



# GHSA

## *"Items of Interest"*

October 2009

### Format Changes In Fall Playoffs Made to Benefit Schools

The financial uncertainty experienced in education today obviously impacts high school athletics. The Georgia High School Association has implemented several changes in its playoff structures that hopefully will reduce financial burdens a little.

It is important to note that the GHSA changes usually occur in post-season competitions. Changes for regular season competitions need to be made by the local school or school system.

The GHSA encourages its member schools to analyze their scheduling procedures in all sports to make certain that the best use of time and money will occur, and to lessen the likelihood that students will be pulled away from classes unnecessarily.



The most notable changes in the GHSA fall playoffs this year will occur in Softball and Volleyball. These sports will utilize a format similar to the format used in Basketball for the past few years. Competitions in the first and second rounds of the playoffs will be held at the site of the higher seeded team. This means that only 50 percent of the schools will have to travel whereas nearly all schools traveled to a central site in previous years.

Additionally, it is hoped that more people will attend these competitions at the site of a participating school. In previous years, participating schools did not receive any reimbursements when competing in the "Sectional Tournament" format.

Please go to the GHSA web site ([www.ghsa.net](http://www.ghsa.net)) for specific information about the playoff structure for Softball and Volleyball. (Brackets for both sports also can be found elsewhere in this publication).

There is one **change** in the Volleyball structure that differs from earlier communications. Second round matches in **all** classifications will be played on Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> rather than being split between the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. This will enable the GHSA Seeding Committee to complete its work in time for the coaches moving on to the "Elite Eight" Tournament to plan adequately.

– **Ralph Sweargin**, Executive Director

**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION** Newsletter

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No. 2

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Dues, Community Coach Program

**SHERI COKER** (extension 0)

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Lifetime Passes, School System Passes,  
Ejection Reports, Publication Orders

**GHSA Licensed Products**

This month's featured licensees are: **Jostens**, official championship rings and jewelry ([jostens.com](http://jostens.com)); **Musco Sports Lighting**, the GHSA leader in developing sports-lighting technology solutions for permanent and temporary lighting, and sports facility management ([musco.com](http://musco.com)); **Photographic Arts**, official photographer of the GHSA ([schoolpix.biz](http://schoolpix.biz)); and **CSG Sports Coating**, antimicrobial products and treatments for wrestling mats, athletic equipment, turf field and uniforms ([csggrp.com](http://csggrp.com)).

**Softball Finals Bulletin**

Teams advancing to the State Softball Championships October 22-24 at the South Commons Complex in Columbus need to follow the procedures listed below:

**TEAM ROSTER AND PHOTO** – Must be emailed to the Columbus Sports Council at [msherman@columbusga.org](mailto:msherman@columbusga.org) by 12 p.m., on Monday, October 19. Failure to do so will result in a \$250 fine to the school.

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS** – Go to [www.visitcolumbusga.org](http://www.visitcolumbusga.org) for team registration and hotel selection. The site will not be active until 8 p.m., on Saturday, October 17. For more information regarding team lodging call 1-800-999-1613 or 706-322-1613 and refer to "GHSA Housing" when you call.

**OPENING CEREMONIES** – Every team playing in the Championship will be required to attend the Opening Ceremonies in uniform at 2 p.m., on Thursday, October 22. The Opening Ceremonies will take place after the noon games on the Stadium Field.

**ON-LINE INFORMATION PACKET** – The team information packets will be available on the GHSA website beginning Wednesday, September 30. Go to [www.ghsa.net](http://www.ghsa.net) and click on the SOFTBALL FINALS INFORMATION banner.

**PRESALE TOURNAMENT TICKETS** – Go to [www.columbusgasports.com](http://www.columbusgasports.com) to purchase presale tickets. Click on "Softball" then "GHSA" then "Tickets" to make the purchase. This function will be available beginning Monday, October 19.

