



GHSA

"ITEMS OF INTEREST"

April 2016

Spring Season is the Right Time to Emphasize Sportsmanship

For the 2015-2016 school year, Georgia High School Association activities are two-thirds complete. The spring brings competitions in the largest array of sports and activities, from traditional sports like baseball and track and field to emerging sports such as lacrosse.

This last tri-mester of the athletic year brings many challenges, one of which is sportsmanship. Maintaining good sportsmanship is a traditional value that needs a lot of attention at GHSA activities.

Competition of any kind is divisive even for short periods of time. Competitors and their supporters meet in groups that are emotionally pitted against one another. Adherence to rules and standards of the competition and of proper conduct teach life lessons that are valuable in the development of young people.



Athletic successes build a positive school climate, but winning the right way – with appropriate displays of conduct and effort – can build an even stronger atmosphere in the school, the students and the community.

Sportsmanship programs should emphasize the athlete, but should not overlook the contributions of the schools' supporters – young or old – or its coaches. Attitudes become counter-productive when participants and fans resort to behaviors seen at other levels of competitions that undermine the values of school-based athletics.

A foundation of respect for game officials, for coaches, for the opposing team and for games themselves is critical to the uniqueness of school-based activities.

Our sportsmanship program must address the behaviors of all these components to build school programs that positively influence our athletes and our communities.

– Gary Phillips, Executive Director

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

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION Newsletter

Issued monthly, September through April, by the Georgia High School Association, P.O. Box 271, Thomaston, GA 30286

Phone: 706-647-7473 Fax: 706-647-2638 Web: www.ghsa.net

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

Vol. 34

April 2016

No. 7

- GHSA STAFF -
Areas of Responsibility

GARY PHILLIPS (extension 21)

- Executive Director -
Administration, By-Law Interpretations, Hardship Rulings,
Football Playoffs, Coaches Education Program

JAY RUSSELL (extension 25)

- Assistant Executive Director -
By-Law Interpretations, Transfer Eligibility, Cross Country, Golf, Track

ERNE YARBROUGH (extension 27)

- Coordinator of Officiating -
Basketball, Baseball, Softball, Officials Training

DENIS TALLINI (extension 34)

- Associate Director -
Lacrosse, Volleyball, Wrestling, Sports Medicine

TOMMY WHITTLE (extension 23)

- Associate Director -
Football, Literary, One-Act Play, Soccer

CARROR WRIGHT (extension 39)

- Associate Director -
Coach's Liaison, Compliance/Investigations, Sportsmanship

STEVE FIGUEROA (extension 26)

- Director of Information/Media Services -
Media Coordination for State Events, Newsletters,
GHSA Constitution & Calendar, Web Site Content, Tennis

PAM THOMPSON (extension 30)

- Officials' Registrar -
Officials' Registration, Testing & Online Clinics, Service Awards

TANYA ANDERSON (extension 29)

- Administrative Assistant -
Event Sanctioning, School Passes, Directory,
Online Clinics for Coaches, Trophies & Medals

JULIE JONES (extension 24)

- Administrative Assistant -
Coaches Education Program, Web Site Content, Entry Notification

SHERI BROOKS (extension 0)

- Receptionist -
Hardship Hearings, Fines, School System/Retiree Passes,
Publication Orders

ROBIN BULLINGTON (extension 33)

- Office Manager -
Budgeting and Finances, Dues, Playoff Finances, Staff Procedures

STACEY BASILICI (extension 32)

- Administrative Assistant -
Non-transfer Eligibility, Literary & One-Act Play Liaison,
School Contact Coordinator

GHSA Licensed Products

This month's featured licensees are: **Jostens**, official championship jewelry (jostens.com); **Musco Sports Lighting**, leader in developing sports-lighting solutions (musco.com); **FieldTurf**, official artificial turf (fieldturf.com); **Hudl**, official video exchange service (hudl.com); **Jaxx Field Miracle**, Official field drying agent (jaxxusa.com); **Sports Imports**, official volleyball net systems (sportsimports.com); and **COOLShirt Systems**, Innovator of Personal Cooling Systems (coolshirt.com).

