

**2021**  
**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**TRACK & FIELD**



**TRACK & FIELD COACHES' HANDBOOK**

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# **2021 GHSA Classes 1A-Public, 3A, 4A Track & Field Coaches' Handbook**

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**2020-21 GHSAA T&F / XC Advisory Committee Members:**

**Class 1A-Private**

- Tim Corbett, tim.corbett@tallulahfalls.org (Tallulah Falls Class 1A-Private)

**Class 1A-Public**

- Jim Morrell, jimmorrell1966@gmail.com (Class 1A-Public)
- Harley Calhoun, harleycalhoun12@gmail.com (Schley County Class 1A-Public)

**Class 2A**

- Shelly Cranford, scanford@bleckley.k12.ga.us (Bleckley County Class 2A)
- John Rainwater, jrainwater@gcbe.org (Gordon Central Class 2A)

**Class 3A**

- Mark Cutbirth, markcutbirth@westminster.net (Westminster Class 3A)
- Tomy Sitton, tsitton@jcss.us (East Jackson Class 3A)

**Class 4A**

- Jeff Battles, battles.jeffrey.w@muscogee.k12.ga.us (Muscogee Co Schools AD Class 4A)
- Octavia Jones, octavia.jones@docoschools.org (Westover Class 4A) (State Meet Site Rep)

**Class 5A**

- Justin Jones, jonesju@clarke.k12.ga.us (Clarke Central Class 5A)
- Ryan O'Sullivan, rosullivan@btcatholic.org (Blessed Trinity Class 5A)
- Claud Spinks, claud.spinks@henry.k12.ga.us (Eagle's Landing Class 5A - GATFXCCA Rep)

**Class 6A**

- Isaac Seals, sealsi@fultonschools.org (Riverwood Class 6A)
- Eric Simmons, eric.simmons@carrolltoncityschools.net (Carrollton Class 6A - State Meet Site Rep)
- Levi Sybert, lsybert@bryan.k12.ga.us (Richmond Hill Class 6A)
- Brian Williams, bwilliams@liberty.k12.ga.us (Bradwell Institute Class 6A)

**Class 7A**

- Phil Hoskins, philip.hoskins@cobbk12.org (McEachern Class 7A)
- Rik Moore, Rik.Moore@gcpsk12.org (Mill Creek Class 7A)
- Shawn Nix, Shawn.Nix@gcpsk12.org (Peachtree Ridge Class 7A)

**At Large**

- Craig Musselwhite, cmusselwhite7@charter.net (former State Meet Director)
- Tom Pee, tpee5280@gmail.com
- Kati Smallwood, t.smallwood17@comcast.net (Class 6A retired)



## 2021 GHSA Track & Field

### Dates and Deadlines

Monday, January 11, 2021 ..... Earliest Date for Track & Field Practice

Monday, January 4-24, 2021 .... GHSA Online Track Rules Clinic

Monday, February 8, 2021 ..... Earliest Date for Track & Field Meet

Saturday, May 1, 2021 ..... Deadline to complete Region Meets

Monday, May 3, 2021 ..... **9 am** Deadline for electronic submission of Region results on GHSA MIS site (<https://app.ghsa.net>)

Tuesday, May 4, 2021 ..... **(by 9 am)** Entries for Sectional Meets posted on GHSA T&F site (<http://www.ghsa.net/track-and-field>);  
**ALL** coaches of qualifying athletes should check their entries for accuracy.

Wednesday, May 5, 2021 ..... **12:00 noon** Deadline for submitting Replacements from Region Meets to Sectional Meets (<https://app.ghsa.net>)

Saturday, May 8, 2021 ..... Sectional Meets

Monday, May 10, 2021 ..... **5 pm** Entries for State Meets posted on GHSA T&F site (<http://www.ghsa.net/track-and-field>);  
**ALL** coaches of qualifying athletes should check their entries for accuracy.

Tuesday, May 11, 2021 ..... **12:00 noon** Deadline for submitting Replacements from Sectional Meets to State Meets (<https://app.ghsa.net>)

Thu-Sat, May 13-15, 2021 ..... State Meet (Hugh Mills Stadium, Albany, GA)



## 2021 GHS A Track & Field



Excerpts from 2020-21 GHS A Constitution (P. 87)  
(<http://www.ghsa.net/constitution#track-and-field>):

### GENERAL INFORMATION:

#### C. Track meet requirements:

1. There will be no interscholastic practices or exhibition meets in Track.
2. The maximum number of meets that may be scheduled is twelve (12), but no individual student may compete in more than ten (10) meets (excluding the Region/Area, Sectional and State Meets).
3. Track teams may compete in one (1) indoor meet, and this meet will not count as a part of the ten (10) meets allowed per athlete provided the meet is after the date for practice to begin and prior to the date to begin regular competition.
4. It is permissible for coaches to use "split squads" during the regular season. However, the use of split squads will count as two (2) of that school's maximum allowed competitions.

D. Any meet involving eight (8) or more schools must be approved by the GHS A Executive Director in accordance with the process described in By-Law 2.64.

E. A contestant in Track and Field may compete in **a maximum of four (4) events** and may not be entered in more than four events, excluding relays. If a contestant is entered in more than the allowable number of events, meet management shall scratch the contestant from the excess event(s) by following the listed Order of Events.

A contestant may officially compete in:

1. Four individual events - NO Relay events.
2. Three individual events - May be listed on any number of relay events but compete in only one relay event.
3. Two individual events - May be listed on any number of relay events but compete in only two relay events.
4. One individual event - May be listed on all three relay events and compete in all three relay events.

F. The following regulations apply to the Pole Vault event:

1. All GHS A schools competing in the pole vault event must meet the minimum NFHS regulations on the vaulting area, the plant box, the vaulting standards, the crossbar and the landing pads. Schools not able to meet these regulations are not allowed to practice or compete in the pole vault event at the non-complying site.
2. A listing of approved schools has been established for the pole vault. Annually, those schools making changes in their pole vault equipment and/or facilities **MUST** report the changes to the GHS A office.
3. In compliance with NFHS rules, coaches must verify that all vaulters and poles meet event requirements. A "Pole Vault Verification Form" (found on the [GHS A web site](#)) is to be submitted before each competition.

