



# TGCA NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2024



## 2024-2025 TGCA OFFICERS



**President of TGCA**  
Claire Gay  
Aledo HS



**1st Vice President**  
Scott Mann  
Lorena HS



**2nd Vice President**  
Sunni Strickland  
Big Spring HS



**Past President**  
Cully Doyle  
Brock HS



**Executive Director**  
Sam Tipton  
TGCA Office



**Assistant  
Executive Director**  
Lee Grisham  
TGCA Office



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# THE BELIEF IN WORDS: THEIR IMPACT ON YOUNG ATHLETES

**Kevin Johnson** Abilene Cooper HS | **TGCA Track Committee Vice Chair**

Words carry immense power, especially in the world of sports. For athletes, words can either be uplifting, instilling confidence and motivation, or destructive, causing self-doubt and disengagement. This is especially true with female athletes, who often face unique challenges regarding social expectations and stereotypes. As coaches and parents, we always think about the words our athletes hear.

I was reminded of this one Sunday when my pastor gave an example during his sermon of NFL quarterback Tua Tagovailoa speaking on the two different coaching environments of his professional career. It took Tagovailoa two years under a new coaching regime to unlearn the negative image of himself created by the negative words that had previously surrounded him. Tagovailoa's story offers an insightful lens into the broader discussion of how athletes, regardless of age, can be shaped by the words they hear. The sermon triggered memories of how I saw myself due to words used around me and made me contemplate how my words can shape and impact my athletes.

## Positive Impact of Words

Positive reinforcement and encouragement are essential in the development of young

athletes. In environments where they feel supported and valued, athletes are more likely to succeed. A coach's constructive feedback, a teammate's praise, or a parent's belief in their abilities can provide motivation to push through challenges. Words like "strong," "resilient," "capable," and "dedicated" promote a positive self-image, reinforcing the idea that success is a result of effort and skill, not appearance or gender.

Tua Tagovailoa had spoken about the support he received from coaches and teammates during his recovery from injuries. Their confidence in his abilities and resilience helped him push through, regain his strength, and return to high-level competition. Female athletes similarly benefit when those around them focus on their talents, reinforcing their potential rather than feeding into stereotypes or limitations.

Positive language can play a key role in athlete development. For example, highlighting attributes like "mental toughness" or "leadership" in young athletes shifts the narrative from superficial traits to performance-driven achievements.

## Negative Impact of Words

Unfortunately, negative lan-

guage can be equally influential. Young athletes, especially female athletes, often face comments rooted in gender stereotypes, reducing their accomplishments to their appearance, or questioning their ability to compete at the same level as male athletes. Words like "emotional," "weak," or "too aggressive" create damaging narratives that can erode confidence and reinforce social barriers.

A similar dynamic played out in my journey early in my coaching career. After taking on a new coaching role, I faced scrutiny and doubt from the head coach. Despite being trained for my new position, I questioned my ability to lead my teams. The constant negative commentary created an internal narrative that took a toll on my confidence. Female athletes experience a comparable dynamic when society places arbitrary limits on what they are "supposed" to achieve, reinforcing doubt in their own potential.

For many athletes, the impact of such negativity is amplified by cultural expectations. They may be criticized for not conforming to traditional notions based on gender or race or face doubt about their ability to handle the pressures of competition. In some cases, this negative reinforcement leads athletes to burn out, avoid certain sports, or internalize the idea that they must shrink themselves to fit expectations.

## Words Can Shape Perception

Tua Tagovailoa's experience highlights a broader truth about how public discourse shapes an athlete's journey. Throughout his recovery and time in the spotlight, media narratives fluctuated between praise and doubt. The power of words, both positive and negative, was evident in how his career was discussed, influencing public perception.

Female athletes often are



subjected to greater scrutiny and deal with it more intensely. While Tagovailoa eventually overcame the doubts to reclaim his starting position, female athletes may not always have the same opportunity to prove themselves in environments that consistently challenge their legitimacy.

## The Solution: Mindful and Purposeful Language (NOT DEMURE)

To foster an environment in which athletes thrive, those in positions of influence such as coaches, teammates, and parents must be mindful of the language they use. Encouraging words that emphasize effort, skill, and resilience promote growth and confidence. It is crucial to avoid reducing athletes to their gender, appearance, or any other stereotype. Instead, we must hold athletes to a standard of athletic excellence.

All athletes benefit from a supportive environment where words of encouragement help them push past setbacks. When we consistently affirm their potential, recognize their hard work, and create spaces where they feel supported, we unlock their ability to excel.

## Parting Words

Words are more than just tools of communication—they shape perceptions, build confidence, and either reinforce or break down barriers. For our female athletes, the words they hear can make or break their journey. To create a future where all athletes succeed, we must be intentional in the language we use, celebrating their abilities and empowering them to reach their full potential, regardless of age, gender, and race.



photo courtesy Kevin Johnson

# BALANCING ACT: TEAM BUILDING VS. TEAM TRAINING



**BSN SPORTS**

## Case Studies: Success Stories of Balanced Team Development

One illustrative example of achieving a harmonious blend of team building and training comes from a marketing agency that faced communication and collaboration challenges among its diverse team members. The agency initiated a series of integrated workshops that combined skill development in digital marketing strategies with interactive, trust-building exercises. These sessions not only equipped the team with cutting-edge marketing tools but also facilitated a deeper understanding and appreciation of each member's unique contributions. As a result, the team saw a marked improvement in project turnaround times and a significant increase in campaign creativity and effectiveness. Another noteworthy instance involved a healthcare organization that introduced a mentorship program, pairing seasoned professionals with new staff as part of their onboarding process. This initiative bridged the gap between enhancing clinical skills and forging strong interpersonal relationships within the team. The program led to higher job satisfaction rates, a decrease in staff turnover, and an uptick in patient care quality, underscoring the power of combining professional development with team-building efforts to drive collective success.

individual growth go hand in hand, without compromising on either.

