

The GHSA Commends Teams for Participating in Cancer Fight

September was the GHSA's designated "Cancer Awareness Month" with teams allowed to wear special colored uniforms and apparel in an effort to help raise awareness of the fight against several types of this terrible disease. And the GHSA would like to commend and thank the many, many schools and teams across the state who took part in this worthy effort

part in this worthy effort.

In observance of Breast Canschools were allowed to wear socks, wristbands, etc., at week of September 5-10 for leading, cross country, softalso are weeks designated as spring sports.

September 12-17 was the



cer awareness, member "Pink" uniforms and/or pink their home events during the all fall sports (football, cheerball and volleyball). There "Pink Weeks" for winter and

second annual GHSA "Gold

Week" to help raise the awareness of Childhood Cancer. The GHSA was proud to partner with Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research in encouraging schools to "Go Gold" during this week. The response this year was overwhelming with many schools holding "Gold Out" games where their football players wore gold socks and their cheerleaders sported gold bows. Students made posters and banners and learned the stories of children battling cancer in their own schools and communities. It was incredibly inspiring. To learn about even more ways to get involved, visit <u>RallyFoundation.org</u>.



And, finally, September 19-24 was the third annual "Blue Week" in the sport of Football to help fight Prostate Cancer. Special blue decals and blue wristbands were worn and the game officials were supplied with blue penalty flags to throw. Also many of the host schools stenciled blue ribbons on the playing field for their special contest.

We think this was the best year yet for our Cancer Awareness effort and the GHSA plans to continue this great tradition every September until a cure is found for this dreaded disease that affects so many lives.

- Gary Phillips, Executive Director

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

G讯SA "Items of Interest"

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- GHSA STAFF -Areas of Responsibility

GARY PHILLIPS (extension 21) - Executive Director -Administration, By-Law Interpretations, Hardship Rulings, Football Playoffs, Coaches Education Program

JAY RUSSELL (extension 25) - Assistant Executive Director -By-Law Interpretations, Transfer Eligibility, Cross Country, Golf, Track

> ERNIE YARBROUGH (extension 27) - Coordinator of Officiating -Basketball, Baseball, Softball, Officials Training

DENIS TALLINI (extension 34) Associate Director -Lacrosse, Volleyball, Wrestling, Sports Medicine

TOMMY WHITTLE (extension 23) - Associate Director -Football, Literary, One-Act Play, Soccer

CARROR WRIGHT (extension 39) - Associate Director -Coach's Liaison, Compliance/Investigations, Sportsmanship

> PENNY PITTS (extension 22) - Associate Director -Cheerleading, Title IX Compliance

STEVE FIGUEROA (extension 26) - Director of Information/Media Services Media Coordination for State Events, Newsletter, GHSA Constitution & Calendar, Web Site Content, Tennis

PAM THOMPSON (extension 30) - Officials' Registrar -Officials' Registration, Testing & Online Clinics, Service Awards

TANYA ANDERSON (extension 29) - Administrative Assistant -Event Sanctioning, School Passes, Directory, Online Clinics for Coaches, Trophies & Medals

JULIE JONES (extension 24) Administrative Assistant -Coaches Education Program, Web Site Content, Entry Notification

SHERI EUBANKS (extension 0) - Receptionist -Hardship Hearings, Fines, School System/Retiree Passes, **Publication Orders**

ROBIN BULLINGTON (extension 33) - Office Manager -Budgeting and Finances, Dues, Playoff Finances, Staff Procedures

STACEY BASILICI (extension 32) - Administrative Assistant -Non-transfer Eligibility, Literary & One-Act Play Liaison, School Contact Coordinator

GHSA Licensed Products

This month's featured licensees are: Honig's Whistle Stop (honigs.com) Cliff Keen (cliffkeen.com), Smitty Official's Apparel (smittyusadyesub.com), Officials apparel and equipment; Mr Video videographer / DVDs of cheerleading championships (mrvideoonline.com); Hartwell Studio Works, creating unique and dynamic spirit logos / marks (hartwellstudioworks.com); PowerFit Fitness Equipment / Rubber Floors and More, fitness equipment and flooring provider (fit-communities.com); and Nfinity, official cheerleading footwear and apparel (nfinity.com).

