



GHSA

“Items of Interest”

October 2010

Catching Up on Issues that Concern All GHSA Schools

There are several issues that I want to emphasize this month on a variety of subjects as the GHSA moves quickly toward the first state championship events of this school year.

VOLLEYBALL: The playoff format has been changed slightly, and that information is available in the newsletter and on the GHSA web site – just click “Volleyball” on the left margin. This change was made to enable schools to get back some money from the playoffs. Last year, was the first year that schools were able to be compensated in the early rounds of the Volleyball playoffs.

RULES CLINICS: Rules clinics for winter sports will be conducted in the months of October and November. Clinics for Basketball and Swimming will be conducted online, while clinics for Wrestling will be face-to-face meetings. The dates for these clinics can be found on the GHSA web site. Please make certain that all coaches are reminded of this requirement.

BASEBALL: The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) ruled composite baseball bats to be illegal last summer. That change was appealed by some bat manufacturers, and the NFHS has allowed composite bats that meet existing standards to be declared legal. The web site for the NFHS (www.nfhs.org) will have an “Approved Composite Bat List” posted that needs to be consulted regularly. Any composite not on that list will be illegal for usage in a GHSA game.

The issue with composite bats is that, unlike other types of bats, they increase their potency with usage. They are manufactured within the specified standards of ball-exit speed, but they become more powerful with usage. Another issue is that people can doctor these bats in ways that don’t work with other bats to make them even more powerful. This is primarily a risk management issue as players are put at risk for injury. The bats that will be approved will have been tested to show that they perform within legal limits even with continued usage.

ACT and SAT TEST PREPPROGRAM: “eKnowledge” recently announced the continuation of its Sponsorship Alliance Program, donating world-class SAT and ACT College Test Preparation Programs throughout the 2010-2011 school year. Over the past five years, with the support of caring NFL and MLB players, Sponsorship Alliance Partners including non-profits, corporations and groups, “eKnowledge” has donated over \$32 million of free test preparation products. The software may be ordered on-line (www.eKnowledge.com/NFHS) or by phone at (951) 256-4076 (reference NFHS).

CONCUSSION AWARENESS AND MANAGEMENT: Please encourage all coaches to participate in the free, on-line course dealing with head injuries with athletes. This outstanding session produced by the NFHS and its Sports Medicine Advisory Committee can be accessed at www.nfhslearn.com. The responsibility for diagnosing possible concussion and making decisions about the athlete’s return to play rests with the school personnel. This is true at practices and at games. Therefore, it is essential that school personnel have a basic knowledge of this subject.



– **Ralph Swearngin**, Executive Director

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION Newsletter

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No. 2

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Hardship Appeals, Lacrosse, Volleyball

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Dues, Community Coach Program

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- Receptionist -
Lifetime Passes, School System Passes,
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GHSA Licensed Products

This month's featured licensees are: **Booster Bank**, fund raising products that are practical, versatile and collectible (sportsespn.net); **Hot Head Technologies**, monitoring solution designed as an aid in the prevention of heat-related illness. (hotheadtechnologies.com); **Hibiclens & Hibistat**, antiseptic antimicrobial skin cleanser (hibiclens.com) and **Don Jackson Photo**, official action photographer (jacksonphoto.net). View a complete list of GHSA licensees at www.ghsa.net/licensing.

Softball Finals Bulletin

Teams advancing to the State Softball Championships October 28-30 at the South Commons Complex in Columbus need to follow the procedures listed below:

TEAM ROSTER AND PHOTO – Must be emailed to the Columbus Sports Council at msherman@columbusga.org by 12 p.m., on Monday, October 25. 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 23. 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 the Opening Ceremonies in uniform at 2 p.m., on Thursday, October 28. The Opening Ceremonies will take place after the noon games on the Stadium Field.

ON-LINE INFORMATION PACKET – The team information packets will be available on the GHSA website beginning Wednesday, September 29. Go to www.ghsa.net and click on the SOFTBALL FINALS INFORMATION banner.

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 25.

