



# GHSAA

## "ITEMS OF INTEREST"

March 2014

### Validation is Gratifying

It is pleasing when you hear someone who is a recognized authority on a subject communicate messages that you have been communicating.

Gary Phillips and I experienced such a situation at the recent Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation Speaker Series. This event was entitled, "Making Play Safe for Kids," and a panel of recognized experts spent several hours discussing topics that were relevant to the work of the GHSAA.

The panel was moderated by Dr. Sanjay Gupta, the noted neurosurgeon and chief medical correspondent for CNN. Dr. David Satcher, former U.S. Surgeon General and head of the National Council on Youth Sports Safety, was also on the panel.

Kate Carr, President & CEO of Safe Kids Worldwide, was the third panel member, and Alexis Glick, a veteran media personality and CEO of GENYOUth Foundation, rounded out the group. These panelists brought professional and personal (as parents) perspectives, and they articulated important thoughts very well.

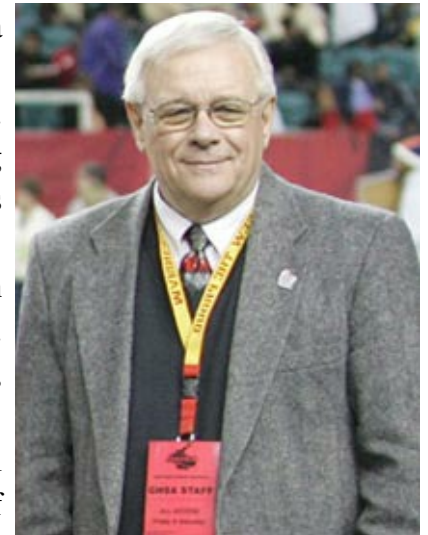
While the discussion topics applied to children up through high school students, a significant focus was on athletic participation by adolescents. A few of the relevant topics that were discussed included:

- Concussion education and management
- Overuse injuries brought on by athletic specialization
- The physiological and intellectual benefits of physical activity for young people
- The lifelong benefits that are derived from participating in structured athletics
- The need to provide "enjoyment experiences" in athletic programs.

Following the panel discussion, more than 30 people from the fields of athletics and medicine met with Arthur Blank, Roger Goodell (NFL Commissioner), and Dr. Mark Emmert (President of the NCAA) to dive deeper into the topics presented by the panel members.

Many of the remarks offered in this meeting validated the messages and the practices of the GHSAA. When people from the professional athletic ranks talked about the value of having children and adolescents participate in more than one sport, the opportunities available through education-based athletics were emphasized.

There was also validation in regard to "changing the culture" of sports by adopting educational and administrative policies to cover concussion management and heat/hydration issues. These are things that the GHSAA has addressed – and continues to address.



– Ralph Swearngin, Executive Director

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## GHSA Licensed Products

This month's featured licensees are: **Honig's Whistle Stop** ([honigs.com](http://honigs.com)); **Purchase Officials Supply** ([purchaseofficials.com](http://purchaseofficials.com)), Officials/umpires uniforms, apparel and equipment; **Mr Video** videographer ([mrvideoonline.com](http://mrvideoonline.com)); **Hartwell Studio Works**, creating unique and dynamic spirit logos/marks ([hartwellstudioworks.com](http://hartwellstudioworks.com)); **Fit Communities / Rubber Floors and More**, fitness equipment and rubber flooring provider ([fit-communities.com](http://fit-communities.com)); **Nfinity**, official cheerleading apparel ([nfinity.com](http://nfinity.com)) and **Resilite**, official wrestling mat ([resilite.com](http://resilite.com)).

## STATE CHAMPIONS

### **WRESTLING - Traditional**

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

AAAAAA	Archer High School
AAAAA	Cambridge High School
AAAA	Gilmer High School
AAA	Buford High School
AA	Jefferson High School
A	Commerce High School

### **SWIMMING and DIVING**

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

	<b>Boys</b>
AAAAAA	Walton High School
A - AAAAA	St. Pius
	<b>Girls</b>
AAAAAA	Lambert High School
A - AAAAA	Woodward Academy

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.

