



# GHSA

## *“Items of Interest”*

April 2010

### **GHSA Votes to Give Member Schools Financial Help**

At the spring meeting of the GHSA Executive Committee, several very important decisions were made to ease a little of the financial burden being experienced by member schools.

**FOR THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR ONLY**, the GHSA will not collect dues from member schools, and will pay 100% of the premium for the catastrophic insurance policy on students participating in GHSA activities.

This amounts to about a \$245,000 decrease in revenue for the GHSA in the next fiscal year. If gate receipts at playoff contests and/or revenue from corporate partners and licensees cannot make up that difference, then the association will need to draw out of its reserve fund for the first time ever.



For the most part, the 2009-2010 school year has been a good year for the GHSA. The quality of the competitions keeps getting better in all sports, and the revenue from fall sports was quite good considering the state of the economy. Money was returned to schools for early playoff rounds in Softball and Volleyball for the first time ever. The GHSA venture into on-line rules clinics was largely successful, although there is always a “learning curve” when new procedures are introduced. This format will continue in 2010-2011.

There are some areas in which the GHSA has encountered challenges this year. For the most part, we are working through those issues, but the general tone of financial cuts to education will be a challenge for all of us for a while.

At several conferences for educators recently, I have heard that we are experiencing the “**NEW NORMAL.**” All of us have to realize that we are operating in a different world of education. We may not be able to rely on “tried and true” policies and procedures in this rapidly changing world.

**OUR MAJOR TASK IS TO DETERMINE WHAT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES JUST CANNOT BE DISCARDED, AND WHICH ONES NEED TO BE ADJUSTED TO MEET NEW SITUATIONS.** And we have to do that with less money.

– Ralph Swearngin, Executive Director

**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION** Newsletter

Issued monthly, September through April, by the Georgia High School Association, P.O. Box 271, Thomaston, GA 30286

Phone: 706-647-7473 Fax: 706-647-2638 Web: [www.ghsa.net](http://www.ghsa.net)

OFFICE HOURS: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday

Vol. 28

April 2010

No. 7

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

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

**GARY PHILLIPS** (extension 6)

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

**JOYCE KAY** (extension 5)

- Associate Executive Director -  
Finances, Entry Notification, Agendas,  
Literary, One-Act Play, Debate, Cheerleading, Riflery

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

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Web Page Supervision, Database Management, Technical Support

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- Officials' Registrar -  
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Football, Baseball, Swimming

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Sanctioning of Events, School Passes,  
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**JULIE JONES** (extension 1)

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Dues, Community Coach Program

**SHERI COKER** (extension 0)

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

**GHSA Licensed Products**

This month's featured licensees are: **Electro Mech Scoreboard** Company, official scoreboard company ([www.electro-mech.com](http://www.electro-mech.com)); **Baseline Sports Media**, award winning team schedule cards ([www.baselinesportsmedia.com](http://www.baselinesportsmedia.com)); **Equip-It**, athletic equipment for all sports and facilities ([www.equip-it.com](http://www.equip-it.com)); **Gameday Frames**, custom award framing (770-317-5571) and **Honig's Whistle Stop**, Officials uniforms, apparel and equipment ([www.honigs.com](http://www.honigs.com)). View a complete list of GHSA licensees at [www.ghsa.net/licensing](http://www.ghsa.net/licensing)

**STATE CHAMPIONS****BASKETBALL - Boys**

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

AAAAA	Milton High School
AAAA	Miller Grove High School
AAA	Columbia High School
AA	Greater Atlanta Christian School
A	Wesleyan School

**BASKETBALL - Girls**

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

AAAAA	Norcross High School
AAAA	Southwest DeKalb High School
AAA	Columbia High School
AA	Buford High School
A	Wesleyan School

**LITERARY**

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

AAAAA	Kennesaw Mountain High School
AAAA	Dutchtown High School
AAA	Columbus High School
AA	Buford High School
A	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.

**DragonFly Joins GHSA**

DragonFly Athletics is the newest licensee of the GHSA as the "official digital exchange provider." The DragonFly Storm product is used extensively by several major colleges such as the SEC, conferences East, ACC and the Big

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DragonFly Storm doesn't alter or compress your video, it's always sent at 100-percent of the original quality.

