



GHSA

“Items of Interest”

November 2008

Volunteers Make the Difference at Playoff Events

As I work on a presentation that I will give next week entitled “Planning and Managing Major Events,” I have given a lot of consideration to GHSA playoff events. These issues have been on my mind also because the GHSA is just beginning its fall playoff competitions. It is interesting to think about what makes a great event and what makes an average or below average event.

The GHSA office staff members spend a lot of time planning playoff events with the knowledge that everyone who participates or attends will not be totally pleased. Yet there is an attempt to anticipate difficulties and to proactively work around those issues. However, all the good ideas that come out of the GHSA office will not necessarily produce a great event. I have come to the conclusion that the people working at the competition site really make the difference.



GHSA playoff events generally fall into one of two categories. They are either held with a member school hosting the event, or they are held at a central location with the GHSA providing the staffing. Regardless of the category, the events will succeed to the degree that there are volunteers doing their jobs well.

On behalf of the GHSA, I want to take this opportunity to thank the administrators, coaches, and volunteers at our member schools who put in a great deal of work. Coaches tend to think about “home field advantage” while administrators tend to think about all the work that has to be done to host the event. The GHSA probably does not thank you enough for all the work that has to be done at these events.

In addition to planning events, the GHSA spends a lot of time reviewing them to be certain that they continue to improve. Constructive criticism is evaluated by our staff members in order to correct problems that really do exist. Concerns that are expressed to your representative on the GHSA Executive Committee get attention at the semi-annual meetings of that group.

I know that I am biased, but I believe that the GHSA staff does plan and manage extremely good events. I certainly hope that you will attend some of those events in the next few weeks even if your school is not a participant.

– **Ralph Sweargin**, Executive Director

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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Hardship Appeals, Lacrosse, Volleyball

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Dues, Community Coach Program

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GHSA Licensed Products

Advanced orders for GHSA event T-shirts can be placed with All-Star Outfitters at www.asoapparel.com or call 678-569-0134 ... Action photos from select championship events can be found at Photographic Arts www.schoolpix.biz / 678-393-1719 ... DVDs / VHS copies of GHSA televised games can be ordered from www.gametapes.com / 206-285-8816 ... Visit the GHSA Store and a full list of GHSA sponsors and licensees at www.ghsa.net.

Dome Prices, Schedule Set

Questions have been directed to the GHSA office about the schedule and admission prices for the State Championship Football games at the Georgia Dome.

The schedule on Friday, Dec. 12 will have the Class AA final starting at 5 p.m., followed by the AAAA final at 8 p.m.

The schedule on Saturday, Dec. 13 will begin with the Class A final at 2 p.m., followed by the AAA final at 5 p.m., and the AAAAA final at 8 p.m.

Ticket prices each day are \$15 presale at the participating schools, and \$20 at the gate or through Ticketmaster.

Attention: Swim Coaches

The 2009 GHSA State Diving Championships have been moved to Marist School. This is a change from the original schedule in the 2008-09 Constitution & By-Laws.

The AAAAA Diving Championship will be held at 1 p.m., on Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2009. The A-AAAA Diving Championship will be held at 1 p.m., on Thursday, Feb. 12, 2009.

The **only** changes are to the location, time and date of the Diving portion of the State Swimming & Diving Meet. All other rules as to qualification, timing and scoring remain as printed in the GHSA by-laws.

STATE CHAMPIONS**SOFTBALL**

Congratulations to the following State Champions in Softball:

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| AAAAA | - Mill Creek High School |
| AAAA | - Marist School |
| AAA | - Oconee County High School |
| AA | - Buford High School |
| A | - Eagles Landing Christian School |
| Slowpitch | - Kell High School |

Winning a State Championship is an outstanding achievement for GHSA schools, their athletes and coaches, and a distinction that should create a great deal of pride in the school community.

GHSA SPORTSMANSHIP STATEMENT

Please insure that the following statement is read as a public address announcement prior to the start of **every GHSA sanctioned contest**:

"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."

Sponsor Spotlight: Naturally Fresh

Naturally Fresh enter its second season as the official sauce, dressing and dip of the Georgia High School Association.