GHSA Championships on the Air

On October 30, the GHSA Volleyball State Championships will be streaming live on the Internet at GHSA.tv, while the GHSA Softball State Championship will have three condensed games available on November 3 at Comcast On Demand TV. Both events are presented by Mizuno.

Volleyball action from Marietta High School is scheduled as follows: AA/A at 11 a.m., AAA at 1: 30 p.m., AAAA at 4 p.m., and AAAAA at 7 p.m. Free online Internet TV viewing is available both live and on demand on GHSA.tv.

The sponsors of the events are Mizuno, Verizon Wireless, NAPA Auto Parts, Wilson, official softball, and Spalding, official volleyball of the GHSA.

To watch the softball games on Comcast On Demand TV, select the ON DEMAND button on your Comcast remote or go to Channel, choose "Get Local," select "Top Picks" and then "GHSA On Demand."

The GHSA Sports Network is a partnership with PlayOn Sports.

GNN to Distribute Football Finals

The Georgia High School Association and Georgia News Network announce that the 2010 GHSA Football State Championships on December 10-11 will be distributed on GNN's statewide radio network of 115 affiliates.

The game feeds will be available at no charge to GNN affiliates with commercial time available for local sponsors.

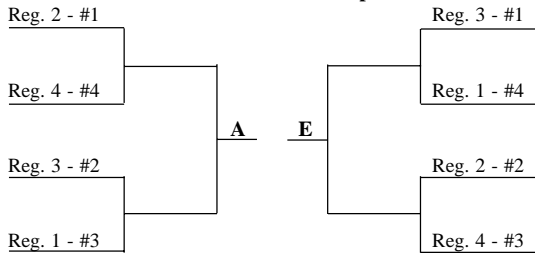
This new media partnership has no effect on the ability of hometown radio stations of participating schools to broadcast their team's games live from the Georgia Dome.

In the Atlanta area, the football championships games will continue to air on the 680 The Fan's family of stations, which includes 1230 The Fan 2 and 1340 The Fan 3.

New Format for State Softball Playoffs

The 2010 Softball Playoffs begin on October 8-9 with four Preliminary Round series in Class A (see pairings below). The First Round playoff series in all classes will be held on October 13-14, with the Second Round scheduled for October 20-21. All three of those rounds will be best-of-three series at the sites of the higher-seeded teams. Pairings for those rounds can be found below (further information can be found on the GHSAA web site). The winning teams in the Second Round will advance to the State Finals in Columbus on October 28-30. Brackets for the State Finals can be found at the bottom of this page. Also, see page 2 of this publication for important instructions for teams advancing to Columbus.

All Classifications - Top Bracket



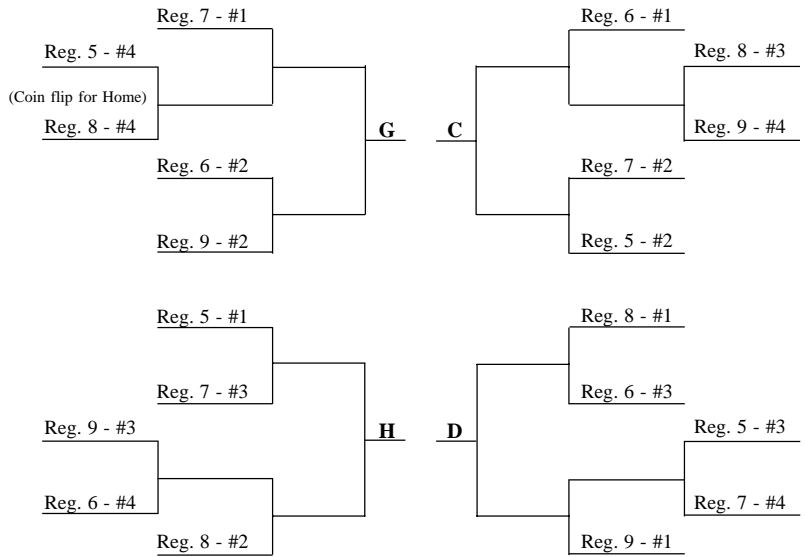
A

E

B

F

Class A ONLY - Bottom Bracket



(Coin flip for Home)

