



# GHSAA

## "ITEMS OF INTEREST"

February 2014

### **Be Sure You Understand the 'Costs' of Competing**

Many years ago in Accounting 101, I remember hearing the phrase “the cost of doing business.” The context at that time referred to fixed expenses that accumulate when operating a business. The “cost of doing business” is also a relevant issue in the area of education-based athletics and competitive activities. That concept does involve financial matters, but it goes into other areas as well.

**FINANCIAL COSTS:** There is no question that the cost of operating interscholastic athletics/activities programs is rising significantly. At the same time, the revenue streams that fund those programs are diminishing. Additionally, funding for all aspects of education has been in a downward spiral for quite a while.

Therefore, school administrators are looking for creative ways to raise revenue in every aspect of the educational landscape. Prudent financial management also requires stringent restrictions on the expense side, and that issue is a major focal point in many discussions I have with educational administrators.

Unfortunately, wide scale policies aimed at enhancing revenue and restricting expenses are difficult because priorities differ from administrator to administrator. Recent debates over the GHSAA reclassification process demonstrated that cost-reduction options are often filtered through competitive-opportunity concerns.

There is a significant amount of data available to show that participation in interscholastic athletics and activities provides important educational benefits to the students that serve them well throughout their lifetimes. It would be a tremendous loss to our culture if the graduates of the future did not have these participation opportunities to help them develop fully.

However, I believe that we are approaching a critical decision-making point in high school athletics/activities. The cost of doing business will continue to exist, and administrators will need to modify some of the traditional policies and practices in order to meet those costs.

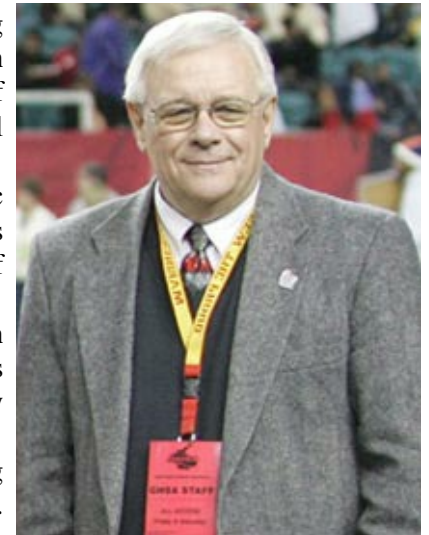
**MANAGEMENT COSTS:** When there is agreement that interscholastic athletics/activities are important enough to continue despite financial dilemmas, then there should be agreement that the management of such important programs needs to be the very best possible.

Regardless of how much money a school’s athletic program has at its disposal, there is a need to be certain that the quality of the program remains as high as possible. A school may not have a lot of money available to add resources, but personnel at that school can make certain that they take pride in what they have and how they manage it.

Coaches and administrators need to give full attention to the policies and practices that affect their athletes. I understand that educators carry out a variety of duties, and their time is limited; however, the “cost of doing business” in athletics requires extensive attention to management factors.

The GHSAA has expectations that are communicated through rules about eligibility, sportsmanship, facility requirements, meeting deadlines, etc. Those expectations have been developed to enhance the quality of athletics and activities throughout the state. When those expectations are met, there is greater likelihood that the competitions will run more smoothly.

Most of the problems that arise in athletic programs stem from a lack of awareness of the policies and procedures, or from the failure to follow the rules they know. Adherence to rules is a part of the “cost of doing business” in education-based athletics and activities, and that business is so beneficial that it is worth the costs involved.



– 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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No. 5

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Administration, Interpretation of GHSA Rules, Hardship Appeals

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By-Law Interpretations, Transfer Eligibility, Cross Country, Track, Golf

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Basketball, Soccer, Softball, Officials Training

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Lacrosse, Volleyball, Wrestling, Sports Medicine

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Baseball, Football, Literary, One-Act Play

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GHSA Constitution & Calendar, Web Site Content, Tennis

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- Officials' Registrar -

Officials' Registration, Testing & Online Clinics, Service Awards

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- Administrative Assistant -

Event Sanctioning, School Passes, Directory,  
Online Clinics for Coaches, Trophies & Medals

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Hardship Hearings, Fines, School System/Retiree Passes,  
Publication Orders

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Budgeting and Finances, Dues, Playoff Finances, Staff Procedures

**STACEY BASILICI** (extension 32)

- Administrative Assistant -

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School Contact Coordinator

**GHSA Licensed Products**

This month's featured licensees are: **Georgia Photographic** ([georgiaphotographics.com](http://georgiaphotographics.com)); **RiverOak Photography** ([riverokphotography.com](http://riverokphotography.com)); **Pinion Photography** ([pinionphotography.com](http://pinionphotography.com)) & **Athletic Image** ([theathleticimage.com](http://theathleticimage.com)), official action photographer; **Chill Zone** ([chillzoneilc.com](http://chillzoneilc.com)), sales / rentals of misting fans and heaters; **PlayOn Sports**, produce your school's own video streaming Web channel; The NFHS Network / GHSA is powered by PlayOn Sports ([playonsports.com](http://playonsports.com)); and **Sports Imports**, official volleyball net systems ([sportsimports.com](http://sportsimports.com)).

