



GHSA

“Items of Interest”

February 2010

We Must Value and Protect School-Based Athletics

The months of February and March are packed with the final stages of the Winter Championships. We have already completed the Team Dual Wrestling Championships, and there were great performances by outstanding athletes and coaches at those events.

In the next few weeks, there will be championships in Swimming and Diving, Traditional Wrestling, and boys and girls Basketball. Literally thousands of student athletes will compete at these three events. Thousands of spectators will pack venues around the state to watch these great events. Even more will observe the action via radio, television, and streaming outlets. Be sure to check this newsletter and the GHSA web site for important information about these events. It is truly a time to celebrate high school athletics and their role in the educational process.

At recent meetings involving administrators from state high school associations across the country, there have been discussions that made many of us uneasy. We can no longer assume that high school athletics are going to continue just as they have been in the past. Important issues must be addressed to insure that high school athletics will be a stable force in the lives of the young people of America.

Economic pressures impact every aspect of school life – including sports and competitive activities. Concerns about the health and safety of students are getting national attention. There are Congressional hearings going on currently that are investigating concussions and other brain injuries sustained in athletics – from high school to the professional ranks. There are ongoing concerns about student-athletes using performance enhancing drugs and supplements – substances that have severe health risks involved with their usage.

I went on a rapid journey from the “celebration of high school athletics” to “threats of the future of high school athletics” for a particular purpose. We will be more likely to work through the threats if we are convinced of the value of high school athletics as a part of the total educational framework. Since many of the problems are new to us, then new strategies must be developed to keep high school sports headed in the right direction.

Let’s rededicate ourselves to the traditional purposes of school-based athletics while looking for new ways to implement those programs. And let’s enjoy the products of our programs as our students grow and develop in so many ways.



– **Ralph Swearngin**, Executive Director

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION Newsletter

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

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

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

Vol. 28**February 2010****No. 5**

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Administration, Interpretation of GHSA Rules,
Hardship Appeals, Lacrosse, Volleyball

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Finances, Entry Notification, Agendas,
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Dues, Community Coach Program

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- Receptionist -
Lifetime Passes, School System Passes,
Ejection Reports, Publication Orders

GHSA Licensed Products

This month's featured licensees are: **Electro Mech Scoreboard**, official scoreboard company (www.electro-mech.com); **Baseline Sports Media**, award winning team schedule cards (www.baselinesportsmedia.com); **Equip-It**, athletic equipment for all sports (www.equip-it.com); **Gameday Frames**, custom award framing (770-317-5571) and **Honig's Whistle Stop**, Officials/umpires uniforms, apparel and equipment (www.honigs.com). View a complete list of GHSA licensees at www.ghsa.net/licensing.

Home 'Pink' is OK for April 12-17

In observance of "Cancer Awareness" the GHSA will allow member schools to wear "pink" uniforms at their HOME soccer games during the week of April 12 - 17.

The home team MUST inform the visiting team that pink uniforms will be worn, and the visiting teams must wear their "dark" uniforms. Other requests must be approved by GHSA Soccer Administrator Ernie Yarbrough at ery@ghsa.net.

STATE CHAMPIONS**FOOTBALL**

Congratulations to the following State Champions in Football:

- | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|
| AAAAA | - Camden County High School |
| AAAA | - Sandy Creek High School |
| AAA | - Peach County High School |
| AA | - Buford High School |
| A | - Wilcox County High School |

TEAM DUAL WRESTLING

Congratulations to the following State Champions in Team Dual Wrestling:

- | | |
|-------|----------------------------|
| AAAAA | - Collins Hill High School |
| AAAA | - Loganville High School |
| AAA | - Gilmer High School |
| AA | - Jefferson High School |
| A | - Bremen High School |

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

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."

GHSA Reminders:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ITEMS: Anyone wishing to have an item included on the agenda for the March State Executive Committee meeting must submit the item to the GHSA office by February 19, 2010. The State Executive Committee meeting will be held March 22, 2010 at the Ramada Inn (former Holiday Inn) in Forsyth.

FOOTBALL SCHEDULES: Coaches and/or Athletic Directors are reminded that 2010 varsity Football Schedules are due in the GHSA office no later than March 1, 2010. If your school has hired a new coach for the 2010 season, please make sure he is made aware of this deadline.

OPEN MEET DEADLINE: Member schools are reminded that April 1, 2010 is the deadline to notify the GHSA of entry in Open Meet State Events such as Volleyball, Lacrosse, AA/A Soccer, Wrestling, Riflery and Gymnastics for the school year 2010-2011. The form for notification can be found on the GHSA web site.

