



Guidelines For Middle School Athletics

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I. PHILOSOPHY

The Hall County School District feels strongly that the main goal of its athletic program is to enhance the character of student-athletes. The district athletic department's mission statement is aligned to that belief: "To develop character in student athletes while igniting the passion and courage to compete."

Extracurricular activities, athletics in particular, assist in developing young people into well-rounded individuals of strong character. There are many valuable life-lessons and skills to be gained through athletic participation, among them being the development of grit and perseverance, teamwork, goal setting, and the establishment of a healthy work ethic. These skills will be of benefit to students in the classroom, in the arena of competition, and in life--long after they have graduated from the Hall County School District.

The number one priority of all Hall County student-athletes is to pursue and receive a quality education from the Hall County School District. Character, passion, and courage are not only expected from student athletes on the field of play, but in the classroom as well, accompanied by an equal level of intensity. Maximum effort during learning and extracurricular activities is expected at all times.

II. COUNTY ATHLETIC DIRECTOR/EQUITY COORDINATOR

Athletic Directors and Coaches are expected to be responsive to and attend all meetings called by the County Athletic Director or receive advanced approval for absences.

The County Athletic Director will assist in coordinating all athletic activities for HCSD. However, the coaches' immediate supervisors are the administrators at the middle school.

The Athletic Directors at each middle school will meet with the County Athletic Director on a regular basis to discuss issues pertaining to all schools and athletic programs.

The County Athletic Director will act as the District equity in sports coordinator. He is located at Hall County School District Central Office, 711 Green St., Gainesville, Georgia, 30501.

III. QUALIFICATIONS TO COACH

A. Certification:

1. A head coach must be a professional teacher meeting the teaching requirements and be employed by only one board of education or similar governing authority, regardless of whether or not they are paid for their services AND:
2. be employed for 20 or more hours per week on a regular basis in a professional, contracted position and must hold a professional certificate or leadership certificate issued by the State of Georgia, OR
 - i. be assigned as a student intern in a practice teaching situation under the guidance of a college or university teacher training program, OR

- ii. be a retired teacher teaching or supervising less than one-half time (forty hours considered full time), OR
- iii. be a certified teacher or administrator at a member school on medical leave governed by the “Family Medical Leave Act” and/or the “Georgia Teacher Maternity Leave of Absence” policy.

B. Community Coaches:

1. Schools may employ persons who are not professionally certificated teachers as assistant coaches in their athletic programs. These individuals are referred to as “community coaches” or “lay coaches.”
2. Community Coach (lay coach) is defined as a person who may have less than professional-level certification, who relates in role and function to a professional and does a portion of the professional’s job or tasks under the supervision of the professional, and whose decision-making authority is limited and regulated by the professional. Community coaches are not allowed to function without the immediate supervision of a professional.
3. Community coaches may coach for only one board of Education annually, regardless of whether or not they are paid for their services.
4. All community coaches must be interviewed and vetted by the principal and/or athletic director, and complete the Hall County Community Coach Information Form/Criminal Background Check. Community coaches must also complete the NFHS “Fundamentals of Coaching” and “First Aid” courses (Middle School Community Coaches refer to their school’s Principal and Athletic Director for proper procedure). See nfhslearn.com.
5. It is recommended that the following priority for employment be used:
 - i. Certified employees in the local District (secondary, middle, elementary, central office, etc.)
 - ii. Paraprofessionals employed by HCSD.
 - iii. Student intern in a practice teaching situation under the guidance of a college or university teacher training program
 - iv. Retired certificated personnel
 - v. Community coaches who have completed the NFHS Coaches Education Program.
6. Schools will have occasion to add members to their coaching staff. It is the responsibility of the school to register these additions in a timely manner. A football coach on the payroll of one school district, but under contract to another school district for the following year, may help with spring practice at the new school if arrangements are satisfactory with both districts.

IV. DIVISION OF SKILL

- A. Six, Seventh and Eighth grade students enrolled in the Hall County School District can be considered for middle school athletics depending on the sport. The focus is on developing individual and team skills, developing safe practice and play habits, practicing sportsmanship, and enjoying the sport.

1. Football - limited to 7th and 8th grade students.
 2. Cheerleading - limited to 7th and 8th grade students.
 3. Cross Country - open to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. The numbers of entries allowed in each race will be decided upon by the school Athletic Directors prior to the beginning of the season.
 4. Basketball limited to 7th and 8th grade. If a team has less than 12 try out, students from the next lowest grade may be pulled up to fill out the roster to no more than 12. 6th grade students may only be used to fill out the roster on the 7th grade team if that team does not initially have at least 12 players tryout.
 5. Wrestling - Open to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students.
 6. Soccer - limited to 7th and 8th grade students. If a team has less than 16 players try out, 6th grade students may be used.
 7. Track - limited to 7th and 8th grade students. 6th grade students may be used for events with low numbers of participants.
- B. 8th grade students who want to participate in sports not offered at the middle school level are eligible to try out for the high school junior varsity team if allowed by the high school. Middle School students who participate in high school JV sports are subject to GHSA guidelines and rules.

V. GENERAL ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

A. Enrollment:

To be eligible to participate in athletic extracurricular activities for a season, a student must be enrolled in the school for which he or she will participate, be in the sixth, seventh, or eighth grade, meet academic requirements, and meet the age requirement. Sixth grade students may participate in select extracurricular athletics, provided they also meet the above requirements. A student has six consecutive semesters or three consecutive years of eligibility from the date of entry into the sixth grade to be eligible for extracurricular athletics.

Students who transfer after the beginning of the school year are ineligible for the current season.

B. Classes Passed:

The Hall County School District will recognize eligibility rules established under Georgia Law 160-5-1-.18. Students participating in interscholastic activities shall pass a minimum of 70% of courses (5 classes out of 6 or 5 classes out of 7) carrying credit toward grade promotion in the semester immediately preceding participation.

C. Grading Periods:

The grades from the previous semester will determine eligibility for the current semester- (Ex) grades from spring of 2020 will determine eligibility for fall of 2020. Students who are not eligible during a semester may not tryout for sports that occur in the following semester if the tryouts occur during the semester of ineligibility. However, students may try out for the sport if

they become eligible at the completion of the semester at the discretion of the coach and approval of the county AD.

D. Incomplete Grades:

If a student has more than two incomplete semester grades, he or she will not be eligible to participate in athletic extracurricular activities until those grades have been finalized.

E. Virtual Classes:

Students who take courses away from the home school for part or whole day programs but are still enrolled in the home school will be eligible to participate in athletic extracurricular activities at the home school.

F. Age Requirements:

Students who turn 15 prior to May 1 of their seventh grade year are not eligible to participate in athletic extracurricular activities.

