2026 GHSA BASKETBALL STATE TOURNAMENT
Semifinal Team Instructions

Please read these "Instructions" very carefully. Each year we have problems that arise because the coaches/team representatives do not follow the instructions. Pay particular attention to the State Tournament bracket regarding the issue of which uniform your team should be wearing each game. The bracket, and not your seeding, determines home/visitors. Game times are: (G)1:00 PM, (B)3:00 PM, (G)5:00PM, (B)7:00 PM.

Enclosed you have the following forms:

- OFFICIAL TEAM TRAVEL FORM – Please fill out this form completely and turn it in at the "Team Entry Gate" at the arena. You are allowed to list (20) names on this form.
- LINE-UP/ROSTER – Your official line-up/roster information must be turned in to the official scorer no later than (20) minutes prior to your scheduled game time.
- EXCESS TEAM ENTRY FORM – List the names of 'Team Essential Personnel "(individuals who are part of your team operations) over the limit of the (20) names on the TEAM TRAVEL FORM at the Team Entry Gate. NOTE: Late arrivals must show a valid photo ID.
- FLOOR PASSES – Each team will be allowed a total of (6) COURTSIDE PASSES. The passes are to be worn in clear view by the non-playing team essential personnel members who will be allowed in the bench area (coaches, managers, trainers, etc.). These passes may be picked up when the team arrives at the arena. **ONLY team members and individuals with official "courtside credentials" will be allowed to sit on the courtside team bench.**
- GAME ADMINISTRATOR/RESOURCE OFFICER – Each school is responsible for having an Administrator and Resource Office on site during the game. Please provide the name and cell # of these individuals on the enclosed form and submit it to the "Game Manager" upon arrival at the venue. If not traveling with the team, they must check in at the "Team Entry Gate" and show valid photo ID.
- TICKETING – All spectator tickets are $20.00 and must be purchased only through GOFAN. For more info go to; service@gofan.co
- UNACCOMPANIED MINORS/NON-PARTICIPANTS - Must purchase a ticket and enter through the spectator entrance and are not allowed in the team areas (bench, locker room, etc.)
- BRACKET – The team listed on the top of the respective bracket will be the "Home Team" and wear white jerseys. The teams listed on the bottom of the respective bracket will be the "Visiting Team" and wear dark jerseys regardless of the respective seeding.
- GAME SITE – Contact your respective "Host Site Contact" immediately to confirm game details and site logistics information. Semifinal sites have a "Clear Bag Policy" for spectators. Please ensure your fans are made aware of this policy.
- CHEERLEADERS - The VISITING squad will be allowed to perform a routine between the 1st and 2nd quarters and the HOME squad between the 3rd and 4th quarters. Routines must be within NFHS/GHSA guidelines. The travel roster form is in this packet of instructions and must be completed and presented at the team check-in gate.
- GAME BALLS – Game balls will be provided by the GHSA. Teams MUST bring their own balls for pre-game warm-ups at semifinals.
- HALFTIME – Halftime intermission will be 12-minutes.
- MEDIA – Media credentials MUST be requested via Marvin James at Marvin.James@ghsa.net.
- ATHLETIC TRAINERS – Schools are required to provide their own Athletic Trainers and training supplies.

NOTE: Please remind your student body and spectators that artificial noisemakers, banners, signs larger than 8 ½" X 11" are NOT allowed in the arena, and shirts and shoes must be worn at all times in the arena.

2026 Semifinals - Sites & Contacts

Semifinals Live on NFHSNetwork.com

Private – Akins Arena, Athens – March 6
Host Site Contact: Katherine Puckett – Email: Katherine@classiccenter.com
GHSA Site Rep: Andy Cowart – Email: andycowart@windstream.net

A Div. 2 – Ft. Valley State University – March 6
Host Site Contact: Jamie Jackson – Email: jamie.jackson@fvsu.edu
GHSA Site Rep: Carror Wright – Email: cwright@ghsa.net

A Div. 1 – Ft. Valley State University – March 7
Host Site Contact: Jamie Jackson – Email: jamie.jackson@fvsu.edu
GHSA Site Rep: Carror Wright – Email: cwright@ghsa.net

AA – Legacy Arena, Douglasville – March 6
Host Site Contact: Ashley Cleveland – Email: ashley.cleveland@dcssga.org
GHSA Site Rep: Darrell Lane – Email: darrell@ghsa.net

AAA – Legacy Arena, Douglasville – March 7
Host Site Contact: Ashley Cleveland – Email: ashley.cleveland@dcssga.org
GHSA Site Rep: Darrell Lane – Email: darrell@ghsa.net

