



GHSAA

"ITEMS OF INTEREST"

October 2021

'This and That' From the Desk of the Executive Director

It's hard to believe we are nearing the halfway point of the football season, and that the playoffs for Volleyball, Softball, Cross Country, One Act Play and Competition Cheer will soon be here. I appreciate all that you do to make these opportunities a reality for your students as well as keeping everyone as safe as possible. Girls flag football will be starting soon as well and the number of teams has doubled from last year and will provide competitive opportunities for many.

Eligibility Update

To this point, there are 371,960 non-transfer students eligible across the state of Georgia. This is slightly down from last year at this time, but I expect this to continue to climb as we enter the winter sports. There have been 2,877 transfer students thus far and this number will grow as well as we move through the school year. I expect there to be between 8,000 and 10,000 transfer students by year's end.

There have been 335 hardship applications processed to this point, which is on target from years past. We will reach nearly 1,000 by the end of the year. Please understand the rules of hardships as you decide whether or not to submit hardship applications. The reason should be outside of the control of the parents, student and school in order to be considered. The major reason for denial is that the transfer was a matter of choice. A class, series of classes or a program does not provide an inherent justification for a hardship.

There have been 14 students apply for Magnet (specialty school) transfers and there have been 64 Home School Transfer Applications in Georgia thus far.

Reclassification

The most wonderful time of the year is upon us – Reclassification for the next cycle! The reclassification committee has met several times and has heard many plans and proposals regarding the classification of our member schools. At the time of this writing, the committee seems to be moving toward a multiplier which will be applied to all schools. The Reclassification Committee will meet again on Sunday, October 3, and in all probability will propose the plan/rules to reclassify GHSAA schools that will be voted on by the full State Executive Committee the next day.

Finances

Our audit of finances has been completed and accepted with no exceptions. Robin Bullington, business manager, does an outstanding job with our budget and finances and I know the GHSAA is appreciative of her work. Despite the difficulties we've all experienced the past 18 months, the implementation of our budget and the financial decisions made have provided the GHSAA with the best year ever. This has allowed the second year of forgiving membership dues, and all of our schools received a member share that equals two years of dues and the school portion of the catastrophic insurance policy. More information of the details will be provided at the SEC meeting but looking forward I feel confident that we will forgive dues and provide another member share next year. That is certainly the hope and should happen unless the stock market declines dramatically between now and then.

Thank you again for all you do for the student-athletes of Georgia and please feel free to call anytime if we can provide assistance in any way.

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



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

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION Newsletter

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No. 2

- GHSA STAFF -
Areas of Responsibility

ROBIN HINES (extension 41)

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

ERNIE YARBROUGH (extension 27)

- Assistant Executive Director -
Basketball, Softball, Lacrosse, Golf & Girls Flag Football

DON CORR (extension 34)

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

CARROR WRIGHT (extension 39)

- Associate Director -
Coach's Liaison, Compliance & Transfer Eligibility, Sportsmanship

PENNY PITTS MITCHELL (extension 22)

- Associate Director -
Cheerleading, Gymnastics, Dance, Student Leadership, Title IX

KEVIN GIDDENS (extension 25)

- Associate Director -
Bass Fishing, Football & Soccer

TANYA ANDERSON (extension 29)

- Associate Director -
Literary, One Act Play, Esports, DragonFly Liaison,
Cross Country, Track and Event Sanctioning

STEVE FIGUEROA (extension 26)

- Director of Information/Media Services -
Media Coordination, Newsletter, Constitution & Calendar, Tennis

PAM THOMPSON (extension 30)

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

JULIE JONES (extension 24)

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

SHERI EUBANKS (extension 0)

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

ROBIN BULLINGTON (extension 33)

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

STACEY JONES (extension 32)

- Administrative Assistant -
Riflery Liaison, School Contacts & School Passes,
Directory, Coaches' Clinics, Trophies & Medals

GHSA Licensed Products

This month's featured licensees are: **Athletic Image** (theathleticimage.com), **RiverOak Photography**, **Unforgettable Moments** (unforgettablemoment.com), official action photographers; **InsideOut Initiative**, A pathway for school communities to successfully reclaim the educational purpose of sports (insideoutinitiative.org); **E3 Sports Apparel** (e3sport.com), Official sublimated jerseys in bass fishing & esports; and **The Premo Source** (thepremosource.com), Provides premium athletic flooring, fitness & strength equipment. View complete list of GHSA licensees at www.ghsa.net/licensing.

