

### **Continue the Practices That Will Keep Our Seasons Going**

As I look back to last school year's initial "Items of Interest," there are many things that are the same now. We continue to deal with COVID-19, although it's the Delta Variant.

What is different is that we know much more than we did this time last year and our schools continue to do a great job ensuring that our student-athletes have opportunities to compete this fall. As the fall seasons progress, we encourage our schools to continue those practices we know allow us to provide sports and activities for our young people.

There are a couple of things I would like to bring to your attention, the first being the NFHS Network and how your school can participate and receive an additional revenue stream through your participation.

The NFHS Network will provide Pixellot cameras and installation of those units in your gyms and stadiums at no cost to your school. You may choose the plan of participation (exclusive or not) for streaming and earn income from those subscriptions that are associated with your school.

There are many schools that are earning over \$10,000 annually for creating content on the network and several that are earning much more than this amount. Approximately 50% of GHSA schools are participating and if we get to 95%, the NFHS Network will write the GHSA a check for \$1,000,000.00 which will then be divided among participating schools.

Keep in mind that this comes at no cost to our schools and the network is focused on your participation and success. Please contact me for more information and I will make sure you are contacted by a NFHS Network representative that can answer any questions you may have regarding the units, installation and terms of the contracts. Let's reach the 95% level and earn funds beyond the subscription shares you generate.

If you are not using GoFan for digital ticketing, I want to encourage you to do so as this will provide additional funds from GoFan for your school. Our participation as an association grew exponentially last year due to COVID-19 and those same issues remain with us this year.

Our schools realized how beneficial and "healthy" a choice digital ticketing is for our membership so I would encourage you to maximize your school's participation for all the reasons mentioned.

I hope everyone is off to a great start and your school is up and running with as few bumps in the road as possible. I appreciate all you do for our young people and as always, feel free to contact me or any of the staff at the GHSA office if there is anything we can do for you.

- Dr. James R. Hines, Jr., Executive Director



### G詛SA "Items of Interest"



Office Hours:

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#### - GHSA STAFF · Areas of Responsibility

**ROBIN HINES** (extension 41) - Executive Director -Administration, By-Law Interpretations, Hardship Rulings, Football Playoffs, Coaches Education Program

ERNIE YARBROUGH (extension 27) - Assistant Executive Director Basketball, Softball, Lacrosse, Golf & Girls Flag Football

DON CORR (extension 34) - Associate Director -Baseball, Volleyball, Wrestling, Sports Medicine

**CARROR WRIGHT** (extension 39) - Associate Director Coach's Liaison, Compliance & Transfer Eligibility, Sportsmanship

**PENNY PITTS MITCHELL** (extension 22) - Associate Director -Cheerleading, Gymnastics, Dance, Student Leadership, Title IX

> **KEVIN GIDDENS** (extension 25) - Associate Director -Bass Fishing, Football & Soccer

TANYA ANDERSON (extension 29) - Associate Director -Literary, One Act Play, Esports, DragonFly Liaison, Cross Country, Track and Event Sanctioning

**STEVE FIGUEROA** (extension 26) - Director of Information/Media Services -Media Coordination, Newsletter, Constitution & Calendar, Tennis

PAM THOMPSON (extension 30) - Officials' Registrar -Officials' Registration, Testing & Online Clinics, Service Awards

JULIE JONES (extension 24) - Administrative Assistant -Coaches Education, Dues, Web Site Content, Entry Notification

SHERI EUBANKS (extension 0) - Receptionist Hardship Hearings, Fines, School System/Retiree Passes, Publication Orders

**ROBIN BULLINGTON** (extension 33) - Office Manager -Budgeting and Finances, Playoff Finances, Staff Procedures

**STACEY JONES** (extension 32) - Administrative Assistant -Riflery Liaison, School Contacts & School Passes, Directory, Coaches' Clinics, Trophies & Medals

### GHSA Licensed Products

This month's featured licensees are: Jostens, official championship rings and jewlery (jostens.com); Musco Sports Lighting, leader in developing sports-lighting technology solutions (musco.com); FieldTurf, official artificial turf (fieldturf.com); Hudl, official video exchange service (hudl.com); Hartwell Studio Works, creating unique, dynamic and protectable spirit logos / marks (hartwellstudioworks.com); and NFHS Network, School Broadcast Program produces, distributes and monetize your school's own video streaming Web powered by PlayOn Sports. (nfhsnetwork.com/associations/ghsa).

