



GHSA

“Items of Interest”

October 2011

Highlighting a Few ‘Points’ About Sportsmanship

The Siegel Institute for Leadership, Ethics, and Character at Kennesaw State University recently hosted a forum on Sportsmanship and I was invited to participate. In this article I want to share several “bullet points” that were made in the discussions that I believe have value for all GHSA athletic programs. Apply these points as you see fit.

- Sportsmanship is basically good citizenship demonstrated in the athletic arena, and it applies to: player to player interactions, coach/player to official interactions; and fan behavior.
- Sportsmanship is a concrete measure of a person’s understanding of and commitment to: fair play, ethical behavior, integrity.
- Sportsmanship is the antithesis of “gamesmanship” in which competition takes on a Machiavellian philosophy – any means necessary to achieve the desired goal is acceptable.
- Competition does not give people license to demean others – competitors are not enemies.
- Leadership is critical for teaching AND modeling good sportsmanship. Adults should take the responsibility for that, but they are often the root of the problem.
- Leadership is a function and not necessarily a role or position – anyone can be a leader.
- A lot of learning about good sportsmanship today involves unlearning existing practices of poor sportsmanship. Highly visible coaches and athletes imprint inappropriate behavior on impressionable people.
- Contrary to some noted writers, sports really don’t shape American cultural values. Athletics are a microcosm of social values that exist in all areas of life.
 - People are less civil to one another in many areas of interaction and it carries over into athletics.
 - Respect for rules and enforcers of rules is diminishing. Many people want to be able to “opt out” of rules they do not want to follow.
- School-based athletics should exist for the enjoyment and educational benefit of the students, not for the ego of adults. Children and adolescents want to win; many adults need to win.
- Adulation of young athletes over time may suggest to those athletes that they are bigger than the game and/or the rules of life. This is evident in the increasing number of athletes having run-ins with the law.
- Unrealistic expectations forced on young athletes about scholarships and pro careers place extraordinary pressures on these athletes.



– **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. 30**October 2011****No. 2**

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GHSA Licensed Products

This month's featured GHSA licensees are: **Booster Bank**, fund raising products (sportsespn.net); **Hibiclens & Hibistat**, anti-septic antimicrobial skin cleanser (hibiclens.com) and **Georgia Photographic** (georgiaphotographics.com) and **Athletic Image** (theathleticimage.com), official action photographer. View a complete list of licensees at www.ghsa.net/licensing. *Become a Fan of the GHSA on Facebook* (Facebook.com/OfficialGHSA) and *Follow us on Twitter* (Twitter.com/OfficialGHSA).

Online Wrestling Clinics Set!

All Wrestling Coaches must complete the online **NFHS/GHSA Rules Clinic** this season. The Rules Clinic is available on the GHSA web site between the dates of Monday, Oct. 3 and Sunday Oct. 30 ONLY!

In addition, at least one (1) coach from each member school must complete the online **Weight Management Seminar** between the dates of Monday, Oct. 3 and Sunday, Oct. 30, also on the GHSA web site.

State Softball Playoff Information

Teams advancing to the State Softball Championships October 27-29 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 24. 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 22. 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 October 27. The Opening Ceremonies will take place after the noon games on the Stadium Field.

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

PRESALE TOURNAMENT TICKETS – Go to www.columbusgasports.com to purchase presale tickets. Click on "Softball" then "GHSA" then "Tickets" to make the purchase. This function will be available beginning Monday, October 24.

Basketball Cheerleading Dos and Don'ts

There are questions about what stunts are legal at GHSA basketball games, so here are some examples:

What may be done:

1. Extension prep dismount to cradle
2. Liberty dismount straight to cradle
3. Pendulum
4. Braced Tick-Tock
5. Leap frog
6. Helicopter
7. Split drop
8. Dismount from a single based stunt to a single based cradle with proper spotting
9. Series of back-handsprings
10. Series of cartwheels