## New Standards for Gymnastics

At the special called meeting on January 14, 2014, the GHSA Executive Committee adopted the following new Gymnastics qualifying standards, which are **effective immediately**:

■ Any **team** that scores a 96.0 or better during the regular season will automatically qualify for the preliminary meet.

■ An **all-around** score of 34.00 or better during the regular season will qualify a gymnast for the preliminary meet.

■ An **individual** score of 8.5 or better during the regular season will qualify a gymnast for the preliminary meet.

■ The minimum score for teams (96.0) and an all-around (34.0) must be achieved in a **single meet**.

■ The scores **must** be signed by a GHSA certified judge. Only a signed copy by the judge verifying the results of the meet will be accepted.

■ A copy of the meet results that meet the minimum scores should be **faxed** to 678-262-3664.



### Championship Basketball on GPB

Georgia Public Broadcasting will televise all 14 championship games of the GHSA State Basketball Tournament live from the Macon Coliseum on March 6-8, 2014.

The AAASP Wheelchair championship game (taped) will air on Saturday, March 8 at 9:30 a.m. GPB began its GHSA basketball broadcast tradition in 1998.

The finals also will stream live on [GPB.org/sports](http://GPB.org/sports) and [NFHSNetwork.com/ghsa](http://NFHSNetwork.com/ghsa).

Semifinal action on March 1 & 3 will feature all 28 games live on [NFHSNetwork.com/ghsa](http://NFHSNetwork.com/ghsa) produced by PlayOn Sports.

DVDs of finals and semifinals can be purchased at [NFHSNetwork.com](http://NFHSNetwork.com).

Partners for the GPB TV broadcasts include: Georgia Electric Membership Corporations, Regions Bank, Technical College System of Georgia and Georgia Farm Bureau.

### Basketball State Championship Facts

**When:** March 6-8, 2014    **Where:** Macon Centreplex  
**Tickets:** \$12 per day at the Macon Centreplex

#### Schedule

##### Thursday, March 6

- 3:00 pm.....Class A Public Girls
- 4:45 pm.....Class A Public Boys
- 7:00 pm.....Class AAAA Girls
- 8:45 pm.....Class AAAA Boys

##### Friday, March 7

- 12:00 pm.....AAASP Wheelchair
- 3:00 pm.....Class AA Girls
- 4:45 pm.....Class AA Boys
- 7:00 pm.....Class AAAAA Girls
- 8:45 pm.....Class AAAAA Boys

##### Saturday, March 8

- 11:00 am.....Class A Private Girls
- 12:45 pm.....Class A Private Boys
- 3:00 pm.....Class AAA Girls
- 4:45 pm.....Class AAA Boys
- 7:00 pm.....Class AAAAAA Girls
- 8:45 pm.....Class AAAAAA Boys

**Television:** All Finals Live on GPB-TV

**Video:** Watch Live at [NFHSNetwork.com/GHSA](http://NFHSNetwork.com/GHSA) / [GPB.org/sports](http://GPB.org/sports).  
 Order DVDs at [NFHSNetwork.com/GHSA](http://NFHSNetwork.com/GHSA).



### AAASP Begins 17th State Tournament

The American Association of Adapted Sports Programs, Inc. (AAASP) will host the 17th Annual Interscholastic Wheelchair Basketball State Championship Tournament in Georgia starting March 1st and concluding March 7, 2014 with the finals in Macon.

The Tournament will be held in conjunction with the Georgia High School Association's State Tournament at the Macon Centreplex.

The following teams from both the Varsity and Junior Varsity levels across the state will begin competition on March 1 to vie for the title of state champion: (Varsity) the Houston County Sharks, Atlanta Wolfpack, Henry County Hurricanes, West Georgia Wolverines and (Junior Varsity) the Gwinnett County Heat, the Muscogee Lions, and the DeKalb Silver Streaks.