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

Create Photo Gallery by Snapphound

Schools! A new school year brings the opportunity for new special event moments for your students and their families. Parents want photo keepsakes of these moments, and students want photo moments to feed their social media accounts! But how can you easily get this content in their hands?

With **Snapphound** - an official licensee of the Georgia High School Association - you can easily make your photos available to your community in a central, controlled, branded place. Just upload your event photos (or have others upload them for you) and share gallery links with your community. That's it!

With **Snapphound**, your school will also be able to:

- Make photos available for free or for a fee
- Request optional in-gallery donations to support your efforts
- Run sponsor ads to give your partners more local exposure
- Get site insights, user info, and much more!

For only \$89/year, load unlimited galleries and keep 100% of any proceeds you earn. Sign up today for your school's account at ghsa.snapphound.com to get started with your next school event and create new marketing, fundraising and sponsorship opportunities!!

**GameChanger is Official Score Partner**

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

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

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



GAMECHANGER
BY DICK'S SPORTING GOODS

2021 State Fast Pitch Softball Playoff Information

Teams advancing to the GHSA State Softball Championships presented by Mizuno on October 28-30, 2021 need to follow the procedures listed below (additional **Team Instructions** may be found on the **GHSA web site**):

TEAM ROSTER AND PHOTO – Must be sent via e-mail to adam@scoreatl.com by 9:00 a.m., on Friday, October 22. Failure to do so will result in a \$250 fine to the school.

HOTELS – Go to www.visitcolumbusga.com/stay/ for team registration and hotel selection. The site will be active beginning on Monday, October 18. For more information regarding team lodging, call 1-800-999-1613 or 706-256-4347 and use the reference "GHSA Softball Housing" when making reservations. You may also e-mail **Carter Flynn** at cflynn@visitcolumbusga.com.

ON-LINE INFORMATION PACKETS – The team information packets for First Round and Second Round contests as well as for the Elite Eight tournament are available on the GHSA website. Go to the Softball page on the web site (www.ghsa.net) and click on the appropriate banners.

PRESALE FINAL FOUR TICKETS – Tickets (\$15) for the Final Four in Columbus are available ONLY through GoFan at <https://gofan.co/app/school/GHSA>.

The purchase of paper tickets at the gate will NOT be available for this event!

COVID-19 MODIFICATIONS FOR SPECTATORS

1. Spectator admission will ONLY be available through "GOFAN". Individual tickets will not be available for sale at the complex.
2. Spectators shall observe "social distancing" at the complex.

COVID-19 MODIFICATIONS FOR TEAMS

1. ONLY coaches and players will be allowed in the team dugouts.
2. Teams are required to bring their own beverages into the dugout. Coolers and cups will NOT be provided.
3. At the conclusion of the game, teams will gather near their respective dugout and wave/nod in a gesture of sportsmanship, then quickly clear the dugout so it can be sanitized before the next game.
4. Sunflower seeds are NOT allowed in the team dugouts.
5. Team huddles without physical distancing are not allowed.
6. ONLY the head coach shall attend the pregame meeting and shall stand outside the batter's box, and bring two (2) copies of the lineup card.
7. Championship day awards presentations (3rd, 2nd and 1st places) will be presented to the head coach only. Coaches will hand out medals and t-shirts.



Veterans Parkway
Use far left lane turn

Welcome to Columbus!!!

