



GHSA

"ITEMS OF INTEREST"

April 2015

GHSA's Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Re-Energized

Some years ago, the Executive Committee of the Georgia High School Association authorized the formation of a Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC). In the years since, this Committee has been at times active and regrettably inactive. Leading into the fall of 2014, the GHSA renewed its emphasis on the importance of the SMAC and the role it can play in the safety of all athletes. The Committee redefined its mission as well:

- gather current scientific evidence on athletic-related issues.
- balance medical perspectives with the pragmatics of high school athletic programs.
- generate proposals to the GHSA Executive Committee for the development of new policies, and to review current GHSA practices.
- generate educational materials for athletes, coaches and administrators.

The Sports Medicine Advisory is composed of the following healthcare professionals:

• Boedy, Rick	MD	Medical College of Georgia
• Cooper, Bud	PhD	University of Georgia
• Donati, Norman	MD	Hughston Clinic
• Hopp, Jeff	ATC	Marietta High School
• King, Dianne	RD, ATC	Childrens Hospital of Atlanta
• Lamphier, Richard	RN	CHOA Project Save
• Levengood, Gary	MD	Sports Medicine South
• Marshall, David	MD	CHOA
• Rowels, Kechia	ATC	Rockdale County Schools
• Stevens, Jack	MD	Sibley Heart Center
• Wilson, Carter	AD	Decatur High School



At the first meeting for 2014-15, the committee explored a variety of issues and planned the direction of the committee for the coming days and years. Topics Discussed Included:

- Sudden Cardiac Arrest
- Concussion: risk management, assessment tools, return to protocol
- Wrestling weight management, weigh in procedure
- Athletic Trainers at all schools
- Emergency Action Plan at all schools

Future Topics will include:

- Sickle Cell Trait
- Energy Drink Policy
- Cardiac Screening
- CPR certification

The GHSA and its SMAC encourage all school administrators and coaches to look at the web site of the National Federation of State High School Associations (www.nfhs.org) and click on the "Sports Medicine" page. There are a number of topics at that site that are extremely important and useful in administering high school athletics. The sports medicine page on the GHSA web site (www.ghsa.net) offers a number of timely topics as well. The health and well-being of student athletes is the top priority for all of us in the athletic arena.

– Gary Phillips, Executive Director

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

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION Newsletter

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

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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

ERNE 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

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 BROOKS (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: **Jostens**, official championship jewelry (jostens.com); **Musco Sports Lighting**, leader in sports-lighting technology solutions (musco.com); **FieldTurf**, official artificial turf (fieldturf.com); **Hudl**, official video exchange service (hudl.com); **Planet HS**, connecting high school communities online (planeths.com); **COOLShirt Systems**, personal cooling systems (coolshirt.com); and **GameTime Fundraisers**, enables schools to sell licensed pro/college team merchandise for fund-raising purposes (gametimefundraisers.com).

NFHS Network Spring Schedule

The NFHS Network, produced by PlayOn Sports, will carry live and on demand coverage of the spring state championships on NFHSNetwork.com/ghsa. The GHSA Gymnastics State Championship will air live on April 24, followed by live action in track & field, soccer, lacrosse and baseball. Subscription rates will apply. Spread the word. NFHS Network - We Are High School!

**STATE CHAMPIONS**

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

BASKETBALL - Boys

AAAAAA
AAAAA
AAAA
AAA
AA
A (Public)
A (Private)

Wheeler High School
Brunswick High School
Jonesboro High School
Jenkins High School
Seminole County High School
Calhoun County High School
St. Francis

BASKETBALL - Girls

AAAAAA
AAAAA
AAAA
AAA
AA
A (Public)
A (Private)

McEachern High School
Stephenson High School
Buford High School
Laney High School
Wesleyan School
Taylor County High School
St. Francis

LITERARY

AAAAAA
AAAAA
AAAA
AAA
AA
A (Public)
A (Private)

Kennesaw Mountain High School
Columbus High School
Buford High School
Gordon Central High School
Bremen High School
Georgia Military College
Stratford 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.

Jaxx Field Miracle Promotional Offer

Jaxx Field Miracle, the official field drying agent of the GHSA, is offering teams one (1) free bag for every 10 bags purchased.

For a field demonstration of Jaxx Field Miracle contact Bob Sherman at bob@falconsalesgroup.com. Learn more at <http://www.jaxxusa.com>



State Basketball Champions - 2015



AAAAAAA Girls: McEachern



AAAAA Girls: Stephenson



AAAA Girls: Buford



AAA Girls: Laney



AA Girls: Wesleyan



A (public) Girls: Taylor County



A (private) Girls: St. Francis



Wheelchair: Houston County

State Basketball Champions - 2015



Photographs of the state championship Basketball teams were provided by Ty Freeman.



