



# GHSA

## "ITEMS OF INTEREST"

December 2023 / January 2024

### Seasons Greetings and HAPPY NEW YEAR!



### HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM YOUR GHSA STAFF!

Standing (L-R): Linda Crowder, Don Corr, Jay Russell, Darrell Lane, Steve Figueroa, Pam Thompson, Ernie Yarbrough, Dr. Robin Hines, Carror Wright. Seated (L-R) Tanya Anderson, Robin Bullington, Stacey Jones, Sheri Eubanks, Julie Jones. (Not pictured: Penny Pitts Mitchell)

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

**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION** Newsletter  
 Issued monthly, September through April, by the Georgia High School Association, 151 S. Bethel St., 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. 42 Dec. 2023/Jan. 2024 No. 4**

**- GHSA STAFF -  
 Areas of Responsibility**

- ROBIN HINES** - Executive Director - (extension 41)  
 Administration, By-Law Interpretations, Hardship Rulings,  
 Football Playoffs, Coaches Education Program
- ERNIE YARBROUGH** - Assistant Executive Director - (ext. 27)  
 Championship Events, Officials Coordinator,  
 Swimming, Lacrosse
- TANYA ANDERSON** - Associate Director - (ext. 29)  
 Literary, One Act Play, Esports, DragonFly Liaison,  
 Cross Country, Track & Field, and Event Sanctioning
- DON CORR** - Associate Director - (ext. 34)  
 Softball, Wrestling, Baseball, Sports Medicine
- KEVIN GIDDENS** - Associate Director  
 Bass Fishing, Football and Soccer Consultant
- DARRELL LANE** - Associate Director - (ext. 42)  
 Volleyball, Basketball, Soccer
- PENNY PITTS MITCHELL** - Associate Director -(ext. 22)  
 Cheerleading, Game Day Cheerleading, Gymnastics, Dance,  
 Student Leadership, Title IX
- JAY RUSSELL** - Associate Director - (ext. 23)  
 Football, Flag Football, Golf, Hardship Eligibility
- CARROR WRIGHT** - Associate Director - (ext. 39)  
 Coach's Liaison, Compliance & Transfer Eligibility,  
 Sportsmanship
- STEVE FIGUEROA** - Media Director - (ext. 26)  
 Media, Newsletter, Constitution & Calendar, Tennis
- ROBIN BULLINGTON** - Office Manager - (ext. 33)  
 Budgeting and Finances, Playoff Finances, Staff Procedures
- JULIE JONES** - Administrative Assistant - (ext. 24)  
 Coaches Education, Dues, Entry Notification
- STACEY JONES** - Administrative Assistant - (ext. 32)  
 Riflery Liaison, School Contacts & School Passes,  
 Directory, Coaches' Clinics, Trophies & Medals
- SHERI EUBANKS** - Receptionist - (ext. 0)  
 Hardship Hearings, Fines, School System/Retiree Passes,  
 Publication Orders
- PAM THOMPSON** - Officials' Registrar - (ext. 30)  
 Officials' Registration, Testing & Online Clinics, Service Awards

## STATE CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to the following GHSA State Champions:

### CHEERLEADING

- |      |                               |
|------|-------------------------------|
| 7A   | - Lambert High School         |
| 6A   | - North Forsyth High School   |
| 5A   | - Northgate High School       |
| 4A   | - Central-Carroll High School |
| 3A   | - Mary Persons High School    |
| 2A   | - Mt. Paran                   |
| A    | - Bleckley County High School |
| Coed | - Walton High School          |

### CROSS COUNTRY

- |                 |                               |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| 7A Girls        | - Marietta High School        |
| 7A Boys         | - Harrison High School        |
| 6A Girls        | - Marist                      |
| 6A Boys         | - Marist                      |
| 5A Girls        | - Decatur High School         |
| 5A Boys         | - Chattahoochee High School   |
| 4A Girls        | - Pace Academy                |
| 4A Boys         | - Westminster                 |
| 3A Girls        | - Wesleyan                    |
| 3A Boys         | - Oconee County High School   |
| 2A Girls        | - Athens Academy              |
| 2A Boys         | - Providence Christian        |
| A, Div. 1 Girls | - Bleckley County High School |
| A, Div. 1 Boys  | - Whitefield Academy          |
| A, Div. 2 Girls | - Atlanta Classical           |
| A, Div. 2 Boys  | - Atlanta Classical           |