## Common Pitfalls to Avoid in Balancing Team Building and Training

Avoiding the imbalance between team building and training requires vigilance and understanding. A frequent oversight is the overemphasis on team building exercises that, while fun and engaging, may not necessarily translate into improved team performance or skill enhancement. Such a misstep can leave teams feeling well-connected but underprepared for the technical challenges of their roles. Conversely, a heavy focus on training, to the detriment of team building, can cultivate a workforce that is technically competent yet lacks the camaraderie and collaboration needed to truly excel. Teams might find themselves in silos, with each member working efficiently in isolation but failing to leverage the collective strength of the group. Another potential pitfall is not customizing the approach to fit the unique needs and dynamics of the team. A one-size-fits-all strategy can lead to disengagement, as activities may not resonate with or meet the specific developmental needs of all team members. Ensuring a dynamic balance that adapts to the evolving landscape of team dynamics and industry demands is crucial for avoiding these common pitfalls.



photo courtesy Rebekah James

When it comes to fostering a successful and harmonious work environment, finding the right balance between team building and team training is crucial. Both aspects play a vital role in the development and effectiveness of a team, but understanding the differences and knowing when to implement each can make a significant difference in overall team performance. In this blog post, we will explore the importance of team building for cohesion and morale, the necessity of team training for professional growth, strategies for integrating both aspects effectively, common pitfalls to avoid, and success stories of balanced team development.

## Understanding the Difference Between Team Building and Training

At their core, team building and training cater to distinct aspects of team dynamics and productivity. Team building is an exercise in unity, focusing on strengthening interpersonal relationships, trust, and open communication among team members. It's the glue that binds a team, creating a conducive environment for collaboration and mutual support. Conversely, team training zeroes in on the professional aspect, aiming to bolster the technical competencies, knowledge, and skills necessary for team members to excel in their respective roles. It's about sharpening the tools each member brings to the table, ensuring the team is well-equipped to tackle projects efficiently and effectively. Recognizing and applying these distinct approaches appropriately can dramatically enhance a team's functionality and success.

## The Importance of Team Building for Cohesion and Morale

Team building exercises play a pivotal role in cultivating a positive and empowering workplace atmosphere. These activities encourage team members to break down barriers, fostering an environment where trust and open communication flourish. The result is a workplace where individuals are more inclined to support each other, leading to enhanced teamwork and a shared commitment to objectives. Engaging in team building not only strengthens interpersonal connections among colleagues but also boosts overall morale. This uplift in spirit translates to greater job satisfaction, which is instrumental in re-

taining top talent. By prioritizing team building, organizations pave the way for a more cohesive, motivated, and efficient team dynamic.

## Why Team Training is Essential for Professional Growth

Team training is the backbone of professional development within any organization. It arms team members with the necessary skills and knowledge to perform their tasks with efficiency and confidence. By keeping abreast of the latest industry trends and enhancing their capabilities, individuals can contribute more effectively to their team's objectives. Furthermore, training sessions provide a platform for team members to identify areas of improvement and work on them collaboratively. This focus on continuous improvement fosters a culture of learning and growth, which is beneficial not only to the individual employees but also to the organization as a whole. Investing in team training is an investment in the future success of the team, ensuring that each member is equipped to meet the challenges of their roles head-on and propel the team forward.

## Strategies for Integrating Team Building and Training

To seamlessly merge team building and training into a unified development approach, consider planning activities that serve dual purposes. Initiating workshops that blend learning with interactive challenges can be an effective method. For instance, problem-solving exercises that require team members to apply new skills in a collaborative setting can enhance both their interpersonal relationships and professional competencies. Additionally, leveraging technology to conduct virtual team-building exercises alongside online training modules can cater to remote teams, ensuring no one is left behind in the quest for a balanced development. Encouraging feedback sessions post-activities where team members share insights and learnings can further cement the bond and drive home the training objectives. Implementing a mentorship program, where more experienced team members guide newer ones, can also act as a bridge between building rapport and facilitating skill transfer. By adopting these strategies, organizations can foster an environment where team cohesion and

## Embracing Texas Pride in Sportsmanship: Our Commitment to The Texas Way

At TGCA we proudly endorse The Texas Way, an initiative that champions sportsmanship, integrity, and community strength in Texas sporting events.

The Texas Way, founded by THSCA, THSADA, and 2Words Character Development, aims to enhance sportsmanship, reduce ejections, and foster positive relationships among coaches, athletes, officials, fans, and the local community.



### What is The Texas Way?

The Texas Way is a collaborative campaign to:

- IMPROVE the level of sportsmanship at UIL sporting events.
- DECREASE the number of ejections at UIL sporting events.
- STRENGTHEN communities and the relationships between coaches, athletes, officials, and fans.

### The Three Pillars of The Texas Way

To coach, play, officiate, or support The Texas Way means you commit to the following three pillars:

- Respect for Others: We pledge to give respect to all participants (coaches, players, officials, and fans) because of who I am, not because of what they do.
- Control of Self: We commit to give boundaries to our thoughts, words, and actions, and to control our anger in the

face of competition and adversity.

- Spirit of Competition: We commit to give everything we have to be the absolute best we can be, and to put our team in the best position to win, but we will not sacrifice our integrity to do it.

By supporting The Texas Way, TGCA is dedicated to creating a positive and respectful sports environment, ensuring that the spirit of competition thrives with self-control, integrity, and mutual respect.

Join us in playing The Texas Way and make a difference in the Texas sports community!

### What is The Texas Way?

For more details, visit: [The Texas Way](#)

# FCA MONTHLY SPOTLIGHT: KAYCI SMITH

Gary Tipton | Fellowship of Christian Athletes

This month we highlight a lady from the South Plains region in Texas. Her name is Kayci Smith and her life as a student athlete and now as a coach, teacher, spirit coordinator, unified track coach, special ed. teacher, Mom to many etc. has all been spent at Frenship I.S.D. If I was a Superintendent of Schools, Kayci would be the first person I would try to hire. Her impact is felt from Pre K to the rest of the students lives.

Kayci comes from solid leadership. Her uncle was Bobby Davis. Bobby, Bryan, Brad and Brent Davis have not only been great coaches but have set the standard for Athletic Directors by encouraging, promoting and budgeting funds for the girls coaches to be members of TGCA. Kayci serves on the Spirit Advisory Board for TGCA.

