



# GHSA

## *“Items of Interest”*

April 2013

### **GHSA Office Reaching Out to Schools in Many Ways Now**

I trust that you are aware that the GHSA web site ([www.ghsa.net](http://www.ghsa.net)) has been greatly enhanced in the past few weeks. There are more resources available than ever before. It is the responsibility of administrators and coaches of member schools to know the GHSA rules and procedures that affect their students and their competitive programs. That information is found on the GHSA web site.

Please note that the format has changed significantly in an attempt to make navigation easier and more “eye catching.” We encourage people to look at the web site first before calling the office. The information on the web site has value for the general public as well as for school personnel, so let your constituencies know the value of using this web site.

There are other changes in the communication process between the GHSA office and member schools. Obviously the GHSA newsletter has been sent electronically rather than through the mail for quite a while. The use of bulk emails has been used with some degree of success. There is a major area of attention needed here, however. Contact persons at each school and their email addresses change more rapidly than the physical address of the school. Please enable the GHSA to communicate with you more effectively by letting us know when you change the contact person, or when that person changes his/her email address. This needs to be an ongoing process throughout the school year. The GHSA is investigating some additional communication systems that will allow for quicker communication in times of emergency. Be watching for more information about this.

For the time being, the GHSA will not be handling eligibility filings electronically. This may happen in the future, but the privacy issues and the need for additional documentation have been a challenge. Other communication may be sent out on paper (by fax or mail), but the number and the size of these paper exchanges will be decreasing. Please let us know if these technological changes create difficulties at your schools.

One area of concern involves the online rules clinics. There is a window of opportunity for coaches and officials to complete these clinics – including a participation accountability testing component. The closer we move to the deadline for these clinics, the greater the online traffic to take the clinics. Those who wait to the last minute are inviting difficulties and there is no mechanism to resolve the problem after the deadline has passed. Please direct your personnel to plan accordingly.



– Ralph Swearngin, Executive Director

**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION** Newsletter  
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OFFICE HOURS: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday

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

**RALPH SWEARNGIN** (extension 21)

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

**GARY PHILLIPS** (extension 25)

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

**STEVE FIGUEROA** (extension 26)

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

**DENNIS PAYNE** (extension 23)

- Associate Director -  
 Football, Baseball, Swimming

**ERNIE YARBROUGH** (extension 27)

- Associate Director -  
 Basketball, Soccer, Softball

**DENIS TALLINI** (extension 34)

- Associate Director -  
 Lacrosse, Volleyball, Wrestling, Sports Medicine

**ROBIN BULLINGTON** (extension 33)

- Business Manager -  
 Finances, Dues

**PAM THOMPSON** (extension 30)

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

**TANYA ANDERSON** (extension 29)

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

**JULIE JONES** (extension 24)

- Administrative Assistant -  
 Community Coach Program, Entry Notification

**SHERI BROOKS** (extension 31)

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

**STACEY BASILICI** (extension 32)

- Administrative Assistant -  
 Mailing, Shipping, Filing, Office Assistant

## **GHSA Licensed Products**

This month's featured GHSA licensees are: **Jostens**, official championship jewelry ([jostens.com](http://jostens.com)); **Musco Sports Lighting**, the GHSA leader in developing sports-lighting solutions ([musco.com](http://musco.com)); **FieldTurf**, official artificial turf ([fieldturf.com](http://fieldturf.com)); **Hudl**, the official video exchange service ([hudl.com](http://hudl.com)) and **TeamIP**, official merchandiser and online store ([teamip.com](http://teamip.com)). View a complete list of licensees at [www.ghsa.net/licensing](http://www.ghsa.net/licensing). Become a Fan of the GHSA on Facebook ([Facebook.com/OfficialGHSA](http://Facebook.com/OfficialGHSA)) and Twitter ([Twitter.com/OfficialGHSA](http://Twitter.com/OfficialGHSA)).

## **Attention: Soccer Coaches & Officials**

**COACHES:** Go to the Soccer page on the GHSA web site ([www.ghsa.net](http://www.ghsa.net)) to obtain information concerning the 2013 State Soccer Tournament. The information contains **mandatory** check-in instructions for all participating schools. Failure to submit the required information will result in a \$250.00 fine.