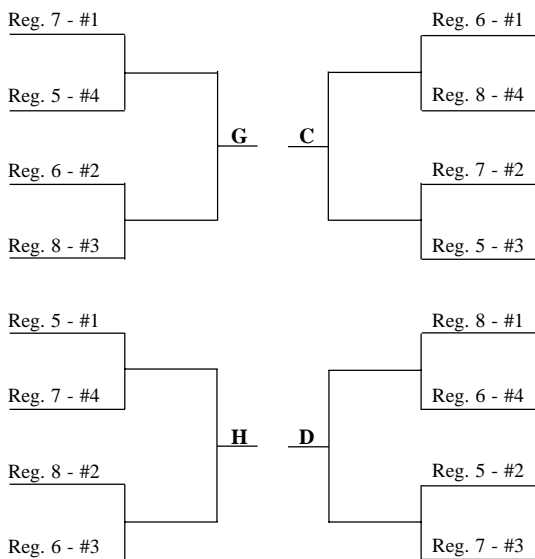
G

C

H

D

AAAAA, AAAA, AAA & AA - Bottom Bracket



G

C

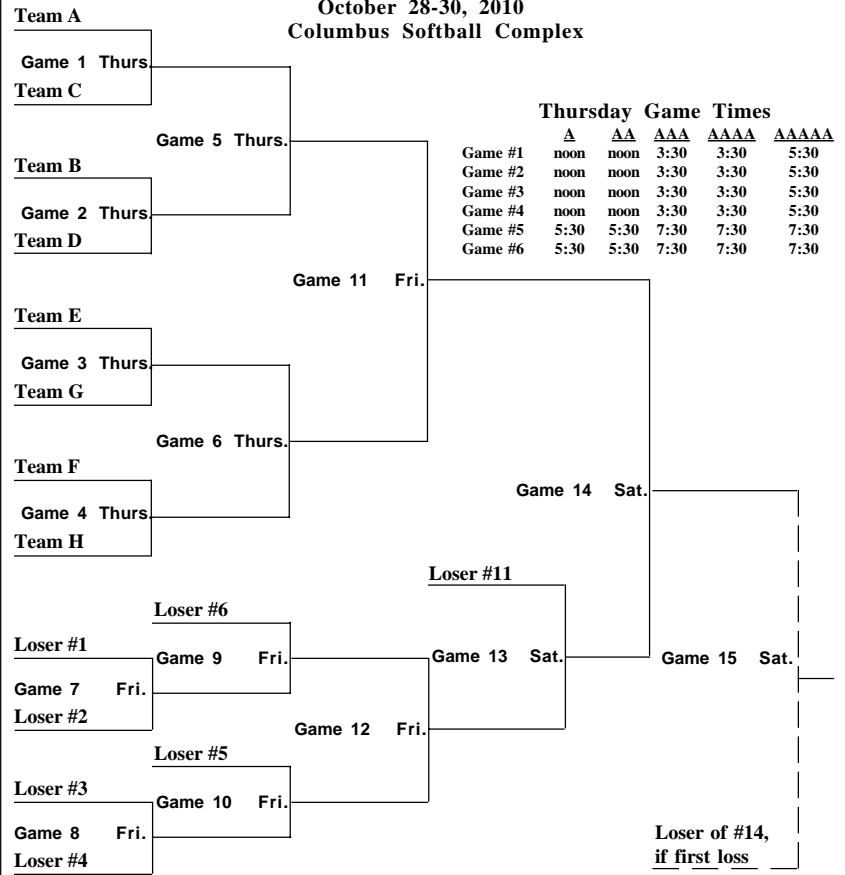
H

D

Preliminary, First and Second Round Information: Higher-seeded teams will host best-of-three format. (Note: A coin flip will decide the host team when same seeds meet in the Preliminary Round).

