





## GHSA TRACK and FIELD TRACK AND FIELD MEET REQUIREMENTS



#### 2015-16 GHSA CONSTITUTION SECTION 14 TRACK AND FIELD



#### Pp. 91-92 - GENERAL INFORMATION

- C. Track meet requirements:
  - 1. There will be no interscholastic practices or exhibition meets in Track.
  - The maximum number of meets that may be scheduled is twelve (12), but no individual student may compete in more than ten (10) meets (excluding the Region/Area, Sectional and State Meets).
  - 3. Track teams may compete in one (1) indoor meet, and this meet will not count as a part of the ten (10) meets allowed per athlete provided the meet is after the date for practice to begin and prior to the date to begin regular competition.
  - 4. It is permissible for coaches to use "split squads" during the regular season. However, the use of split squads will count as two (2) of that school's maximum allowed competitions.

# There are several GHSA Track & Field rules that DO NOT align exactly with the NFHS T&F Rule:

The GHSA Individual Participation Rule / Limits does NOT align with that in the NFHS Rulebook:



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#### P. 92 - GENERAL INFORMATION

- E. A contestant in Track and Field may enter a maximum of both relays, and any one (1) of the combinations listed below. Competitors not on one or both relay teams are still restricted to one of the following combinations:
- 1. three (3) field events
- 2. two (2) field events and one (1) running event
- 3. one (1) field event and two (2) running events
- relay teams for a school may be composed of any eligible student from that school, but after qualifying in the Region meet, there may be no change in the contestants of that team.

**NOTE**: Schools entering two teams in the 4x100 or 4x400 Relay events at Area/Region meets may **NOT** list the same competitor's name as a member of both A and B relay teams in the same event.

## **Relay Team Members Clarification:**



At the conclusion of the Area / Region Scratch Meeting (or if NO scratch meeting is held, when Area / Region Meet competition begins), the competitors' names listed for each Relay entered CANNOT be changed.



These Relay names will remain the SAME throughout the State Meet Series: Area / Region / Sectional / State Meets and are the ONLY eligible participants for qualifying Relay Teams throughout the State Meet Series.

# There are several GHSA Track & Field rules that DO NOT align exactly with the NFHS T&F Rule:

The GHSA has opted to <a href="PROHIBIT">PROHIBIT</a> the wearing of jewelry during competition:



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#### P. 92 - GENERAL INFORMATION

- H. Athletes may not compete while wearing:
- 1.Jewelrv.
- 2. Hair beads of any type.
- Sunglasses.

NOTE: An athlete who requires the use of sunglasses during competition for medical reasons may obtain permission to wear them by presenting a letter from his/her doctor stipulating the required use. This letter must be presented to the Meet Director or Meet Referee prior to competition.

# There are several GHSA Track & Field rules that DO NOT align exactly with the NFHS T&F Rule:

The GHSA has opted to continue the requirement that ALL VISIBLE undergarments and any OTHER clothing items (EXCLUDING the uniform, socks and foundation garments) must be unadorned and of a single (same) color, having a maximum of ONE manufacturer's logo. A Uniform Guidelines document is available on the GHSA Track and Field webpage.



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#### P. 92 – GENERAL INFORMATION

...Any visible shirt worn under the track jersey, and other visible apparel worn under the shorts, must be unadorned and of a single (same) color. Clothing items with multiple logos are not designed as outerwear and are NOT legal. Uniforms must be exactly the same per event. (EXAMPLE: team members throwing the discus must have the exact same uniform. Relay team members must have on the exact same uniform. But the discus and relay uniforms may be slightly different from each other.)

# There are several GHSA Track & Field rules that DO NOT align exactly with the NFHS T&F Rule:



#### **UNIFORMS HELPFUL HINT**



While Uniform rules are quite specific, there is always some grey area open to interpretation by meet officials. Try to anticipate the strictest interpretation of the rules that your team may encounter. As the season begins, make sure your athletes thoroughly understand the rules governing jewelry and uniforms. Even though many of the early small meets may not strictly enforce these rules, impress upon your athletes the importance of being in compliance anyway. Prevent a pattern of competing while violating these rules even if there are no apparent consequences for doing so. As important meets approach, reaffirm that all athletes are fully aware of, and in compliance with the rules. This is extremely important in relays. Again, try to anticipate the strictest interpretation and prepare accordingly.