G. Semester Rule:

A student has six consecutive semesters or three consecutive years of eligibility from the date of entry into the sixth grade to be eligible for extracurricular athletics. The six semester rule is effective as of the 20-21 school year. The provisions of the six-semester rule can only be waived in the case of an individual student by the Hall County AD committee. The decision of the AD committee is final.

H. Retention:

Retention of students for athletic purposes is prohibited. Retained students will be held to six consecutive semesters or three consecutive years of eligibility from the date of entry into the sixth grade to be eligible for extracurricular athletics.

I. Eligibility Reporting:

All eligibility forms should be completed on the county approved eligibility form and turned in to the district athletic director. The forms should be on file at all times.

J. Attendance and Absences:

1. In order to participate in an extra-curricular event, a student must be present at least half of the school day according to the school attendance office. The principal has the authority to overturn this rule in individual cases.
2. Students suspended OSS are not permitted to participate in competition or practice until they return to school for one full academic day.
3. When a team is released from school for an event, it is the athlete's responsibility to inform the teachers of the classes he/she will be missing, and if at all possible, make up the work before the excused absence. If not possible, it is the athlete's responsibility to make up the time and work missed as soon as possible so as not to jeopardize his/her own academic eligibility or the success of the team.

VI. ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS FOR MIDDLE STUDENTS

A student may participate in athletic programs in the Hall County High/Middle Schools provided the following requirements are met:

A. Eligibility:

A student must be listed as eligible to participate on the appropriate form that is completed by the Athletic Director and submitted to the District Athletic Director. Athletic Directors are responsible for appropriate filing of reports. Middle schools playing interscholastic contests before the filing of an eligibility report on one or more participating students may be subject to the following penalty imposed by the Hall County School District: Forfeiture of any game in which one or more participants did not have an eligibility report filed. Students enrolled in alternative placement are not eligible.

B. Exemplary Sporting Behavior/Sportsmanship:

Sporting behavior means active demonstration of competitive integrity and ethics, respect for opponents and officials, fair play, understanding of the rules, appreciation for all performances regardless of school, personal and school pride, and gracious acceptance of results. Exemplary sporting behavior is a requirement of all athletes, coaches, parents, and students. The Hall County athletic teams, fans, and community will set a standard far above that of the behaviors seen at the collegiate and professional levels in current society. Hall County Schools Athletics and the Hall County community will adhere to the following values of sporting behavior:

1. We will treat all opponents, officials, and fans as guests in our school. We will extend to them a welcoming atmosphere conducive to healthy competition that supports the educational mission of athletics.
2. Only positive cheers will be used. No profanity or personal attacks from players, coaches or the crowd will be tolerated.
3. Cheer and tumbling routines must be performed in front of our own student body or adult crowd.
4. Homemade banners are allowed if they display only positive statements. Banners must not block the view of others.
5. Only cheerleaders on the floor may use megaphones.
6. Bands may play only during a dead ball. No instruments of any kind may be used during a live ball.
7. Artificial noisemakers are allowed at outdoor events with the exception of air horns, whistles, or other similar devices that simulate the sounds of clock horns or officials' whistles. At any time that a national playing rule prohibits artificial noisemakers in a sport, that rule will supersede this by-law.

C. Insurance Coverage:

The Hall County School District does not pay for medical expenses related to injury during competitions or practices. Personal insurance or purchased school insurance is recommended. If a family wishes to purchase student accident insurance for their child, a form can be obtained from the Athletic Office. It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to obtain the appropriate insurance coverage.

D. Physical Examination and Parent Permission:

The student must have on file, with the home school Athletic Office, the provided GHSA form (NO substitutes will be accepted) signed by his/her parents certifying that the student has permission to participate in the school athletic programs. Also, on this form will be the results of a physical examination conducted by a practicing physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner. One examination per year is required and is conducted at the student's expense. It is strongly recommended that all athletes obtain physicals during the scheduled time provided through the High Schools or Middle Schools. Forms are available at the Hall County Athletic webpage. Students must file with the Athletic Office a parent permission form, proof of insurance, and a physical exam prior to taking part in any school-sponsored practice or clinic/camp. Additional forms may be required. Physicals that expire in the middle of any sport season will be considered expired prior to its beginning.

E. Transportation:

1. All team members will ride to an event in school provided transportation with the team. Any athlete, who arranges independent transportation to an event, without permission from the coach and the Athletic Director in advance, will be ineligible to compete in that event.
2. Athletes will only be released to their own parent/guardian from a contest. A parent/guardian must sign out the athlete from the coach at the contest site.
3. In the event that extracurricular activities have been cancelled by the HCSD for ANY reason, no athlete is permitted to enter an athletic event and participate as a school representative. Athletes entering events during a time of cancellation for the HCSD will be subject to dismissal from the team. Coaches will not encourage the athlete's independent participation and will not attend the event during the period of time that activities have been cancelled.

VII. REGULATIONS OF COMPETITIONS AND PRACTICE

A. General Practice:

An athlete may practice only if all of the following requirements have been met:

1. Current physical, health history, athletic registration form, proof of insurance, and all other required HCSD forms is turned in to the coach or on file in the Athletic Office.
2. All equipment from a previous season of participation is turned in or has been paid for.

B. Sunday Competition:

Sunday competition is prohibited for regular season or playoff contests. Sunday practices are regulated by local school policy with county AD permission only and are strongly discouraged.

C. Contest Rules:

All athletic competitions are to be played according to the rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations, using officially-dressed officials who are registered with the GHSA or another State Association, unless indicated otherwise in this document.

D. Postponed, Suspended, or Terminated Contest:

Any competition may be interrupted due to human, mechanical, or natural causes when it is necessary to protect the safety of players and spectators. The host school shall have the authority to postpone events and to direct the procedure for rescheduling when deemed necessary, and have the responsibility for contacting the officiating group in a timely manner. Middle school principals or designee may agree to alter start times or location of the contest.

E. Suspended Games:

The official in charge may suspend a game for up to one hour when interrupted by events beyond his/her control. The one-hour interruption is cumulative with the exception of time between periods. The game shall be terminated after the one-hour (cumulative) delay. If it is not a complete game, administrators of the schools involved (or their designees) should decide about replaying the game.

F. Terminated Games:

Games terminated after one-hour delay shall count as “no contest” if less than half the game is complete or there is a tie. Games terminated after one half has been completed shall be considered a completed game and the team leading in the score shall be declared winner.

G. Severe Weather (Lightning):

The HCSD requires lightning detectors at all outdoor athletic activities. When a lightning detector indicates a dangerous situation, the host school will notify the head official. At that point, play will be suspended and all participants will go to a place of safety (NOTE: If officials spot lightning before being notified, they may suspend play). When the detector indicates that it is safe to resume play, the contest may resume.