To learn more go to: <http://www.dragonflyathletics.com>

## ATTENTION: 2010 Online Rules Clinics!

Rules clinics for most GHSA sports will be placed on the GHSA web site once again. There will be a **21-day window** of opportunity to receive credit for participating in these clinics.

It is important that coaches not wait until the last day to take the clinic, because technical difficulties are possible.

It is also important for administrators at each school to remind coaches about the responsibility to take the rules clinic within the window of opportunity.

**NOTE:** Clinics in Cheerleading, Wrestling, and Riflery will be handled

with face-to-face meetings, and those schedules will be published later.

**The online schedule for the 2010-11 school year is as follows:**

Softball: July 14 – Aug. 3  
 Volleyball: July 14 – Aug. 3  
 Football: August 9 – 29  
 Basketball: October 4 – 24  
 Swimming: Oct. 18 – Nov. 7  
 Soccer: January 3 – 23  
 Lacrosse: Jan. 19 – Feb. 8  
 Baseball: Jan. 31 – Feb. 20

## GHSA Reminders:

**SPRING 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.

Coaches are reminded that **NO stunting or tumbling will be allowed at basketball games** beginning in 2010-11 so they are advised to begin coaching accordingly.

**CHEER CLINICS:** Cheerleading clinics begin May 1. See the GHSA web site for a complete schedule and locations.

## Changes Made to Soccer and Softball In 2010-2011 GHSA Calendar

Two sports were impacted by decisions made at the March State Executive Committee meeting. The seasons and/or playoff schedules in Soccer and Softball were changed beginning in 2010-11. Those changes are highlighted below in red type. The reasons for the changes can be found in the minutes of the meeting elsewhere in this newsletter.

### GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION BEGINNING AND ENDING DATES FOR 2010-2011

Revised 3/24/10  
 (Changes shown in Red)

ACTIVITY	DATE FOR FIRST PRACTICE	FIRST CONTEST	MAXIMUM GAMES/DATES	LAST PLAY DATE	AREA/REGION QUALIFIERS DETERMINED	GHSA STATE PLAYOFF DATES				
						First Round/Sectionals	Second Round	Quarterfinals	Semifinals	Finals
FOOTBALL	Aug. 1 Feb. 1 or later (Spring)	Aug. 27	10 (7 JV)	Nov. 6	Nov. 6	Nov. 12-13	Nov. 19-20	Nov. 26-27	Dec. 3-4	Dec. 10-11
CHEERLEADING	Aug. 1 Feb. 1 or later (Spring)	Aug. 14	6 (4 JV)	Nov. 5	Nov. 6	Nov. 12				Nov. 13
SOFTBALL	Aug. 1	Aug. 9	16 (11 JV)	Oct. 9	Oct. 9	Oct. 13-14	Oct. 20-21		Oct. 28-29	Oct. 29
VOLLEYBALL	Aug. 1	Aug. 13	15 (11 JV) Dates	Oct. 9	Oct. 9	Oct. 14, 16	Oct. 19	Oct. 23	Oct. 23	Oct. 30
CROSS COUNTRY	Aug. 1	Aug. 16	10 (7 JV)	Oct. 30	Oct. 30					Nov. 6
DEBATE	Aug. 9	Aug. 9	-	May 14	Jan. 15					Feb. 4-5
ONE ACT PLAYS	Aug. 9	Aug. 9	-	May 14	Nov. 6					Nov. 13
LITERARY	Aug. 9	Aug. 9	-	May 14	March 12					March 19
RIFLERY	Aug. 9	Oct. 4	-	May 14	March 4	March 14			March 19	April 2
SWIMMING	Oct. 18	Nov. 8	10 (7 JV)							Feb. 9-12
<u>BASKETBALL</u> (Girls and Boys)	Oct. 25	Nov. 13	25 (18 JV)	Feb. 19	Feb. 19	Feb. 25-26	March 1-2	March 4-5	March 9-11	March 11-12
WRESTLING	Nov. 1	Nov. 19	20 (14 JV) Dates	Feb. 2	Du - Jan. 7-8 Tr - Feb. 4-5	Tr - Feb. 11-12				Du - Jan. 14-15 Tr - Feb. 17-19
GYMNASTICS	Jan. 17	Feb. 7	10 (7 JV)	April 22	April 23					April 29
TENNIS	Jan. 17	Feb. 7	18 (13 JV)	April 16	April 16	By April 22	By April 27	By May 3	May 6-7	May 6-7
GOLF	Jan. 31	Feb. 14	12 (8 JV) Dates	April 22	April 22					May 2
SOCCER	Jan. 24	Feb. 14	18 (13 JV)	April 20	April 20	April 26-29	May 3-4	May 6-7	May 10-11	May 13-14
LACROSSE	Jan. 31	Feb. 21	18 (13 JV)	April 29	April 29	May 3-4		May 6-7	May 10-11	May 14
TRACK - Boys TRACK - Girls	Jan. 24 Jan. 31	Feb. 14 Feb. 21	10 (7 JV) 10 (7 JV)	April 27 May 4	April 27 May 4					May 5-7 May 12-14
BASEBALL	Jan. 31	Feb. 21	26 (18 JV)	April 30	April 30	May 6-7	May 11-12	May 17-18	May 23-24	May 27-28

