



GHSAA

"ITEMS OF INTEREST"

October 2015

We Appreciate the Officials' Role in GHSAA Competitions

The GHSAA fall seasons in volleyball and softball draw closer to the post season while cross country has about another month of competitions and the football season is approaching the midpoint of its calendar. There are a lot of games to be played from now to the Christmas Holidays. Fans are excited about their players and coaches and express great appreciation for the teams' efforts.

Another group involved in our competitions largely goes about its tasks in a quiet, dedicated manner. That group is our sport officials. Scores of them take the field or the court in the interest of our student athletes and for the integrity of the games they call.

Annually there are stories of irate fans and others abusing or attacking officials during and after contests. This year a new ingredient has been added and this is negative actions by players in the game itself.



Unfortunately, Georgia experienced a soccer player striking an official last spring. Recently, we have seen the much publicized attack by the football players in Texas. These physical attacks have no place in education based athletics and should not be a part of sports at any level.

Years ago Mr. Michael Josephson, author of "Victory with Honor" spoke of the officials in a commentary. He said "Almost all of them have other full-time jobs and they serve as referees or umpires in pro, college, high school and youth games on evenings and weekends. They are a special breed. They are used to being underestimated and unappreciated. Despite all the abuse they get, they love making tough decisions under enormous pressure. Officials want to get better, to restore sportsmanship to their game. They talk of the need to stay cool under pressure.

"They talk of game management, crowd control and dealing with hostile coaches and parents. They even talk about their mistakes and how to make fewer of them. They have really, really hard jobs.

"Blaming the referee is an American tradition, but after seeing them earnestly working to get better, we ought to spend more time thanking them."

Here's hoping all of the stake holders in the GHSAA renew their recognition and appreciation of the jobs our officials do in our competitions.

– Gary Phillips, Executive Director

Join the GHSAA social media conversation @OfficialGHSAA on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION Newsletter
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Administration, By-Law Interpretations, Hardship Rulings,
 Football Playoffs, Coaches Education Program

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By-Law Interpretations, Transfer Eligibility, Cross Country, Golf, Track

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 Publication Orders

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

GHSA Licensed Products

This month's featured licensees are: **Georgia Photographic** (georgiaphotographics.com); **RiverOak Photography** (riveroakphotography.com); **Pinion Photography** (pinionphotography.com) & **Athletic Image** (theathleticimage.com), official action photographers; **EvoShield**, official protective gear (evoshield.com); **The Little Clinic**, official neighborhood medical clinic (thelittleclinic.com); and **Precision Pro Golf Company**, Precision Pro V400 golf laser rangefinder (precisionprogolf.com). View a complete list at www.ghsa.net/licensees.

REMINDER: GHSA Membership Dues Must Be Paid On Or Before October 15th!

Winter Sports Online Clinics Set!

All Basketball, Swimming and Wrestling coaches are reminded that they must complete the online **NFHS/GHSA Rules Clinic** again this season.

The Rules Clinics for **ALL THREE SPORTS** are available on the GHSA web site (www.ghsa.net) between the dates of Monday, Oct. 5 and Monday, Oct. 26 **ONLY!**

Coaches who do NOT complete an online clinic in their respective sport **before the deadline date** will be fined!

In addition, at least one (1) Wrestling coach from each member school must complete the online **Weight Management Seminar** between the dates of Monday, Oct. 5 and Monday, Oct. 26, also on the GHSA web site.

State Softball Playoff Information

Teams advancing to the GHSA State Softball Championships presented by Mizuno on October 29-31 need to follow the procedures listed below (additional **Team Instructions** may be found on the **GHSA web site**):

TEAM ROSTER AND PHOTO – Must be emailed to the Columbus Sports Council at msherman@columbusga.org by 12 p.m., on Monday, October 26. Failure to do so will result in a \$250 fine to the school.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS – Go to www.visitcolumbusga.org for team registration and hotel selection. The site will not be active until 8 p.m., on Saturday, October 24. For more information regarding team lodging, call 1-800-999-1613 or 706-322-1613 and refer to "GHSA Housing" when you call.

OPENING CEREMONIES – Every team playing in the Championship will be required to attend **in uniform** the Opening Ceremonies at 1 p.m., on October 29. The Opening Ceremonies will take place after the noon games on the Stadium Field.

