



TuesNews

Weekly E-Newsletter of the South Carolina High School League
Romanda Noble-Watson, Editor

October 15, 2024

Staff Directory

Dr. Jerome Singleton, Commissioner

jsingle@schsl.org
803-798-0120

Charlie Wentzky, Deputy Commissioner

charlie@schsl.org
803-896-5251

Amy Boozer, Associate Commissioner

amy@schsl.org
803-896-4009

Sarah Hayes, Associate Commissioner

sarah@schsl.org
803-896-6955

Dr. Curtrell Rhodan

Director of Educational Services

curtrell@schsl.org
803-896-4271

Tim Kinney

Dir. of Health, Safety, and Wellness

tim@schsl.org
803-896-3891

Romanda Noble-Watson

Dir. of Communications & Public Relations

Romanda@schsl.org
803-896-0417

Cindi Drakeford, Director of Finance

cindi@schsl.org
803-798-0120

Deanna Lott, Director of Executive Affairs

deanna@schsl.org
803-896-4377

Keith Warren, Director of Technology

keith@schsl.org
803-798-0120

Jill White, Arbiter Booking Coordinator

Jill@schsl.org
803-896-9560

Brooke Baker, Office Manager

Brooke@schsl.org
803-798-0120

Maoceisha Jenkins-Suber, Office Coordinator

Maoceisha@schsl.org
803-798-0120

Inside This Issue

Staff Directory	1
Upcoming Events	1
Stay on the Bench	2
SCHSL Announcements	3-11
Congratulations	12-14
For Your Information	15

Upcoming Events

Swim Championships: USC Natatorium
Oct. 17, & 19, 2024

Health Summit
Oct. 24, 2024 – 10:00 am



For job openings around the SCHSL, visit www.schsl.org/jobs

STAY ON THE BENCH!!

Fall athletics is going strong and the stakes are getting higher. Ejections are increasing and are getting more intense due to a TikTok trend called “BTA”. The SCHSL has already seen examples of this trend in our state. It is time for some “conscious conversations.” Addressing the “BTA” TikTok trend is crucial to maintaining the integrity and sportsmanship of high school athletics. The SCHSL staff is intentional about providing tools and resources to eliminate this behavior before it gains more traction. Below are different strategies that school administrators, coaches, and student-athletes can use to curb this behavior:

1. Host Conscious Conversations:

- Athletes & Spectators: Engage in open dialogue with student-athletes and their families, emphasizing that participating in or encouraging the “BTA” trend is not only unsportsmanlike but is also detrimental to the values that sports are built on.
- Coaches: Explain the broader consequences, including ejections, and suspensions. It can also impact the team’s morale and reputation.

2. Reinforce Sportsmanship:

- Foundational Principle: Use this opportunity to remind student-athletes of the core values of competition—respect for opponents, the game, and themselves. This TikTok trend directly contradicts those values.
- Accountability: Make sure student-athletes understand that even if they don’t initiate “BTA”, their participation or failure to stop it, can result in serious consequences, such as personal suspensions.

3. Limit Cell Phone Use & Equipment Checks:

- Cell Phones: Prohibit players from using cell phones or other recording devices near the handshake line or during team activities that could escalate tensions.
- Belt/Towel Checks: Enforce strict equipment checks to ensure no belts or towels are misused during the handshake line.

4. Avoid Handshake Lines When Necessary:

- Safety First: In particularly heated games, it may be necessary to skip the handshake line to prevent altercations. This should be a last resort, but keeping the players safe and maintaining sportsmanship is the top priority.

By taking a proactive approach, schools can address this disturbing trend head-on, preserving the positive experiences that sports should provide for young student-athletes. It’s a collective effort to “Bench Bad Behavior” before it gets out of hand.

STAY ON THE BENCH!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2024 Swimming State Finals



The SCHSL 2024 Boy's and Girls' Swimming State Finals, are here. The finals are today, Thursday, and Saturday, October 15, 17, and 19. The Finals will be held at the Carolina Natatorium on the campus of the University of South Carolina: 1440 Wheat St., Columbia, SC 29208. Admission is \$10 per person and tickets will be available at gofan.co

2024 SWIM SCHEDULE:

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15

10:00 AM GIRLS AAAAA D1
2:00 PM BOYS AAA
6:00 PM GIRLS AAAA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

10:00 AM BOYS AAAAA D2
2:00 PM GIRLS AAA
6:00 PM BOYS AAAA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

11:00 AM BOYS AAAAA D1
3:00 PM GIRLS AAAAA D2

Additional information can be found at <https://schsl.org/archives/14277>.

