



GHSAA

"ITEMS OF INTEREST"

September 2019

Sportsmanship Needs to Improve at GHSA Contests

I hope you are settled into the new school year and everyone has experienced a smooth opening of school. It is an exciting time of year and sports and school activities play a large role in your school's culture. These extracurricular activities are powerful tools in how your school is viewed by your community, and the way administrators, coaches and students plan and perform these activities provides a great opportunity for your school to put its best foot forward.

It seems that we are continuously discussing sportsmanship and this year is no different. It goes without saying that sportsmanship should always be a big part of all of your programs and the data on unsporting events bear this out. Here are a few numbers: In the 2017-2018 school year, there were 1,094 ejections which is the most ever in the GHSA. Unfortunately, we saw that number grow to over 1,400 last year with a marked increase in coach ejections.

This is alarming as we all know that adults, coaches in particular, model behavior that is imitated by their players. Poor behavior of adults at contests is unacceptable and those who display such behavior should be held accountable. I want to encourage administrations, both at the school and district level, to set expectations for behavior of coaches and players to ensure that all represent their respective schools appropriately. A focus on good sportsmanship should be ongoing, taught and demonstrated daily.

It is our hope that adverse behavior is drastically reduced this school year as well as fines eliminated. That is one line in the budget that we would love to see reduced. We will publish a list of infractions and fines by school (individuals will not be named) prior to the Christmas break and a comprehensive list once our final championship is done in an attempt to inform schools where they are in this regard. It is my hope that Athletic Directors and school administrators, as well as Superintendents, will understand this issue better and make it a point of emphasis.

One other point on appropriate behavior that I would like to mention is how the behavior of coaches has caught the attention of Paul Shaw of the Ethics Division of the Georgia Professional Standards Commission. He shares our concern that professional educators should exhibit appropriate behavior around students. He cites cases where the language used by some coaches would lead to termination if it happened in a classroom. His stance, as well as the GHSA's, is that our coaches will be held to the same standard. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

As the beginning of our sports calendar has begun, so has filing eligibility and a lot of it! I am including a list of things that will help you with eligibility and speed up the process for your students.

- When a student transfers into your school, you must file a Form B even if you know the student is migrant.
- Please fill out the Form B completely. The student will not be marked eligible on an incomplete form.
- Students MAY NOT participate in practices or contests at **any** level until eligibility has been filed. One of the most common errors is allowing transfer students to participate in spring practice without filing a Form B
- If a student transfers in the spring and a Form B is NOT filed at that time, it must be filed in the fall. They cannot be filed on a Form A for one calendar year unless they have previously been approved on a Form B. The Bona Fide move is not validated until the student has been enrolled for one calendar year.
- File the Form B **prior** to submitting a hardship, even if you know the student is migrant.
- Please include ALL information required for a hardship. The required items are listed on the cover sheet. Form B's must not be handwritten.
- Scan Hardship applications into one PDF file and email to Dr. Hines. This is the quickest way to get it processed and a ruling back to the school.

Finally, there is no better way to teach our students appropriate life skills than through Athletics and the Arts. I believe that, other than parents, coaches are the most critical and influential teachers our young people will have. Thank you for all you do for our children and I wish you a successful school year.

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



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

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION Newsletter

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- 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, Track, Golf & Officials Training

DON CORR (extension 34)

- Associate Director -

Baseball, Volleyball, Wrestling, Sports Medicine

TOMMY WHITTLE (extension 23)

- Associate Director -

Literary, One-Act Play, Lacrosse

CARROR WRIGHT (extension 39)

- Associate Director -

Coach's Liaison, Compliance & Transfer Eligibility, Sportsmanship

PENNY PITTS MITCHELL (extension 22)

- Associate Director -

Cheerleading, Gymnastics, Dance, Esports, Student Leadership, Title IX

KEVIN GIDDENS (extension 25)

- Associate Director -

Football, Cross Country, & Soccer

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

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, 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 BASILICI (extension 32)

- Administrative Assistant -

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

GHSA Licensed Products

This month's featured licensees are: **Jostens**, official championship rings and jewelry (jostens.com); **Musco Sports Lighting**, leader in developing sports-lighting technology solutions (musco.com); **FieldTurf**, official artificial turf (fieldturf.com); **Hudl**, official video exchange service (hudl.com); **College Football Hall of Fame**, the perfect destination for family, football and fun! (cfbhall.com); **Hartwell Studio Works**, creating unique, dynamic and protectable spirit logos / marks (hartwellstudioworks.com), and **TeamIP**, official merchandiser and online store (teamip.com).