### **REMINDER:** The GHSA has again waived Membership Dues for all schools this year.

### Sept. is Cancer Awareness Month

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 game to show support for their chosen cancer fundraiser.

In honor of Childhood Cancer Awareness, the GHSA is partnering with the Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research to be #Goldstrong, united against Childhood Cancer during September, Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

Each school day in America, 46 kids are diagnosed with cancer, the leading disease killer of children in America ages 1 to 19, yet less than 4% of federal cancer research funding is allocated to childhood cancers. Learn more at RallyFoundation.org.

GHSA first partnered with Rally in September 2016. The initiative raised more than \$100,000 statewide for childhood cancer research through change collection at various sporting events and other school activities.

In observance of Breast Cancer "Pink" awareness, the GHSA allows member schools to wear "Pink" at their HOME event.

January (winter) and April (spring) are additional "cancer awareness" months throughout the GHSA scholastic season. Thank you to everyone in advance.



### GameChanger is Official Score Partner

GameChanger is the Official Scorekeeping and Team Management Partner of GHSA Softball and Baseball with simple and powerful scorekeeping technology, providing over 150 stats like batting and pitching spray charts, NFHS DH rule support, and more.

GameChanger's integration with MaxPreps will also save you time, as your game results and box score stats can be automatically synced to MaxPreps.

The GameChanger Team Manager app keeps your entire community, parents, families, and fans connected to the game when they cannot be in the stands.



### GHSA Student Athlete Advisory Council Holds First Meeting

Allen Gruehn

Marietta

The 2021-22 GHSA Student-Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC) had its first meeting in Macon on August 25, 2021.

The Council is made up of 18 470 student-athletes from GHSA member schools. The students submitted applications last spring and were chosen by a panel that scored their applications based on answers to five questions. There is a male and female representative for each classification and two "at large" members.

The focus this year is directed to several projects: A contest between member schools' student sections that promotes school spirit and good sportsmanship; The GHSA Inspiration Award, presented by Wild Adventures; and highlighting the "trailblazers of Title IX" in their schools since the NFHS is celebrating 50 years of Title IX.

Members also will try to help other students understand the role of the GHSA and be their voice. The council will be posting on Instagram (@ghsa.saac) and Twitter (@athleteGhsa).

For more information on the SAAC, you can contact Penny Mitchell at penny@ghsa.net or Tanya Anderson at tanyaanderson@ghsa.net.



Roswell



Grace Parkerson Thomas Co. Cent.



Lake Oconee Ac



Central-Carroll

Madv Mertens

North Atlanta

Campbell Brown Mary Persons

Claire Harrison

FPD



Josh Grand Atlanta International

Navan Kothari

Wheeler





Dondre Brown

Veterans

Emma Castro Poveda ACF Charter

Ania Hill

Ola

Cassie Pritchett Gilmer

### **ACT and SAT Assessment Dates**

Each year, the GHSA office gets requests to alter schedules due to conflicts with ACT and SAT tests. We cannot accommodate those requests. The following chart gives dates of the exams and possible conflicts with GHSA activities. We urge you to inform your athletes and coaches **now** about these dates in order for the athletes to plan their assessments around events in which they are to compete.

ACT ASSESSMENT DATES	ACTIVITY CONFLICTS
September 11, 2021	None
December 11, 2021	State Football playoffs
	State Dance Championship, Traditional Wrestling StateTournaments
	None
June 11. 2022	None
	None

SAT ASSESSMENT DATES	ACTIVITY CONFLICTS
August 28, 2021	None
	None
	State Volleyball, State Cross Country Meet
	State Football playoffs
March 12, 2022	
May 7, 2022	Sectional Track Meets
	None

#### **AP EXAM DATES ACTIVITY CONFLICTS** Week 1 - May 2-6, 2022 .....Baseball, Lacrosse, Soccer & Tennis Playoffs, Area Golf Week 2 - May 9-13, 2022......Baseball, Lacrosse & Tennis Playoffs, State Track Meets

2021-21 GHSA Student Athlete Advisory Council Members

### **Schools Are Reminded of MaxPreps Requirements This Season**

Schools are reminded that you are required to enter team schedules, rosters and game results during the season on MaxPreps and be responsible for updates as needed in the sports of Baseball, Basketball, Football (including Flag), Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball and Volleyball.