SOFTBALL STATE FINALS - 2010 - All Classifications

Thursday, Friday and Saturday,
October 28-30, 2010
Columbus Softball Complex



Thursday Game Times

	A	AA	AAA	AAAA	AAAAA
Game #1	noon	noon	3:30	3:30	5:30
Game #2	noon	noon	3:30	3:30	5:30
Game #3	noon	noon	3:30	3:30	5:30
Game #4	noon	noon	3:30	3:30	5:30
Game #5	5:30	5:30	7:30	7:30	7:30
Game #6	5:30	5:30	7:30	7:30	7:30

**Loser of #14,
if first loss**



National High School Activities Week

Since 1980, the National Federation of State High School Associations has set aside the third week in October to celebrate and encourage schools and communities to highlight the importance of high school activities such as athletics, speech and debate, music, drama, band and spirit squads. Through the week, different days are highlighted through official designation. The goal is to increase the public's awareness of the positives that result from participation.

Ways to Celebrate 'Activities Week' - October 10-16, 2010

Sunday, Oct. 10

National Be A Sport Day

- Make up positive cheers, chants or songs
- Print bookmarks with sportsmanship ideas; ask library to slip them into all books
- Give incentives to faculty, staff and students "caught" being a sport
- Use table tents in cafeteria, reading lounges or library for sportsmanship messages
- Welcome visiting teams with announcement over PA system
- Make posters for contest

Monday, Oct. 11

National Fine Arts Activities Day

- Recognize fine arts participants at pep rally
- Organize youth talent program for community
- Give program at elementary school or judge "Star Search" program
- Invite middle school band students to perform with high school band at football game
- Invite local actors or musicians for performance with students
- Do feature story in campus newspaper

Tuesday, Oct. 12

National Officials Day

- Host breakfast for officials who help in sports and fine arts
- Hold class competition of "You Make the Call;" feature questions on sports rules
- Have round-table discussion with students, officials and parents
- Donate sportsmanship-related book or video to library on behalf of officials
- Send certificates of recognition and appreciation letters to officials

Wednesday, Oct. 13

National Youth Health Awareness Day

- Offer pregame meal with nutritional analysis
- Hold workshops on health issues; recognize school nurse, trainer and team doctor
- Offer students opportunity to "shadow" health professionals
- Create and display bulletin boards and posters dealing with healthy life-style issues
- Have students prepare directory of community agencies
- Set aside part of practice to discuss healthy life-style issues

Thursday, Oct. 14

National Coaches / Sponsors / Advisors Day

- Host breakfast for all coaches and sponsors
- Ask non-coaching members of the faculty to be "coaches of the day"
- Honor different coaches and advisors each hour of the day
- Recognize coaches, sponsors and their families during school events
- Let "fan of the week" sit on the bench with the team
- Play "Name that Coach" clue game

Friday, Oct. 15

National Fan Appreciation Day

- Provide booster club members a coupon for free popcorn and soda
- Present free program to fans (based on school colors or other criteria)
- Give school shirts to most avid fans (students and adults)
- Offer tailgate party with refreshments
- Introduce parents of players and cheerleaders during pregame
- Ask media to feature fan with longest attendance record

Saturday, Oct. 16

National Community Service / Participation Day

- Offer free admission to event to representatives of program advertisers
- Hold open house; invite alumni, businesses and media to attend
- Do radio or television public service announcements with activities participants
- Offer "errand running" service for elderly
- Recognize business partners in programs
- Offer school souvenirs at auction to fund service project

High School Sports Participation Increases for 21st Straight Year; Both Girls and Boys Participation Reach All-Time Highs

INDIANAPOLIS, IN — Participation in high school sports increased for the 21st consecutive school year in 2009-10, eclipsing the 76 million mark for the first time.

Based on figures from the 50 state high school athletic/activity associations, plus the District of Columbia, that are members of the National Federation of State High School Associations, participation for the 2009-10 school year reached a record-breaking total of 7,628,377 participants, according to the 2009-10 High School Athletics Participation Survey conducted by the NFHS.