REMINDER: GHSA Membership Dues Must Be Paid On Or Before October 15th! The Membership Dues Invoice is on the GHSA web site under "forms."

Please complete the form and submit it with your membership dues payment.

GHSA Honors Retiring Pendergrass



Pictured (L-R) are GHSA Riflery Liaison Stacey Basilici, Major Larry Pendergrass, GHSA Executive Director Robin Hines and Associate Director Carror Wright

The Georgia High School Association recently honored Major Larry Pendergrass (ret.) for all his years of service to the GHSA Riflery program, as he stepped down from his position as State Riflery Coordinator following the 2018-19 school year.

Originally from Missouri with degrees from Southwest Missouri State and the University of Utah, Major Pendergrass has been involved with GHSA Riflery since the program began in 1991-92. An Army veteran (1962-82), Major Pendergrass saw tours of duty in the US, Germany, Vietnam, Japan and Korea before leaving the military and serving as Army JROTC instructor at three different Fulton County high schools from 1984-2002.

He coached Riflery at the high school level from 1992-2002, winning five GHSA team state championships and coaching six individual GHSA state winners as well.

Major Pendergrass began his service to GHSA as an Area Chair from 1993-1997. He ran the state meet as Championship Director from 1998-2012 and served as overall State Riflery Coordinator from 2003-2019.

He also was active on the national and international levels during this time. He served as Chief Range Officer, directing the competition, at nine different NCAA championships, and officiated at more than 50 national competitions and 40 national junior events.

At the international level, Major Pendergrass officiated at 16 competitions in four countries, including 15 World Cups. He was Fire Arms Supervisor for the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

Previously honored by the International Shooting Sports Federation, the NCAA, USA Shooting and the Georgia Athletic Coaches Association, Major Pendergrass can now spend more time with his three grandchildren but he will be sorely missed by the GHSA.

Parents & Adult Fans: The Biggest Challenge Facing HS Sports Today

By **Karissa Niehoff**, Executive Director of the NFHS
and **Robin Hines**, Executive Director of the GHSA

Inappropriate adult behavior at high school athletic events in Georgia has reached epidemic proportion.

When more than 2,000 high school athletic directors were asked in a recent national survey what they like least about their job, 62.3% said it was "dealing with aggressive parents and adult fans."

And the men and women who wear the black and white stripes agree. In fact, almost 80% of officials quit after the first two years on the job, and unruly parents are cited as the reason why.

As a result, there is a growing shortage of high school officials here in Georgia, and in some sports like wrestling, swimming, and track and field, the shortage is severe.

No officials means no more games.

If you are a parent attending a high school athletic event this fall, you can help by following these six guidelines:

1. **Act Your Age.** You are, after all, an adult. Act in a way that makes your family and school proud.

2. **Don't Live Your Life Vicariously Through Your Children.** High school sports are for them, not you. Your

family's reputation is not determined by how well your children perform on the field of play.

3. **Let Your Children Talk to the Coach Instead of You Doing It for Them.** High school athletes learn how to become more confident, independent and capable — but only when their parents don't jump in and solve their problems for them.

4. **Stay in Your Own Lane.** No coaching or officiating from the sidelines. Your role is to be a responsible, supportive parent — not a coach or official.

5. **Remember, Participating in a High School Sport Is Not About Getting a College Scholarship.** According to the NCAA, only about 2% of all high school athletes are awarded a sports scholarship, and the total value of the scholarship is only about \$18,000.

6. **Make Sure Your Children Know You Love Watching Them Play.** Do not critique your child's performance on the car ride home. Participating in high school sports is about character development, learning and having fun — not winning and losing.