Kayci was coached by Sam Tipton, so we know she is tough. HA! My son,

Doug, and I have had the privilege of being on the same faculty team as her.

The inclusion of Spirit coaches and athletes has strengthened the impact of TGCA. They, along with all the other sports, have more than just a seat at the table with TGCA. They are all vital parts of the organization known as Texas GIRLS Coaches Association. No one exemplifies the Spirit coach more than Kayci Smith.

No organization is used more to open doors for FCA ministry than TGCA. We are forever grateful for the partnership of Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Texas Girls Coaches Association!

No matter what your record is, you still can be used to win them all. Our prayer is for all of you to be used for Eternal W's. FCA ministry is to and through you, the Coach!

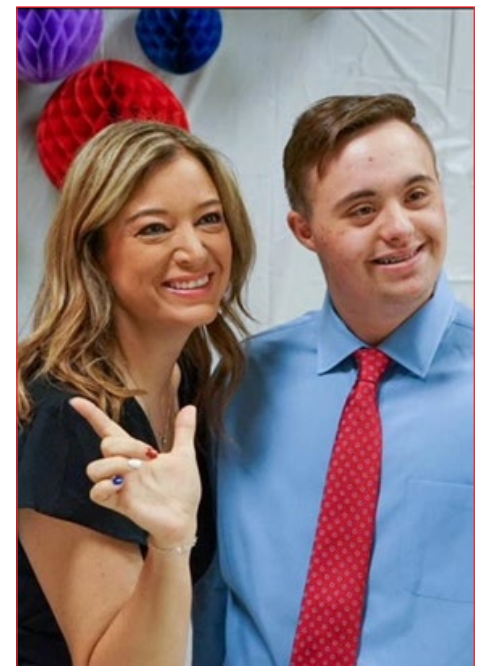


photo courtesy Gary Tipton



# 2024-25 TGCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL
Claire Gay	President	Aledo HS
Scott Mann	1st Vice President	Lorena HS
Sunni Strickland	2nd Vice President	Big Spring HS
Cully Doyle	Past President	Brock HS
Kylee Valenzuela	Region I Senior Director	Brownfield HS
Jason Culpepper	Region I Junior Director	Bushland HS
Bob Campbell	Region II Senior Director	Snyder HS
T'Leah Jennings	Region II Junior Director	Snyder HS
Kyle Sivadon	Region III Senior Director	Springtown HS
Lyle Linscomb	Region III Junior Director	Waxahachie Life HS
UiLani Womble	Region IV Senior Director	Frisco Wakeland HS
Ross Barber	Region IV Junior Director	Tyler Legacy HS
Terri Wade	Region V Senior Director	Conroe The Woodlands HS
Dr. Collea McKinney	Region V Junior Director	Cypress Ranch HS
Wade Womack	Region VI Senior Director	Dripping Springs HS
Anthony Branch	Region VI Junior Director	A&M Consolidated HS
Patti Zenner	Region VII Senior Director	Poth HS
Michelle Trotter	Region VII Junior Director	Clute Brazoswood HS
Dan Aldrich	Region VIII Senior Director	Fredericksburg HS
Kelly McDaniel	Region VIII Junior Director	Boerne Champion HS
Susan Brewer	Volleyball Committee Chair	Bellville HS
Josh McKinney	Volleyball Committee Vice Chair	Colleyville Heritage HS
Denise Lincoln	Basketball Committee Chair	Kerens HS
Tina Carrillo	Basketball Committee Vice Chair	Mount Pleasant HS
Melissa Pump	Track Committee Chair	Christoval HS
Kevin Johnson	Track Committee Vice Chair	Abilene Cooper HS
Teresa Lentz	Softball Committee Chair	Corpus Christi Calallen HS
Aaron Fuller	Softball Committee Vice Chair	Mont Belvieu Barbers Hill HS
Maureen Marek	Sub-Varsity Committee Chair	Bellville JHS
Jay Tope	Sub-Varsity Committee Vice Chair	Lytle HS

## 2024-25 TGCA BOARD & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

**OCTOBER 13-14**  
UIL Legislative Council Meeting  
(TGCA Executive Committee Only)

**NOVEMBER 4**  
Cross Country Committee Meeting  
6:00 PM, Zoom

**NOVEMBER 24**  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Garland  
10:00 AM Orientation  
(New Board Member  
MANDATORY)  
11:00 AM Board Meeting

**NOVEMBER 25**  
Volleyball Committee Meeting  
6:00 PM Zoom  
Volleyball All-State  
Committee Meeting  
6:00 PM Zoom

**MARCH 2**  
Board of Directors Meeting,  
11:00 AM, San Antonio

**MARCH 3**  
Basketball All-State  
Committee Meeting,  
Basketball Committee  
Meeting,  
6:00 PM, Zoom

**APRIL 14**  
Soccer Advisory Board  
Meeting, 6:00 PM, Zoom

**MAY 4**  
Track All-State Committee  
Meeting, Track Committee  
Meeting, 6:00 PM, Zoom

**MAY 5**  
Sub-Varsity Committee  
Meeting, 6:00 PM, Zoom

**JUNE 1**  
Board of Directors Meeting,  
11:00 AM, Austin

**JUNE 2**  
Softball All-State Committee  
Meeting,  
Softball Committee Meeting,  
6:00 PM, Zoom

**JUNE 10**  
Legislative Council Meeting  
(TGCA Executive Committee Only)

**JULY 14**  
Board of Directors Meeting,  
1:00 PM, Arlington

**JULY 15**  
Spirit Advisory Board Meeting,  
12:00 PM, Arlington

**JULY 16**  
Soccer Advisory Board Meeting,  
11:00 AM, Arlington



photo courtesy TGCA



# 2023-24 TGCA ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

## CROSS COUNTRY ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Conf. 1A-2A-3A-4A:

Addyson Bristow, Canyon HS  
(Coach: Ray Baca)

Conf. 5A-6A:

Sara Morefield, Lucas Lovejoy HS  
(Coach: Carly Littlefield)

## VOLLEYBALL ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Conf. 1A-2A-3A-4A:

Lindsey Gooch, Iola HS  
(Coach: Jamie McDougald)

