

Proposal to allow the addition of the 4x800 Relay to the State Meet series in Track & Field

PROPOSAL:

We propose adding the 4x800 meter relay to the State Meet series (Region/Area, Sectional, State) in Track & Field. We propose adding the 4x800 meter relay beginning with the 2020 season (2019-2020 academic year) as a final against time (no prelims necessary). A maximum of 2 relay teams per school would be allowed (same as 4x100 & 4x400). Entry limits for individual athletes would remain unchanged. GHSA Constitution would be amended to read as follows (Section 14 Track and Field part E): A contestant in Track and Field may enter a maximum of **TWO** (*instead of both*) relays, and any one (1) of the combinations below (remainder of Section 14 part E to remain unchanged).

RATIONALE:

1. According to survey results, coaches in Georgia are in favor of adding the 4x800 relay to the State Meet series by approximately 2-to-1 (see survey results below)
2. 42 of the 50 states currently contest the 4x800 relay as part of their State Meet.
 - a. Of the 8 that do not contest the 4x800, 5 run some other relay in addition to the 4x100 & 4x400 (Georgia is one of only 3 states that does not contest any relays in addition to the 4x100 & 4x400)
3. This would bring Georgia in line with NFHS events in Track & Field
 - a. NFHS considers the 4x800 as one of its traditional events in Track & Field
4. State meet hosts at Berry, Albany, & Carrollton have seen schedule possibilities and all agree that the 4x8 could be placed in the State Meet schedule at all three locations.
5. Addition of the relay is in line with GHSA's goal of encouraging participation in athletics

SUPPORTING DATA:

This past spring a survey was conducted and completed to aid in advancing the sport of track and field in the state of Georgia. Responses were received from every Region in every Classification. Meet Directors of Region/Area meets, Sectional meets, and the current State Meet sites have reviewed this proposal, have reviewed possible schedules that include the 4x800 relay, and have said that the addition of the 4x800 relay to the Region/Area, Sectional, & State Meet schedules is easily achievable. Possible Sectional & State Meet schedules that include the 4x800 relay are available at the committee's request.

Methods used to contact coaches for survey:

- e-mailed coaches directly
- through Region Secretaries & Area Coordinators
- through Region Meet Directors
- through Sectional Meet Directors
- GATFXCCA (Coaches Association) Class Representatives
- mailed (snail mail) directly to coaches
- phone calls (when able during school day)

*Received responses from every Region in every Classification

Question from survey:

1. "Are you in favor of allowing the addition of the 4x800 relay to the State Championship series?"
 - Answer choices: Yes; No; Neutral (no opinion)

Survey results on following page

Survey results:

1. Addition of the 4x800 Relay:

- 7A
 - Yes – 40 (72.7%)
 - No – 12
 - Neutral (no opinion) – 3
- 6A
 - Yes – 32 (68.1%)
 - No – 12
 - Neutral (no opinion) – 3
- 5A
 - Yes – 36 (59.1%)
 - No – 18
 - Neutral (no opinion) – 7
- 4A
 - Yes – 31 (62.0%)
 - No – 13
 - Neutral (no opinion) – 6
- 3A
 - Yes – 26 (60.5%)
 - No – 13
 - Neutral (no opinion) – 4
- 2A
 - Yes – 23 (42.6%)
 - No – 24
 - Neutral (no opinion) – 7
- A Private
 - Yes – 25 (69.4%)
 - No – 7
 - Neutral (no opinion) – 4
- A Public
 - Yes – 10 (20.4%)
 - No – 28
 - Neutral (no opinion) – 11

4x8 Region Voting (based on schools vote within each region)

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Vote</u>
AAAAAAA	1	No
	2	Yes
	3	Yes
	4	Yes
	5	Yes
	6	Yes
	7	Yes
	8	Yes

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Vote</u>
AAAAAA	1	No
	2	Yes
	3	Yes
	4	Yes/No (50-50)
	5	Yes
	6	Yes
	7	Yes
	8	Yes

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Vote</u>
AAAAA	1	No
	2	Yes
	3	Yes/No (50-50)
	4	Yes
	5	Yes/No (50-50)
	6	Yes
	7	Yes
	8	No

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Vote</u>
AAAA	1	Yes
	2	Yes/No (50-50)
	3	Yes
	4	Yes
	5	Yes
	6	Yes
	7	Yes
	8	Yes/No (50-50)

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Vote</u>
AAA	1	No
	2	No
	3	Yes
	4	No
	5	Yes
	6	Yes/No (50-50)
	7	Yes
	8	Yes

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Vote</u>
AA	1	No
	2	No
	3	Yes
	4	Yes/No (50-50)
	5	No
	6	Yes
	7	Yes/No (50-50)
	8	Yes

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Vote</u>
A	1	Yes
	2	No
	3	No
	4	No
	5	Yes
	6	Yes
	7	No
	8	Yes

Proposal to add the 4x800m Relay

Rep	Region	Class	Aligned
Emery	5	1A	✓
Lancaster	8	3A	✓
Finch	2	4A	50-50
Griffis	5	4A	✓
Adams	6	4A	✓
Lawler	7	4A	✓
Ratliff, C	3	5A	50-50
Miller, J	4	5A	✓
Breedlove	7	5A	✓
Hand	5	6A	✓
Kelly	6	6A	✓
Craft	7	6A	✓
Turner	5	7A	✓
Long	6	7A	✓
Barton	7	7A	✓
Weyher	8	7A	✓
Masters	At-Large		
Sanfilippo	GADA		
Brown, P	GASSP		
Willams	GHSA Vice		
Miller	GSSA		

Calhoun	1-3A		Didn't vote
Fields	4-2A		didn't vote
Jewell	6-2A		didn't vote

Jewell voted AGAINST in Trustee meeting

Rep	Region	Class	Aligned
Pinson	1	1A	-
Crews	2	1A	
Griffin	3	1A	
Tidwell	4	1A	
Brown, J	6	1A	50/50
Simpson	7	1A	
Drew	8	1A	-
Luke	1	2A	
Thompson	2	2A	
Hodges	3	2A	-
Boland	5	2A	
Warren	7	2A	50/50
Armstrong	8	2A	
Peek	2	3A	
Hawthorne	3	3A	-
Daniel	4	3A	
Jackson, J	5	3A	-
Mashburn	6	3A	50/50
Cooper	7	3A	-
Battles	1	4A	-
Marchman	3	4A	-
Fernandez	4	4A	-
Dowis	8	4A	50/50
Brown, C	1	5A	-
Shields	2	5A	-
Brewington	5	5A	50/50
Jackson, R	6	5A	-
Wood	8	5A	
Kinsler	1	6A	-
Etheridge	2	6A	-
Black	3	6A	-
May	4	6A	50/50
Cunningham	8	6A	-
Tillery	1	7A	
Horton	2	7A	-
Dorsey	3	7A	-
Sebring	4	7A	-
Newton	???????		
Montgomery	At-Large		
McAllister	GACA		
Tenoschok	GDOE		
White	GHSA		
Colvard	GSBA		
Seabrooks	?????		

20 Reps voted AGAINST the responses from their respective coaches

6 Reps voted AGAINST the spilt from their respective regions

If voting occurred as the same as the polling/will of the region coaches

Yes 40

No 23

46 (if the 50/50 regions went with the majority of other classes/coaches)

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