Naturally Fresh manufactures and distributes a wide variety of high quality products including dressings, sauces, dips, marinades, syrups, glazes, soups, and spring water.

To better fit the needs of all customers, packaging options range from 3/4-ounce portion control cups to 16-

ounce retail jars to gallon containers all the way up to 2,500-pound totes.

Naturally Fresh dressings are offered nationwide in many supermarkets, restaurants, institutions and airlines.

Naturally Fresh is headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia and has distribution centers nationwide.

For additional product information, please visit the company's website at www.naturallyfresh.com.



November TV / Web Schedule

November 1: The GHSA Volleyball State Championship presented by Mizuno will stream live and on demand at www.GHSA.net on Saturday, Nov. 1 from Marietta High School with the following schedule: AA/A – 11 a.m., AAA – 1:30 p.m., AAAA – 4 p.m., and AAAAA – 7 p.m. The live Webcasts is a production partnership of PlayON! Sports and Score Atlanta sponsored by Mizuno, Verizon Wireless and Spalding.

November 13, 15-16: Georgia Public Broadcasting's *Prep Sports Plus* will broadcast special taped coverage of the November 8th GHSA cheerleading state championships on Thursday, Nov. 13 at 7 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 15 at 11 a.m., and Sunday Nov. 16 at noon. Georgia Electric Membership Corporation, Wachovia and Georgia Student Finance Commission support *Prep Sports Plus*.

November 14, 21 & 28: Comcast Sports Southeast will carry live coverage of the first three rounds of the state football playoffs with games scheduled for Friday nights at 7:30 p.m. GHSA sponsors include Dodge, Verizon Wireless, State Farm and Hibbett Sports. Georgia Public Broadcasting / Score Atlanta's *Football Fridays in Georgia* will also webcast live playoff games at www.gpb.org/football.

GHSA Licensing News

CSG/Sports Coatings, a proud partner of the GHSA and the National Wrestling Coaches Association (NWCA), has developed the Wrestling Package to provide wrestling programs with an affordable way to eliminate illness-causing microorganisms and inhibit microbial growth 24/7 on any surface for the entire season. The product is great for use on mats, locker rooms, training tables and weight rooms.

For more information, contact Ann Marie Taylor at 615-772-3024 / annmariet@csggrp.com.

GHSA Official Balls

Coaches and school administrators are reminded that the GHSA State Executive Committee has approved "Official" balls for all GHSA state playoff events.

Listed below are the balls that will be provided for GHSA state playoff events. These balls are effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2013.

| <u>Sport</u> | <u>Make/Model</u> |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Baseball | WILSON A1010 |
| Basketball | WILSON WAVE Boys: B0610 Girls: B0611 |
| Football | WILSON F1003 or F1005 |
| Soccer | BRINE "Championship" |
| Softball - FP (optic yellow 12") | WILSON A9011 BSST |
| Volleyball | SPALDING TF5000 |

State Softball Champions - 2008

Class AAAAA
Mill Creek
Lady Hawks



Class AAAA
Marist
Lady War Eagles

Class AAA
Oconee County
Lady Warriors



State Softball Champions - 2008



Class AA
Buford
Lady Wolves



Class A
Eagle's Landing
Christian Academy
Lady Chargers



Slow Pitch Invitational
Kell
Lady Longhorns

Photographs of the championship softball teams were provided by **Photographic Arts**. Other photos taken at the State Tournament can be found at www.schoolpix.biz.

GHSAs Officials / Coaches Clinics

By-Law #2.54, page 37 of the 2008-09 GHSAs Constitution and By-Laws states: Every coach at a GHSAs member school must attend a **GHSAs-sponsored rules clinic** if he/she coaches the following sports: football, softball, volleyball, riflery, cheerleading (spirit and/or competitive), basketball, lacrosse, wrestling, swimming and diving, track, baseball, soccer and gymnastics.

- (a) A fine per coach who does not attend a clinic will be assessed to the school.
 (b) All Community Coaches are reminded that clinic attendance is mandatory for them, also.