H. Absence of Officials:

In the unlikely event that game officials do not arrive for a contest, both schools should agree on one of the following procedures:

1. Delay the game until a new set of officials can arrive.
2. Schools will work to reschedule the game on another date.

I. Use of School Athletic Equipment and Uniforms:

School-owned athletic equipment is not to be issued to individuals or groups outside the dates of the normal school year or formal practice season of each respective sport during the school year. Athletes will compete in school issued equipment. Uniforms are to be worn only in relationship to team events, and never casually around school or in the community without permission of the principal or athletic director and only as a display of school spirit and unity.

J. Activity Conflicts:

Where sports or other school activity conflicts occur, the following policy will apply:

1. The athlete will have first made prior arrangements with the coach and activity sponsor to participate in both activities under mutually agreed upon conditions.

2. The performance, i.e., the athletic game or meet in sports, or concert in music, or performance in drama has priority over any practice or extra rehearsal. In the event a practice, extra rehearsal or even final dress rehearsal is scheduled at the same time an athletic game or meet occurs in which the student is participating, the game or meet has priority and the music member is excused without penalty. Conversely, in the event the music performance conflicts with an athletic practice (even a final practice), the performance takes priority.
3. In the event practice occurs at the same time in both music and sports, the practice time is divided equally between the two activities.
4. In the event a drama performance conflicts with a game, both being scheduled at the same time, the student is permitted a choice without penalty. But this conflict must be resolved at least 2 weeks prior to the events. In the event of a dispute, the Athletic Director will act as arbitrator.
5. In the event that a club sport or outside activity conflicts with participation on a school sponsored team, the coach and/or athletic director will have the authority to remove the athlete from the team for failure to support his/her commitment to the school sponsored program.

K. Dual Sports - One Season:

The athlete will make arrangements with the coaches of both sports to be a member of two teams simultaneously. This meeting must take place before the competitive season begins for each sport and will include: the athlete, a parent/guardian, both coaches and the athletic director. In order for an athlete to become a member of both teams, all team expectations must be upheld for each sport /team involved. The athlete must, at that meeting, declare a primary sport of participation. In cases of conflict, the athlete will then adhere to the policies of the primary sport.

L. Reporting and Committing to a Sport:

Students are expected to report for sports at the beginning of each sport season. Those who report late may jeopardize their chances for participation. Once the athlete decides to join a team, he/she must conduct himself/herself in such a way that he/she will reflect the athletic department standards of integrity, dedication and sportsmanship. Practice keeps the proper mental attitudes and physical attributes needed to produce champions. Any athlete missing a practice session or contest must present his/her excuse to the coach. If the athlete knows in advance that he/she will miss, he/she must inform the coach in person, and request to be excused. Excused and unexcused absences will be addressed by each coach involved. All athletes are expected to report on the first scheduled practice day and for the duration of the try-out period as well as the entire season of sport. It is ultimately the responsibility of the coach to maintain a disciplined athletic environment. Coaches may remove players they feel are not in keeping with the philosophy of the team. Coaches are encouraged to inform the local school athletic director and administration before making a decision to remove a player. A player may not quit one sport to begin another, unless approved by the coach of the initial sport and the school Athletic Director. Players who transfer from one Hall County school to another would not be included unless they quit a sport prior to the transfer.

M. Selecting a Team/Cut Policy:

Selecting the members of any particular squad within a program is the sole responsibility of the coaching staff of that program. However, he/she must stay within the guidelines determined by the athletic director and head coach; members must be selected in accordance with the philosophy of the athletic department. The Hall County School District encourages students to participate at their respective skill and ability levels. Accordingly, situations arise wherein coaches must evaluate student athletes to determine the appropriate level of participation. The selection process is to be done in a systematic manner. The coach will share the selection criteria and process with the athletes as part of the orientation of the sport. Students not selected may contact the head coach for selection questions. For additional policies, please see the eligibility section.

N. Out of Season and Summer Participation:

Participation in summer leagues or summer camps can be encouraged but cannot be used as a prerequisite for participation in an athletic or performance type activity.

1. From the beginning of the school year to the last day of school, no coach of the school is allowed to work in a camp or clinic in which members of their team are participants unless it is during their designated season as established by the county.
2. The school employee is also cautioned not to require or expect participation in an activity in which the employee receives compensation beyond his/her contracted salary. For further clarification, the following is from GHSA regarding Summer Activities:
 - i. Dead Weeks: All schools are prohibited from participating in voluntary workouts, camps and/or clinics, weight training or competitions during the two dead week periods as set forth by the GHSA.
 - ii. Catastrophic Insurance expires when school is out and does not resume until the first day of football conditioning. Normally any school insurance that a student has obtained also expires with the end of school.
 - iii. Non-mandatory practices may be held during the summer months in any activity.
 - iv. Students may attend camps, clinics, and practices from the last day of school until the beginning of the next school year. Students may participate in basketball leagues, baseball leagues, etc. They may not represent a school during the summer months.
 - v. These camps, clinics or practices may not be exclusive, i.e., any student who wishes to attend must be allowed to attend.
 - vi. Camps, clinics or practices may occur on or off school property. If they occur on school property, arrangements must be made with the proper school authorities for the use of school facilities. See local athletic directors for camp fees to be paid to facilities.
 - vii. Students may play on a summer league team that is coached by the high school coach after the last day school is out until the beginning practice date of the first GHSA sport.
 - viii. Coaches may coach teams consisting of participants not on their high school team prior to the end of school.

O. Rules of Conduct for Athletes:

Athletes are representatives of the school, the community, and the league. As leaders in the school, athletes are expected to conduct themselves in a manner prescribed by the athletic department and the school. This conduct shall continue throughout the year and not just for a particular sports season. The athlete shall display good sportsmanship at all times. Inappropriate behavior or language, failure to follow the instructions of the coach and/or officials may lead to suspension from contests and/or the team.

P. Ejections from games for coaches or players:

Hall County schools are required to conduct all relationships with other schools and officials in a spirit of good sportsmanship. It shall be the responsibility of a member school to use every means at its disposal to impress upon faculty, students, team members, coaches, and spectators the values of sportsmanship in preparation for the conduct and management of interscholastic contests. Any player ejected from a contest will be subject to discipline outlined by the GHSA policies as well as additional discipline from their coach, athletic director, principal, or district athletic director. All ejections are reported (in writing) to the District Athletic Director within 24 hours. A full explanation as well as disciplinary action taken by the coach/administration should be included in the statement.