ON-LINE INFORMATION PACKETS – The team information packets for First Round and Second Round contests as well as for the State Finals tournament are available **now** on the GHSA website. Go to www.ghsa.net and click on the appropriate banners.

PRESALE TOURNAMENT TICKETS – Go to www.columbusgasports.com to purchase presale tickets. Click on "Softball" then "GHSA" then "Tickets" to make the purchase. This function will be available beginning Monday, October 26.

Class A Softball Procedures

Below is the timetable and procedures for release of the final 2015 **Class A Softball Power Ratings**, appeals and seeding of the playoff brackets:

Oct. 12th - Region winners in all classifications must be determined and results entered into MaxPreps web site by the end of day on the 12th.

Oct. 12th - Region playoff qualifiers in classes 2-A through 6-A must be submitted to the GHSA office by 9:00 a.m.

Oct. 13th - MaxPreps' final Class A power ratings will be posted on the GHSA web site.

Oct. 14th -

(1) Any Class A school that believes its final power rating points are incorrect may file an appeal in writing to GHSA softball coordinator Ernie Yarbrough between 8:00 a.m. - 12 noon. A fax is acceptable (706-647-2638) or you may e-mail directly to ery@ghsa.net. The appeal letter must be accompanied by a complete list of results and points earned for each game or it will not be considered!

(2) The GHSA Appeals Committee will meet at 1:00 p.m., to verify the results (including any appeals), break any ties and determine the Class A playoff brackets.

(3) The results of the appeals and the playoff brackets will be posted by 4:00 p.m., on the GHSA web site.

NOTES:

(1) Teams winning a Region championship will be placed in the brackets (public school or private school) first based on their power rating numbers.

(2) Then the rest of the brackets will be completed based on the power rating numbers.

(3) Once posted, the brackets are **FINAL**.

Oct. 21st - First round games of Class A Softball playoffs will begin. There will be four (4) rounds of playoffs in Class A, five (5) rounds in the other classifications, with all Championship games in Columbus on October 31.



Download the MaxPreps Coach App

Attention coaches: now you can submit your scores to MaxPreps in seconds!

The MP Coach app allows coaches to manage rosters (including roster photos), team schedules, update game results, and send messages (including map directions) to their athletes.

The app can be downloaded for FREE from the [Android app store](#) or [iTunes app store](#) today!

9th Annual Vincent Dooley Awards Now Accepting Nominations!

Athletes for a Better World announces the 9th Annual Vincent J. Dooley Awards and Scholarships for the 2015-2016 school year.

Nomination deadline is February 28, 2016.

The athletic director of each school may designate the male and female recipient of the Awards for their school, and their recipients may compete for a four-year, \$1,000 a year, scholarship.

For more information and the nomination form, go to: <http://www.abw.org/awards/dooley-award-nomination/>.



Stay Connected to the GHSA!

For all coaches, athletic directors, schools and teams, join the conversation on social media @OfficialGHSA on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram for all the latest association news and information.



Volleyball Finals Live on NFHS Network

The NFHS Network will stream live coverage of the GHSA Volleyball State Championships, presented by Mizuno, on Saturday, October 31 from Marietta High School and Holy Innocents'.

If you can't be there in person, family and friends can watch all the action at NFHSnetwork.com.

Subscription day pass rates will apply.

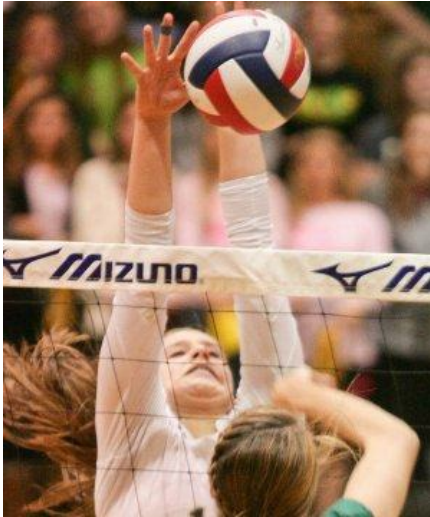
Webcast partners include: Mizuno, Georgia Farm Bureau, Sports Imports Net Systems and Molten.



**VOLLEYBALL FINALS
October 31, 2015**

At Holy Innocents'
Class A - 11:00 am
Class AA - 1:30 pm
Class AAA - 4:00 pm

At Marietta HS
Class AAAAA - 11:00 am
Class AAAAAA - 1:30 pm
Class AAAAAA - 4:00 pm



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."