NOTE: Eligibility reports in all activities are due 20 days before First Contest date.

## Basketball State Champions - 2010



Class AAAAA Boys Champion: Milton



Class AAAA Boys Champion: Miller Grove



Class AAA Boys Champion: Columbia



Photos of the championship teams represented in this newsletter were provided by **Photographic Arts**. Other photos from the various GHSA state events can be found at [www.schoolpix.biz](http://www.schoolpix.biz).



Class AA Boys Champion: GACS



Class A Boys Champion: Wesleyan

## Basketball State Champions - 2010



Class AAAAA Girls Champion: Norcross



Class AAAA Girls Champion: SW DeKalb



Class AAA Girls Champion: Columbia



Class AA Girls Champion: Buford



Class A Girls Champion: Wesleyan



Wheelchair Champion: Atlanta Wolfpack

# STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## March 22, 2010

### MINUTES

The semiannual meeting of the Executive Committee of the Georgia High School Association was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on March 22, 2010, at the Ramada Inn Convention Complex, Forsyth, Georgia, by Dr. Gary Holmes, 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](http://www.ghsa.net)).

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** Report presented by Wayne Tootle  
The Committee recommended:

Change By-Law 2.63 (c2) to read: "Schools that fail to fulfill the requirements of a scheduled event may be required to make restitution to the competing school if that school is unable to secure an opponent. The offended school shall petition the Executive Director for the desired restitution."

**Motion Passed (voice vote)**

Add new By-Law 4.26 (i): "Charter schools that apply for membership after the reclassification process has been completed will be accepted as schools playing sub-varsity schedules and/or non-region varsity schedules for the next reclassification cycle."

**Motion Passed (voice vote)**

Adopting the 2010-11 budget with amendment.

Note: For 2010-2011 only, schools will pay no dues and the GHSA will pay 100% of the catastrophic insurance premium.

**Motion Passed (voice vote)**

**BASKETBALL COMMITTEE:** Report presented by Fred Price  
The Committee recommended:

Prohibiting teams from warming up at the halftime intermission of the preceding game.

**Motion Passed (voice vote)**

To permanently set the schedule for first and second round playoff games with first round girls' games played on Friday and boys' games on Saturday, and second round girls' games on Tuesday and boys' games on Wednesday.

**Motion Passed (voice vote)**

**CALENDAR COMMITTEE:** Report presented by Donnie Griggers  
The Committee recommended:

Approving the decisions made by Soccer, Softball, and Tennis committees in regard to calendar changes for those sports. Approving the revised 2010-11 calendar and also the newly formulated 2011-12 calendars.

