



2008-09
TGCA
Officers

President of TGCA
Lee Grisham
Wimberley HS
(512) 847-5729

1st Vice President
Lynn Davis Pool
Austin Bowie HS
(512) 414-7347

2nd Vice President
Wes Overton
Midland Lee HS
(432) 553-5436

Past President
Debra Manley
Pittsburg HS
(903) 856-6461

Executive Director
Sam Tipton
TGCA Office
(512) 708-1333



TGCA NEWS
MARCH 2009

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Photos courtesy Member Coaches

Passion for the Game

BY WES OVERTON
MIDLAND LEE HIGH SCHOOL

As coaches we see and work with players on a daily basis. Some of these athletes are gifted with great athletic ability while others are endowed with great attitudes and work ethic. Then there are those who are lucky enough to have the "it" factor. You've heard the saying, "Some people have 'it' and some don't." There is a second part to that quote- "If you don't know what 'it' is then

you'll never have it." For years I struggled to find a way to relay the true meaning of that quote to athletes before I came to the realization that in order to help my athletes reach their full potential, I had to solve this puzzle.

I began trying to solve this enigma by recalling my days as an athlete in high school and college. I thought about all the gifted

athletes on my teams. Some were more talented than others, however, at both levels I felt that some of these athletes were wasting their talent. I compared these athletes to those who were small in stature and not as skilled, yet possessed incredible tenacity. I found myself wondering how good that 5'4" athlete with less skill would be if blessed

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Photos of the Month

Kelsi Chadwick of Canyon Randall High School, left, clears the bar in the pole vault.

Photo courtesy Canyon Randall High School

Annicia Williams of Rice Consolidated High School, right, runs the 400m dash.

Photo courtesy Rachel Patton

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News & Updates

TAKS Testing and Regional Track Meets

Some students who qualify for UIL regional athletic competition in track and field scheduled for May 1st will have a conflict with the scheduled TAKS tests. Exit Level and Grade 10 Science, as well as Grade 9 Mathematics, TAKS tests are scheduled on Thursday, April 30. Exit Level and Grade 10 Social Studies TAKS tests are scheduled on Friday, May 1. UIL has tried to work with regional sites to eliminate or reduce conflicts wherever possible, but regional schedules could not be modified due to commitments for facilities and personnel.

Length of travel time may also create conflicts for some participants. Please check your specific regional schedule on the UIL Web site at: http://www.uil.utexas.edu/academics/spring_meet/sm_region_directors.html

Regional hosts who have not yet posted their Regional Meet Handbooks and/or schedule will be doing so in the near future. Schools may submit a request to TEA for on-site testing or for a modified test schedule. You can find these forms on TEA's Student Assessment Division Web page at: <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/>

Click on the Student Assessment A - Z Directory and then Guidelines and Procedures for Requesting Changes to the State Testing Schedule. Questions should be directed to TEA at 512-463-9536.

Update on 4 X 4 Plan

The Committee of the Full Board of the State Board of Education, on Thursday, March 26, 2009, passed out of committee Option 2 to the 4 x 4 Plan. Option 2 would expand the number of allowed state physical education (PE) credits to four. Below is a timeline for the possible implementation of the process. Many issues concerning graduation plans are being reviewed by the 81st legislative session, and any new state law will determine the future of Option 2.

Many thanks to Robert Young and Sheri Stice, representing the Texas High School Athletic Directors Association, for giving professional public testimony for the addition of four credits for four years of participation in athletics. The Texas Girls Coaches Association, the Texas High School Coaches Association, and the Texas High School Athletic Directors Association, through the support of their members, have cleared a major obstacle with the selection of Option 2, but there is much work to be done in the future on the 4 x 4 Graduation Plan concerning athletics.

Sam Tipton
Executive Director
Texas Girls Coaches Association

Passion for the Game (cont.)

... Continued from Page 2

with the body and talent of the 6'4" athlete. While comparing the two, I suddenly fully understood the "it" factor. The "it" in my opinion, is a strong passion for the game. In the dictionary passion is defined as "having feelings of intense desire." We all know there are many talented athletes who have "it". All one need to do is turn on the television and they can be seen playing in every sport at every level. What many of us don't realize

is that while these athletes are born with tremendous athletic ability, their passion was encouraged and developed by someone else. Someone, be it a youth league, little league, junior high, high school, or college coach, instilled in them the passion - that intense desire - to make the most of their potential.