2015 Cross Country Dates and Deadlines

- Oct. 13** Deadline for electronic submission of Region/Area rosters on GHSA MIS site (<https://app.ghsa.net/node>)
- Oct. 31** Deadline to complete Region/Area Meets
- Nov. 2** 9 am Deadline for electronic submission of Region/Area results on GHSA MIS site (<https://app.ghsa.net/node>)
- Nov. 2** 5 pm Deadline for Head Coaches of State Meet qualifying teams to confirm projected seven (7) runners at state meet (<https://app.ghsa.net/node>)
- Nov. 7** State Meet in Carrollton, GA

Schedule

7:45 a.m. Boys A Private	12:40 p.m. Girls AAAAA
8:25 a.m. Girls A Private	1:25 p.m. Boys AA
9:10 a.m. Boys AAAAA	2:05 p.m. Girls AA
9:50 a.m. Girls AAAAA	2:50 p.m. Boys AAAAAA
10:35 a.m. Boys AAA	3:30 p.m. Girls AAAAAA
11:15 a.m. Girls AAA	4:15 p.m. Boys A (public)
12 noon Boys AAAAA	4:55 p.m. Girls A (public)



The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) has designated the month of October as National High School Activities Month to help schools throughout the nation promote the values inherent in high school athletic and performing arts activities.

Started in 1980 as National High School Activities Week, the NFHS expanded the celebration to a month in 2011 to provide additional time for the 19,000-plus high schools to hold special activities at the local level.

"High school sports and activity programs provide one of the best bargains in our community and nation and will continue to do so as long as our nation supports them as an integral part of the education of our young people," said Bob Gardner, NFHS executive director. "Not only do these programs teach the more than 11 million young people who participate in them valuable life skills lessons, such as ethics, integrity and healthy lifestyles, they also provide the best entertainment value in our nation."

The NFHS has provided suggested activities for schools during each of the week-long events. All materials for National High School Activities Month, including The Case for High School Activities, are available on the NFHS Web site at www.nfhs.org/media/1015092/national-high-school-activities-month-2015.pdf.

Ways to Celebrate 'Activities Month' - October, 2015

<p>October 1-10</p> <p><i>National Sportsmanship & Fan Appreciation Week</i></p>	<p>October 12-17</p> <p><i>National Performing Arts Activities Week</i></p>	<p>October 19-24</p> <p><i>National Coaches/Sponsors/Advisors/Officials Week</i></p>	<p>October 26-31</p> <p><i>National Community Service/Youth Awareness Week</i></p>
<p>What You Can Do:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Make up positive cheers, chants or songs ■ Make posters for contest ■ Cheer good plays made by the opposing team ■ Offer tailgate party with hot chocolate and refreshments ■ Give Booster Club members coupon for free pop and popcorn ■ Introduce parents of players and cheerleaders during pregame ceremony ■ Give school shirt to most avid fans (student and adult) ■ Present chair cushion to a dedicated adult fan ■ Dress up in your school spirit outfit ■ During the course of the season, acknowledge season ticket-holders by name ■ Hand out incentives to faculty, staff and students "caught" being a good sport 	<p>What You Can Do:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Recognize performing arts participants at pep rally ■ Have reception for students interested in joining performing arts programs ■ Create magnetic posters for display on lockers of students involved in performing arts ■ Invite local actors or musicians for performance with students ■ Do feature story in school newspaper ■ Present drama skit during lunch ■ Have a performing arts participant read the morning or afternoon announcements ■ Have former band members return to play with current band ■ Have former band members who are parents return to play with current band ■ Present program to elementary school or judge "American Idol" program at local nursing home 	<p>What You Can Do:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ask non-coaching faculty to serve as "coach of the day" to give them different perspective ■ Honor different coaches and advisors each hour of the day ■ Recognize coaches and sponsors and their families on public-address system during events ■ Invite retired coaches to attend practice or event ■ Post signs thanking officials ■ Send letters or e-mails of thanks to a coach, sponsor or advisor ■ Host breakfast for officials who help in sports and fine arts ■ Have round-table discussion with students, officials and parents ■ Send certificates of recognition and appreciation letters to officials ■ Present the NFHS Sportsmanship-Ethics-Integrity Award to deserving officials 	<p>What You Can Do:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Offer a beneficial service to business partners, i.e., clean parking lot, cut grass, etc. ■ Offer free admission to event to representatives of program advertisers ■ Hold open house in gymnasium; invite alumni, businesses and media to attend ■ Do radio (school) and TV PSAs (community access) with activities participants ■ Offer school souvenirs at auction ■ Put announcement on school marquee ■ Videotape and put on YouTube or on the school's Web site ■ Hold student workshops on health issues; recognize school nurse, trainer and team doctor ■ Read a "health tip of the hour" ■ Create and display bulletin boards and posters dealing with healthy lifestyle issues

