

# The Advance

e-news for DHS Wildcats Fencing

Issue 4: September 23, 2018



## [Home Tournament - This Saturday!](#)

*Friday 9/28 and Saturday 9/29*

Friday Night pre-tournament set up: Fencers will stay after school to inventory tournament items, check equipment, and set up strips.

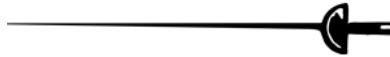
Team Dinner- Friday Night: Don't forget following the tournament set-up, we'll have a team dinner. Menu- salad, taco spaghetti and a small dessert.

Please let [Christine Hilgert](#) know if your fencer has any dietary requirements.

**Important: Any volunteers helping with check in or first shift of volunteers need to be there at 7:00 am on Saturday.**

***Let's go, Wildcats!***

## [This Week:](#)



- **Thu 9/27, Practice; 3:10-5:30**
- **Fri 9/28, Tournament set-up & team dinner; 3:10 until finished**
- **Sat 9/29, Home Tournament; arrive 7:30am, stay through clean-up**
- **[Sign up](#) to help with the 9/29 home tournament**
- **[RSVP](#) for the team dinner (9/28)**
- **Parents sign the Extracurricular Activity Participation Permission Form your child brought home - [here's a copy](#).**
- **[Upcoming calendar](#)**

## [Parents - Wear Your T-shirts on Saturday](#)

### **Team T-shirts**

Remember to wear your team t-shirts on Saturday. Any parent that wants to buy a team shirt for \$10 should email [Ms. Forbes](#). There will also be a few free XL t-shirts available on Friday.



**Congratulations Coach Vail!!!**

## **Our Own Head Coach Vail** **2017-18 Fencing Spirit of Sport Award**

USA Fencing is pleased to announce Kathy Vail is a recipient of the 2017-18 Fencing Spirit of Sport Award, a national award which recognizes members of the fencing community who have exemplified outstanding dedication to the sport and are an inspiration to others.

Coach Vail was nominated by Terry White, chairman of the Georgia High School Fencing League.

Coach Vail may as well be known as the godmother to high school fencing in Georgia. As the vice chairman of the Georgia High School Fencing League for 14 years, Vail has helped develop thousands of fencers. She started the first fencing club recognized by a public Georgia high school in 2003 and has now brought 15 of the 19 member schools into the league, coaching all except two during their first year.

In 2015, she expanded the GHSFL to include B.E.S.T. Academy (Business, Engineering Science & Technology) at the Benjamin S. Carson Center, a Title 1 school, marking the first high school fencing team in a Title 1 school in metro Atlanta. Vail also has organized demonstrations to promote high school fencing in the Capitol Rotunda the last three years.

"None of this would ever have happened without Kathy's passion, vision, organizational expertise, interpersonal skills, networking abilities, selflessness and sheer determination," White said.

Coach Vail is the head fencing coach for Dunwoody High School and the Dunwoody Fencing Club.

# WILDCATS!!!



**SPOTLIGHT:**  
*Team Manager,*  
*Rachel Friedman*

We're pleased to have a new team position this year - a team manager! We're excited to have Rachel keep us and the equipment organized. Here's a snapshot of what makes Rachel tick:

**Duties** - getting equipment out, putting it away and organizing it, as well as, helping out with anything during practice like uniforms.

**To Accomplish This Year** - I'd like to get more experience helping people and being a part of the team.

**Favorite Subject** - Literature because we get to read, learn about different types of written pieces and how they impact us.

**Favorite Food** - I love any kind of pasta.

**Favorite TV** - Grey's Anatomy is always a go-to for me.

**Favorite Movie** - Interstellar is my favorite because it has the perfect amount of science, drama, and action.

**Hobbies** - I watch a lot of TV and love hanging out with my friends.

## Upcoming Referee Clinic

**Wednesday, October 10**

The third GHSFL Referees Clinic of the 2018-19 season will be held on October 10th.

Venue: Milton High School 13025 Birmingham Highway Milton, GA 30004  
Date: October 10, 2018

Start Time: **6:30 pm sharp**

Class will run no later than 9:15pm

Fee: \$15.00 per person. Cash would be preferred, but if you are paying for a group by check please make them out to Kathy Vail.

Please RSVP to [kathy.vail@ghsfl.net](mailto:kathy.vail@ghsfl.net)

Kathy Vail  
Vice-chair, Georgia High School Fencing League

Our Referees and Time Keepers - Thank You!

## Walton Tournament

Thank you to these refs, time keepers, and helpers who participated last week: Michele Garber, Karen Kasowski, Harry Murphy, Priti Patel, Sarah Taliaferro, and Cailin Thelen.