What an awesome opportunity we have to be able to work with different levels of ability, teach them the skills and rules of the

game we love while fostering their desire. It is also our responsibility to teach these athletes that passion will help them overcome mistakes, disappointments and unexpected circumstances- all essential elements in achieving true success. I encourage all coaches, regardless of the level, to impress upon your players to love what they do for if their passion for the game is strong enough, they too can develop the "it".

Implementation Timeline

Implementation Timeline Option 2: Expand the number of allowed state physical education (PE) credits to four		
	Timeframe	Sample Timeline
1. The SBOE votes to expand the number of allowed state PE credits to four or to remove the limit of credits earned toward graduation for PE.		March 2009
2. TEA consults with the UIL to determine any impact on regulations for athletics as extra-curricular activities.		Spring 2009
3. A discussion item to amend graduation requirements found in 19 TAC Chapter 74 to allow students to earn more than two credits for PE is placed on the SBOE agenda.		July 2009 (to align with timeline for amending Chapter 74 to address CTE course credits and other potential changes regarding flexibility in graduation requirements)
4. A discussion item is placed on the SBOE agenda to amend graduation requirements found in 19 TAC Chapter 74 to allow activities that include athletics, drill team, marching band, cheerleading, and off-campus physical activity programs to substitute for up to four credits of physical education.		July 2009
5. A discussion item is placed on the SBOE agenda to amend graduation requirements found in 19 TAC Chapter 74 to allow courses such as Band I-IV, Dance I-IV, JROTC, and CTE to substitute for up to four credits of physical education.		
6. A discussion item is placed on the SBOE agenda to amend 19 TAC Chapter 116 Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Physical Education to change the number of credits allowed per state approved physical education course from one-half credit to one credit.		
7. The proposed amendments to Chapter 74 and Chapter 116 are placed on the next SBOE agenda for first reading and filing authorization.	Approximately 2 months after discussion	September 2009
9. TEA files the proposed amendments to Chapter 74 and Chapter 116 with the Texas Register for official public comment.	30 days	October 2009
8. TEA staff receives and summarizes public comments and provides summaries of comments to SBOE members.		October/November 2009
9. The proposed amendments to Chapter 74 and Chapter 116 are placed on the next SBOE agenda for second reading and final adoption.	Approximately 2 months after first reading	November 2009
10. TEA files the amended graduation requirements and amended TEKS with the Texas Register as adopted.	Approximately 3 weeks after adoption	December 2009

TGCA Summer Clinic

TGCA Summer Coaches Clinic

AUSTIN CONVENTION CENTER

JULY 13-17, 2009

REGISTRATION FORMS

This year we will NOT be mailing out 2009-2010 Registration Forms for Membership & 2009 Summer Clinic. Registration forms can now be found on the TGCA website under "Summer Clinic." You can download the form or call us and we'll be happy to fax you one.

ONLINE REGISTRATION

Online registration is now available for the 2009-2010 Membership and Summer Clinic on the TGCA website. It is easy and quick! Immediate registration is available by using your VISA or MASTERCARD. TGCA members are encouraged to use the online registration to pay for their membership and clinic fee. You can access registration on the TGCA website under "Membership Site."

ON-SITE REGISTRATION

Registration will also be available onsite at the 2009 Summer Clinic beginning Tuesday, July 14th at 7:30 a.m. in the Austin Convention Center.

HOTEL INFORMATION

You can now make your hotel reservations online via the TGCA website under "Summer Clinic." Hotels have been most helpful in giving us their best possible rates. This year we will be using the following hotels:

Residence Inn Austin Downtown/Convention Center

300 E. 4th Street - Single/Double/Triple/Quad = \$119

Holiday Inn – Austin Town Lake

20 North IH-35 - Single (2 people) = \$109

Crowne Plaza Hotel Austin

6121 North IH-35 - Double (4 people)/King (2 people) = \$115

Omni Austin Hotel Downtown

700 San Jacinto & 8th Street - Single & Double \$109/Triple \$119/Quad \$129

Hampton Inn & Suites Austin – Downtown

200 San Jacinto Blvd - Double \$129/King \$119/King Suite w/ sleeper \$179
(rates include free continental breakfast, Parking is by "valet only" @ \$18 per day)

Omni Austin Hotel at Southpark

4041 Governor's Row - Single & Double \$109/Triple \$129/Quad \$149

Radisson Hotel & Suites Austin – Town Lake

111 Cesar Chavez - Single \$109/Double \$119/Triple \$129/Quad \$139

NOTE: You cannot call these hotels directly and get the TGCA rates, you can only get them online through the TGCA website.