BUS ROUTE, UNLOADING AREA AND BUS PARKING



All TEAM BUSES enter South Commons via Lumpkin Blvd by following the yellow arrows as noted on the map!
 Proceed to the drop off point between fields 4 and 8.
 All TEAM Buses PLEASE park in the lower section of Lot E and Lot F.
 Teams please turn in your hotel information at the Team Entrance upon your arrival.

Volleyball State Finals Will Stream Live on NFHS Network

The NFHS Network will stream live coverage of the 2021 GHSA Volleyball State Championships, presented by Mizuno, on Saturday, November 6 from the Champions Center at Lakepoint Sports Complex in Cartersville.

Tickets are \$10 and must be purchased online on GoFan at <https://gofan.co/app/school/GHSA>. No tickets will be sold at the site.

If you can't be there in person, family and friends can watch all the action at <https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/associations/ghsa>. Subscribing to the Network is just \$10.99 for a 30-day period or \$69.99 for an annual pass. DVDs and Digital Copies can also be ordered on [NFHS Network.com](https://www.nfhsnetwork.com).

Webcast partners include: Georgia Farm Bureau Insurance, Mizuno and Molten.

VOLLEYBALL FINALS November 6, 2021

Court#8

11:00 am - 1A/2A Public
1:30 pm - Class 3A
4:00 pm - Class 5A
6:30 pm - Class 7A

Court#17

12 noon - 1A Private
2:30 pm - Class 4A
5:00 pm - Class 6A



2021 GHSA Cross Country Dates, Deadlines and Schedule

- Oct. 22** INITIAL deadline for electronic submission of Region rosters on GHSA MIS site (<https://app.ghsa.net/node>). Changes to rosters may be made until the deadline established by each Region or prior to the beginning of Region competition.
- Oct. 30** Deadline to complete Region Meets
- Nov. 1** 9:00 a.m., deadline for electronic submission of Region results on GHSA MIS site: (<https://app.ghsa.net/node>)
- Nov. 1** 5:00 p.m., deadline for Head Coaches of State Meet qualifying teams to confirm projected seven (7) runners at state meet (<https://app.ghsa.net/node>)
- Nov. 5-6** State Meet at Carrollton High School (www.ghsa.net/ghsa-state-cross-country-championships) Tickets are \$5 on GoFan.

Schedule at Carrollton High School

Friday, Nov. 5, 2021

9:00 am Boys 2A
9:45 am Girls 2A
10:30 am Boys 3A
11:15 am Girls 3A
12 noon Boys 4A
12:45 pm Girls 4A

Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021

8:00 am Boys 6A
8:45 am Girls 6A
9:30 am Boys 5A
10:15 am Girls 5A
11:00 am Boys 1A Private
11:45 am Girls 1A Private
12:30 pm Boys 7A
1:15 pm Girls 7A
2:00 pm Boys 1A Public
2:45 pm Girls 1A Public



SAAC Student Section Spirit Challenge

What? *The official GHSA School Spirit Challenge*

Who? Student body of member schools

Why?

- To promote **good sportsmanship** while showing **crazy** school spirit
- To encourage community and student body participation
- **Fun!**

When?

- Fall season winner
- Winter season winner
(Get points for showing up and supporting more than one sport!)

Where?

- At your home games
- At away games
- Can be at pep rallies, games, events, etc.

How?

- Member schools may submit a video that is 90-seconds to 2-minutes in length. The video must contain a 30-second segment on why that school has the best student section in the state; content must be appropriate. One entry per school. Submission must be sent to the GHSA by Nov. 10. Winners will be announced November 30 on social media and by email. Winter deadlines will be determined in January.
- The video will be posted on social media and schools/students will be able to vote.
- Winners receive a banner and it will be presented to principal, AD or student body president/leader of spirit section at the state championship game of the classification of the winning school.
- SAAC would vote on winner based on
 - School spirit
 - Sportsmanship
 - Originality and creativity
 - Organization of student body
 - Fun
 - Excitement
 - Including many students and groups
 - Most unique themes



GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
AGENDA
MARRIOTT / Macon City Center - MACON, GEORGIA
Magnolia Ballroom
October 4, 2021 - 9:00 a.m.