Conf. 5A-6A:

Suli Davis, Colleyville Heritage HS  
(Coach: Josh McKinney)

## SPIRIT CHEERLEADERS OF THE YEAR

Conf. 1A-2A-3A-4A:

Isabella Lindsey, Lampasas HS  
(Coach: Shannon Lindsey)

Conf. 5A-6A:

Anabelle Bennett, Wolfforth Frenship HS  
(Coach: Kayci Smith)

## WRESTLING ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Conf. 4A-5A-6A:

Taylin Silco, Lubbock Cooper HS  
(Coach Joseph Rios)



Photo courtesy Jacob Schacher



Photo courtesy Melissa Pump



Photo courtesy Susie Walters

## BASKETBALL ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Conf. 1A-2A-3A-4A:

Jaylee Moss, Canyon HS  
(Coach: Tate Lombard)

Conf. 5A-6A:

Aaliyah Chavez, Lubbock Monterey HS  
(Coach: Jill Schneider)

## SOCCER ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Conf. 4A-5A-6A:

Audrey Gilbert, Frisco Wakeland HS  
(Coach Jimmie Lankford)

## TRACK ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Conf. 1A-2A-3A-4A:

Sophia Bendet, UC Randolph HS  
(Coach: Stacy Bessire)

Conf. 5A-6A:

Kailey Littlefield, Lucas Lovejoy HS  
(Coach: Carly Littlefield)

## FIELD ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Conf. 1A-2A-3A-4A:

Logan Prater, Eldorado HS  
(Coach: Kelsey Fillmon)

Conf. 5A-6A:

Skylynn Townsend, Prosper Rock Hill HS  
(Coach: Zach Morgan)

## SOFTBALL ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Conf. 1A-2A-3A-4A:

Hannah Wells, Coahoma HS  
(Coach Alex Orosco)

Conf. 5A-6A:

Cambree Creager, Georgetown HS  
(Coach Melissa Hall)

# 2023-24 TGCA COACHES OF THE YEAR

COACH	SCHOOL	SPORT	CONF
Dan Aldrich	Fredericksburg	Cross Country	1A-4A
Andrew Cook	Flower Mound	Cross Country	5A-6A
Jamie McDougald	Iola	Volleyball	1A-4A
Morgan Rogers	Conroe Gramd Oaks	Volleyball	5A-6A
Jayci Willer	Shallowater	Cheerleading	1A-4A
Nicole Mitchell	Crandall	Cheerleading	5A-6A
Joseph Rios	Lubbock Cooper	Wrestling	4A-6A
Ryan Dollar	Newcastle	Basketball	1A-4A
Kami Jo Williamson	Cedar Park	Basketball	5A-6A
Matt Dickinson	Prosper	Soccer	4A-6A
Kimberly Williams	Roby	Track	1A-4A
LaKeidra Hayes	Lancaster	Track	5A-6A
Callie Kresta	Hallettsville	Softball	1A-4A
Kelsie McEachern	Lake Belton	Softball	5A-6A



Photo courtesy Daisy Santos

# 2023-24 SUB-VARSITY/MIDDLE SCHOOL COACHES OF THE YEAR

COACH	SCHOOL	SPORT	CONF.
Micki Templeton	Brady MS	Sub-Varsity Cross Country	1A-4A
Katie Gove	Canyon Randall JH/HS	Sub-Varsity Volleyball	1A-4A
Haley Halvorson	Aledo HS	Sub-Varsity Volleyball	5A-6A
Stacey Wardrup	Jacksboro HS	Sub-Varsity Cheerleading	1A-6A
Roe Burluson	Barksdale Nueces Canyon JR/SR HS	Sub-Varsity Basketball	1A-4A
Emily Mainord	Frisco Wakeland HS	Sub-Varsity Basketball	5A-6A
Matt Spears	Canyon HS	Sub-Varsity Track & Field	1A-4A
Aaron Mouser	Argyle HS	Sub-Varsity Track & Field	5A-6A
Steven Poss	Katy Seven Lakes HS	Sub-Varsity Soccer	4A-6A
Jared Smith	Mt. Belvieu Barbers Hill HS	Sub-Varsity Softball	5A-6A
Jason Cabe	Brownfield HS	Sub-Varsity Tennis	1A-4A
Matt Spears	Canyon HS	Middle School Cross Country	1A-4A
Katy Palacious	Giddings MS	Middle School Volleyball	1A-4A
Pat Potts	Aspermont HS	Middle School Basketball	1A-4A
Megan Young	Terra Vista MS	Middle School Track & Field	5A-6A
Caitlin Rolens	Katy Seven Lakes JHS	Middle School Soccer	4A-6A
Jessie Behal	Gonzales HS	Middle School Tennis	1A-4A



# 2023-24 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP COACHES

COACH	SCHOOL	SPORT	CONF.
Kimberly Williams	Roby	Cross Country	1A
Brandun Massingill	Hamilton	Cross Country	2A
Glenn Griffin	Holliday	Cross Country	3A
Rebekah James	Canyon Randall	Cross Country	4A
Carly Littlefield	Lucas Lovejoy	Cross Country	5A
Andrew Cook	Flower Mound	Cross Country	6A
Lauren McPherson	Blum	Volleyball	1A
Jamie McDougald	Iola	Volleyball	2A
Jason Culpepper	Bushland	Volleyball	3A
Taylor Toso	Comal Davenport	Volleyball	4A
Natalie Puckett <b>(Pictured)</b>	Lucas Lovejoy	Volleyball	5A
Morgan Rogers	Conroe Grand Oaks	Volleyball	6A
Jalen Jackson	Conroe Caney Creek	Cheerleading	Co-Ed
Allison White	Vernon Northside	Cheerleading	1A
Tammy Kirchoff	Falls City	Cheerleading	2A
Shawn Moy	Falls City	Cheerleading	2A
Jaycie Willer	Shallowater	Cheerleading	3A D-I
Jaci Phippen	Jacksboro	Cheerleading	3A D-II
Julie Hall	Celina	Cheerleading	4A D-I
Katy Baugh	Lago Vista	Cheerleading	4A D-II
Tara Smith	Lamar Fulshear	Cheerleading	5A D-I
Nicole Mitchell	Crandall	Cheerleading	5A D-II
Jennifer Edwards	Northwest Eaton	Cheerleading	6A D-I
Amie Tennyson	Northwest Nelson	Cheerleading	6A D-II
Joseph Rios	Lubbock Cooper	Wrestling	5A
Ryan Dollar	Newcastle	Basketball	1A
Jay Bruce	Martin's Mill	Basketball	2A
Kurt Richardson	Shallowater	Basketball	3A
Ross Reedy	Frisco Liberty	Basketball	5A
Alexander Adams	Celina	Soccer	4A
Jimmie Lankford	Frisco Wakeland	Soccer	5A
Matt Dickinson	Prosper	Soccer	6A
Kade Burns	Mason	Golf	2A
Mark Burgen	Andrews	Golf	4A
Kimberly Williams	Roby	Track & Field	1A
Corby Maurer	Panhandle	Track & Field	2A
Katie Green	Refugio	Track & Field	2A
Stacy Bessire	Universal City Randolph	Track & Field	3A

