



Columbus Consolidated  
Government  
Columbus Parks & Recreation  
Athletic Division  
3720 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Columbus, Georgia 31904  
(706) 225-4506/ 4507 Office  
(706) 653-4594 FAX



## WELCOME TO THE ELITE EIGHT

October 13, 2021

Dear Coach:

We cordially invite you and your team to the XVI Olympiad Softball venue. The entire Columbus community is excited to be able to host the GHSAA State Softball Championships. We trust your stay with us will be pleasant and a memorable experience.

We have assembled what we hope is a detailed packet of information. It is very important that you look over this information ASAP and comply with the instructions.

**All** bats are to be inspected prior to being used in a game. The bat inspection will take place in an area just beyond the "Team Check-In Gate" at a designated time on Thursday, October 28. Coaches are asked to collect ALL the players' bats and submit them at one time while the players proceed to their respective game field. If you wish to have your bats tested the evening of Wednesday, October 27 please contact Al Dattolo at (georgiaasa@att.net). Bats that fail the testing process will be held in the stadium press box and returned following the final game the respective team plays. It is the responsibility of each head coach to confirm that all uniforms and equipment are legal.

Best Wishes,

Tommy Groce, CPRA

Enjoy,

Merri Sherman, CSC

Good Fortune,

Ernie Yarbrough, GHSAA

# **CONGRATULATIONS!**

*You have qualified for State...*



## **HOTEL RESERVATION ASSISTANCE**

Please visit [visitcolumbusga.com/stay/](https://www.visitcolumbusga.com/stay/) for a complete listing of hotels in Columbus, Georgia!

If you need further assistance, please contact the **Columbus Convention and Visitors Bureau**. Please reference “**GHSA Softball Housing**”!

**Carter Flynn**  
**cflynn@visitcolumbusga.com**  
**Direct Line: 706-256-4347**  
**1-800-999-1613**

*The GHSA, Columbus Sports Council, and Columbus Parks and Recreation Administration wish you and your team Good Fortune and a great time while participating in the 2021 Softball State Championship in Columbus, Georgia site of the 1996 Olympics and 2019 International Cup Championship.*



## 2021 GHSA SOFTBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Please read the “General Instructions” very carefully. Each year problems arise because the coaches/team representatives did not follow the instructions. Pay particular attention to the State Tournament bracket on the GHSA web site regarding the game time and field location for each game. Also, ensure your parents/spectators are aware of GHSA and venue policies.

Enclosed you have the following forms:

- OFFICIAL TEAM TRAVEL FORM – Please fill this form out completely and turn it in at the “Team Entry Gate” at the arena. You are allowed to list (20) names on this form. Complete this form and submit it upon arrival at the venue at the team check-in station.
- LINE-UPS/COIN TOSS – Line-up cards, and the coin toss to determine “home team”, will be conducted with the Home Plate Umpire during the pregame plate meeting. Each team shall present two (2) copies of their lineup at that time (one for HP umpire/one for official scorekeeper).
- EXCESS TEAM ENTRY FORM – List names on this form of individuals who are part of your team operations over the limit of the (20) names on the TEAM TRAVEL FORM. Complete this form and submit it upon arrival at the venue at the team check-in station.
- GAME ADMINISTRATOR/RESOURCE OFFICER – Each school is responsible to have an Administrator and/or Resource Office on site during the game. Please provide the name and cell # of those individuals on the enclosed form and submit it upon arrival at the venue at team check-in.
- PARKING – The parking area beyond the “Team Entry” gate (near field #8) is the designated area for team buses and tournament staff. Please see the map within the packet. Please instruct your parents and spectators not to park in that area; parents/spectators enter the complex at the front of the complex. Those traveling in RVs are instructed to park in the area near the far back of the complex.
- OPENING CEREMONY – Each team is required to participate in uniform at the Opening Ceremony in the stadium Thursday, October 28 at 1:30 PM. Classes A-Public, 3A, 5A & 7A will meet outside the 3<sup>rd</sup> base side of the stadium. Classes A-Private, 2A, 4A, & 6A will meet outside the 1<sup>st</sup> base side of the stadium. Failure to participate will result in a \$250.00 fine.
- PROGRAM – Please make sure your updated roster has been submitted to Adam at [adam@scoreatl.com](mailto:adam@scoreatl.com) no later than Monday, October 18.
  - School name, City, Head Coach and Assistant Coaches
  - Roster with Player number, full name, position, and grade
  - Team Photo
- TICKETS, VIDEO STREAMING & FAN GUIDES – Digital tickets are exclusively sold on GoFan (<https://gofan.co/app/school/GHSA>). All fans are urged to purchase GoFan tickets in advance. All games are video streamed live on NFHS Network (<https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/associations/ghsa>). Subscribing to the Network for an all-access pass is the low price of \$10.95 per month (30-days). Digital fan guides are free to download at [GHSA.net](http://GHSA.net) and @OfficialGHSA social media.