Purchasing a ticket to a high school athletic event does not give you the right to be rude, disrespectful or verbally abusive. Cheer loud and be proud, but be responsible and respectful. The future of high school sports in Georgia is dependent on you.

2019-20 GHSA Student Athlete Advisory Council

The 2019-20 GHSA Student-Athlete Advisory Council had its first meeting on August 27 at the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame in Macon.

The Council is made up of 20 student-athletes from across GHSA's 463 member schools. These students submitted applications last spring and were chosen by a panel who scored their applications based on answers to five questions.

The focus continued with last year's topic of sportsmanship. In addition, the council discussed ways to aid in anti-bullying. They talked about tactics to take back to their schools in areas of social media in the school setting.

They also revisited the idea of forming an athletic leadership team within their schools where two members of each athletic team would represent each sport/competitive activity and help teams learn to support each other. Some of these schools already have this in place.

For more information on the Student Leadership Advisory Council, contact Penny Pitts Mitchell in the GHSA office at pennypitts@ghsa.net or Tanya Anderson at tanyaanderson@ghsa.net.



2019-20 Student Athlete Advisory Council (Left to right): Chloe Van Nort (North Atlanta), Chad Cobb (Union Grove), Maddy Cronin (Woodward), Ashlynn Anderson (Upson-Lee), Caleb Williams (Early Co.), Caroline Schiliz (King's Ridge), JC Upton (Calvary Day), Caroline Herrin (Pierce Co.), Jimbo Finch (Mary Persons), Pari Jain (Peachtree Ridge), Justin Harris (Peach Co.), Shaylen Sutton (NW Whitfield), Maylon Cochran (Thomasville), Kinnley Coffman (Greenbrier), Emma Castro (ACE), Cal Bowles (McIntosh), Madi Toole (Vidalia), Chase Chafin (Washington-Wilkes), Ella Newsome (West Laurens) and Lindsay Tillman (Thomasville).

GHSA Honors 2018-19 Cooperative Spirit Award Winning Schools

Georgia's Electric Membership Cooperatives (EMCs) proudly sponsor the Georgia High School Association (GHSA) Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Award and recently announced the 56 GHSA-member high schools that will receive this year's award.

The award honors schools that demonstrated impeccable sportsmanship during the 2018-2019 school year.

"Congratulations to all of the region winners of the GHSA Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Award for 2018-2019," says Dr. Robin Hines, GHSA executive director. "It is an honor for these member schools to be selected by their regions for this award. The characteristics of good sportsmanship are critical to the development of our young people as they transition into productive adults. The GHSA applauds our schools on this accomplishment and appreciates Georgia's EMCs for their support of this outstanding recognition program."

Since 2006, the GHSA and Georgia's EMCs have sponsored the Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Award which reinforces the GHSA philosophy: "Students, athletes, coaches, spectators and all others associated with high school activities programs should adhere to the fundamental values of respect, fairness, honesty and responsibility."

Schools winning this award are thus honored for displaying exemplary sportsmanship during competition throughout the school year.

Student athletes, fellow students, school staff, parents and event spectators are recognized for the sportsmanship they display. The award is not only a school honor, but a community honor as well. The GHSA region secretaries select winners based upon sportsmanship demonstrated throughout the school year.

Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Awards are presented annually to the GHSA-member high schools in the 56 regions from the seven classifications by EMC representatives during fall athletic events and school assemblies.

Winners of the 2018-19 Georgia EMC Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Award are listed below:

2018-19 Award Winning Schools

Class 7-A

Region 1: Lowndes
Region 2: Newnan
Region 3: North Cobb
Region 4: Woodstock
Region 5: North Forsyth
Region 6: Collins Hill
Region 7: Berkmar
Region 8: Shiloh

Class 3-A

Region 1: Monroe Area
Region 2: Liberty County
Region 3: Southeast Bulloch
Region 4: Westside, Macon
Region 5: Pace Academy
Region 6: Coahulla Creek
Region 7: Cherokee Bluff
Region 8: Hart County