Boys and girls participation figures also reached respective all-time highs with 4,455,740 boys and 3,172,637 girls participating in 2009-10. Boys participation increased by 33,078 this year, while the girls figure increased by 58,546.

"It is a significant achievement for our member state associations that in these difficult economic times, student participation increased for the 21st consecutive year," said NFHS Executive Director Bob Gardner. "This reinforces the values that high school sports provide as part of the education of our students. The NFHS actively promotes participation in, and support for, the programs throughout the nation."

Based on the survey, 55.1 percent of students enrolled in high schools participate in athletics, which reinforces the idea that high school sports continue to have a significant role in student involvement in schools across the country.

Outdoor track and field gained the most combined participants in 2009-10, with an increase of 25,561 participants, followed by soccer with 19,597 combined participants and cross country (11,925). In girls sports, soccer gained the most participants (11,582), followed by outdoor track and field (11,445) and fast-pitch softball (9,290).

The top participatory sports for boys remained the same from 2008-09: 11-player football led the way with 1,109,278 participants, followed by outdoor track and field (572,123), basketball (540,207), baseball (472,644), soccer (391,839), wrestling (272,890), cross country (239,608), tennis (162,755), golf (157,756), and swimming and diving (131,376).

Outdoor track and field continued to be the leading sport for girls with 469,177 participants. Second was basketball (439,550), followed by volleyball (403,985), fast-pitch softball (378,211), soccer (356,116), cross country (201,968), tennis (182,395), swimming and diving (158,419), competitive spirit squads (123,644) and golf (70,872).

The top 10 states based on combined participation also remained the same from last year's survey. Texas led the way with a combined total of 780,721 participants. California was second with 771,465, followed by New York (379,677), Illinois (344,257), Ohio (334,797), Pennsylvania (317,426), Michigan (313,818), New Jersey (253,097), Florida (247,428) and Minnesota (230,043).

TEN MOST POPULAR BOYS PROGRAMS

Number of Schools		Total Participants	
1. Basketball	17,969	1. Football - 11-player	1,109,278
2. Track and Field - Outdoor	16,011	2. Track and Field - Outdoor	572,123
3. Baseball	15,786	3. Basketball	540,207
4. Football - 11-player	14,226	4. Baseball	472,644
5. Cross Country	13,942	5. Soccer	391,839
6. Golf	13,693	6. Wrestling	272,890
7. Soccer	11,375	7. Cross Country	239,608
8. Wrestling	10,363	8. Tennis	162,755
9. Tennis	9,916	9. Golf	157,756
10. Swimming and Diving	6,820	10. Swimming and Diving	131,376

TEN MOST POPULAR GIRLS PROGRAMS

Number of Schools		Total Participants	
1. Basketball	17,711	1. Track and Field - Outdoor	469,177
2. Track and Field - Outdoor	15,923	2. Basketball	439,550
3. Volleyball	15,382	3. Volleyball	403,985
4. Softball - Fast Pitch	15,298	4. Softball - Fast Pitch	378,211
5. Cross Country	13,809	5. Soccer	356,116
6. Soccer	10,901	6. Cross Country	201,968
7. Tennis	10,166	7. Tennis	182,395
8. Golf	9,651	8. Swimming and Diving	158,419
9. Swimming and Diving	7,171	9. Competitive Spirit Squads	123,644
10. Competitive Spirit Squads	4,879	10. Golf	70,872

New Format for State Volleyball Playoffs

Area Volleyball winners must be determined by October 9, and the first round of the playoffs begins on October 14 and 16, depending on classification. The first two rounds will be played at the home gyms of the higher-seeded teams. The first round for teams in Classes AAAA and AAAAA will be played on October 14, followed on October 16 by first-round matches for teams in Classes AAA and AA/A. The second round matches will be played on October 19 for teams in all classifications. Winners of those matches qualify for the Third Round matches, which will be seeded by the GHS A Volleyball Seeding Committee. Those third-round matches will be played on October 23 at the sites of the higher-seeded teams.