**OFFICIALS:** Listed below are the dates, times and sites for the **mandatory** meetings for soccer officials concerning the 2013 GHSA State Soccer Tournament. Failure to attend one (1) of these meetings will result in being excluded from a post-season assignment.

Sat., April 20	Peachtree Ridge High School	10 a.m.
Sun., April 21	Westside-Macon High School	2 p.m.

## **STATE CHAMPIONS**

### **BASKETBALL - Boys**

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

AAAAAA	Norcross High School
AAAAA	Miller Grove High School
AAAA	Eagle's Landing High School
AAA	Johnson-Savannah High School
AA	Greater Atlanta Christian School
A (Public)	Wilkinson County High School
A (Private)	Greenforest Christian

### **BASKETBALL - Girls**

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

AAAAAA	Norcross High School
AAAAA	Southwest DeKalb High School
AAAA	Columbia High School
AAA	St. Pius
AA	Wesleyan School
A (Public)	Gordon Lee High School
A (Private)	St. Francis

### **LITERARY**

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

AAAAAA	Kennesaw Mountain High School
AAAAA	Northside-Warner Robins HS
AAAA	Lumpkin County High School
AAA	Buford High School
AA	Calhoun High School
A (Public)	Seminole County High School
A (Private)	Lakeview Academy

Winning a State Championship is an outstanding achievement for the GHSA schools, athletes and coaches, and a distinction that should create a great deal of pride in the community.

## **GHSA Network Spring Schedule**

The GHSA Network, produced by PlayOn Sports, will carry live and on demand coverage of spring state championships on GHSA.tv. The GHSA Gymnastic State Championships on April 26th will air live on GHSA.tv, followed by action in track & field, soccer, lacrosse and baseball. Broadcast details will be provided for each event.



# Basketball State Champions - 2013



**AAAAAA Boys: Norcross**



**AAAAA Boys: Miller Grove**



**AAAA Boys: Eagle's Landing**



**AAA Boys: Johnson-Savannah**



**AA Boys: Greater Atlanta Christian**



**A (Public) Boys: Wilkinson County**



**A (Private) Boys: Greenforest Christian**



Photographs of the state championship Basketball teams were provided by **The Athletic Image** and **Georgia Photographics**. Action photos from basketball may be found and purchased at [GHSAAphotos.com](http://GHSAAphotos.com).

# Basketball State Champions - 2013



**AAAAAA Girls: Norcross**



**AAAAA Girls: Southwest DeKalb**



**AAAA Girls: Columbia**



**AAA Girls: St. Pius**



**AA Girls: Wesleyan**



**A (Public) Girls: Gordon Lee**



**A (Private) Girls: St. Francis**



**Wheelchair: Houston County**

**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**AGENDA**

**MARRIOTT / Macon City Center - MACON, GEORGIA**  
**April 15, 2013 - 9:00 a.m.**

Call To Order..... Dr. Gary Holmes, President  
 Invocation..... Dr. Ralph Swearngin, Executive Director  
 Roll Call..... Steve Figueroa, Media Director

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Board of Trustees**

1. 2012-2013 Financial Report [Executive Director]
2. 2013-2014 Budget [Executive Director]
3. Proposal to add a representative to the Executive Committee from the Independent School head master group. [Trustee talks with Heads of School from member private schools]
4. Proposal to allow GHSA schools to compete against GISA schools under certain conditions. [Region 2-A]
5. Proposal to have two dead weeks: 1 week in June and the week of July 4th [Earl Etheridge]
6. Proposal to standardize the time frame for online rules clinics as the two week period just before the first date of practice in that sport. [Upson-Lee HS]
7. Proposal to develop a program to sell GHSA playoff passes to collegiate coaches [GHSA office]
8. Proposal to change deadlines for schools to report their participation in sports and activities not organized along region lines. [GHSA office]
9. Modify GHSA travel reimbursement for staff, volunteers, and Executive Committee. [GHSA Office]
10. Proposal to develop a transgender policy for GHSA competition [GHSA office]
11. Executive Session: Discussion of personnel issues

**Basketball Committee**

1. Proposal to have the semifinal games played at the site of the higher seed. [Region 6-AAA]
2. Form a "host committee" if the semifinals are played at a neutral site to see that conditions are comparable to what they have been in the "final four" format. [Region 6-AAA]
3. Proposal to seed the 32 qualifying teams for the