COACH	SCHOOL	SPORT	CONF.
Rachel Easley	Alvin Iowa Colony	Track & Field	4A
LaKeidra Hayes	Lancaster	Track & Field	5A
Yvette Green	Duncanville	Track & Field	6A
Amanda LeCroy	Jonesboro	Softball	1A
Jason Keller	Shiner	Softball	2A
Alexander Orosco	Coahoma	Softball	3A
Teresa Flores Lentz	CC Callallen	Softball	4A
Mario Rodriguez	Weslaco	Softball	6A



Photo courtesy Sharon Watkins

# TEAM TENNIS STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Waco Regional Tennis Center & Hurd Tennis Center Baylor University | October 23-24, 2024

**Schedule**

**Wednesday, October 23**

8:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. (Baylor) ..... 4A Semifinals  
 8:00 a.m. (Waco Regional) ..... 5A Semifinals  
 11:30 a.m. (Waco Regional) ..... 6A Semifinals

**Thursday, October 24 (Baylor)**

8:00 a.m. .... 6A Final  
 11:30 a.m. .... 4A Final  
 3:00 p.m. .... 5A Final

**Ticket Options ..... Ticket Price**

Single Day ..... \$15.00  
 All-Tournament ..... \$25.00  
 Coaches All-Tournament ..... \$20.00  
 \*Additional fees may apply.

All ticket sales will be online. There will be no ticket sales at either venue. Tickets will be available for purchase [HERE](#) closer to the event date.

**PARKING**

**BAYLOR:** Free parking is available at the Ferrell Center, Baylor Ballpark and Getterman Stadium adjacent to Hurd Tennis Center.  
**WACO REGIONAL:** Free parking is available in the Waco Regional Tennis Center Lot and the Hawaiian Falls Lot.



photo courtesy Logan Lawrence

**ENTRANCE TO VENUES**

**BAYLOR:** Entrance to Hurd Tennis Center can be made via the walkway between Baylor Ballpark and Getterman Stadium.  
**WACO REGIONAL:** Entrance to Waco Regional Tennis Center can be made via the side gate facing Lake Shore Drive.

# WATER POLO STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Josh Davis Natatorium Northeast ISD | October 25-26, 2024



photo courtesy Whitney Magness

**Schedule**

**Friday, October 25**

10:00 a.m. .... Semifinal #1  
 11:30 a.m. .... Semifinal #2

**Saturday, October 26**

10:00 a.m. .... Final

**Tickets**

All tickets are general admission and will be \$15.00 (plus applicable fees) a day. A ticket is good for all games on that day. No re-entry allowed. All tickets must be purchased online.

Tickets will go on sale Monday, October 14th at 10:00 am. No passes or cards will be accepted for discounted or complementary admission.

Doors will open 1 hour before the start of the first game of the day.

[Ticket Link](#)

**Parking**

Parking is available free of charge in the lots surrounding the natatorium. Please be aware that there will be a football game played at the adjacent football stadium. Parking is available all around the stadium, but be prepared for delays. Parking map can be found here

**Clear Bag Policy**

To ensure guest safety and a quicker entry into the facility, North East ISD has implemented a bag policy limiting the size and type allowed at events. [Click here](#) for more details.

# 2025-26 TGCA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL AND CLINIC REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

TGCA would like to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to our member coaches. The Association only exists because you continue to support it through not only your membership dues and clinic fees, but through your willingness to volunteer when needed, be it serving on a committee, serving on the Board of Directors, nominating your athletes for honors, speaking at one of our clinics, or submitting photographs of your athletes for the Newsletter and website. We truly do appreciate you and want you to always remember that this is YOUR association, and the TGCA staff is here to assist you in any way that we are able.

Membership renewal and clinic registration for all clinics will open February 1st. Effective that day, on-line membership renewal and clinic registration for the 2025-2026 year will become active. Please keep in mind that on February 1st and after that date, if you still need to renew for the 2024-25 year (this year), you will no longer be able to do that on-line, and must print a form from the website to either mail with a check, or fax or email with a credit card number.

On-line membership renewal and clinic registration are through the Membership Site. To access the Membership Site, simply go to the website, [www.austintgca.com](http://www.austintgca.com), and click on the category in the menu on the left-hand side of the page entitled "Membership Site". You will then be required to log in. Your username is your membership number and always will be. That will not change. If you don't remember your password, please contact us and we will be happy to reset it to your membership number for you.

On the home page of the Membership Site, you will notice, on the left-hand side of the page, the

categories for renewing your membership and registering for Summer Clinic and/or any of the Satellite Sports Clinics. We have tried to simplify this process for you, and they are exactly what they say they are.

If you click on "Summer Clinic", your profile page will appear. You can make any changes you wish to your profile page, except the school where you coach. If your school is incorrect, please give us a call or drop us an e-mail and we will be happy to update that information for you. If you need to update anything else on your profile, simply click the box that says "To Correct Coaching Contact Information Click Here", and update the information that needs to be corrected. This information may also be updated by clicking on the "Update Profile" category in the menu across the top of the page. Don't forget to add your coaching experience. You need to be sure and keep that up to date to build your on-line resume for the job board.