Class 6-A

Region 1: Northside-W. Robins
Region 2: Richmond Hill
Region 3: Heritage-Conyers
Region 4: Drew
Region 5: Northgate
Region 6: River Ridge
Region 7: Cambridge
Region 8: Apalachee

Class 2-A

Region 1: Berrien
Region 2: St. Vincent's
Region 3: Northeast Macon
Region 4: Westside, Augusta
Region 5: Callaway
Region 6: Douglass, Atlanta
Region 7: Dade County
Region 8: Monticello

Class 5-A

Region 1: Thomas Co. Central
Region 2: Wayne County
Region 3: Jonesboro
Region 4: Union Grove
Region 5: Clarkston
Region 6: Decatur
Region 7: Woodland-Bartow
Region 8: Buford

Class A

Region 1: Seminole County
Region 2: Echols County
Region 3: Johnson County
Region 4: Crawford County
Region 5: Atlanta International
Region 6: Walker School
Region 7: Glascock County
Region 8: Providence Christian

Class 4-A

Region 1: Westover
Region 2: West Laurens
Region 3: Burke County
Region 4: North Clayton
Region 5: Troup
Region 6: Heritage-Catoosa
Region 7: Blessed Trinity
Region 8: North Oconee



First Class A Power Ratings in September

MaxPreps will continue to provide all content to the GHSA to verify Region Standings and manage Class A Power Ratings in Softball, Football, Basketball and Baseball.

The **first power rating** for **Fastpitch Softball** will be Monday, September 9, 2019 and the first for **Football** will be Monday, September 16, 2019. All GHSA member schools statewide must submit complete box score results to MaxPreps, regardless of classification.

Please login to MaxPreps to check accuracy of your team's roster and schedule prior to the season. If you have any questions, you are encouraged to contact MaxPreps at support.maxpreps.com.



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."

September is GHSA's Cancer Awareness Month

The Georgia High School Association is once again designating the month of September as its official fall sports "**Cancer Awareness Month**" to advance the awareness of and help fight all types of this dreaded disease.

Teams may wear colored jerseys, socks, wristbands, and/or headbands during a home game to show support for their chosen fundraiser.

For instance, in observance of Breast Cancer (Pink), Childhood Cancer (Gold) and Prostate Cancer (Blue) at hosted events during the September schedule. January (winter) and April (spring) are also designated GHSA "cancer awareness" months later in the scholastic year.

Thank you to everyone in advance for your enthusiasm and action to fight back against cancer. Here are some groups that can support your much appreciated efforts:

American Cancer Society: If your school or team wants to get involved by raising funds for a specific type of cancer, participate in your local breast cancer walk or Relay For Life, host a Coaches Versus Cancer game, join Schools Versus Cancer, or join the fight against ALL cancers in any way, please email Jessica.Hong@cancer.org.

If you have already raised funds and wish to donate to the American Cancer Society, please email Jessica and she can notify you where to mail your check or donate online.

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society: Leukemia affects more children than any other cancer, so, The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) Student Series program provides a meaningful way for kids to help kids to support the mission: Cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families.

Registering is fast and easy at <https://www.studentseries.org/school>



-registration Teachers, parents and school administrators may also call their local LLS chapter for more information. Contact your local chapter contact, Rachel Newcomer, at (404) 720-7804.

Rally Foundation Against Childhood Cancer: Rally Foundation United Against Childhood Cancer Teams Up with GHSA to #Goldstrong for Childhood Cancer Awareness Month this September. Each school day in America, 46 kids are diagnosed with cancer, the leading disease killer of children in America ages 1 to 19, yet less than 4% of federal cancer research funding is allocated to childhood cancers. Learn more at RallyFoundation.org or contact Adam@RallyFoundation.org.

Blue Week For Prostate Cancer: September 17-22 is the fifth annual "Blue Week" for Prostate Cancer in the sport of Football only to alert men about "Know Your Score" with regular prostate testing checkups. Special blue decals and blue wristbands can be worn this week, and the officials will have blue penalty flags to throw. Host schools can stencil blue ribbons on the playfield for this special contest.