G. The GHS A has elected to fully comply with the NFHS Rule 4-3-1. All competitors shall have legal uniforms. The singlet and bottom, or one-piece uniform, must be a school-issued or school-approved Track and Field uniform. Uniform bottoms clearly designed as "underwear" (including bottoms with a crotch outline) will NOT meet the NFHS or GHS A requirement. Uniform apparel with multiple manufacturer logos are NOT legal. Team uniforms worn must clearly identify the competitors, at a glance, as being a member of a certain team.

(CLARIFICATION: Team members competing in individual events must wear clearly identifying uniforms for that team, but NOT NECESSARILY of the same design. Relay team members on the same team must wear uniforms of the same design. NOTE: The ultimate responsibility for uniforms compliance lies with the coach.

Coaches should inspect any/all garments competitors wear to make sure they are in compliance with GHS A and NFHS uniforms rules.

H. Athletes may not compete while wearing electronic devices.

I. Electronic devices, including but not limited to disc players, tape players, cell phones, pagers, walkie talkies, cameras, and video recording devices are permitted for use by coaches within designated coaching boxes or outside of restricted competition areas.



## 2021 GHS A Track & Field Use of GHS A MIS site



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The GHS A Track & Field MIS site is accessed through the “Affiliate Login” at the top of the GHS A website.



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Affiliate Login

The GHS A MIS site (<http://app.ghsa.net/>) MUST be used for:

- electronic submission of Area/Region rosters and entries
  - Use of other online meet entry systems (MileSplit, Coach O, Direct Athletics, etc.) **DOES NOT FULFILL THIS REQUIREMENT!!**
  - A school’s FAILURE to submit Area/Region Meet rosters and entries on the GHS A MIS site **SHALL** subject that school’s entries to **DISQUALIFICATION** from participation in the State Meet Series (Area/Region/Sectional/State Meets)
- electronic submission of Area/Region Meet Results to the Area/Region Winner’s Form
- Replacements from Area/Region Meets to Sectional meets
- Replacements from Sectional Meets to State Meets.

Each member school’s AD has been issued login credentials for submission of that school’s Area/Region roster and entries.

Each Area Coordinator/Region Secretary (or designee) will be issued login credentials for submission of Area/Region Meet Results to the Area/Region Winner’s Form.

Each Region Secretary (or designee) will be issued login credentials for submission of Area/Region Meet Replacements to Sectional Meets.

Each Sectional Meet Director will be issued login credentials for submission of Sectional Meet Replacements to State Meets.



## 2021 GHS A Track & Field



### Region/Area Competition Guidelines and Clarifications

*Excerpts from 2020-21 GHS A Constitution (Pp. 87-88)*

#### **REGION/AREA COMPETITION:**

- A. *Deadlines for posting the Region/Area list of entries will be a Region/Area decision.*
- All entries (rosters) **must** be made **ELECTRONICALLY** on the GHS A web site (<http://app.ghsa.net/>). A template will be posted there for use by all head track coaches.*
  - Posting entries on sites other than the GHS A web site does **NOT** fulfill the GHS A requirement for electronic submission.*
  - Coaches may alter the list of entries until the deadline established by each Region/Area for their Region/Area meet.*
  - All Region Secretaries/Area Coordinators should communicate their deadline for entries before the "Scratch Meeting" that precedes the Region/Area Meet. Region Secretaries/Area Coordinators (or designee) must "close" the MIS electronic entries for the deadline established by each Region/Area.*
- B. *The time schedule for the Region/Area Meet shall be given to each competing school prior to the start of the Meet.*
- Events to be contested for Boys and Girls Track (17 events):*

<b>RUNNING EVENTS</b>	<b>FIELD EVENTS</b>
<i>4x800m Relay</i>	<i>Discus (Girls 2.20 lb./1kg.) (Boys 3.53 lb./1.6 kg.)</i>
<i>4x100m Relay</i>	<i>High Jump</i>
<i>1600m Run</i>	<i>Long Jump</i>
<i>400m Dash</i>	<i>Pole Vault</i>
<i>100m Dash</i>	<i>Shot Put (Girls 8.81 lb./4 kg.) (Boys 12 lb./5.443 kg.)</i>
<i>Girls 100m Hurdles (33")</i>	<i>Triple Jump</i>
<i>Boys 110m Hurdles (39")</i>	
<i>800m Run</i>	
<i>200m Dash</i>	
<i>300m Hurdles (Girls 30" / Boys 36")</i>	
<i>3200m Run</i>	
<i>4x400m Relay</i>	

*NOTE: The 4x200m Relay will be added in 2022 and may be run as an exhibition event in 2021.*
  - Each school may have three (3) entries in each individual event and one (1) entry in each relay event.*
  - Relay teams entered in the Region/Area Meet may list a maximum of eight (8) runners.*
    - The relay names remain the SAME throughout the State Meet Series (Region/Area/Sectional/State Meets) and are the ONLY eligible participants for qualifying relay teams throughout the State Meet Series.*
    - NO replacements may be made in the Relay list of runners advancing from the Region/Area Meet to the Sectional Meet to the State Meet.*
    - Any four (4) competitors listed on a Region/Area Meet relay event entry may run in that event in any round of advancement (Region/Area, Sectionals, State Meet Semifinals and Finals), and in any order desired.*
  - In Shot Put, Discus, Long Jump, and Triple Jump, the giving of qualifying and final trials is optional. NOTE: The Region/Area Games Committee may institute a process in which each contestant has three (3) attempts and only the best attempt counts.*
  - It is recommended that all Regions/Areas conduct the boys and girls competitions on the same dates in order to comply with the GHS A deadline for completion of Region/Area track competitions.*
- C. *When there is a tie in any event involving more contestants than the Region/Area is entitled to enter in the Sectional Meet, the contest must continue or be re-held until the representatives to the Sectional Meet are determined, and no points be given for the continued or re-held contest. For possible replacement purposes, all events must determine clear 5th and 6th place finishers in Classes A Public and 2A - 7A, and clear 6th and 7th place finishers in Class A Private.*



## 2021 GHS A Track & Field



### POINTS OF EMPHASIS:

Region/Area entries (rosters) **MUST** be submitted on the GHS A MIS site (<http://app.ghsa.net/>); these are each school's **OFFICIAL** entries



◦ Region Rosters

The Region/Area Results form must be completed electronically by each Region Secretary / Area Coordinator (or designees) on the GHS A MIS site (<http://app.ghsa.net/>). The deadline is 9 am on Monday, May 3, 2021.



