

## **FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION** SELECTS <u>WILSON SPORTING GOODS CO.</u> AS OFFICAL SUPPLIER OF FLORIDA STATE HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME AND CONTEST BALLS

Partnership Covers Game Balls for Football, Soccer, Basketball, Baseball, Softball, Golf, Volleyball and Tennis Through 2021

**CHICAGO and GAINESVILLE, Fla., March 22, 2016** – The Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) has selected Wilson Sporting Goods Co., as its official supplier of game balls for Florida State High School Championships across eight sports. Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, every FHSAA member school participating in a state championship event in football, basketball, baseball, soccer, softball, golf, volleyball, and tennis will play with Wilson game balls. Wilson currently partners with 37 high school athletic associations for their respective state championship programs.

"We selected Wilson as our partner based on their commitment to and legacy in youth sports, which complements our mission of giving students the best interscholastic experience possible," said Dr. Roger Dearing, FHSAA Executive Director. "We are excited to see our student-athletes, all around the state, now compete with the most advanced game balls available today and, in many cases, the same game ball technology that is played with at the collegiate and pro levels. We think this a great advantage for our students and athletic programs."

"The FHSAA's state championships program is second to none," said Kevin Murphy, General Manager, Inflates and Digital Services and Products, Wilson. "They have developed one of the most prolific high school athletic programs in the country, which is rooted in making sports accessible, enjoyable and rewarding. There are so many great synergies that make this relationship a powerful one and our shared commitment to supporting the performance of youth athletes is at its core."

The FHSAA has selected the following Wilson game balls for use in its Florida State High School Championships program:

- Football: NCAA® GST® Leather Game Football
- Basketball: <u>NCAA Game Basketball</u>
- Volleyball: <u>I-COR<sup>™</sup> Game Volleyball</u>
- Soccer: <u>NCAA Forte<sup>™</sup> Fybird® II</u>
- Baseball: <u>A1010 PRO Baseball</u>
- Softball: <u>A9011 Softball</u>
- Golf: <u>Wilson Staff 50Elite<sup>™</sup> Golf Ball</u>
- Tennis: US Open Extra Duty Tennis Ball

## Page 2 / FHSAA and Wilson Partner Across Eight Sports

The FHSAA sponsors over 3,600 championship series games through which 141 teams, and 294 individuals are crowned state champions in 32 sports each year. Over 2,000 student athletes each year experience winning a championship. Through participation in these athletic programs, over 800,000 students annually are extended opportunities to receive lessons in leadership, sportsmanship and citizenship.

## ABOUT FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

The <u>Florida High School Athletic Association</u> supervises and regulates interscholastic athletic programs for high school students at member public and private schools. The organization also recognizes and honors academic achievement among student-athletes at almost 800 middle, junior and senior high schools statewide. Headquartered in Gainesville, it is the official governing body for interscholastic athletics in Florida.

## ABOUT WILSON SPORTING GOODS CO.

Chicago-based <u>Wilson Sporting Goods Co.</u>, a subsidiary of Amer Sports Corporation, is one of the world's leading manufacturer of high performance sports equipment, apparel, bags, and accessories. The Company invents, designs and partners to create consumer-driven, best-in-class products that push sports equipment into new territories. Celebrating more than a century in sports, Wilson the preferred equipment partner of 37 high school state athletic association state championship programs. The Company is the Official Supplier of game balls for the National Football League<sup>®</sup>, College Football Playoff, National Collegiate Athletic Association <sup>®</sup> Men's and Women's Championships in basketball, soccer and volleyball, the Association of Volleyball Professionals' Pro Beach Volleyball Tour and the US Open. Wilson also supplies the Official Glove, Bat, Bag and Catcher's Gear of Major League Baseball<sup>®</sup>. In 2016, the Company was recognized as one of the "Most Innovative Companies in Sports" by *Fast Company*.

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