1. Any middle school player, coach, or team attendant who is ejected from a Hall County contest for a sportsmanship violation shall be suspended from competing in all levels of competition in that sport or activity (during regular season or championship game or tournament) until the period of suspension has expired.
 - i. Ejections are based on judgment calls by an official and are not reviewable or reversible.
 - ii. A coach shall have no role nor be in attendance at pre- Contest warm-ups or activities, and shall not be in attendance at contests until the period of suspension has expired.
 - iii. A player or team attendant may not be in the competitive area or in the team bench area during any contest until the period of suspension has expired.
2. Middle school players are suspended a minimum of one game. The coach and the administration may require additional suspension time or permanent removal from the athletic team.
3. To satisfy the penalty of the sit-out game(s), those games must have been scheduled at the time of the ejection, and must be played to completion.
4. When a player, coach, or team attendant has a second ejection in the same activity during a school year, that individual shall be withheld from competition for twice the time period of the normal suspension.
5. In the event that a player, coach, or team attendant is ejected three (3) or more times in the same activity during the school year for a sportsmanship violation, the individual will be withheld from competition until:
 - i. The member school presents a written response to the circumstances involved in that individual's unsportsmanlike behavior, AND
 - ii. The school Principal and Hall County School District establish a penalty which may include suspension in all Hall County activities for up to twelve (12) months
6. If the ejection occurs in the last game of the season, the penalty carries over to the first game of the next season. If the student is an eighth grader, the penalty carries over to the next middle school activity in which the student participates.

7. Any student who intentionally injures or intentionally attempts to injure another student, coach, official, spectator, or other person immediately before, during, or immediately after any Hall County sponsored activity, may be declared ineligible to participate in future Hall County activities by the Hall County School District. These situations will be immediately reported to the District Athletic Director.

Q. Officials' Security:

The officials' dressing area is "off limits" to coaches and administrators for the discussion of game decisions either at halftime or after the game. Home schools are responsible for safe passage for all officials while on their campus.

VIII. Policy on Illegal Drugs

The Hall County School District strongly opposes the abuse of any illegal drugs including the abuse of anabolic steroids and other performance enhancing substances by middle/high school student-athletes. The Hall County School District believes that such usage violates legal, ethical and competitive-equity standards and imposes unreasonable long-term health risks on the user. Schools are encouraged to supply educational materials about this issue to students. Hall County middle school student athletes who participate in the use of, distribution of, or association with other persons in use of or possession of any illegal drugs (or substances deemed to be "look alike" drugs) including anabolic steroids and other performance enhancing substances, will be subject to disciplinary actions outlined in the HCSD student discipline code of conduct. Coaches may impose suspension from competition or removal from the sport as a result of these infractions; however, they should work with the school's administration when doing so. Discipline will range from suspension to permanent dismissal from the Hall County Athletic Program and all sports associated with the Hall County School District.

IX. County Identification Badges and GHSA Passes

A. Hall County Identification Badge:

Only the bearer of this badge will be admitted to middle school games held within Hall County.

B. Georgia High School Association Passes:

Only the bearer of this pass plus one will be admitted. Those persons whose names appear on a list which has been approved in advance by the principal or his/her designee may be admitted free of charge for regular season events.

C. Golden Passport

Only the bearer of the Golden Passport will be admitted to middle school games within Hall County.

X. MIDDLE SCHOOL SPECIFIC SPORT REGULATIONS

Middle schools will follow GHSA By-Laws. Rule exceptions should be discussed with the District AD

A. Football:

1. Spring practice may take place after the conclusion of spring sports' championships until the last day of student-attended school. Spring practice is limited to ten consecutive student-attended school days. Each school may decide if they want to practice in full pads, helmets/shoulders pads, or just T-shirts and shorts.
2. Schools may participate in specified regular season games, plus the playoffs and county championship. Coaches may also schedule scrimmage games as outlined by the schedule. Schools will have the option to schedule one preseason scrimmage and one jamboree where all players may participate.
 - i. Games are to be approved by the school's principal.
 - ii. Officials are to be scheduled by the host school for each game.
 - iii. Game times will follow the regular middle school format unless otherwise agreed by both coaches.
 - iv. Game times may not be increased.
 - v. Scrimmages will have no bearing on the official regular season.
 - vi. If coaches choose, one coach at a time may be present on the field to assist their team. Coaches may not be present in the huddle.
 - vii. Host school will be in charge of recording halftime and end of game results on the approved document.
3. Football practice may begin on the schedule-defined start date. The posted schedule will provide yearly start dates. Summer practice is limited to three hours (daily) of football conditioning or activities. This does not include "team building" fun events.
4. Football teams may attend a week-long camp between the last day of school and the first day of practice, excluding GHSA dead week. Teams will not practice in full pads and shall not participate in full contact drills or scrimmages. Teams may wear helmets.
5. Football teams may participate in a 7 on 7 passing league. The passing league is a non-contact competition. Helmets may be worn if both teams are wearing them. Limit one contest per week.
6. The schedule will be set by the District Athletic Director.
7. Game quarters will be eight minutes. Half-time will be eight minutes.
8. The GHSA guidelines for competitive imbalance will be followed.
9. Teams may participate in a 5th quarter for players not playing in the regular game. The length of time will be the decision of both coaches based on light conditions.
10. Football overtime procedures: (The overtime procedure will be used whenever two schools from the county are tied at the end of regulation play).
 - i. Teams will have the opportunity to score from the 15-yard line until the tie is broken.
 - ii. Schools not in the Hall County league may use the overtime procedure if agreement is reached and communicated to the Referee before the beginning of the game.
 - iii. Overtime games are exempt from the Hall County curfew.

- iv. There will be a 3-minute intermission between the end of regulation play and the coin toss to start the overtime procedure. The captains will meet for the coin toss, and the winner may choose one of the following:
 - a) Offense first
 - b) Defense first
 - c) Choose the end of the field on which to play
 - v. The ball is placed on the 15-yard line and the offense keeps the ball until:
 - a) The ball is turned over on downs NOTE: The team on offense can gain a first down.
 - b) The defense gains possession of the ball (ball is dead immediately)
 - c) The offense scores a touchdown or field goal
 - d) The offense misses a field goal
 - e) After the first offensive team completes its possession, the opposing team gets its opportunity from the 15-yard line.
 - f) If the game remains tied after each team has had an offensive possession, there will be a 2-minute intermission and the team that lost the first coin toss has the first option for the second possession.
 - g) For each additional overtime period (i.e., an offensive possession by each team) the coin toss options are alternated.
 - h) Beginning with the third overtime period, a team must attempt a 2-point try after a touchdown.
 - i) After the third overtime, the game is called a tie.
 - j) Each team is allowed one timeout per overtime period. No timeouts may be carried over from regulation play.
 - k) Penalty enforcement is handled the same way in overtime as in regulation play.
11. Hall County Championship Game Procedure:
- i. Championship tournament information will be decided prior to the season beginning and may change in format from year to year or during the season as necessary. The District Athletic Director may make adjustments in the schedule as deemed necessary by the Hall County School District and member principals.
 - ii. In case of a tie the following criteria will be used for tournament placement:
 - a) Head to Head
 - b) In case of a three-way tie- The three teams that have created a perfect triangle will have the total points allowed in the first half of every regular season game added. The team allowing the least amount of points in the first half of the regular season will be declared the regular season champion and #1 team in the championship game. The #2 team will be the head-to-head winner of the remaining two teams. #1 and #2 will play for the county championship.