**Softball, Volleyball on GHSA.tv**

GHSA.tv will live video stream the GHSA Softball State Championships on Saturday, October 24 and the GHSA Volleyball State Championships on Saturday, Oct. 31. Both events are presented by Mizuno.

This will be the inaugural Webcast for the softball championships held in Columbus at the South Commons Complex, and will be streamed live from the stadium field.

Volleyball action at host Marietta High School is scheduled as follows: AA/A at 11 a.m., AAA at 1:30 p.m., AAAA at 4 p.m., and AAAAA at 7 p.m.

Free online video viewing is available both live and on demand on GHSA.tv. The sponsors events will be Mizuno, Verizon Wireless, Wilson, official softball, and Spalding, official volleyball of the GHSA. The Georgia High School Digital Sports Network is a partnership between the GHSA, PlayOn Sports and Score Atlanta.

**Resilite New Mat Supplier of GHSA**

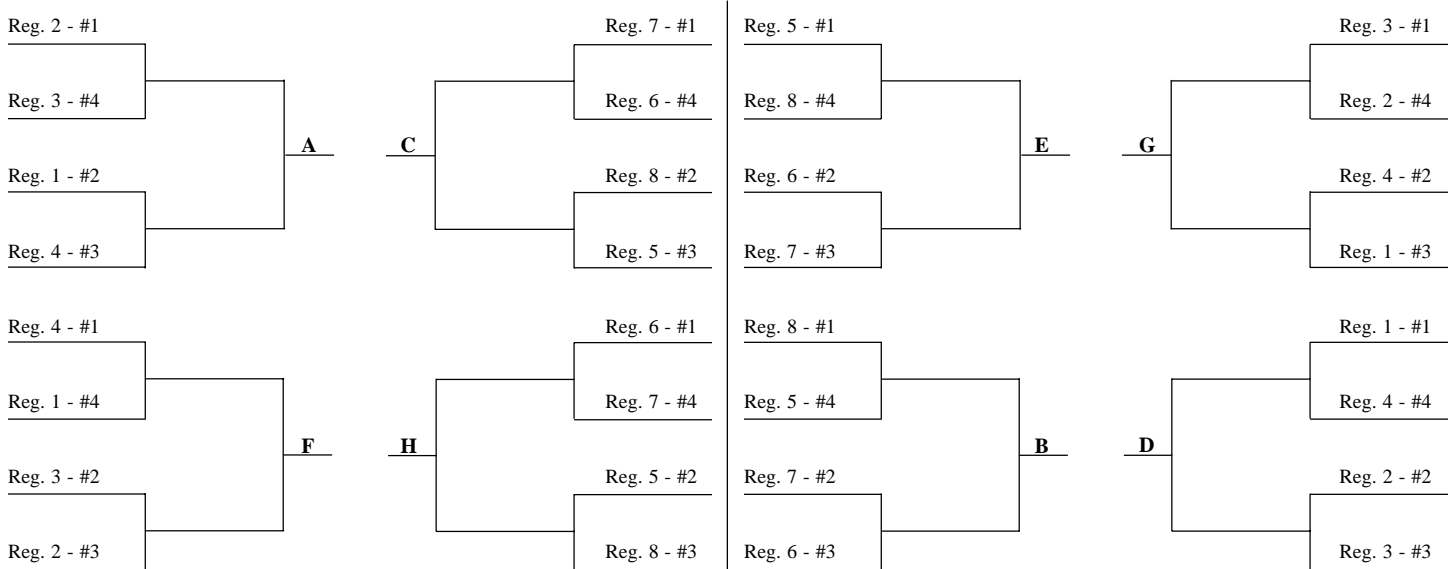
The GHSA has partnered with Resilite, as the new official mat supplier of the GHSA Traditional and Team Dual Wrestling State Championships.

Schools may purchase state championship mats at a reduced price that includes delivery. Orders will be taken from October 15 to January 1. Contact: [Budresilite@aol.com](mailto:Budresilite@aol.com).

