



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Doug Ute, Executive Director

Tuesday, April 18, 2023

ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

2022-23 School Year, No. 19

TO: Member Schools' Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Administrators
FR: OHSAA Executive Director's Office

The following updates and reminders are being sent electronically to member school superintendents, principals and athletic administrators. Please share this update with other interested administrators and coaches on your staff.

OHSAA Board Approves Athletic Enrichment Fund; Financial Contribution to be Given to All Member Schools

At a special virtual meeting held April 13, the OHSAA Board of Directors approved a recommendation from the Executive Director's Office that the Association establish an "athletic enrichment" fund for the purpose of providing a financial contribution, on an equitable basis, to each member high school's athletic department to assist with costs of equipment, uniforms, game transportation, officials and improving student sportsmanship and adult fan behavior. The fund will be established with an initial transfer from OHSAA operations of \$3 million. On an annual basis, the board will approve a transfer to the fund from operating cash and will determine the contribution amount to each school. To qualify, member schools must have returned their membership card by June 30 and have no outstanding member dues or fines. As part of its action on April 13, the Board also approved a recommendation to distribute \$1,250 to each member school for the 2022-23 fiscal year that schools will receive in August 2023.

OHSAA Athletic Discussion Meetings Continue

After today, the OHSAA will be hosting four more in-person Athletic Discussion Meetings for school administrators across the state, where the focus will be a review of the upcoming referendum issues from Director of Compliance Kristin Ronai. The registration link is here: <https://ohsaameetings.hometownticketing.com/embed/all>, and we ask that athletic administrators complete the registration process for not only themselves but also superintendents and principals. OHSAA Executive Director Doug Ute will also be on hand at the meetings to discuss current issues of interest. The four remaining meetings are as follows:

Tuesday, April 25, 10:30 to 12:30 – Auditorium, **Streetsboro** High School

Thursday, April 27, 1:30 to 3:30 – Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center, **Cambridge**

Friday, April 28, 10:00 to noon – Community Auditorium, **Clayton Northmont** High School

Monday, May 1, 9:00* to noon – Camden Falls Reception & Conference Center, **Tiffin**

(*combined with Northwest District Athletic Board awards ceremony)

There are 13 total referendum items this year (one Constitution, 12 Bylaw), and superintendents, principals and athletic administrators are highly encouraged to review and discuss these issues together before member school principals will vote upon the issues between May 1 and 15. Details on all the approved referendum issues are here:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/SchoolResources/refvote/FINAL-2023ReferendumItems.pdf>.

OHSAA Finance Team To Present Review of Winter Tournaments

On Thursday, May 4, starting at 8:30 a.m., the OHSAA finance team, led by Chief Operating Officer Kim Kiehl and Controller Laura Vermilya along with Executive Director Doug Ute, will be hosting a virtual meeting for member school administrators to provide a financial review of the OHSAA's winter tournaments. All administrators are welcome to participate, so please use this link (<https://www.ohsaa.org/meetings>) to register for that meeting and receive your link. The link to access the meeting will be located in the "Additional Information" section of your confirmation email. If you have any questions on connectivity, please contact OHSAA Manager of Membership Services and Compliance Ronald Sayers (rsayers@ohsaa.org).

OHSAA District Athletic Board Election Process

Administrators have recently received a separate that explains the process to submit nominations for expired or unexpired OHSAA District Athletic Board positions and also shows the specific positions available. Nominating petitions for these positions must be completed through *myOHSAA* by 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 30. Voting for these positions will take place between May 1 and 15, with terms officially beginning on August 1, 2023.

Expiring terms (August 1, 2023-July 31, 2029) are: **Central:** Class AA (Ryan Fitzgerald, incumbent); **East:** Class AA (Chad Shawger, incumbent); **Northeast:** Class A (Ryan Kleber, incumbent); **Northwest:** Class A (Keith Mora, incumbent); **Southeast:** Class AAA (Aaron Hammond, interim/incumbent), and **Southwest:** Class AAA (Tim Cook, incumbent). Unexpired terms are: **Central:** Class AA, August 1,

2023-July 31, 2028 (Scott Beery, interim), and **Southwest**: Female Representative, August 1, 2023-July 31, 2026 (Ashley Johnson, interim).