◦ Region Results

The Region Secretary / Area Coordinator (or designee) should **ALSO** download a pdf copy of the Region Results form and forward by email to all Region coaches to review to ensure accuracy.

Download a Printable Copy

Region Secretaries / Area Coordinators (or designees) must not only submit results on the MIS site but **ALSO** edit/correct Region / Area entries (rosters) for each school on the MIS site to reflect any changes (scratches/additions/replacements) made at the Scratch Meeting.

### **Relay Team Members Clarification**

- At the conclusion of each Region/Area Scratch Meeting (or if NO scratch meeting is held, when Region/Area Meet competition begins), the competitors' names listed for each Relay entered **CANNOT** be changed.
- These Relay names remain the **SAME** throughout the State Meet Series: Region/Area / Sectional / State Meets and are the **ONLY** eligible participants for Relay Teams throughout the State Meet Series.
- **NO** replacements may be made of the eight competitor's names advancing from the Region/Area Meet to the Sectional Meet, nor Sectional Meet to State Meet.
- Any four (4) of the competitors listed with a Region/Area Meet Relay entry may run on that relay team in any round of advancement (Region/Area, Sectional, State Meet Semi-finals and Finals), and in any order desired.

### **Athlete Replacement (Region/Area Meet to Sectional Meet) Clarification**

1. When a Region/Area Meet qualifier cannot compete in the Sectional Meet, the next competitor in the order of finish will be selected as a replacement. The coach of the qualifying competitor unable to compete **MUST** notify the Region Secretary / Area Coordinator (or designee) of that competitor's inability to advance and compete in the next round of competition.
2. The Region Secretary / Area Coordinator (or designee) **MUST** contact the coach of the next competitor in the order of finish and verify the selection and replacement of that competitor for the Sectional Meet with that competitor's coach.
3. ***All REPLACEMENTS from Region/Area Meets to Sectional Meets must be submitted ELECTRONICALLY using the form posted on the GHS A MIS site (<http://app.ghsa.net/>). ONLY the REGION SECRETARY / AREA COORDINATOR (or designee) may make confirmed changes and/or corrections. The DEADLINE for all changes is 12:00 noon on Wed., May 5, 2021.***
4. All Sectional Meet entries will be posted on the GHS A T&F website (<http://www.ghsa.net/track-and-field>) for verification. Schools will not receive paper copies of their qualified athletes. **It is the responsibility of EACH COACH to review that school's entries on the website and immediately notify the Region Secretary if corrections need to be made.**
5. A contestant disqualified in a Region/Area Meet may not participate in the Sectional Meet in the event in which (s)he was disqualified.
6. Team members listed for Relay teams advancing from Region/Area to Sectional / State Meets may not be modified.





## 2021 GHSA Track & Field



### Sectional Competition Guidelines and Replacement Procedure

*Excerpts from 2020-21 GHSA Constitution (Pp. 88-89)*

#### SECTIONAL COMPETITION:

##### A. Basic Information

1. The top four (4) finishers in each event from each Region Meet (A Public, 2A-7A) will advance to a Sectional Meet. In Class A Private, the top five (5) finishers in each event from each Area Meet will advance to a Sectional Meet.
  2. Boys and Girls Sectionals in each classification will take place on the same date at the same site (see schedule of Sectionals on the GHSA web site).
  3. For Running Events, there will be qualifying heats only - no running finals will be held.
    - (a) There will be two heats in each event, excluding the 1,600 and 3,200 Meter Runs and the 4x800 Meter Relay. The first place finisher in each heat and the next six (6) fastest times from either heat will advance to the State Meet.
    - (b) For the 1,600 Meter and 3,200 Meter Runs and 4x800 Meter Relay, there will be one heat and the top eight (8) finishers in each race will advance to the State Meet.
  4. For Field Events prelims and finals will be held in all events with the top eight (8) finishers advancing to the State Meet.
  5. For replacement purposes, ALL events must determine clear 9th and 10th place finishers.
  6. Relay teams entered in the Sectional Meet may list a maximum of eight (8) runners.
    - (a) NO replacements may be made in the Relay list of runners advancing from the Sectional Meet to the State Meet.
    - (b) Any four (4) competitors listed on a Sectional Meet relay event entry may run in that event in any round of advancement (Sectionals, State Meet Semifinals and Finals), and in any order desired.
- B. Sectionals will be conducted one (1) week prior to the earliest State Meet. Admission fee for all Sectional Meets shall be \$5.
- C. All replacements from the Region/Area meets for the Sectionals must be made ELECTRONICALLY using the form posted on the GHSA web site. The REGION SECRETARY / AREA COORDINATOR or his designee may make confirmed changes and/or corrections. The deadline for all changes is 12:00 noon on Wednesday, May 5, 2021.
- D. A listing of Sectional Sites may be found on the track page of the GHSA web site ([www.ghsa.net](http://www.ghsa.net)).

#### Athlete Replacement Sectional Meets to State Meet

***When there is a tie in any event involving more contestants than the Sectional Meet is entitled to enter into the State Meet, the contest must continue on the day of the competition until the representatives to the State Meet are determined. For REPLACEMENT purposes: CLEAR 9th and 10th Places MUST be established for ALL events at Sectional Meets.***

1. When a Sectional Meet qualifier cannot compete in the State Meet, the next competitor in the order of finish will be selected as a replacement. The coach of the qualifying competitor unable to compete MUST notify the Sectional Meet Director of that competitor's inability to advance and compete in the State Meet.
2. The Sectional Meet Director MUST contact the coach of the next competitor in the order of finish and verify the selection and replacement of that competitor for the State Meet with the competitor's coach.
3. **All REPLACEMENTS from the Sectional Meet to the State Meet must be made ELECTRONICALLY using the form posted on the GHSA MIS site (<http://app.ghsa.net/>). ONLY the SECTIONAL MEET DIRECTOR may make changes/corrections to the list of State Meet Qualifiers. The DEADLINE for all changes is 12:00 noon Tuesday, May 11, 2021.**
4. All State Meet entries will be posted on the GHSA T&F website (<http://www.ghsa.net/track-and-field>) for verification. Schools will not receive paper copies of their qualified athletes. It is the responsibility of EACH COACH to review that school's entries on the web site and immediately notify the Area/Sectional Meet Director if corrections need to be made.
5. A contestant disqualified in a Sectional Meet may not participate in the State Meet in the event in which (s)he was disqualified