Following is a listing of the remaining 2008-09 GHSAs Rules Clinics for coaches and officials.

Weeknight clinics begin at 7:30 p.m. Saturday clinics begin at 10 a.m., unless otherwise noted. ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED.

NOTE: All **CHEERLEADING, FOOTBALL, RIFLERY, SOFTBALL, SWIMMING, VOLLEYBALL** and **WRESTLING** clinics have been completed.

GYMNASTICS

December 7 Westminster (1 p.m.)

BASKETBALL (Coaches ONLY)

November 1 Ware County High School, Cafeteria
 November 1 GHSAs Office, Thomaston

SOCCER

Code: C = Coaches, R = Returning Officials, N = New Officials
 Coaches may attend any clinic listed

January 3 Wheeler High School, Auditorium (C/R/N)
 January 3 Savannah Country Day, Auditorium (C/R/N)
 January 8 Lovett School, Theatre (C/R)
 January 8 Whitewater High School, Auditorium (C/R)
 January 10 Westover High School, Auditorium (C/R/N)
 January 15 Johnson HS, Gainesville, Theatre (C/R)
 January 17 Columbus High School, Cafeteria (C/R/N)
 January 17 Brunswick High School, Cafeteria (C/R/N)
 January 22 Norcross High School, Auditorium (C/R)
 January 22 Dalton High School, Theatre (C/R)
 January 24 Evans High School, Auditorium (C/R/N)
 January 24 Westside HS, Macon, Cafeteria (C/R/N)
 January 31 Peachtree Ridge HS, Commons (C/R/N)
 January 31 Tift County High School, Commons (C/R/N)
 February 7 Oconee County HS, Commons (C/R/N)

LACROSSE

January 29 Pope High School, Theatre 7:30 pm (B)
 January 29 Woodward Academy, Chapel 7:30 pm (G)
 January 31 Chattahoochee High School 10:00 am (B/G)
 February 7 Marist School, Gym 10:00 am (B/G)

TRACK & FIELD

January 21 Westover High School, Auditorium
 January 21 Wheeler High School, Auditorium
 January 22 Jefferson High School, Theatre
 January 26 Westside High School, Macon, Cafeteria
 January 28 St. Pius X High School, Auditorium
 January 29 Columbus High School, Cafeteria
 January 31 Dublin High School, Cafeteria
 January 31 Savannah Country Day, Auditorium
 February 2 Carrollton High School, Field House
 February 4 Calhoun High School, Auditorium
 February 5 Lovejoy High School, Commons
 February 7 Thomson High School, Cafeteria
 February 7 Ware County High School, Cafeteria

BASEBALL

February 2 Columbus High School, Cafeteria
 February 2 Dalton High School, Theatre
 February 4 Statesboro High School, Media Center
 February 4 Wheeler High School, Auditorium
 February 5 Evans High School, Auditorium
 February 5 Norcross High School, Auditorium
 February 9 Vidalia High School, Cafeteria
 February 9 Savannah Country Day, Auditorium
 February 9 Westover High School, Auditorium
 February 11 Oconee County High School, Cafeteria
 February 11 Northside High School, WR, Auditorium
 February 12 Lowndes High School, Cafeteria
 February 12 Woodward Academy, Chapel
 February 16 GHSAs Office, Thomaston
 February 18 Whitewater High School, Auditorium
 February 18 Rome High School, Commons
 February 19 Ware County High School, Cafeteria
 February 19 Habersham Central High School, Cafeteria

ACT and SAT Assessment Dates

Each year, the GHSAs office gets requests to alter schedules due to conflicts with ACT and SAT. We cannot accommodate those requests. The following chart (also published in the GHSAs Constitution & By-Laws and listed on the GHSAs web site) gives dates of the exams and possible conflicts with GHSAs activities. We urge you to inform your athletes, your counselors, and your coaches **now** about the dates scheduled for exams in order for the athletes to plan their assessments around events in which they are to compete.

