



GHSA

"ITEMS OF INTEREST"

December 2020 / January 2021

Seasons Greetings and HAPPY NEW YEAR!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM YOUR GHSA STAFF!

Standing (L-R): Tommy Whittle, Carror Wright, Ernie Yarbrough, Don Corr, Steve Figueroa and Kevin Giddens. Seated (L-R): Sheri Eubanks, Penny Pitts Mitchell, Julie Jones, Dr. Robin Hines, Robin Bullington, Stacey Basilici, Pam Thompson and Tanya Anderson. (Note: Because of scheduling conflicts, this photo was taken prior to the COVID-19 pandemic).

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

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

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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 & Girls Flag Football

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, Student Leadership, Title IX

KEVIN GIDDENS (extension 25)

- Associate Director -
Bass Fishing, Football, Cross Country, & Soccer

TANYA ANDERSON (extension 29)

- Associate Director -
Event Sanctioning, Esports, DragonFly Liaison,
Assist with Cross Country and with Student Leadership

STEVE FIGUEROA (extension 26)

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

PAM THOMPSON (extension 30)

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

JULIE JONES (extension 24)

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

SHERI EUBANKS (extension 0)

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

ROBIN BULLINGTON (extension 33)

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

STACEY BASILICI (extension 32)

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

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); **Hartwell Studio Works**, creating unique, dynamic and protectable spirit logos / marks (hartwellstudioworks.com), and **NFHS Network**, School Broadcast Program produces, distributes and monetize your school's own video streaming Web powered by PlayOn Sports. (nfhsnetwork.com/associations/ghsa)

STATE CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to the following GHSA State Champions:

CROSS COUNTRY

7A Girls	- Marietta High School
7A Boys	- Marietta High School
6A Girls	- Pope High School
6A Boys	- Cambridge High School
5A Girls	- St. Pius
5A Boys	- St. Pius
4A Girls	- Marist
4A Boys	- Chestatee High School
3A Girls	- Westminster
3A Boys	- Westminster
2A Girls	- Pace Academy
2A Boys	- Lovett
A Girls (public)	- Armuchee High School
A Boys (public)	- Commerce High School
A Girls (private)	- Wesleyan
A Boys (private)	- Wesleyan

VOLLEYBALL

7A	- Alpharetta High School
6A	- Buford High School
5A	- McIntosh High School
4A	- Marist
3A	- Westminster
2A / A Public	- Pace Academy
A Private	- Holy Innocents'

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



GHSA Preferred Shot Clock Package

Don't miss your shot to get everything you need for Basketball season. The GHSA approved shot clocks for high schools (with a three-year phase-in period beginning this season) and has now partnered with Daktronics to offer special pricing on a GHSA preferred shot clock package. The package includes two shot clocks, controller, two receivers and a start/stop switch for \$2,900 (freight charges not included).

Already a Daktronics Customer?

You could be able to save even more. Contact your local Daktronics rep, Scott Berardi, to get a personalized quote based off your existing equipment:

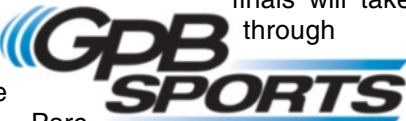
Scott.Berardi@daktronics.com or 404-290-3266

If you choose to work with BSN Sports, please contact your BSN Sports Sales Pro or Lu Nunnally at lun@bsnsports.com. Lu will direct you to the BSN manager and/or rep in your area.

2020 GHSA-Tommy Gullebeau Football Championships

All Games Live Dec. 28-30 From Center Parc Stadium

The ninth annual GHSA-Tommy Gullebeau State Football Championships, presented by Farm Bureau Insurance, will again be televised live by Georgia Public Broadcasting – this year with the addition of two girls Flag Football championships. Because the start of the season was delayed by two weeks due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's finals will take place on a Monday through Wednesday schedule at Georgia State University's Center Parc Stadium.



Tickets are \$20 and include all the games of that day. Digital tickets are available on [GoFan](#) and paper tickets will be available for purchase on game day at the stadium.