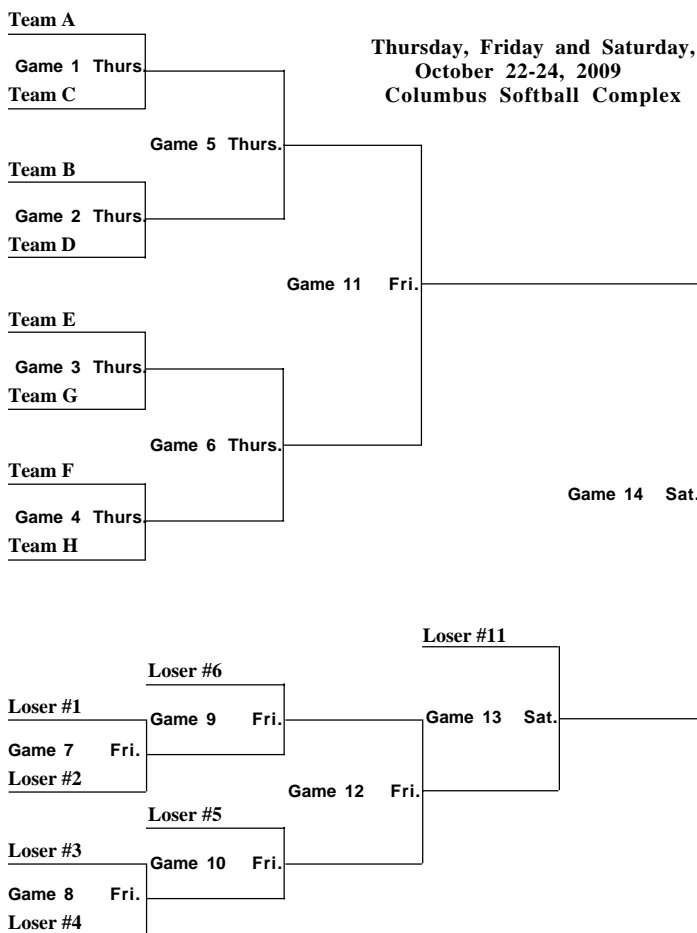


## New Format for State Softball Playoffs

Region Softball winners must be determined by October 10th, and the first round of the playoffs begins on October 13-14, with the second round scheduled for October 16-17. For the first time this season, the first two rounds of the playoffs will be best-of-three series at the sites of the higher-seeded teams in all classifications. Pairings for those two rounds can be found just below (further information can be found on the GHSA web site). The second-round winning teams will advance to the state finals in Columbus on October 22-24. Brackets for the state finals can be found at the bottom of this page. Also, see page 2 of this publication for important instructions for teams advancing to Columbus.



### SOFTBALL FINALS - 2009



	Game Times				
	A	AA	AAA	AAAA	AAAAA
<b>Thursday:</b>					
Game #1	noon	noon	3:30 pm	3:30 pm	5:30 pm
Game #2	noon	noon	3:30	3:30	5:30
Game #3	noon	noon	3:30	3:30	5:30
Game #4	noon	noon	3:30	3:30	5:30
Game #5	5:30	5:30	7:30	7:30	7:30
Game #6	5:30	5:30	7:30	7:30	7:30
<b>Friday:</b>					
Game #7	9 am	9 am	9 am	11 am	11 am
Game #8	9 am	9 am	9 am	11 am	11 am
Game #9	1:00 pm	1:00 pm	1:00 pm	3:00 pm	3:00 pm
Game #10	1:00	1:00	1:00	3:00	3:00
Game #11	5:00	5:00	5:00	7:00	7:00
Game #12	5:00	5:00	5:00	7:00	7:00
<b>Saturday:</b>					
Game #13	9:00 am	9:15 am	9:30 am	9:45 am	10 am
Game #14	11:00 am	11:15 am	11:30 am	11:45 am	noon
Game #15	1:00 pm	1:15	1:30	1:45	2:00

Loser of #14, if first loss



# National High School Activities Week

Since 1980, the National Federation of State High School Associations has set aside the third week in October to celebrate and encourage schools and communities to highlight the importance of high school activities such as athletics, speech and debate, music, drama, band and spirit squads. Through the week, different days are highlighted through official designation. The goal is to increase the public's awareness of the positives that result from participation.