SPRING CHEERLEADING TRYOUTS: Cheerleading practice/tryouts are limited to a maximum of 10 consecutive days per school between February 1 and the last day students are in school. Once tryouts are complete, no further practices may be held until school is out.

DEAD WEEK: Coaches and administrators are reminded that the mandatory "Dead Week" for this year is Sunday, July 4, 2010 through Saturday, July 10, 2010.

GHSA Seeks Host Sites

Each year, there are many schools that contribute to the success of the GHSA programs by hosting a region/area or state event as a service to all member schools. The GHSA office soon will be determining sites for events for the 2010-11 year. Sites are needed for the following events:

- Area Wrestling (Traditional and/or Team Duals)
- Sectional Wrestling (Traditional)
- State Golf

If your school would like to host one of the above events, please notify the GHSA office.

GHSA News & Notes

Welcome to new licensees: **Hibiclens** (Molnlycke Health Care) is the maker of an antiseptic antimicrobial skin cleanser possessing bactericidal properties; and **Championship Funding Solutions**, which provides fundraising programs with discount cards, donation letters and logoed custom-made products ... **Fall Attendance:** 376,370 fans attended GHSA fall playoff events. A total of 40,468 spectators went through the turnstiles at the Georgia Dome for the football finals ... **Streaming Video/Web:** 11,871 visitors watched the volleyball state champions through December 31 on GHSA.tv. A total of 50,100 visitors viewed events on GHSA.tv in 2009 since the new platform's launch in August ... The **GHSA web site** enjoyed it's biggest month ever in November with 341,720 visits from 189,754 unique visitors ... The **GPB Basketball Game of the Week** is streamed live each Tuesday on GHSA.tv during basketball season with a featured boys and girls doubleheader at 6 pm / 7:30 pm. Coverage will continue through the playoffs.

State Football TV Ratings Soar!

Georgia Public Broadcasting was the most-watched public station in the country in prime time and full day on Friday and Saturday (December 11-12, 2009) of the GHSA Football State Championships, according to TRAC Media Services.

GPB had a 42 percent increase in ratings from its coverage a year ago, with an estimated 428,600 Georgia households watching the live games.

Supporting the broadcasts were Georgia Electric Membership Corporation, Georgia Student Finance Commission, State Farm and Regions Bank.

Swimming, Wrestling on GHSA.tv

GHSA.tv will video stream upcoming February state championships in Swimming & Diving and Traditional Wrestling.

The GHSA Swimming & Diving State Championship (presented by Verizon Wireless) will Webcast a "condensed" meet with all final races and dives on Monday, February 15.

The GHSA Traditional Wrestling State Championship (presented by the U.S. Army) will cover the championship final action of all 14 weight classes with highlight matches from each classification on Saturday, February 20 at 5:00 pm.

GHSA On Demand with Comcast

The GHSA Digital Sports Network, a partnership between PlayON! Sports and the Georgia High School Association, announces a new initiative with Comcast for On Demand distribution of Georgia high school sports.

Coverage of a variety of regular season games, playoffs, and GHSA championships, beginning in January 2010, will be made available to fans in the Comcast service area.

Spotlighting over 80 games and championships around the state of Georgia, the features will be up-close and personal short-form productions of the games spotlighting the teams, schools, fans, and of course, highlights of all of the action. Sports to be featured include: Baseball, Basketball, Cheerleading, Football, Gymnastics, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Track, Volleyball and Wrestling.

GHSA programming is located in the "Get Local" section of your ON DEMAND menu on Comcast cable.

Attention Basketball Coaches

BASKETBALL ROSTERS NOW DUE: All basketball teams (boys and girls) must submit their varsity roster to the Georgia Sports website at gasports.com. The website will instruct you on how to enter your roster. Do NOT submit your roster to the GHSA Office.

Steve Copeland's phone number is 404-259-3838 if you have any problems or questions.

BASKETBALL STATE TOURNAMENT: All teams advancing to the State Tournament should go to the GHSA website for important information concerning the tournament. Look for the headline that reads "State Tournament Team Information Packet." This information will be available on Monday, February 22.

Winter Sports Championships - 2010



**Class AAAAA Dual Wrestling:
Collins Hill**

**Class AAAA Dual Wrestling:
Loganville**



**Class AAA Dual Wrestling:
Gilmer**

**Class AA Dual Wrestling:
Jefferson**



Photos of the championship teams represented in this newsletter were provided by **Photographic Arts**. Other photos from the various GHSA state events can be found at www.schoolpix.biz.