Besides the live television coverage, the games also will be streamed live on [GPB.org](#) and [NFHSNetwork.com](#), as well as being radio broadcast on the GNN Network and 680 The Fan.

The action will begin at 12 noon on Monday, December 28, with the Area 1 Flag Football final, followed at 2:00 p.m., by the Area 2 Flag championship. The boys then take over with the Class A Private final kicking off at 5:00 p.m., followed by the Class A Public championship at 8:00 p.m.

On Tuesday, Dec. 29, six more teams will compete for state titles. Up first at 12 noon is the Class 2A title game, followed at 3:30 p.m., by the Class 4A final.



The nightcap on Tuesday is the 6A title tilt, kicking off at 7:00 p.m.

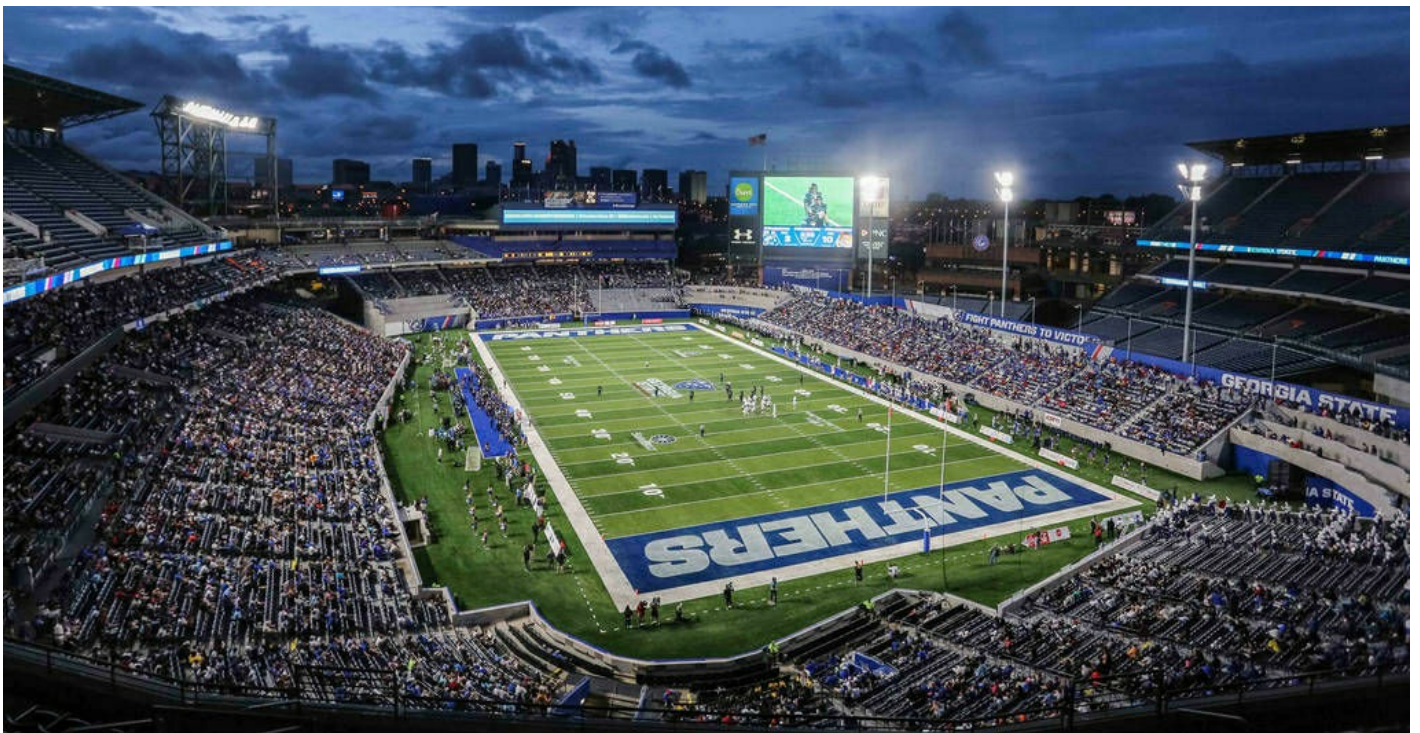
Wednesday's schedule starts with Class 3A at noon, followed at 3:30 p.m., by the 5A final and at 7:00 p.m., by the Class 7A championship.