Football Power Rating Procedures

Below is the timetable and procedures for release of the final 2016 Class A Football Power Ratings, appeals and seeding of the playoff brackets, as well as the "At Large" playoff team in Class 7A:

Oct. 31 - All Class A football coaches MUST check the power ratings and inform GHSA football coordinator Tommy Whittle immediately if there are any problems or mistakes.

Nov. 6 - Region winners in all classifications must be determined and results entered into the MaxPreps web site by the end of day on the 6th.

Nov. 6 - MaxPreps' final Class A power ratings will be posted on the GHSA web site.

Nov. 7 - Region playoff qualifiers in classes 2-A through 7-A (except for the "At Large" team) must be submitted to the GHSA office by 9:00 a.m.

Nov. 7:

(1) Any Class A school that believes its final power rating is incorrect may file an appeal in writing to GHSA football coordinator Tommy Whittle between 8-11 a.m. You may fax (706-647-2638) or e-mail to twhittle@ghsa.net. The appeal letter must be accompanied by a complete list of results and points earned for each game!

(2) A GHSA Appeals Committee will verify the results (including any appeals), break any ties and determine the Class A playoff brackets.

(3) The results of the appeals and the Class A playoff brackets will be posted by 4:00 p.m., on the GHSA web site.

(4) The "At Large" team in Class 7A also will be determined at this time and the advancing team will be posted to the 7A bracket by 4:00 p.m., on the GHSA web site.

NOTES:

(1) Teams winning a Region championship will be placed in the Class A brackets (public school or private school) first based on their power rating numbers.

(2) Once posted, the brackets are FINAL.



MaxPreps Basketball Reminder

MaxPreps is the "Official Statistician and Media Partner" for the GHSA. MaxPreps offers coaches a free stat management and communication platform that enables you to submit your schedule, scores, roster and statistics. MaxPreps is a 100% free service and the official source of scores and stats for the GHSA.

All GHSA basketball teams statewide must submit game results to MaxPreps, regardless of classification. This information will be used to verify GHSA Region Standings and manage Class A Power Ratings. In addition, all information submitted will be used to power the statewide statistical leader boards.

For assistance, you may contact MaxPreps' Georgia state representative, Kylie McClarty at kylie.mclarty@cbsi.com.



GHSA Cheerleading State Championships on November 11-12

The 2016 GHSA Cheerleading State Championships will take place November 11-12 at the Columbus Civic Center.

Admission is \$12 per session and the civic center will be cleared between sessions each day. Please make sure your ticket purchase is for your team's session.

Use of cameras on smartphones, iPads and tablets are approved but NO FLASH photography or video cameras will be permitted!

Fans can watch every session on Friday and on Saturday live exclusively on <u>NFHSNetwork.com/GHSA</u> for \$9.95 allaccess pass.



Friday, November 11, 2016

1st Session: 2A, 3A and 4A Sectionals. Session begins at 9 a.m.

2nd Session: 5A, 6A and 7A Sectionals. Session begins at 3:00 p.m.

3rd Session: Class A Public and Private, and COED FINALS. Session begins at 7:00 p.m.

Order for ALL Sectionals (2A - 7A): 1 - Region 8, Team 4; 2 - Region 1, Team 4; 3 - Region 2, Team 4; 4 - Region 3, Team 4; 5 - Region 8, Team 3; 6 - Region 1, Team 3; 7 - Region 2, Team 3; 8 - Region 3, Team 3; 9 - Region 8, Team 2; 10 - Region 1, Team 2; 11 - Region 2, Team 2; 12 - Region 3, Team 2; 13 - Region 4, Team 2; 14 - Region 5, Team 2; 15 - Region 6, Team 2; 16 - Region 7, Team 2; 17 - Region 4, Team 3; 18 - Region 5, Team 3; 19 - Region 6, Team 3; 20 - Region 7, Team 3; 21 - Region 4, Team 4; 22 - Region 5, Team 4; 23 - Region 6, Team 4; 24 - Region 7, Team 4;