NOTE: The ultimate responsibility for uniforms compliance lies with the coach. Coaches should inspect any/all garments competitors wear to make sure they are in compliance with GHSA and NFHS uniforms rules.

## Region / Area Competition 2016 REQUIREMENT: ALL Region / Area entries MUST be submitted



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electronically on the GHSA website.



#### P. 93 - REGION/AREA COMPETITION

- A. Deadlines for posting the Region/Area list of entries will be a Region/Area decision.
  - All entries must be made ELECTRONICALLY on the GHSA MIS web site.
     A template will be posted there for use by all head track coaches. [Note; each school's AD has been issued login credentials for this purpose.]
  - 2. Posting entries on sites other than the GHSA web site does NOT fulfill the GHSA requirement for electronic submission.
  - 3. Coaches may alter the list of entries up until the Scratch Meeting that precedes the Region/Area Meet.
  - 4. All Region Secretaries/Area Coordinators should communicate their deadline for entries before any "Scratch Meeting" that may precede the Region/Area Meet.

## THE GHSA Track and Field website contains a Uniform Guidelines Memo with more specific Uniform guideline & /illustrations:



# Region / Area Competition A 2016 REQUIREMENT:

ALL Area / Region entries and results MUST be submitted electronically on the GHSA MIS site.



The Area / Region Winners form must be completed electronically by each Area Coordinator / Region Secretary (or designee) on the GHSA MIS site the deadline is 9 am on Monday, April 25, 2016.



The Area Coordinator / Region Secretary (or designee) should ALSO download a pdf copy of the Area / Region Winners form and forward by email to all Area / Region coaches for review to ensure accuracy.

NEW in 2016:

Area/Region Coordinators / Region Secretaries (or designees) must not only submit results on the MIS site but ALSO edit/correct Area/Region entries for each school on the MIS site to reflect any changes (scratches/additions/replacements) made at the Scratch Meeting.

This is a change from the past when each school's coach made these changes in their Area/Region entries.

## GHSA TRACK AND FIELD SECTIONAL MEET REMINDERS



#### 2015-16 GHSA CONSTITUTION SECTION 14 TRACK AND FIELD



#### Pp. 93-94 – SECTIONAL COMPETITION (excerpt)

- A. Basic Information
  - The top four (4) finishers in each event from each Region/Area meet will advance to a Sectional Meet.

**NOTE**: When a qualifier can not compete in the Sectional Meet, the next competitor in the order of finish will be selected as a replacement.

- C. All replacements from the Region/Area meets for the Sectionals must be made ELECTRONICALLY using the form posted on the GHSA MIS web site. The AREA COORDINATOR / REGION SECRETARY (or designee) may make confirmed changes and/or corrections. The deadline for all changes is 12:00 noon on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2016.
- D. A listing of Sectional Sites and Sectional Seeding and Advancement procedures may be found on the GHSA Track and Field web site.

## GHSA TRACK AND FIELD SECTIONAL MEET REMINDERS



be posted on the GHSA Track and Field website NO LATER than 9 am on Tuesday, April 26, 2016.

ALL coaches of qualifying athletes should check the GHSA website to verify accuracy of entries. If one of your athletes will be unable to attend the sectional meet you should contact the region meet director before the deadline for changes so a replacement can be made. NO replacements after the deadline!

Sectional Meet Programs will be posted on the GHSA Track and Field website NO LATER than 9 am on Thursday, April 28, 2016.

# GHSA TRACK AND FIELD STATE MEET REMINDERS



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#### P. 94 – STATE FINAL (excerpt)

- B. The top finishers as described (in the Sectional Competition guidelines) from each Sectional Meet will qualify for the State Meet in all classifications.
  - 1. When a qualifier can not compete in the State Meet, the next competitor in the order of finish will be selected as a replacement.
  - 2. All replacements for the State Meet must be made ELECTRONICALLY using the form posted on the GHSA MIS web site. Only the SECTIONAL TRACK MEET DIRECTOR may make changes/corrections to the list of State Meet Qualifiers. The deadline for all changes is 12:00 noon two (2) days prior to the beginning of the State Final.

Girls: Tuesday, May 3, 2016 Boys: Tuesday, May 10, 2016

## GHSA TRACK AND FIELD STATE MEET REMINDERS



State Meet Participants Lists will be posted on the GHSA Track and Field website AFTER 5pm on Monday, May 2, 2016.



