



SEPTEMBER 2025 - Items of Interest - Vol. 44 No. 1

Words from Executive Director, Dr. Tim Scott

As we embark on another exciting year at the Georgia High School Association, I am filled with enthusiasm for the opportunities and experiences that lie ahead for our member schools. The beginning of a new school year is always a time of promise and potential, and this year is no exception. One of the greatest challenges—and privileges—for our office is to come to work each day with the goal of providing our members with improved service in every area of sports and activities. This is a welcome challenge, and we are both humbled and honored to serve in this role. It is essential that my Associate Directors and I remain accessible to you under any circumstances, offering excellent customer service with transparency in our processes and procedures. At the GHSA, we will continue to communicate openly and consistently to ensure that you receive the best possible support. After all, the GHSA is your association. I have had the opportunity to meet with many groups throughout last year and this summer and look forward to connecting with many more. Please let me know of opportunities to visit with you during the year—I will make every effort to do so. We are excited to welcome back our member schools. Our dedicated staff has been working diligently to prepare for this year, ensuring that all members experience high-quality opportunities in a safe and supportive environment. The GHSA is proud to offer a wide range of extracurricular activities that play a vital role in the development of our students. From football, basketball, and soccer to swimming, tennis, lacrosse, track, as well as one act play and literary plus many more, these activities not only promote physical fitness but also instill valuable lessons in teamwork, discipline, and perseverance. They allow students to



discover passions, develop skills, and build lasting friendships that extend well beyond the classroom. Best of luck this year, and I wish you great success! .

Executive Director, Dr. Tim Scott

Staff & Responsibilities

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Reminder: Practice Policy for Heat and Humidity

During another hot Summer and Fall, the GHSA urges all coaches and players to please train smart and stay safe. During conditioning and fall practice, the GHSA would like to remind everyone of the heat and humidity policies that are in place for **ALL** sports - not just football.



Schools must follow the statewide policy for conducting practices and voluntary conditioning workouts (**this policy is year-round, including during the summer**) in all sports during times of extremely high heat and/or humidity that will be signed by each head coach at the beginning of each season and distributed to all players and their parents or guardians. The policy shall follow modified guidelines of the American College of Sports Medicine in regard to:

- (1) The scheduling of practices at various heat/humidity levels.
- (2) The ratio of workout time to time allotted for rest and hydration at various heat/humidity levels.
- (3) The heat/humidity levels that will result in practice being terminated.

A scientifically-approved instrument that measures the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature must be utilized at each practice to ensure that the written policy is being followed properly. WBGT readings should be taken every hour, beginning 30 minutes before the beginning of practice.

[Practice Policy for Heat and Humidity](#)

[GHSA Heat Index Measurement & Record Chart](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions Re: GHSA Heat Policy](#)

Here are some clarifications to the Heat and Humidity Policy:

- Once a WBGT reading has reached a WBGT reading range and the reading has stayed in that range for 15 minutes, practice restrictions for that range are in place (can't revert to a lower range).
- If during the same practice the WBGT reading reaches a higher WBGT reading range and the reading has stayed in that range for 15 minutes, practice restrictions are in place for the new range (can't revert to a lower range).
- If practice hasn't started and the WBGT reading is Over 92.0, No outdoor workouts are allowed. Schools should delay the start of practice until a cooler WBGT level is reached.
- A scientifically-approved instrument that measures the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature must be utilized. NOTE: Phone apps are not scientifically-approved at this time.
- All WBGT monitors shall be calibrated, at a minimum, every two (2) years or earlier if recommended by the manufacturer.

Thanks and remember to stay safe.

The Ultimate Playbook for Booster Club Success

GHSA booster clubs and teams get premium access for free.

No apps. No logins. No chasing checks. Just smarter, faster fundraising, registrations, and spiritwear sales—all in one place.

Collect everything in **one** place:



Fundraising

Sell anything—raffles, car washes, donuts. Track it all without spreadsheets.



Club Memberships

Offer tiered membership levels with automatic tracking and receipts.



Spirit Wear

Launch an online store in minutes with item variations, shipping, and inventory tracking.



Celebrations

Collect RSVPs, payments, and contributions for banquets, potlucks, or coach gifts.

Coaches & ADs: Share this with your booster club



BIG DEAL ALERT: GHSA Members get Cheddar Up's Team plan and premium features worth over \$420.00 per year—for FREE! Just follow the QR code or go to getcheddarup.com/ghsa and start collecting today.



Getting started is easy: getcheddarup.com/ghsa



GHSA Announces New Partnership with the University of Georgia for State Track & Field Championships | GHSA.net

The Georgia High School Association (GHSA) is proud to announce a new partnership with the University of Georgia to elevate the State Track & Field Championships experience for Georgia's student-athletes. UGA has graciously agreed to host our championships at their brand new Spec Towns Track, an impressive new facility currently under construction.