This information will support statewide media, event programs, broadcasts partners and GHSA Region Standings. Teams are encouraged to maintain team / individual statistics on MaxPreps.

The MaxPreps Support Team walks you through the basics of using the website including best ways to log in, gain access to your team, enter your team information, and more.

This MaxPreps 101 training is specifically targeted to get you more familiar with all the tools MaxPreps offers.

You can watch a training video on YouTube by going to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=578avouF3rc

### Logging in to MaxPreps

• Login to MaxPreps.com and click the user icon in the upper right corner.

• Click on your school to be taken to the coach admin. You will see links for your roster & schedule.

### Need access to MaxPreps?

• Contact Ryan Casey (rcasey@maxpreps.com) with your school & sport if you do not have access to your coach admin.

### Schedules

1. Once logged in, click on "Schedule"

2. To add a game, click on "+ Add"

3. Fill out the game information (date, time, location, game type).

4. The information will reflect on the team page within 15-30 minutes.

### Scores

• Step-by-step instruction on how to enter scores is available by going to: https://support.maxpreps.com/hc/en-us/articles/202055644-Score-Management-

• Instructions on how to enter scores on the go may be found by going here: https://support.maxpreps.com/hc/en-us/articles/360013582273-Enter-in-scores-stats-on-the-go-

### Rosters

1. Once logged in, click on your school to be taken to the coach admin. You'll see links for your roster.

2. Click on Roster in the menu or under the Team Checklist.

3. Click "Copy Roster from Last Year" to advance everyone from last year's team -or- select "Quick Add" to begin manually entering athletes.

4. Remember to include jersey numbers.

### Stats

• The GHSA encourages coaches to submit stats after every game to help promote high school sports, and accurately track team and student-athlete performances.

• Step-by-step instructions of how to enter and edit stats is available here: https://support.maxpreps.com/hc/en-us/articles/202103644-Stat-Management

### Live scores

• Keep your community up to date by assigning someone to provide live score updates.



• More info here: https://support.maxpreps.com/hc/enus/articles/202176914-Sports-with-live-scores

• Live scores will appear on MaxPreps.com & the Max-Preps app

### MaxPreps app

• Get exclusive push notifications & real-time updates about your favorite teams

• Instantly find scores for any game

• View rosters, schedules, photos, videos & more for thousands of teams

• Go to the following link to download for iOS:

https://apps.apple.com/us/app/id980665604

• Go to the following link to download for Android: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com .maxpreps.mpscoreboard

### MaxPreps Help & Support

• Coaches may contact MaxPreps at 800-329-7324 x1 or support@maxpreps.com with any questions.

• Support articles and videos on how to login, post scores and more are available at support.maxpreps.com

### Other links:

• Photo and video submissions should go to this link: https://support.maxpreps.com/hc/en-us/articles/208774058-Photo-Video-Submissions

### New Radio PSAs Now Available

The GHSA greatly appreciates radio station coverage of local high school teams in communities statewide. High school sports and performing arts need your station's support now more than ever before, and we think these new PSA's will help.

This year's NFHS/NIAAA radio PSA campaign has been produced and is ready for distribution. We think you'll agree the commercials are among the best ever!

GHSA encourages all statewide radio station that carry high school sports and member schools to broadcast the PSAs during your events. These PSAs tell a great story, and the more people who hear them, the better. Thank you for all you're doing to promote the value of high school sports and performing arts in your state!

Type in the following link to download the PSAs - https://www.supporthighschoolsports.org/



### **GHSA Honors 2020-21 Cooperative Spirit Award Winners**

Georgia's Electric Membership Cooperatives (EMCs) proudly sponsor the Georgia High School Association (GHSA) Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Award and are pleased to announce the 64 GHSA-member high schools that will receive this year's award. The award honors schools that demonstrated impeccable sportsmanship during the 2020-2021 school year.

"Congratulations to all of the region winners of the GHSA Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Award for 2020-2021," says Dr. Robin Hines, GHSA executive director. "It is an honor for these member schools to be selected by their regions for this award. The characteristics of good sportsmanship are critical to the development of our young people as they transition into productive adults. The GHSA applauds our schools on this accomplishment and appreciates Georgia's EMCs for their support of this outstanding recognition program."