ALL coaches of qualifying athletes should check the GHSA website to verify accuracy of entries. If one of your athletes will be unable to attend the state meet you should contact the sectional meet director before the deadline for changes so a replacement can be made. NO replacements after the deadline!

Girls State Meet Programs will be posted on the GHSA Track and Field website NO LATER than 9am on Wednesday, May 4, 2016.

Boys State Meet Programs will be posted on the GHSA Track and Field website NO LATER than 9am on Wednesday, May 11, 2016.

## **GHSA TRACK AND FIELD** Coaches' Handbook



Look for the GHSA Track and Field Coaches' Handbook to be posted on the GHSA Track and Field website sometime AFTER February 18, 2016



#### The Handbook will contain:

- Important Dates and Deadlines
- Sectional Meet and State Meet Schedules of Events
- · Coaches' Check List for meeting responsibilities and deadlines

as well as other GHSA Track and Field information pertinent to the 2016 season.

## **GHSA TRACK AND FIELD** Coaches' Handbook



GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION TRACK & FIELD





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## **Use of Electronic Devices** NFHS Rules 3-2-8 and 4-6-5





- RULE 3-2-8... Electronic devices may be used in unrestricted areas and coaching boxes, providing the location does not interfere with progress of the meet as determined by the meet referee
  - Electronic devices shall not be used to transmit information to the competitor during the race or trial
- Penalties:
  - A competitor shall be disqualified from the event
  - Team personnel (e.g. coach, manager, etc.) shall be disqualified from further participation in the meet for unsporting conduct
- RULE 4-6-5 NOTE 3... A coach MAY instruct a competitors (through electronic means as well as verbally) provided the coach is positioned in a designated coaches' box or an unrestricted area.

## NFHS Pole Vault Rule Change / **GHSA Pole Vault Re-certification**

Padding meeting the ASTM Standard (F2949) is REQUIRED for the start of the 2015-16 Track and Field season.





 ALL GHSA schools MUST meet this NFHS requirement, and ALL GHSA schools MUST report these changes to the GHSA office and be "approved" for practice and competition in the Pole Vault event. Schools unable to fulfill these requirements are prohibited from practicing or competing in the Pole Vault event at the noncompliant facility.

A Pole Vault verification form for use in competition is on the GHSA Track and Field website and MUST be submitted prior to EVERY GHSA Track & Field competition (Dual/Invitational/State Meet Series) in Georgia.





Signature of Event Coach

NOTE TO ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATORS, TRACK AND FIELD COACHES AND OFFICIALS

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NTHS TRACK AND PHEAD RULE 7-85: Point to seem-up, the field referre, band firth judge, or uniqued inspector of implements shall import each pole to be used in the competition to verify that the poles are logal equipment, per NTHS Rule 7-5. This includes Certaing the placement of a top hand-held band, material pole arting a sittention of briefs in contrasting color incusts within or about the symmethed band, and a building of layers of adherite tops of uniform thickness on the grip and. The building shall not be on or above the top hand-ball band.

NFHS TRACK AND FIELD RULE 7-5-21: A competitor shall not be allowed to use the pole of another individual without it consent of the owner. The event judge shall approve the use and verify that the pole is rated weight-appropriate. FENALTY: Disqualification from the event

NFHS TRACK AND FIELD RULE 7-5-29h: It is a food if the competitor grips the pole above the top hand-hold I FENALTY: An unsuccessful trial is charged but not measured. THE 4X400 RELAY WILL BE CONTESTED USING A 3-TURN STAGGER AT ALL AREA/REGION MEETS, SECTIONAL MEETS AND STATE MEETS.



In 2016, the "3 Turn Stagger" is required for all Area/Region meets (both boys and girls), all Sectional Meets and the State Meets.

ALL GHSA coaches should become familiar with the rules governing a 3-turn Stagger for that event and instruct their athletes accordingly.

### **GHSA / NFHS APPEAL / PROTEST REMINDERS**



#### 2016 NFHS Track and Field Rules Book Section 3-5-3 (p 15)



**ART. 3** . . . Situations that are eligible to protest/appeal include, but are not limited to:

- Misapplication of the rules which must be filed within 30 minutes after the announcement of event results.
- b. Correction of clerical or team scoring errors which may be corrected up to 48 hours after the end of the meet, unless another time period is specified in advance by the games committee or meet director.
- Correction of meet results involving an ineligible participant which may be made at any time when discovered.
- d. Failure to follow a procedure contained in the terms and conditions of competition announced in advance by the games committee or meet director. This would include such items as the time schedule. the number of qualifiers to advance, number of trials, etc.