AAAA – Akins Arena, Athens – March 7
Host Site Contact: Katherine Puckett - Email: Katherine@classiccenter.com
GHSA Site Rep: Andy Cowart – Email: andycowart@windstream.net

AAAAA – GSU Convocation Center – March 6
Host Site Contact: Michael Mays – Email: mmays7@gsu.edu
GHSA Site Rep: Ernie Yarbrough – Email: ery@ghsa.net

AAAAAA – GSU Convocation Center – March 7
Host Site Contact: Michael Mays – Email: mmays7@gsu.edu
GHSA Site Rep: Ernie Yarbrough – Email: ery@ghsa.net

2026 Finals Schedule

Live on NFHSNetwork.com

Wed. March 11 – Macon Centreplex
1:00 – Girls – Private
3:00 – Boys – Private
5:30 – Girls – Class 3A
7:30 – Boys – Class 3A

Thur. March 12 – Macon Centreplex
1:00 – Girls – Class A-Div. 2
3:00 – Boys – Class A-Div. 2
5:30 – Girls – Class 4A
7:30 – Boys – Class 4A

Fri. March 13 – Macon Centreplex
1:00 – Girls – Class A-Div. 1
3:00 – Boys – Class A-Div. 1
5:30 – Girls – Class 5A
7:30 – Boys – Class 5A

Sat. March 14 – Macon Centreplex
11:00 – Girls – Class 2A
1:00 – Boys – Class 2A
3:00 - AAASP
5:30 – Girls - Class 6A
7:30 – Boys - Class 6A

MANDATORY ZOOM CALL FOR ALL HEAD COACHES & ADS OF FINALS TEAMS
Monday, March 9 @ 7:00 PM LINK:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87597668211?pwd=15ObydFa1TLjjw690EZdDHlhRQB1bZ.1

GAME ADMINISTRATORS
SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

Please list the individual(s), and their cell phone #'s, who will be onsite during your school's GHSA State Tournament contest.

ADMINISTRATORS

NAME: _____

POSITION: _____

CELL PHONE #: _____

NAME: _____

POSITION: _____

CELL PHONE #: _____

RESOURCE OFFICERS

NAME: _____

POSITION: _____

CELL PHONE #: _____

NAME: _____

POSITION: _____

CELL PHONE #: _____

The head coach is responsible for turning in this form to the "Game Manager" upon arrival at the venue.

SCHOOL: _____

OFFICIAL TEAM TRAVEL FORM

SCHOOL: _____ BOYS_____ GIRLS_____

Each team is allowed (20) names on the “Team Travel Form”, consisting of players, managers, trainers, statisticians, etc. Coaches are admitted on their GHSA Coaches Pass. Teams wishing to admit more than the (20) names on this form must list the names of “Team Essential Personnel” individuals on the “Excess Team Entry Form” at the team entry gate.

	NAME	FUNCTION (player, manager, etc.)
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		

COACH: _____ DATE: _____

The head coach is responsible for turning in this form prior to the "Game Manager" upon arrival at the venue.

CHEER SQUAD TRAVEL FORM

SCHOOL: _____

Each team is allowed (20) names on this "Travel Form". Coaches are admitted on their GHSA Coaches Pass. Teams wishing to admit more than the (16) names on this form must list the names of "Team Essential Personnel" individuals on the "Excess Team Entry Form" at the team entry gate.

	NAME	FUNCTION (player, manager, etc.)
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		

COACH: _____ DATE: _____

The head coach is responsible for turning in this form prior to the “Game Manager” upon arrival at the venue. Non-school and minor mascots are NOT permitted.

EXCESS SCHOOL ENTRY FORM

NOTE: Requires a photo ID and must serve a team essential function. Unaccompanied minors are not allowed to sign in on this form. They must go to the spectator ticket window and purchase a ticket.

	NAME	SCHOOL & FUNCTION
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		

CHEER TEAM INSTRUCTIONS FOR SEMIFINALS

The GHSA would like to encourage the cheerleading and/or dance teams to be a part of the game atmosphere for these games. As such, the following is the script for each game:

1. Between the 1st & 2nd quarter of each game, the visiting team's cheerleading/dance squad will be allowed on the court to perform a short routine and be off the court when the first horn is sounded to resume play.

2. Between the 3rd & 4thd quarter of each game, the home team's cheerleading/dance squad will be allowed on the court to perform a short routine and be off the court when the first horn is sounded to resume play.

3. During the halftime intermission, the visiting team's cheerleading/dance squad will be allowed on the court to perform a 3/4-minute routine, followed by the home team's cheerleading/dance squad who will be allowed on the court to perform a 3-4 minute routine. The court must be cleared no later than the 3minute mark of the game clock.