Since 2006, the GHSA and Georgia's EMCs have sponsored the Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Award which reinforces the GHSA philosophy: "Students, athletes, coaches, spectators and all others associated with high school activities programs should adhere to the fundamental values of respect, fairness, honesty and responsibility." Schools winning this award are thus honored for displaying exemplary sportsmanship during competition throughout the school year.

Student athletes, fellow students, school staff, parents and event spectators are recognized for the sportsmanship they display. The award is not only a school honor, but a community honor as well. The GHSA region secretaries select winners based upon sportsmanship demonstrated throughout the school year.

Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Awards are presented annually to the GHSA-member high schools in the 64 regions from the eight classifications by EMC representatives during fall athletic events and school assemblies.



Region 1: Tift County Region 2: East Coweta Region 3: North Cobb Region 4: South Gwinnett Region 5: Roswell Region 6: North Forsyth Region 7: Duluth Region 8: Peachtree Ridge

Class 7-A

#### Class 6-A

Region 1: Lee County Region 2: Glynn Academy Region 3: Evans Region 4: Westlake Region 5: Paulding County Region 6: Kennesaw Mountain Region 7: Riverwood Region 8: Dacula

#### Class 5-A

Region 1: Veterans Region 2: McIntosh Region 3: Mundy's Mill Region 4: Stockbridge Region 5: Lithonia Region 6: Grady Region 7: Hiram Region 8: Clarke Central

#### Class 4-A

Region 1: Bainbridge Region 2: Jordan Region 3: New Hampstead Region 4: Westside, Macon Region 5: McDonough Region 6: Marist Region 7: Cedartown Region 8: Chestatee Class 3-A Region 1: Tattnall County Region 2: Mary Persons Region 3: Liberty County Region 4: Morgan County Region 5: GACS Region 6: Coahulla Creek Region 7: West Hall Region 8: East Jackson

### Class 2-A

Region 1: Cook Region 2: Bacon County Region 3: Bleckley County Region 4: Putnam County Region 5: Callaway Region 6: KIPP Atlanta Region 7: Gordon Central Region 8: Union County

#### **Class A Public**

Region 1: Seminole County Region 2: Charlton County Region 3: Portal Region 4: Dooly County Region 5: Schley County Region 6: Armuchee Region 7: Warren County Region 8: Greene County

### **Class A Private**

Region 1: Deerfield-Windsor Region 2: Whitefield Academy Region 3: Aquinas Region 4: Brookstone Region 5: Atlanta International Region 6: Mt. Bethel Region 7: Walker Region 8: Tallulah Falls

### NFHS Offering New Online Course for High School PA Announcers

The proliferation of online streaming of high school athletic events has put a new focus on the need for a qualified play-by-play announcer when broadcasting live games.

With the release of the new, free online course "Play-by-Play Announcing," the NFHS Learning Center provides important training to properly announce a live game.

"The NFHS Learning Center is pleased to introduce this first online course and valuable resource specifically for play-by-play announcers," said Dan Schuster, NFHS director of educational services. "We are committed to assisting members of the



interscholastic community and beyond."

The best play-by-play announcers use their voice as an instrument. This course instructs users how to use proper tone and inflection when delivering game action to the audience and how to determine the important and relevant information of the contest.

An entire section is devoted to starting a broadcast, including planning the open, setting the scene and introducing the game's participants.

The course demonstrates how to professionally prepare for a game, before arriving at the game and just prior to broadcast. It also provides a chapter on developing team chemistry with an analyst or sideline reporter.

For more information and to access "Play-by-Play Announcing," please visit the following NFHS link: https://nfhslearn.com/courses/playby-play-announcing. G贸SA "Items of Interest"

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## PRESENT THIS **TEAM CARD** & RECEIVE 15% OFF FOOD PURCHASE

(DINE-IN: VALID FOR PARTIES OF 10 OR MORE; TAKEOUT: VALID ON ORDERS OF \$100 OR MORE)

15% off valid on food and non-alcoholic beverages for dine-in and pay-in-store takeout orders at participating locations in Atlanta, GA and Savannah, GA. Dine-in: Valid for parties of 10 or more. In-store takeout: Valid for orders of \$100 or more. Excludes tax and gratuity. No cash value and cannot be redeemed for cash, unless required by law. Not for resale. Must present original coupon or show phone at time of use; no photocopies accepted. Limit one (1) per check, per visit. Not valid with any other discount, offer, BWWs app or online order, or third-party delivery service. Void where prohibited. Coupon Code 266. Expires 12/31/21. TM & ©2021 Buffalo Wild Wings, Inc. BWW2021-0286669

### Stay Connected to the GHSA!

All coaches, athletic directors, schools and teams, join the conversation on social media @OfficialGHSA on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and Instagram for all the latest association news and live championship updates.