Once you have updated any information that needs to be updated and added your current coaching experience, you are now ready to renew your membership and register for Summer Clinic. You will notice there are three "packages" you may choose from. The Bronze Package is membership only and does not include registration for Summer Clinic. That cost is now \$70.00. The Silver Package is Summer Clinic registration only and does not include membership renewal. That package is now \$65.00 before June 15, and \$80.00 on or after June 15. The Gold Package includes your membership renewal AND Summer Clinic registration for a total cost of \$135.00. You can click on "Detail Description" beside each package and it will tell you what they are.

Please remember there is a \$2.50 processing fee charged by the on-line credit card company. You must check the appropriate box for the transaction to go through. **You MUST be a member of TGCA to attend any TGCA clinic.**

Once you have selected the option you wish to pay for, you will see a page that will give you information regarding your transaction. If it is correct, you will click on the "Payment" button, and this will take you to the payment information page. Simply fill in the information requested. In the "Security Code" portion, this is an on-line security code and NOT the security code on your credit card. You will see letters and/or numbers in the gray shadowed box. Simply retype what you see in that gray shadowed box in the very small box located right above the words (in blue) "I cannot read the code, please provide a new one" and right below the words (in black) "Please enter the security code above". You will actually enter the security code you see into the box below those words in black. Once you have completed that page, click the "Submit" button and you are done. You will receive a receipt confirmation by e-mail. That is why it is so important that your e-mail address is accurate. If you do not receive your receipt, check your junk mail. Your school's filtering system may have sent it there. If you don't get your receipt by e-mail, please contact us. Your school may be blocking our e-mails completely. Please check your receipt confirmation carefully. Please remember that the address on your credit card MUST match the address on your profile exactly. This is a security feature the on-line credit card company uses.

If you click on the category entitled "Satellite Clinics", you may then choose the Satellite Sports Clinic you wish to register for. TGCA is pleased to announce we will be hosting Satellite Sports Clinics for 2025 in Lubbock (Regions I & II), and El Paso. Simply click on the Satellite Sports Clinic you wish to register for and complete the same process outlined above. The cost of attendance to any of our Satellite Sports Clinics is \$80.00. This includes your 2025-26 membership card. You CANNOT just

renew your membership in the Satellite Clinics category. If you and your school will be splitting the admittance fee, you will need to print a form from the website and mail it to us with your portion of the fee, and an explanation that your school will be paying the other half of the admittance fee. You will not be able to split the fee on-line. You will, however, be allowed to register for a Satellite Sports Clinic and pay an admittance fee of \$40.00 **if you have already paid the \$70.00 renewal fee for your 2025-26 membership.**

If you are not planning to attend Summer Clinic or any of the Satellite Sports Clinics and simply wish to renew your membership, click on the last category "Membership Only". You only have the option of membership renewal in this category, and the procedure is the same as outlined above.

Please remember that you need to use the membership number you have been assigned when renewing your membership or accessing the Membership Site. If you do not remember it, or your password, please call the TGCA office and we will be happy to look it up for you, or reset your password for you. We would request that you **DO NOT** set up a new profile if you are already a current member, or have been a member in the past and have received a membership number previously. When you do that, you also give yourself a new membership number, and we want you to have the same membership number for life.

If you are a brand new member, simply access the TGCA website, [www.austintgca.com](http://www.austintgca.com), and click on the category in the menu on the left-hand side of the page entitled "First Time Member", and follow the process outlined for "New to TGCA for the First Time". Should you need assistance, please just contact the TGCA office and we will be more than happy to assist you.

Again, we thank you for your support of the Texas Girls Coaches Association. Our job is to make your association the best that it can be. We welcome your comments and suggestions.



photo courtesy Kevin Johnson

## EXTREMELY IMPORTANT

If you renew your membership on or after February 1st online through the Membership Site, you will be renewing for the 2025-26 year, beginning June 1, 2025 and ending May 31st, 2026. Please be sure that is what you intended to do. You may still print a 2024-25 membership form from the "Forms" category in the menu on the left-hand side of the main page of the website.

# GENERAL NOMINATION INSTRUCTIONS

All nominations should be made on-line at [www.austintgca.com](http://www.austintgca.com), under the sport tab for which a particular nomination is made. Please do all nominations on-line and before the deadline. Cheerleading nominations are located on the Spirit page in the menu on the left-hand side of the page. All questions or inquiries regarding Cheer nominations should be addressed to the Spirit Advisory Board. Contact information is located on the Spirit page under Spirit Advisory Board in the menu on the left-hand side of the page. All other nominations should be submitted through

the Membership Site once you have logged in.

If your nomination was submitted correctly, you will receive a confirmation e-mail. You can check that your nominations have gone through by logging on to the Membership Site, clicking on "Nominations" from the menu at the top of the page, and then clicking number five "Member Nominations Info". This will show you what nominations you have submitted. If you do not see your nominations there, they did not go through and must be done again. **WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO DO THIS AF-**

**TER YOU HAVE COMPLETED ALL NOMINATIONS.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** The TGCA system does not interact well with Internet Explorer. We recommend you use Chrome or Firefox as your web browser, or something other than Internet Explorer, to make your nominations.

If you miss the on-line nomination deadline for your sport or cheerleading, you **MUST** print the proper form from the website under the "Bylaws" category and submit that form to your regional committee representative for submission to the appropriate committee. Your regional representative

for the committees is listed on the website under the sport category they pertain to. This should be done in all categories except Academic All-State.

Any nominations for Academic All-State must be submitted to the TGCA office on a form printed from the website if the on-line honors nomination deadline is missed. Instructions for nominating on-line, along with nomination guidelines, may be found under each specific sport tab on the website, and also under the Bylaws.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR ONLINE HONORS NOMINATIONS

Below are the instructions for completing TGCA honors nominations on-line. Please read these instructions and follow them precisely and your nomination should go through with no problems.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The TGCA system does not interact well with Internet Explorer. We recommend using Chrome or another browser other than Internet Explorer.