B. Cross Country

- 1. Season start date will follow the guidelines in the posted schedule.
- 2. Participation and eligibility will follow Hall County guidelines.

3. Teams may compete in a maximum of seven races, including two out of district with approval from the district Athletic Director, not to include the Hall County Championship race.
4. Races will be 2 miles in length. The first five finishers for each team will count for the total team score.
 - i. In the event of a tie, the sixth place finisher for the teams that are tied will be counted.
 - ii. If the sixth place finishers are tied, the seventh place finishers will be counted.
5. The numbers of entries allowed in each race will be decided upon by the school Athletic Directors prior to the beginning of the season.

C. Football/Basketball/Competition Cheerleading:

1. Football, Basketball, and Competition Cheerleading Tryouts may take place in the spring.
2. Basketball Cheerleading Tryouts- if not done in spring of the previous school year, tryouts may take place on the first complete week of September.
3. Teams may attend two week-long camps (of consecutive days) between the end of the school and first day of practice. Teams may not have separate practices and call it camps.
4. Season start date will follow the guidelines in the posted schedule.
5. Half-time routines can be up to three minutes in all sports that halftime applies to.
6. Following GHSA rules, when a free throw is in progress, cheerleaders should be quiet - no cheering, no stomping, and no kicking the bleachers in an attempt to distract the player of an opposing team.
7. Tumbling and/or Stunting by cheerleading spirit squads may not take place at basketball games or on any hard surface. See GHSA Hand book for Stunting guidelines.

D. Basketball:

1. Teams may offer one week of conditioning as stated by the yearly schedule. No cuts may be made during this week. All activities during this week of conditioning must be voluntary.
2. Try-outs may begin as stated by the schedule.
3. The first day of team competitions will be set by the posted yearly schedules.
4. Teams may participate in 2 additional approved season games plus the county championship tournament.
5. Schools may schedule one scrimmage game between the first day of practice and the first regular season game.
6. Teams may attend two week long camps between the last day of school and the first day of school.
7. Teams may hold voluntary open gyms at any time between the last day of school and the first day of school.
8. Half-times for basketball games will be six minutes. In-between games will be eight minutes. Teams waiting to play the next game may warm-up during half time.
9. Game quarters will be six minutes.
10. Host teams will provide water, cups, and seating for the opposing team. Traveling teams will need to bring other basketball related items.
11. Basketballs will be provided by the host school.
12. Basketball tournaments may be scheduled any day Monday through Saturday.
13. The 8th Grade Tournament will begin the Saturday after the regular season concludes. There will be a host school and a secondary game site for each tournament. Brackets for the tournament will be posted at the end of the season.
14. Players in the tournament will get in free to games that they are not participating.

15. Tournament placement will be based on regular season record against Hall County opponents (see schedule for ranking games).
16. When there is a competitive imbalance between teams, the coach of a team trailing by 30 points or more at halftime may choose to play the second half with a running clock. If the point differential at the beginning of the 4th quarter is 30 points or greater, the running clock will automatically be used for the remainder of the game. You will still have 6 minute quarters but the clock will only stop on timeouts.
17. For tournament seeding in case of a tie, the following formula will be used:
 - i. When two teams are tied in the standings based on regular season tournament placement play, regular season head-to-head results are used as the tiebreaker.
 - ii. In the case of a perfect triangle:
 - a. Record against highest common opponents
 - b. Overall record will be used
 - c. Coin flip
18. 7th and 8th grade will each select a boys and girls team for their respective grade level. In the event there are not enough athletes for a grade level specific team, coaches may pull up from the grade level below to make a tryout roster of no more than 12. Both coaches and parents must agree to this decision, and athletes will remain on the team for which they are selected.

E. Wrestling

Wrestling will follow National Federation Rules, unless otherwise stated in this document below:

1. Teams may offer one week of non-contact conditioning as outlined in the yearly schedule. All activities during this week of conditioning must be voluntary.
2. The first match may take place according to the posted schedule.
3. MS wrestling is a Co-Ed activity.
4. A wrestling team may schedule 14 competition dates, not including state tournament
5. Holiday practices are permissible as approved by the school AD, but cannot be mandatory.
6. The Hall County tournament must take place prior to the Traditional State Dual Tournament.
7. The structure of wrestling meets between teams (dual meets, tri meets, etc...) will be negotiated between coaches, prior to the start of the event. Wrestlers should have at least 25 minutes between competition matches.
8. Teams may attend two week long camps between the last day of school and the first day of school.
9. Current 6th, 7th, and 8th graders will be eligible to participate in middle school wrestling.
10. **Hall County Wrestling Tournament rules (Middle School):**
 - i. To be eligible to wrestle in the county meet, wrestlers must have participated in half of the school's competition dates as part of the MS team.
 - ii. Weight classes will reflect the current classifications from the published weight classes for the Traditional Middle School State Duals. As of 4/23/2020 they are:
72,79,86,94,102,110,118,125,132,139,147,155,165,180,210,275
 - iii. The tournament will allow each school to be able to enter up to 2 athletes per weight class. Schools will identify the athlete that will score points for them at the seed meeting prior to the tournament beginning.
 - iv. Officials will be secured and paid by the host school.

