



## BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR GHSA CONTEST OFFICIALS

Effective August 1, 2015 all GHSA contest officials shall have a current year background check completed.

1. It shall be the responsibility of each GHSA sanctioned contest officials association to insure that background checks are completed for the current academic school calendar, and keep official records for each registered association member. The association shall provide individual records when requested by the GHSA Office.
2. Local associations have the option of selecting a certified background service company of their choice, but the service must provide the information listed in the example of criminal offenses that would “red flag” the individual. The GHSA will provide a list of companies that provide the required service.
3. Officials who have not completed a current year background check shall not be allowed to officiate any GHSA sanctioned event.
4. Associations that violate any provision of this requirement shall be subject to a \$250.00 fine per violation, and the possibility of losing their GHSA association sanction.
5. The GHSA “Background Check Screening Policy” is listed on the subsequent pages in this document.

## **GHSA BACKGROUND CHECK SCREENING POLICY**

Pursuant to Section 4.51 of the GHSA Bylaws, All Officials Associations approved by the GHSA shall require its members to undergo an annual background check. The GHSA office will provide a list of vendors who are approved to perform the annual background check. If the background check reveals that an official has been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, then that official shall not be authorized to officiate GHSA contests unless a waiver has been granted by the officials association and thereafter accepted by the GHSA. All GHSA approved officials associations shall be required to maintain a copy of background check reports on all its officials for a period of at least five (5) years and shall make such reports available to the GHSA upon request. All states do not have the same laws and crimes are often categorized differently. The list of offenses set forth below is not intended to be an exhaustive list of disqualifying offenses, but rather examples of crimes involving moral turpitude:

*murder/homicide/manslaughter, theft/burglary/robbery/larceny, breaking and entering, prostitution/solicitation, rape/sexual assault, assault, battery, arson, false imprisonment kidnapping, domestic violence, cruelty to children, child molestation, furnishing alcohol to a minor, indecent exposure, child endangerment, any crime related to drugs (use/distribution), driving under influence of drugs or alcohol (3<sup>rd</sup> offense in 7 years), identity theft, forgery, money laundering, conspiracy to commit a felony, any offense designated as a felony*

GHSA approved officials associations should establish a procedure for the evaluation and consideration of its member officials' requests for waivers of this policy and appeals from disqualification. In the event that such a request for waiver is granted by any officials association, then that member official's name may be submitted to the GHSA along with a statement in writing of the specific grounds of why the waiver was granted to such member. The GHSA may accept or reject the granting of such waiver. In the event of rejection of the waiver, such official shall not be eligible to officiate GHSA contests. Sample background check release and authorization forms are available through the GHSA office.

### **CRIMINAL SEARCH REQUIREMENTS**

1. National Criminal Super Search
2. Georgia Statewide Criminal History
3. National Sex Offender Search
4. OFAC (National terrorism watch list search)
5. Property Records Search

**GHSA BACKGROUND CHECK RELEASE AND AUTHORIZATION FORM**

FOR THE \_\_\_\_\_ OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION

In connection with my application to become or remain a member of the above association and to be eligible to officiate GHSA contests, I hereby authorize the association or its designated representative or outside organization to perform a criminal background and/or motor vehicle driving record check on me. The background check may include information gathered from federal, state and local law enforcement and other sources. I understand that the nature and scope of the investigation will also include, but not be limited to, consumer credit, employment records, criminal convictions, my driving record and other information from sources that maintain background information on me. I hereby authorize, without reservation, any law enforcement agency, administrator, local, state or federal agency, credit or credit reporting agency or organization, employer or other person in possession of such background information regarding me, to provide such information as may be requested by the above officials association or any agency or outside organization acting on behalf of such officials association.

**THE INFORMATION RECEIVED WILL BE USED TO DETERMINE YOUR ELIGIBILITY TO OFFICIATE GHSA CONTESTS.**

**As a member of the above officials association, I understand that this authorization and release shall remain in effect as long as I am a member unless I revoke or cancel my consent by signed letter or statement delivered to the association office.**

I am providing the following information and personal identifiers to aid in the proper identification of my files and records and state that the same is true and correct to the best of my knowledge:

Print Name (Full legal name: Last, First, Middle) \_\_\_\_\_

Any other names known by (in last ten years) \_\_\_\_\_

Last four digits of Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's License Number State \_\_\_\_\_

Current Address \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Addresses (5 years) \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* Include a legible copy of your driver's license with this Release and Authorization.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## SERVICE PROVIDER OPTIONS

The GHSA recognizes that many of our registered contest officials are required by their employer, or an organization, to complete annual background checks. As such, as long as that check includes the provisions listed in this document they do not need to repeat the requirement. But, the respective sanctioned association must keep those records on file. In the event that an individual needs to complete the process listed below are the service providers that have submitted a proposal to the GHSA Office.

1. PSI (Professional Screening & Information)  
On-line: [www.psibackgroundcheck.com](http://www.psibackgroundcheck.com)  
Email: [staff@psibackgroundcheck.com](mailto:staff@psibackgroundcheck.com)  
Fax: 706-235-6452  
Contact: Stephanie Cook  
GHSA Pricing: \$11.00
  
2. SSCI (Southeastern Securities Consultants, Inc.)  
On-line: [www.ssci2000.com](http://www.ssci2000.com)  
Email: [cgoodman@ssci2000.com](mailto:cgoodman@ssci2000.com)  
Fax: 866-996-1292  
Contact: Chris Goodman  
GHSA Pricing: \$15.00
  
3. ASA (Amateur Softball Association)  
On-line: <http://compliance.protectyouthsports.com>  
Email: [swalker@softball.org](mailto:swalker@softball.org)  
Phone: 877-319-5587  
Contact: Steve Walker  
GHSA Pricing: \$9.00
  
4. ArbiterSports (with PeopleTrail)  
Email: [Cory.Eldredge@arbitersports.com](mailto:Cory.Eldredge@arbitersports.com)  
Phone: 801-702-8026  
Contact: Cory Eldredge  
GHSA Pricing: \$9.50