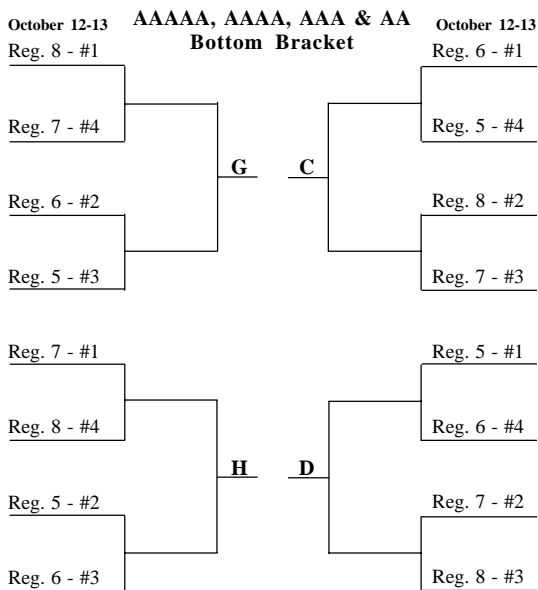
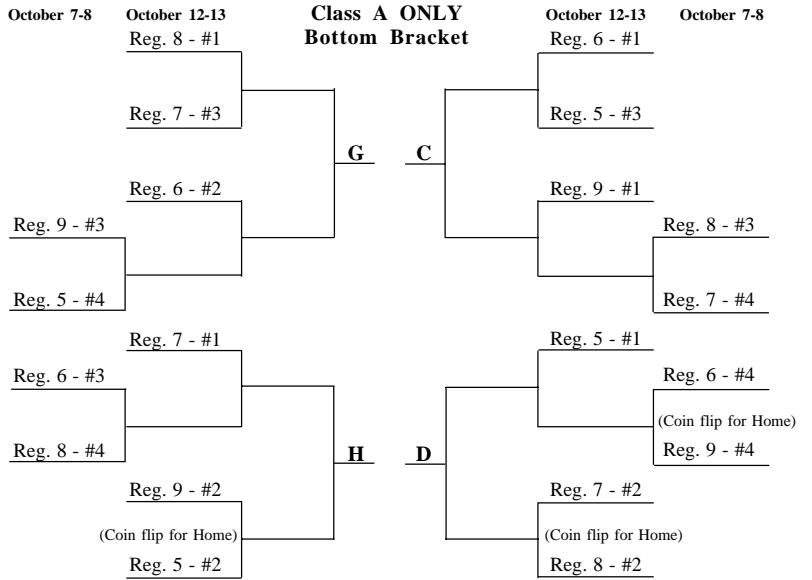
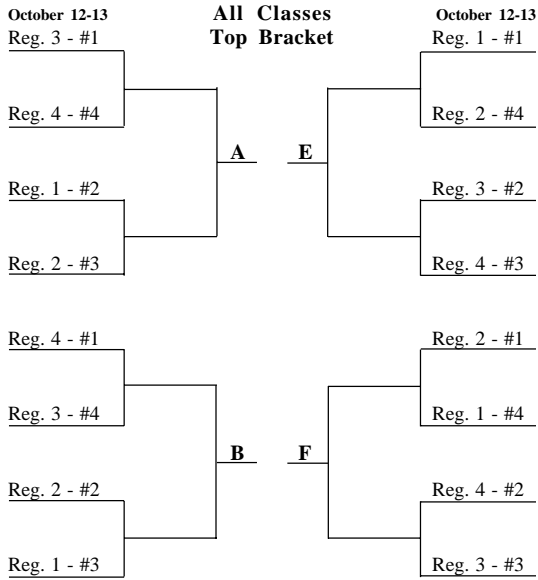
(The stunts listed above are just a few examples of what could be legal if executed appropriately on a basketball court or track.)

What NOT to do:

1. Basket tosses of any kind
 2. Quick Load to a toss that twists prior to landing in a stunt
 3. Elevator toss
 4. A top person performs a twisting dismount to cradle
 5. Perform a single twisting back flip
- (The stunts listed above are examples of stunts that would be **illegal** if executed on a basketball court or track.)