Get Special GHSA Rates at Choice Hotels

GHSA is proud to remind you of its partnership with Choice Hotels International, one of the largest and most successful lodging franchisors in the world. With more than 6,000 Comfort Inn®, Comfort Suites®, Quality Inn®, Sleep Inn®, Clarion®, Cambria Suites®, MainStay Suites®, Suburban Extended Stay Hotel®, Econo Lodge®, Rodeway Inn® and Ascend Collection® brands worldwide, there is sure to be a hotel on the road to your game.

As a Preferred Hotel Partner of the GHSA all schools, teams, officials, families and friends receive a 15% discount while staying at participating Choice hotels. To take advantage of the discount and make a reservation either:

■ Call the Choice Sports Desk at **877.240.AWAY (2929)** and provide the GHSA Discount Code: **00213510**, or

■ Visit www.choicesportstravel.com, click on "Enter Special Rate ID" and enter the code



CHOICE HOTELS
INTERNATIONAL

GHSA Official Balls

Coaches and school administrators are reminded that the GHSA State Executive Committee has approved "Official" balls for all GHSA state playoff events.

Listed below are the balls that will be provided for GHSA state playoff events. These balls are effective through June 30, 2016.

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Make/Model</u>
Baseball	WILSON A1010
Basketball	WILSON WAVE "SOLUTION" Boys: B0600 Girls: B0601
Football	WILSON F1003 or F1005
Soccer	BRINE "Championship"
Softball (optic yellow 12")	WILSON A9011 BSST
Volleyball	MOLTEN IV58L-3-HS "Super Touch"

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

October 24, 2015.....	Volleyball Quarterfinals
December 12, 2015.....	State Football Finals
February 6, 2016.....	Sectional Traditional Wrestling, State Swimming & Diving
April 9, 2016.....	None
June 11, 2016.....	None

ACTIVITY CONFLICTS

SAT ASSESSMENT DATES

October 3, 2015.....	None
November 7, 2015.....	State Cross Country, Region/Sectional Cheerleading, State One-Act Play in 3A, 5A & 6A
December 5, 2015.....	State Football Semifinals
January 23, 2016.....	None
March 5, 2016.....	Area Riflery, Region/Area Literary Meets
May 7, 2016.....	State Girls Track, State Quarterfinals in Lacrosse and Soccer, State Tennis Finals
June 4, 2016.....	None

ACTIVITY CONFLICTS

AP EXAM DATES

Week 1 - May 2-6.....	Baseball, Lacrosse, Soccer & Tennis Playoffs, Golf Sectionals, Girls State Track
Week 2 - May 9-13.....	Baseball, Lacrosse & Soccer Playoffs, Boys State Track