NFHS Network Spring Schedule

The NFHS Network, produced by PlayOn Sports, will stream live coverage of spring state championships, including track & field, soccer, lacrosse and baseball. Day and monthly pass subscriptions are available. Spread the word.

NFHS Network - We Are High School!

STATE CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

BASKETBALL - Boys

AAAAAA	Westlake High School
AAAAA	Miller Grove High School
AAAA	Liberty County High School
AAA	Morgan County High School
AA	Pace Academy
A (Public)	Wilkinson County High School
A (Private)	Greenforest

BASKETBALL - Girls

AAAAAA	McEachern High School
AAAAA	Southwest DeKalb High School
AAAA	Americus-Sumter High School
AAA	Morgan County High School
AA	Holy Innocents'
A (Public)	Turner County High School
A (Private)	St. Francis

LITERARY

AAAAAA	Mill Creek High School
AAAAA	Columbus High School
AAAA	Buford High School
AAA	Gordon Central High School
AA	Bremen High School
A (Public)	Georgia Military College
A (Private)	Lakeview Academy

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

Hudl Assist Now Available!

Hudl is announcing the availability of [Hudl Assist](#) subscriptions for all boys and girls basketball teams in the state of Georgia during the 2016-17 season. Hudl will provide a professional analyst to break down designated game film within 24 hours. Hudl will track team and player stats from both sides of the ball including shot charts and other reports! After each game is broken down, coaches will have the ability to upload statistics to Maxpreps.com.

The average Hudl Assist package ranges from \$399 for 10 games to \$999 for 30 games. Each basketball team must have an active Hudl Basketball subscription, which costs \$400 per year. Hudl Assist packages are assigned directly to a team and not the school. Additionally, if **at least six teams** in your GHSA region participate in a minimum of a 10-game package, Hudl will give **all those teams a 15% discount** on their Hudl Assist package.

Request a customized quote/invoice today – schools have until September 15 to make payment and be guaranteed a designated Hudl analyst. Discounts will be automatically applied when 6 teams in a GHSA region sign up. Contact Jason.Aldridge@Hudl.com for more details.

State Basketball Champions - 2016



AAAAAA Girls: McEachern



AAAAA Girls: Southwest DeKalb



AAAA Girls: Americus-Sumter



AAA Girls: Morgan County



AA Girls: Holy Innocents'



A (public) Girls: Turner County



A (private) Girls: St. Francis



Wheelchair: Houston County

State Basketball Champions - 2016



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



AAAAAA Boys: Westlake



AAAAA Boys: Miller Grove



AAAA Boys: Liberty County



AAA Boys: Morgan County



AA Boys: Pace Academy



A (public) Boys: Wilkinson County



A (private) Boys: Greenforest

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
AGENDA
MARRIOTT / Macon City Center - MACON, GEORGIA
Magnolia Ballroom
April 18, 2016 - 9:00 a.m.

Call To Order Glenn White, President
 Invocation Carror Wright, Associate Director
 Roll Call Steve Figueroa, Media Director
 Adoption of Agenda Executive Committee

APPOINTMENTS: Monday - 9:00 am: The Executive Committee will hear eight-semester appeals.

SUB-COMMITTEE PROPOSALS:

BOARD of TRUSTEES

1. Proposal to reword By-Law 2.17 to read as follows: . . . In sports where all classifications are not regionalized, the classes may be divided into Area assignments, and two or more classifications, *or any portions thereof*, may be combined at the discretion of the Executive Director. (GHSA Office)
2. Proposal to reinstate Slow Pitch Softball as a varsity-only sport to be played in the spring with four (4) designated Areas, beginning in the Spring of 2017. Note: Girls could play both slow pitch and fast pitch for their schools. (Earl Etheridge)
3. Proposal to increase the number of teams participating in the Class A playoffs (in power ranked sports) from 24 to 32 in each of the public and private divisions. (Region 4A)
4. Proposal to add new item "7" to By-Law 2.62 to read as follows: Drones shall not be permitted to fly during any GHSA sanctioned contest in the event that contest officials determine it to be a safety concern for participants and/or spectators, or a detriment to the administration of the contest. (GHSA Office)
5. Proposal to revise By-Law 2.62 to allow GHSA schools to play GISA and GICAA member schools provided there is a written Cross-Play contract used and providing the GISA and GICAA schools comply with all GHSA safety rules and requirements. Such competition shall not count towards GHSA post-season qualification nor power ratings. (GHSA Office)
6. Proposal to reword By-Law 2.72 (f) to say that all first ejections of coaches and players will require completion of the NFHS Sportsmanship Course, and to delete by-law 2.72 (h) on page 41 so that all ejections, whether pre-season or regular season will carry the same penalties. (Region 4-AAAAAA)
7. Proposal to add new item under By-Law 2.92 to read as follows: With the exception of contestant names and numbers as set forth in NFHS rules, no slogan, symbol, writing or other adornment shall be permitted on the uniform, head wear or other clothing or equipment worn or used by a contestant other than a single manufacturer's logo or trademark on each item of apparel, one American flag (not to exceed 2 inches by 3 inches) and commemorative or memorial patches (not to exceed 4 square inches) which have been approved by the Executive Director. (GHSA Office)
8. Proposal to add new By-Law 2.99 to read as follows: All participant uniforms rules and restrictions shall be interpreted in accordance to Georgia law. The GHSA shall not enact or enforce any participant uniforms rule which prohibits religious expression of student athletes other than the rules of particular athletic events as adopted by the NFHS. (GHSA Office)
9. Proposal to delete By-Law 4.52 (b-6) requiring all officials' associations to use the Arbiter program. (GHSA Office)
10. Proposal to use MaxPreps power ratings for baseball, football, basketball, softball and soccer to determine playoff spots from Region 1 in Class 7A, and an as-yet-to-be-determined system for cross country and tennis. (Region 1, Class 7A)
11. Proposal to form a Competition Committee to create a tournament based on a power ranking formula or Georgia Power Index (GPI) and to adjust the current playoff bracket in new class 7A. (Region 5, Class 7A)
12. Proposal to restructure the membership dues of the GHSA, adding a new Class 7A fee. (GHSA Office)
13. Proposal to accept the budget for the 2016-2017 school year. (GHSA Office)

BASEBALL COMMITTEE

Proposal to reword General Information, Item "C" on page 56 to read: The maximum number of games allowed (not including state playoffs) is thirty (30) of which at least four (4) must be played as doubleheaders. This limit of 30 includes any region tournament games. Note: All doubleheaders must be played on non-school days. (Region 7-AAAAA)

BASKETBALL COMMITTEE

Proposal to return the quarterfinal round games of the state tournament to the sites of the higher-seeded teams beginning in 2016-17. (GHSA Office)

(more)

AGENDA, continued

CHEERLEADING COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to limit cheers/dances that include "stomping" only to the gym floor. (Worth County HS)
2. Proposal to limit to sixteen (16) the number of cheerleaders allowed in uniform at courtside at away games, region basketball tournaments and all state playoff basketball games. (Worth County HS)
3. Proposal to limit cheer apparel to the traditional cheer skirt and top long associated with cheerleading. (Worth County HS)

COACHES COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to add an item (4) to By-Law 2.62(f) on page 36 to read as follows: (f) (4) A school may not scrimmage another school that is counting the scrimmage as a regular-season contest. (GHSA Office)
2. Proposal to add an item (i) to By-Law 2.51 to read as follows: A GHSA member school may not employ a person who has coached a non-GHSA team that includes any players who participate in the same sport. This rule may be waived if there is at least a 365-day separation between the non-GHSA activity and the employment by the member school. (GHSA Office)