TGCA Golf Scramble

JERRY'S SPORTING GOODS PRESENTS

The 2009 TGCA Golf Scramble

TUESDAY – JULY 14TH

PINE FOREST GOLF CLUB

636 RIVERSIDE DR. – BASTROP, TX

512 – 321 – 2322

Under new management
The NCAA has retired Larry Tidwell

8AM & 2PM shot-gun starts

Check-in @ 7AM or 1PM

9-contest holes + golfer gifts

Each round limited to 120 golfers

\$70 entry fee or \$250/team

Entry fee = 18-holes w/ cart + range balls + food & drink

Entry Deadline = July 4th, 2009

Make checks payable to "Jerry's Sporting Goods"

For more information – call Jerry @ 866 – 696 – 0480

E-mail, fax or mail entries to

kristin@jerryswf.com

8024 Hosta Way

FT Worth, TX 76234

PLAYER #1 _____

E-MAIL _____

CELL # _____

PLAYER #2 _____

E-MAIL _____

CELL # _____

PLAYER #3 _____

E-MAIL _____

CELL # _____

PLAYER #4 _____

E-MAIL _____

CELL # _____

Check preferred tee-time ___ 8AM OR ___ 2PM

Photos of the Month



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MEMBER COACHES OF THE TGCA



Important Dates

LaQuinta - Official Hotel of TGCA

Coaches, teams and fans can receive preferred rates through the LaQuinta toll-free central reservations number 1-800-531-5900. This rate will also apply to reservations made directly with



LaQuinta Hotels, as well as, via the internet at www.lq.com using the corporate/promotional code of TGCA. These rates are good for both business and leisure travel, seven days a week, for standard and king bedded room types coast to coast.

Other Hotel Information

Crowne Plaza Austin North Central
6121 North IH - 35
Austin, TX. 78752

For reservations:

1-877-2CROWNE (1-877-227-6963)

Please refer to TGCA to get your discounted rate of \$109.00 for single or double occupancy. Or you may reserve your rooms online by going to the home page of our website. Crowne Plaza will offer this rate year around for business or pleasure.

Josten's Only Ring Sponsor for TGCA

The only rings furnished by the Texas Girls Coaches association are for our state champion coaches and president. These rings are supplied by our long time corporate sponsor Josten's. Alan Garland, from Fort Worth, is our representative. TGCA has not been contacted and has no affiliation or agreement with any other individual or ring company.

April

3-4	Soccer	Regional, 4A & 5A
6	TGCA	Soccer Deadline; 12:00 noon Deadline for Academic All-State nominations
6-11	Track & Field	First week for district meets, 2A, 3A, 4A, & 5A.
6-11	Golf & Tennis	First week for district meets.
9-11	Soccer	State Tournament
11	Track & Field	District certification deadline, 1A
13-18	Track & Field	Last week for district meets, 2A, 3A, 4A, & 5A.
13-18	Golf & Tennis	Last week for district meets, all conferences.
18	Track & Field	Area certification deadline, 1A
21-26	Golf & Tennis	Regional meets
28	Softball	District Certification deadline

May

1-2	Track & Field	Regional meets.
2	Softball	Bi-district deadline.
4	Golf	12:00 noon deadline for Academic All-State nominations
9	Softball	Area deadline
11	Track & Field	12:00 noon deadline for All-State, All-Star, & Acad. All-State nominations
11-12	Tennis	State Meet
11-12	Golf	State Meet, 1A, 2A, & 4A
14-15	Golf	State Meet, 3A, & 5A
15-16	Track & Field	State Meet
16	Softball	Regional quarterfinal deadline
23	Softball	Regional semi-final deadline
30	Softball	Regional playoff deadline

June

1	TGCA Softball	12:00 noon deadline for All-State, All-Star, & Acad. All-State nominations
4-6	Softball	State Tournament
7	Board of Directors' Meeting	- UIL Building 11:00 a.m.
16	Legislative Council Athletic Committee Meeting	(Austin)

TGCA News

TGCA News is the official newsletter of the Texas Girls Coaches Association, 1603 Manor Rd., Austin, TX 78722-2536; (512) 708-1333, (512) 708-1325 (fax), tgca@austintgca.com (e-mail); It is published nine times per year, September through May.

Executive Director: Sam Tipton, Sam@austintgca.com
 Administrative Assistant: Audree Tipton, Audree@austintgca.com
 Membership Administrator: Kimberly Terry, Kimberly@austintgca.com
 Editor: Chris Schmidt

TGCA on the Web

Polls, as well as other current information, can be found on the TGCA Web site at: www.austintgca.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.

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