### **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."

### of PlayVS 😽

# Esports is Here!

Join over hundreds of schools already competing on the PlayVS Platform (pronounced 'Play Versus'), and enable your students to do what they love by providing them with opportunities to earn recognition while developing priceless critical thinking and interpersonal skills.

### **Benefits of Esports**



#### **Character Development**

Students build character and develop discipline, self-esteem, and sportsmanship through practice and competition.



### Socialization Skills

Many students are already passionate about gaming. Esports provides an environment where different students can come together and bond over a shared interest.

### STEM Skill Growth

Esports competition is rooted in technology. Research has found a significant crossover between esports players and STEM interest. In fact, >50% of aspiring esports students pursue college majors in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) category<sup>1</sup>.





#### Increase Student Engagement

Esports are co-ed, inclusive, and engage students who might not otherwise participate in school athletics or activities.



#### Experience in a Rapidly Growing Industry

Esports is a relatively new field offering a wide variety of careers from on-screen sports analysts to back-end engineers who build the games. In 2019 alone, the esports job market grew by 87%.<sup>2</sup>



#### Scholastic Improvement

Participation in esports follows the same strict scholastic requirements as any other high school sport. Teachers and parents both reported renewed interest in schoolwork and improvement in student grades due to participation.

1 The Correlation Between Esports and Desired College Majors, 2020. (https://gyo.gg/article/correlation-between-seports-and-education-majors 2 Hitmarker. Esports jobs grew 87% in 2019, 2019. (https://venturebeat.com/2020;02/08/hitmarker-esports-jobs-grew-87-in-2019/)

### How to Get Started

### **1. Find Your Players**

Post flyers, share the news in the morning announcements, let other teachers know to spread the word around your campus!

#### 2. Compete Together

Compete online with other schools in the state. No travel is required.

#### 3. Find a Coach

Schools approve interested teachers, principals, or faculty members can coach esports. PlayVS provides training and support networks, including access to Super Coaches, so that you can get your program up and running fast!

#### 4. Build a Team

Coaches can build multiple teams that all represent the same school. Teams are co-ed and inclusive to any student who wants to play. You can create a team with just three students.

#### 5. Win a Championship

Build on your success throughout the regular season for a chance to compete for a state championship.

#### Available Games:

League of Legends, Rocket League, Splatoon 2, Madden NFL, FIFA, SMITE, and Super Smash Bros. Ultimate.

### Let's Build Your Program Together. Email Us Today at success@playvs.com

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# WATCH HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS LIVE ON THE **NFHS NETWORK** Stream LIVE or On Demand from any device Tablet Desktop Mobile **Connected Apps** Google Play **É**tv firety Google TV Download on the App Store Roku SUBSCRIBE | FOLLOW | WATCH WWW.NFHSNETWORK.COM

Celebrating the inspirational individuals and landmark moments in the history of Title IX, and continuing to grow the educational and competitive opportunities for the future.



Please visit: www.nfhs.org/resources/title-IX



Promote the NFHS Title IX at 50 Campaign on Social Media Using **#TitleIXat50** 

Facebook: @NFHS1920 | Twitter: @NFHS\_Org | Instagram: @nfhs\_org

### GHSA - September / October Calendar - 2021

### September

- 6 Labor Day, GHSA Office closed
- 7 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 20 First Practice date for Flag Football
- 21 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting

### October

- 1 Deadline for notification of entry in One Act Play
- 3, 4 State Executive Committee Meeting
- 5 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 7 Earliest date for Flag Football game
- 9 Complete Region Fastpitch Softball
- 11 First Practice date for Swimming & Diving
- 11 Report Region Fastpitch Softball winners by 9 a.m.
- 12-14 First Round State Fastpitch Softball
- 16 Determine Region/Area Volleyball winners
- 18 Report Region/Area Volleyball winners by 9 a.m.
- 19 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 19, 20 First Round State Volleyball Tournament
- 19-21 Second Round State Fastpitch Softball Tournament
- 22 Deadline for posting rosters in Cross Country

### **GHSA Sponsors**



















BUFFALO



REGIONS