ELIGIBILITY COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to revise By-Law 1.62 (a) (3) on page 19 to add: . . . having a lease agreement at a fair market value (leasing to a relative requires additional documentation); or abandoning the house and shutting off the unnecessary utilities. (GHSA Office)
2. Proposal to revise By-Law 1.62 (c) on page 19 as follows: The student was enrolled in a non-member private school ~~or was boarded at a school out of state~~ and . . . (Region 8-AAAAAA)
3. Proposal to revise By-Law 1.62 (e) (4) as follows: The foreign exchange program must randomly assign students . . . "Direct Placement" foreign exchange students must go through the hardship appeal process to become eligible. (GHSA Office)
4. Proposal to revise By-Law 1.62 (g) on pages 19-20 to require a **Superior Court Final Order** changing permanent physical custody or permanent joint physical custody and not just "legal custody." (GHSA Office)
5. Proposal to add a new item "j" to By-Law 1.62 on page 20 to set the rules under which a student at a magnet school could participate at the school which they would ordinarily attend. (GHSA Office)

FOOTBALL COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to adopt the same Contact Limits for Spring Practice as currently exist for Pre-Season Practice, beginning with Spring of 2017. Item (D) "3-b" on page 69: Pre-Season & **Spring** Practice. (GHSA Office)
2. Proposal to add new item "d" under D-3 on page 69 that adopts the Pre-Season Contact Limits for Summer Football Camps, with the added condition that the ONLY form of Full Contact allowed is **Thud**, effective Summer of 2016. (GHSA Office)
3. Proposal to add new G-6 on page 70 to read as follows: Schools which participate in Spring Practice will be allowed to play a Spring Game with another school in place of their last (10th) practice of the Spring, effective Spring of 2017. (Earl Etheridge)
4. Proposal to add new G-7 on page 70 to read as follows: Schools will be limited to attending at most three (3) Team Contact Camps per Summer, effective Summer of 2016. (Earl Etheridge)

GOLF COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to make all state golf tournaments two-day, 36-hole events with entry fees of \$30.00 for an individual player, \$120.00 for a girls team and \$180.00 for a boys team. (Columbus HS)
2. Proposal to allow golf to have a one-week floating period in the month of September for practice and evaluation. (Columbus HS)
3. Proposal that coaches be allowed to coach their players during the play of any hole as long as there is no slowing of the pace of play. Schools would still be limited to only two designated coaches. (Columbus HS)

LACROSSE COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to revise Constitution Item 1.44 "C" to read: Soccer and Lacrosse - a player may not participate in interscholastic competition more than three (3) halves per day. (Region 4-AAAAA)
2. Proposal to revise By-Law 2.93 (suspended or terminated games involving teams of different classifications) to add Lacrosse to the list of sports which are included by c-1, c-1a and c-1b. (GHSA Office)
3. Proposal to approve the following plan for state competition in 2016-18: Classifications 6A and 7A will form one division while A through 5A will form the second division. (GHSA Office)

(more)

AGENDA, continued

LITERARY COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to add Literary to the activities requiring coaches to complete a GHSA-sponsored rules clinic (By-Law 2.54 on page 35). Effective school year 2016-17. (GHSA Office)
2. Proposal to change item "C" on page 102 to read: In Literary, a student may represent their school in not more than two (2) individual events and a group event OR in two (2) group events and one individual event. (GHSA Office)

OFFICIALS COMMITTEE

Proposal to restructure the "Game Fee Chart" to implement a \$3.00 per assignment increase for contest officials during regular-season assignments. (Region 3-AAAAA)

SOCCKER COMMITTEE

Proposal to hold six (6) championships in soccer, achieved by combining portions of adjacent classifications in classes A through 4A. Classes 5A, 6A and 7A will hold championships as usual. (GHSA Office)

SOFTBALL COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to revise item "C" under General Information on Page 84 to read: The maximum number of softball games allowed (not including region or state tournaments playoffs) shall be ~~twenty-eight (28)~~ twenty-six (26) games either head-to-head competition or in invitational tournament games. (Region 7-AAAAA)
2. Proposal that only the Final Four teams in each classification will advance to Columbus. The first, second and third rounds will be best-of-three formats played at the sites of the higher-seeded teams. (Region 4-AAAAA)