This year's on-air talent for GPB's coverage includes Matt Stewart, Wayne Gandy, Jon Nelson, Hannah Goodin, Nikki Noto Palmer, Larry Smith, Sam Crenshaw, Lericia Harris and Wiley Ballard.

All games will be televised live throughout the state of Georgia and into parts of Florida, Alabama and Tennessee.

GPB has nine television stations across Georgia and is in more than 98 percent of the homes in the state. GPB is the third largest PBS station in the country based on population reach and has been the most watched public station in the country on the days of the football championship broadcasts.

DVD orders of the championship games will be available at [NFHSNetwork.com/GHSA](#). The games will be available on demand at [gpb.org/sports](#).



Spectator entry gates at Center Parc Stadium will open one (1) hour prior to the first game of each day. Spectators are encouraged to stay safe, wear a mask, social distance and wash your hands. Fans are requested to maintain social distance between different groups.

Girls State Cross Country Champions - 2020



7A: Marietta



6A: Pope



5A: St. Pius



4A: Marist



3A: Westminster



2A: Pace Academy



A Public: Armuchee



A Private: Wesleyan

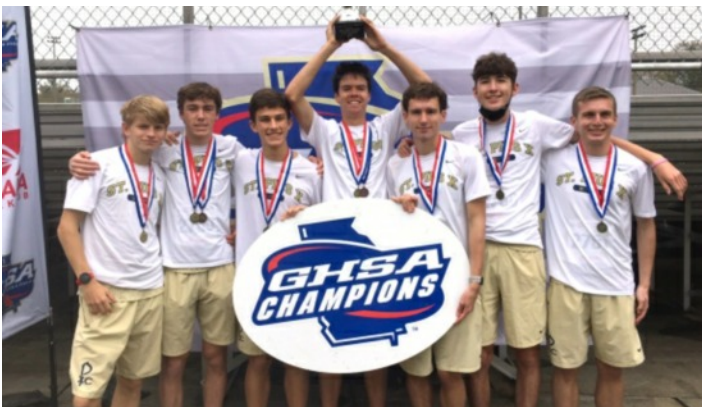
Boys State Cross Country Champions - 2020



7A: Marietta



6A: Cambridge



5A: St. Pius



4A: Chestatee



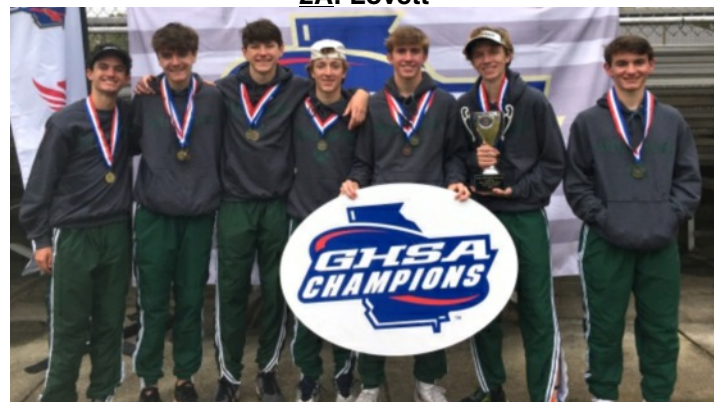
3A: Westminster



2A: Lovett



A Public: Commerce



A Private: Wesleyan

State Volleyball Champions - 2020



7A: Alpharetta



6A: Buford



5A: McIntosh



4A: Marist



3A: Westminster



2A / A Public: Pace Academy



Photographs of the state championship Volleyball teams were provided by Mike Zarrilli and Chrystal Moore.