## Ways to Celebrate 'Activities Week' - October 11-17, 2009

### Sunday, Oct. 11

#### *National Be A Sport Day*

- Make up positive cheers, chants or songs
- Print bookmarks with sportsmanship ideas; ask library to slip them into all books
- Give incentives to faculty, staff and students "caught" being a sport
- Use table tents in cafeteria, reading lounges or library for sportsmanship messages
- Welcome visiting teams with announcement over PA system
- Make posters for contest

### Monday, Oct. 12

#### *National Fine Arts Activities Day*

- Recognize fine arts participants at pep rally
- Organize youth talent program for community
- Give program at elementary school or judge "Star Search" program
- Invite middle school band students to perform with high school band at football game
- Invite local actors or musicians for performance with students
- Do feature story in campus newspaper

### Tuesday, Oct. 13

#### *National Officials Day*

- Host breakfast for officials who help in sports and fine arts
- Hold class competition of "You Make the Call;" feature questions on sports rules
- Have round-table discussion with students, officials and parents
- Donate sportsmanship-related book or video to library on behalf of officials
- Send certificates of recognition and appreciation letters to officials

### Wednesday, Oct. 14

#### *National Youth Health Awareness Day*

- Offer pregame meal with nutritional analysis
- Hold workshops on health issues; recognize school nurse, trainer and team doctor
- Offer students opportunity to "shadow" health professionals
- Create and display bulletin boards and posters dealing with healthy life-style issues
- Have students prepare directory of community agencies
- Set aside part of practice to discuss healthy life-style issues

### Thursday, Oct. 15

#### *National Coaches / Sponsors / Advisors Day*

- Host breakfast for all coaches and sponsors
- Ask non-coaching members of the faculty to be "coaches of the day"
- Honor different coaches and advisors each hour of the day
- Recognize coaches, sponsors and their families during school events
- Let "fan of the week" sit on the bench with the team
- Play "Name that Coach" clue game

### Friday, Oct. 16

#### *National Fan Appreciation Day*

- Provide booster club members a coupon for free popcorn and soda
- Present free program to fans (based on school colors or other criteria)
- Give school shirts to most avid fans (students and adults)
- Offer tailgate party with refreshments
- Introduce parents of players and cheerleaders during pregame
- Ask media to feature fan with longest attendance record

### Saturday, Oct. 17

#### *National Community Service / Participation Day*

- Offer free admission to event to representatives of program advertisers
- Hold open house; invite alumni, businesses and media to attend
- Do radio or television public service announcements with activities participants
- Offer "errand running" service for elderly
- Recognize business partners in programs
- Offer school souvenirs at auction to fund service project

# High School Sports Participation Increases Despite Cutbacks; Both Girls and Boys Participation Reach All-Time Highs

INDIANAPOLIS, IN — Despite cutbacks in funding in many high schools across the country, participation in high school sports has never been higher — increasing for the 20<sup>th</sup> consecutive year and establishing records for both girls and boys participants.

Based on figures from the 50 state high school athletic/activity associations, plus the District of Columbia, that are members of the National Federation of State High School Associations, participation for the 2008-09 school year set an all-time high of 7,536,753, according to the 2008-09 High School Athletics Participation Survey conducted by the NFHS.

In addition, boys and girls participation figures reached all-time highs, with 3,114,091 girls and 4,422,662 boys participating in 2008-09. The girls figure increased by 56,825 this year, while the boys figure increased by 50,547.