- v. Any wrestler that fails to report, misses weight or fails a skin check will be reported as a forfeit in their respective bracket.
- vi. Teams will pay the entry fee by the tournament date, unless prior arrangements are made by the school's AD's. There will be a flat team fee for school participation of the school's "A-team." In the event schools want to add additional wrestlers (2nd, non-point scoring participants), to a bracket, the cost will be \$10 per wrestler, up to a max of an additional \$100 per team.
- vii. Weigh-ins will be conducted at the tournament site if time allows. In the event weigh-ins occur at the home school, they must be witnessed by another Hall County Coach if possible, or the school's administrator at a time stated in the tournament flier.
- viii. Rosters will be submitted by teams prior to the seed meeting beginning. A seed meeting will be conducted prior to the tournament. Seed criteria will be negotiated by the coaches prior to the meeting beginning, but criteria may include the following:
 - a. Head to Head results,
 - b. record against common opponents,
 - c. overall record,
 - d. previous USA state placement,
 - e. previous Hall County tournament placement,
 - f. in addition to other criteria agreed upon by the coaches.
- ix. Tournament matches will consist of three 90-second periods, with 12-point Tech Falls (may change if Traditional Middle School State Dual dual criteria changes).
- x. Tournament scoring will be based on the placement of athletes in their respective brackets.
- xi. Wrestlers will earn Tournament scoring 6 places: 16-12-9-7-5-3

F. Track and Field

1. Tryouts/Conditioning may begin according to the schedule and following the middle school basketball season. The first meet may take place in the last week of February. The schedule will be decided yearly and may result in start date changes- see posted schedule. Regular season meets will begin at 4:30 and should end by 7:30.
2. Schools may participate in six meets plus the county championship. Additional meets must be approved by the County AD. Participants must have participated in a minimum of 50% of that school's meets to be eligible for the championship meet.
3. The county championship meet may take place on two days during the week. If a two-day event is required, the field events will take place on the first day, and the running events will take place on the second day. The county championship meet must take place by the end of April. Posted schedules will be final.
4. Awards - Team Trophies will be presented to champions and runner-ups. Medals will be presented to top 3 finishers in each event. Ribbons will be presented for 4th, 5th and 6th place finishers in each event.
5. A contestant in Track and Field may compete in a maximum of four (4) events and may not be entered in more than four events, excluding relays. If a contestant is entered in more than the allowable number of events, meet management shall scratch the contestant

from the excess event(s) by following the listed Order of Events. A contestant may officially compete in:

1. Four individual events - NO Relay events.
 2. Three individual events - May be listed on any number of relay events but compete in only one relay event.
 3. Two individual events - May be listed on any number of relay events but compete in only two relay events.
 4. One individual event - May be listed on all three relay events and compete in all three relay events.
6. Maximum of 70 Athletes per regular season meet entry and maximum of 12 entries in the 800. The following is the recommended order of running events, when possible, for regular season meets. Schools have the option of running the 3200 M run during field events.
- | | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| i. 100 Meter Hurdles | Anaerobic |
| ii. 100 m Dash | Anaerobic |
| iii. 1600 m Run | Aerobic |
| iv. 4 x 100 m Relay | Anaerobic |
| v. 400 m Dash | Anaerobic |
| vi. 800 m Run | Aerobic |
| vii. 200 m Dash | Anaerobic |
| viii. 3200 m Run | Aerobic |
| ix. 4 x 400 m Relay | Anaerobic |
7. The number of participants will be limited in the following regular season events.
- i. Jumping Events: 3 participants for dual meets, and 2 participants for tri-meets
 - ii. Throwing Events: 5 participants for both dual and tri-meets
 - iii. Sprinting Events: 3 participants for dual meets, and 2 participants for tri-meets
 - iv. Relays: 3 teams for dual meets, and 2 teams for tri-meets
8. Hurdle Height at all meets- (Height of 30" for Girls 33" for Boys) (110m)
9. Shot- 8 lbs (Boys and Girls)
10. Disc- 1K (Boys and Girls)
11. All entries in the mile during the regular season will be at the discretion of the head coach. Coaches are encouraged to consider the students time during practice before entering him/her in a meet. Coaches may have a maximum of 12 entries in the one mile and 2 mile run during the regular season.
12. County Championships (Qualifying Information):
- i. Maximum of (2) two athletes per running event and (3) three per field event for all events.
 - ii. Qualifying times/distances:
 - a. 800- (Boys < 3 minutes) (Girls < 4 minutes) (2 entries per school)
 - b. Mile- (Boys < 7 minutes) (Girls < 9 minutes) (2 entries per school)
 - c. High Jump- (Boys minimum 4' 6") (Girls minimum 4" 2")

- d. Long Jump- (All competitors minimum 8')
- e. Triple jump- (Boys minimum 24') (Girls minimum 20')

G. Soccer

1. Preseason conditioning may begin the first week students return from Winter break.
2. Practice with a ball may begin once Hall County 8th grade basketball tournament has concluded.
3. Tryouts must last a minimum of three days before coaches may start making cuts.
4. Must have a minimum of 16 try out before you can pull up from 6th grade.
5. Games will begin at 4:30 p.m.
6. Each game will have two 25-minute halves with 8 minutes between halves and 8 minutes between matches.
7. Mercy Rule: If at any point during the 1st Half, the point differential reaches 7 goals, the half will end there and the second half will be reduced to 15 minutes.
8. If at any time during the second half the point differential reaches 10 goals, the game will end at that point and be declared complete.
9. Every match that is played with an opponent who will compete in the Hall County Middle School Cup will count towards tournament seeding.
10. Week before the Middle School Cup can be reserved for make-up games.
11. The Annual Hall Middle School Cup will be the week of _____ at Allen Creek with Mike Little as Director.
12. Any player participating in the Middle School Cup must be included on the team roster at the beginning of the season.
13. Team rosters will be shared with participating teams at the beginning of the season before the first soccer match.
14. Schools may participate in 2 additional approved season games plus the Middle School Cup.

XI. Booster Clubs

Booster Clubs help promote, support, and improve the extracurricular activities of the schools in the Hall County School District. Each principal is responsible for the relationship between the school and its booster clubs and other parent groups. Since the public perceives Booster Clubs as also representing the school, it is necessary for them to follow these guidelines regarding their relationship with the school. The school administration will periodically meet with all Booster Clubs and Parent Groups to train and monitor their activity as it relates to the school.

XII. CODE OF ETHICS

The Hall County School District recognizes its responsibility with respect to the promotion of honesty, truthfulness, and accuracy in record-keeping and reporting. Therefore, the professional personnel of the member schools are charged with upholding the Code of Ethics adopted by the Professional Standards Commission as accepted and approved by the State Board of Education.

Violations of Hall County Athletic Guidelines, school policy, team policy, or GHSA rules shall be brought to the attention of the Athletic Director. Disciplinary action will be determined by the athletic director, principal, and head coach.

XIII. PERFORMANCE/ENHANCEMENT SUPPLEMENTS

In order to minimize health and safety risks to student athletes, maintain ethical standards, and reduce potential liability for individuals and/or the School District, all School District personnel (including full-time, part-time, and lay coaches) are prohibited from recommending, encouraging or permitting the use of, or supplying to students, any drug, medication, or energy drinks intended to enhance performance.

XIV. CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT- HCSD Follows GHSA

2.68 GHSA Concussion Policy: In accordance with *Georgia law* and national playing rules published by the NFHS, any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion shall be immediately removed from the practice or contest and shall not return to play until an appropriate health care professional has determined that no concussion has occurred. (NOTE: An appropriate health care professional may include: licensed physician (MD/DO) or another licensed individual under the supervision of a licensed physician, such as a nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, or certified athletic trainer who has received training in concussion evaluation and management).

