



GHSAA

"ITEMS OF INTEREST"

February 2020

Initial 'Fine Report' Now Available on GHSAA Web Site

It is hard to believe but we are past the 100th day of school! Two Championships have been successfully completed since our last newsletter. We crowned 8 State Champions in football in December at Georgia State Stadium and, by all accounts, the move to this new venue was successful.

As you know, the cost of playing at MBS had exceeded our means and Georgia State University Athletic Director Charlie Cobb stepped in and gave us a viable option to play in a quality Division I facility at a very reasonable rate. The staff of Georgia State University was exceptional and responsive to our needs. Teams, bands and cheerleaders were checked in and taken to their appropriate location with ease - the operation of the facility couldn't have been better.

Finally, the payouts to participation schools will increase over last year considerably, even without the \$250,000 supplement the GHSAA included toward last year's championship share.

The Wrestling State Duals were successful and exciting throughout the tournament. Special thanks to the Atlanta Takedown Association members who did a fantastic job of running the tournament. There are so many "moving parts" involved in running an event of this magnitude and we are grateful for their expertise and willingness to work with the GHSAA. We also thank the Macon Coliseum and their staff for making it a great place for the championships.

Championships in the near future are the State Swimming and Diving Championships, February 6-8, Traditional Wrestling Tournament February, 13-15, Competitive Dance Invitational, February 15 and the Game Day Cheerleading Competition, February 22. I hope to see you at some or all of these events.

Finally, sportsmanship has been a common theme for us and we began to talk last year about seriously addressing the problem of excessive fines and unsporting events. It is important that all stakeholders are aware of the problem so the problem can be addressed.

We decided to notify member schools at the midpoint of the year and to produce a culminating report at the end of the year. We have compiled this information into three categories: Coach and Student Ejections, Failure to Complete Rules Clinics, and School Violation Fines. There is no personal identification included, only the school, violations and fines. It is our hope that this will inform our schools' administration, coaches and students of their performance in these areas and serve as a reminder to insure all staff to be proactive and eliminate violations and fines altogether.

You can access the report here: (<https://www.ghsa.net/ghsa-reports-fines-and-ejections-2019-2020>).

Thank you for all you do for your school and its students and as always contact me if I can help you in any way.



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

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

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 Football Playoffs, Coaches Education Program

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GHSA Licensed Products

This month's featured licensees are: **RiverOak Photography** (riverokphotography.com); **Pinion Photography** (pinionphotography.com) & **Athletic Image** (theathleticimage.com), official action photographers; **Athletes For A Better World & Positive Athlete GA**, student character recognition partner (abw.org & georgia.positiveathlete.org); **Jolyn Clothing**, athletic swim and active wear company made for the women who inspire us. (jolynclothing.com); and **FanzCollectibles**, sports memorabilia company specializing in replica custom helmets and balls (fanzcollectibles.com).

Attention Basketball Coaches!

All teams advancing to the 2020 State Tournament beginning February 14 should go to the GHSA website for important information. Look for the headline that reads "State Tournament Team Information Packet."

This information will be available on Friday, February 7, 2020.

Schedule for Power Rating Appeals

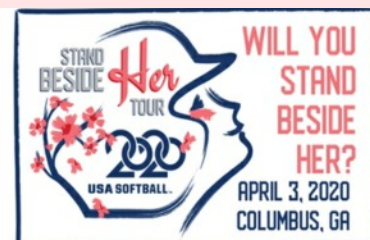
Below is the timetable and procedures for release of the final 2020 **Class A Basketball Power Ratings**, appeals and seeding of the playoff brackets, as well as the "At Large" playoff teams in Classes 3A and 7A:

Feb. 8: Region tournaments in all classes must be completed and results entered into MaxPreps web site and state qualifiers from each region in Classes 2A through 7A must be submitted to the GHSA by midnight.

Feb. 9: MaxPreps' final power ratings will be posted.