ACT ASSESSMENT DATES

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| December 13, 2008 | State Football Finals |
| February 7, 2009 | Area Traditional Wrestling, State Debate |
| April 4, 2009 | None |
| June 13, 2009 | None |

SAT ASSESSMENT DATES

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| November 1, 2008 | Region Cross Country, State Volleyball, Region Cheerleading |
| December 6, 2008 | State Football Semifinals |
| January 24, 2009 | None |
| March 14, 2009 | AAA, AA & A State Basketball Finals, Region Literary Meets |
| May 2, 2009 | State Quarterfinals for Soccer and Lacrosse, Region Baseball |
| June 6, 2009 | None |

ACTIVITY CONFLICTS

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GHSA Approved & Sanctioned Events - November/December

BASKETBALL:

Adairsville High School, November 24,25,28,29, 2008
 Beach High School, November 25-26, 2008
 Brookstone School, December 19-20, 2008
 Brookwood High School, December 27,29,30, 2008
 Callaway High School, December 19-20, 2008
 Campbell High School, December 27,29,30, 2008
 Cass High School, December 26-27,29-30, 2008
 Central High School, Carroll, December 18,19,20,22, 2008
 Chattahoochee County High School, December 19-20, 2008
 Chattahoochee High School, December 27,29,30, 2008
 Colquitt County High School, December 29-31, 2008
 Crawford County High School, December 29-30, 2008
 Dacula High School, December 19,20,22,23, 2008
 Dougherty High School, December 19,20,22,23, 2008
 Eagle's Landing Christian School, December 26,27,29, 2008
 Eagle's Landing High School, November 21,24,25, 2008
 Dade County High School, November 26,28 & 29, 2008
 East Jackson High School, November 22,24,25 & 29, 2008
 East Laurens High School, December 29-30, 2008
 Etowah High School, December 20, 2008 (Boys)
 Evans High School, December 27,29,30, 2008
 Forsyth Central High School, December 27, 29-30, 2008
 Gainesville High School, December 5,6,9,12,13, 2008
 Gilmer High School, November 24-26, 2008
 Glenn Hills High School, November 24-25, 2008 (Girls)
 Grayson High School, December 19-20, 2008
 Haralson County High School, December 26,27,29,30, 2008
 Hart County High School, December 27,29,30, 2008
 Henry County High School, December 19,20,22,23, 2008
 Houston County High School, December 19,20,22,23, 2008
 Jackson County High School, November 24-25, 2008
 Jackson County High School, December 29-30, 2008
 Jeff Davis High School, December 27,29,30, 2008
 Jefferson County High School, December 29-30, 2008
 Jefferson High School, November 22,25,26,29, 2008
 Lamar County High School, December 27,29, 2008
 Lanier County High School, December 29-31, 2008
 Lincoln County High School, November 22 & 24, 2008 (Girls)
 Lincoln County High School, December 19-20, 2008
 Lowndes High School, November 24-26, 2008
 Lowndes High School, December 29-31, 2008
 Madison County High School, November 22 & 25, 2008
 Mays High School, December 26,27,29, 2008
 Morrow High School, November 24,25,26,28 & 29, 2008
 Mt. Zion High School-Jonesboro, November 22,24,25 & 29, 2008
 North Gwinnett High School, November 22,24 & 25, 2008
 North Gwinnett High School, December 27,29,30, 2008
 North Oconee High School, November 28-29, 2008
 Northgate High School, December 27,29,30, 2008
 Northside High School, Columbus, November 28-29, 2008
 Parkview High School, November 22,24,25, 2008
 Pebblebrook High School, November 20,21,22,24 & 25, 2008
 Prince Avenue Christian School, December 12-13, 2008
 Richmond Academy, November 28-29, 2008 (Boys)
 Richmond County Schools, December 22,23, 2008
 Savannah Christian School, November 25-26, 2008
 Savannah Country Day School, November 21-22, 2008
 Screven County High School, December 19-20, 2008
 South Forsyth High School, November 22,25,26 & 29, 2008
 Southeast Whitfield High School, November 22,24, 2008
 Southeast Whitfield High School, November 25,26,28 & 29, 2008
 St. Pius X Catholic High School, December 27,29,30, 2008
 Telfair County High School, November 21-22, 2008
 Towns County High School, November 24-25, 2008
 Towns County High School, December 26,27,29, 2008