AAAAAA Boys: Wheeler



AAAAA Boys: Brunswick



AAAA Boys: Jonesboro



AAA Boys: Jenkins



AA Boys: Seminole County



A (public) Boys: Calhoun County



A (private) Boys: St. Francis

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA

MARRIOTT / Macon City Center - MACON, GEORGIA

Magnolia Ballroom

April 13, 2015 - 9:00 a.m.

Call To OrderGlenn White, President
 InvocationCarror Wright, Associate Director
 Roll CallSteve Figueroa, Media Director
 Adoption of AgendaExecutive Committee

APPOINTMENTS: 9:00 - 11:00 am: The Committee will hear various appeals, including requests for waiver of the eight-semester rule.

COMMITTEE PROPOSALS (the following is a condensed version of the agenda. The complete agenda may be found on the GHSA web site at www.ghsa.net):

BOARD of TRUSTEES

1. Proposal to require the host school to provide a paid adult hired by the school, or school district, to maintain the official scorebook and electronic clock/scoreboard at all basketball games. (GHSA Office & Region 4-A-A-A-A-A)
2. Proposal to allow a coach to work with four (4) athletes in skill-building drills in all sports instead of the current two (2) athletes. (Region 4-A-A-A-A-A)
3. Proposal to consider modifying by-law 2.64 (a) (2) prohibiting teams from entering national championship tournaments after the season has ended. (GHSA Office)
4. Proposal to delete Constitutional reference Section 5, D.1. (page 10) "or eight semester rule" **Note:** Constitutional change, will require two votes. And add: New By-Law 1.42(c) "The provisions of the eight semester rule can only be waived in the case of an individual student by the Executive Committee upon timely application by a member school for placement on the Spring or Fall agenda." (GHSA Office)
5. Proposal to add New By-Law 4.11(a)(3)
 Members of the Executive Committee may propose new or amended rules, by-laws or to be taken or considered by the Executive Committee during the new business portion of Executive Committee meetings only if such proposal has first been submitted to the Executive Director for inclusion on the agenda for the meeting not later than five (5) days prior to the date of the Executive Committee meeting. Provided however, that if the Executive Director certifies any proposal that has not been timely submitted to be of an emergency nature or to be necessary for the orderly transaction of the business or activities of the GHSA, then he shall have the authority to bring such proposal to the floor of the meeting for consideration of and action by the Executive Committee. (GHSA Office)
6. Proposal to reword By-Law 2.62(a) to include entering into an agreement for athletic competition in non-power rated sports with the Georgia Independent Christian Athletic Association. (GHSA Office)

BASEBALL COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to increase the number of baseball games allowed during the regular season from 26 to 36. (Region 4-A-A-A-A-A)
2. Move the state championship games in all classifications to a single neutral host city. (Region 7-AA)

BASKETBALL COMMITTEE

Proposal to return to the "Sectional" format for the quarterfinals and semifinals of the state tournament (Region 4-A-A-A-A-A)

(more)

AGENDA, continued

ELIGIBILITY COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to reword By-Law 1.62(b) as follows: The student was enrolled in a private school or a magnet school and has a bona fide move from one public school service area to another public school service area. A student in this situation may attend either the public school or a private school serving his area of residence. NOTE: Students who have a bona fide move within a service area that has multiple private schools must file a hardship to seek eligibility if they wish to enroll into a different private school. (GHSA Office)
2. Proposal to reword By-Law 1.62(h) as follows: Students who are U.S. citizens who have been enrolled and attended a high school in a foreign country, upon return to the U.S., shall be eligible to participate at the GHSA member school provided that the student lives in the new schools' service area and is otherwise eligible under GHSA age, eight semester, academic and other eligibility rules. (GHSA Office)

FOOTBALL COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to allow Class A football schools the opportunity to play 10 Mini Games in Junior Varsity Football instead of 7 regular games, as allowed currently. Each mini game will be one/half of a regular game. Four schools would meet at one site and two schools play one half, and the other two the second half. Officials would be paid the regular game fee. (Athens Academy)
2. Proposal to allow schools that have Spring Practice to have the option of playing their scrimmage game at the end of Spring Practice or in the fall. (Region 4-A-A-A-A-A-A)
3. Proposal to determine and adopt contact time limitations and definitions in line with the National Federation recommendations. (GHSA Office)
4. Proposal to implement a discounted student ticket (\$2 off regular price) through the semifinal round of the state football playoffs. (GHSA Office)