State Finals Merchandise

NW Designs will be selling official championship merchandise on-site at the Swimming State Finals. Fans can also purchase merchandise via their online store, which is accessible at <https://nwd.ink/s/schsl/swimming-state-championships/>.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fall Schedule Changes

Due to the impacts from Hurricane Helene, the SCHSL Executive Committee has voted to make the below changes to the 2024 Fall State Final Schedule:

Boys Volleyball: Moved to November 9

Girls Volleyball: Moved to November 14 and 16

Girls Tennis (Team): Moved to November 16

Girls Tennis (Individuals): Moved to November 18-19

Football: Moved to December 12, 13, and 14.

All other Fall State Final dates will remain the same. Please note dates subject to change.

[Click here](#) to view Executive Committee Meeting

[Click here](#) to view Commissioner Singleton's Press Conference

Winter Sports Rules Clinic

The 2024-25 Winter sports rules clinic is now available on Big Teams. The rules clinic will be available through Thursday, October 31, 2024.

Sanctioning

Please be reminded that any event outside of regular season play, must be sanctioned by the SCHSL. Sanctioning requests must be submitted online. Additional information, including the sanctioning form can be found at the following link: [Sanctioning Information](#).

Please direct all questions/concerns to Cindi C. Drakeford, Director of Finance at cindi@schsl.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2024 Health Summit



The graphic features the SCHSL logo (South Carolina High School League) in red and blue, with the text "OCTOBER 24 2024 HEALTH SUMMIT". Below this, a paragraph states: "The SCHSL believes in the health and wellness of our student-athletes. The summit will be an opportunity to learn how to balance sports and academics. There will also be some information on injury prevention. Join us for this free virtual summit." To the right, three speakers are listed with their photos: Laquanna Jackson (Tobacco Youth Prevention Coordinator), Caitlin Hart (Athletic Trainer at Newberry High School), and Xavier Hill (Mental Health Counselor at University of North Florida). The University of North Carolina logo is also present in the bottom right corner.

The South Carolina High School League (SCHSL) is committed to prioritizing the well-being of our student-athletes. To address some of the most pressing challenges high school students face today, we are excited to offer our Health Summit, designed to provide resources and strategies for achieving optimal health and wellness.

This year, our summit will focus on three critical areas:

1. **Mental Wellness on and off the field**
2. **Tobacco Use Prevention**
3. **Staying Healthy and Injury-Free**

Our annual summit will be held virtually on October 24, 2024, at 10 a.m., and will last approximately one (1) hour. The session will be packed with valuable insights from our dynamic speakers, and we encourage all participants to actively engage in the Q&A segment.

To make the most of this experience, we ask that student-athletes come prepared with one or more questions for our presenters. Our goal is to equip both student-athletes and coaches with tools that can make a lasting impact on their lives.

We hope this summit will inspire positive change and promote healthier, more balanced lives for all participants.

Here's the link to register for the Summit: [Health Summit Registration](https://www.schsl.org/health-summit-registration)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Breast Cancer Awareness

According to the National Breast Cancer Foundation, Inc., **1 in 8** women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. In 2024, an estimated **310,720 women and 2,800 men** will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer.

Awareness of the facts and statistics surrounding breast cancer in the United States is key in empowering individuals to make informed decisions about their health.

For additional information visit <https://www.nationalbreastcancer.org/breast-cancer-facts/>.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carolina Panthers Charities Offering High School Athletics Disaster Relief Grants

In the wake of Hurricane Helene, Carolina Panthers Charities is offering a grant application process to assist high school athletic programs in North and South Carolina. Grant funding will be considered for qualifying applications for the replacement or repair of athletic equipment and athletic infrastructure which was lost/damaged due to Hurricane Helene and subsequent flooding.

