



The Georgia Interscholastic Cycling League

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## **Athletes from Hall County/Gainesville Area Dominate at 2016 High School Mountain Bike State Championships**

**Atlanta, GA - For Release –November 7, 2016** – Johnson High School cyclists, Molly Hayes (Varsity) and Ellie Hayes (JV), and Hall County Prima Tappa Team cyclist, Lily Gowens (Freshman), are all State Champions in their respective divisions of the Georgia Interscholastic Cycling League (GA League) Series State Mountain Bike Championships, held this past Sunday at Dauset Trail in Jackson, GA. This is the third straight Varsity State Championship win for Molly Hayes, and the second for Ellie Hayes, who won last year in the freshman division. Hall County Prima Tappa Member, Celeste Montero, came in a close second in the sophomore division, just 6 points behind State Champion, Muriel Hanback, from the Blankets Creek East Team. The Johnson High School Cycling team was edged out of the overall Team State Championship by the Blankets Creek East team from Cobb County. The Hall County Prima Tappa Team, the 2015 State Champions, came in a close third behind the Johnson High team.

The GA League wrapped up its 2016 five race series season with the *GA Peach State Championship Race* on Sunday, at Dauset Trail. Four teams from the Hall County/Gainesville area competed in the State Championship race including the Hall County Prima Tappa Composite Team, Johnson High School Team, Chestatee High School Team, and the Gainesville Composite/Wrenched Bicycles Team. Students from these teams joined close to 400 other middle and high school students competing in the 2016 *Georgia Peach State Championship Race*. For a complete list of current individual, team, and series results from the Georgia Interscholastic Cycling League 2016 season, log on to: <http://georgiamtb.org/events/2016-results/>.

The Georgia League, a mountain biking league for middle and high school students, was recognized in June as one of the fastest growing leagues in the Southeast by its umbrella organization, the National Interscholastic Cycling Association (NICA). NICA also recognized the GA League for leading the way in female student and adult recruitment through its [Crank Sisters](#) program. The GA League began its season on September 11<sup>th</sup> by doubling its participation numbers for the second season in a row. Over 400 registered student-athletes, 150 coaches, and 29 teams from across the state, and 2 in South Carolina, are participating in the 2016 season.

The Georgia League is a 501c3 nonprofit organization currently operating under the National Interscholastic Cycling Association (NICA) umbrella, providing exclusive mountain biking programs for middle and high students. The Georgia League is one of nineteen leagues in eighteen states overseen by NICA, established in 2009, with over 10,000 student-athletes and 3,700 licensed coaches participating across the nation. The Georgia League is open to all Georgia students, regardless of ability, believing that cycling is about lifelong health, not just today's win. Scholarships and loaner bikes are available to students in need. For more information about starting a team in your area, League Sponsorship or Volunteer information, or for more information on the Georgia League, visit [www.georgiamtb.org](http://www.georgiamtb.org) or connect with them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/georgiamtb>, on Twitter at [@gambleague](#), or on Instagram at [georgiambleague](#).

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