GYMNASTICS COMMITTEE

Proposal that schools may organize and conduct Invitational Tournaments to assist in meeting the GHSA three-meet requirement. These tournaments may be held outside the school, but must be run by school personnel and must be sanctioned through the GHSA. The invitational will count as one of the ten (10) season competitions. All scoring that meets the established minimum scores will be recognized for the gymnastics Preliminary Meet. (GHSA Office)

LITERARY COMMITTEE

1. Proposal that the GHSA develops a list of trained (adjudicator training) judges for Region and State Literary, as already done in One Act Play. In 2016, Region Literary would require one (1) judge to be from the list, and both judges at State. In 2017 and future years, all judges would come from this list. If not enough certified judges are on the list, any judge selected must be approved by GHSA.
2. Proposal that no judge working the GHSA Literary Region or State events, can have had any connection in the past 10 years (attended, worked in system, have children or other relatives in system, etc.) with the schools they are judging. If there is a question, the Region or State Literary representative must ask the GHSA office for clarification on acceptability.

OFFICIALS COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to restructure the contest officials "Game Fee Chart." (GHSA Office)
2. Proposal to require background checks for all GHSA contest officials. (GHSA Office)

SOFTBALL COMMITTEE

1. Proposal that the maximum number of games allowed (28) will now include region tournament games. (GHSA Office)

(more)

AGENDA, continued

2. Proposal to reduce the number of regular season games to 25, but then allow a region tournament that is in addition to the regular-season limit. (Region 2-AAAAA)
3. Proposal to adopt the true "state-wide" bracket used in football and the other power rated sports. (Region 8-AAA)
4. Proposal that only the final four schools in each classification will advance to Columbus. The first, second and third rounds will be played at school sites. (Region 2-AAAAA)

SPORTSMANSHIP COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to increase the penalties for coaches' ejections to \$250.00, and institute a player penalty of \$100.00. The Executive Director shall have the authority to levy additional penalties on repeat offenders. (GHSA Office)

TENNIS COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to adopt the true "state-wide" bracket used in football and the other power rated sports. (GHSA Office)

VOLLEYBALL COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to allow spring tryouts in volleyball. (Regions 8-AAAA and 5-AAAAAA)
2. Proposal to standardize the number of teams qualifying for the state volleyball playoffs to be four from each Area. (Region 8-AAAAA)
3. Proposal to allow the option to change the format of the area volleyball tournaments to best-of-five, single-elimination. (Region 4-AAAAAA)

WRESTLING COMMITTEE

Proposal to adopt the NFHS wrestling weigh-in procedures. (GHSA Office)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

SCHEDULE OF SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS - Spring 2015

(Meetings Will Be Held at the Marriott Macon City Center Hotel)

SATURDAY, April 11

6:00 pm Board of Trustees (Private Dining Room)

SUNDAY, April 12

9:00 am Baseball Committee (Salon A)
Wrestling Committee (Salon B)

9:30 am Basketball Committee (Salon A)
Gymnastics Committee (Salon B)

10:00 am Softball Committee (Salon A)
Literary Committee (Salon B)

SUNDAY, April 12 (continued)

10:30 am Tennis Committee (Salon B)

11:00 am Sportsmanship Committee (Salon A)
Volleyball Committee (Salon B)

1:00 pm Officials Committee (Salon B)

1:30 pm Eligibility Committee (Salon A)

2:00 pm Football Committee (Magnolia C/D)

4:30 pm Hospitality Room (Salon B)

GHSA - April Calendar - 2015

April

- 1 Deadline for notification of entry in Gymnastics, Lacrosse, Riflery, Class A Soccer, Volleyball and Wrestling for 2015-16
- 4 State Riflery Championship
- 13 State Executive Committee Meeting -- Macon
- 18 Complete Region Tennis; Gymnastics Preliminary Meet
- 20 Report Region Tennis results to GHSA Office by 9 a.m.
- 21 Report Region Track results to GHSA Office by 9 a.m.
- 22 Complete Area/Region Soccer
- 23 Report Area/Region Soccer winners to GHSA Office by 9 a.m.
- 23 Complete First Round State Tennis (2A - 6A) and Area Tennis (Class A)
- 24 Complete Region Golf
- 24 Report State Tennis winners (Area in Class A) to GHSA Office by 9 a.m.
- 24 State Gymnastics Meet
- 25 Complete Region Baseball and Region Track
- 27 Report Region Golf results to GHSA Office and to State Sites
- 27 Report Region Baseball and Region Track results to GHSA Office by 9 a.m.
- 28 Girls First Round State Soccer (4A, 5A & 6A)
- 28 Complete Second Round State Tennis (First Round for Class A)
- 29 Boys First Round State Soccer (4A, 5A & 6A)
- 30 Girls First Round State Soccer (A, 2A & 3A)

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