For more information on the election process, **prospective candidates should read articles 7-2-1 through 7-9-1 of the OHSAA Constitution** (pages 28-29 of the 2022-23 *OHSAA Handbook*), which can be accessed here: <https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/SchoolResources/Handbook.pdf>.

OHSAA and U.S. Army Partner on Statewide Scholar-Athlete Program

The Ohio High School Athletic Association has announced that the United States Army will be the presenting sponsor of a statewide scholar-athlete program. The nominating link is below, and submissions will be accepted through May 15. The program will recognize the achievements of deserving student-athletes in Ohio, highlighting their success in the classroom and on the field of play in their respective sport(s). Junior and senior student-athletes at an OHSAA member school can be nominated for the program. The criteria to be nominated includes having a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 or higher and play at least one junior varsity or varsity OHSAA sport during the 2022-23 school year. Deserving student-athletes will receive an official certificate, and some students will be recognized at OHSAA state championship events this spring.

The nomination link is: <https://form.jotform.com/230453992327157>. Note that this program is different than the OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Program.

Raising Cane's to Donate Proceeds from June 15 Sales to Support OHSAA Programs

On Thursday, June 15, Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers will share 15 percent of all sales between 4:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. throughout Ohio to help support OHSAA programs for student-athletes. Customers must either mention the OHSAA or show a flyer/image on their phone to qualify. With 36 locations across Ohio, Raising Cane's is well known for its chicken finger meals and customer satisfaction. More details will be shared with the membership as the date approaches.

Ryan Day to Speak at Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation Free Virtual Medical and Health Symposium

Ryan Day, head football coach at The Ohio State University, will be one of the nationally recognized speakers at the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation's 2023 Medical and Health Virtual Symposium, which will focus on the importance of mental health. Day is a strong advocate for mental well-being and will present his session, "Speaking Up and Speaking Out on Mental Health," on Friday, May 5, from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The **FREE** three-day virtual symposium, which is open to all OHSAA school administrators, team physicians, athletic trainers and school nurses, is May 4-6 and offers world-class educational sessions including a "live" rotator cuff surgery and industry experts addressing key health and medical issues. To view the full agenda, the list of featured speakers and to register, go to: <https://mhs.digitellinc.com/mhs/live/9/page/95>.

OHSAA Award Certificates

The annual OHSAA Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity Awards (Archie Griffin, NFHS Award of Excellence, etc.) and other miscellaneous school awards are now available through your school's *myOHSAA* account for you to print. These awards are available through June 30, 2023, on both high school and 7th & 8th grade school accounts. We encourage school administrators to communicate internally and follow the on-screen instructions and parameters in *myOHSAA* to select your recipients for each of these awards. Awards will print in color provided you use a color printer, and you can choose the type of paper used for the printing. Be sure to indicate any special paper used through the printing properties of your printer.

Reminder: Update Administrators in myOHSAA

Athletic administrators are encouraged to login to your *myOHSAA* account to provide updates in **Staff Management** (are all your coaches listed?; are your principal and superintendent listed and are their emails correct?).

OHSAA Board Resolution for Membership Cards

The OHSAA Constitution requires the board of education or similar governing body to adopt a resolution authorizing its schools that were members during the 2022-23 school year to continue membership for the 2023-24 school year. The OHSAA Board Resolution Card, which requires a signature from the governing body's president and superintendent/head of school, will be mailed later this month. Please read the instructions that accompany the card, complete the required items and return the card to the OHSAA office using the pre-stamped envelope provided **no later than June 30, 2023**. For questions, please contact either Ronald Sayers (rsayers@ohsaa.org) or Alexis Holderman (aholderman@ohsaa.org).