## 2021 Sectional Meet Sites for Track and Field



### **Sectional A - Regions 1,2,3,4**

Muscogee County Schools @ Kinnett Stadium  
7610 Schomburg Road  
Columbus, GA 31909  
Meet Director: Jeff Battles (706-573-4209)  
email: Battles.Jeffrey.W@muscogee.k12.ga.us  
AD: Jeff Battles  
(Battles.Jeffrey.W@muscogee.k12.ga.us)

### **Sectional A - Regions 1,3,4,8**

East Jackson HS  
1435 Hoods Mill Road  
Commerce, GA 30529  
Meet Director: Tomy Sitton (404-788-3415)  
email: tsitton@jcss.us  
AD: Shawn Lindsey (slindsey@jcss.us)

### **Sectional A - Regions 1,2,3,5**

Mitchell County HS  
1000 Newton Road  
Camilla, GA 31730  
Meet Director: Jim Morrell (229-319-0385)  
email: jimmorrell1966@gmail.com  
AD: Dondrail Pinkins  
(dondrail\_pinkins@mitchell.k12.ga.us)

### **Class 4A**

#### **Sectional B - Regions 5,6,7,8**

North Oconee H.S.  
1081 Rocky Branch Rd.  
Bogart, GA 30622  
Meet Director: Michael Dowis (678-863-2808)  
email: mdowis@oconeeschools.org  
AD: Michael Dowis (mdowis@oconeeschools.org)

### **Class 3A**

#### **Sectional B - Regions 2,5,6,7**

Atlanta Public Schools @ Lakewood Stadium  
70 Claire Drive SE  
Atlanta, GA 30315  
Meet Director: Kandice Mitchell (470-658-3232)  
email: kpmitchell@atlanta.k12.ga.us  
AD: Jasper Jewell (jjjewell@atlanta.k12.ga.us)

### **Class 1A-Public**

#### **Sectional B - Regions 4,6,7,8**

Commerce HS @ Banks Co HS  
1486 A Historic Homer Highway  
Homer, GA 30547  
Meet Director: Chas Hardy (706-983-9037)  
email: Chas.hardy@commercecitieschools.org  
AD: William Smith  
(william.smith@commercecitieschools.org)



# Sectional Meet Schedule Classes 1A–7A



(Time Schedule must be the same for Classes 1A–7A Sectional competitions, with the exception of inclement/severe weather)

**NOTE: The schedule of Running Events has been set to match, as closely as is reasonably possible, the recovery time between running events at the State Meets. Sectional meets should stay on schedule and NOT run ahead of schedule!**

## Saturday, May 8, 2021

**10:30 am 1600 Meter Run (1 Section-all qualifiers girls/boys)**

**FIELD EVENTS:** nine (9) competitors to Finals in horizontal events (jumps and throws)

<b>10:30 am</b>		<b>Pole Vault (Boys)</b>
<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>High Jump (Girls)</b>	<b>Discus Throw (Boys, then Ambulatory)</b>
	<b>Long Jump (Girls)</b>	<b>Triple Jump (Boys)</b>
	<b>Shot Put (Girls then Wheelchair, Ambulatory)</b>	
<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Discus Throw (Girls, then Ambulatory)</b>	<b>High Jump (Boys)</b>
	<b>Pole Vault (Girls)</b>	<b>Long Jump (Boys)</b>
	<b>Triple Jump (Girls)</b>	<b>Shot Put (Boys then Wheelchair, Ambulatory)</b>

**Break**

**RUNNING EVENTS:** (The 4x800 Meter Relay should not start before all field events are completed. Running schedule may be adjusted, if necessary, due to Field Event and/or weather delays. However, the time increments between running events should be maintained to ensure adequate recovery time between events.) (The order of running events will be Wheelchair, Ambulatory, if needed, then girls/boys)

- 3:00 pm 4x800 Meter Relay (1 Section-all qualifiers girls/boys; two alleys)**
- 3:35 pm 4x100 Meter Relay (2 Heats each girls/boys)**
- 4:10 pm 400 Meter Dash (Ambulatory, then 2 Heats girls/boys)**
- 4:25 pm 100 Meter Dash (2 Heats) (Ambulatory, then 2 Heats each girls/boys)**
- 4:40 pm 100/110 Meter Hurdles (2 Heats each girls/boys)**
- 5:00 pm 800 Meter Run (Wheelchair, Ambulatory, 2 Heats each girls/boys)**
- 5:20 pm 200 Meter Dash (Wheelchair, Ambulatory, 2 Heats each girls/boys)**
- 5:35 pm 300 Meter Hurdles (2 Heats each girls/boys)**
- 6:00 pm 3200 Meter Run (1 Section-all qualifiers girls/boys)**
- 6:50 pm 4x400 Meter Relay (2 Heats each girls/boys)**

**GHS A Recommended Opening Heights: (may be revised by Games Committee should strength of competition and / or weather conditions dictate)**

**Classes 1A-2A:**

<b>Boys' Pole Vault – 9'6"</b>	<b>Boys' High Jump – 5'8"</b>
<b>Girls' Pole Vault – 7'0"</b>	<b>Girls' High Jump – 4'6"</b>

**Classes 3A–5A:**

<b>Boys' Pole Vault – 10'0"</b>	<b>Boys' High Jump – 5'8"</b>
<b>Girls' Pole Vault – 7'6"</b>	<b>Girls' High Jump – 4'8"</b>

**Class 6A–7A:**

<b>Boys' Pole Vault – 10'6"</b>	<b>Boys' High Jump – 5'8"</b>
<b>Girls' Pole Vault – 7'6"</b>	<b>Girls' High Jump – 4'8"</b>