# **GAME ADMINISTRATORS SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS**

Please list the individual(s), and their cell phone numbers, who will be in attendance at the GHSA State Tournament contest.

## ADMINISTRATORS

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

## RESOURCE OFFICERS

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

The head coach is responsible for turning in this form prior to the "Game Manager" upon arrival at the venue.

# OFFICIAL TEAM TRAVEL FORM

SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

Each team is allowed (20) names on the "Team Travel Form, consisting of players, managers, trainers, statisticians, etc. Coaches are admitted on their GHSA Coaches Pass. Teams wishing to admit more than the (20) names on this form must list the names of those individuals on the "Excess Team Entry Form" at the team entry gate.

NAME	FUNCTION (player, manager, etc.)
1 _____	_____
2 _____	_____
3 _____	_____
4 _____	_____
5 _____	_____
6 _____	_____
7 _____	_____
8 _____	_____
9 _____	_____
10 _____	_____
11 _____	_____
12 _____	_____
13 _____	_____
14 _____	_____
15 _____	_____
16 _____	_____
17 _____	_____
18 _____	_____
19 _____	_____
20 _____	_____

COACH: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: The head coach is responsible for turning in this form when entering the "Team Entry Gate".**

# EXCESS TEAM ENTRY FORM

SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

Teams wishing to admit more than the (20) names must list the names of those individuals on this "Excess Team Entry Form" at the team entry gate.

NAME	FUNCTION (player, manager, etc.)
1 _____	_____
2 _____	_____
3 _____	_____
4 _____	_____
5 _____	_____
6 _____	_____
7 _____	_____
8 _____	_____
9 _____	_____
10 _____	_____
11 _____	_____
12 _____	_____
13 _____	_____
14 _____	_____
15 _____	_____
16 _____	_____
17 _____	_____
18 _____	_____
19 _____	_____
20 _____	_____

COACH: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: The head coach is responsible for turning in this form when entering the "Team Entry Gate".**

# **SOUTH COMMONS COMPLEX POLICY**

1. **All team members must enter the complex through the player's gate (See enclosed map). This will be the only gate Players and Coaches will be allowed to enter free of charge. If team members or coaches enter main gate, admission will be charged.**
2. **Team Buses and Team Vans will be admitted free (no charge for parking) through the team parking entrance by Lumpkin Boulevard entrance. Individual vehicles will be charged a \$5.00 daily pass for parking.**
3. **Alcoholic beverages are prohibited in all areas.**
4. **Glass containers are prohibited in all areas.**
5. **All Team Coolers must be taken in complex through team gate.  
No hard sided coolers are allowed in complex through main gate.**
6. **Top line of the bracket uses first base dugout unless a team is playing back-to-back on that field.**
7. **No pepper games between dugouts. No ball-toss drills on field fences.**
8. **Admission fee is \$15.00 per person Friday, \$10.00 per person Saturday, with the exception of a "baby in arms".**
9. **Animals are prohibited in all areas (except service dogs).**
10. **Lineups: Lineup cards are provided by the scorekeeper or on site staff.**
12. **Teams are prohibited from warming up inside the confines (between fields) of South Commons complex. Practice areas may be found at:  
Benning Park                      Rigdon Park  
1441 Benning Dr.                  1600 Howe Ave.  
Columbus, GA 31901              Columbus, GA 31903**