Order for Session #3 - A & COED Finals					
ORDER	TEAM	ORDER	TEAM		
1	COED - Sectional #15	17	COED - Sectional #2		
2	Public - Sectional #8	18	Private - Sectional #8		
3	COED - Sectional #13	19	COED - Sectional #4		
4	Public - Sectional #7	20	Private - Sectional #7		
5	COED - Sectional #11	21	COED - Sectional #6		
6	Public - Sectional #6	22	Private - Sectional #6		
7	COED - Sectional #9	23	COED - Sectional #8		
8	Public - Sectional #5	24	Private - Sectional #5		
9	COED - Sectional #7	25	COED - Sectional #10		
10	Public - Sectional #4	26	Private - Sectional #4		
11	COED - Sectional #5	27	COED - Sectional #12		
12	Public - Sectional #3	28	Private - Sectional #3		
13	COED - Sectional #3	29	COED - Sectional #14		
14	Public - Sectional #2	30	Private - Sectional #2		
15	COED - Sectional #1	31	COED - Sectional #16		
16	Public - Sectional #1	32	Private - Sectional #1		
(15-minute intermission after No. 16)					

Saturday, November 12, 2016

<u>1st Session</u>: 2A, 3A and 4A Finals. Session begins at 9 a.m. <u>2nd Session</u>: 5A, 6A and 7A Finals. Session begins at 2 p.m.

ORDER	2A through 7A FINALS	ORDER	2A through 7A FINALS	
1	Sectional - Team 7	9	Region 3 - Team 1	
2	Sectional - Team 5	10	Region 4 - Team 1	
3	Sectional - Team 3	11	Region 5 - Team 1	
4	Sectional - Team 1	12	Region 6 - Team 1	
5	Region 7 - Team 1	13	Sectional - Team 2	
6	Region 8 - Team 1	14	Sectional - Team 4	
7	Region 1 - Team 1	15	Sectional - Team 6	
8	Region 2 - Team 1	16	Sectional - Team 8	
(15-minute intermission after No. 8)				

GHSA Announces Expanded State Track Venues for 2017

The Georgia High School Association has announced that the hosting duties for the 2017 GHSA Track & Field State Championships, presented by Atlanta Track Club, on May 11-13, 2017 will be shared among three sites: past hosts Jefferson and Albany and new venue Carrollton.

The use of three sites for the championships enhances the quality of the school, student-athlete, and fan experience in a number of important ways, including:

1. Significantly decreasing the expected travel time and expense for the involved schools and their student-athletes and fans;

2. Allowing, for the first time, the Boys' and Girls' Championships in each respective division to be



conducted together at a single venue, as is the case with regular season meets, rather than different sites on different days;

3. For the many coaches who work with both the Boys' and Girls' teams at

their respective schools, eliminating by half the number of days that they must miss school to attend the meets.

GHSA's Assistant Executive Director Jay Russell, who himself competed in the State Track and Field Meet in Jefferson in 1977, praised the exemplary standard set in past years by Jefferson and Albany and lauded the addition of Carrollton, stating, "Jefferson and Albany have set an extraordinarily high bar as long-time hosts for the State Track and Field Championships and will no doubt continue that tradition. The addition as a third venue of Carrollton, which already hosts the GHSA cross-country championships, will allow the bestpossible experience for all involved schools, student-athletes, and fans."

November 2016



Cross Country State 2016 Championships 5,000 meters | Carrollton, GA





















Friday, November 4 9:00 am - 1A Private Boys 9:45 am - 1A Private Girls 10:30 am - 7A Boys 11:15 am - 7A Girls 12:00 noon - 2A Boys 12:45 pm - 2A Girls

> Saturday, November 5 8:00 am - 3A Boys

Saturday, November 5 (cont.) 8:45 am - 3A Girls 9:30 am - 4A Boys 10:15 am - 4A Girls 11:00 am - 6A Boys 11:45 am - 6A Girls 12:30 pm - 5A Boys 1:15 pm - 5A Girls 2:00 pm - 1A Public Boys 2:45 pm - 1A Public Girls

