

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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GHSA delays football season opener until Sept. 4

Remaining fall sports expected to begin on time

By Todd Forrest
Towns County Herald
Sports Editor

Thomaston - Football fans in Georgia will have to wait two more weeks for Friday night lights.

On Monday, July 20, the Georgia High School Association's Board of Trustees (BOT) voted unanimously to postpone all high school football games (including preseason scrimmages) by two weeks. Initially slated for an Aug. 21 kickoff, the 2020 football season will now get underway Sept. 4.

Practice dates are unaffected, and July 27 remains the official statewide start for football conditioning. Additionally, the GHSA does not expect to deviate from the standard 10-game, five-week playoff format.

All other fall sports will continue on their regular timetable.

The two-week football delay passed during last week's meeting after the board rejected Jesse Crews' proposal to stick with the current schedule. Glenn White followed with the accepted motion to delay the start of all football competition by two weeks.

According to Steven Craft and Jasper Jewell, the Atlanta Public School System could see a total cancellation of fall sports should the board refuse to amend the schedule.

However, Kevin Petroski came to the defense of rural



All Towns County football games have been moved back two weeks following last week's GHSA meeting. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

school, pointing out a delay on the gridiron would impact winter sports at smaller systems that depend heavily on multi-sport athletes more so than their larger counterparts.

Walton County parent, Amy Henry, also addressed the board, discussing the importance of sports to high schoolers and how the benefits of playing outweigh the risks associated with COVID-19.

As of this writing, Alabama and Mississippi are the only southeastern states expecting to begin the regular season

in August. North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee plan to start on Sept. 4, while Florida recently delayed its opening night until late-September.

So far, Virginia is the lone southeastern state to cancel high school football outright, although the VHSL (Virginia High School League) isn't ruling out the possibility of a spring season.

In other prep news, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recently joined the American Academy of Pediat-

rics with their endorsement of a brick-and-mortar reopening to the 2020-21 school year.

"The best available evidence indicates if children become infected, they are far less likely to suffer severe symptoms," the CDC statement read. "Death rates among school-aged children are much lower than among adults. At the same time, the harms attributed to closed schools on the social, emotional, and behavioral health, economic well-being, and academic achievement of children, in both the short-and long-term, are well-known and significant. Further, the lack of in-person educational options disproportionately harms low-income and minority children and those living with disabilities. "These students are far less likely to have access to private instruction and care and far more likely to rely on key school-supported resources like food programs, special education services, counseling, and after-school programs to meet basic developmental needs."

"Aside from a child's home, no other setting has more influence on a child's health and well-being than their school. The in-person school environment does the following: provides educational instruction; supports the development of social and emotional skills; creates a safe environment for learning; addresses nutritional needs; and facilitates physical activity."

Local Racing Report: Tri-County

By Blake Lynch
Racing Reporter
Towns County Herald

Brasstown, NC - Tri-County Racetrack hosted a race this past Tuesday Night, featuring the regular program and the Schaeffer's Oil Southern National Series.

Below are the top five finishers from each division.

Street Stock - No. 95 Alex Vance took the checkered flag. Coming in second place was No. 12 Roger Beaver; coming in third was No. 14 Charles Devine Jr. Finishing in fourth was No. 21 Troy Turner. Coming in fifth was No. 32 Logan Exum

Pony - Coming in first was No. 00 Adam Brooks. Finishing second was No. 6 Koulton Herbert. Coming in third was No. P11 Joey Payne. Coming in fourth was No. 01 Phil Wood. Rounding out the top five was No. 72 Jermey Kimber.

Modified Street - Coming in first was No. 17 Brandon Stroud. Coming in second was

No. 88 Ricky Smith. Finishing in the third spot was No. 35 Dillion Daves. Coming in fourth was No. 37 Michael Barnett. Placing fifth was No. 4 Jacob Parris.

Beginner 602 - Coming in first was No. 03 Dante Curtis. Taking second was No. 22 Tucker Anderson. Finishing in third was No. 14 Cade Brookshire. Fourth went to No. 20 Clint Raper. Finishing in fifth was No. 9 Wyatt Hopkins.

FWD - Coming in first was No. 74 D.J. Worley. Coming in second was No. 29r Sean Rice. Finishing in third was No. 21 Jason Coats. Coming in fourth was No. J3 Josh Deese, while fifth went to No. 401 Brent Lynch

Southern National Series - Taking the checkered flag was No. 44 Chris Maden. Coming in second was No. 76 Brandon Overton. In third was No. 8 David Payne. Finishing in fourth was No. 31 Tyler Millwood; No. 66 Jake Knowles came in fifth.



MaskClub.com and GHSA launch mask collaboration for back-to-school

Detroit - MaskClub™, the first subscription-based buy one, donate one online mask destination, announced today the launch of Highschool.MaskClub.com in partnership with Georgia High School Association (GHSA).

The new site is home to a collection of masks representing nearly 450 schools across the state of Georgia, encouraging students to comply with CDC guidelines to cover your face while showing their school spirit.

The new GHSA school spirit masks from MaskClub - a company from Trevco, a leading manufacturer of licensed products - are double-ply cloth masks printed and sewn in the USA with officially licensed designs for schools throughout the state. In addition to the donated mask, schools will receive a royalty on every mask purchased featuring their marks.

MaskClub was born to help stop the spread of COVID19 and has a mission to protect yourself and those around you. As always, for every mask pur-

chase, the company will donate a medical grade mask to First Responders Children's Foundation for distribution to paramedics, emergency medical technicians, police officers, firefighters and medical personnel treating COVID-19 patients. To date, MaskClub has donated 250,000 medical masks to first responders. Highschool.MaskClub.com marks the next step in MaskClub's mission to support local communities and keep schools prepared for reopening.