- State Basketball Tournament by a power rating system in all classifications [Alexander HS]
4. Proposal to change the format for all rounds of the playoffs [Alexander HS]
5. Proposal to change parts of the power rating system for Class A schools [Towns Co. HS & GHSA office]
6. Proposal to change policy of scheduling double headers in early rounds of playoffs [GHSA office]
7. Proposal to allow the Executive Director the authority to modify the games times for semifinals and championships when schools have both boys' and girls' teams playing. [GHSA office]
8. Proposal to restructure admission fees for playoff basketball games. [GHSA office]
9. Proposal to have a coin toss in the 3rd round for hosting privilege when the teams have the same seed out of their regions. (Region 6-AAA)

**Cheerleading Committee**

1. Proposal to change the format and dates for the 2013 Sectional and State competitions [GHSA office]
2. Proposal to lessen the point deductions in the "minor violation" categories. [State Coordinator]
3. Proposal to develop a written policy about proper cheerleading uniforms to go into effect for the 2014 season. [GHSA staff]

**Eligibility Committee**

1. Proposal to allow coaches to appeal the sit-out penalty if ejected [Region 2-AA]
2. Proposal to delete references to participation in non-school practices from By-law 2.61 Regions 5-AAAAAA and 6-AAAAAA]
3. Discussion of difficulties involved in EOCT scores delaying credit recovery programs. [GHSA office]

(over)

**AGENDA, Continued****Eligibility Committee, Cont.**

4. Review of area meetings with Superintendents [Executive Director]
5. Discussion of possible academic innovation or upcoming legislation that might affect GHSA eligibility rules [GHSA office]

**Football Committee**

1. Review the research findings of the heat/humidity changes this past season. [Earl Etheridge]
2. Proposal to recalculate division of revenue and expense at championship games. [Emanuel County Institute; Earl Etheridge]
3. Proposal to change certain parts of the power rating system for Class A schools [GHSA office; Earl Etheridge]
4. Proposal to allow schools an extra scrimmage in August if they choose not to hold spring practice. [Earl Etheridge]
5. Proposal to restructure admission fees for playoff football games. [GHSA office]
6. Proposal to allow host school to add surcharge on playoff admission fee for its season ticket holders. [GHSA office]
7. Proposal to allow exemptions for the stadium seating rule if both schools agree. [Region 4-AAAAA]
8. Proposal to allow shoulder pads at summer football camps [McEachern HS and Mill Creek HS] (Note: asked to report back to Committee at last meeting)

**Golf Committee**

1. Proposal to make all State Tournaments 36-hole events (all classes and genders) [Columbus HS]
2. Proposal to allow the use of electronic devices that compute playing distances [Columbus HS; Region 7-AAAAA]
3. Proposal to establish a maximum score for individual qualifiers in the region tournament in order to advance. [Columbus HS]
4. Proposal to institute an online rules clinic for Golf coaches developed in conjunction with GSGA. [Columbus HS]

**Lacrosse Committee**

1. (Girls) Proposal to allow teams from different classifications to play an overtime procedure if both coaches agree before the start of the match. [State Coordinator]

**Awards Committee**

1. Proposal to increase the number of medals given in team sports at championships. [GHSA office]

**Media Committee**

1. Proposal on the policy of media credentials at playoff venues. [GHSA Office]
2. Proposal on timing issues when a game is televised or streamed. [GHSA Office]

**Officials Committee**

1. Proposal to raise game fees for officials. [Earl Etheridge & GHSA office]
2. Selection of football officials: regular season and post-season [Earl Etheridge]

**Reclassification Committee**

1. Mandate that all regions composed of 11 or fewer teams must play a full region schedule. [Region 4-AAAAA]
2. Proposal to institute a multiplier to student populations in certain schools when reclassifying GHSA members. [Lovett School]
3. Proposal to adopt a "3 Classes/6 Championships" plan for reclassification. [Habersham Central HS]
4. Review of schedule for 2014-2016 reclassification process. [GHSA office]

**Softball Committee**

1. Proposal to extend the softball season one week at the end of the season [Greenbrier HS]
2. Proposal to change game-ending procedures in subvarsity and tournament games [Greenbrier HS, Mill Creek HS, et. al.]

