



GHSA Newsletter

October 2025 - Items of Interest - Vol. 44 No. 2

Words from Dr. Tim Scott

It's almost Playoff Time!

It is hard to believe that we are moving to the beginning of October and it's time to get ready for our state playoffs! Two months of the school year is complete. It seems like yesterday that we were beginning with many firsts such as, kicking off for the first time, throwing the first pitch in game, making the first serve, and running the first race, scoring the first touchdown, hitting the first homerun. We are closing in on the playoffs in Fast Pitch softball, October 13, Volleyball beginning October 14, Cross-Country sectionals begin on November 1, and we've reached the midpoint of the football season. The Fall is an exciting time and the sports and activities offered by our member schools greatly contributes to a successful school year. I want to thank our school communities for the great work that you do for our young people. As I travel around the state, I am always impressed by the atmosphere for contests you create and the great experiences you provide your students. At the GHSA office, your staff is hard at work managing activities, planning quality championships and serving our member schools. There are a few things currently at the forefront that I would like to share with you.



Fast Pitch Softball Championships: We are excited to be hosting the Fast Pitch softball championships at South Commons Softball Complex, in Columbus, Georgia, October 29-November 1 2025.

Cross Country Championships: We are excited to host our State Cross Country Championships at Carrollton High School on November 7 beginning at 9AM & November 8 beginning at 8AM. Carrollton High School has hosted GHSA State Cross Country for more than 30 years. This event

has many volunteers that work so hard to offer the best possible championship experience for the 3,200 athletes that compete on their well-maintained course at the State Meet.

Volleyball Championships: We are excited to host the State Volleyball Championships on October 29 - 30 at Lakepoint in Emmerson, Georgia.

One Act Play Championships: We are excited to host the One Act Play Championships at the following locations: November 15 at Alexander HS, Monroe County PAC, Northside HS, Warner Robins, Baldwin HS. November 22 at Perry HS, Cambridge HS, and Harris HS.

Competitive Cheer Championships: We are excited to host the Cheer State Championships at the Macon Coliseum. Our schedule is as follows:

Friday, November 14 @ 10am (2A & 4A)

Friday, November 14 @ 3pm (Private & A)

Saturday, November 15 @ 10am (3A & 5A)

Saturday, November 15 @ 3pm (6A & COED)

Football Championships at the Mercedes-Benz Stadium: We are very excited to host Girls Flag Football and Tackle Football in Mercedes-Benz Stadium. Football Championships at MBS December 15 – 17, 2025. The stadium is awesome and I believe it is the best venue not only in the United States, but anywhere. The teams that make it to the finals are sure to have an experience they will never forget. Everyone that attends will be impressed with the stadium and the experience it will provide. I encourage you to make your plans to be there. Our schedule is as follows.

Monday, December 15

GFFB Div. 1 @ 11am

GFFB Div. 2 @ 1pm

TFB - A D2 @ 3 :30pm

TFB - 4A @ 7pm

Tuesday, December 16

GFFB Div. 3 @ 10am

GFFB Div. 4 @ Noon

TFB – A D1 @ 2pm

TFB - 2A @ 5pm

TFB - 5A @ 8pm

Wednesday, December 17

GFFB Div. 5 @ 11am

TFB - Private @ 1pm

TFB - 3A @ 4:30pm

TFB - 6A @ 7pm

For more information go to our website at <https://www.ghsa.net/> click on Sports & Activities, then select any of the activities listed to get more information. Tickets for all state events are only on GoFan Finally, the GHSA is your organization, and our staff is in place to serve our member schools. If there is ever anything we can do for you, don't hesitate to give us a call or send an email. Tim Scott Executive Director

Staff & Responsibilities

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Web: www.ghsa.net Office Hours: 8am to 4 pm Monday - Friday

TIM SCOTT - Executive Director - (ext. 141) Administration, Interpretation of GHSA Rules, Hardship Applications, Appeals, Coaches Education Program, Wrestling tim.scott@ghsa.net

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CARROR WRIGHT - Associate Director - (ext. 39) Coach's Liaison, Compliance & Transfer Eligibility, Sportsmanship cwright@ghsa.net

MARVIN JAMES - Media Director - (ext. 126) Press Releases, Media Coordination of State Events, Newsletter, Constitution & Calendar, Tennis marvin.james@ghsa.net

ROBIN BULLINGTON - Office Manager - (ext. 133) Budgeting and Finances, Playoff & Championship Finances, Staff Procedures robin@ghsa.net

JULIE JONES - Administrative Assistant - (ext. 124) Community Coach Program, Entry Notification, Dues, Paraprofessional Head Coach Program juliejones@ghsa.net

STACEY JONES - Administrative Assistant - (ext. 132) Riflery Liaison, School Contacts & School Passes, Directory, Coaches' Clinics, Trophies & Medals stacey@ghsa.net