MaskClub is the first and only company to offer a mask subscription model, where customers will receive a new mask every month from their favorite brands. Subscriptions are \$9.99/month, almost 30% off single mask purchases (\$13.99), and customers will have access to exclusive art and exclusive brand launches in the future.

For more information on the GHSA partnership or masks, visit MaskClub.com or on Instagram at @maskclubofficial. Customers are encouraged to share how they are wearing their masks with the hashtag #maskclub.

MaskClub™ is THE destination direct to consumer site for officially branded face masks, with 1000s of designs from the world's most beloved brands like Warner Bros., Hello Kitty®, Sesame Street, Kraft Heinz, Care Bears, Betty Boop, Popeye and many more. Subscribe for \$9.99 to receive a mask a month nearly 30% off or buy them one off for \$13.99. MaskClub™ will donate a mask for every mask purchased (even monthly subscriptions) to the First Responders Children's Foundation to distribute to front-line workers. To date, MaskClub has donated over 250,000 medical masks to first responders. MaskClub™ masks are proudly printed & sewn in the USA. www.maskclub.com

Founded in 1990, Trevco (www.trevoinc.com) is one of the top 150 leading licensees ranked by License Global magazine, currently partnered with over 800+ licensed brands such as Warner Bros, Hasbro, NBC Universal, CLC, and so many more. Today, they are known as one of the largest e-commerce players for licensed merchandise,



Multiple masks are available in blue or gray and kid or adult sizes.

thanks to our unique print-on-demand apparel & accessories technology.

The Georgia High School Association (GHSA) is a voluntary, non-profit organization composed of over 460 public and private high schools. The GHSA administers regulations

for region and state competition in 18 sports and three activities. Founded in 1904, the GHSA strives to promote good sportsmanship, participant safety and fair play among its member schools. For more information, visit www.ghsa.net.

Mountain Harbour Ladies Golf news

22 women played in the golf game known as 1-2-1 on 3-4-5 on a sultry summer morning on Thursday July 23rd, 2020. A popular game with many golf groups because it requires only 1 net best ball on all par 3 holes, 2 net best balls on all par 4s and 1 net best ball on all par 5s.

1st Place - \$5 each to: Beckie Suverkrup, Karen Mussoline, Martha Quijano, and Vicki Hough. Team score 98.

2nd Place - \$4 each: Diana Azor, Alison Taylor, Connie Dockery, and Kay Kirkland. Team score of 100.

3rd Place - \$3 each: Linda Davenport, Nancy Steck, Karen Whittaker, Carol Millward.

4th Place - \$2 each: Martha Zimmer, Claudia Mahaffie, Kay McLeod & foxy proxy

Karen Miret.

*Gloria White had a chip-in from off the green on par 4 #2 for a bogey net par and a whopping \$11 bucks! Atta Girl!

Birdie Girls: Connie Dockery par 3 #7, Karen Mussoline par 5 #9, Diana Azor par 3 #11.

Breaking 100: Diana Azor 92, Nancy Outlaw 93, Karen Mussoline 94, Linda Davenport 96, Connie Dockery 96, Nancy Steck 96, Martha Zimmer 96, Ann Chotiner 97, Claudia Mahaffie 98.

Weekly games are planned through October 2nd, 2020. For more information on joining the Mountain Harbour Ladies Golf Association email Beckie Suverkrup at beckie-up@gmail.com

Chatuge Shores Ladies Golfers play Select Nine



Martha Zimmer, a new member to our league. A low handicapper and boy when she's on her game, watch out!

Tuesday's game was Select Nine. Each player had to decide before their first tee shot what nine they were selecting either front or back nine.

Flight A Gross: 1st Place Judy Schmidt, 2nd Place Martha Zimmer. Flight A Net: 1st Place Mary Mott, 2nd Place Alison Taylor.

Flight B Gross: 1st Place Fran Brown, 2nd Place Martha Barker. Flight B Net: 1st Place Vicky Healy, 2nd Place Cathy Clement.

Low Putts goes to Fran Brown; Birdie Ladies, Fran Brown and Cathy Clement.

Come on out and join a group of ladies that love to have fun and golf!

Call Glenda Geddings 706-896-7992. T(Jul29,F4)SH

VFW Golf League news

The Veterans Golf League plays every Thursday morning at Chatuge Shores Golf Course. The league is open to all veterans who are members of the VFW or American Legion and their auxiliaries regardless of post affiliation.

The course is in great condition and this week's winner was the team lead by Gary Lindblum. Team members contributing to the victory were Rick Kirschberg and Gary Dominello. Together they shot a blistering score of 63 which is 9 strokes under par. Congratulations! T(Jul29,G1)SH

Free pickleball lessons

The Georgia Mountain Pickleball Club is inviting you to come to the Towns County Pickleball Complex for free pickleball lessons. We hold these every Saturday morning at 10 AM and they're absolutely free. All you need are comfortable clothing and a pair of non-marking shoes. We have loaner paddles and balls for your use.

You've seen all the pickleball activity going on there. Come and join the group and find out what all the fun and excitement is about. This is a sport for all ages and skill levels and is the fastest growing sport in the world. It's a good way to get fun exercise, lose extra pounds and meet a lot of new friends.

The Towns County Complex is right across the highway from the GA Mt. Fairgrounds entrance. We hope to see you there Saturday!

Visit our web site: www.georgiamountainpickleball.com.