RACE INFORMATION

Live Results: Perfect Timing Group - ptgrouponline.com GHSA XC: Info at ghsa net/cross-country Merchandise: Visit TeamIP Tent for official apparel Share Social: @OfficialGHSA on Instagram, Twitter & Facebook Photography: Order at PinionPhotography.com Awards: Appreciation to Georgia Farm Bureau & Atlanta Track Club Host: Thanks to Carrollton staff & Meet Director Craig Musselwhite

GHSA "Items of Interest"

GHSA Picks Huddle as Ticketing Partner

The Georgia High School Association has chosen Huddle, Inc. as its digital ticketing provider for post-season and state championship events. The NFHS Network recently designated Huddle as its exclusive partner for a national rollout of digital ticketing for high school sports. The NFHS Network is a joint venture of the National Federation of State High School Associations, its member state associations, and PlayOn Sports.

The Huddle digital ticketing platform, GoFan, is FREE to high schools. Digital ticketing benefits both schools and fans by providing an easy way to purchase tickets in advance, streamline entry into venues and furnish customizable financial reports. Huddle already works with 400+ high schools in Georgia. GHSA will phase in digital ticketing at select championship events in 2016-17.

"We are excited to join the NFHS Network's partnership with Huddle as our digital ticketing provider," said Gary Phillips, Executive Director of the GHSA. "Huddle's already strong relationship with our member schools will support a successful experience for our athletic programs and fans.

Learn more about how Huddle is serving the GHSA and its member schools at www.Huddleinc.com/ad-gofan.



Nominations Open for NFHS Awards

The National Federation of State High School Associations has developed programs to recognize worthy students in the Arts (**Heart of the Arts**) and in Sports (**Spirit of Sports**). These awards are not primarily to reward winners of championships, but to recognize those students that make or have made an extraordinary effort to succeed, sometimes against a great deal of adversity.

You will find links on the GHSA web site for more information about the awards and nomination forms for a student that your school would like to submit in either or both disciplines (only one per school in each).

GHSA must receive your school's Spirit of Sports nominations by January 25, 2017 and the Heart of the Arts nomination by January 27, 2017. Please do not submit your nomination directly to the NFHS. Send it to Tommy Whittle at the GHSA and we will submit the GHSA's nomination by February 1 to the NFHS.

Each of the eight (8) sections (Georgia is in Section 3) must choose a winner from their section, and those nominees will be sent on to determine the NFHS recipient, that will be honored at the NFHS Summer Meeting.

NFHS Network Lowers Subscription Rate

The NFHS Network is excited to announce a new price model for fans. Subscribing to the Network will now be at the low price of \$9.95 per month.

Eliminating the day pass helps to simplify subscription options and give fans a better value by giving them a month's worth of content for the same low \$9.95 pass price.

To subscribe to the NFHS Network, go to this link: http://www.nfhsnetwork.com/subscribe/retail.



GHSA Sets Expanded Broadcast Schedule

The Georgia High School Association has announced an expanded broadcast schedule for 2016-17 with media partners Georgia Public Broadcasting and the NFHS Network. With the addition of a new GHSA classification (7A), the 2016-17 broadcast schedule marks the most GHSA events ever offered and includes 98 state championship events.

GPB will continue its long tradition of live televised and online coverage of the GHSA Football State Championships presented by Georgia Farm Bureau. GPB's gridiron coverage includes four playoff games and culminates with eight championship games – the last that will be held at the Georgia Dome – on Friday, December 9 and Saturday, December 10, 2016. Additional regular season and playoff football games, as well as the eight championship games, will also be available for live streaming via the NFHS Network.

The increased role in 2016-17 of the NFHS Network, a subscription-based joint venture of the National Federation of State High School Associations and Georgiabased PlayOn! Sports, will give Georgia viewers a greater selection of high school sports than ever before.

The NFHS Network schedule features hundreds of GHSA regular season and playoff contests in addition to the 98 state championship events, including the GHSA Basketball State Championships on March 8-9, 2017 at the University of Georgia's Stegeman Coliseum and March 10-11, 2017 at Georgia Tech's McCamish Pavilion.