## 2021 GHS A Track & Field State Meet Guidelines and Clarifications



*Excerpts from 2019-20 GHS A Constitution (P. 89)*

### **STATE MEET:**

- A. *The State Meets will be held on May 13-15, 2021. Exact sites and schedules will be posted on the GHS A web site prior to the event.*
  - 1. *If weather conditions alter the schedule, night sessions may be held or the schedule may be condensed to a one-day meet (events may be run morning and/or evening).*
  - 2. *Preliminaries may be eliminated and finals held in any of the events provided that notice is given prior to the beginning of the meet.*
  - 3. *In each preliminary running event (semifinals), there will be two (2) heats with the first place finishers in each heat and the next six (6) fastest times qualifying for the finals.*
- B. *The top finishers as described from each Sectional Meet will qualify for the State Meet in Classes A-7A.*
  - 1. *When a qualifier can not compete in the State Meet, the next competitor in the order of finish will be selected as a replacement.*
  - 2. *All replacements for the State Meet must be made ELECTRONICALLY using the form posted on the GHS A web site (<http://app.ghsa.net/>). Only the SECTIONAL MEET DIRECTOR may make changes/corrections to the list of State Meet Qualifiers. The deadline for all changes is 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, May 11, 2021.*
  - 3. *All entries for the State Meet will be posted on the GHS A web site ([www.ghsa.net](http://www.ghsa.net)) for verification. Schools will not receive paper copies of their qualified athletes. It is the responsibility of EACH COACH to review the school's entries on the web site and immediately notify the Sectional Meet Director if corrections need to be made.*
- C. *Each contestant is requested to bring his/her own shot and discus.*
  - 1. *Any contestant may use any shot or discus after it has been checked for weight and legality at the field.*
  - 2. *Rings for the shot and discus are concrete; therefore, rubber soled shoes must be worn.*
  - 3. *The NFHS Track and Field Rule Book will be strictly enforced in regard to the time between jumps and throws.*
- D. *At the State Meets (boys and girls), 34.92-degree throwing sectors will be used (Discus: Rule 6-6-5; Shot Put: Rule 6-7-5). Schools, Region hosts, Area hosts and Sectionals hosts must have the 34.92-degree sectors in place for the Region/Area and Sectionals meets.*
- E. *The tracks and runways that are used for all State Meets are all-weather tracks.*
  - 1. *Spikes on track shoes must not exceed the specified length(s) at each State Meet:  
NOTE: Shoes may be inspected before contestants are allowed on the track.*
  - 2. *Spikes that have been cut off by individuals must be filed to a sharp point. Blunt spikes will not be allowed.*
  - 3. *Replacement spikes will be sold at each state meet site.*
  - 4. *Only the starting blocks furnished at the track may be used in the State Meets.*
- F. *Admission price for each of the State Meets is \$7.00 per day.*



2021 GHSA Track and Field State Championships  
1A-Public, 3A, 4A Girls' & Boys'  
Presented by Atlanta Track Club  
Hugh Mills Stadium, Albany, GA  
May 13-15, 2021



**Session I:**

Thursday May 13, 2021

**Girls Field Events (1A, 3A, 4A)**

High Jump Opening Heights: 1A-4'6"; 3A,4A-4'8"

Pole Vault Opening Heights 1A-7'6"; 3A,4A-8'0"

9:00 A.M. Shot Put 3A, Triple Jump-4A, Long Jump- 1A, Discus -1A, Pole Vault- 4A, High Jump Pit 1-3A

11:00 A.M. Shot Put-1A, Triple Jump-3A, Long Jump-4A, Discus-4A, Pole Vault 3A, High Jump Pit 2-1A

1:00 P.M. Shot Put-4A, Triple Jump-1A, Long Jump-3A, Discus-3A, Pole Vault-1A, High Jump Pit 1-4A

**Session II Boys Prelims (the order of Prelims running events will be 1A, 3A, 4A):**

3:30 P.M. 4x800 Relay Finals (1A, 3A, 4A Girls) (one section each classification, two alleys)

4:20 P.M. 4x100 Meter Relay

4:50 P.M. 400 Meter Dash

5:15 P.M. 100 Meter Dash

5:40 P.M. 110 Meter Hurdles

6:05 P.M. 800 Meter Run (one-turn stagger)

6:30 P.M. 200 Meter Dash

6:55 P.M. 300 Meter Hurdles

7:20 P.M. 1600 Meter Run Finals (1A, 3A, 4A Girls)

7:45 P.M. 4x400 Meter Relay

8:30 P.M. 3200 Meter Run Finals (1A, 3A, 4A Boys)

**Session III:**

Friday May 14, 2021

**Boys Field Events (1A, 3A, 4A)**

High Jump Opening Heights: 1A-5'6"; 3A,4A-5'8"

Pole Vault Opening Heights: 1A-9'0"; 3A,4A-10'0"

9:00 A.M. Shot Put 3A, Triple Jump-4A, Long Jump- 1A, Discus -1A, Pole Vault- 4A, High Jump Pit 1-3A

11:00 A.M. Shot Put-1A, Triple Jump-3A, Long Jump-4A, Discus-4A, Pole Vault 3A, High Jump Pit 2-1A

1:00 P.M. Shot Put-4A, Triple Jump-1A, Long Jump-3A, Discus-3A, Pole Vault-1A, High Jump Pit 1-4A

**Session IV Girls Prelims (the order of Prelims running events will be 1A, 3A, 4A):**

3:30 P.M. 4x800 Relay Finals (1A, 3A, 4A Boys) (one section each classification, two alleys)

4:20 P.M. 4x100 Meter Relay

4:50 P.M. 400 Meter Dash

5:15 P.M. 100 Meter Dash

5:40 P.M. 110 Meter Hurdles

6:05 P.M. 800 Meter Run (one-turn stagger)

6:30 P.M. 200 Meter Dash

6:55 P.M. 300 Meter Hurdles

7:20 P.M. 1600 Meter Run Finals (1A, 3A, 4A Boys)

7:45 P.M. 4x400 Meter Relay

8:30 P.M. 3200 Meter Run Finals (1A, 3A, 4A Girls)

**Session V Running Finals:**

Saturday, May 15, 2021

**The order of running events will be 1A-Public, 3A, 4A (Girls Heats followed by Boys Heats)**

10:00 A.M. Opening Ceremonies

10:45 A.M. 4x100 Meter Relay

11:15 A.M. 400 Meter Dash

11:45 A.M. 100 Meter Dash

12:15 P.M. 100 Meter Hurdles / 110 Meter Hurdles

12:50 P.M. 800 Meter Run (one-turn stagger)