**March 1** - AAASP Wheelchair Basketball JV Championships and Varsity Semifinals, hosted by Gwinnett County Public Schools at Duluth High School. Game times: 10:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm

**March 7** - AAASP Wheelchair Basketball State Championship game held in conjunction with GHSA boys' and girls' finals at the Macon Centerplex at noon. (The game will air March 8 at 9:30 a.m., on GPB.)



### Cancer Awareness Balls from Brine

Brine, the official soccer ball of the GHSA, will offer 50 "pink" premium game balls for school use during April contests in observance of cancer awareness.

One (1) ball will be sent per school as supplies last (50) until March 14th.

Email requests to Brine should be made to Gary Etherington ([Gary.Etherington@warrior.com](mailto:Gary.Etherington@warrior.com)) by a school's head coach or athletic director with contact name, shipping address and phone number.



# Swimming & Diving State Champions - 2014



**Class AAAAAA Boys Champion: Walton**



**Class AAAAAA Girls Champion: Lambert**



**Class A-AAAAA Boys Champion: St. Pius**



**Class A-AAAAA Champion: Woodward**

Photographs of the state championship Swimming and Diving squads were provided by River Oak Photography.



## Atlanta Braves Pitcher Kris Medlen Challenges Spring Sports Teams to Join Him in Stepping up to the Plate in the Fight Against Childhood Cancer

*Medlen shaved his head for childhood cancer and he challenges you to join him. Medlen will match the first ten teams or individuals that raise \$1,000 for #RallyvsCancer.*

To join Kris Medlen in the fight visit: [www.RallyVsCancer.org](http://www.RallyVsCancer.org)

**WHO:** Kris Medlen, Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research (Rally) and Vs. Cancer Foundation

**ANY individual or spring sports team can take the challenge!**

**WHAT:** Atlanta Braves starting pitcher **Kris Medlen** (@KrisMedlen54) shaved his head to help lead the #RallyVsCancer challenge, and fans can join him in the fight against the No. 1 disease killer of kids in America. Individuals and teams can sign up to raise pledges and host their own head shaving events at [RallyVsCancer.org](http://RallyVsCancer.org).

**Medlen will match the first ten Rally Vs. Cancer challenge participants or teams who raise \$1,000.**

**WHERE:** Anywhere! Teams and individuals can host head shaving events in their local schools and communities.

**To sign up for the challenge and to learn more information, visit [RallyvsCancer.org](http://RallyvsCancer.org).**

### **About the Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research (@RallyFoundation):**

Childhood cancer is the number one disease killer of kids ages 0 to 15. The Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research (Rally), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, empowers volunteers across the country to raise awareness and funds for childhood cancer research to find better treatments with fewer long-term side effects and, ultimately, cures. In seven years, Rally has given grants totaling more than \$4 million, supporting 70 childhood cancer research projects. Rally received the Independent Charities Seal of Excellence and GuideStar Valued Partner seal, and according to independently audited financials, 92 cents of every dollar raised, supports Rally's mission. For more information, visit [RallyFoundation.org](http://RallyFoundation.org).

### **About Vs. Cancer Foundation to Cure Kids' Cancer (@Vs\_Cancer):**

The Vs. Cancer Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to saving kids' lives by empowering athletes and communities to fund lifesaving childhood cancer efforts. Founded in 2012, Vs. Cancer gives to both national childhood cancer research and to local children's hospitals in order to help kids in all facets of their cancer treatments. This approach to funding childhood cancer has led to Vs. Cancer directly helping over 40,000 kids with cancer nationwide. For more information, visit [vs-cancer.org](http://vs-cancer.org).