Based on the survey, it was also determined that 55.2 percent of students enrolled in high schools participate in athletics — a slight increase from last year's 54.8 percent.

"Given the state of the economy, this year's survey makes a great statement about the interest in high school sports in our nation's schools," said NFHS Executive Director Robert F. Kanaby. "The record participation levels for boys and girls reflect the fact that participation in high school sports is of great value to our nation's young people. Also, the survey's results support the NFHS 2008-2011 Strategic Plan, in which the orga-

nization vowed to provide stronger leadership and support for high school athletics and fine arts activities."

In addition to its chief task of writing playing rules for high school sports, the NFHS — through its "Take Part, Get Set for Life" initiative — is striving to promote participation and gain awareness and support from state and local governments, media, corporate partners, and especially students and their parents.

Swimming and diving gained the most combined participants in 2008-09, with an increase of 29,967, followed by outdoor track and field with 19,396 and cross country with an additional 18,193 participants. Lacrosse, one of the emerging sports in recent years, had an additional 9,579 participants.

With an increase of 4,017 participants, 11-player football again was No. 1 for boys with 1,112,303 participants, followed by track and field (558,007), basketball (545,145), baseball (473,184), soccer (383,824), wrestling (267,378), cross country (231,452), tennis (157,165) and golf (157,062).

Outdoor track and field supplanted basketball as the most popular girls sport with 457,732 participants. Basketball was in second place with 444,809 participants, followed by volleyball (404,243), fast pitch softball (368,921), soccer (344,534), cross country (198,199) and tennis (177,593).

Texas remained the state with the most participants with a combined total of 781,000. California was second with 771,465.

### TEN MOST POPULAR BOYS PROGRAMS

Number of Schools	Total Participants
1. Basketball . . . . .	1. Football - 11-player . . . . .
2. Track and Field - Outdoor . . . . .	2. Track and Field - Outdoor . . . . .
3. Baseball . . . . .	3. Basketball . . . . .
4. Football - 11-player . . . . .	4. Baseball . . . . .
5. Cross Country . . . . .	5. Soccer . . . . .
6. Golf . . . . .	6. Wrestling . . . . .
7. Soccer . . . . .	7. Cross Country . . . . .
8. Wrestling . . . . .	8. Tennis . . . . .
9. Tennis . . . . .	9. Golf . . . . .
10. Swimming and Diving . . . . .	10. Swimming and Diving . . . . .

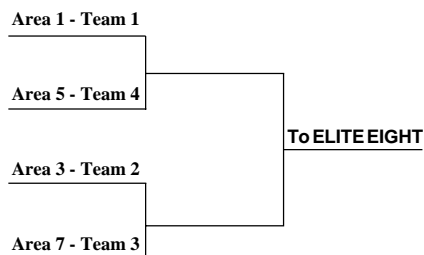
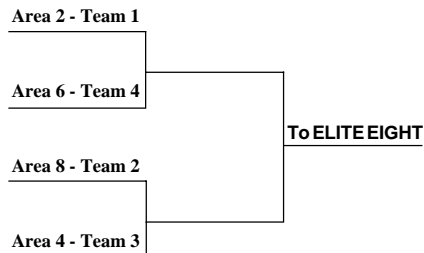
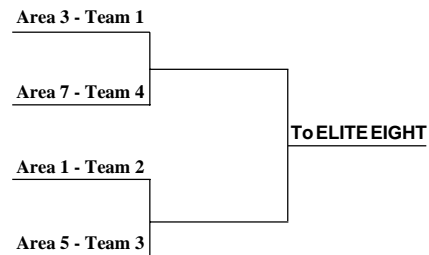
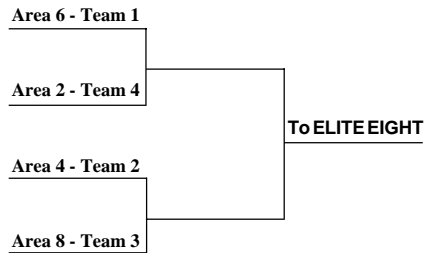
### TEN MOST POPULAR GIRLS PROGRAMS