1:20 P.M. 200 Meter Dash

1:50 P.M. 300 Meter Hurdles

2:20 P.M. 4x400 Meter Relay

2:55 P.M. Trophy Presentations



## Advancement: Area/Region Meets to Sectional Meets

Top 5 Places in every event from each Area Meet (1A-Private) and Top 4 Places in every event from each Region Meet (2A,7A) advance to Sectional Meets. ***(For REPLACEMENT purposes, ALL EVENTS must determine clear 5th and 6th place finishers in Classes A Public and 2A - 7A, and clear 6th and 7th place finishers in Class A Private.)*** In the event of a tie for an advancement place that needs to be broken, whether from Area/Region Meet to Sectional Meet or Sectional Meet to State Meet, the performance where the tie occurred will be carried forward for seeding in the next meet. The qualifying advancement performance achieved by a competitor at the Area/Region Meet or Sectional Meet is the performance that competitor will carry into the next round of competition. No performance achieved in a tie-break will replace an existing mark unless it involves a 1st Place tie (per rulebook).

### Seeding at Sectional Meets (from Region Meets):

*All SEEDING at Sectional Meets is based on Area/Region Meet performances.*

*Sectional Meet Seeding will be done by the GHS A after all Area/Region Meet results have been submitted.*

#### Running Events (Laned Races):

- Area/Region Winners – Seeded by Place first, then Time.
  - All other qualifiers from each Region Meet seeded by time only.

#### Running Events (4x800 Relay, 1600, 3200):

- 4x800 Relay, 1600 and 3200 Seeded by time only.

#### Field Events:

- All entries seeded by distance/height, in reverse order, worst to best

## Advancement: Sectional Meets to State Meet

Top 8 Places from each Sectional Meet advance to State Meet ***(For REPLACEMENT purposes, CLEAR 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Places MUST be established for ALL EVENTS at Sectional Meets.)***

#### Running Events (Laned Races):

- Two Qualifying heats only, no running finals will be contested.
- Two heats each event: Heat winners and next 6 fastest times advance to State Meet

#### Running Events (4x800 Relay, 1600, 3200):

- Top 8 finishers advance to State Finals

#### Field Events: (Horizontal Events: Long Jump, Triple Jump, Discus Throw, Shot Put)

- Trials and Finals with Top 9 advancing to Finals for three additional attempts.
- Competitors should be reordered worst to best for the finals.

#### Field Events: (Vertical Events: High Jump and Pole Vault)

- Events should be carried to conclusion.

### Seeding at State Meet (from Sectional Meets):

*All SEEDING at State Meets is based on Sectional Meet performances.*

*State Meet Seeding will be done by the GHS A after all Sectional Meet results have been submitted.*

#### Running Events (Laned Races): Two Qualifying Heats.

- Heat winners from Sectional Meet – Seeded by Place first, then Time
- All other qualifiers from Sectional Meet seeded by time only

#### Running Events (4x800 Relay, 1600, 3200): One Heat finals, Seeded from best to worst

#### Field Events: (Horizontal Events: Long Jump, Triple Jump, Shot Put, Discus)

- All qualifiers seeded from worst to best.
- Trials and Finals with Top 9 competitors receiving three additional attempts in Finals.
- Competitors will be reordered worst to best for the finals.

#### Field Events: (Vertical Events: Pole Vault and High Jump)

- All qualifiers seeded by place and then height, in reverse order, worst to best

#### State Meet Qualifying Heats to State Meet Final Advancement (Laned Races):

- Heat winners in each Qualifying Heat plus next 6 fastest times advance to State Meet Final



# 2019



## NFHS Track and Field Pre-Meet Notes Rule Change Highlights

- Expanded the current interpretation of foundation garment to include any item worn under the uniform top and/or bottom.
- Slight differences in relay and cross country team member uniforms that do not negatively impact the identification of the team member are acceptable.

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### 2019 Points of Emphasis

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#### 1. Uniforms

It has become increasingly more difficult to officiate the uniform rule given the increase in the number of programs nationwide that are allowing individual team members the option of independently purchasing either all or part of their team uniform. The slight differences in design of a uniform do not negatively impact the identification of a relay or cross country team by an official. The expectation of this rule is that all relay and cross country team members can be clearly identified as representing the same school through predominant color, school logo, and color combinations of all outer garments.

The rules committee took action to help minimize issues related to garments worn underneath the uniform and provide meet officials more flexibility to determine if relay or cross country team members can be clearly identified as representing the same school. Any garments worn under the uniform are not subject to logo/trademark/reference, color or length restrictions. Variations in trim and/or accents within members of the same relay or cross country team should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis as to whether or not these variations negatively impact a meet official's ability to identify teammates. Officials should be able to observe that all members are from the same team.

Under Rule 3-2, the games committee will continue to have the authority to restrict or permit the wearing of any item outside of the required school uniform.

National Federation of State  
High School Associations



# 2019



## NFHS Track and Field Pre-Meet Notes

### Uniform Regulations—Individual, Relay and Cross Country

Recent changes in the NFHS uniform rules have simplified the rule regarding what is considered a foundation garment. In addition, the changes now allow schools more options in meeting the uniform rule as it pertains to relay and cross-country teams.

The interpretation of what is a foundation garment was expanded and clearly defined in Rule 4 -3-1 thru 7. Now, any and all visible garments, worn under the uniform top and/or bottom, shall be considered a foundation garment. A foundation garment is no longer subject to logo, trademark, color or length restrictions.

While the rules were rewritten to allow schools more options in meeting uniform requirements, for relay and cross-country teams, the rule continues to emphasize that teams must wear uniforms that clearly identify them as members from the same team. Identification will be made through predominant color, school logo, and color combination of all outer garments worn as a uniform (Rule 4-3-2). The rationale being that slight differences in the uniform do not negatively impact the identification of a relay or cross-country team.