* In the First and Second Rounds, the higher-seeded team will host. The teams reaching the Third Round will be seeded by the GHS A Volleyball Seeding Committee and the matches will be hosted by the higher-seeded teams. Winners of the Third Round matches will advance to the Semifinal round matches at neutral sites.

SEMIFINAL MATCHES - October 27, 2010

AAAAAKennesaw Mountain High School
 AAAAJohns Creek High School
 AAAWoodward Academy
 AA/ABlessed Trinity School

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES - October 30, 2010

All Classes.....Marietta High School

Community Coach Schedule of Classes

Georgia High School Association By-Law 2.52 (Page 34 of the GHSA Constitution) lists the requirements under which a member school may employ persons who are not professionally certificated teachers as assistant coaches in their athletic programs. These persons are referred to as "Community Coaches" and **MUST** complete the GHSA Coaches Education Training and Testing Program in Sports First Aid and Principals for Coaches **BEFORE** they can coach at a GHSA member school. Further information and a complete schedule of classes may be found on the GHSA web site (www.ghsa.net).

Following is a listing of the remaining 2010-11 GHSA Coaches Education Program courses:

NOVEMBER COURSES (Deadline is October 13, 2010):

PREPARE/FIRST AID			
<u>Date</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
Nov. 4	Tucker High School	6 pm-10 pm	Reed
Nov. 4	Statesboro High School	6 pm-10 pm	Blankenbaker
Nov. 4	Athens Academy	6 pm-10 pm	Todd
Nov. 6	East Paulding High School	9 am-1 pm	Pike
Nov. 6	East Coweta High School	9 am-1 pm	Knott
Nov. 9	Dougherty High School	6 pm-10 pm	Rivers
Nov. 9	Lovett School	6 pm-10 pm	McDaniel
Nov. 10	Chamblee High School	6 pm-10 pm	Finke
Nov. 10	Westminster School	6 pm-10 pm	Hays
Nov. 10	Calvary Day School	6 pm-10 pm	Carswell

PRINCIPLES FOR COACHING			
<u>Date</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
Nov. 13	Athens Academy	9 am-5 pm	Kay
Nov. 13	East Coweta High School	9 am-5 pm	Knott
Nov. 15-16	East Paulding High School	6 pm-10 pm	Musgrove
Nov. 15-16	Chamblee High School	6 pm-10 pm	Finke
Nov. 15-16	Tucker High School	6 pm-10 pm	Norwood
Nov. 15-16	Lovett School	6 pm-10 pm	McDaniel
Nov. 17-18	Dougherty High School	6 pm-10 pm	Seabrooks
Nov. 17-18	Westminster School	6 pm-10 pm	Hudson
Nov. 17-18	Calvary Day School	6 pm-10 pm	Carswell
Nov. 20	Statesboro High School	9 am-5 pm	Blankenbaker

JANUARY COURSES (Deadline is December 8, 2010):

PREPARE/FIRST AID			
<u>Date</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
Jan. 5	Whitefield Academy	6 pm-10 pm	Ryan
Jan. 5	Calvary Day School	6 pm-10 pm	Carswell
Jan. 5	Tucker High School	6 pm-10 pm	Reed
Jan. 6	Whitewater High School	6 pm-10 pm	McCreary
Jan. 6	Athens Academy	6 pm-10 pm	Todd
Jan. 8	East Coweta High School	9 am-1 pm	Knott
Jan. 8	East Paulding High School	9 am-1 pm	Pike
Jan. 10	Chamblee High School	6 pm-10 pm	Finke
Jan. 10	Lovett School	6 pm-10 pm	McDaniel
Jan. 10	Westside High School, Macon	6 pm-10 pm	Quinn
Jan. 10	Richmond Academy	6 pm-10 pm	McCullough