## New Calendars for Wrestling

Because of factors such as New Year's weekend, school holiday schedules, athlete eligibility issues and venue availability, the wrestling calendar for 2014-15 and 2015-16 will be as follows:

### 2014-15

Area Duals.....	Jan. 9-10, 2015
State Duals.....	Jan. 15-17, 2015
Traditional Area.....	Jan. 30-31, 2015
Sectionals.....	Feb. 6-7, 2015
Traditional State.....	Feb. 12-14, 2015

### 2015-16

Area Duals.....	Jan. 8-9, 2016
State Duals.....	Jan. 14-16, 2016
Traditional Area.....	Jan. 29-30, 2016
Sectionals.....	Feb. 5-6, 2016
Traditional State.....	Feb. 11-13, 2016

## 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 14, 2014. The spring State Executive Committee meeting will be held April 14, 2014 at the Marriott Macon City Center, in Macon.

**OPEN MEET DEADLINES:** Member schools are reminded of the deadlines to notify the GHSA of entry in Open Meet State Events for the school year 2014-2015. The deadline for Wrestling is April 1, 2014. The deadline for Gymnastics, Lacrosse and Soccer is May 1, 2014.

**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" is Sunday, June 29, 2014 through Saturday, July 5, 2014.

## 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 2014-15 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.

## MaxPreps Baseball Power Ratings

The first power ratings for Class A baseball by MaxPreps will be posted on GHSA.net on March 18, 2014. The power ratings will be updated each Tuesday after that for the remainder of the respective regular seasons.

Every GHSA member school **must** submit all game results, regardless of classification, to MaxPreps in order to manage the Class A baseball power ratings and to verify Region Standings across all classifications.

MaxPreps offers coaches a stat management and communication platform that enables them to efficiently submit their schedules, scores, rosters and statistics. MaxPreps is a 100% free service and is the official source of power ratings, region standings and stats for the GHSA.

For assistance, you may contact MaxPreps' Georgia representative, **Kylie McClarty** at [kylie.mclarty@cbsi.com](mailto:kylie.mclarty@cbsi.com) with any questions.



## Atlanta Hawks GHSA Ticket Offer

The Atlanta Hawks, as official partner of the GHSA Basketball State Tournament, are offering an exclusive ticket offers to GHSA fans by going to [GHSA.net/Basketball](http://GHSA.net/Basketball), click on the Hawks web banner and enter promo code: **GHSA**. View game info at [Hawks.com](http://Hawks.com).



## GHSA Welcomes New Licensee Nfinity

The GHSA welcomes new licensee Nfinity as official cheerleading footwear and apparel company. Contact: Carey Pound, Sales Director, (404) 542-6532; [carey@nfinity.com](mailto:carey@nfinity.com). Learn more at [www.nfinity.com](http://www.nfinity.com).



## Schedule for State Literary Meet

The state literary meet for all classifications will be held on Saturday, March 15, 2014. Classes AA, AAA and AAAA will be held at Veterans High School, while Classes A, AAAAA and AAAAAA will be at Northside High in Warner Robins. Admission is free to all events. (Note: GHSA Headquarters, Scoring and Awards located in the Cafeteria at both sites.)

### Classes AA, AAA and AAAA

Veterans High School

#### Girls Dramatic Interpretation:

AAA	9:30 am	Room 2403
AAAA	11:00 am	Room 2403
AA	1:00 pm	Room 2403

#### Boys Dramatic Interpretation:

AAA	9:30 am	Room 2405
AAAA	11:00 am	Room 2405
AA	1:00 pm	Room 2405

#### Girls Extemporaneous Speaking:

AAA	8:30 am	Room 1213 (Drawing)
AAA	9:30 am	Room 1201 (Speaking)
AAAA	10:00 am	Room 1213 (Drawing)
AAAA	11:00 am	Room 1201 (Speaking)
AA	12:00 pm	Room 1213 (Drawing)
AA	1:00 pm	Room 1201 (Speaking)