Feb. 10: Any Class A school that believes its own final power rating is incorrect may file an appeal in writing to basketball coordinator Ernie Yarbrough (ery@ghsa.net) between 8-11 a.m. The appeal must be accompanied by a complete list of results and points earned for each game. An Appeals Committee will meet to verify the results (including the appeals) and determine the "At Large" teams. The brackets will then be posted on the web site.

NOTE: Region champions will be placed in the Class A brackets first based on their power rating numbers. Once the brackets are posted, no further appeals will be considered.



TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THESE LOCATIONS

ColumbusGaSports.com

Playcherokee.com

Don't miss the opportunity to watch the 2020 USA Olympic Team in two locations in one weekend in Georgia. Come out and support the team and show the country how much Georgia loves softball.

SLAM DUNK & 3-POINT CONTEST



The first 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 6-7 at the Ralph Swearngin State Basketball Championships in Macon. The competitions will be a single classification with one entry per school. **See full rules and details on the GHSA web site (www.ghsa.net).**

For further questions, please contact Ernie Yarbrough, Assistant Executive Director, ery@ghsa.net.

BOYS SLAM DUNK CONTEST

- Slam Dunk videos can be entered with Vimeo, Vine, Instagram or YouTube URL

- One entry per school

- Participants must meet all GHSA eligibility standards

- Participants must wear official school uniforms during the preliminary rounds and finals

- Gold, silver, and bronze medals presented

- Special props/ gimmicks are not allowed. Participants may use one individual to assist.

- The live Championship Final will be conducted March 7 between the 6A Boys championship game and the 7A Girls championship game at the Macon Centreplex.

GIRLS 3-POINT SHOOTING CONTEST

- Participants must meet all GHSA eligibility standards

- Participants must wear official school uniforms during the preliminary rounds and finals

- Gold, silver, and bronze medals presented

- Each participant will have 90 seconds to shoot from four (4) areas beyond the 3-point line. Each rack will contain six (6) balls with the final ball counting three (3) points.

- The top four point scorers from each Semifinal round will advance to the Championship Final, which will take place March 6 after the AAASP Wheelchair championship game at the Macon Centreplex.

Basketball Semifinals on Feb. 28 & 29

The 2020 GHSA Basketball Semifinals will be held on Friday and Saturday, February 28 & 29, at four (4) sites. Game times will be at 2:00, 4:00, 6:00 and 8:00 p.m.

All games will be streamed on [NFHS Network](#). Mobile tickets will be available at [GoFan](#).

The locations and dates are as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Site</u>
Feb. 28	A - Public	Valdosta State University
Feb. 29	3A	Valdosta State University
Feb. 28	A - Private	Ga. College & State University
Feb. 29	2A	Ga. College & State University
Feb. 28	4A	Ft. Valley State University
Feb. 29	5A	Ft. Valley State University
Feb. 28	6A	Buford City Arena
Feb. 29	7A	Buford City Arena

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 20, 2020. The meeting will be held April 20, 2020 at the Marriott Macon City Center.

FOOTBALL SCHEDULES: Coaches and/or Athletic Directors are reminded that 2020 varsity Football Schedules are due in the GHSA office no later than March 1, 2020. If your school has hired a new coach for the 2020 season, please make sure he is made aware of this deadline.

INTENT TO PARTICIPATE DEADLINE: Member schools are reminded of the March 1, 2020 deadline to notify the GHSA of entry in open State Events such as Bass Fishing, Flag Football, Volleyball, Lacrosse, Wrestling, Riflery, Gymnastics, Esports, Dance and Game Day Cheerleading for the school year 2020-2021.

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: The mandatory "Dead Week" for this year is Sunday, June 28, 2020 through Saturday, July 4, 2020.

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 2020-21 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.

State Football Champions - 2019



7A: Marietta



6A: Harrison



5A: Buford



4A: Blessed Trinity



3A: Cedar Grove



2A: Dublin



A Public: Irwin County



A Private: ELCA

Team Dual Wrestling State Champions - 2020



7A: Camden County



6A: Pope



5A: Woodland-Bartow



4A: Woodward Academy



3A: North Hall



2A: Chattooga



Photographs in this newsletter of the state championship Football and Dual Wrestling teams were provided by Cecil Copeland, Athletic Image.