Georgia Breast Cancer Coalition: The Georgia Breast Cancer Coalition Fund is a non-profit education and advocacy organization founded by breast cancer survivors. We exist to focus the attention of Georgians on the epidemic proportions of breast cancer. We work diligently to bring together individuals and organizations with a commitment to ending this devastating disease.

Since 1994, GABCC has been instrumental in breast cancer education and advocacy work. We remain dedicated to making a difference for the nearly 9,000 Georgians who are diagnosed with breast cancer each year. All of the donations, grants and funds that GABCC receives goes directly toward GEORGIA's breast cancer patients. Learn more at gabcc.org.

If a school does NOT have a home contest during one of the designated cancer awareness weeks, the school may request to wear or display the special cancer-awareness colors at a home contest during another week in September. Schools should contact the appropriate GHSA sports coordinator with this request.

HS Participation Declines for First Time in 30 Years

INDIANAPOLIS, IN — Participation in high school sports declined in 2018-19 for the first time in 30 years, according to the annual High School Athletics Participation Survey conducted by the NFHS.

The 2018-19 total of 7,937,491 participants is a decline of 43,395 from the 2017-18 school year when the number of participants in high school sports reached an all-time record high of 7,980,886. This year's total – the third-highest ever – consisted of 4,534,758 boys and 3,402,733 girls, according to the figures obtained from the 51-member state high school associations, which includes the District of Columbia. The last decline occurred during the 1988-89 school year.

"We know from recent surveys that the number of kids involved in youth sports has been declining, and a decline in the number of public school students has been predicted for a number of years, so we knew our 'streak' might end someday," said Dr. Karissa Niehoff, NFHS executive director. "The data from this year's survey serves as a reminder that we have to work even harder in the coming years to involve more students in these vital programs."

The biggest contributors to the decline were the two longstanding and popular sports of football and basketball. Participation in boys 11-player football declined by 30,829 participants to 1,006,013 – the lowest mark since 1,002,734 in the 1999-2000 school year.

Although the actual number of participants in boys 11-player football dropped for the fifth consecutive year, the number of schools offering the sport remained steady. The survey indicated that 14,247 schools offer 11-player football – an increase of 168 from last year.

Combined basketball participation was down 23,944



(13,340 girls and 10,604 boys), and the girls basketball total of 399,067 is the lowest since the 1992-93 school year. However, the decrease in girls basketball participation from 430,368 in 2016-17 to 399,067 in 2018-19 is largely attributable to a 25,000 drop in Texas during that two-year period.

The most significant increases from were registered in the adapted and Unified sports programs. The various adapted sports sponsored by schools across the country gained 4,102 participants, while Unified sports participation increased 2,938.

The complete survey is available via the following link:

<https://www.nfhs.org/sports-resource-content/high-school-participation-survey-archive/>

Fundraising Photos from Snapphound

Now you can digitally share your school's memorable event photos with your community, while raising money at the same time! The GHSA has partnered with Snapphound to display photos from state championship events at <https://ghsa.snapphound.com/events>. Snapphound can be your online home for school photos to create new social media, marketing and fundraising opportunities!

Features:

- Fully customize a branded, online, community destination for your photos
- No upfront fees; FREE unlimited gallery and photo uploads
- Showcase photos from anyone you designate - hired pros, local enthusiasts, students, event participants, etc. - and choose your photo price, even free!
- Use Snapphound tools to promote galleries via all your marketing channels
- Utilize in-gallery promotional space to spread the word to your community about upcoming events, special offers, etc.
- Keep 90% of any donations or photo sales proceeds you receive through Snapphound from your community!*

Sign up at ghsa.snapphound.com today to get started!

*Net of standard credit card fees



Student Creativity Talent Needed

Coming soon: Attention school clubs that are into graphics, film/video production and marketing. @OfficialGHSA wants to display your talent to the world. Themes and contests will be announced throughout the year.

If you would like to "takeover" @OfficialGHSA Instagram for an entire week to tell your school's "story," please contact market@ghsa.net.

Appreciation to Student Leadership Council on feedback and future consultation on everything Gen Z.