A 30-day "All-Access Pass" to the NFHS Network costs just \$9.95. In addition to all GHSA events broadcast during that period, the All-Access Pass also allows subscribers to watch any event from the 43 other participating states in any of 23 sports carried by the NFHS Network. Many of the NFHS Network's events are offered through its School Broadcast Program, allowing students at member schools to participate in the production and broadcast process.

The full GHSA 2016-17 broadcast schedule is available at http://www.ghsa.net/ghsa-tv-web-schedule.

GHSA State Executive Committee Meeting October 26, 2016

MINUTES

A meeting of the State Executive Committee of the Georgia High School Association was called to order at 10:00 a.m., on October 26, 2016, at the Thomaston-Upson County Civic Center in Thomaston, Georgia, by Glenn White, President. Following is a **condensed** version of the minutes of that meeting. A complete version may be found on the GHSA web site (www.ghsa.net).

APPOINTMENTS

Motion was made by Jesse Crews, seconded by Earl Etheridge, and unanimously approved to go into Executive Session to hear student eligibility appeals. (NOTE: Presentations were made in Executive Session; all votes were taken after voting to come out of Executive Session. For clarity, outcome of vote is given after each statement of presentation.)

Rutland High School - Mark Daniel, Athletic Director, presented the appeal for student Ethan Rutland, requesting a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

Motion by Tommy Stringer, second by Jim Finch, to **deny** the appeal.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

Riverside Military Academy - Marc Paglia, Athletic Director, presented the appeal for student Samuel Britton, requesting a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

Motion by Kevin Giddens, second by Jesse Crews, to deny the appeal.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

Stone Moutain High School - Doug Dakin, Athletic Director, presented the appeal for student Azarius Cole, requesting a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

Motion by Horace Dunson, second by Lucia Norwood, to approve the appeal. MOTION PASSED (Roll Call Vote #1 - Yes: 35, No: 30)

Jones County High School - Barry Veal, Athletic Director, presented the appeal for student Antonio Evans, who had been ruled ineligible as a migrant student.

Motion by Tommy Stringer, second by Kevin Giddens, to deny the appeal.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Proposal to amend Article IV, Section 3 by adding new Subparagraph "D" to read as follows:
 - (1) The **Board of Trustees** shall be authorized and empowered in exigent circumstances, as determined by the President, to exercise the powers of the Executive Committee including, but not limited to, the power to amend the by-laws of the association, and to otherwise make decisions relating to the association and its member schools as otherwise allowed to be made by the Executive Committee under the constitution and by-laws of the association.
 - (2) A majority of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum thereof for the purposes of this Subsection D and action shall be authorized and taken by a majority of the votes cast.
 - (3) The meeting of the Board of Trustees under this section shall be noticed by the Executive Secretary or President by any reasonable means and any meeting of the Board of Trustees may be held electronically. In addition, such vote may be taken by telephone polling of the Board of Trustees by the Executive Director if appropriate in the discretion of the President.
 - (4) Any action taken by the Board of Trustees under this Subsection D shall be subject to affirmation, rejection or modification at the next meeting of the GHSA Executive Committee or thereafter. Note: This proposal is a Constitutional Amendment and this is the Second Vote.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

Proposal to amend Article IV, Section 3-A and Section 8-A, F & G on Pages 8, 9 and 11 so that the terms of election for 2. the President and Vice President of the GHSA, and all other members of the State Executive Committee, shall coincide with the length of each reclassification cycle instead of the current terms of two (2) years. Note: This proposal is a Constitutional Amendment and this is the Second Vote.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

3. Proposal to amend Article IV, Section 3-C on Page 8 to read as follows (changes in italic):

MINUTES, continued

The Board of Trustees reviews pertinent issues relative to the successful operation of the organization. The Board of Trustees reviews the recommendation by the Executive Director concerning the budget, recommends committee appointments, *evaluates* and recommends length of term of contract for the Executive Director. **Note:** This proposal is a **Constitutional Amendment** and this is the **Second Vote**.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

NEW BUSINESS:

The **Baseball Committee** proposes the following modifications (shown in italic) to the new pitch count rule, which was adopted at the August State Executive Committee meeting:

1. Maximum Pitches in One Game: Varsity 110; sub-varsity 90.

2. Required Rest Periods:

Varsity		Sub-Varsity			
1-35 Pitches	0 Days	1-24 Pitches	0 Days		
36-60 Pitches	1 Day	25-44 Pitches	1 Day		
61-85 Pitches	2 Days	45-64 Pitches	2 Days		
86-110 Pitches	s 3 Days	65-90 Pitches	3 Days		
Note: A pitche	r chall not throw more	than 110 nitchos (00 for sub-	(arcity) cum		

Note: A pitcher shall not throw more than 110 pitches (90 for sub-varsity) cumulative over a two-day period, and cannot pitch more than two consecutive days. The rest period is based on the total pitches thrown during a given two-day period.

Motion was made by Earl Etheridge, seconded by Steve Simpson, to approve these changes.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

- 3. A pitcher at any level (varsity or sub-varsity) shall be allowed to finish the batter when the pitch count limit is reached during an at bat, but must be replaced immediately when that at-bat ends.
- 4. A "Day of Rest" is defined as a calendar day. Example: a varsity level pitcher who reaches the 110-pitch limit on a Tuesday would not be allowed to pitch again until the following Saturday.
- 5. Tabulation of Pitch Counts This process will be done by a GHSA registered umpire from the host school's assigned local association. This official recorder will be paid a one-half game fee plus travel (similar to the football ECO). It will then be the responsibility of the recorder to enter the pitch count information for each school following the completion of the game in the GHSA MIS system.

Motion was made by Don Corr, seconded by Steven Craft, to modify this section to make it apply to VARSITY games only.

MOTION FAILED (5-60 with Corr, Griggers, Marshall, Shields and Hand voting "Yes")

Motion was made by Jesse Crews, seconded by Steve Simpson, to approve this section as originally written. MOTION PASSED (58-7 with Dunson, Barron, Bradley, Cooper, Nelson, Shields and Hand voting "No")

- 6. A standard GHSA "Pitch Count Form" will be available for download on the GHSA web site. It will be the responsibility of each school to keep a copy of the completed form for each game played and have those forms available for review at the request of the GHSA office.
- 7. State Tournament The format for all rounds will be a "best-of-three" series with the first two games being played on the first day. During the State Tournament no pitcher shall be allowed to throw more than 120 pitches over a three-game series (unless affected by weather delays).
- 8. If a school is found to have violated any of the provisions of this policy, the offending school shall be fined \$250.00 and the head coach assessed a two-game suspension. Any subsequent violation during the same season will result in penalties being doubled and the head coach being required to meet with the Executive Director prior to being reinstated to coach. **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**.
- Motion was made by Earl Etheridge, seconded by Steve Simpson, to approve these changes.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

The GHSA Office proposes to reword Section 12, Items "A & B" of the Constitution on page 12 to read as follows:

A. The State Executive Committee of the Georgia High School Association shall meet in the spring of each year on such date as may be designated by the State Executive Director.

B. In addition to this meeting, special meetings may be called by the State President or the Executive Director at any time or place upon giving reasonable notice to the members of the Committee.

Note: This is a Constitutional Amendment and will require two votes.

Motion was made by Earl Etheridge, seconded by Kevin Giddens, to approve.

MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

Motion by Jesse Crews, second by Earl Etheridge, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION PASSED (unanimously)

GHSA - November Calendar - 2016

November

- 4, 5 State Cross Country Meet
- 5 State One-Act Play (Classes A, 3A & 4A)
- 5 Complete Region Cheerleading (Class A & Coed Sectionals)
- 5 End of Football Regular Season
- 11 Earliest date for Wrestling match
- 11 Coed & Class A Cheerleading State Finals (Sectionals 2A through 7A)
- 11, 12 First Round State Football Playoffs
- 12 Cheerleading State Finals (Classes 2A through 7A)
- 12 State One-Act Play (Classes 2A, 5A, 6A & 7A)
- 15 Hardship/Appeal Meeting
- 18, 19 Second Round State Football Playoffs
- 24 Thanksgiving Day GHSA Office closed 23rd through 25th
- 25, 26 Quarterfinal Round State Football Playoffs

The GHSA Staff Wishes You and Yours The Best of the Season







GHSA Sponsors





















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