A: Trion



Esports Championship on Feb. 5

Esports is the fastest growing sport, not just in Georgia but, all over the world. That's why the GHSA is proud to crown a Fall 2019-20 Georgia state champion in both League of Legends and Rocket League.

The best high schoolers in the state will battle it out in both titles live in front of a packed house at the Mount Vernon School in Atlanta. It's all happening February 5 beginning at 4:30 p.m. Don't miss it!

Admission is free, but fans planning to attend are asked to RSVP because space is limited! You will find a link to register on the GHSA web site (www.ghsa.net)

Schedule

4:30 pm - Rocket League Championship. Best of 7

5:30 pm - League of Legends Championship. Best of 3

Matches will stream Live at NFHSNetwork.com/GHSA and Twitch.tv/playvs.

Dance Championship on Feb. 15

The GHSA will host the 2019-20 Dance State Invitational on Saturday, February 15, 2020 at Columbus State University beginning at 9:00 am.

Tickets are \$12 at the door and available digitally at GoFan.

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

GameDay Championship on Feb. 22

The 2020 GHSA Game Day Cheerleading Invitational will take place Saturday, February 22 at Columbus State University.

The \$175 Team Fee (1A-7A) covers all participants up to a max number of 24 and up to two team alternates and up to three coaches or other school representatives.

Tickets are \$12.00 per person and will be available for purchase on site. No pre-sales. The ticket is good for all day and there is no parking fee for this event.

Merchandise will be available for purchase on-site.

New Date to 'Go Gold' - April 9-14

ATLANTA - Each school day in America, 46 kids are diagnosed with childhood cancer, the leading disease killer of children in America ages 1 to 19, yet less than 4% of federal cancer research funding is allocated to childhood cancers.

In honor of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month this September, the Georgia High School Association (GHSA) is partnering with the **Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research** (Rally) to "Go Gold" for childhood cancer awareness during spring sports the week of April 9-14.

The GHSA first partnered with Rally to demonstrate their support for National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in September 2016. The organization encouraged Georgia high school students, athletes and parents to be "#GOLDSTRONG" during the week of Sept. 12, 2016. The initiative raised more than \$100,000 statewide for childhood cancer research.

"We are honored to partner with the Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research to encourage our schools to bring attention to this worthy cause," said Dr. Robin Hines, GHSA executive director. "The GHSA and its member schools are affected by this disease far too often, and we are excited to do our part to raise awareness and funds for researching childhood cancers. We encourage everyone to be #Goldstrong in April!"

Georgia high school students and parents can fundraise and be #Goldstrong by wearing gold T-shirts, wristbands and ribbons, in compliance with school uniform and dress codes, throughout the entire month of April. Georgia high school athletes are encouraged to host #Goldstrong events and collect change and donations at home games and meets by wearing gold apparel and accessories that comply with the following GHSA uniform restrictions: Soccer, baseball, tennis and lacrosse teams can wear gold jerseys, socks or wristbands at home games

"We are thrilled to partner with the Georgia High School Association again this spring for teams to be #Goldstrong, United Against Childhood Cancer," said Dean Crowe, Rally Founder and CEO. "We love seeing kids empowered to help kids, and that's exactly what these student athletes are doing when their teams are #Goldstrong – they are bringing awareness to their peers who are fighting, have fought or have lost their battle with cancer. This is crucial to our mission of raising awareness and funds for childhood cancer research to find better treatments and, ultimately, cures."

For more information on how to get involved with Rally, or to donate, visit RallyFoundation.org or @RallyFoundation on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Suggested "#Goldstrong" social media hashtags include #Goldstrong and #RallyOn. Schools can also elect to participate in a Rally 4 Quarters 4 Research fundraiser, a loose change collection, if they desire. For more information, please email Adam@RallyFoundation.org.

To learn more about upcoming GHSA events and initiatives, please visit www.GHSA.net.

GHSA to Receive 2020 Athletic Trainer Advocate Award

The Georgia High School Association has been selected to receive the 2020 AT Advocate Award from the National Athletic Trainers' Association Secondary School Athletic Trainers' Committee (NATA SSATC).