SPORTSMANSHIP COMMITTEE

- Proposal to reword By-Law 2.77 on page 41: Unsporting acts committed by players or coaches will be handled as follows:
- a) If the inappropriate behavior occurs after the expiration of a contest, but while the officials still have jurisdiction as referenced in the NFHS rule book, the official may eject the player or coach and published penalties for ejections will apply.
 - b) If the inappropriate behavior occurs after the officials' jurisdiction has ended, but the official(s) witness the behavior, a Game Report shall be filed with the GHSA office and administrative penalties will be assessed against the school of the guilty parties by the Executive Director.
 - c) In the case of repeat offenders of unsporting acts, the Executive Director will be authorized to levy penalties against the school of the guilty parties regardless of whether or not an ejection has occurred. (GHSA office)

SWIMMING COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to approve the following plan for state competition in 2016-18: Classifications 6A and 7A will form one division while A through 5A will form the second division. (GHSA Office)
2. Proposal to add new item 4 under State Meet (General Information) on page 86 requiring schools to pay \$4.00 per athlete, \$3.00 per event and \$10.00 per relay event. Fees are payable to Atlanta Swimming and are due on the first day of swimming competition. Fees not paid within one week are subject to a 100% late fee (Region 6-AAAA)

TRACK COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to change the entry procedures for Cross Country. The new process will allow individual regions to set deadlines which parallel current entry procedures in Track. (Region 7-AAAAAA)
2. Proposal to use four (4) Area meets instead of eight (8) Region meets to qualify teams and individuals for the state Cross Country meet in new Class 7A only. (Region 7-AAAAAA)

VOLLEYBALL COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to add new pay scale for officials when teams play a best-of-5 format match as follows: single varsity match-\$65; single sub-varsity match - \$60; multiple varsity match - \$55; multiple sub-varsity match - \$50. (GHSA Office)
2. Proposal to approve the following plan for state competition in 2016-18: Classifications for Volleyball will combine all or part of classes, resulting in six (6) state championships. (GHSA Office)

WRESTLING COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to approve the following plan for state competition in 2016-18: Classifications for Traditional Wrestling will combine all or part of classes, resulting in five (5) state championships. (North Forsyth HS)
2. Proposal to change the protocol (Constitution, page 101: Wrestling State Sectional Tournament item F. 3. and State Finals Tournament Section C.) to allow alternates to weigh in and enter the tournament if a qualifying wrestler fails to make weight on the day of the event. (Northside-Columbus HS)
3. Proposal to rename the current state tournament to the "Classification" State Championship tournament and have the top three (3) place finishers in each weight class of the "Classification State Championship" participate the following weekend in the "State" Championship Tournament. (Jackson County HS)

GHSA - April Calendar - 2016

April

- 1 Deadline for notification of entry in Gymnastics, Lacrosse, Riflery, Class A Soccer, Volleyball and Wrestling for 2016-17
- 2 Complete Riflery Semifinals
- 16 Complete Region Tennis; Gymnastics Preliminary Meet; State Riflery Championship
- 18 Report Region Tennis results to GHSA Office by 9 a.m.
- 18 State Executive Committee Meeting -- Macon
- 21 Complete First Round State Tennis (2A - 6A) and Area Tennis (Class A)
- 22 Complete Region Golf; State Gymnastics Meet
- 22 Report State Tennis winners (Area in Class A) to GHSA Office by 9 a.m.
- 23 Complete Area/Region Soccer, Region Baseball and Region Track
- 25 Report Area/Region Soccer winners to GHSA Office by 9 a.m.
- 25 Report Region Golf results to GHSA Office and to State Sites
- 25 Report Region Baseball and Region Track results to GHSA Office by 9 a.m.
- 26 Boys First Round State Soccer (4A, 5A & 6A)
- 26 Complete Second Round State Tennis (First Round for Class A)
- 27 Girls First Round State Soccer (4A, 5A & 6A)
- 28 Boys First Round State Soccer (A, 2A & 3A)
- 29 Girls First Round State Soccer (A, 2A & 3A); State Baseball Playoffs - First Round
- 30 Sectional Track Meets; Complete Area Lacrosse
- 30 Complete Quarterfinal Round State Tennis Playoffs

GHSA Sponsors



ARMY STRONG®

