



GHSA

"ITEMS OF INTEREST"

March 2017

State Basketball Tournament Builds to Exciting Conclusion

An exciting conclusion to the 2017 GHSA basketball season is expected as the Dr. Ralph Swearngin State Basketball Tournament semifinals and finals take place with an all-time record of 17 state titles on the line.

The four-day championship round will tip off with the Class A Public schools playing at the University of Georgia on Wednesday, March 8. Then the Class 5A teams will battle that evening as the GHSA decides basketball winners in Athens for the first time since 1941.



Thursday's schedule at UGA begins at 11 a.m., with the 20th annual AAASP Wheelchair title game followed by the 3A and 6A finals (see exact game times in chart).

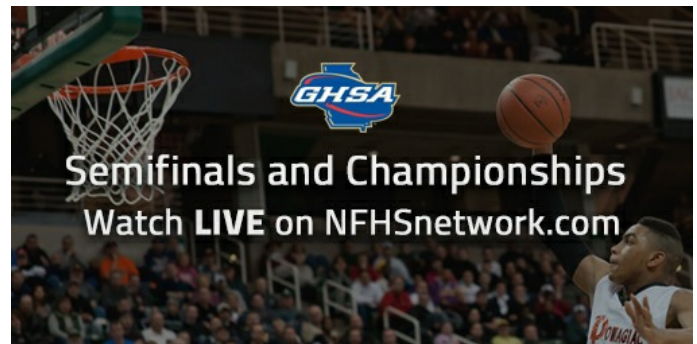
Friday's action returns to Georgia Tech for the first time since 2003 and will tip off with the Class A Private school championship games. Later that same evening, the two Class 4A titles will be decided. The action concludes Saturday at Tech with the 2A and 7A contests.

All the finals (as well as the March 4 semifinals from eight sites) will be streamed live on the NFHS Network.

"The University of Georgia and Georgia Tech have two of the premier basketball complexes in the state," said GHSA Executive Director Gary Phillips. "Both schools worked tirelessly with the GHSA to devise a schedule that eliminates any conflict between the state championship games and the Bulldogs' and Yellow Jackets' own use of these marvelous facilities. The primary goal of the GHSA is to promote the best interests of Georgia's high school student-athletes, and we are thrilled at the experience these venues will offer to the teams, their schools and their fans."

Semifinal Sites (All Games March 4)

- Class 1A Private - Cobb Civic Center
- Class 1A Public - Valdosta State University
- Class 2A - Georgia College & State University
- Class 3A - Armstrong State University
- Class 4A - Augusta University
- Class 5A - Columbus State University
- Class 6A - Ft. Valley State University
- Class 7A - University of West Georgia



2017 Dr. Ralph Swearngin State Basketball Championship Facts

When: March 8-11, 2017 **Where:** UGA & Georgia Tech
Tickets: \$12 per day at each site

Championship Schedule

Wed., March 8 - UGA

- 2:00 pm - Girls Class A Public
- 4:00 pm - Boys Class A Public
- 6:00 pm - Girls Class 5A
- 8:00 pm - Boys Class 5A

Fri., March 10 - Georgia Tech

- 2:00 pm - Girls Class A Private
- 4:00 pm - Boys Class A Private
- 6:00 pm - Girls Class 4A
- 8:00 pm - Boys Class 4A

Thurs., March 9 - UGA

- 11:00 am - AAASP Wheelchair
- 2:00 pm - Girls Class 3A
- 4:00 pm - Boys Class 3A
- 6:00 pm - Girls Class 6A
- 8:00 pm - Boys Class 6A

Sat., March 11 - Georgia Tech

- 2:00 pm - Girls Class 2A
- 4:00 pm - Boys Class 2A
- 6:00 pm - Girls Class 7A
- 8:00 pm - Boys Class 7A

All Semifinal games and Championship Finals are available Live at NFHSNetwork.com/GHSA. A 30-day subscription is \$9.95 for an all-access, unlimited viewing pass on any device. Pre-event tickets for semifinals and finals can be purchased at Gofan.co/app/school/GHSA.