Here, the adage "many hands make light work" really fits, and the more we have, the less times each ref is needed to fill a slot. A referee needs special training, but only minimal instruction is needed to be a time keeper or floor judge. Refing saves our team money, and they gain a greater understanding of the sport.

Interested? See the upcoming Ref Clinic opportunity listed above.

## Volunteer Opportunities - Jump In

- **Team Photographer:** A picture is worth a thousand words!
- **Fundraising Chair:** Reel in financial support for our team.
- **Team Homecoming Parade Organizer:** Someone to coordinate with or guide the team in planning for this year's parade participation. Maybe a float this year?
- **Tournament Volunteer:** Sign up for a job [HERE](#)

Contact: Sharon Murphy - [dunwoodyhsfencing@gmail.com](mailto:dunwoodyhsfencing@gmail.com) or 404.372.7663



**Keep up with the [Blog](#) our website.**

**Drag/drop to add photos [HERE](#). Browse photos [HERE](#).**

**Webmaster: [Gary Sonnier](#)**

## Growing Team Needs

With a larger team this year, our club continues to grow and with that comes the need for additional equipment and skilled people. This past year we've purchased 2 more electronic fencing strips (\$1,100 each), hired an assistant coach, and we'll cover the cost of referees as needed during tournaments - just a few of the bigger ticket items.

Thoughtfully consider a sponsorship or donation to keep our team strong.

Donations are tax deductible.

Make checks payable to: DHS Wildcats Fencing, Inc.,  
which is a 501(c)3 charitable organization.

[Click here to learn more about sponsorship levels.](#)

**[DONATE HERE](#)**

Contact: Eric Kasowski - [ekasowski@yahoo.com](mailto:ekasowski@yahoo.com) or 404-680-0890

## Helpful Links & Files

[Absolute Fencing Gear](#)  
[Tournament 101](#)  
[DHS Fencing Website](#)  
[DHS Fencing By-laws](#)  
[Dunwoody Fencing Club](#)  
[Email DHS Fencing](#)  
[Pictures: Browse and Add!](#)  
[Volunteer Sign-up](#)

## 2018/19 Calendar

*Practices are Thursdays from 3:10pm - 5:30pm at DHS unless notified.*

### **September**

13 (Thu): 6:30 | Referee Clinic | Location: Dunwoody High School  
15 (Sat): Tournament - Round 1; Location: Walton HS  
28 (Fri): **EVERYONE! TOURNAMENT PREPARATION after school**  
29 (Sat): **HOME TOURNAMENT at DHS - Round 2**

### **October**

20 (Sat): Tournament - Round 3; Location: Johns Creek HS  
25 (Thu): **Homecoming parade** team participation in lieu of 3:10-5:30 practice  
27 (Sat): Tournament - Round 4; Location: Campbell HS

### **November**

No tournaments are scheduled...happy Thanksgiving!  
TBD: Team Pictures (last year they were on 11/29/17)

### **December**

1 (Sat): Tournament - Round 5; Location: Roswell HS  
14 (Fri): **EVERYONE! TOURNAMENT PREPARATION after school**  
15 (Sat): **HOME TOURNAMENT at DHS - Round 6**

### **January**

12 (Sat): Tournament - Round 7; Location: Lassiter HS  
26 (Sat): Individual Championship; Location: Chattahoochee HS

### **February**

2 (Sat): Team Championship; Location: Alpharetta HS  
7 (Thu): GHSFL Day at the Capitol (Recognition of GHSFL schools and champions)  
End of February - plan to get next year's physical now and check it off your list!

### **March**

TBD: Last Practice Date for the 2018/19  
  
TBD: DHS Pep Rally Demonstration  
TBD: End-of-the-Year Banquet  
TBD: Demonstration at Peachtree Middle School

**Submit News and Photos (click here)**

## Team captains 2018-19

**Team Captain: Megan Murphy**

**Men's Team Captain: Robbie Garber**

**Women's Team Captain: Sarah MacElroy**

**Assistant Captains:**

Sara Gelber  
Hannah Soderberg

**Head Coach**

Kathy Vail  
[bbhk@mindspring.com](mailto:bbhk@mindspring.com)

**Assistant Coach**

Carol Hickey

**DHS School Sponsor**

Cecilia Forbes  
[cecilia\\_m\\_forbes@dekalbschoolsga.org](mailto:cecilia_m_forbes@dekalbschoolsga.org)

**Team Parent**

Sharon Murphy  
[dunwoodyhsfencing@gmail.com](mailto:dunwoodyhsfencing@gmail.com)

**2018-2019 Board**

***DHS Wildcats Fencing, Inc.***

President - Sharon Murphy  
Vice President - Sarah Taliaferro  
Secretary - Cailin Thelen  
Treasurer - Eric Kasowski  
At Large - Nancy Averbach  
At Large - Christine Hilgert  
At Large - Laura MacElroy

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