High school athletic programs have the opportunity to apply for project grant funding ranging from \$5,000 - \$25,000. Funding decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis with a focus on serving the greatest needs.

Please see the below application should your school have an interest in applying. Applications are due **November 1, 2024**.

The Carolina Panthers know recovery will be a long-term process for many, but that high school athletics will play a key role in the return to normalcy for communities in our region. Thank you for all that you do to serve your community through high school athletics.

[Carolina Panthers Grant](#)

Commissioner's Chat & Beyond



There has been a name change in the Commissioner's Chat, it will now be known as Commissioner's Chat and Beyond. The periodic conversation will feature not only Commissioner Singleton, but members of the SCHSL Staff who will give updates and highlights from their respective department.

Below is the first Commissioner's Chat and Beyond for the 2024-25 School Year. This video can also be viewed on the Rewind link found on the SCHSL website.

[Commissioner's Chat and Beyond](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Book Orders

The 2024-25 Fall sports rule books and scorebooks are now available for purchase. The Winter & Spring sports rule books will be available later this month.

Please allow 5-7 business days from the order date to receive your item. You may still place orders even if an item is unavailable, and the item will be sent immediately upon availability.

The links to order all books, including the SCHSL Rule Books, Case Books, and Umpire Manuals, are available on the home page of the SCHSL website, www.schsl.org. The links are located on the right side of the page under Quick Links. You can also access the page by clicking below.

[SCHSL Rules Books, Case Books, and Umpire Manuals](#)

For questions or issues with the system, contact Office Coordinator Maeoceisha Jenkins-Suber at Maeoceisha@schsl.org or 803-896-5573.

Sanctioning

Please be reminded that any event outside of regular season play, must be sanctioned by the SCHSL. Sanctioning requests must be submitted online. Additional information, including the sanctioning form can be found at the following link: [Sanctioning Information](#).

Please direct all questions/concerns to Cindi C. Drakeford, Director of Finance at cindi@schsl.org.

Jamboree Financial Forms Due

Reminder: If your school hosts a jamboree for any sport, a jamboree financial statement must be completed and sent to the League within 15 days of the event. All financial forms are located on the SCHSL website by sports season. A link to the jamboree financial form can be found here: [Jamboree Information](#).

Please direct all questions/concerns to Cindi C. Drakeford, Director of Finance at cindi@schsl.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2024-25 League Pass

The instructions on how to download the 2024-25 SCHSL League Pass has been emailed to Superintendents and Principals. If you have not received a link to download a pass, please see the appropriate individuals.

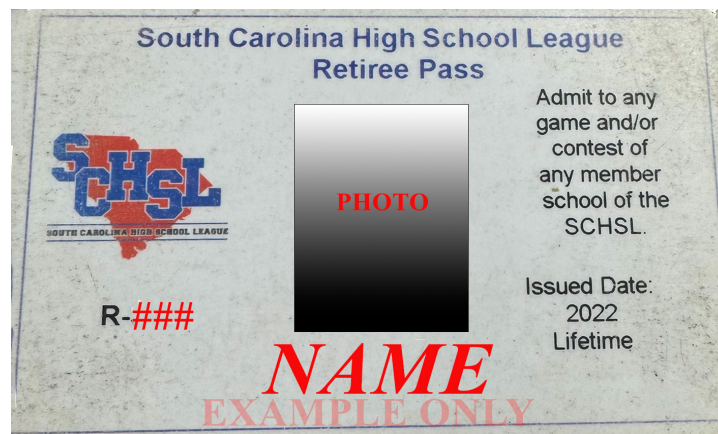
Additionally, please be reminded that in order to upload a photo, you must first download the pass. If you have any questions, contact Keith Warren, Director of Technology at keith@schsl.org.

Retiree Pass Information

Retiree Passes: The conversion of the new digital system is complete. New retirees and those with retiree passes that contain an expiration date should fill out the form at the link below to obtain a pass.

Individuals with a retiree pass denoting **Lifetime** under the issued date (see image below) do not need to request a new pass. Schools are to accept these passes for all League sponsored contests.

[Retiree Pass Link](#)



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Car Care

Maintenance and Repair

AAA Car Care offers car maintenance and repair locally in your neighborhood. We are also open to both members and nonmembers. As a special thank you for everything you do, there is an exclusive SCHSL School employee discount.