Join the GHSA social media conversation @OfficialGHSA on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION Newsletter
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Administration, By-Law Interpretations, Hardship Rulings,
 Football Playoffs, Coaches Education Program

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This month's featured licensees are: **Honig's Whistle Stop** (honigs.com) **Cliff Keen** (cliffkeen.com), **Smitty Official's Apparel** (smittyusadyesub.com), Officials/umpires uniforms, apparel and equipment; **Mr Video** videographer / order DVDs for the cheerleading state championships (mrvideoonline.com); **Hartwell Studio Works**, creating unique spirit logos / marks (hartwellstudioworks.com); **Nfinity**, official cheerleading footwear and apparel (nfinity.com) and **Resilite**, official wrestling mat (resilite.com). View a complete list at www.ghsa.net/licensing.

STATE CHAMPIONS

WRESTLING - Traditional

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

7A	Camden County High School
6A	Alexander High School
5A	Buford High School
4A	Jefferson High School
3A	Bremen High School
2A	Social Circle School
A	Commerce High School

SWIMMING and DIVING

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

	Boys
6A-7A	Brookwood High School
A - 5A	Walton High School
	Girls
6A-7A	St. Pius
A - 5A	Marist

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.

MaxPreps Baseball Power Ratings

The first power ratings for Class A baseball by MaxPreps will be posted on GHSA.net on March 14, 2017. 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 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 with any questions.



Stay Connected to the GHSA!

For all coaches, athletic directors, schools and teams, join the conversation on social media @OfficialGHSA on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram for all the latest association news and information.



'Gold Week' is April 10-15, 2017

Each school day in America, 46 kids are diagnosed with childhood cancer, the leading disease killer of children ages 15 and younger. After a successful partnership in September 2016, 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 10-15.

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 "Go Gold" during the week of Sept. 12, 2016. More than \$100,000 was raised for childhood cancer research across the state during the month of September.

Georgia high school students and parents can "Go Gold" by wearing gold T-shirts, wristbands and ribbons throughout the week of April 10, in compliance with school uniform and dress codes. Georgia high school baseball, lacrosse, soccer and tennis teams are encouraged to "Go Gold" at home games and matches by wearing gold jerseys, socks or wristbands that comply with GHSA uniform restrictions.

"Kids don't just battle cancer one month of the year," said Dean Crowe, CEO and founder of the Rally Foundation. "Kids fighting cancer and their families endure months, and in many cases, years of treatment. We are honored to have the Georgia High School Association's commitment to Rally and our mission by encouraging schools to 'Go Gold' and raise awareness for childhood cancer this spring, beyond the month of September."

To learn more about how to get involved, visit RallyFoundation.org or follow Rally on Facebook and Twitter. Suggested "Go Gold" social media hashtags include #GoGold 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 Marcie@RallyFoundation.org.

About the Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research:

Childhood cancer is the number one disease killer of kids ages 0 to 15. Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research, 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. Rally received the Independent Charities Seal of Excellence and GuideStar Valued Partner seal, and according to independently audited financials, 93 cents of every dollar raised, supports Rally's mission. For more information, visit RallyFoundation.org.

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 10, 2017. The spring State Executive Committee meeting will be held April 10, 2017 at the Marriott Macon City Center.

FOOTBALL SCHEDULES: Coaches and/or Athletic Directors are reminded that 2017 varsity Football Schedules are due in the GHSA office no later than March 1, 2017.

OPEN MEET DEADLINE: Member schools are reminded that April 1, 2017 is the deadline to notify the GHSA of entry in Open Meet State Events such as Volleyball, Lacrosse, Class A Soccer, Wrestling, Riflery, Slow Pitch Softball and Gymnastics for the school year 2017-2018.

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, July 2, 2017 through Saturday, July 8, 2017.