   School participating in the basketball state championships need to coordinate halftime performances with GHSA Cheer/Spirit Coordinator, Penny Mitchell at: 478-957-9775 or pennypitts@ghsa.net. The Atlanta Hawks and Atlanta Dream will also be scheduled to entertain during various halftimes.

4. If special music/narration is required, it should be taken to the P.A. announcer prior to the start of the game.

5. These performances are NOT mandatory.

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP PLAYER LINE-UP SHEET

(MUST be submit at the "Team Check-In")

SCHOOL: _____ MASCOT: _____

HEAD COACH: _____ W/L RECORD: _____

Starting Lineup

POS.	HT.	YEAR	#	NAME
___	___	____	___	_____
___	___	____	___	_____
___	___	____	___	_____
___	___	____	___	_____
___	___	____	___	_____

Substitutes

___	___	____	___	_____
___	___	____	___	_____
___	___	____	___	_____
___	___	____	___	_____
___	___	____	___	_____
___	___	____	___	_____
___	___	____	___	_____
___	___	____	___	_____
___	___	____	___	_____
___	___	____	___	_____
___	___	____	___	_____

2026 Basketball Semifinals PA Script

Please spread PAs throughout the game during halftimes, pregame and timeouts.

The Georgia High School Association develops and promotes opportunities for personal growth through interscholastic athletics and fine arts. The GHSA would like to salute its outstanding corporate partners: Breda Pest Management, presenting sponsor of the Basketball State Championships, Alfa Insurance, LifeLink, Morgan & Morgan, NFHS Network, Gatorade, Cheddar Up, Georgia Electric Membership Corporations, Dairy Alliance, BSN Sports, Visit Macon, Georgia Public Broadcasting, MaxPreps, Atlanta Hawks, and Wilson. Thank-you for supporting Georgia high school athletics.

The GHSA And Its Member Schools Have Made A Commitment To Promote Good Sportsmanship By Student/Athletes, Coaches, And Spectators At All GHSA Sanctioned Events. Profanity, Degrading Remarks, And Intimidating Actions Directed At Officials Or Competitors Will Not Be Tolerated, And Are Grounds For Removal From The Event Site. Spectators Are Not Allowed To Enter The Competition Area During Warm-Ups Or While The Contest Is Being Conducted. Thank You For Your Cooperation In The Promotion Of Good Sportsmanship At Today's Event.

Join the conversation @OfficialGHSA on X, Instagram, Facebook & TikTok. That's @OfficialGHSA.

All Basketball State Championship finals will be televised LIVE Georgia Public Broadcasting and streamed on GPB.org and NFHS Network.

At Alfa, we are more than an insurance company. We're a family committed to serving you and our communities by delivering the personalized experience and exceptional service you deserve, all rooted in our core values of faith, family, community and integrity. That's the Alfa difference!

BREDA Pest Management PROUDLY SUPPORTS GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL. The BREDA's believe in giving back to the communities they serve. Since 1975, BREDA has protected homes from bugs & critters. See more at B-R-E-D-A Pest dot com. (We spell out the BREDA name for the website since most folks cannot spell nor pronounce the name correctly)

A single seed can grow a flower. A single organ donor can save up to eight lives. By registering to be an organ, eye, and tissue donor, you are planting a seed that will one day save a life. Register your decision at DonateLifeGeorgia.org. Let life bloom!

The Georgia High School Association is proud to use Wilson basketballs. For athletes to perform their best, they require the best. For over 100 years, that's what Wilson has delivered. Wilson is not only the best-selling high school basketball on the market, but is also the official ball of the NBA and NCAA March Madness. Learn more at Wilson.com.

Real dairy MILK has fueled athletes for centuries, delivering a powerful combination of natural nutrients that aid muscle repair, rehydration, and replenishment. Each 8-ounce glass of milk contains 8 grams of complete, high-quality protein to build lean muscle. Get more out of your workout with real dairy MILK, the official MILK partner of the GHSA.

Make the Right Call and become a high school official. There is a shortage of high school officials in almost every sport. Protect the integrity of the sport you love while helping teenagers in your community learn lessons that will last a lifetime. Be a difference maker. Learn more at HighSchoolOfficials.com.

BSN SPORTS is a proud partner of the GHSA and sponsor of the Slam Dunk & 3-point Contests. With more than 1200 sales reps throughout the country, BSN seeks to elevate the student experience through sport, spirit and achievement while assisting coaches in an effort to give them more time to mentor young people. BSN congratulates all the teams playing this weekend and applauds the efforts of educators and parents all across Georgia.