**STATE CHAMPIONS****CHEERLEADING**

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

AAAAAA

AAAAA

AAAA

AAA

AA

A (public)

A (private)

Co-Ed

Lambert High School

McIntosh High School

Veterans High School

Pierce County High School

Calhoun High School

Commerce High School

Mt. Paran Christian School

Peachtree Ridge High School

**FOOTBALL**

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

AAAAAA

AAAAA

AAAA

AAA

AA

A (public)

A (private)

Norcross High School

Creekside High School

Griffin High School

Buford High School

Lovett School

Marion County High School

Aquinas High School

**TEAM DUAL WRESTLING**

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

AAAAAA

AAAAA

AAAA

AAA

AA

A

Archer High School

Pope High School

Gilmer High School

Buford High School

Jefferson High School

Commerce 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.

**GHSA Membership Directory Online!**

A reminder that the GHSA Member School Directory ("Blue Book") for 2013-2014 is now available online.

You can access the Directory by going to the GHSA web site and clicking on the appropriate link, or you can type the following link into your web browser:

[www.ghsa.net/2013-2014-ghsa-member-school-directory](http://www.ghsa.net/2013-2014-ghsa-member-school-directory)

**Home 'Pink' is OK for April 7-12**

In observance of cancer awareness week, the GHSA will allow schools to wear "pink" uniforms at their HOME events during the week of April 7-12 for ALL spring sports.

If a school does NOT have a home contest that week, it may request to wear pink at a home contest either the week prior to or the week following April 7-12. 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.

## 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.

**FOOTBALL SCHEDULES:** Coaches and/or Athletic Directors are reminded that 2014 varsity Football Schedules are due in the GHSA office no later than March 1, 2014. If your school has hired a new coach for the 2014 season, please make sure he is made aware of this deadline.

**OPEN MEET DEADLINES:** Member schools are reminded of the various deadlines 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 2014-2015. The deadline for Volleyball and Riflery is February 1, 2014. 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" for this year 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.

## Attention Basketball Coaches

**BASKETBALL STATE TOURNAMENT:** All teams advancing to the State Tournament 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 Monday, February 10.

## GHSA Events On The Air!



State Championship action of the **swimming & diving** and **traditional wrestling** state championships will video stream on the NFHS Network produced by PlayOn Sports.

The GHSA Swimming & Diving State Championships presented by Verizon will be live from the Georgia Tech Aquatic Center on Thursday, Feb. 6 at 9:00 a.m., (1-5A Diving) and 3:15 p.m. (6A Diving); Saturday, Feb. 8 at 1:00 p.m., (1A-5A Swimming) and 6:00 p.m., (6A Swimming).

A week later, the GHSA Traditional Wrestling State Championships, presented by the Georgia Army National Guard, will be broadcast from the Arena at Gwinnett with live action from all 12 mats starting with the quarterfinals on Friday, Feb. 14 at 9:00 a.m., through the championship finals on Saturday, Feb. 15 at 3:00 p.m.

All live events are available by subscription, with on-demand viewing free after the event. DVDs can be ordered at [NFHSNetwork.com](http://NFHSNetwork.com).



## CSS to Televisе Wrestling Finals

Comcast Sports Southeast will air a highlight show of the GHSA Traditional Wrestling State Championship on Sunday, Feb. 22, Time TBD. The program produced by PlayOn Sports is supported by Team Georgia, a non-profit state affiliate of USA Wrestling providing opportunity for amateur wrestlers of all ages.

## GHSA Welcomes New Partners

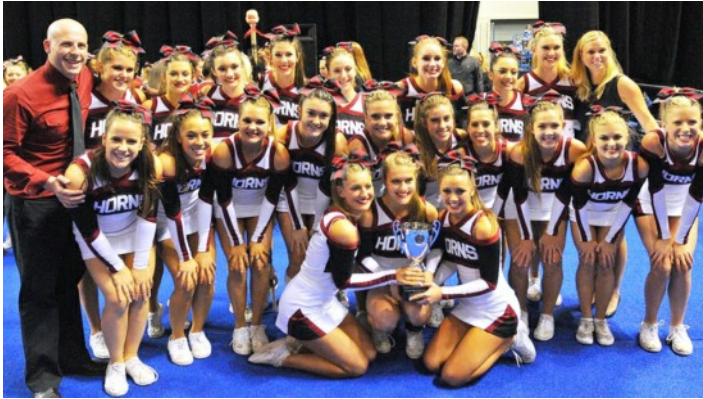
The GHSA welcomes new corporate partners: E-Z-Go, Atlanta Hawks and Nfinity.