The AT Advocate Award is presented to those who have shown consistent and dedicated efforts to improve the athletic healthcare provided to student athletes in secondary schools.

"The Georgia High School Association has shown great dedication to increasing the access high school students have to quality athletic healthcare and athletic trainers," said NATA SSATC Chairman Bart Peterson. "This award recognizes the GHSA's consistent efforts to improve the level of healthcare available for athletes in our community."

A recent study conducted by NATA and the Korey Stringer Institute shows that 35% of the nation's secondary schools have fulltime access to athletic training services and 31% have only parttime access.

The award will be presented at the 71st NATA Clinical Symposia & AT Expo in Atlanta on June 18-20, 2020.



NFHS Network Partners with Pixellot to Bring VidSwap Coaching Tools to HS Market

VidSwap is fully integrated with Pixellot cameras to provide end-to-end automation of game and practice video capture, analysis, and breakdown for coaches and players

ATLANTA – The NFHS Network, the leader in streaming live and on-demand high school sports, today announced a partnership with Pixellot that will make VidSwap's game analysis and video breakdown capabilities available to all NFHS member schools. Pixellot recently acquired VidSwap and integrated the solution with its automated production equipment and software platform.

The Pixellot automated production platform is uniquely designed to capture high-quality video from sports events and practices with no human involvement. Auto-tracking software enables the cameras to follow the action, which is currently livestreamed to millions of high school sports fans around the country. With more than 4,000 Pixellot cameras already in use in high schools, teams and coaches will now have access to a powerful and easy-to-use tool for additional layers of data and video analysis. The number of Pixellot systems is expected to double over the next 12 months.

Together, Pixellot and VidSwap provide a powerful and affordable combination compared to what is currently available in the market. Pixellot offers a solution for both indoor and outdoor



venues, which allows it to be available across the maximum number of sports. In addition to live and on-demand streaming, free video storage will be included in all VidSwap options for high schools.

"For NFHS Network schools that are livestreaming with Pixellot systems, we're excited to provide a fully automated way to capture game video, break it down, and then deliver it to coaches to use for analysis," said Mark Koski, CEO of the NFHS Network. "The entire workflow has been integrated, with no one required to film games or upload video files into the coaching

platform—it's all automatic. This is an attractive and cost-effective option for teams looking to use technology to improve performance without the resources to do all of this manually."

"Our partners, from youth to the pros, now have the opportunity to access even more features and tools with their Pixellot systems," said David Shapiro, president of North America at Pixellot. "The combination of being able to utilize video streaming for viewing, coaching, and analysis, fully automated in one platform, is a game changer for the industry. Through our partnership with the NFHS Network, we plan to give thousands of high schools the opportunity to use their existing video for player development, helping athletes and teams achieve their goals."

Pixellot and VidSwap are available to U.S. high schools exclusively through the NFHS Network. With more than 150,000 live games this year across 27 sports, the NFHS Network streams more live sports events than any company in the world.

To learn more about the Pixellot with VidSwap play analysis and coaching tool, go to www.nfhsnetwork.com/vidswap.

State Swimming and Diving Meets

The 2020 **State Swimming and Diving Championships** will be held on February 6-8 at the Georgia Tech Aquatic Center in Atlanta. Admission is \$15 per session and digital tickets on your mobile device are available at [GoFan](#). All swimming and diving finals will be streamed live on NFHS Network to any device for the one low price of \$10.95 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). The top 3 male and female teams and individuals in each scoring division will be recognized and receive team trophies and medals for their performances..

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:

Thursday:

- Feb. 6 9:00 am Diving Finals for A-5A (warmup: 7:00 am)
Feb. 6 3:00 pm Diving Finals for 6A-7A (warmup: 1:00 pm)

Friday:

- Feb. 7 9:00 am Swim Prelims for A-5A (warmup: 7:00 am)
Feb. 7 6:00 pm Swim Prelims for 6A-7A (warmup: 4:20 pm)

Saturday:

- Feb. 8 11:00 am Swim Finals for A-5A (warmup: 9:30 am)
Feb. 8 6:00 pm Swim Finals for 6A-7A (warmup: 4:00 pm)

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



Sectional, State Wrestling Tournaments

Sectional Traditional Wrestling Tournaments will be held on Friday and/or Saturday, February 7-8, 2020.