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 2017-18 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.

Nominations Are Still Open for Positive Athlete Georgia Award!

Nominations are still open for the 2016-17 Positive Athlete Georgia award. This program recognizes the character building benefits of GHSA sports and activities participation.

Positive Athlete Georgia will be accepting nominations for high school athletes in any grade, in any sport, from any public or private school in Georgia until March 31, 2017.

For more details go to www.georgia.positiveathlete.org.



Swimming & Diving State Champions - 2017



Class 6A-7A Boys Champion: Brookwood



Class 6A-7A Girls Champion: Walton



Class A-5A Boys Champion: St. Pius



Class A-5A Girls Champion: Marist

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

Traditional Wrestling State Champions - 2017



7A: Camden County



6A: Alexander



5A: Buford



4A: Jefferson



3A: Bremen



2A: Social Circle



A: Commerce

Schedules for 2017 State Literary Meets

The state literary meets for all classifications will be held on Saturday, March 18, 2017. Classes 4A, 5A and 7A will be at held at Buford High School, Classes 2A, 3A and 6A will be at Houston County High School, and Class A public and private will be at Georgia Military College. Admission is free to all events.

Classes 4A, 5A and 7A - Buford High School

Argumentative Essay:		
4A, 5A & 7A	9:00 am	Room 6302
Personal Essay:		
4A, 5A & 7A	9:00 am	Room 6308
Rhetorical Essay:		
4A, 5A & 7A	9:00 am	Room 6310
Domestic Extemporaneous Speaking:		
4A, 5A & 7A	9:00 am	Room 6207 (Draw & Prep)
4A	9:45 am	Room 6202 (Speaking)
5A	9:45 am	Room 6204 (Speaking)
7A	9:45 am	Room 6206 (Speaking)
International Extemporaneous Speaking:		
4A, 5A & 7A	12:00 pm	Room 6207 (Draw & Prep)
4A	12:45 pm	Room 6202 (Speaking)
5A	12:45 pm	Room 6204 (Speaking)
7A	12:45 pm	Room 6206 (Speaking)
Dramatic Oral Interpretation:		
4A	9:00 am	Room 114 (Art)
5A	9:00 am	Room 301 (Dance)
7A	9:00 am	Media Center
Humorous Oral Interpretation:		
4A	11:00 am	Room 114 (Art)
5A	11:00 am	Room 301 (Dance)
7A	11:00 am	Media Center
Duo Oral Interpretation:		
4A	1:30 pm	Room 114 (Art)
5A	1:30 pm	Room 301 (Dance)
7A	1:30 pm	Media Center
Girls Solo:		
4A	9:00 am	Chorus Room (307)
5A	9:00 am	Team Room (505)
7A	9:00 am	Auditorium
Boys Solo:		
4A	10:15 am	Chorus Room (307)
5A	10:15 am	Team Room (505)
7A	10:15 am	Auditorium
Girls Trio:		
4A	11:30 am	Chorus Room (307)
5A	11:30 am	Team Room (505)
7A	11:30 am	Auditorium
Boys Quartet:		
4A	1:30 pm	Chorus Room (307)
5A	1:30 pm	Team Room (505)
7A	1:30 pm	Auditorium

Classes 2A, 3A and 6A Houston County High School

Essay:		
2A, 3A & 6A	9:00 am	Room 811 (Argumentative)
2A, 3A & 6A	9:00 am	Room 814 (Personal)
2A, 3A & 6A	9:00 am	Room 815 (Rhetorical)
Domestic Extemporaneous Speaking:		
2A, 3A & 6A	9:00 am	Room 317 (Drawing)
2A	9:45 am	Room 307 (Speaking)
3A	9:45 am	Room 308 (Speaking)
6A	9:45 am	Room 312 (Speaking)
International Extemporaneous Speaking:		
2A, 3A & 6A	12:00 pm	Room 317 (Drawing)
2A	12:45 am	Room 307 (Speaking)
3A	12:45 am	Room 308 (Speaking)
6A	12:45 am	Room 312 (Speaking)