SHERI EUBANKS - Receptionist - (ext. 131) Lifetime Passes, School System Passes, Ejection Reports, Publication Orders, Rules Violation and Ejection Fines, Wrestling Weight Management Coordinator, NFHS Annual Participation Survey sherieubanks@ghsa.net

PAM THOMPSON - Officials' Registrar - (ext. 130) Officials' Clinic Attendance, Officials' Registrations, Test Scoring & Records, Waivers, Officials and Evaluator Passes, GHSA Recruiting Grant, Publications and eBooks, Awards, Service Plaques pamthompson@ghsa.net

LINDA CROWDER - Administrative Assistant - (ext. 121) Organizing Championship Medals, Assist with Cheerleading, Student Leadership, Literary, School System Passes, Finance Reports linda@ghsa.net

GHSA Fall Sports Officials Appreciation Week

GHSA Fall Sports Officials Appreciation Week: GHSA Fall Sports Officials

Appreciation Week will take place October 5-11. Participation in officials'

appreciation weeks can be as simple or as extravagant as schools want it to be.

Many schools will not only get their teams involved in the fun but will ask student groups on campus to get involved. It is a great community project for school student councils, spirit groups or other groups that serve as ambassadors to your school and community.



ADDITIONAL STATE MEDALS ORDER FORM

New Year. New Medals.

We have upgraded to newer Championship and Runner Up Medals. The latest model is slightly bigger, more colorful, has the engraved classification on the back side and includes a lanyard with the GHSA logo. We're excited to share this good news with you! Best of luck in the 2025-26 athletic season! Below the pictures, is the link to the NEW order form.



Front Side (New vs Retired)



On the Flip Side (New vs Retired)

<https://www.ghsa.net/sites/default/files/documents/forms/MedalOrderForm2025v2.pdf>

[ghsa.net](https://www.ghsa.net)

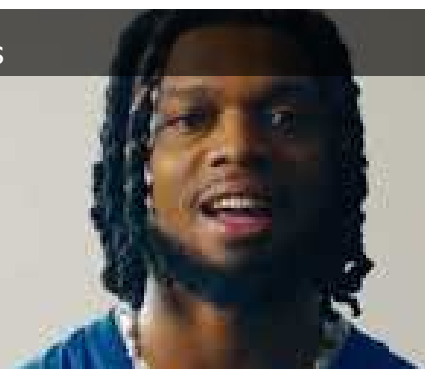
Regularly checking the expiration date and replacing the batteries in your AED

It is crucial for its reliability.

Regularly checking the expiration date and replacing the batteries in your AED is crucial for its reliability. Here are some key points to remember:

- **Check the expiration date:** Most AED batteries have an "install by" date on their label. If this date has passed, it's wise to replace the battery.
- **Look for signs of low battery:** Indicator lights or audible alarms may signal when the battery is low.
- **Perform self-tests:** AEDs conduct regular self-tests and will notify the user if the test fails due to a low battery.
- **Follow the manufacturer's guidelines:** Each AED model has specific maintenance schedules, so it's important to adhere to them.
- **By keeping your AED battery up to date, you ensure that it is ready to provide life-saving shocks in an emergency.**

Join the Nation of Lifesavers





New Damar Hamlin PSA set to kick off a lifesaving football season

Damar Hamlin, national ambassador to the American Heart Association's Nation of Lifesavers movement, encourages all fans to learn lifesaving skill

🔗 sca-aware.org

Who Has the Best Student Section in Georgia?

Fall 2025 Student Section of the Year Contest | GHSA.net

Friday nights under the lights aren't just about the players on the field — they're about the roar of the crowd, the energy in the stands, and the traditions that bring a school community together. A great student section can completely change the atmosphere of a game, lifting teams to new heights and creating memories that last long after the final whistle.

🔗 ghsa.net

Calling All Georgia Fans!

It's 10k Day! Georgia Volleyball faces Alabama on Friday, October 17th, at 7:00pm at the Steg. The first 1,000 fans will receive a free t-shirt, enjoy our kids' zone, and cheer on your Georgia Bulldogs. Join us at the Steg and be a part of history as we break the State of Georgia attendance record again on Friday, October 17th at 7:00pm. Admission is free for all fans!

If you and your group plan to join us, please send a contact name, number, school or club name, and the number of team members to Leigh Ann Holland at lholland@uga.edu.

Thanks,

Please let me know if you have any questions.

And thank you again!

Leigh Ann Holland

Associate Director of Fan Engagement

University of Georgia Athletic Association

PO Box 1472 | Athens, GA 30603

Inspiration Awards

2025 Nomination for Inspiration Awards for ADs, Coaches, Community Supporters

Nomination form- deadline Nov 1

[Sign in to Google](#) to save your progress. [Learn more](#)

* Indicates required question

Nominator's name (your name) *



Your answer

Participation in High School Sports Hits Record High with Sizable Increase

Participation in High School Sports Hits Record High with Sizable Increase in 2024-25 | GHSA.net

High school athletics participation increased by nearly 200,000 in 2024-25, continuing an upward trajectory since the pandemic and registering an all-time high for participation.

ghsa.net

Deadline Quickly Approaching for the AAASP "Get in the Game" Grant; School Districts Across Georgia Invited to Apply Before October 7th!