PRINCIPLES FOR COACHING			
<u>Date</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
Jan. 10-11	Woodward Academy	6 pm-10 pm	Norwood
Jan. 10-11	Calvary Day School	6 pm-10 pm	Hilliard
Jan. 10-11	Dougherty High School	6 pm-10 pm	Carswell
Jan. 12-13	Athens Academy	6 pm-10 pm	McCreary
Jan. 12-13	Statesboro High School	6 pm-10 pm	Finke
Jan. 15	East Coweta High School	9 am-5 pm	Knott
Jan. 15	Westside High School, Macon	9 am-5 pm	Raines
Jan. 15	Tucker High School	9 am-5 pm	Kay
Jan. 15	Lovett School	9 am-5 pm	McCullough
Jan. 17-18	Whitewater High School	6 pm-10 pm	McDaniel
Jan. 17-18	Chamblee High School	6 pm-10 pm	Musgrove

FEBRUARY COURSES (Deadline is January 12, 2011):

PREPARE/FIRST AID			
<u>Date</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
Feb. 3	Lovett School	6 pm-10 pm	McDaniel
Feb. 3	Tucker High School	6 pm-10 pm	Reed
Feb. 3	Statesboro High School	6 pm-10 pm	Blankenbaker
Feb. 5	East Paulding High School	6 pm-10 pm	Pike
Feb. 5	East Coweta High School	6 pm-10 pm	Knott
Feb. 8	Calvary Day School	9 am-1 pm	Carswell
Feb. 8	Whitewater High School	9 am-1 pm	McCreary
Feb. 9	Chamblee High School	9 am-1 pm	Finke
Feb. 9	Westside High School, Macon	9 am-1 pm	Quinn
Feb. 9	Daniel Education Center, Cols.	6 pm-10 pm	Cravey

PRINCIPLES FOR COACHING			
<u>Date</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
Feb. 12	Whitewater High School	9 am-5 pm	McCreary
Feb. 12	Westside High School, Macon	9 am-5 pm	Shepherd
Feb. 12	East Coweta High School	9 am-5 pm	Knott
Feb. 14-15	Tucker High School	6 pm-10 pm	Norwood
Feb. 14-15	Calvary Day School	6 pm-10 pm	Carswell
Feb. 16-17	Chamblee High School	6 pm-10 pm	Finke
Feb. 16-17	Lovett School	6 pm-10 pm	McDaniel
Feb. 16-17	Carver High School, Columbus	6 pm-10 pm	Flowers
Feb. 19	Statesboro High School	9 am-5 pm	Blankenbaker
Feb. 19	East Paulding High School	9 am-5 pm	Musgrove
Feb. 19	White County High School	9 am-5 pm	Sanfilippo

SAVE THE DATE!

TO: All GHSA- affiliated High School Football Coaches

2010 Salute to Georgia High School Football Luncheon



Saturday, December 11, 2010
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Georgia World Congress Center - Thomas Murphy Ballroom
285 Andrew Young International Blvd.
Atlanta, Georgia 30313

Don't miss your chance to hear from Falcons alumni Warrick Dunn and Head Coach Mike Smith as well as win a number of great prizes (double the amount this year!). Also, the 2010 Divisional Coach of the Year winners and Lifetime Achievement Award winner will be announced at this event.

This event is hosted by the Atlanta Falcons, the Georgia World Congress Center and Levy Restaurants

GHSA - October Calendar - 2010

October

- 1 Deadline for notification of entry in One Act Play
- 2 Deadline to set Riflery schedules
- 4 Earliest date for Riflery match
- 5 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 8 Deadline date to file Riflery schedules with GHSA office
- 9 Complete Region Softball & Determine Area Volleyball winners
- 11 Report Region Softball and Area Volleyball winners by noon
- 13, 14 First Round State Softball
- 14 First Round State Volleyball in AAAAA & AAAA
- 16 First Round State Volleyball in AAA & AA/A
- 18 Earliest practice date for Swimming
- 19 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 19 Second Round State Volleyball for all classifications
- 20, 21 Second Round State Softball
- 23 Quarterfinals State Volleyball
- 25 Earliest date for Basketball practice
- 27 Semifinals State Volleyball
- 28-30 State Softball Tournament Finals
- 30 State Volleyball Finals
- 30 Complete Region Cross Country

GHSA Sponsors