SCHSL School Employee Exclusive: \$20 off Any Oil Change (Every Oil Change comes with a free tire rotation, up to 6 qts of motor oil and a digital vehicle inspection). Proof of employment required (ie school badge can work)

Visit the following link for additional details: https://carolinas.aaa.com/automotive/carcare/coupons/20-off-oil-change-package-teachers/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=cc_football_sponsorship_school_comm

SCHSL and Wilson Partnership Extended

The South Carolina High School League (SCHSL) has extended its partnership with Wilson as the official ball of the SCHSL.

The relationship applies to the sports of Baseball, Softball, Boy's & Girls' Basketball, Boy's & Girls' Soccer, Boy's & Girls' Volleyball and Boy's & Girls' Tennis.

As part of the agreement, the SCHSL will continue to exclusively use Wilson balls in all postseason playoff games and the State Finals level in those sports.

This extension takes the partnership through the conclusion of the 2028-29 season.

Wilson®

ANNOUNCEMENTS

High School Today Magazine is Digital

After 17 years, High School Today (HST) magazine, produced by the NFHS, has gone to a digital format. May 2024 was the last printed issue of the Magazine.

Don't worry! HST will continue to be the "national voice of education-based athletic and fine arts activities" and provide current and relevant information to athletic directors, coaches, principals, superintendents and officials.

Check out the September Issue page 42 which features an article co-written by the SCHSL Director of Communications and Public Relations and page 66 which features excerpts from the President and Vice President of the SCHSL SAAC. The September issue can be found at the following link: [High School Today Magazine](#).

To continue to get HST delivered to your email fill out the form at this link: <https://www.nfhs.org/articles/high-school-today-information-request-form/#>.

MaxPreps Stats Widget



The SCHSL is introducing MaxPreps stats leaderboards to the association website! The widgets are available on the respective sports page on the SCHSL website at www.schsl.org. An email was sent to the High School Principals on September 6, 2024.

We are encouraging all coaches to enter stats information on the MaxPreps website after each game to highlight your team's and athletes' accomplishments throughout the season. This stats leaderboard also will be a great resource to our high school community.

If you need access to your team account, please contact MaxPreps SCHSL rep Aaron Hendricks at ahendricks@maxpreps.com.

You can also download the MaxPreps app to help keep your information updated.

CONGRATULATIONS

Girls Student-Athlete of the Month



Kinsley Price of Great Falls High School has been named the SCHSL September 2024 Girls Student-Athletes of the Month. Kinsley is currently number one in her senior class, carrying an impressive 5.12 GPA. She is a dedicated three-sport athlete, competing in volleyball, softball, and cross-country. Kinsley is a four-year letter winner in both varsity volleyball and softball, as well as a three-year letter winner in cross-country. She has earned all-region honors in cross-country and currently serves as the captain of the volleyball team, where her leadership has been instrumental in the team breaking multiple school records. In recognition of her efforts, Kinsley has been named her school's student-athlete of the week on multiple occasions.

Kinsley's academic achievements are equally noteworthy. She has been selected to the athletic department's all-academic team every quarter of high school and has earned a place on the Superintendent's Honor Roll every quarter. In her junior year, she was named a junior honor marshal and junior scholar, marking her one of the top academic performers in her school.

In addition to her achievements in sports and academics, Kinsley is a respected leader in various student organizations. She serves as the JROTC Battalion Commander, Youth Advisory Board President, Beta Club Vice President, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes President. She is also an active member of the student council and student ambassadors. Her leadership extends to the state level, where she is one of only 15 student-athletes selected to serve on the South Carolina High School League (SCHSL) Student Athlete Advisory Council.

Kinsley's passion for service is evident through her volunteer work. She regularly volunteers at the Lord's Lunchbox, a local food pantry, and has dedicated her time to the VA Hospital and multiple Red Cross Blood Drives, making a positive impact on her community.

CONGRATULATIONS

Boys Student-Athlete of the Month



Matthew Sullivan of Gray Collegiate Academy has been named the September 2024 Boy's Student-Athlete of the Month.