E-Z-Go will be presenting sponsor of the Golf State Championships, the Atlanta Hawks will support the basketball playoffs / state championships, and Nfinity will be the official cheerleading footwear / apparel company.

New wrestling merchandise companies include Takedown Sportswear (traditional state) and Eagle Sportz (sectionals).



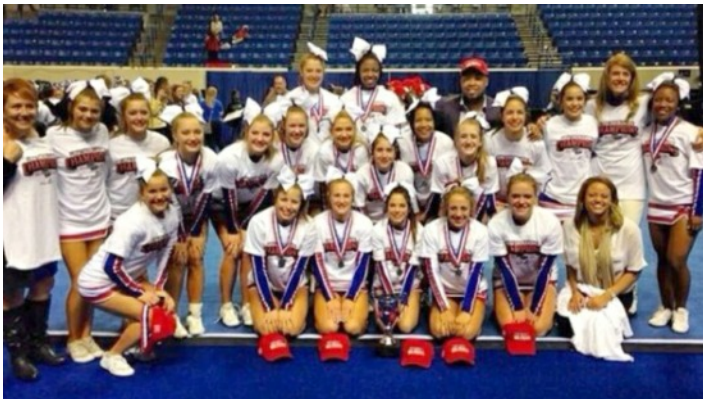
# State Cheerleading Champions - 2013



**AAAAAA:** Lambert Longhorns



**AAAAA:** McIntosh Chiefs



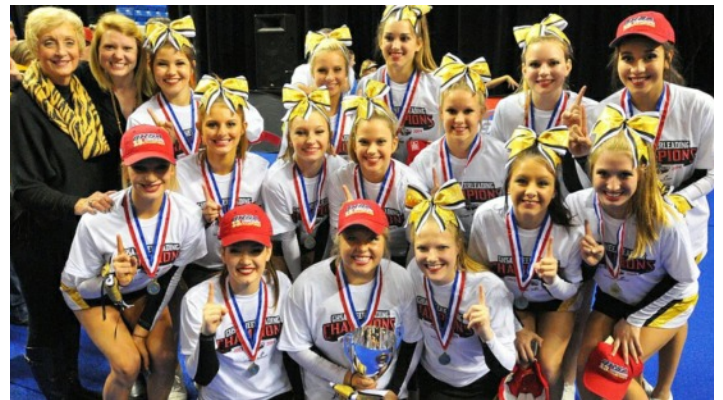
**AAAA:** Veterans Warhawks



**AAA:** Pierce County Bears



**AA:** Calhoun Yellow Jackets



**A (public):** Commerce Tigers



**A (private):** Mt. Paran Christian Eagles



**Co-Ed:** Peachtree Ridge Lions

# State Football Champions - 2013



Photographs in this newsletter of the state championship Cheerleading squads, Football teams, and Dual Wrestling teams were provided by Georgia Photographics, and The Athletic Image.



**AAAAAA: Norcross Blue Devils**



**AAAAA: Creekside Seminoles**



**AAAA: Griffin Bears**



**AAA: Buford Wolves**



**AA: Lovett Lions**



**A (public): Marion County Eagles**



**A (private): Aquinas Fightin' Irish**

# Team Dual Wrestling State Champions - 2014



**AAAAA**: Archer Tigers



**AAAAA**: Pope Greyhounds



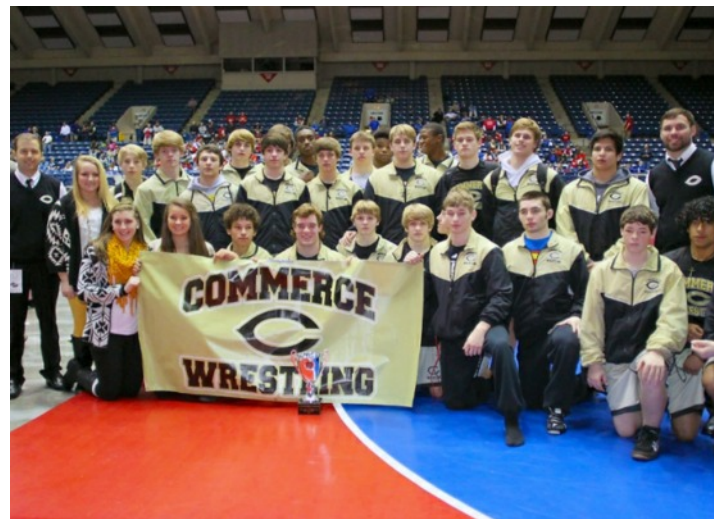
**AAAA**: Gilmer Bobcats



**AAA**: Buford Wolves



**AA**: Jefferson Dragons



**A**: Commerce Tigers

## State Swimming and Diving Meets

The 2014 **State Swimming and Diving Championships** will be held on February 6-8 at the Georgia Tech Aquatic Center in Atlanta. Admission is \$12 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 GHSAA 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 at 7:00 am)  
 Feb. 6 3:00 pm Diving Finals for 6A (warmup at 1:00 pm)