Vidalia High School, November 15 & 18, 2008
 Villa Rica High School, December 19,20,22, 2008
 Wesleyan School, December 6, 2008 (Girls)
 Westminster School, December 27,29,30, 2008
 Westside High School, Macon, December 20,22,23, 2008
 White County High School, November 24-25, 2008
 Wilkinson County High School, December 20 & December 26-27, 2008
 Woodstock High School, December 27,29,30, 2008

DEBATE/FORENSICS/LITERARY:

Fayette County High School, November 14-15, 2008
 Lincoln County High School, November 1, 2008
 Sequoyah High School, November 8, 2008

RIFLERY:

East Coweta High School, November 28,29, December 5,6,12,13, 2008

SWIMMING & DIVING:

Camden County High School, November 22, 2008
 Carrollton High School, December 6, 2008
 Chapel Hill High School, November 13 & November 21, 2008
 Chapel Hill High School, December 12 & December 20, 2008
 Clarke Central High School, December 13 & December 20, 2008
 Cobb Swim Coaches Association, December 19-20, 2008
 Coffee High School, December 13, 2008
 Glynn Academy, December 6, 2008
 Morrow High School, November 19, 2008
 Morrow High School, December 6, 10 & 17, 2008
 Parkview High School, December 12-13, 2008
 Savannah-Chatham High School Swim Team, December 19, 2008
 Tift County High School, November 22, 2008
 Troup High School, November 15, 2008
 Walton High School, November 22, 2008
 Walton High School, December 13, 2008
 Westside High School, Augusta, December 18, 2008
 Whitewater High School, November 15, 2008

WRESTLING:

Alexander High School, November 22, 2008
 Allatoona High School, November 22, 2008
 Alpharetta High School, December 12-13, 2008
 Apalachee High School, December 12-13, 2008
 Athens Christian School, November 29, 2008
 Bowdon High School, December 27, 2008
 Camden County High School, December 19-20, 2008
 Centennial High School, November 22, 2008
 Central Gwinnett High School, November 22, 2008
 Collins Hill High School, December 27, 2008
 Colquitt County High School, November 22, 2008
 Creekview High School, December 12-13, 2008
 Dacula High School, November 22, 2008
 Dalton High School, December 6, 2008
 East Jackson High School, December 6, 2008
 Effingham County High School, December 12-13, 2008
 Fannin County High School, December 20, 2008
 Forsyth Central High School, November 22, 2008
 Grayson High School, November 29, 2008
 Holy Innocents' Episcopal School, November 25, 2008
 Kennesaw Mountain High School, November 29, 2008
 Miller Grove High School, November 29, 2008
 North Forsyth High School, November 29, 2008
 South Forsyth High School, November 26, 2008
 Toombs County High School, November 22, 2008
 Wesleyan School, November 26, 2008
 West Hall High School, November 22, 2008
 Westside High School-Augusta, November 21-22, 2008

GHSA - November Calendar - 2008

November

- 1 Volleyball State Finals
- 1 Region Cheerleading & Complete Region Cross Country
- 3 File Region Cross Country results with GHSA office by 8 a.m.
- 3 Earliest date for Wrestling practice
- 7 State Cross Country & Complete Region One-Act Plays
- 7, 8 Cheerleading Sectionals & State Finals
- 7, 8 End Regular Season in Football
- 10 File Reports of One-Act Play winners & Earliest Date for Swimming meet
- 11 Hardship/Appeal Meeting
- 14, 15 First Round State Football Playoffs
- 15 State One-Act Plays & Earliest Date for Basketball game
- 21 Earliest date for Wrestling match
- 21, 22 Second Round State Football Playoffs
- 27 Thanksgiving Day - GHSA Office closed on 27th and 28th
- 28, 29 Quarterfinal Round State Football Playoffs

The GHSA Staff Wishes You and Yours The Best of the Season



GHSA Sponsors