The Traditional Finals will be held on Thursday through Saturday, February 13-15, 2020 at the Macon Centreplex. Tickets for the Finals are \$12 (plus \$2 facility fee) each day, or a three-day pass is \$30 (plus \$4 facility fee).

Sectional Tournaments will be held at the following sites:

7A (Top 8 Qualify for State Finals): Sec. A (Regions 1, 3, 6, 8) Sec. B (Regions 2, 4, 5, 7)	Perry South Forsyth
6A (Top 8 Qualify for State Finals): Sec. A (Regions 1, 3, 6, 8) Sec. B (Regions 2, 4, 5, 7)	Lanier Alexander
5A (Top 8 Qualify for State Finals): Sec. A (Regions 1, 3, 6, 8) Sec. B (Regions 2, 4, 5, 7)	Lamar County Alexander
4A (Top 8 Qualify for State Finals): Sec. A (Regions 1, 3, 6, 8) Sec. B (Regions 2, 4, 5, 7)	Lanier Perry
3A (Top 6 Qualify for State Finals): Sec. A (Areas 1, 3, 6) Sec. B (Areas 2, 4, 5)	Pike County South Forsyth
2A (Top 6 Qualify for State Finals): Sec. A (Areas 1, 3, 6) Sec. B (Areas 2, 4, 5)	Lamar County Bremen
A (Top 6 Qualify for State Finals): Sec. A (Areas 1, 3, 6) Sec. B (Areas 2, 4, 5)	Strong Rock Bremen

The Schedule for the **State Finals** is as follows:

Date/Time	Event	Classes
Wed., Feb. 12 8:00 pm	Mandatory Coaches/Officials Meeting	All Classes
Thurs., Feb. 13 7:00 am 8:30 am 9:00 am After previous round After previous round	Weigh-Ins Warmup Round of 16 Quarters Round 1 WBs	All Classes & Girls All Classes & Girls All Classes & Girls All Classes & Girls 4A, 5A, 6A, 7A & Girls
Fri., Feb. 14 7:00 am 8:30 am 9:00 am 2:00 pm After previous round After previous round	Weigh-Ins Warmup Round 2 WBs Semifinals Consolation Quarters Consolation Semifinals	All Classes & Girls All Classes & Girls All Classes & Girls All Classes & Girls All Classes & Girls All Classes & Girls
Sat., Feb. 15 8:00 am 8:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am 2:00 pm 2:30 pm	Weigh-Ins Warmup 5th & 6th place 3rd & 4th place Opening Ceremonies FINALS Begin (Awards ceremony immediately after finals)	All Classes & Girls All Classes & Girls All Classes & Girls All Classes & Girls All Classes & Girls All Classes & Girls





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GHSA - February/March Calendar - 2020

February

1	Traditional Wrestling Area Tournaments
3	Earliest contest date for Soccer
4	Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
6-8	State Swimming & Diving Meets
7, 8	Traditional Wrestling Sectional Tournaments
8	Complete Region Basketball
10	File reports of Region Basketball winners by 9 a.m.; Earliest date for Golf practice
10	Earliest contest date for Baseball, Lacrosse and Track
13-15	Traditional Wrestling State Tournaments
14, 15	First Round State Basketball Tournaments
15	First contest date for Golf; Dance State Invitational
17	First practice date for Slow Pitch Softball
18	Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
19, 20	Second Round State Basketball Tournaments
22	First contest date for Slow Pitch Softball
22	GameDay Cheerleading State Invitational
25, 26	Quarterfinal Round State Basketball Tournament
29	Semifinal Round State Basketball Tournament

March

1	Football Schedules due into GHSA Office
4-7	Finals State Basketball Tournament

GHSA Sponsors