A Private: Holy Innocents'

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES November 30, 2020

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Georgia High School Association was called to order at 10:00 a.m., on November 30, 2020, at the GHSA office in Thomaston by Glenn White, President. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Curt Miller. The invocation was given by Associate Director Carror Wright. Roll call by Media Director Steve Figueroa showed the following: Present - 13; Absent - 0

Nathan Turner	Jasper Jewell	Steve Simpson - sub	Tommy Marshall	Glenn White
Steven Craft	Jim Finch	Kevin Petroski	Kandice Mitchell	Curt Miller
Kevin May	Michael Thompson	Michelle Masters		

Motion by Simpson, second by Petroski, to adopt the agenda.

Motion Passed (unanimously)

APPOINTMENTS:

Motion was made by Jewell, seconded by Finch, and unanimously approved to go into Executive Session to hear the student eligibility appeal. (NOTE: Presentations were made in Executive Session; all votes were taken after voting to come out of Executive Session. For clarity, outcome of vote is given after statement of presentation.)

First Presbyterian Day School - Greg Moore, AD, presented an eight-semester appeal for student Noah Johnson.

Motion by Simpson, second by Thompson, to waive the requirement for the student to be present, as he was delayed out of state.

MOTION to Waive the Requirement Passed (unanimously)

Motion by Jewell, second by Craft, to **approve** the appeal.

MOTION to Approve Passed 10-3 (Miller, Finch & Masters voting "no")

Telfair County High School - Eric Cowart, Principal, presented an eight-semester appeal for student Hunter Howton.

Motion by Miller, second by Craft, to **approve** the appeal.

MOTION to Approve Passed (unanimously)

Hayes Cook, football official, presented an appeal of a denial by the GHSA Appeal Board.

Motion by Craft, second by Jewell, to **deny** the appeal.

MOTION to Deny Passed (unanimously)

Cook then made a presentation requesting an official be given a position on the GHSA State Executive Committee.

NEW BUSINESS:

Proposal that GHSA By-Law 1.64 on page 21 of the Constitution shall be modified to read as follows: "A student who is not eligible at the former school, and then transfers to a new school, cannot regain eligibility by the transfer. Academically ineligible students cannot gain eligibility by being adjudicated to YDC and subsequently returning to their resident school with earned credit. Note: The new school may file a hardship appeal if circumstances warrant." (GHSA Office)

Motion by Jewell, second by Miller, to **Approve** the proposal.

MOTION to Approve Passed (unanimously)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Executive Director Robin Hines told the committee to thank all the local school districts they represent for the awesome job they did making fall sports happen. Hines then called upon BOT member Curt Miller, who spoke on the possibility of adding the penalty of taking a school out of the playoffs for using an ineligible player or falsifying transfer documents. After much discussion, the BOT directed GHSA Counsel Alan Connell to work on the wording for such a proposal to be presented at a future meeting.

Hines then asked several sports coordinators to give updates on their individual sports.

Ernie Yarbrough told the committee that the Final Four Softball tournament in Columbus was highly successful, but that there were plans to return to an Elite Eight format next fall, if possible. Yarbrough then urged the BOT members to implore their respective schools to follow the GHSA rules modifications for the Basketball season that has just begun.

Don Corr then gave a recap of the recent Volleyball finals, saying how well the new venue was received and stating that he hopes to return to that facility again next year. He then spoke of the COVID-19 rules modifications for the current Wrestling season.

Kevin Giddens then praised the staff at Carrollton High School for the recent state Cross Country finals, and said that certain Covid modifications, like a staggered starting line and photo-friendly awards ceremonies, would likely carry over even after the pandemic.

Penny Pitts Mitchell said that the Cheerleading season was going well with smaller tournaments being the norm, and mentioned that the GameDay finals would be held at Carrollton HS at the indoor football practice facility there.

Tanya Anderson spoke of the Esports virtual finals on December 16-17 and mentioned the excitement surrounding the addition of two sports games for the Spring 2021 season.