1. No athlete *is allowed* to return to a game or practice on the same day that a concussion (1) has been diagnosed OR (2) cannot be ruled out.
2. Any athlete diagnosed with a concussion *shall* be cleared medically by an appropriate health care professional prior to resuming participation in any future practice or contest. The formulation of a gradual return to play protocol *shall* be a part of the medical clearance.
3. It is mandatory that every coach in each GHSA sport (including Community Coaches, Student Teachers, and Interns) participate in a free, online course on concussion management prepared by the NFHS and available at www.nfhslearn.com at least every two years - beginning with the 2013-14 school year.
4. Each school will be responsible for monitoring the participation of its coaches in the concussion management course, and shall keep a record of those who participate.
5. Each school must distribute to every athlete and his/her parent/guardian an information sheet that includes: the dangers of concussion injuries, the signs/symptoms of concussion, and the concussion management protocol outlined in this by-law. This sheet must be signed by the parent/guardian of each athlete and a copy kept on file at the school.

XV. Outdoor Activities and Inclement Weather Protocols

A. The presence of or impending possibility of inclement weather that poses a threat to extra-curricular activities will be addressed in the following manner:

1. The Superintendent, Director of Transportation, and District Athletic Director will work together to obtain information from the National Weather Service as well as local law enforcement officials pertaining to the possibility of severe weather and its impact on travel conditions.

2. A final decision will be made by the Superintendent, Director of Transportation, and the Athletic Director on the status of all extra-curricular activities.
3. The District Athletic Director, Director of Public Information and Communications, or Superintendent will notify all local Athletic Directors, Middle School Principals, and High School Principals (via email) of the decision to allow or cancel extra-curricular activities. A time frame for cancellations will be included in this notification. This time change may not be altered by local schools. The District Athletic Director will notify the Director of Transportation of the final decision.
4. Extra-curricular activities may not resume until the Superintendent, or District Athletic Director clears schools to resume activities **or** the cancellation deadline has passed with no notification of an extension of the cancellation time frame. Local school athletic directors should maintain continued communication with the District Athletic Director as the time frame for continuing activities approaches. If there is any question locally, do not resume activities until you have communicated with the District Athletic Director.

B. Protocol for special situations:

1. Teams that are already at a location of competition OR may be in route- The Director of Transportation, and District Athletic Director will evaluate each situation after speaking with the local school principal and receiving his/her recommendation. It is the responsibility of the local school principal or activities coordinator to communicate these special situations to the District Athletic Director for consideration. These decisions will be reviewed based on the groups distance from the home school, approximate return time, predicted conditions upon return, and current location accommodations. Individual team/group sponsors may be required to make additional accommodations if road conditions do not improve and the length of stay is extended. These accommodations will be made at the cost of the team/group.

C. Cancellations apply to:

1. All school sponsored teams, clubs, or groups that represent our local school and the Hall County School District. No coach or sponsor shall make a call to compete or participate in an activity that requires transportation to the event during the time of school and activity cancellation. This transportation includes all forms of transportation to the event including but not limited to parent drivers. Individual students may not represent the school and Hall County School District in competitions that have been canceled. Individual students or teams participating in activities that have been canceled are subject to disciplinary action and will have any qualifying scores or points rendered void.
2. All forms of practice including but not limited to non-mandatory practices.

D. The following are reminders as to how to handle **inclement weather with snow/ice, lightning, possible tornadoes and severe thunderstorms in conjunction with practices and games.**

1. Athletic Cancellations during the day by the district
 - i. Adhere to all specific instructions from school administration.
 - ii. Athletes are to go home when school dismissal occurs.
2. School Closings Prior to School Commencing
 - i. No practices or games each day that school is out. No meetings either.
3. After Practices or Games Have Started

- i. Any principal or coach may cancel when individual situations warrant such. Get all athletes, coaches, fans, etc. to safety immediately.
- 4. During Holiday Vacations
 - i. Principal and coach- use best judgment.
- 5. School Cancellations with Practices and Games Resuming
 - i. Sometimes school may be cancelled but practices and games may resume at a certain time. These directives MUST come from the Central Office. Do not resume practices or games, even if the weather turns nice, without Central Office approval.
- 6. Any directives from the Central Office must be strictly followed.

Appendix A: GHSA Practice Policy for Heat and Humidity: (accessible at <https://www.ghsa.net/sites/default/files/documents/sports-medicine/PracticePolicyHeatHumidity2019.pdf>)

- A. Schools must follow the statewide policy for conducting practices and voluntary conditioning workouts (this policy is year-round, including during the summer) in all sports during times of extremely high heat and/or humidity that will be signed by each head coach at the beginning of each season and distributed to all players and their parents or guardians. The policy shall follow modified guidelines of the American College of Sports Medicine in regard to:
 - 1. The scheduling of practices at various heat/humidity levels.
 - 2. The ratio of workout time to time allotted for rest and hydration at various heat/humidity levels.
 - 3. The heat/humidity levels that will result in practice being terminated.
- B. A scientifically-approved instrument that measures the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature must be utilized at each practice to ensure that the written policy is being followed properly. WBGT readings should be taken every hour, beginning 30 minutes before the beginning of practice.

WBGT READING ACTIVITY GUIDELINES & REST BREAK GUIDELINES

Under 82.0 Normal activities--Provide at least three separate rest breaks each hour of minimum duration of 3 minutes each during workout

82.0 - 86.9 Use discretion for intense or prolonged exercise; watch at-risk players carefully; Provide at least three separate rest breaks each hour of a minimum of four minutes' duration each

87.0 - 89.9 Maximum practice time is two hours. For Football: players restricted to helmet, shoulder pads, and shorts during practice. All protective equipment must be removed for conditioning activities. For all sports: Provide at least four separate rest breaks each hour of a minimum of four minutes each

90.0 - 92.0 Maximum length of practice is one hour, no protective equipment may be worn during practice and there may be no conditioning activities. There must be 20-minutes of rest breaks provided during the hour of practice

Over 92.1 No outdoor workouts; Cancel exercise; delay practices until a cooler WBGT reading occurs

- C. Practices are defined as: the period of time that a participant engages in a coach-supervised, school approved sport or conditioning-related activity. Practices are timed from the time the players report to the practice or workout area until players leave that area. If a practice is interrupted for a weather related reason, the "clock" on that practice will stop and will begin again when the practice resumes.
- D. Conditioning activities include such things as weight training, wind-sprints, timed runs for distance, etc., and may be a part of the practice time or included in "voluntary workouts."