Dramatic Oral Interpretation:		
2A	9:00 am	Room 801
3A	9:00 am	Room 803
6A	9:00 am	Multi-Purpose

Humorous Oral Interpretation:		
2A	11:00 am	Room 801
3A	11:00 am	Room 803
6A	11:00 am	Multi-Purpose

Duo Oral Interpretation:		
2A	1:30 pm	Room 801
3A	1:30 pm	Room 803
6A	1:30 pm	Multi-Purpose

Girls Solo:		
2A	9:00 am	Choir Room
3A	9:00 am	Band Room
6A	9:00 am	Theater

Boys Solo:		
2A	10:15 am	Choir Room
3A	10:15 am	Band Room
6A	10:15 am	Theater

Girls Trio:		
2A	11:45 am	Choir Room
3A	11:45 am	Band Room
6A	11:45 am	Theater

Boys Quartet:		
2A	1:45 pm	Choir Room
3A	1:45 pm	Band Room
6A	1:45 pm	Theater

Class A Public and Private - Georgia Military College

Argumentative, Personal & Rhetorical Essay:		
Public & Private	9:30 am	Sibley Cone Library

Domestic Extemporaneous Speaking:		
Public	9:30 am	Rm: 133, Usery Hall (Drawing)
Public	10:00 am	Rm: 109, Usery Hall (Speaking)
Private	9:30 am	Rm: 132, Usery Hall (Drawing)
Private	10:00 am	Rm: 110, Usery Hall (Speaking)

International Extemporaneous Speaking:		
Public	11:30 am	Rm: 133, Usery Hall (Drawing)
Public	12:00 pm	Rm: 109, Usery Hall (Speaking)
Private	11:00 am	Rm: 132, Usery Hall (Drawing)
Private	11:30 am	Rm: 110, Usery Hall (Speaking)

Humorous Oral Interpretation:		
Public	9:30 am	Room: 333, Multipurpose
Private	9:30 am	Room: 228, Usery Hall

Dramatic Oral Interpretation:		
Public	11:00 am	Room: 333, Multipurpose
Private	11:00 am	Room: 228, Usery Hall

Duo Oral Interpretation:		
Public	12:30 pm	Room: 333, Multipurpose
Private	12:30 pm	Room: 228, Usery Hall

Girls Solo:		
Public	9:30 am	Goldstein Center for Arts
Private	9:30 am	Legislative Chamber

Boys Solo:		
Public	11:00 am	Goldstein Center for Arts
Private	11:00 am	Legislative Chamber

Girls Trio:		
Public	12:30 pm	Goldstein Center for Arts
Private	12:30 pm	Legislative Chamber

Boys Quartet:		
Public	2:00 pm	Goldstein Center for Arts
Private	2:00 pm	Legislative Chamber

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GHSA - March / April Calendar - 2017

March

- 1 Deadline to submit Football Schedules to GHSA office
- 1 Quarterfinal Round State Basketball Tournament
- 4 Semifinal Round State Basketball Tournament
- 7 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 7 Complete Region/Area Literary
- 8 File reports of Literary winners with GHSA by 9 a.m.
- 8-11 Championship Round State Basketball Tournament
- 18 State Literary Meets
- 21 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 25 Complete Area Riflery

April

- 1 Deadline to submit notification of entry in Gymnastics, Lacrosse, Riflery, Soccer, Slow Pitch Softball, Volleyball and Wrestling for 2017-18
- 1 Complete Riflery Sectionals
- 3 File reports of Riflery Sectionals with GHSA and State Meet Director
- 8 Complete Area Slow Pitch Softball
- 10 State Executive Committee Meeting (Macon)
- 10 File reports of Area Slow Pitch Softball winners with GHSA by 9 a.m.

GHSA Sponsors