**1** Access the TGCA website at [austintgca.com](http://austintgca.com).

**2** Click on the "Membership Site" category in the menu on the left-hand side of the page.

**3** You will be required to log in at this point. Your user name will always be your TGCA membership number. That will never change. If you don't know your number, please contact us and we will be happy to give it to you. **PLEASE DO NOT MAKE YOURSELF A NEW MEMBER AND GET A NEW MEMBERSHIP NUMBER.** Your password, if you've not logged on to the system before, will also be your membership number. If you've already accessed the website and logged in, your password will be whatever you have created it to be. If you do not remember your password, we do not have it. You will need to contact us so that we may reset your password to your membership number, and you will need to go through the complete log in process over again, including resetting your password. When prompted to change your password, please keep in mind that the "Old Password" category will also be your membership number. We do not recommend using the "Forgot Password" link, as you will more than likely never see the response email. It is more often than not blocked by a security measure in place by your

school.

**4** Once you've completed the log-in process, you will access the home page of the Membership Site. In the tabs menu at the top of that page, click on "Nominations".

**5** Click on the "(6) Member Nominations Add" category in the menu on the left-hand side of the page.

**6** Your e-mail information will be listed on this page. This is the e-mail address your nomination confirmation will be sent to. **PLEASE** be sure your e-mail address is correct. If your e-mail address is incorrect, you will need to click the "Update Profile" category in the menu at the top of the page and correct your e-mail address, or you will not receive your nomination confirmation. If you do not need to make changes, click the sport you are nominating for. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click the "Next Step" button.

**7** Click the button next to the category you are nominating for (All-Star, All-State, Academic All-State, etc.). On Academic All-State, please be sure you click All-State for athletes and cheerleaders and not Academic All-State Support Staff. Support Staff would be for trainers, stat keepers, managers, etc. Next click the button "Next Step".

**8** Complete the form by typing in the information requested in the "Update" field.

**9** When you get to the "School:ISD" field, please begin typing the name of your school. Schools are listed in the database by name of the school, followed by the ISD. If your school is named after someone, or there are multiple schools with the same name, just

start to type the LAST name of the person it's named after, or the school name, and look in the text pop up box for your school followed by your ISD. This is very IMPORTANT! Your school must appear exactly as it is in our database for your nomination to be correctly entered. As you type, a text pop up box will appear under the school line. Please click on the correct school in this box and please pay careful attention to the school you select, making sure it is the correct school, with the correct ISD. If you are an Athletic Director, please DO NOT click on anything that says AD. For

for some reason, your form was not filled out correctly, you will receive an error message after clicking the "Submit" button. If you did not receive the error message, your nomination went through successfully, and you should receive a confirmation e-mail at the e-mail address you have given us. If you fail to receive a confirmation e-mail, please contact us. You can also check to see if your nominations successfully went through by returning to the "Nominations" page and clicking on "(5) Member Nominations Info". If you do not see your nominations listed there, please contact us.



photo courtesy Daisy Santos

your nomination to appear correctly, it must have the name of the school, rather than your title. You may need to type the complete name of the school, including "High School" for it to populate. There are many, many schools with the same name, including junior highs and middle schools.

**10** Continue completing the form. If you need to add additional information regarding your nominee or their accomplishments, including stats, please do so in the large text box at the bottom of the page.

**11** When you have completed the form, please click the "Submit" button at the bottom of the page. If,

**12** You will need to follow these steps for each nomination of each athlete in each category you wish to make. **For Academic All-State, you only need to list the GPA.** We do not need the honors section, as we only check for grade classification (senior) and the GPA, which must be 94 or above and must be submitted in that format, not on a 5.0, 4.0, etc. Any nominations submitted on the grade point only scale will be counted as nonvalid.

If you need assistance with any of this process, please contact us at [tgca@austintgca.com](mailto:tgca@austintgca.com), or call our office at 512-708-1333, and we will be happy to assist you.



# TGCA CAREER VICTORY MILESTONES

## CROSS COUNTRY

COACH	SCHOOL	PTS.
Susan Walters	East Bernard HS	1200

## VOLLEYBALL

COACH	SCHOOL	WINS
Clark Oberle	Boyd HS	700
Jeff Coker	Crawford HS	600
Claire Gay	Aledo HS	500

## SPIRIT

COACH	SCHOOL	PTS.
Katy Baugh (Pictured)	Lago Vista HS	700
Nicole Mitchell	Crandall HS	600
Janel Jackson	Conroe Caney Creek HS	400

## TRACK & FIELD

COACH	SCHOOL	PTS.
Dan Aldrich	Fredericksburg HS	1200
Tiffany Null	Royse City HS	300

## BASKETBALL

COACH	SCHOOL	WINS
Tommy Gates	Navasota HS	900
Jill McDill	Sunnyvale HS	700
Mark Chauveaux	Godley HS	600
Darrell Harborth	Geronimo Navarro HS	600
Annette Steward	Langham Creek HS	500
Jeremy Durham	Brownsboro HS	400

## SOFTBALL

COACH	SCHOOL	WINS
Roger Maupin	Weimar HS	500
Stacey Herring	Abilene Cooper HS	400
TRacy Tadlock	Burkburnett HS	400

## SOCCER

COACH	SCHOOL	WINS
Eric Ramirez	Waco La Vega HS	300

## TGCA AWARDS: BY THE NUMBERS

The TGCA is proud to honor coaches and student-athletes throughout each school year for all of their accomplishments.

### Coaches

- State Champions ring (up to 78 coaches)
- COY Awards (20 coaches)
- Sub-Varsity COY Awards (15 coaches)
- Middle School COY Awards (15 coaches)
- All Star Watches for Coaches (32)

### Student-Athletes

- All State Awards (approximately 750)
- Academic All State Awards (approximately 6500 certificates)
- POY Awards (20 players)
- Legacy All-Stars-graduating Seniors (120)



Photo courtesy Melissa Pump



# ACCIDENTAL DEATH & DISMEMBERMENT BENEFIT

**The Texas Girls Coaches Association** in cooperation with American Income Life Insurance Company, is pleased to announce that we are providing additional benefits at NO COST to make your membership even more valuable! These benefits include:

- \$4,000 Group Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit! (Covers all members.)
- Health Services Discount Card for your entire household which

provides discounts up to 60% on Vision Care, Chiropractic Care, Hearing Care and Prescriptions!