NFHS rules regarding uniforms stem from the premise that all competitors from the same team should be recognizable. As defined in Rule 4-3-1b, a competitor's uniform must be school-issued or school-approved. The uniform top, bottom, or one-piece uniform may have the school name, logo, nickname and/or the competitors name. Any outer garment that is school-issued or school-approved (t-shirts, sweatpants, tights, etc.) becomes the official uniform, when worn in competition. The rule allows for varying styles of bottoms such as boxer-type or compression-style shorts for both boys and girls. Additionally, girls may wear closed-leg briefs, but French or high-cut apparel are illegal uniform bottoms.

The competitor's uniform must be worn as the manufacturer intended. Requirements include that tops shall not be knotted, and bare midriff tops are not allowed. A uniform top must hang below or be tucked into the waistband of the uniform bottom when the competitor is standing up right, and the waistband must be worn above the competitor's hips.

Rules regarding logos, American flags and commemorative/memorial patches on the uniform remain unchanged. A single manufacturer's logo, with no dimension more than 2¼ inches, and total area no more the 2¼ square inches is permitted on either piece of a 2-piece uni-form, or one-piece uniform. An American flag may also be worn on the uniform, provided it does not exceed 2x3 inches in size.





## 2021 GHS A Track & Field GHS A Uniform Rules Clarification



- Undergarments having a waistband with multiple logos/references of the manufacturer and/or a crotch outline are NOT legal as uniform bottoms.
- Undergarment tops and/or bottoms do not have to be the same color.
- Any OTHER clothing items (socks, head wear, sleeves, gloves etc.) are NOT considered part of the school issued uniform. **The GHS A has elected to abide by the NFHS rule allowing jewelry and non-uniform items to be worn by competitors. NO items may be worn that are demeaning to the sport and/or present a hazard to the safety of the competitor or others.**
- Team members competing in the same individual event must wear clearly identifying uniforms for that team, but NOT NECESSARILY of the same design.
- Relay team members on the same team must wear uniforms of the same design.
- The wearing of wristwatches with GPS capability during competition is ILLEGAL. The penalty for this violation is DISQUALIFICATION.
- The ultimate responsibility for uniform compliance lies with the coach. Coaches should inspect any/all garments competitors wear to make sure they are in compliance with GHS A and NFHS uniform rules. On the next page is a Uniform Guidelines document.

While Uniform rules are quite specific, there is always some gray area open to interpretation by meet officials. Coaches should anticipate the strictest interpretation of the rules that their team may encounter. As the season begins, make sure your athletes thoroughly understand the rules governing jewelry and uniforms. Even though many of the early smaller meets may not strictly enforce these rules, impress upon your athletes the importance of being in compliance anyway. Prevent a pattern of competing while violating these rules even if there are no apparent consequences for doing so. As important meets approach, reaffirm that all athletes are fully aware of, and in compliance with the rules. Again, try to anticipate the strictest interpretation and prepare accordingly.

### ***NFHS and GHS A penalty for illegal uniform:***

***For the wearing of an illegal uniform, when a violation is observed and noted by a meet official, the competitor shall be required to make the uniform legal before becoming eligible for further competition and shall be issued a warning that a subsequent violation shall result in disqualification from the event. The referee shall be notified of the violation by the observing meet official, and the referee shall then notify or cause to be notified the head coach of the offending school of the competitor's violation and warning.***



## NFHS Uniform “Design” vs “Style” Guidelines



*Excerpt from 2010 NFHS Track and Field Pre-Meet Notes*  
 (<http://www.usatf.org/usatf/files/bb/bbb4135e-b83d-4bde-a388-cb1a1be02942.pdf>):

The sports of track and field and cross country have some of the most lenient rules for uniforms. However, with this leniency comes confusion from time to time when applying the basic rules of a legal uniform in the midst of all the permitted uniform creativity. One frequent rule question is the accurate application of “design” of the uniform for the members of a track relay team or a cross country team.

Both relay teams and cross country teams are competing as a team, similar to a volleyball or basketball team. The purpose of the uniform rule, in this instance, is so the uniforms worn by the school’s teammates are clearly identifying the competitors at a glance of being a member of a certain team. This identification is essential to allow the meet officials to fairly and consistently identify each runner and the team to which he/she belongs.

Rules 8-6-1 and 4-3-2 require the team members (relay team and cross country team) to be wearing uniforms of the same “design.” The term “design” refers to a pattern of colors used in the uniform. For example, if three team members are wearing singlets with a white body and a red diagonal stripe four inches in width and the remaining team member(s) are wearing a white singlet with two red vertical stripes, the “design” would be different. The vertical striped uniformed runner(s) would be in an illegal uniform and the competitor(s) would be disqualified from the event (Penalties 8-6, 4-3).

Design and style should not be confused. The term “design” refers to a pattern of colors used in the uniform. The use of the same colors, but arranged in a different pattern is not considered the same “design” as required by rule. Style might be all team members are in black one piece uniforms but one team member wears black shorts over the one-piece uniform. These uniforms would be legal. For the runner adding the shorts, the legs of the one piece then become a visible undergarment and subject to those rules.





**GHSAs 2020-21 Constitution & By-Laws - Section 16 - Track and Field**

**GENERAL INFORMATION: Sections B, G (Pp. 86-87)**

- B. All GHSAs Track meets will be run in accordance with the rules published in the National Federation Track and Field and Cross Country Rule Book with any exceptions and/or adoptions noted in this section. (NOTE: Knowledge of and compliance to all exceptions is the responsibility of the head coach.)
- G. The GHSAs has elected to fully comply with the NFHS Rule 4-3-1. All competitors shall have legal uniforms. The singlet and bottom, or one-piece uniform, must be a school-issued or school-approved Track and Field uniform. Uniform bottoms clearly designed as "underwear" (including bottoms with a crotch outline) will NOT meet the NFHS or GHSAs requirement. Uniform apparel with multiple manufacturer logos are NOT legal. Team uniforms worn must clearly identify the competitors, at a glance, as being a member of a certain team. (CLARIFICATION: Team members competing in individual events must wear clearly identifying uniforms for that team, but NOT NECESSARILY of the same design. Relay team members on the same team must wear uniforms of the same design. NOTE: The ultimate responsibility for uniforms compliance lies with the coach. Coaches should inspect any/all garments competitors wear to make sure they are in compliance with GHSAs and NFHS uniforms rules.