Winter Sports Championships - 2010

**Class A Dual Wrestling:
Bremen**



Fall Sports Championships - 2009



**Class AAAAA Football:
Camden County**



Class AA Football: Buford



Class A Football: Wilcox County

Fall Sports Championships - 2009



**Class AAAA Football:
Sandy Creek**



**Class AAA Football:
Peach County**

Community Coach Schedule of Classes

Important changes have been made to the Community Coach schedule of classes effective July of 2009. Please note these changes and refer to the updated schedules listed below and/or to the schedule of classes listed on the GHSA web site (www.ghsa.net).

- Classes scheduled for Brewton Parker College have been cancelled for the remainder of the year.
- Classes at Savannah Country Day have been moved to Calvary Day School for the remainder of the year.

Following is a listing of the remaining 2009-10 GHSA Coaches Education Program courses:

FEBRUARY COURSES (Deadline to sign up was January 13, 2010):

SPORT FIRST AID				PRINCIPLES FOR COACHING			
Date	Site	Time	Instructor	Date	Site	Time	Instructor
Feb. 3	Daniel Education Center, Cols.	6 pm-10 pm	Cravey	Feb. 9-10	Lovett School	6 pm-10 pm	McDaniel
Feb. 3	Tucker High School	6 pm-10 pm	Reed	Feb. 9-10	Calvary Day School	6 pm-10 pm	Carswell
Feb. 4	Athens Academy	6 pm-10 pm	Todd	Feb. 13	Athens Academy	9 am-5 pm	Kay
Feb. 4	Westside High School, Macon	6 pm-10 pm	Quinn	Feb. 13	Statesboro High School	9 am-5 pm	Blankenbaker
Feb. 4	Lovett School	6 pm-10 pm	McDaniel	Feb. 13	East Coweta High School	9 am-5 pm	Knott
Feb. 6	East Paulding High School	9 am-1 pm	Pike	Feb. 16-17	Tucker High School	6 pm-10 pm	Norwood
Feb. 6	Statesboro High School	9 am-1 pm	Blankenbaker	Feb. 16-17	Carver High School, Cols.	6 pm-10 pm	Flowers
Feb. 6	East Coweta High School	9 am-1 pm	Knott	Feb. 17-18	Westside High School, Macon	6 pm-10 pm	Raines
Feb. 6	Westside High School, Aug.	9 am-1 pm	McCullough	Feb. 17-18	East Paulding High School	6 pm-10 pm	Musgrove
Feb. 8	Chamblee High School	6 pm-10 pm	Finke	Feb. 17-18	Chamblee High School	6 pm-10 pm	Finke
Feb. 8	Calvary Day School	6 pm-10 pm	Carswell	Feb. 17-18	Westside High School, Aug.	6 pm-10 pm	McCullough

State Swimming and Diving Meets

The 2010 **State Diving Championship** will be held Wednesday and Thursday, February 10-11, at The **Marist School**.

The 2010 **State Swimming Championships** for Class AAAAA will be at the **The Westminster School** in Atlanta on February 11 & 13. Teams in the other classifications will swim at **Westminster** on February 12-13.

Admission is \$7 per day at any site.

Free admission will be allowed for the following: 1. Swimmers and divers qualified and entered in the State Meet; 2. Coaches that are listed on the Swimming and Diving Coaches list; 3. Four girls and four boys designated as substitutes by the coach on the team list; 4. Two team attendants or trainers as listed on the team roster; 5. Those normally allowed free admission, such as GHSA passes, will continue to be admitted by signing the pass list.

Schedule of Events:

Feb. 10	1 pm	Diving for AAAAA	@Marist
Feb. 11	1 pm	Diving for AAAA/AAA/AA/A	@Marist
Feb. 11	5 pm	Swim Prelims for AAAAA	@Westminster
Feb. 12	5 pm	Prelims for AAAA/AAA/AA/A	@Westminster
Feb. 13	1 pm	Finals for AAAAA	@Westminster
Feb. 13	6 pm	Finals for AAAA/AAA/AA/A	@Westminster

Order of Swim Events: (boys events precede girls events)

- 200-yard Medley Relay
- 200-yard Freestyle
- 200-yard Individual Medley
- 50-yard Freestyle
- 100-yard Butterfly
- 100-yard Freestyle
- 500-yard Freestyle
- 200-yard Freestyle Relay
- 100-yard Backstroke
- 100-yard Breaststroke
- 400-yard Freestyle Relay

Qualifying Standards - Swimming

BOYS	EVENTS	GIRLS
1:52.00	200-yard Medley Relay	2:08.00
1:56.00	200-yard Freestyle	2:08.00
2:12.00	200-yard Individual Medley	2:24.00
:23.50	50-yard Freestyle	:26.50
:58.00	100-yard Butterfly	1:05.00
:52.00	100-yard Freestyle	:58.50
5:20.00	500-yard Freestyle	5:40.00
1:41.50	200-yard Freestyle Relay	1:54.00
1:00.00	100-yard Backstroke	1:06.00
1:08.50	100-yard Breaststroke	1:16.00
3:46.00	400-yard Freestyle Relay	4:14.00

Qualifying Standards - Diving

A diver may become eligible for the State Meet using a 6-dive sheet or an 11-dive sheet.