#### Friday:

Feb. 7 9:00 am Swim Prelims for A-5A (warmup at 7:00 am)  
 Feb. 7 6:30 pm Swim Finals for 6A (warmup at 5:00 pm)

#### Saturday:

Feb. 8 1:00 pm Swim Finals for A-5A (warmup at 11 am)  
 Feb. 8 6:00 pm Swim Finals for 6A (warmup at 4:30 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

### Qualifying Standards - Swimming

BOYS	EVENTS	GIRLS
1:51.00	200-yard Medley Relay	2:07.00
1:55.00	200-yard Freestyle	2:07.00
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
1:40.00	200-yard Freestyle Relay	1:53.00
1:00.00	100-yard Backstroke	1:06.00
1:07.00	100-yard Breaststroke	1:15.00
3:44.00	400-yard Freestyle Relay	4:12.00

### 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 7-8, 2014.

The State Finals for all six classifications will be held on Thursday through Saturday, February 13-15, 2014 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>6A</b> (Top 8 Qualify for State Finals):	East (Regions 1, 2, 6, 8)	Lowndes
	West (Regions 3, 4, 5, 7)	Mill Creek
<b>5A</b> (Top 8 Qualify for State Finals):	East (Regions 2, 3, 7, 8)	Cambridge
	West (Regions 1, 4, 5, 6)	Allatoona
<b>4A</b> (Top 8 Qualify for State Finals):	East (Regions 2, 3, 4, 8)	Lanier
	West (Regions 1, 5, 6, 7)	Fayette County
<b>3A</b> (Top 4 Qualify for State Finals):	East (Areas 1, 4)	Morgan County
	West (Areas 2, 3)	Sonoraville
<b>2A</b> (Top 4 Qualify for State Finals):	East (Areas 1, 4)	Dublin
	West (Areas 2, 3)	Bremen
<b>A</b> (Top 4 Qualify for State Finals):	East (Areas 1, 4)	Holy Innocents'
	West (Areas 2, 3)	Darlington

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

Date/Time	Event	Class
<b>Thursday, Feb. 13</b>		
1:00 - 3:00 pm	Weigh-Ins	4A, 5A & 6A
3:45 - 4:00 pm	Coaches Meeting	4A, 5A & 6A
5:30 - 9:00 pm	Round of 16	4A, 5A & 6A
<b>Friday, Feb. 14</b>		
9:00 - 11:00 am	Quarterfinals	4A, 5A & 6A
10:00 - 11:00 am	Weigh-Ins	A, 2A & 3A
11:30 am - noon	Coaches Meeting	A, 2A & 3A
11 am - 1:00 pm	1st Round WBs	4A, 5A & 6A
1:00 - 3:00 pm	Quarterfinals	A, 2A & 3A
3:00 - 5:00 pm	2nd Round WBs	4A, 5A & 6A
5:00 - 7:00 pm	Consolation Quarters	All Classes
7:00 - 9:00 pm	Semifinals	All Classes
Weigh-Outs (After completion of weight class up to one hour - All Classes)		
<b>Saturday, Feb. 15</b>		
9:30 - 11:00 am	Consolation Semis	All Classes
11 a.m. - 12:30 pm	Consolation Finals	All Classes
2:30 pm	Finals Opening Ceremonies	All Classes
3:00 pm	FINALS	All Classes
(Awards ceremony immediately after finals)		

## GHSA - February Calendar - 2014

### February

1	Deadline for notification of entry in Literary (Volleyball & Riflery for 2014-15)
1	Traditional Wrestling Area Tournaments
3	Earliest contest date for Tennis and Gymnastics
4	Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
6-8	State Swimming & Diving Meets
7, 8	Traditional Wrestling Sectional Tournaments
10	Earliest contest date for Soccer and Track
13-15	Traditional Wrestling State Tournaments
15	Complete Region Basketball
17	File reports of Region Basketball winners by 9 a.m.
17	Earliest contest date for Baseball and Lacrosse; Golf practice begins
18	Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
18, 19	First Round State Basketball Tournaments 2A through 6A
21, 22	First Round State Basketball Tournaments Class A
21, 22	Second Round State Basketball Tournaments 2A through 6A
22	First contest date for Golf
25, 26	Quarterfinal Round State Basketball Tournament all classes
28	Semifinal Round State Basketball Tournament all classes

### March

1	Football Schedules due into GHSA Office
1	Semifinal Round State Basketball Tournament all classes

## GHSA Sponsors