Remember Early Start for Softball Playoffs in Regions 5-9A

Coaches are reminded that the playoffs start early in Regions 5-9A again this school year for the sports of **Softball**, **Basketball**, **Tennis** and **Baseball**. In each of those sports (in regions 5-9A only), the seasons end early and there are Preliminary Round state playoff contests. In **Softball**, for example, the season ends on Oct. 4 in those five regions and the state playoffs begin on October 7-8 with four Preliminary Round series (see pairings below). The rest of the Softball playoffs proceed as normal, ending in the State Finals tournament in Columbus on Oct. 27-29. In **Basketball**, the end of season in 5-9A is Feb. 18 with the preliminary round games set for Feb. 21; in **Tennis** the early end of season is April 17 with the preliminary round matches to be finished by April 21; and in **Baseball** the early end of season is April 26 with the preliminary round series taking place on April 30 and May 1. See the GHSA web site for complete brackets.

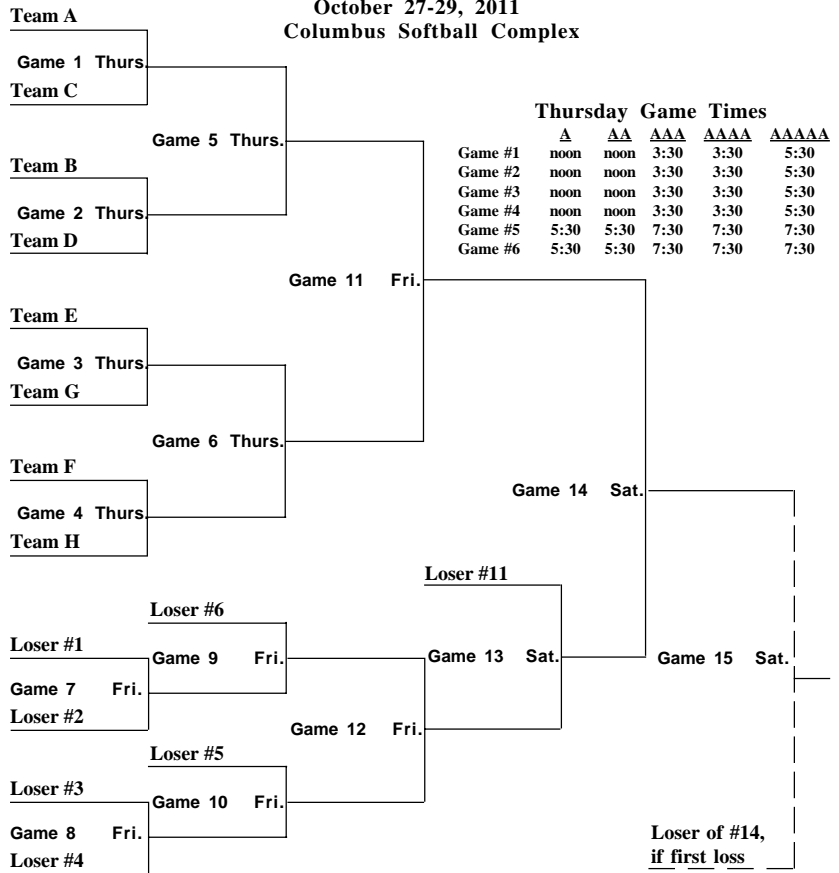


Preliminary, First and Second Round Information: Higher-seeded teams will host best-of-three format. (Note: A coin flip will decide the host team when same seeds meet).



SOFTBALL STATE FINALS - 2011 - All Classifications

Thursday, Friday and Saturday,
October 27-29, 2011
Columbus Softball Complex



State Volleyball Semifinal Playoffs Sites Now Set

Area Volleyball winners must be determined by October 8, and the first round of the playoffs begins on October 12 and 13, depending on classification. The first two rounds will be played at the home gyms of the higher-seeded teams. The first round in Classes AAA and AA/A will be played October 12, followed October 13 by first-round matches in Classes AAAAA and AAAA. The second round matches will be October 18 in all classifications. Winners of those matches qualify for the Third Round, which will be seeded by the GHSA Volleyball Seeding Committee. Those third-round matches will be played October 22 at the sites of the higher-seeded teams, with the winners advancing to the October 26th Semifinals at neutral sites listed below.