**Practice times will be available Wednesday and Thursday only and shall be reserved at (706) 225-4506. Practices on Friday and Saturday will be on a first come first serve basis. Please limit warm-up on the tournament playing fields to the outfield grass. It is our intention to prepare the infield to the best of our ability with the time allotted between games. If either team gets on the dirt, with the intentions of warming up, before the grounds crew finishes, work will cease and they will immediately leave the field.**

**Please provide the following information at the Team Entrance Gate:**

**School** \_\_\_\_\_

**Hotel** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Nights** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number of Rooms** \_\_\_\_\_





# Welcome to Columbus!!!

## BUS ROUTE, UNLOADING AREA AND BUS PARKING

Veterans Parkway  
Use far left lane turn



All TEAM BUSES enter South Commons via Lumpkin Blvd by following the yellow arrows as noted on the map!  
Proceed to the drop off point between fields 4 and 8.  
All TEAM Buses PLEASE park in the lower section of Lot E and Lot F.  
Teams please turn in your hotel information at the Team Entrance upon your arrival.

### SPECIAL COVID-19 MODIFICATIONS FOR SPECTATORS

1. Spectator admission will ONLY be available through "GOFAN". Individual tickets will not be available at the complex.
2. Spectators shall enter the complex with a face covering and observe "social distancing" while in the complex.

### SPECIAL COVID-19 MODIFICATIONS FOR TEAMS

1. ONLY coaches and players are allowed in team dugouts.
2. Teams are required to bring their own beverages into the dugout. Coolers and cups will NOT be provided.
3. At the conclusion of the game teams will gather near their respective dugout and wave/nod in a gesture of sportsmanship, then quickly clear the dugout so it can be sanitized before the next game.
4. Sunflower seeds are NOT allowed in the team dugouts.
5. Team huddles without physical distancing are not allowed.
6. ONLY the head coach shall attend the pregame meeting, stand outside the batter's box, and bring two (2) copies of the lineup card.
7. Championship day awards presentations (3<sup>rd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> places) will be presented to the head coach only. Coaches will hand out medals and t-shirts.



## TEAM CHECK-IN AND BAT CHECK SCHEDULE

It is important that each team adhere to the check-in and bat check schedule. Teams with the early games will be given priority check-in. If a team arrives prior to their designated bat-check time they will be required to wait if the testing tables are being used. One or two coaches shall bring the bats to the testing area near Gate 8. The remaining coaches and players shall proceed to their designated game field, or wait in an area away from the testing area.

### TEAM BAT INSPECTION SCHEDULE

Thursday, October 28

7:15 AM – A-Private

7:45 AM – A-Public

8:15 AM – 2A

8:45 AM – 3A

10:30 AM – 4A

11:00 AM – 5A

11:30 PM – 6A

12:00 PM – 7A

Teams wishing your bats tested the evening of Wednesday, October 27 please contact Al Dattolo at (commish@usasoftballgeorgia.org). Bats that fail inspection will be kept in the stadium press box. They may be picked up after the team's final game.

**TICKETS FOR FINAL FOUR IN COLUMBUS ONLY AVAILBLETHROUGH GOFAN.**



**GOFAN™**  
BUY TICKETS  
MOBILE  
ONLY

<https://gofan.co/app/school/GHSA>

**NFHS  
NETWORK**  
ALL GAMES  
ALL ROUNDS  
LIVE

<https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/associations/ghsa>