Number of Schools	Total Participants
1. Basketball . . . . .	1. Track and Field - Outdoor . . . . .
2. Track and Field - Outdoor . . . . .	2. Basketball . . . . .
3. Softball - Fast Pitch . . . . .	3. Volleyball . . . . .
4. Volleyball . . . . .	4. Softball - Fast Pitch . . . . .
5. Cross Country . . . . .	5. Soccer . . . . .
6. Soccer . . . . .	6. Cross Country . . . . .
7. Tennis . . . . .	7. Tennis . . . . .
8. Golf . . . . .	8. Swimming and Diving . . . . .
9. Swimming and Diving . . . . .	9. Competitive Spirit Squads . . . . .
10. Competitive Spirit Squads . . . . .	10. Golf . . . . .



## New Format for State Volleyball Playoffs

Area Volleyball winners must be determined by October 10, and the first round of the playoffs begins on October 15 and 17, depending on classification. This season, for the first time, the first two rounds will be played at the home gyms of the higher-seeded teams. The first round for teams in Classes AAAAA and AAAAAA will be played on October 15, followed on October 17 by first-round matches for teams in Classes AAA and AA/A. The second round matches will be on October 20 for teams in **all classifications**. Winners of those matches qualify for the Elite Eight tournament. See the schedules below:



In the First and Second Rounds, the higher-seeded team will host. The teams reaching the Elite Eight will be seeded.

### ‘ELITE EIGHT’ TOURNAMENTS - October 24, 2009

- AAAAA ..... Parkview
- AAAA ..... Marist
- AAA ..... Drew (Clayton County)
- AA/A ..... Wesleyan

10 a.m. .... No. 4 Seed vs. No. 5 Seed  
10 a.m. .... No. 1 Seed vs. No. 8 Seed

Noon ..... No. 3 Seed vs. No. 6 Seed  
Noon ..... No. 2 Seed vs. No. 7 Seed

2 p.m. .... Winners of 10 a.m. matches  
4 p.m. .... Winners of Noon matches  
Winners advance to Championship Matches

**CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES - October 31, 2009**  
All Classes.....Marietta High School

## Community Coach Schedule of Classes

Important changes have been made to the Community Coach schedule of classes effective July of 2009. Please note these changes and refer to the updated schedules listed below and/or to the schedule of classes listed on the GHSA web site ([www.ghsa.net](http://www.ghsa.net)).

- Classes scheduled for Brewton Parker College have been cancelled for the remainder of the year.
- Classes at Savannah Country Day have been moved to Calvary Day School for the remainder of the year.
- The October Principles of Coaching class at Tucker High School has been changed from October 12-13 to October 13-14.

Following is a listing of the remaining 2009-10 GHSA Coaches Education Program courses:

### OCTOBER COURSES (Deadline WAS September 15, 2009):

#### SPORT FIRST AID

Date	Site	Time	Instructor
Oct. 3	East Coweta High School	9 am-1 pm	Knott
Oct. 3	Whitewater High School	9 am-1 pm	McCreary
Oct. 6	Tucker High School	6 pm-10 pm	Reed
Oct. 6	Athens Academy	6 pm-10 pm	Todd
Oct. 6	Woodward Academy	6 pm-10 pm	Patterson
Oct. 8	Calvary Day School	6 pm-10 pm	Carswell
Oct. 8	Chamblee High School	6 pm-10 pm	Finke
Oct. 10	East Paulding High School	9 am-1 pm	Pike
Oct. 10	Whitefield Academy	9 am-1 pm	Ryan
Oct. 10	Statesboro High School	9 am-1 pm	Blankenbaker