**Sportsmanship Committee**

1. Review of Ejection data for 2012-13 school year. [Executive Director]
2. Discussion of the effectiveness of current sit-out rules. [Executive Director]

**Track Committee**

1. Proposal to expand the maximum number of varsity meets to 12 as long as no athlete participates in more than 10 meets. [GHSA office]

**Volleyball Committee**

1. Proposal to change the maximum number of

(over)

**AGENDA, Continued****Volleyball Committee, Cont.**

- playing dates to 18 playing dates regardless of whether it is a tournament format or head-to-head. [GHSA staff]
2. Proposal to change the format of the semifinal matches to the site of the higher seed. [GHSA State Coordinators]
  3. Proposal to move the date of the first competition to August 5, 2013 [GHSA State Coordinators]
  4. Proposal to hold the championship matches at one site and have the matches played on Friday night and Saturday. [GHSA State Coordinators; GHSA staff]
  5. Proposal to clarify travel fees for officials in both regular season and playoffs. [GHSA State Coordinators; GHSA staff]

**Wrestling Committee**

1. Proposal to limit the number of wrestling opportunities in tournaments. [Region 7-AAAAA]

2. Adopt the NFHS procedure for weigh-ins. (GHSA Staff)
3. Eliminate "consecutive day" weight allowance to teams wrestling the day before any post-season tournament. (GHSA Staff)
4. Schools must enter weigh-in results in the computerized weight management program within 48 hours of the weigh-in. (GHSA Staff)
5. All schools must have at least one scale certified annually (between March and May). [GHSA Staff]
6. For all Area Tournaments, each Area will secure officials to conduct weigh-ins and to officiate the matches, and shall pay those officials accordingly. [GHSA Staff]
7. Allow schools to schedule other matches if they are not participating in Team Dual playoffs. [GHSA staff]
8. [Page 96 "E"] Move the date to change schedule without GHSA approval from December 15th to December 31st. [GHSA staff]

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

1. Financial Report 2012-13
2. Budget for 2013-14

**NEW BUSINESS:****ADJOURNMENT****SCHEDULE OF SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS - SPRING 2013**

(Meetings Will Be Held at the Marriott City Center Hotel; Room Assignments Will Be Noted on Signage)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13**

6:00pm Board of Trustees

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14**

9:00am Basketball Committee  
Eligibility Committee  
Wrestling Committee

10:00am Football Committee  
Softball Committee  
Track & Field Committee

10:30am Lacrosse Committee

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14, Cont.**

11:00am Awards Committee  
Officials Committee  
Volleyball Committee

11:30am Media Committee

12:30pm Sportsmanship Committee

1:00pm Cheerleading Committee  
Golf Committee

2:00pm Reclassification Committee

4:30pm Hospitality Room Opens

## GHSA - April Calendar - 2013

### April

- 1 Deadline to submit notification of entry in Gymnastics, Lacrosse, Riflery, Soccer, Volleyball & Wrestling for 2013-14
- 13 State Riflery Championship
- 15 State Executive Committee Meeting -- Macon
- 19-20 Complete Area Gymnastics
- 20 Complete Region Tennis and Region Track
- 22 Report Region Track results to GHSA Office by 9 a.m.
- 22 Report Region Tennis results to GHSA Office by 9 a.m.
- 24 Complete Area/Region Soccer
- 25 Report Area/Region Soccer winners to GHSA Office by 9 a.m.
- 25 Complete First Round State Tennis (2A - 6A) and Area Tennis (Class A)
- 26 State Gymnastics Meet; Complete Region Golf
- 26 Report State Tennis winners (Area in Class A) to GHSA Office by 9 a.m.
- 27 Sectional Track Meets; Complete Region Baseball
- 29 Report Region Golf results to GHSA Office and to State Sites
- 29 Report Region Baseball results to GHSA Office by 9 a.m.
- 29 Report Sectional Track results to GHSA Office by 9 a.m.
- 30 Girls First Round State Soccer (4A, 5A & 6A)
- 30 Complete Second Round State Tennis (First Round for Class A)

### GHSA Sponsors