1) 6-DIVE: The degree of difficulty of dives 2-6 when totaled shall be equal to or more than 10.4 for both boys and girls. The score to be achieved must be 200 points or more.

2) 11-DIVE: The minimum degree of difficulty for optional dives shall be 11.5 for girls and 12.0 for boys. The score to be achieved for both boys and girls is 270 points or more.

Sectional, State Wrestling Tournaments

Sectional Traditional Wrestling Tournaments will be held on Friday and Saturday, February 12-13, 2010.

The State Finals for all five classifications will be held on Thursday through Saturday, February 18-20, 2010 at the Arena at Gwinnett Center. Admission prices for the State Finals are \$7 on Thursday and \$10 on Friday and Saturday (all day), or a total tournament ticket will be sold for \$24.

Sectional Tournaments will be held at the following sites:

AAAAA:	West (Regions 1, 4, 5, 6)	Tift County
	East (Regions 2, 3, 7, 8)	Union Grove
AAAA:	West (Regions 1, 4, 5, 7)	Upson-Lee
	East (Regions 2, 3, 6, 8)	Loganville
AAA:	West (Regions 1, 2, 5, 6)	Riverwood
	East (Regions 3, 4, 7, 8)	Locust Grove
AA:	West (Regions 1, 5, 6, 7)	Sonoraville
	East (Regions 2, 3, 4, 8)	Jefferson
A:	West (Area 1)	Bremen
	East (Area 2)	Social Circle

The Schedule for the **Sectional Tournaments** is as follows:

Date/Time	Event
Friday, Feb. 12	
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Weigh-Ins
5:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Round of 16
8:00 - 9:30 p.m.	Quarterfinals
9:30 - 10:30 p.m.	1st Round WBs
Saturday, Feb. 13	
8:30 - 10:00 a.m.	2nd Round WBs
10:00 - 11:30 a.m.	Semis & Con. Quarters
11:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Con. Semis & Semis for 9th
1:00 - 1:30 p.m.	9th place matches
1:30 - 4:00 p.m.	All Finals

The Schedule for the **State Finals Tournament** at the Arena at Gwinnett Center is as follows:

Date/Time	Event	Class
Thursday, Feb. 18		
1 - 3:30 p.m.	Weigh-Ins	2A, 3A, 4A & 5A
5:30 - 10 p.m.	Round of 16	2A, 3A, 4A & 5A
Friday, Feb. 19		
8 - 9:00 a.m.	Weigh-Ins	1A
8:30 - 11:00 a.m.	1st Round WBs	2A, 3A, 4A & 5A
11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Quarters	All Classes
2:30 - 5:00 p.m.	2nd Round WBs	2A, 3A, 4A & 5A
5:00 - 6:45 p.m.	Con. Quarters	All Classes
7:00 - 9:30 p.m.	Semifinals	All Classes
Saturday, Feb. 20		
10 a.m. - noon	Con. Semifinals	All Classes
noon - 2:00 p.m.	Con. Finals	All Classes
5:00 p.m.	FINALS	All Classes

GHSA - February Calendar - 2010

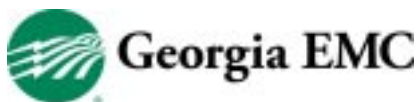
February

- 1 Earliest date for Baseball, Boys Track, Golf, Lacrosse and Soccer practice
- 1 Deadline for notification of entry in Literary
- 5, 6 State Debate Finals
- 5, 6 Traditional Wrestling Area Tournaments
- 8 Earliest contest date for Tennis and Gymnastics
- 9 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 10-13 State Swimming & Diving Meets
- 12, 13 Traditional Wrestling Sectional Tournaments
- 15 Earliest contest date for Golf and Girls Track
- 18-20 Traditional Wrestling State Tournaments
- 20 Complete Region Basketball
- 22 File reports of Region Basketball winners by noon
- 22 Earliest contest date for Baseball, Boys Track, Lacrosse and Soccer
- 23 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 26, 27 First Round State Basketball Tournaments

March

- 2, 3 Second Round State Basketball Tournaments
- 5, 6 Quarterfinal Round State Basketball Tournaments

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MARINES