### ONE ACT PLAY

- |           |                               |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 7A        | - Milton High School          |
| 6A        | - Houston County High School  |
| 5A        | - Cambridge High School       |
| 4A        | - North Oconee High School    |
| 3A        | - Savannah Country Day School |
| 2A        | - Haralson County             |
| A, Div. 1 | - Bleckley County High School |
| A, Div. 2 | - Georgia Military College    |

### VOLLEYBALL

- |    |                           |
|----|---------------------------|
| 7A | - North Cobb High School  |
| 6A | - Alpharetta High School  |
| 5A | - McIntosh High School    |
| 4A | - Pace Academy            |
| 3A | - Sandy Creek High School |
| 2A | - Mt. Paran               |
| A  | - Mt. Pisgah              |

## GHSA Licensed Products

This month's featured licensees are: **Jostens**, official championship rings and jewelry ([jostens.com](http://jostens.com)); **CheerSounds**, official music provider of cheerleading with premade mixes, make your own mix, and fully custom music. ([cheersounds.com](http://cheersounds.com)); **Musco Sports Lighting**, leader in developing sports-lighting technology solutions ([musco.com](http://musco.com)); **Hudl**, official video exchange service ([hudl.com](http://hudl.com)); **Hartwell Studio Works**, creating unique, dynamic and protectable spirit logos / marks ([hartwellstudioworks.com](http://hartwellstudioworks.com)); **NFHS Network**, School Broadcast Program produces, distributes and monetize your school's own video streaming Web powered by PlayOn Sports. ([nfhsnetwork.com/associations/ghsa](http://nfhsnetwork.com/associations/ghsa)); **For A Better World & Positive Athlete GA**, student character recognition partner ([abw.org](http://abw.org) & [georgia.positiveathlete.org](http://georgia.positiveathlete.org)); **TeamIP**, official merchandiser and online store ([teamip.com](http://teamip.com)); and **RefReps**, exclusive standardized officiating education partner ([refreps.com](http://refreps.com)).

## 2023 GHSA-Tommy Guillebeau Football Championships

### All Games Return Dec. 11-13 To Mercedes-Benz Stadium

The 12th annual GHSA-Tommy Guillebeau State Football Championships, presented by Alfa Insurance, will return to Mercedes-Benz Stadium in 2023 after four years at Georgia State University's Center Parc Stadium.

The finals will be held Monday through Wednesday, December 11-13, and again will be televised live by Georgia P u b l i c Broadcasting.

include all that day. Tickets are \$20 and available only on G o F a n . Please see the GHSA web site for parking info and stadium rules.



Besides the live television coverage, the games also will be streamed live on [GPB.org](http://GPB.org) and [NFHSNetwork.com](http://NFHSNetwork.com), as well as being radio broadcast on the GNN Network and 680 The Fan.

The action will begin at 2:00 p.m., on Monday, December 11, with the Division 1 girls Flag Football final, followed at 4:00 p.m., by the Class A, Division 1 championship and at 7:00 p.m., by the Class A, Division 2 title match.

Then on Tuesday, December 12, the action starts at 11 a.m., with the Division 2 girls Flag Football final, followed at 1:00 p.m., by the Class 2A final, with the 4A championship at 4:00 p.m., and the Class 6A championship at 7:00 p.m.



Wednesday's schedule starts at 11:00 a.m., again with the Division 3 girls Flag Football final, followed at 1:00 p.m., by the 3A title girls match, at 4:00 p.m., by the 5A title match, and at 7:00 p.m., by the Class 7A championship.

This year's on-air talent for GPB's coverage includes Matt Stewart, Wayne Gandy, Jon Nelson, Hannah Goodin, Nikki Noto Palmer, Larry Smith, Sam Crenshaw, Lericia Harris and Wiley Ballard.

All the championship games will be televised live throughout the state of Georgia and into parts of Florida, Alabama and Tennessee.

GPB has nine television stations across Georgia and is in more than 98 percent of the homes in the state. GPB is the third largest PBS station in the country based on population reach and has been the most watched public station in the country on the days of the football championship broadcasts.

Order digital copies of the championship games at <https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/store/nfhs-network>. The games will be available on demand at [gpb.org/sports](http://gpb.org/sports).



Defending Class 4A state champion Benedictine is back in the Semifinals again this season. And teams will not have to worry about rain this year since the finals are returning to Mercedes-Benz.