Call To Order	Glenn White, President
Pledge of Allegiance	Curt Miller, Vice President
Invocation	Carroll Wright, Associate Director
Roll Call	Steve Figueroa, Media Director

COMMITTEE PROPOSALS:**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

1. **Proposal** to amend GHSA by-laws such that if a student has been ruled eligible to participate by the GHSA, but it is later determined that such eligibility should not have been approved, any ineligibility to participate in future GHSA activities may be assessed as of the date that such ineligibility was determined. (GHSA Office)
2. **Proposal** to prohibit live animals from any indoor GHSA event, unless a signed permission letter is acquired from the principal of the school wishing to bring the animal and the principal of the host school (if different). A copy of this letter must be provided to the GHSA Office. Note: This does not include certified service animals. (GHSA Office)
3. **Proposal** to modify by-law 4.31-c as follows (old text struck through, new text in italic): In order to have a State Championship in an Open Meet Event, there must be a minimum of ~~sixteen (16) teams~~ *thirty-two (32) teams participating...* (GHSA Office)
4. **Proposal** to replace by-law 4.42 with the following (new text in italic):
Lifetime Passes are available to retired persons of the teaching profession, *retiring from the Georgia Teaching Retirement System, who served at least twenty (20) years in GHSA member school(s), grades 9-12 as a:*
 - (a) Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent AND/OR
 - (b) Principal or Assistant Principal AND/OR
 - (c) Athletic Director AND/OR
 - (d) Coach of a sport/activity listed in the GHSA by-laws.
 - (e) GHSA staff member with 20 years or more of service.
 - (1) *Application should include the individual's permanent address and verification of years of service and must be signed off by retiring system Superintendent.*
 - (2) *Applications are available under Forms on GHSA website.*
 - (3) Years of service to the GHSA as a Region Secretary and/or Executive Committee member shall count towards the requirements to qualify for a GHSA Lifetime Pass.

NOTE: Individuals must be completely retired from coaching and teaching before applying for a pass. (GHSA Office)
5. **Proposal** to increase game fees in both regular-season and playoff contests for the next reclassification cycle. (GHSA Office)
6. **Proposal** to give the Executive Director the authority to approve eight-semester cases that are true hardships. (Oconee Co. HS)
7. **Proposal** that in Sectional and State Track & Field competitions, all qualifying athletes in Pole Vaulting will be weighed in on event day in the presence of the meet supervisor, and poles inspected to ensure that the competitor's weight and pole meets all safety requirements. Failure of the athlete to weigh in at or below the manufacturer's pole rating will result in the pole being disallowed for that day's competition. (Forsyth County Schools)
8. **Proposal** to modify by-laws 4.14 and 4.35, and to reword Article IV, Section 9, item "A" as well as Article V, Section 1, Item "B" of the Constitution in order to give the authority to modify the GHSA sports calendar to the Board of Trustees and/or the State Executive Committee by majority vote. Note: two of these are Constitutional changes and would require two votes. (Region 7-AA)
9. **Proposal** to amend by-law 2.21(c) to read (new text in italic):
 - (2) The venue specific EAP *and AED* shall be accessible to all involved in a potential emergent situation *for practices, games or other athletic events.*
 - (3) All emergency equipment which is available onsite, including Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs), should be listed on the EAP, *stored in a safe place, be well-marked, and publicized.*
 - (4) The EAP should identify key personnel and their responsibilities to carry out the plan of action with a designated chain of command – *including documentation actions that need to be taken post emergency.* (GHSA Office) **Effective Immediately**
10. **Proposal** to amend by-law 2.61 by adding the following new text:
 - (d) All practices will have a maximum length of three (3) hours.
 - (e) A maximum of two (2) practice sessions may be held in the same day. When multiple sessions are held, the maximum practice time is extended to five (5) hours. Sessions must be separated by a three (3) hour rest break

(more)

AGENDA, continued

in a cool environment and this rest break cannot include weightlifting or conditioning. When a double session practice day occurs, the following practice day must be a single session day. (Football contact guidelines must be followed.)