* In the First and Second Rounds, the higher-seeded team will host. The teams reaching the Third Round will be seeded by the GHSA 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 (see below).

Volleyball on GHSA.tv

Bump and spike action takes the court on Oct. 29th at the GHSA Volleyball State Championships presented by Mizuno. The finals at Marietta High will video stream live for a fifth season on GHSA.tv: AA/A - 11 a.m., AAA - 1:30 p.m., AAAA - 4 p.m., and AAAAA - 7 p.m. The GHSA Network is a partnership with PlayOn Sports. DVDs can be ordered at GHSA.tv. Sponsors are: Mizuno, Verizon and Spalding.

SEMIFINAL MATCHES

October 26, 2011

- AAAAA Parkview High School
- AAAA Mt. Zion (Jonesboro) H.S.
- AAA Woodward Academy
- AA/A Athens Academy

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

October 29, 2011

All Classes.....Marietta High School



GHSA Welcomes New Sponsors

The GHSA welcomes three new corporate partners, **Georgia Farm Bureau, Sports Authority** and **Georgia Army National Guard**.

Georgia Farm Bureau, the official insurance company, is presenting sponsor of the football state championships and Georgia High School Scoreboard Show.

Sports Authority offers member school athletes, coaches and fans discount coupons throughout the season that can be redeemed at Sports Authority retailers and online.

The Georgia Army National Guard, as an official military sponsor, will be presenting sponsor of the traditional wrestling state championship.

GHSA was also pleased to renew longtime partners, Mizuno, Gatorade and Sports Medicine South. Georgia Public Broadcasting renewed deals with Georgia Electric Membership Corporation and Regions Bank.



Sports Authority Offers 15% Coupon

Sports Authority, the GHSA's official sports retailer, offers students, coaches and fans 15% off any purchase made from now through December 31, 2011. The coupon is good for both in-store purchases and online orders.

You can download the coupon by visiting the Coaches page or any fall sports page on the GHSA site (www.ghsa.net).

**SPORTS
AUTHORITY**

Stay Connected to the GHSA!

For all coaches, athletic directors and teams that are active in social media, the GHSA invites you to follow ("like") the GHSA on [Facebook.com/OfficialGHSA](https://www.facebook.com/OfficialGHSA) and be a fan at [Twitter.com/officialGHSA](https://twitter.com/officialGHSA). Statewide news, association announcements and playoff information are posted daily for interaction with GHSA followers and fans. When Twittering scores of games, please include the tag "@OfficialGHSA" to enable scores to be posted on the GHSA feed.



Online Basketball Clinics Set!

All Basketball Coaches are reminded that they must complete the online **NFHS / GHSA Rules Clinic**. The Rules Clinic is available on the GHSA web site (www.ghsa.net) between the dates of Monday, Oct. 10 and Sunday, Oct. 23 **ONLY!**

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

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 Official Balls

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

Listed below are the balls that will be provided for GHSA state playoff events. These balls are effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2013.

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Make/Model</u>
Baseball	WILSON A1010
Basketball	WILSON WAVE Boys: B0610 Girls: B0611
Football	WILSON F1003 or F1005
Soccer	BRINE "Championship"
Softball (optic yellow 12")	WILSON A9011 BSST
Volleyball	SPALDING TF5000



National High School Activities Week

Since 1980, the National Federation of State High School Associations has set aside a 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 9-15, 2011

Sunday, Oct. 9

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. 10

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. 11

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. 12

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. 13

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. 14

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. 15

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 22nd Straight Year; Both Girls and Boys Participation Reach All-Time Highs

INDIANAPOLIS, IN — Participation in high school sports increased for the 22nd consecutive school year in 2010-11, according to the annual participation survey conducted by the National Federation of State High School Associations.

Based on figures from the 50 state high school athletic/activity associations, plus the District of Columbia, that are members of the NFHS, sports participation for the 2010-11 school year reached another record-breaking total of 7,667,955 participants.