🔗 ghsa.net

Year Two is on the Horizon for GHSA's Executive Director

Dr. Tim Scott reflects on his first year on the job as GHSA's Executive Director with 13 WMAZ sports anchor, Cecily Stoute.

'I love coming to work everyday' | New GHSA executive director recaps first year on the job



2025-2026 GHSA Student-Athlete Advisory Council | GHSA.net

Introducing the 2025-26 Student-Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC), who represent all classifications and at-large members. The SAAC organizes the Student Section Spirit Challenge, Inspiration Award and host the annual Student-Athlete Leadership Conference in April. SAAC was begun in 2019, by GHSA Associate Directors, Penny Pitts-Mitchell and Tanya Anderson.

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GA High School Football Daily Player of the Week presented by Alfa Insurance

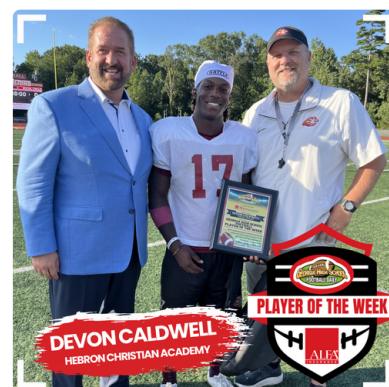
Week 1

Congratulations to Casey Barner from McEachern High School, our Georgia High School Football Daily Player of the Week presented by Alfa Insurance! Casey is the #1 sophomore prospect in the state for the Class of 2028. He scored 3 touchdowns, with a 98-yard kickoff return, and 353 all-purpose yards in a 50-17 victory over Walton.



Week 2

Congratulations to Devon Caldwell from Hebron Christian Academy, our Georgia High School Football Daily Player of the Week presented by Alfa Insurance! Devon rushed for 328 yards on 29 carries. He caught 4 passes for 102 yards and scored 4 touchdowns in a 45-29 victory over third-ranked Fellowship Christian on Aug. 22, 2025.



Chick-Fil-A Hometown Series

Week 1

Congratulations to Newnan High School for being recognized in this week's Chick-fil-A Hometown Series! Thanks to the partnership between Chick-Fil-A and the Atlanta Falcons, Newnan Athletics received a \$1,500 donation to help support and uplift their student-athletes. Together, we're building stronger schools, teams, and communities!



Apply for the AAASP "Get in the Game" Grant for AdaptED Sports

The American Association of AdaptED Sports Programs, Inc. (AAASP) is excited to announce the **"Get in the Game" Grant**, a new opportunity for Georgia school districts and RESAs to launch interscholastic adapted sports programs for students with physical or other qualifying disabilities. Thanks to funding from the State of Georgia Appropriations Committee and the Georgia Department of Education, this special initiative offers comprehensive, all-inclusive inception grants to help school districts across the state start sustainable, adapted sports teams.



The AAASP “Get in the Game” 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 and wheelchair football);
- 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 sports for the inaugural year;
- And much more!

“This grant is a game-changer for Georgia school districts looking to expand opportunities for all students to participate in adapted sports,” said Dr. Jenny Millward, AAASP Executive Director.

“Adapted sports promote not only physical health, but also confidence, academic success, and lifelong skills for students who are often overlooked in traditional athletic programs.”

AAASP, in partnership with the Georgia High School Association (GHSA), provides a standardized interscholastic adapted sports model that is recognized across the nation. Sports offered include 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 physical or other qualifying disabilities in elementary, middle, and high school.

Ready to Get in the Game? School Districts interested in applying or learning more about the AAASP “Get in the Game” Grant can email jmillward@adaptedsports.org or [click here to apply](#).

The American Association of AdaptED Sports Programs, Inc. (AAASP) collaborates with education and community agencies to offer and promote interscholastic adapted sports opportunities for students athletes with physical or other qualifying disabilities, creating pathways for competitive play, personal development, and academic growth.

The American Association of Adapted Sports Programs (AAASP), headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, will celebrate its 30th year as a not-for-profit association dedicated to developing interscholastic adapted sports programs in partnership with national, state, and local educational agencies this year. AAASP represents a standardized approach to extracurricular adapted team sports and has developed one of the nation's most comprehensive school-based athletic programs for students with physical disabilities attending elementary, middle and high schools. For more information, please visit our website at <http://adaptedsports.org> or join our conversations on X at: @AdaptedSports.