#### GHSA / NFHS APPEAL / PROTEST REMINDERS



#### 2015 NFHS Track and Field Rules Book Section 3-5-4 (p 15)



- **ART.4** . . . Situations that are **not** subject to protest:
- Any judgment decision pertaining to violations or alleged violations of the rules.
- A decision made by the finish judges or timers that does not involve misapplication of a rule, or the terms and conditions of competition.
- c. Whether a start is fair and legal.







# Rule 3: Meet Officials and Their Duties 3-10-7 is NEW

Head event judges may use
 white and red flags to signal fair
 or foul for a field event trial.
 Rationale: The use of flags will assist
 with efficient administration of the field
 events. Communication between
 officials, coaches and fans is enhanced
 by the visual signal, similar to the use
 of flags by umpires.



## Rule 3: Meet Officials and Their Duties 3-6-4 is NEW

- The NEW Rule 3-6-4 changes the responsibility of checking the starting blocks from the implement inspector to the head starter.
- See the 2016 Rule Book for a further explanation of the rationale and a review of the Role of Officials and Inspecting Duties.



# Rule 3: Meet Officials and Their Duties 3-10-7 is NEW

## Use of flags by officials

With the change in the rules to no longer call "mark" in the field events, the high school meet will run much more efficiently when the field event judges use flags to signal fair or foul on a trial. The use of the flags will assist with efficient event administration and enhance the communication between officials, coaches and fans. The head event judge will be equipped with both a white and red flag. When a trial is completed, if the competitor fouls at the ring or arc the judge immediately raises the red flag. If everything is legal at the ring or arc, the event judge checks with the sector judge to make sure the attempt is legal or illegal. If legal, the event judge raises the white flag and red if the attempt is illegal. Actions by a competitor cannot be a foul after



the official has ruled fair except when the official makes an immediate correction of a mistaken action, such as raising red flag when it should have been white and correcting immediately.



# Displacement of the Crossbar

## Forces disassociated with competitor's actions in high jump and pole vault

When a competitor has legally and is clearly over the crossbar and a force not associated with the competitor causes the crossbar to be displaced, it shall not be considered a foul. Examples of a disassociated force would include such situations as the wind blowing the crossbar off the pins or the pole contacting and rebounding off the plant box padding. It is NOT considered a disassociated force if the vaulter, for example, releases the pole and it falls into the crossbar without that cause being from wind or rebound. It is the responsibility of the competitor to have a clean

jump or vault. In the case of vaulting, the competitor must

have a clean release of the pole so that it does not fall into the crossbar.



# Multiple logos on uniform bottoms are non-compliant

#### Multiple logos on uniform bottoms are non-compliant

There continues to be emphasis placed on coaches and athletes selecting and wearing uniforms that are in full compliance with the rules. When an item is selected as a uniform bottom, it shall not be in compliance if the waistband has more than one logo or reference to a specific brand. Many of the items with multiple references of the manufacturer on the waistband are not actually uniforms but rather an undergarment or base layer. Thus, the item is not made to be a uniform. Coaches and athletes

should be aware of this problem and avoid selecting non-compliant items and try to "get by" with wearing as a uniform.

# Multiple logos on uniform bottoms are non-compliant Multiple logos on uniform bottoms are non-compliant LLEGAL Uniform Bottoms with decorative waistbands and multiple manufacturer logo, no crotch outline or opening, no decorative waistbands. LLEGAL Uniform Bottoms single manufacturer logo, no crotch outline or opening, no decorative waistbands, multiple manufacturer logo, no crotch outline or opening. LLEGAL Uniform Bottoms with decorative waistbands, multiple manufacturer logo, NO decorative waistbands, multiple manufacturer logo, NO decorative waistband or crotch outline

## NFHS Track and Field Pre-Meet Notes

NFHS Track and Field Pre-Meet Notes will be available online at http://www.nfhs.org/activities-sports/track-fieldcross-country/

https://www.usatf.org/groups/officials/newsletters/

NFHS Track and Field Pre-Meet Notes are made possible through the cooperative efforts of the NFHS Track and Field Rules Committee and USA Track and Field Officials Training Subcommittee