- Child Safe Kits – this valuable tool can provide information to the authorities if your child or grandchild should ever go missing!
- Family Information Guide – When emergencies occur, families can avoid confusion and additional stress by having all of their critical information organized

in one place.

Please check your mail for the letter regarding these new benefits!

Once you return the response card, an AIL representative will contact you to schedule a convenient time to deliver your benefits and explain additional insurance coverage available. American Income Life is an international company licensed in 49 states, the District of Columbia,

Canada and is registered to carry on business in New Zealand. AIL has earned an A+ (Superior) Financial Strength rating from A.M. Best Company. (as of 6/14)

For more information on these benefits, please contact Arnaeica Alridge at 281-857-9325 or [aialridge@aillife.com](mailto:aialridge@aillife.com). To view the letter online, visit [aillife.com/benefits/sqM9W](http://aillife.com/benefits/sqM9W).

## SPORT NOMINATION DEADLINES

Online nomination deadlines for all sports is the Monday before the UIL state tournaments/meets at noon. For 2024-25, they are as follows:

<b>Water Polo</b>	October 21, 2024
<b>Team Tennis</b>	October 21, 2024
<b>Cross Country</b>	October 28, 2024
<b>Volleyball</b>	November 18, 2024
<b>Spirit</b>	January 20, 2025
<b>Wrestling</b>	February 10, 2025
<b>Swim &amp; Dive</b>	February 17, 2025
<b>Basketball</b>	February 24, 2025
<b>Soccer</b>	April 7, 2025
<b>Golf</b>	April 21, 2025
<b>Track &amp; Field</b>	April 28, 2025
<b>Tennis</b>	May 12, 2025
<b>Softball</b>	May 26, 2025



photo courtesy Amy Mosley

## TGCA SUB-VARSITY YEARS OF SERVICE

COACH	SCHOOL	YEARS OF SERVICE
Phyllis Brahinsky	Haltom City Haltom HS	30
Misty Williams	Terra Vista MS	25



photo courtesy Jason Schacher



photo courtesy Jonathan Woodward

## COACHES,

The Kay Yow Cancer Fund has always and will always be the coaches cancer fund. It is because of YOU and your fellow coaches in Texas, that Coach Yow's legacy has been amplified to another level. Play4Kay is growing and reaching new heights, yet more progress is needed in the fight against all cancers affecting women. You have such an instrumental role in providing strength, hope, and courage to your communities, especially through shifting the momentum of cancer awareness into action!

Join us and Play4Kay this season and be a part of an incredible grassroots movement. It is simple, attached is our Play4Kay Playbook which gives you access to all the tools you need to host an incredible community event. It has everything from sample PA reads, in-venue videos, fan engagement cards, and so much more! Together, we are making an impact!

[DOWNLOAD OUR PLAY4KAY PLAYBOOK](#)

[CREATE A PLAY4KAY FUNDRAISER](#)

If you have any questions contact - Jennifer Sullivan, [jennifer.sullivan@kayyow.com](mailto:jennifer.sullivan@kayyow.com) for all your Play4Kay needs!

Joining our nationwide movement,  
Play4Kay, has never been easier!



1

Pick a game on your schedule and call it Play4Kay

2

Raise money around your game and donate it to the Kay Yow Cancer Fund

3

Celebrate female cancer survivors, thrivers and warriors at your game

Learn  
more



[Jennifer.Sullivan@kayyow.com](mailto:Jennifer.Sullivan@kayyow.com)

[Kayyow.com/play4kay](http://Kayyow.com/play4kay)

Louder, Stronger, Unstoppable -- Together!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5 <b>Water Polo</b> <b>Team Tennis:</b> District Certification Deadline
6	7 <b>TEAM TENNIS: BI-DISTRICT</b> <b>WATER POLO: BI-DISTRICT</b>	8	9	10 <b>TEAM TENNIS: AREA</b> <b>WATER POLO: AREA</b>	11	12 <b>Cross Country:</b> District Certification Deadline
13 <b>UIL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING, AUSTIN</b>	14 <b>TEAM TENNIS: REGIONAL QF</b> <b>WATER POLO: REGIONAL QF</b>	15	16 <b>Girls Basketball:</b> First Day for Practice	17 <b>TEAM TENNIS: REGIONAL</b>	18 <b>WATER POLO: REGIONAL</b>	19
20	21 <b>CROSS COUNTRY: REGIONAL</b> <b>TGCA: Team Tennis &amp; Water Polo Nomination Deadlines, NOON</b>	22	23 <b>TEAM TENNIS: STATE</b>	24	25 <b>WATER POLO: STATE</b>	26
27	28 <b>VOLLEYBALL: BI-DISTRICT</b> <b>TGCA: Cross Country Nomination Deadlines, NOON</b>	29	30	31	1 <b>CROSS COUNTRY: STATE</b> <b>Girls Basketball:</b> First Day for Games	2 <b>Volleyball:</b> District Certification Deadline

## TO ALL COACHES: PLEASE UPDATE YOUR ONLINE PROFILE

Please go online and check that your profile is up-to-date, including addresses, telephone numbers (school, cell, home), and all other personal information. You can change all information on your profile except your school. Please check your coaching experience and add information as needed. We appreciate your help in this endeavor.



photo courtesy Kevin Johnson





# THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

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-Nike  
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 -Varsity



## TGCA NEWS

TGCA News is the official newsletter of the  
**Texas Girls Coaches Association**

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**TGCA on the Web**  
 Polls, as well as other current information, can be found on the TGCA website at: [austingca.com](http://austingca.com).

**Did you move?**  
 Please notify the TGCA office if your school, home address, telephone number or coaching assignment changes.

**UIL eligibility / Sport rule questions**  
 If you have any questions on eligibility or sport rule interpretations, contact the UIL at (512) 471-5883.



@AUSTINGCA