Get 10% Off Purchase at Subway

Coaches, umpires & officials use your GHSA ID card for 10% off your entire purchase at all statewide Subway restaurants. So whether it is a meal for yourself or feeding the whole team, make sure to enjoy a healthy, delicious sandwich from Subway®! Find a Subway near you at subway.com.



GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

RECLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE

August 26, 2019

A working meeting of the Reclassification Committee of the Georgia High School Association was called to order at 10:00 a.m., on August 26, 2019, at the GHSA office in Thomaston, Georgia, by Glenn White, President.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Lisa Moore Williams. The invocation was given by Associate Director Carror Wright. Present - 15; Absent - 1 (shown by "A" below)

Gary Long - A
Greg Tillery
Earl Etheridge
John Kelly

Dexter Wood
Curt Miller
Jim Finch

Britt Adams
James Jackson
Shawn Peek

Jasper Jewell
Myron Newton
Jesse Crews

Donnie Drew
Glenn White
Lisa Moore Williams

Note: This was a working meeting and no binding votes were taken on any proposals.

After President White called the meeting to order, and thanked Senator Ellis Black (R - Valdosta) for his attendance, he turned the meeting over to Chairman Miller. Miller went over several items that the committee had already decided in meetings of April 15 and April 30, asking if there was any discussion on those.

White expressed his concern for possibly making a school go up two (2) classifications by use of the out-of-zone multiplier. He said safety and competitive balance were issues with schools having to play opponents with almost twice as many students. Miller and Williams echoed those views.

White then made a motion to limit the number of classes a school could be bumped up via the multiplier to just one (1). Jewell seconded the motion and the committee voted 11-4 to approve the reduction to just one class.

White next expressed his belief that the multiplier of 2.0 was too high. Miller and Jewell said they understood White's points, but still favored the 2.0 number. Jewell pointed out that because of the decision saying a school could only be forced to play up one class, the number used for the multiplier itself was not as important.

White made a motion to reduce the multiplier from 2.0 to 1.75 and Crews seconded. The committee voted and the motion failed by a 12-3 count, thus leaving the multiplier at 2.0.

Miller then went over some items that had not been decided at previous meetings. The first was how to handle Charter Schools when it came to the use of the multiplier. After some discussion, Miller made a motion to treat Charter Schools exactly the same as Private Schools in that their zone for reclassification would be the same as the public school's zone in which the Charter School resides. Williams seconded the motion and the committee passed it unanimously.

The committee then discussed the issue of single-gender schools and decided that the multiplier would apply only to the actual number of students enrolled in the school and not to the doubled enrollment figure.

Next the committee discussed how the multiplier would apply to homeless students, foreign exchange students and special education students and it was decided that schools would be allowed to appeal to the committee if students in any of those categories resulted in the school having to go up in classification.

Miller then thanked the audience members for being so engaged in the reclassification process, and he thanks Sen. Black for his continued attendance at GHSA meetings. Black spoke briefly about how some of the reclassification decisions are viewed by the voters and the other legislators.

Jewell then made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Crews seconded and it was unanimously agreed to adjourn.

Meadowcreek Pioneers New HS Ticketing Method

Meadowcreek High School has announced that it is implementing a *Card & Mobile Payment Only* ticketing policy, one of the first high schools in the country to launch this innovative fan solution. Fans are able to purchase tickets online through Meadowcreek's [GoFan](#) page or by presenting a debit/credit card (or mobile payment option) at the ticket gate.

The new ticketing policy allows Meadowcreek to operate a more efficient and professional ticketing gate while creating an enhanced fan experience. "By leveraging GoFan's technology, our administration has greater visibility to ticket sales across campus. We're able to reduce our event personnel expenses and provide our fans a professional event experience," said Dr. Tommy Welch, Meadowcreek's Principal. Meadowcreek joins numerous professional venues offering a similar policy, including Mercedes Benz Stadium in Atlanta.

Meadowcreek implemented and tested the policy last winter at events across their campus, including the 7-A basketball region tournament. "Initially there was a little anxiety with our staff and visiting teams, but overall it was a smooth transition and one we embraced. As we analyzed our year-over-year revenue, we generated as much, if not more revenue for most of our events," added Meadowcreek's athletic director, Dr. LaShawn Smith.