- (f) Football participants complete the five (5) day acclimatization period that starts five (5) weekdays prior to the first official day of practice of each calendar year. (GHSA Office) **Effective Immediately**

11. **Proposal** to amend by-law 2.67 by adding a new (b) as follows and re-lettering the rest:
 (b) **Football Only:** Acclimatization and Re-Acclimatization (prior to October 1st)
 (1) Acclimatization
 a. Football practice may begin five (5) consecutive weekdays prior to the start date for football.
 1. In the first five (5) days of practice for any student, the practice may not last longer than two (2) hours, and the student may wear no other protective football equipment except helmet and mouthpiece. NOTE:
 (a) The time for a session shall be measured from the time the players report to the practice or workout area until they leave that area.
 (b) During acclimatization practices, teams may hold a walk-through as long as there is at least a three-hour break between the two activities.
 (2) Re-Acclimatization – Required for any athlete who misses five (5) consecutive days of practice for any reason.
 a. Day 1 (Only COVID related cases can begin on last day of quarantine): 1.5 hours conditioning - helmets only
 b. Day 2: 2 hours practice - helmets only
 c. Day 3: 2.5 hours practice with helmets and shoulder pads
 d. Day 4: 2.5 hours practice with full pads
 e. Day 5: 2.5 hours practice with full pads or play a game. (GHSA Office) **Effective Immediately**
12. **Proposal** to amend by-law 2.67 new "c" (was b) as follows (new text in italic):
 (c) A scientifically-approved instrument that measures the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature must be utilized at each practice (*prior to October 1st*) to ensure that the written policy is being followed properly. WBGT readings should be taken *at a minimum of every 30 minutes, beginning 30 minutes prior to the start of practice. All WBGT monitors shall be calibrated, at a minimum, every two (2) years or earlier if recommended by the manufacturer.* (GHSA Office) **Effective Immediately**
13. **Proposal** to amend by-law 2.68 by adding a new (3) as follows and renumbering the rest:
 (3) Any student-athlete who has been diagnosed with a concussion must fully return to school for a full day prior to returning to practice. (GHSA Office) **Effective Immediately**

FOOTBALL COMMITTEE

Proposal to allow girdles and thigh pads (no football pants) during the summer whenever there is competition between schools. (GHSA Office)

GYMNASTICS COMMITTEE

1. **Proposal** that an individual must score at least 9.0 in Vault and Floor Exercise in three (3) regular-season meets in order to qualify for those events in the Preliminary Meet. (GHSA Office) **Effective Immediately**
2. **Proposal** that for teams that do not qualify as a team, there will be a limit of four (4) individuals from that team allowed to qualify for a specific event. (GHSA Office) **Effective Immediately**
3. **Proposal** that if a gymnast qualifies at Preliminaries but can't advance because of injury or illness, the next individual would move up to that spot. (GHSA Office) **Effective Immediately**

RECLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE

Will meet to continue the process towards reclassifying member schools for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years. They will make proposals to be voted upon by the full Executive Committee.

SCHEDULE OF SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS - Fall 2021

(Meetings Will Be Held at the Marriott Macon City Center Hotel)

SUNDAY, October 3

12:00 pm Board of Trustees (Private Dining Room)
 2:00 pm Gymnastics Committee (Salon A)

SUNDAY, October 3 (continued)

2:30 pm Football Committee (Salon A)
 3:00 pm Reclassification Committee (Salon A)
 4:30 pm Hospitality (Salon A)

National Federation of State High School Associations



National High School Activities Month

Promoting values inherent in high school athletics and other activities such as speech, music, theatre and band.