- E.** A walk-through is not a part of the practice time regulation, and may last no longer than one hour. This activity may not include conditioning activities or contact drills. No protective equipment may be worn during a walk-through, and no full-speed drills may be held.
- F.** Rest breaks may not be combined with any other type of activity and players must be given unlimited access to hydration. These breaks must be held in a “cool zone” where players are out of direct sunlight.
- G.** When the WBGT reading is over 86, ice towels and spray bottles filled with ice water should be available at the “cool zone” to aid the cooling process AND cold immersion tubs must be available for the benefit of any player showing early signs of heat illness. In the event of a serious EHI, the principal of “Cool First, Transport Second” should be utilized and implemented by the first medical provider onsite until cooling is completed (core temperature of 103 or less).

Appendix B: National Athletic Trainers Association (NATA) Resource Links

[Parents' and Coaches' Guide to Heat Illnesses: English](#) (pdf)

[Parents' and Coaches' Guide to Heat Illnesses: Spanish](#) (pdf)

[Beat the Heat: Hydration and Heat Illness Handout](#) (pdf)

Appendix C: Guidelines for Extremely Low Temperatures

- A. The local school principal, or designee, will make the final decision as to whether outdoor practice will be allowed. The health, safety, and welfare of the students should be the determining factors.
- B. The wind chill factor should be used to determine the severity of the cold temperature, NOT just the temperature alone.
- C. Warm-up and stretch properly up until immediately before the competition or practice.
- D. Clothing should be selected for comfort. Do not overdress. Multiple layers provide good insulation.
- E. Properly cover the head, neck, legs, and hands. Much of your body heat is lost through these areas.
- F. Extreme cold blocks some sensations of pain. Thus, frostbite can easily affect the fingers, toes, ears, and facial areas. Check these areas regularly.
- G. Hypothermia is a dangerous and severe level that can occur in cold temperatures. Add extra clothing and move to a warm environment immediately after exercising or practice. Drink warm fluids if possible. Hypothermia has occurred in air temperatures of 50°-65°F.
- H. Early signs and symptoms of hypothermia include shivering, euphoria, confusion, and behavior similar to intoxication. Severe signs include lethargy, muscular weakness, disorientation, depression, hallucinations, and even combative behavior.

Wind Chill Chart (adapted from USA Soccer handout found at <http://www.recognizetorecover.org/environmental#environmental-conditions>)

STEP ONE - DETERMINE WIND CHILL TEMPERATURE

The effects of cold weather can impact health and safety during practices and games. The definition of “cold stress” varies across the United States, depending on how accustomed people are to cold weather. A player from Minnesota will have a much different threshold for cold than a player from Florida.

WIND CHILL TEMPERATURE (WCT) INDEX														
TEMPERATURE IN DEGREES FAHRENHEIT														
WIND SPEED	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0	-5	-10	-15	-20	
	5	36	31	25	19	13	7	1	-5	-11	-16	-22	-28	-34
	10	34	27	21	15	9	3	-4	-10	-16	-22	-28	-35	-41
	15	32	25	19	13	6	0	-7	-13	-19	-26	-32	-39	-45
	20	30	24	17	11	4	-2	-9	-15	-22	-29	-35	-42	-48
	25	29	23	16	9	3	-4	-11	-17	-24	-31	-37	-44	-51
	30	28	22	15	8	1	-5	-12	-19	-26	-33	-39	-46	-53
	35	28	21	14	7	0	-7	-14	-21	-27	-34	-41	-48	-55
	40	27	20	13	6	-1	-8	-15	-22	-29	-36	-43	-50	-57
	45	27	19	12	5	-2	-9	-16	-23	-30	-37	-44	-51	-58
50	26	19	12	4	-3	-10	-17	-24	-31	-38	-45	-52	-60	

STEP TWO - FIND YOUR ALERT LEVEL

Use this chart to determine the alert level at your location based on the wind chill temperature.

ALERT LEVEL	WCT (F)	EVENT CONDITIONS	RECOMMENDED ACTION
BLACK	< 0	Extreme Conditions*	Cancel or attempt to move activities indoors. Frostbite could occur
RED	1-15	High Risk for Cold Related Illness*	Consider modifying activity to limit exposure and allow for more frequent chances to rewarm
ORANGE	16-24	Moderate Risk for Cold Related Illness*	Provide additional protective clothing, cover as much exposed skin as practical, and provide opportunities and facilities for rewarming
YELLOW	25-30	Less than Ideal Conditions*	Be aware of the potential for cold injury and notify appropriate personnel of the potential
GREEN	>30	Good Conditions	Normal activities

* In wet environments with colder conditions, the following situations are accelerated. Use additional caution to recognize potential cold injuries. (NOTE: These WCT guidelines were adapted from the NATA position statement: Environmental Cold Injuries by Cappaert et al. 2008.)

XVI. Hall County Middle Schools

Academies of Discovery at South Hall

3215 Poplar Springs Rd., Suite A
Gainesville, GA 30507
Phone: 770-532-4416
Principal: Joey Millwood
AD: Abigail Celli
shms.hallco.org
Mascot: Knights

Chestatee Academy

2740 Fran Mar Dr.
Gainesville, GA 30506
Phone: 770-297-6270
Principal: Jennifer Kogod
AD: Libbie Armstrong
cms.hallco.org
Mascot: War Eagles

East Hall Middle School

4120 East Hall Rd.
Gainesville, GA 30507
770-531-2327
Principal: Dr. Jefferey Chandler
AD: Josh Chapman
ehms.hallco.org
Mascot: Vikings

West Hall Middle School

5470 McEver Rd.
Oakwood, GA 30566
Phone: 770-967-4871
Principal: Ethan Banks
AD: Chris Foster
whms.hallco.org
Mascot: Spartans

Cherokee Bluff Middle School

6603 Spout Springs Rd., Suite B
Flowery Branch, GA 30542
Phone: 770-967-0071
Principal: Robert Wilson
AD:
cbms.hallco.org
Mascot: Bears

Davis Middle School

4335 Falcon Pkwy
Flowery Branch, GA 30542
Phone: 770-965-3020
Principal: Dr. Mike McQueen
AD: Scott Tipton
dms.hallco.org
Mascot: Falcons

North Hall Middle School

4856 Rilla Rd.
Gainesville, GA 30506
Phone: 770-983-9749
Principal: Kristin Finley
AD: Dean DeVito
nhms.hallco.org
Mascot: Trojans

World Language Academy Middle School

3215 Poplar Springs Rd., Suite B
Gainesville, GA 30507
Phone: 770-533-4004
Principal: Laurie Hitzges
AD: Clay Carlyle
wlams.hallco.org
Mascot: Toros