Matthew (Joey) Sullivan is a dedicated student-athlete at Gray Collegiate Academy, where he excels in both cross country and soccer while maintaining an impressive GPA of 5.27. His academic accomplishments include membership in the National Honor Society and BETA Club, as well as recognition as a Junior Marshal. Matthew has participated in the SCHSL Captains Seminar for both cross country and soccer twice, and he has completed the NFHS Captains Course. He is on track to graduate with over 40 hours of college credit.

In athletics, Matthew's leadership and skill are evident. He has served as captain of the soccer team for three consecutive years and as the cross country team captain. His soccer achievements include earning All-Region honors twice, as well as being named to the Nike Palmetto Cup, Capital City Cup, and Smoky Mountain Cup All-Tournament Teams. His consistent excellence has also earned him All-Area recognition.

Outside of school, Matthew is deeply involved in the Boy Scouts of America and is currently completing his Eagle Scout project. He has served as a staff member for both the Congaree Rapid FC Soccer Camp and the Gray Collegiate Academy Soccer Camp for three years. Additionally, Matthew is a youth group leader at Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church, where he continues to demonstrate his commitment to leadership and service.

Matthew's passion for sports, academics, and community service exemplifies his well-rounded character, making him a role model among his peers. He is driven to succeed in all areas of his life, and his contributions to his school and community will leave a lasting impact.

CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to the **Waccamaw High School Chain Crew** (Ricky Ferdon, Jack Connell, Douglas Bisby, Joel Sapp and Mark Sanchez), this week's SCHSL Chain Crew of the Week sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance.

Each week, one of the nominated crews will be chosen and spotlighted with special vests for them to wear, along with a PA message for you to utilize during that week's game. We will also ask that their picture be taken in the Chain Crew of the Week vests and provided to the SCHSL office for use in the E-Weekly Newsletter, social media, and website recognition. If you have any questions about this initiative, please email Derek@schsl.org.

We encourage you to nominate your crew for this honor by filling out this form: <https://form.jotform.com/222336706249053>.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

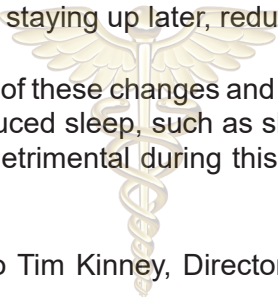
The Health Spot

Importance of Sleep

As the fall months bring shorter days and earlier sunsets, high school athletes may find their schedules shifting, which can affect their sleep patterns and overall performance. With practices or games extending into the evening, athletes may end up staying up later, reducing their opportunity for adequate rest.

It's important for athletes to be mindful of these changes and prioritize their sleep to ensure they maintain peak performance. The effects of reduced sleep, such as slower reaction times, decreased focus, and higher injury risk, can be especially detrimental during this time of year when the demands of school and sports intensify.

Direct all questions for this section to Tim Kinney, Director of Health, Safety, and Wellness, at Tim@schsl.org.



Officials' Whistle Tools for Success

Thank you to all of the schools who participated in Fall Sports Appreciation Week which was October 7-12, 2024.

Officials are vital to interscholastic athletics, so showing appreciation for their work and efforts is also important to the success of our athletic programs. Looking ahead, there will be an officials' appreciation week for the winter and spring seasons....we challenge you to participate during these weeks in the future!

#ThankYouOfficials
#BenchBadBehavior



Direct all questions for this section to Associate Commissioner Sarah Hayes at Sarah@schsl.org.

The SCHSL Student-Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC) has been truly exceptional, with student-athletes from across our state demonstrating outstanding leadership. This year, 13 of our members are set to graduate, and they've made the most of their senior year by leading with a purpose. Each member has either introduced or strengthened initiatives within their schools, spearheaded our Living Clean Weeks, volunteered at State Championships, and our officers even delivered speeches at the Middle School Leadership Summit.

As we prepare to pass the torch, SCHSL is seeking 13 new members to join SAAC.

Do you know an exceptional sophomore or junior who excels both athletically and academically, and exhibits leadership? If so, we encourage you to nominate them for this prestigious role.

Nominations will open **November 5, 2024**, so mark your calendar.

Direct all questions for this section to Dr. Curtrell Rhodan, Director of Educational Services at Curtrell@schsl.org.