#### Boys Extemporaneous Speaking:

AAA	8:30 am	Room 1213 (Drawing)
AAA	9:30 am	Room 1203 (Speaking)
AAAA	10:00 am	Room 1213 (Drawing)
AAAA	11:00 am	Room 1203 (Speaking)
AA	12:00 pm	Room 1213 (Drawing)
AA	1:00 pm	Room 1203 (Speaking)

#### Boys And Girls Essay:

AAA	9:00 am	Room 2416
AAAA	9:00 am	Room 2416
AA	9:00 am	Room 2416

#### Girls Solo:

AAA	9:00 am	Room 1601
AAAA	9:30 am	Choral Room 1602
AA	9:30 am	Theater

#### Boys Solo:

AAA	10:15 am	Room 1601
AAAA	10:30 am	Choral Room 1602
AA	10:45 am	Theater

#### Girls Trio:

AAA	11:15 am	Room 1601
AAAA	11:30 am	Choral Room 1602
AA	11:45 am	Theater

#### Boys Quartet:

AAA	1:15 pm	Room 1601
AAAA	1:30 pm	Choral Room 1602
AA	1:45 pm	Theater

### Classes A, AAAAA and AAAAAA

Northside High School, Warner Robins

#### Girls Dramatic Interpretation:

A	9:30 am	Room 902
AAAAA	11:00 am	Room 902
AAAAAA	1:00 pm	Room 902

#### Boys Dramatic Interpretation:

A	9:30 am	Room 906
AAAAA	11:00 am	Room 906
AAAAAA	1:00 pm	Room 906

#### Girls Extemporaneous Speaking:

A	8:30 am	Room 702 (Drawing)
A	9:30 am	Room 703 (Speaking)
AAAAA	10:00 am	Room 702 (Drawing)
AAAAA	11:00 am	Room 703 (Speaking)
AAAAAA	12:00 pm	Room 702 (Drawing)
AAAAAA	1:00 pm	Room 703 (Speaking)

#### Boys Extemporaneous Speaking:

A	8:30 am	Room 702 (Drawing)
A	9:30 am	Room 708 (Speaking)
AAAAA	10:00 am	Room 702 (Drawing)
AAAAA	11:00 am	Room 708 (Speaking)
AAAAAA	12:00 pm	Room 702 (Drawing)
AAAAAA	1:00 pm	Room 708 (Speaking)

#### Boys And Girls Essay:

A	9:00 am	Media Center
AAAAA	9:00 am	Media Center
AAAAAA	9:00 am	Media Center

#### Girls Solo:

A	9:00 am	Band Room
AAAAA	9:15 am	Room 1503
AAAAAA	9:30 am	Theatre

#### Boys Solo:

A	10:15 am	Band Room
AAAAA	10:30 am	Room 1503
AAAAAA	10:45 am	Theatre

#### Girls Trio:

A	11:15 am	Band Room
AAAAA	11:30 am	Room 1503
AAAAAA	11:45 am	Theatre

#### Boys Quartet:

A	1:15 pm	Band Room
AAAAA	1:30 pm	Room 1503
AAAAAA	1:45 pm	Theatre

Music warmup area is in the Band Room 1603.

## GHSA - March Calendar - 2014

### March

- 1 Deadline to submit Football Schedules to GHSA office
- 1 Semifinal Round State Basketball Tournament (except Class A private schools)
- 3 Semifinal Round State Basketball Tournament Class A private schools
- 4 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 6-8 Championship Round State Basketball Tournament (all classes)
- 8 Complete Region/Area Literary
- 10 File reports of Literary winners with GHSA by 9 a.m.
- 15 State Literary Meet
- 15 Complete Area Riflery
- 18 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 22 Complete Riflery Sectionals
- 24 File reports of Riflery Sectionals with GHSA and State Meet Director
- 29 Complete Riflery Semifinals

### April

- 1 Deadline to submit notification of entry in Wrestling for 2014-15

### GHSA Sponsors