The new method was made possible with GoFan, a high school ticketing and transaction solution. GoFan, based in Alpharetta, works with more than 10,000 high schools nationwide, 200 schools in Georgia and manages ticketing for GHSA post season events. GoFan CEO, Jeff Cravens, believes Meadowcreek's new ticketing operation will be a growing trend across the country, "Mead-



owcreek is on the forefront of a growing trend in high school ticketing and payment solutions. Schools are searching for ways to provide more payment options for fans and an improved reconciliation for cash."

Huddle Tickets, parent company of GoFan, has been serving high schools since 2001 by providing free general admission tickets and has saved schools over \$100 million. Huddle works with 10,000 schools annually on this program and partners with regional and national sponsors to deliver added value offers to fans.

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

September 14, 2019.....	None
October 26, 2019.....	Volleyball Quarters, Area/Region Cross Country, Area/Region One Act Play, State FP Softball Finals
December 14, 2019.....	State Football Finals
February 8, 2020.....	State Swimming Meet, Sectional Traditional Wrestling, Region Basketball Tournaments
April 4, 2020.....	None
June 13, 2020.....	None

ACTIVITY CONFLICTS

SAT ASSESSMENT DATES

October 5, 2019.....	Region FP Softball
November 2, 2019.....	State Volleyball, State Cross Country, State One-Act Play in A, 4A & 6A
December 7, 2019.....	State Football Semifinals
March 14, 2020.....	None
May 2, 2020.....	Sectional Track Meets
June 6, 2020.....	None

ACTIVITY CONFLICTS

AP EXAM DATES

Week 1 - May 4-8, 2020	Baseball, Lacrosse, Soccer & Tennis Playoffs, Area Golf, State Track Meets
Week 2 - May 11-15, 2020.....	Baseball, Lacrosse & Soccer Playoffs

ACTIVITY CONFLICTS



2020

WRESTLING MAT SALE

Pre-Order Now through November 1, 2019

38' X 38' MAT - STARTING AT: \$6,886

LITEWEIGHT Standard 7-pc Mats: **\$6,886** Delivered

ZIP MAT[®] Patented, Tape-Free Mats: **\$7,710** Delivered

DIGIPRINT Unlimited Graphics Mats: **\$7,640** Delivered

DIGIPRINT ZIP[®] Zip Mat with Unlimited Graphics: **\$8,840** Delivered



*All Zip Mats include Resilite's patented, tape-free Resi-Lock Connection System.

40' X 40' MAT - STARTING AT: \$7,410

LITEWEIGHT Standard 7-pc Mats: **\$7,410** Delivered

ZIP MAT[®] Patented, Tape-Free Mats: **\$8,536** Delivered

DIGIPRINT Unlimited Graphics Mats: **\$8,520** Delivered

DIGIPRINT ZIP[®] Zip Mat with Unlimited Graphics: **\$9,770** Delivered



*All Zip Mats include Resilite's patented, tape-free Resi-Lock Connection System.

NOTE: Artwork, logos, lettering or other custom markings will be priced accordingly.
Custom DigiPrint Mats include all artwork and markings.
Mat prices shown include delivery within the state of Georgia only.

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RESILITE
The Mat Company

GHSA - September / October Calendar - 2019

September

- 2 Labor Day, GHSA Office closed
- 10 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 24 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 30 State Executive Committee Meeting

October

- 1 Deadline to notify entry in One Act Play
- 5 Complete Region Fastpitch Softball
- 7 Report Region Fastpitch Softball winners by 9 a.m.
- 8 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 8-10 First Round State Fastpitch Softball
- 12 Determine Region/Area Volleyball winners
- 14 Report Region/Area Volleyball winners by 9 a.m.; Earliest date for swimming practice
- 15 Deadline for payment of GHSA membership dues
- 15-17 Second Round State Fastpitch Softball Tournament
- 18 Deadline for posting rosters in Cross Country
- 19 First Round State Volleyball Tournament
- 21 Earliest date for Wrestling and Basketball practice
- 22 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 22, 23 Second Round State Volleyball Tournament

GHSA Sponsors