Boys and girls participation figures also reached respective all-time highs with 4,494,406 boys and 3,173,549 girls participating in 2010-11 – an overall increase of 39,578 participants from 2009-10.

"While the overall increase was not as much as we've seen in the past few years, we are definitely encouraged with these totals given the financial challenges facing our nation's high schools," said Bob Gardner, NFHS executive director. "The benefits of education-based athletics at the high school level are well-documented, and we encourage communities throughout the nation to keep these doors of opportunity open."

"Based on the survey, 55.5 percent of students enrolled in high schools participate in athletics, which emphasizes and reinforces the idea that high school sports continue to have a significant role in student involvement in schools across the country."

Cross country and outdoor track and field gained the most participants in boys sports last year, with increases of 7,340 and 7,179, respectively. Other boys sports with significant jumps were soccer (6,512), basketball (5,637) and lacrosse (5,013).

Among girls sports, the emerging sport of lacrosse led the way with an additional 6,155 participants – an increase of nine percent from the previous year. With 74,927 participants nationwide, lacrosse cracked the girls Top 10 listing for the first time as it moved past golf (71,764). Outdoor track and field was close behind lacrosse with an additional 6,088 participants, followed by soccer (5,440), volleyball (5,347) and cross country (2,685).

The top 10 participatory sports for boys remained the same from 2009-10: Eleven-player football led the way with 1,108,441, followed by outdoor track and field (579,302), basketball (545,844), baseball (471,025) and soccer (398,351).

Outdoor track and field was the top sport for girls again last year with 475,265 participants, followed by basketball (438,933), volleyball (409,332), fast-pitch softball (373,535), soccer (361,556), cross country (204,653) and tennis (182,074).

The participation survey has been compiled since 1971 by the NFHS through numbers it receives from its member associations. The complete 2010-11 survey is available on the NFHS Web site at www.nfhs.org.

TEN MOST POPULAR BOYS PROGRAMS

Number of Schools	Total Participants
1. Basketball	1. Football - 11-player
2. Track and Field - Outdoor	2. Track and Field - Outdoor
3. Baseball	3. Basketball
4. Football - 11-player	4. Baseball
5. Cross Country	5. Soccer
6. Golf	6. Wrestling
7. Soccer	7. Cross Country
8. Wrestling	8. Tennis
9. Tennis	9. Golf
10. Swimming and Diving	10. Swimming and Diving

TEN MOST POPULAR GIRLS PROGRAMS

Number of Schools	Total Participants
1. Basketball	1. Track and Field - Outdoor
2. Track and Field - Outdoor	2. Basketball
3. Volleyball	3. Volleyball
4. Softball - Fast Pitch	4. Softball - Fast Pitch
5. Cross Country	5. Soccer
6. Soccer	6. Cross Country
7. Tennis	7. Tennis
8. Golf	8. Swimming and Diving
9. Swimming and Diving	9. Competitive Spirit Squads
10. Competitive Spirit Squads	10. Lacrosse

GHSA - October Calendar - 2011

October

- 1 Deadline for notification of entry in One Act Play & to set Riflery schedules
- 3 Earliest date for Riflery match
- 4 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 7 Deadline date to file Riflery schedules with GHSA office
- 8 Complete Region Softball & Determine Area Volleyball winners
- 10 Report Region Softball and Area Volleyball winners by noon
- 12, 13 First Round State Softball
- 12 First Round State Volleyball in AAA & AA/A
- 13 First Round State Volleyball in AAAAA & AAAAA
- 17 Earliest practice date for Swimming
- 18 Hardship/Appeal Committee Meeting
- 18 Second Round State Volleyball for all classifications
- 19, 20 Second Round State Softball
- 22 Quarterfinals State Volleyball
- 24 Earliest date for Basketball practice
- 26 Semifinals State Volleyball
- 27-29 State Softball Tournament Finals
- 29 State Volleyball Finals
- 29 Complete Region Cross Country and One Act Play
- 31 Earliest date for Wrestling practice; report Cross Country, One Act Play winners

GHSA Sponsors