#### December 1 Semifinal Matchups

##### **Class 7A**

Camden County at Walton  
Milton at Grayson

##### **Class 6A**

Woodward at Douglas County  
Thomas County Central at Marist

##### **Class 5A**

Jefferson at Creekside  
Coffee at Cartersville

##### **Class 4A**

Benedictine at Stockbridge  
Perry at Starr's Mill

##### **Class 3A**

Calvary Day at Cedar Grove  
Savannah Christian at Carver-Columbus

##### **Class 2A**

Fitzgerald at Pierce County  
Cook at Rockmart

##### **Class A, Division 1**

Bryan County at Prince Avenue  
Swainsboro at Brooks County

##### **Class A, Division 2**

Telfair County at Manchester  
Schley County at Bowdon

# Girls State Cross Country Champions - 2023



**7A: Marietta**



**6A: Marist**



**5A: Decatur**



**4A: Pace Academy**



**3A: Wesleyan**



**2A: Athens Academy**



**A, Division 1: Bleckley County**



**A, Division 2: Atlanta Classical**

# Boys State Cross Country Champions - 2023



**7A: Harrison**



**6A: Marist**



**5A: Chattahoochee**



**4A: Westminster**



**3A: Oconee County**



**2A: Providence Christian**

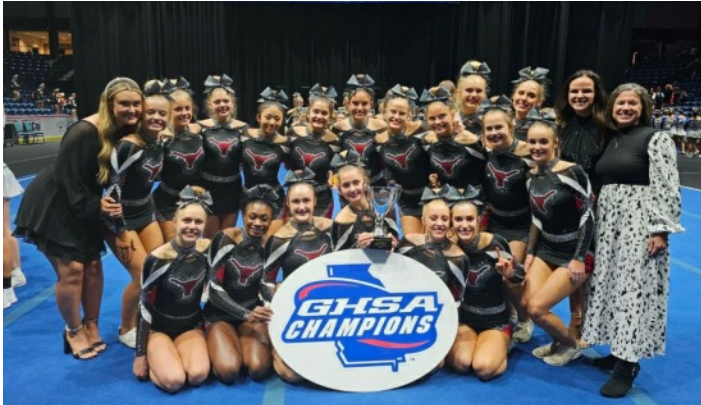


**A, Division 1: Whitefield Academy**



**A, Division 2: Atlanta Classical**

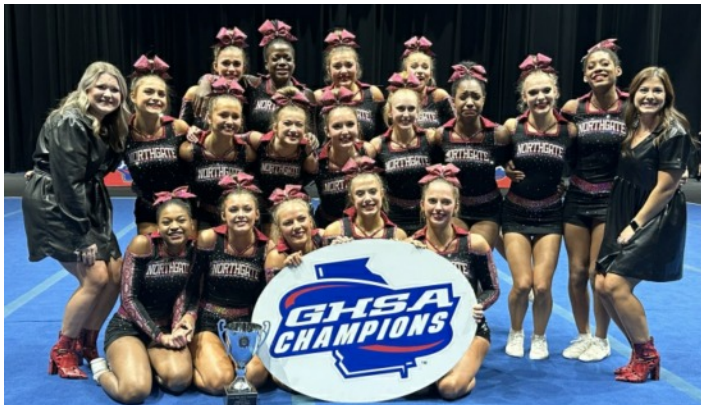
# State Cheerleading Champions - 2023



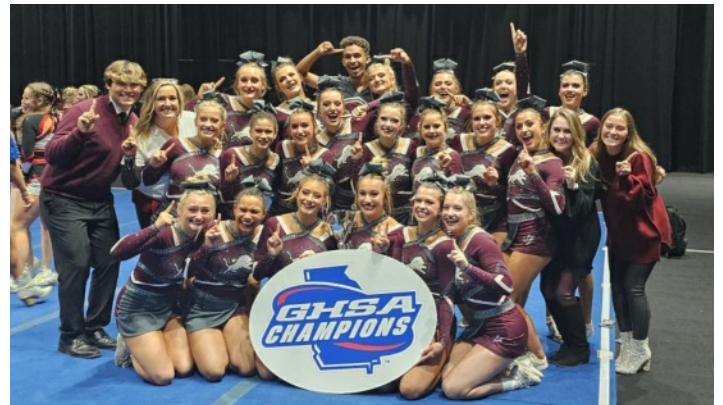
**7A: Lambert**



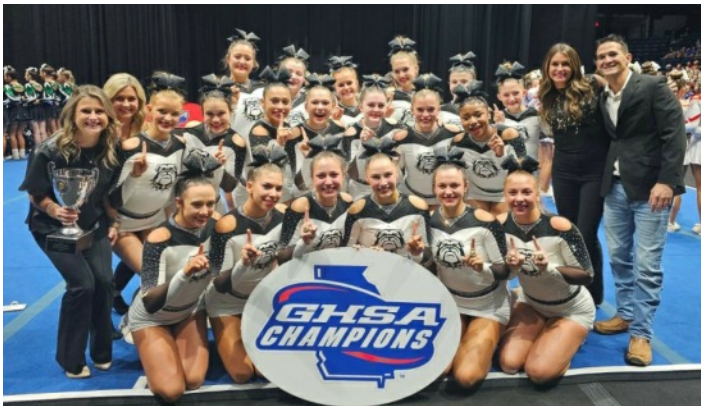
**6A: North Forsyth**



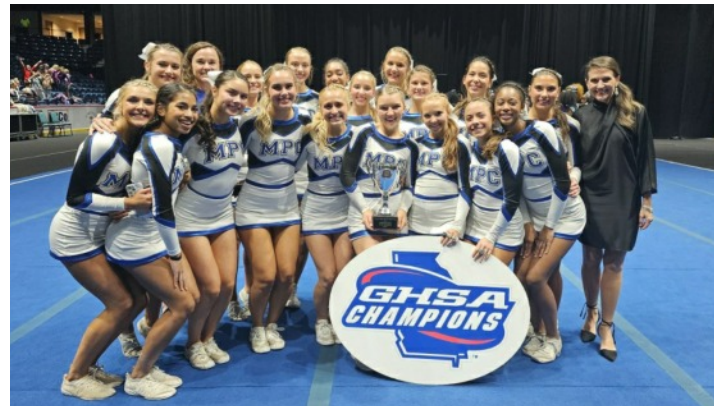
**5A: Northgate**



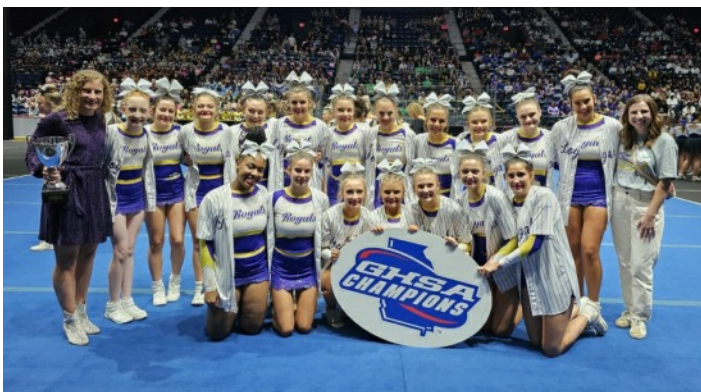