#### PRINCIPLES FOR COACHING

Date	Site	Time	Instructor
Oct. 13-14	Tucker High School	6 pm-10 pm	Norwood
Oct. 13-14	Calvary Day School	6 pm-10 pm	Carswell
Oct. 14-15	Whitefield Academy	6 pm-10 pm	East
Oct. 14-15	Woodward Academy	6 pm-10 pm	Webb
Oct. 17	East Paulding High School	9 am-5 pm	Musgrove
Oct. 17	Athens Academy	9 am-5 pm	Kay
Oct. 17	East Coweta High School	9 am-5 pm	Knott
Oct. 17	Statesboro High School	9 am-5 pm	Blankenbaker
Oct. 17	Whitewater High School	9 am-5 pm	McCreary
Oct. 20-21	Chamblee High School	6 pm-10 pm	Finke

### NOVEMBER COURSES (Deadline is October 14, 2009):

#### SPORT FIRST AID

Date	Site	Time	Instructor
Nov. 4	Tucker High School	6 pm-10 pm	Reed
Nov. 4	Dougherty High School	6 pm-10 pm	Rivers
Nov. 4	Daniel Education Center, Cols.	6 pm-10 pm	Cravey
Nov. 5	Athens Academy	6 pm-10 pm	Todd
Nov. 5	Westside High School, Macon	6 pm-10 pm	Quinn
Nov. 7	Statesboro High School	9 am-1 pm	Blankenbaker
Nov. 7	Whitewater High School	9 am-1 pm	McCreary
Nov. 7	East Paulding High School	9 am-1 pm	Pike
Nov. 9	Lovett School	6 pm-10 pm	McDaniel
Nov. 9	Calvary Day School	6 pm-10 pm	Carswell
Nov. 9	Chamblee High School	6 pm-10 pm	Finke

#### PRINCIPLES FOR COACHING

Date	Site	Time	Instructor
Nov. 9-10	Dougherty High School	6 pm-10 pm	Seabrooks
Nov. 10-11	Calvary Day School	6 pm-10 pm	Carswell
Nov. 10-11	East Paulding High School	6 pm-10 pm	Musgrove
Nov. 14	Athens Academy	9 am-5 pm	Kay
Nov. 14	Statesboro High School	9 am-5 pm	Blankenbaker
Nov. 14	Whitewater High School	9 am-5 pm	McCreary
Nov. 14	Carver High School, Cols.	9 am-5 pm	Flowers
Nov. 16-17	Tucker High School	6 pm-10 pm	Norwood
Nov. 16-17	Lovett School	6 pm-10 pm	McDaniel
Nov. 18-19	Westside High School, Macon	6 pm-10 pm	Shepherd
Nov. 18-19	Chamblee High School	6 pm-10 pm	Finke

### JANUARY COURSES (Deadline is December 8, 2009):

#### SPORT FIRST AID

Date	Site	Time	Instructor
Jan. 6	Woodward Academy	6 pm-10 pm	Patterson
Jan. 6	Tucker High School	6 pm-10 pm	Reed
Jan. 6	Dougherty High School	6 pm-10 pm	Rivers
Jan. 7	Athens Academy	6 pm-10 pm	Todd
Jan. 7	Statesboro High School	6 pm-10 pm	Blankenbaker
Jan. 9	East Coweta High School	9 am-1 pm	Knott
Jan. 9	Whitewater High School	9 am-1 pm	McCreary
Jan. 11	Lovett School	6 pm-10 pm	McDaniel
Jan. 11	Calvary Day School	6 pm-10 pm	Carswell
Jan. 11	Westside High School, Macon	6 pm-10 pm	Quinn
Jan. 11	Chamblee High School	6 pm-10 pm	Finke

