GHSA enjoyed record ratings for the championship games this year topping the ratings in Atlanta, and being the top-rated PBS station in the country. Close to 450,000 Georgians enjoyed the 2010 championship games via the broadcast. More than 31,000 viewers in over 54 countries watched the games at GPB.org.

Last year, GPB launched a new divi-

sion, GPB Sports, headed by IJ Rosenberg to expand coverage of high school athletes. GPB has broadcast over 500 episodes of weekly sports show, GPB Sports Central (formally Prep Sports Plus) and this year beefed up the show with well known anchors and reporters.

Shows were added to the schedule to reflect a year-round effort on television, radio and new media. "This is a win-win for all high school athletes in Georgia," said Rosenberg, GPB Sports Director. "We want to celebrate the value of sportsmanship and academic achievement and pride."

State Swimming and Diving Meets

The 2011 **State Swimming and Diving Championships** will be held on February 11 and 12 at the Georgia Tech Aquatic Center in Atlanta.

Admission is \$10 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:

Friday:

Feb. 11	9:00 am - 1:00 pm	Diving Prelims, all classes
Feb. 11	9:00 am - 1:00 pm	Swim Prelims for AAAAA
Feb. 11	6:30 pm - 10:30 pm	Swim Prelims for A thru AAAA
Feb. 11	6:30 pm - 10:30 pm	Diving Finals for A thru AAAA

Saturday:

Feb. 12	10:00 am - 3:00 pm	Diving Finals for AAAAA
Feb. 12	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Swim Finals for AAAAA
Feb. 12	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Swim Finals for A thru AAAA

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 11-12, 2011.

The State Finals for all five classifications will be held on Thursday through Saturday, February 17-19, 2011 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:

AAAAA:	West (Regions 3, 4, 5, 6) East (Regions 1, 2, 7, 8)	Kennesaw Mt. Central Gwinnett
AAAA:	West (Regions 1, 4, 5, 7) East (Regions 2, 3, 6, 8)	Cass Loganville
AAA:	West (Regions 1, 5, 6, 7) East (Regions 2, 3, 4, 8)	Woodward Locust Grove
AA:	West (Regions 1, 5, 6, 7) East (Regions 2, 3, 4, 8)	Sonoraville Dublin
A:	West (Areas 3, 4) East (Areas 1, 2)	Bremen Social Circle

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

Date/Time	Event
Friday, Feb. 11	
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Weigh-Ins
5:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Round of 16
8:00 - 10:30 p.m.	Quarterfinals and 1st Round WBs
Saturday, Feb. 12	
8:30 - 10:00 a.m.	2nd Round WBs
10:00 - 11:30 a.m.	Semis & Con. Quarters
11:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Con. Semis & Semis for 9th
1:00 - 1:30 p.m.	9th place matches
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.	All Final Matches

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

Date/Time	Event	Class
Thursday, Feb. 17		
1:00 - 3:30 p.m.	Weigh-Ins	2A, 3A, 4A & 5A
5:30 - 10:00 p.m.	Round of 16	2A, 3A, 4A & 5A
Friday, Feb. 18		
8:30 - 11:00 a.m.	1st Round WBs	2A, 3A, 4A & 5A
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Weigh-Ins	1A
11 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Quarters	All Classes
2:15 - 4:45 p.m.	2nd Round WBs	2A, 3A, 4A & 5A
4:45 - 6:30 p.m.	Con. Quarters	All Classes
7:00 - 9:30 p.m.	Semifinals	All Classes
Saturday, Feb. 19		
9:30 - 11:15 a.m.	Con. Semifinals	All Classes
11:15 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.	Con. Finals	All Classes
4:00 p.m.	FINALS	All Classes

Stay Connected to the GHSA!

Become a Fan of the GHSA on Facebook (Facebook.com/OfficialGHSA) and Follow us on Twitter (Twitter.com/OfficialGHSA) to get the latest news, play-off/championship info, finals scores and media.

You are also invited to fan/follow the GHSA media partners listed below.

GHSA Network | Facebook.com/GHSANetwork and Twitter.com/GHSANetwork

GPB Sports| Facebook.com/GPBSports



GHSA SPORTSMANSHIP STATEMENT

Please insure that the following statement is read as a public address announcement prior to the start of **every GHSA sanctioned contest**:

"The GHSA and its member schools have made a commitment to promote good sportsmanship by student/athletes, coaches, and spectators at all GHSA sanctioned events.

Profanity, degrading remarks, and intimidating actions directed at officials or competitors will not be tolerated, and are grounds for removal from the event site.

Spectators are not allowed to enter the competition area during warm-ups or while the contest is being conducted.

Thank you for your cooperation in the promotion of good sportsmanship at today's event."

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.

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

ACT and SAT Assessment Dates

Each year, the GHSA office gets requests to alter schedules due to conflicts with ACT and SAT. We cannot accommodate those requests. The following chart (also published in the GHSA Constitution & By-Laws and listed on the GHSA web site) gives dates of the exams and possible conflicts with GHSA activities. We urge you to inform your athletes, your counselors, and your coaches **now** about the dates scheduled for exams in order for the athletes to plan their assessments around events in which they are to compete.

ACT ASSESSMENT DATES

ACTIVITY CONFLICTS

February 12, 2011	Sectional Traditional Wrestling, State Swimming & Diving
April 9, 2011	None
June 11, 2011	None

SAT ASSESSMENT DATES

ACTIVITY CONFLICTS

March 12, 2011	AAA, AA & A State Basketball Finals, Region Literary Meets
May 7, 2011	State Playoffs in Baseball, Lacrosse, Soccer & Tennis, Boys State Track
June 4, 2011	None

SAT ASSESSMENT DATES

ACTIVITY CONFLICTS

Week 1 - May 2-6	Golf, Baseball, Lacrosse, Soccer & Tennis Playoffs, Region Girls Track, State Boys Track
Week 2 - May 9-13	Baseball, Lacrosse & Soccer Playoffs, State Girls Track

GHSA - February Calendar - 2011

February

- 1 Deadline for notification of entry in Literary
- 4, 5 Traditional Wrestling Area Tournaments
- 7 Earliest contest date for Tennis and Gymnastics
- 8 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 11, 12 State Swimming & Diving Meets
- 11, 12 Traditional Wrestling Sectional Tournaments
- 14 Earliest contest date for Golf, Soccer and Boys Track
- 17-19 Traditional Wrestling State Tournaments
- 19 Complete Region Basketball
- 21 File reports of Region Basketball winners by noon
- 21 Earliest contest date for Baseball, Girls Track and Lacrosse
- 22 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 25, 26 Dual Wrestling State Tournaments (postponed from earlier date)
- 25, 26 First Round State Basketball Tournaments

March

- 1, 2 Second Round State Basketball Tournaments
- 4, 5 Quarterfinal Round State Basketball Tournaments

GHSA Sponsors