**4A: Central-Carroll**



**3A: Mary Persons**



**2A: Mt. Paran**



**A: Bleckley County**



**CoEd: Walton**

# State Volleyball Champions - 2023



**7A: North Cobb**



**6A: Alpharetta**



**5A: McIntosh**



**4A: Pace Academy**



**3A: Sandy Creek**



**2A: Mt. Paran**



**A: Mt. Pisgah**

# State One Act Play Champions - 2023



**7A: Milton**



**6A: Houston County**



**5A: Cambridge**



**4A: North Oconee**



**3A: Savannah Country Day**



**2A: Haralson County**



**A, Division 1: Bleckley County**



**A, Division 2: Georgia Military College**



# ADULT FANS: TIMEOUT!

Stop throwing fits at high school athletic events.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.

It's time to grow up, act your age  
and **#BenchBadBehavior** for good!

**BenchBadBehavior.com**



# MABRA LAW


*Congratulates the GHSA Playoff Teams*



*Who We Are*

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**GHSA - December 2023 / January 2024 Calendar**

**December**

- 1 Semifinal Round State Football Playoffs
- 2 Game Day Playoff Qualifiers Determined
- 5 First Two Rounds Flag Football Playoffs; Hardship/Appeal Meeting
- 7 Quarterfinal & Semifinal Rounds Flag Football Playoffs
- 8 Game Day Cheerleading State Championship
- 11-13 State Championship Football & Flag Football Games
- 13 GHSA Office closes at noon until Jan. 2 for **Christmas Holidays**
- 15 Esports Fall State Championship



**January**

- 5, 6 Dual Wrestling Region/Area Tournaments
- 8 Earliest date for Gymnastics, Tennis & Track practice
- 9 Hardship/Appeal Meeting
- 12, 13 Dual Wrestling Sectional Tournaments
- 15 Earliest date for Baseball, Lacrosse & Soccer practice; **M.L. King Day** (office Closed)
- 19, 20 Dual Wrestling State Tournaments for Boys
- 22 Earliest date for Gymnastics and Tennis contests
- 23 Hardship/Appeal Meeting
- 26, 27 Dual Wrestling State Tournaments for Girls

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



**HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS**



**GHSA Sponsors**