#### PRINCIPLES FOR COACHING

Date	Site	Time	Instructor
Jan. 12-13	Woodward Academy	6 pm-10 pm	Webb
Jan. 12-13	Calvary Day School	6 pm-10 pm	Carswell
Jan. 13-14	Dougherty High School	6 pm-10 pm	Seabrooks
Jan. 16	Athens Academy	9 am-5 pm	Kay
Jan. 16	Statesboro High School	9 am-5 pm	Blankenbaker
Jan. 16	East Coweta High School	9 am-5 pm	Knott
Jan. 16	Westside High School, Macon	9 am-5 pm	Raines
Jan. 19-20	Tucker High School	6 pm-10 pm	Norwood
Jan. 19-20	Lovett School	6 pm-10 pm	McDaniel
Jan. 20-21	Whitewater High School	6 pm-10 pm	McCreary
Jan. 20-21	Chamblee High School	6 pm-10 pm	Finke
Jan. 20-21	White County High School	6 pm-10 pm	Sanfilippo

### FEBRUARY COURSES (Deadline is January 13, 2010):

#### SPORT FIRST AID

Date	Site	Time	Instructor
Feb. 3	Daniel Education Center, Cols.	6 pm-10 pm	Cravey
Feb. 3	Tucker High School	6 pm-10 pm	Reed
Feb. 4	Athens Academy	6 pm-10 pm	Todd
Feb. 4	Westside High School, Macon	6 pm-10 pm	Quinn
Feb. 4	Lovett School	6 pm-10 pm	McDaniel
Feb. 6	East Paulding High School	9 am-1 pm	Pike
Feb. 6	Statesboro High School	9 am-1 pm	Blankenbaker
Feb. 6	East Coweta High School	9 am-1 pm	Knott
Feb. 6	Westside High School, Aug.	9 am-1 pm	McCullough
Feb. 8	Chamblee High School	6 pm-10 pm	Finke
Feb. 8	Calvary Day School	6 pm-10 pm	Carswell

#### PRINCIPLES FOR COACHING

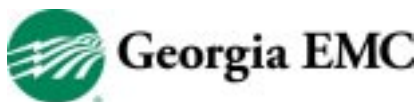
Date	Site	Time	Instructor
Feb. 9-10	Lovett School	6 pm-10 pm	McDaniel
Feb. 9-10	Calvary Day School	6 pm-10 pm	Carswell
Feb. 13	Athens Academy	9 am-5 pm	Kay
Feb. 13	Statesboro High School	9 am-5 pm	Blankenbaker
Feb. 13	East Coweta High School	9 am-5 pm	Knott
Feb. 16-17	Tucker High School	6 pm-10 pm	Norwood
Feb. 16-17	Carver High School, Cols.	6 pm-10 pm	Flowers
Feb. 17-18	Westside High School, Macon	6 pm-10 pm	Raines
Feb. 17-18	East Paulding High School	6 pm-10 pm	Musgrove
Feb. 17-18	Chamblee High School	6 pm-10 pm	Finke
Feb. 17-18	Westside High School, Aug.	6 pm-10 pm	McCullough

## GHSA - October Calendar - 2009

### October

- 2 Deadline for notification of entry in One Act Play
- 3 Deadline to set Riflery schedules
- 5 Earliest date for Riflery match
- 6 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 9 Deadline date to file Riflery schedules with GHSA office
- 10 Complete Region Softball & Determine Area Volleyball winners
- 12 Report Region Softball and Area Volleyball winners by noon
- 13, 14 First Round State Softball
- 15 Deadline for payment of GHSA membership dues
- 15 First Round State Volleyball in AAAAA & AAAA
- 16, 17 Second Round State Softball
- 17 First Round State Volleyball in AAA & AA/A
- 19 Earliest practice date for Swimming
- 20 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 20 Second Round State Volleyball in AAAAA & AAAA
- 21 Second Round State Volleyball in AAA & AA/A
- 22-24 State Softball Tournament Finals
- 24 Elite Eight State Volleyball
- 26 Earliest date for Basketball practice
- 31 Complete Region Cross Country / State Volleyball Finals

### GHSA Sponsors



Contributing more than  
\$10.3 billion to education