**Motion Passed (voice vote)**

Approving the following calendar changes for Class A - Regions 5-9 only:

Softball:

End of season:	October 5	(Published end of season:	October 9)
Preliminary Round:	October 8-9		

Basketball:

End of season:	February 19	(Published end of season:	February 19)
Preliminary Round:	February 22		

Tennis:

End of season:	April 12	(Published end of season:	April 16)
Preliminary Round (end)	April 16		

Baseball:

End of season:	April 28	(Published end of season:	April 30)
Preliminary Round:	May 2-3		

- Note:**
1. All other regions in Class A and all other classifications will utilize the published date for the end of the regular season.
  2. The dates for the first round of the playoffs are the same for all regions and all classifications.

**Motion Passed (voice vote)**

(over)

## STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES, *Continued*

### **CHEERLEADING COMMITTEE:**

Report presented by Ed Thayer

The Committee recommended:

Expanding the number of Class A teams that qualify for the Sectional/State Competition by allowing four teams to advance from each region.

**Motion Passed (voice vote)**

Eliminating all tumbling and/or stunting by spirit squads cheering at GHSA basketball games.

**Motion Passed (voice vote)**

### **LITERARY COMMITTEE:**

Report presented by Glenn White

The Committee recommended:

Adding a sentence to the One Act Play Entry Form (signed by the Principal) that reads: "Subject matter should not be of lewd or vulgar topic and should be suitable for family viewing."

**Motion Passed (voice vote)**

### **OFFICIALS COMMITTEE:**

Report presented by Earl Etheridge

The Committee recommended:

Page 56 - "Region Tournaments" - add new E: "Beginning at the end of regular-season play, basketball officials will not be allowed to work back-to-back games on the same night."

**Motion Passed (voice vote)**

### **RECLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE:**

Report presented by Earl Etheridge

Announcement made that the Reclassification Committee will have a working meeting on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, at the GHSA office.

### **SOCCER COMMITTEE:**

Report presented by Dave Hunter

The Committee recommended:

Start the soccer season one week earlier than the comparable date used this year with the championship date remaining the same.

First practice date: January 24, 2011

First competition date: February 14, 2011

**Motion Passed (voice vote)**

### **SOFTBALL COMMITTEE:**

Report presented by Ed Thayer

The Committee recommended:

Allowing teams to begin the regular-season play on August 9, 2010, first round on October 13-14, second round on October 20-21, and the Championship being played on October 28-30, 2010.

**Motion Passed (voice vote)**

### **TRACK/CROSS COUNTRY COMMITTEE:**

Report presented by Fred Price

The Committee recommended:

Advance the top four finishers in each region to one of two Sectional Meets in each classification, and advance the top eight finishers from each Sectional Meet to the State Meet, beginning 2012.

**Motion Passed (voice vote)**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Second vote on Constitutional Amendment:

To amend Section 2 of Constitution (and By-Law 4.21) by reducing the reclassification period from every four years to every two years.

**Motion Passed (voice vote)**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Motion was made by Jesse Crews, seconded by Mike Carswell, to re-elect Gary Holmes as President and Walter Wade as Vice President.

**Motion Passed (voice vote)**

Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to adjourn.

## GHSA - April Calendar - 2010

### April

- 1 Deadline to submit notification of entry in Gymnastics, Lacrosse, Riflery, Softball, Soccer, Volleyball & Wrestling for 2010-11
- 2 Good Friday - GHSA Office Closed
- 3 State Riflery Championship
- 17 Complete Region Tennis
- 19 Report Region Tennis winners to GHSA Office by noon
- 21 Complete Area/Region Soccer
- 22 Report Area/Region Soccer winners
- 23 Complete First Round State Tennis and Region Golf
- 24 Complete Area Gymnastics
- 26 Report First Round State Tennis winners & File Reports of Region Golf
- 27 Boys First Round State Soccer in AAAAA & AAAA
- 28 Girls First Round State Soccer in AAAAA & AAAA
- 28 Complete Second Round State Tennis; Region Girls Track
- 29 Boys First Round State Soccer in AAA & AA/A
- 29 Report Region Girls Track results & Second Round Tennis winners by 9 a.m.
- 30 Girls First Round State Soccer in AAA & AA/A
- 30 Complete Area Lacrosse
- 30 State Gymnastics Meet

## GHSA Sponsors