October 2021

National Sportsmanship, Fan Appreciation and Public-Address Announcers Week

October 4-10

National Performing Arts Activities and Local State High School Associations Week

October 11-17

National Coaches, Advisors, Officials, and Sponsors Week

October 18-24

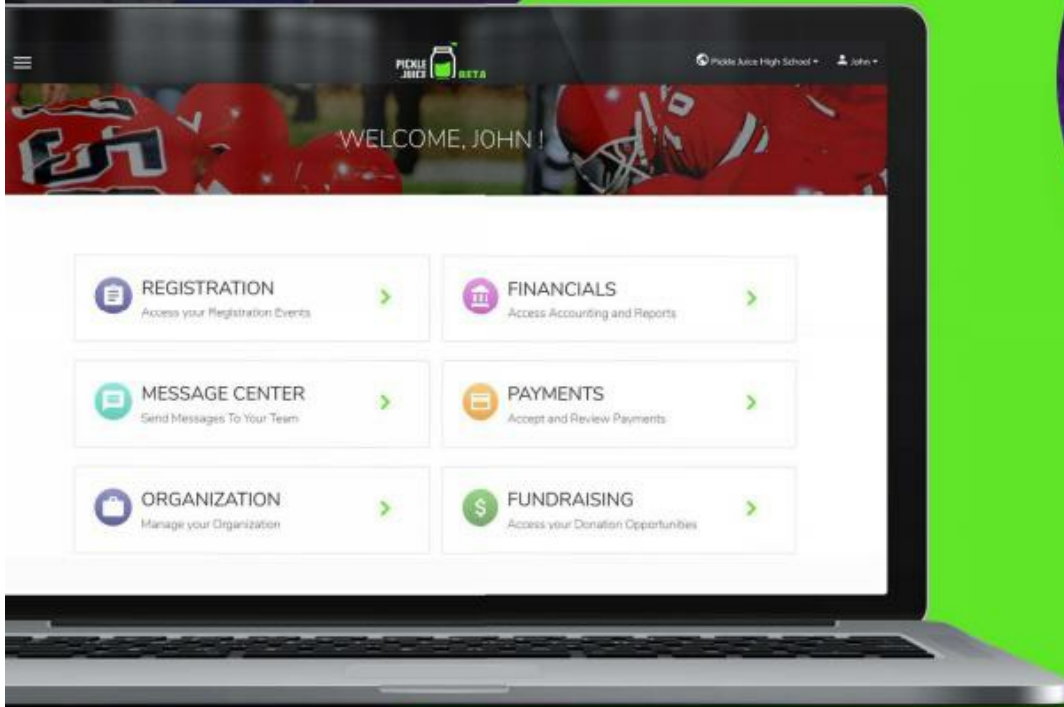
National Community Service/Youth Awareness Week

October 25-31

Promote activities at your school on social media using **#HSActivitiesMonth**

Facebook: @NFHS1920 | Twitter: @NFHS_Org | Instagram: @nfhs_org

PICKLE JUICE



Complete Team Management Solution

Helping you simplify your team's registration and payment process with a number of unique features.

To learn more visit www.picklejuiceapp.com

GHSA - October Calendar - 2021

October

- 1 Deadline for notification of entry in One Act Play
- 3, 4 State Executive Committee Meeting
- 5 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 7 Earliest date for Flag Football game
- 9 Complete Region Fastpitch Softball
- 11 First Practice date for Swimming & Diving
- 11 Report Region Fastpitch Softball winners by 9 a.m.
- 12-14 First Round State Fastpitch Softball
- 16 Determine Region/Area Volleyball winners
- 18 Report Region/Area Volleyball winners by 9 a.m.
- 19 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 19, 20 First Round State Volleyball Tournament
- 19-21 Second Round State Fastpitch Softball Tournament
- 22 Deadline for posting rosters in Cross Country
- 23 Second Round State Volleyball Tournament
- 25 Earliest date for Basketball, Dance and Wrestling practice
- 25 Earliest date for Riflery and Swimming contests
- 26, 27 Quarterfinal Round State Volleyball Tournament
- 28-30 State Fastpitch Softball Elite Eight Tournament
- 30 Semifinal Round State Volleyball Tournament
- 30 Complete Region Cross Country and One Act Play

GHSA Sponsors