WE ARE NOW VERIFIED 

The Atlanta Falcons and Children’s Health Care of Atlanta sponsored four GHSA Girls Flag Football clinics for coaches and players this summer at Cherokee HS, Lowndes HS, Dunwoody HS, and Johnson Gainesville. 981 players and 163 coaches attended during the events.

GHSA SOFTBALL UMPIRES EXCEL AT USA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS



2025 Men's Major Fast Pitch National Championship - Shawn Schumacher (Row 1 - second from Right)



2025 MLB All Star Game Classic - Tonya Cash (left) Eric Slaughter (middle) Lynn Church (right)

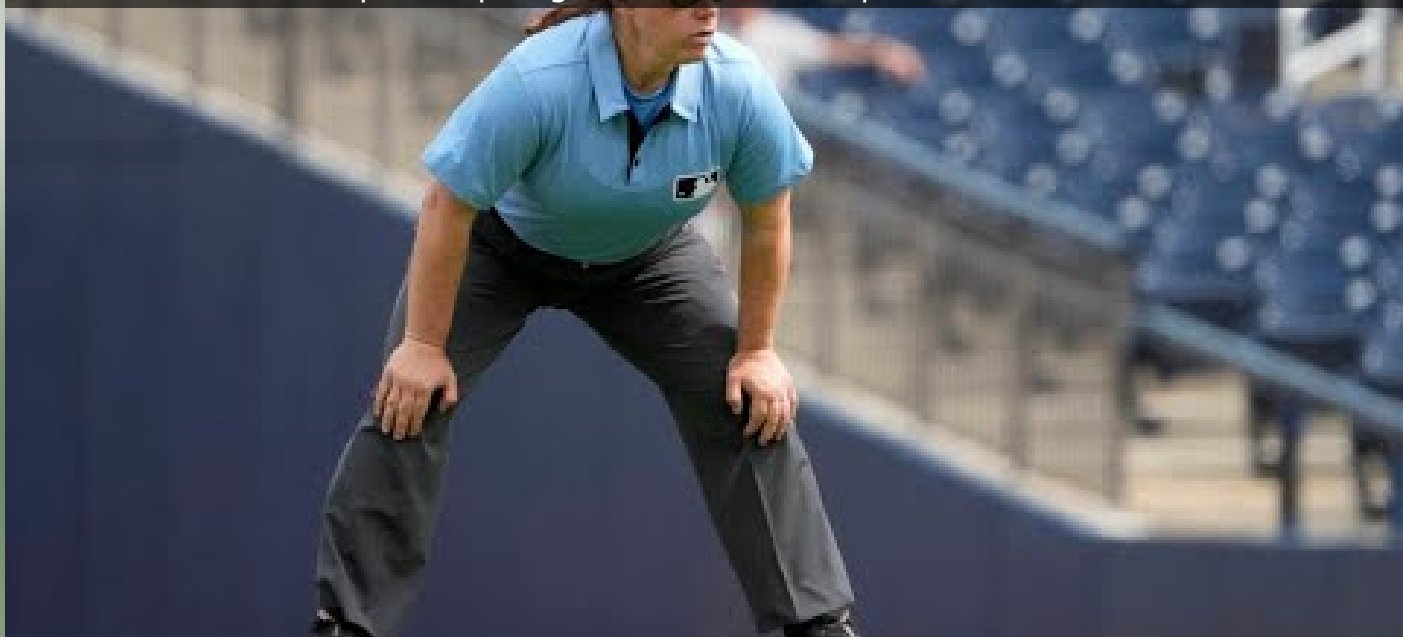


NCAA Div. 1 College World Series - Cameron Ellison (Row 1 - second from right)

GHSA Official Natola Hawthorne Learns from the Best

Atlanta News First reporter, Adam Murphy, talks with GHSA official, Natola Hawthorne, about her experiences with MLB trailblazing umpire, Jen Powell.

First female MLB umpire inspiring other women in sports



September 2025 Events

- 1- GHSA Office Closed (Labor Day)
- 8 - eSports - Fall 2025 Preseason Begins
- 9 - Earliest Date for Girls Flag Football Practice
- 9 - Hardship/Appeal Meeting

20 - Earliest Date for Game Day Cheerleading Contest
22 - eSports - Fall 2025 - Regular Season Begins
23 - Hardship/Appeal Meeting
30 - Earliest Date for Girls Flag Football Contest



September is Fall Sports Cancer Awareness Month | GHSA.net

September is official fall sports "CANCER AWARENESS MONTH" in the Georgia High School Association to help fight all types of this dreaded disease. Teams may wear colored jerseys, socks, wristbands, and headbands during a home event to show support for their chosen cancer fundraiser.

🔗 ghsa.net



Marvin James

September 2025 "Lehgo! Time to set the tone!"