**[COMMENT: A frequently recurring uniform violation is a competitor who wears a top and/or bottom CLEARLY "labeled" with another sport (football, basketball, wrestling, etc.); these tops/bottoms do NOT satisfy the GHSAs REQUIREMENT of "a track top and track bottom."]**

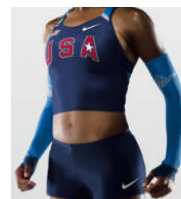
**NOTE: The ultimate responsibility for uniforms compliance lies with the coach. Coaches should inspect any/all garments competitors wear to make sure they are in compliance with GHSAs and NFHS uniforms rules!!**

**Typical Examples of Illegal / Legal Uniforms**

**UNDERGARMENTS ARE NOT UNIFORMS!!**



**ILLEGAL**  
**One-piece Uniforms**  
with multiple  
manufacturer logos /  
references.



**ILLEGAL**  
**Uniform Top**  
"bare midriff"



**ILLEGAL**  
**Uniform Bottoms**  
"French or High Cut"



**LEGAL**  
"Closed-Leg"  
Women's Brief  
**Uniform Bottoms**



**ILLEGAL**  
**Uniform Bottoms** with  
decorative waistbands  
and multiple  
manufacturer logos /  
references.



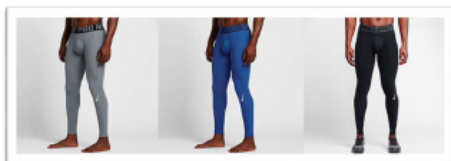
**ILLEGAL**  
**Uniform Bottoms**  
with decorative  
waistbands and  
crotch outline /  
opening



**LEGAL**  
**Uniform Bottoms**  
single manufacturer  
logo, no crotch outline  
or opening, no  
decorative waistband.



**LEGAL**  
Undergarments are  
**NO LONGER**  
required to be of a  
single (same) color.



**ILLEGAL**  
**Uniform Bottoms** with  
decorative  
waistbands, multiple  
manufacturer logos,  
crotch outline



**LEGAL**  
**Uniform Bottoms**  
with single  
manufacturer logo,  
**NO** decorative  
waistband or crotch  
outline



## GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (GHSA) POLE VAULT VERIFICATION FORM

ALL MEMBER SCHOOLS are required to complete the **GHSA Pole Vault Verification Form** listing the name and grade of each contestant participating in the Pole Vault Event. The **Head Coach** must verify, on the day of each meet, the weight of each contestant, and the proper ratings of all poles used by each contestant. This procedure is required for **ALL** GHSA sanctioned Track and Field competitions. **This completed form must be presented to the HEAD FIELD JUDGE of the Pole Vault Event prior to the start of warm-ups, on the day of competition.**

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

Classification \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Meet \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

	<u>Full Name of Pole Vault</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Vaulter's Weight*</u>	<u>List ALL Pole Ratings</u>
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

\*Includes full competition uniform and footwear.

Name of Head Coach (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Head Coach \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Event Coach (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Event Coach \_\_\_\_\_

### NOTE TO ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATORS, TRACK AND FIELD COACHES AND OFFICIALS

Below are NFHS Track and Field Rules relevant to Pole Vault safety:

**NFHS TRACK AND FIELD RULE 6-5-3:** The competitor's weight shall be at or below the manufacturer's pole rating. The manufacturers must include on each pole: the pole rating that shall be a minimum of 3/4-inch in a contrasting color located within or above the top hand-hold position; a 1-inch circular band indicating the maximum top hand-hold position with the position being determined by the manufacturer. Prior to the competition, the Coach must verify that all of the school's pole vaulters and poles meet these requirements. **NOTE:** Etchings, serial numbers, etc. that may appear on poles shall not replace the requirement of the manufacturer's pole rating of the minimum 3/4-inch marking in contrasting color on each pole. (6-8-3)

**NFHS TRACK AND FIELD RULE 6-5-4:** A competitor shall not use a variable weight pole, a pole which is improperly marked, or a pole rated below his/her weight, or any equipment that is not legal during warm-up or competition. **NOTE:** Altering the pole in any fashion renders it illegal. **PENALTY: Disqualification from the event.**

**NFHS TRACK AND FIELD RULE 6-5-5:** Prior to warm-up, the field referee, head field judge, or assigned inspector of implements shall inspect each pole to be used in the competition to verify that the poles are legal equipment, per **NFHS Rule 3-10-1.** This includes checking the placement of a top hand-hold band, numerical pole ratings a minimum of 3/4-inch in contrasting color located within or above the top hand-hold band, and a binding of layers of adhesive tape of uniform thickness on the grip end. The binding shall not be on or above the top hand-hold band.

**NFHS TRACK AND FIELD RULE 6-5-21:** A competitor shall not be allowed to use the pole of another individual without the consent of the owner. The event judge shall approve the use and verify that the pole is rated weight-appropriate. **PENALTY: Disqualification from the event.**

**NFHS TRACK AND FIELD RULE 6-5-27h:** It is a foul if the competitor grips the pole above the top hand-hold band. **PENALTY: An unsuccessful trial is charged.**



## GHSA POLE VAULT SYSTEM CHECKLIST



1. MINIMUM MEASUREMENTS OF A LEGAL POLE VAULT SYSTEM (**RULE 6-5; ART 7**)  
19'8" ACROSS THE BACK AND WIDTH BEHIND THE STANDARD CUTOUTS  
20'2" TOTAL LENGTH (FRONT TO BACK)  
16'5" FROM THE "0" MARK AT THE BACK OF THE VAULT BOX  
16'5" MINIMUM WIDTH OF FRONT BUNS
2. LANDING SYSTEM **MUST** INCLUDE A COMMON COVER CONNECTING ALL THE SECTIONS TOGETHER. (**RULE 6-5; ART 7**)
3. THE STANDARDS SHALL HAVE ALL EXPOSED PROJECTIONS ON THE BASE COVERED WITH STANDARD BASE PADDING AND SHOULD BE ANCHORED OR WEIGHTED TO PREVENT TIPPING (**RULE 6-5; ART 10**)
4. ALL BOXES SHOULD BE ENCLOSED BY A PADDED BOX COLLAR THAT MEETS **NFHS STANDARDS**
5. ANY HARD SURFACES AROUND THE LANDING AREA SHOULD BE PADDED WITH A 2 INCH MINIMUM DENSE FOAM.