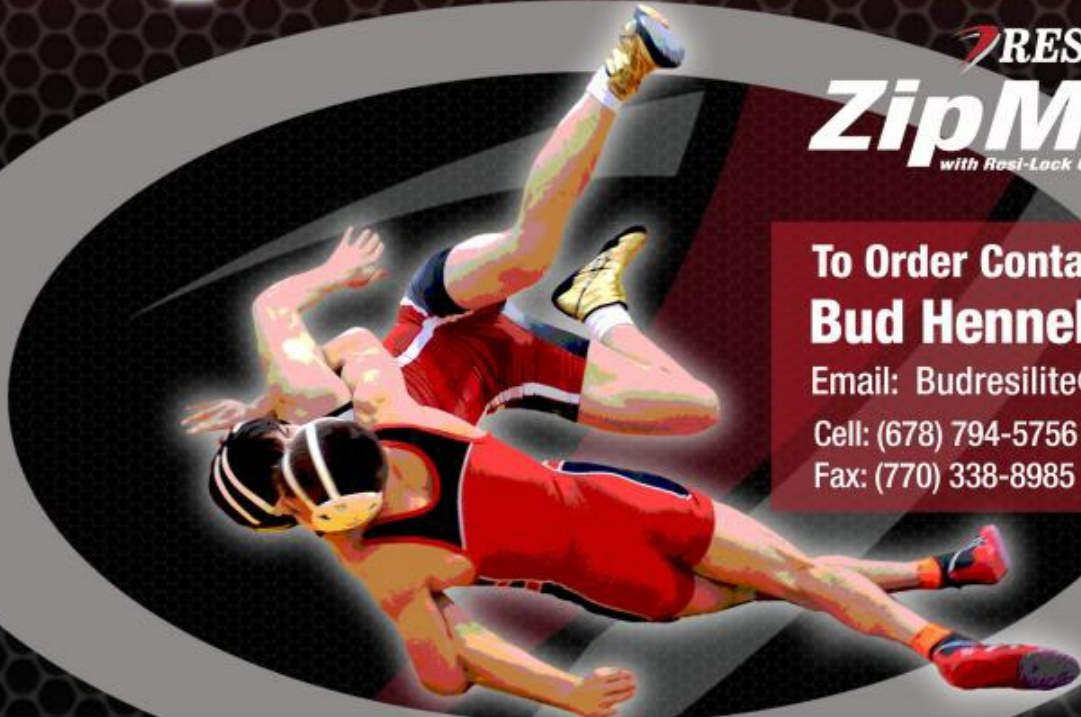
ACTIVITY CONFLICTS



Georgia High School Wrestling Championships MAT SALE EVENT!

Pre-Order Georgia State Wrestling Championship Mats
October 1, 2015 through January 1, 2016 for BIG Savings!

RESILITE
ZipMat
with Resi-Lock Connection System
PATENT PENDING



To Order Contact:
Bud Hennebaul
Email: Budresilite@aol.com
Cell: (678) 794-5756
Fax: (770) 338-8985

Featuring our exclusive LiteWeight and Zip Mats!

Resilite LiteWeight Mat:

STARTING AT ONLY

\$6,575*

\$7,130*

RLW758: 40' x 40' x 1-5/8"

* All Prices include Delivery/
Freight directly to your school
following the conclusion of
the Championships.

RLW758: 38' x 38' x 1-5/8"

* Your choice of 26 colors. All mats include tubes, straps, repair kits and our outstanding 3-Year Factory Warranty. Mat Price based on standard marking only, lettering, logos or other options priced accordingly.

Resilite Zip Mat:

STARTING AT ONLY

\$7,675*

\$8,370*

RLOC758: 40' x 40' x 1-5/8"

* All Prices include Delivery/
Freight directly to your school
following the conclusion of
the Championships.

RLOC758: 38' x 38' x 1-5/8"

* Mat prices DO NOT include logos, lettering or other options such as two-tone and three-tone color options. Mats will be used at each of the championship events and delivered to your school following the event(s) in 2015.



RESILITE... Official mat supplier of the GHSA Wrestling Championships

GHSA - October Calendar - 2015

October

- 1 Deadline for notification of entry in One Act Play & to set Riflery schedules
- 5 Earliest date for Riflery match
- 9 Deadline date to file Riflery schedules with GHSA office
- 10 Complete Region Softball (2A - 6A); Determine Area Volleyball winners
- 12 Report Area Volleyball & Region Softball winners (Complete Class A Softball)
- 13 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 13 Deadline to post Cross Country rosters
- 14, 15 First Round State Softball Classes 2A through 6A
- 14 First Round State Volleyball in 3A & 4A
- 15 First Round State Volleyball in A, 5A & 6A
- 15 Deadline to pay GHSA dues
- 19 Earliest practice date for Swimming
- 20 Second Round State Volleyball A and 3A through 6A, First Round 2A
- 21, 22 Second Round State Softball 2A through 6A, First Round Class A
- 24 Quarterfinal Round State Volleyball
- 26 Earliest date for Basketball & Wrestling practice
- 27 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 28 Semifinals State Volleyball
- 29-31 State Softball Tournament Finals (All Classes) in Columbus
- 31 Complete Region/Area One Act Plays and Cross Country; Volleyball State Finals

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