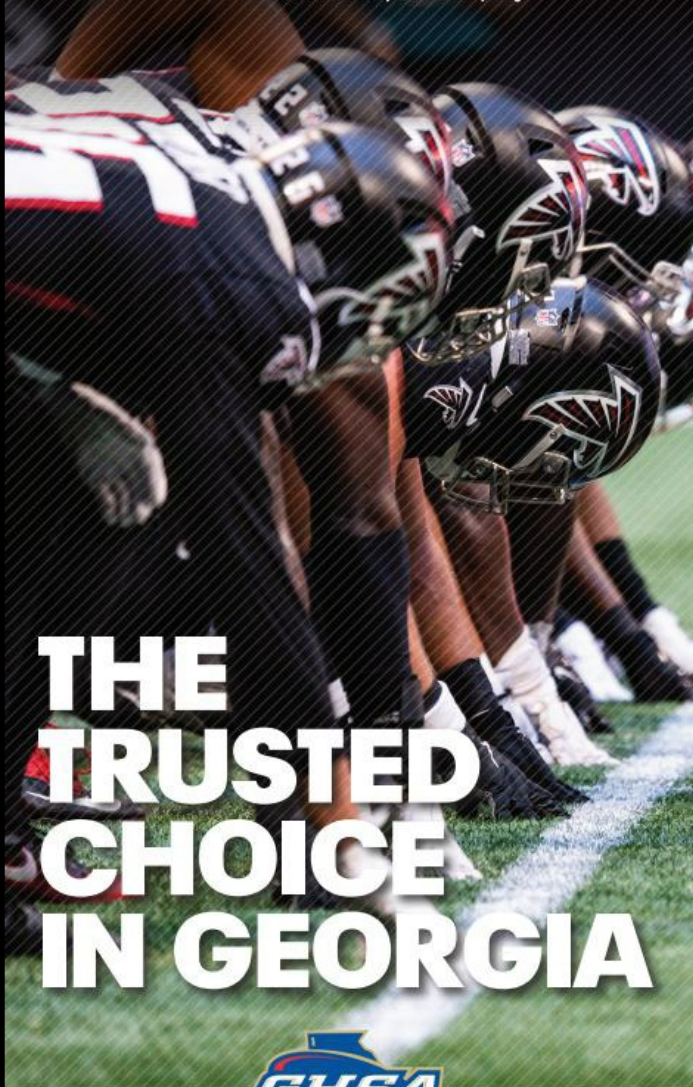
Hines then called on BOT member Steven Craft, who spoke about the unfairness of not allowing community coaches in the sport of volleyball to stand or coach during matches.

Motion by Miller, second by Jewell to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION Passed (unanimously)

FieldTurf Idea Center

This is your chance to help create the future of artificial turf. In a continued effort to nurture customer-driven innovation, FieldTurf has launched the FieldTurf Idea Center, a new platform designed to embrace open communication with athletes, coaches, facility managers, parents and everyone else that interacts with a FieldTurf field. Submit your idea or experience with artificial turf at: www.fieldturfideacenter.com.



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Tip of whistle can extend outside of the elastic end of the pocket.
Do not let the elastic block the top and bottom chambers of the whistle.
Attach lanyard to the elastic loop on the outside of the pocket.

Contact Your Smitty/GHSA Dealer to order today!

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



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GHSA - December 2020 / January 2021 Calendar

December

- 4, 5 Second Round State Football Playoffs
- 5 Determine Flag Football Playoff Qualifiers
- 8 Hardship/Appeal Meeting
- 9 First Round Flag Football Playoffs
- 11, 12 Quarterfinal Round State Football Playoffs
- 15 Second Round Flag Football Playoffs
- 15 GHSA Office closes at noon until January 4 for **Christmas Holidays**
- 18, 19 Semifinal Round State Football Playoffs
- 19 Quarterfinal Round Flag Football Playoffs
- 23 Semifinal Round Flag Football Playoffs
- 28 Championship Round Flag Football Playoffs at Center Parc Stadium
- 28-30 Championship Round State Football Playoffs at Center Parc Stadium



January

- 4 Earliest date for Gymnastics & Tennis practice
- 8, 9 Dual Wrestling Region/Area Tournaments

The GHSA Staff Wishes You and Yours The Best of the Season



**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**



GHSA Sponsors