American Association of
adaptEDSPORTS
PROGRAMS

The AAASP "Get in the Game" all-inclusive grant package includes:

- Specialized equipment such as sports wheelchairs, game balls, home and away uniforms, and training materials;

- Annual coaching clinics for each adapted sport offered (wheelchair handball, wheelchair basketball, wheelchair football and adapted track and field);
- Scheduling and training of certified game officials;
- Game scheduling;
- Access to sport-specific manuals and administrative support;
- Coverage of annual team registration fees for three adapted team sports for the inaugural year;
- And much more!

AAASP provides leadership, governance, standardized seasons, rules of play and policies for schools across the nation. In Georgia, where the model originated and is fully implemented, AAASP partners with the Georgia High School Association (GHSA), to offer wheelchair handball, wheelchair basketball, wheelchair football, and track and field. Open to all Georgia school districts, the “Get in the Game” grant supports independent school teams –as well as collaborative partnerships with other districts or community organizations – serving students with qualifying disabilities in grades 1-12.



AAASP "Get In The Game" Grant Application

Made with Fillout, the best way to make forms, surveys and quizzes your audience will answer.

form.fillout.com

Coach Ron Lykins Leads AAASP Wheelchair Basketball Coaching Clinic in Atlanta

The American Association of Adapted Sports Programs (AAASP) was thrilled to welcome Coach Ron Lykins, Head Coach of the University of Missouri Wheelchair Basketball Team, as the featured presenter and trainer for the AAASP Wheelchair Basketball Coaching Clinic, held on Friday, September 19, 2025, from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM at Clayton Central Office South (The Eagles Nest), Hampton, GA.

Coach Lykins is widely regarded as one of the most accomplished leaders in the sport of wheelchair basketball. In addition to his role at the University of Missouri, he was recently appointed to the 2025 U.S. Men's Wheelchair Basketball National Team Staff. He is the only coach in history to have led both the U.S. Men's and Women's teams to Paralympic Gold medals. Known for his tactical expertise and athlete-centered coaching philosophy, Coach Lykins brings unmatched insight and experience to the court.

"We are honored to have Coach Lykins lead this year's clinic," said AAASP Executive Director Dr. Jenny Millward. "His leadership, knowledge of the game, and unique approach to coaching are exactly what our coaches need to continue building strong, competitive, and empowering programs for student athletes with disabilities across Georgia."

The AAASP Wheelchair Basketball Coaching Clinic included:

- In-depth sessions on wheelchair basketball rules, drills, and team strategy
- Inclusive coaching techniques for working with athletes of all ability levels

- Hands-on demonstrations and scrimmage observation
- Q&A with Coach Lykins and networking opportunities
- Tools and resources to enhance wheelchair basketball programs at all levels

The one-day clinic was open to all current AAASP coaches and was designed to provide both new and experienced coaches with the knowledge, confidence, and skills to lead successful adapted sports teams. A special thank you to the Clayton County School District for hosting the clinic at Central Office South (The Eagles Nest, home of the Clayton County Eagles adapted sports program). For more information, please visit: www.adaptedsports.org

West Laurens' Ty Cummings Rushed For State Record



'Never seen anything like it' | West Laurens star sets state record with 615 yards, 8 touchdowns

Ty Cummings scored eight total touchdowns and rushed from 615 yards on 19 carries, setting the state record for the most rushing yards in a game.

13wmaz.com

October Dates to Remember

- (1) Deadline for Notification of Entry in One Act Play
- (5-6) State Executive Committee Meeting
- (6) Earliest Date for Swimming and Diving Practice
- (7) Hardship/Appeal Meeting
- (9) Complete Region Fast Pitch Softball & Report Winners to GHSA
- (9-11) Determine Area/Region Volleyball Winners
- (13-16) State Fast Pitch Softball Tournament - First Rounds
- (14) Deadline to File Riflery Schedules with GHSA
- (14) Report Region/Area Volleyball Winners to GHSA
- (14-15) State Volleyball Tournament - First Round
- (18) State Volleyball Tournament - Second Round
- (20-23) State Fast Pitch Softball Tournament - Second Round
- (20) Earliest Date for Basketball, Dance & Wrestling practice.
- (20) Earliest Date for Riflery Matches and Swimming/Diving Meets
- (21) Hardship/Appeal Meeting
- (21-22) State Volleyball Tournament - Quarterfinals
- (25) State Volleyball Tournament - Semifinals
- (28) Deadline to Post Cross Country Rosters (electronically)



(29-30) GHSA Volleyball State Championship presented by Mizuno
(29-31) GHSA Fast Pitch Softball State Championship presented by Mizuno



Marvin James

"Somebody said it couldn't be done but he with a chuckle replied..."