Clarity Provided on NFHS Soccer Uniform Regulations

As athletic administrators look ahead in ordering team uniforms for future use, please be reminded that, in accordance with National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Rule 4.1 and effective August 1, 2026 (**note new date**), teams who are found to be in violation of the uniform requirements shall be subject to a \$100 fine per occurrence. Failure to have NFHS complaint uniforms by the start of the OHSAA post-season in 2026 shall result in removal from the OHSAA Tournament. The date has been extended to allow teams to become completely compliant with the NFHS rules whether with their home or visiting jersey.

The rule is not specifically intended to preclude the use of white features such as small white stripes; white piping around the collar or sleeves, and narrow white panels on the sides. Therefore, any white on the home jersey must not detract from the home jersey nor make it difficult to distinguish between home and away jerseys (must provide clear contrast from the visiting jersey). As shared previously, the school name/logo, numbers and manufacturer logos may be white. If you have further questions, please contact OHSAA soccer administrator Kate Barnett at kbarnett@ohsaa.org.

Mandatory Spring Sports Online Rules Meetings Requirements

Please remind your coaches that all OHSAA sports have a mandatory on-line rules meeting requirement. These are required in order for your school to participate in the OHSAA tournament for that specific sport and participation must be by either the varsity head coach, varsity assistant coach or athletic administrator. Spring sports rules meetings have been posted in *myOHSAA*, and details are sent from the OHSAA Sport Management team to coaches. Here is the schedule for spring 2023 sports:

Sport	Start Date	Late Fee Begins	End Date	OHSAA Credit Coordinator for Coaches
Baseball	Already Started	Already Started	Mon., May 1 at 11:59 PM	Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org)
Lacrosse (B)	Already Started	Already Started	Mon., May 1 at 11:59 PM	Beau Rugg (brugg@ohsaa.org)
Lacrosse (G)	Already Started	Already Started	Mon., May 1 at 11:59 PM	Beau Rugg (brugg@ohsaa.org)
Softball	Already Started	Already Started	Mon., Apr. 24 at 11:59 PM	Kate Barnett (kbarnett@ohsaa.org)
Tennis (B)	Already Started	Already Started	Mon., Apr. 24 at 11:59 PM	Dustin Ware (dware@ohsaa.org)
Track & Field	Already Started	Already Started	Mon., Apr. 24 at 11:59 PM	Dustin Ware (dware@ohsaa.org)
Volleyball (B)	Already Started	Already Started	Mon., Apr. 24 at 11:59 PM	Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org)
Late Fee Begins	Day after first date of competition			
End Date	The "End Date" is the same as the tournament entry/withdraw deadline date.			

For information published in the April 4, 2023, OHSAA Administrator Update, please go to:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/BulletinBoard/04042023AdministratorUpdate.pdf>

For information published in the March 23, 2023, OHSAA Administrator Update, please go to:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/BulletinBoard/AdministratorUpdateMarch222023.pdf>

For information published in the March 7, 2023, OHSAA Administrator Update, please go to:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/BulletinBoard/AdministratorUpdateMarch72023.pdf>

For information published in the February 21, 2023, OHSAA Administrator Update, please go to:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/BulletinBoard/AdministratorUpdateFebruary212023.pdf>

For information published in the February 7, 2023, OHSAA Administrator Update, please go to:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/BulletinBoard/AdministratorUpdateFebruary7,2023.pdf>

For information published in the January 24, 2023, OHSAA Administrator Update, please go to:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/BulletinBoard/AdministratorUpdateJanuary24,2023.pdf>

For information published in the January 10, 2023, OHSAA Administrator Update, please go to:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/BulletinBoard/AdministratorUpdateJanuary10,2023.pdf>

For additional information published in past OHSAA Administrator Updates through December 31, 2022, please see page 3 of the November 29 edition at:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/BulletinBoard/11292022AdministratorUpdate.pdf>

Thank you for your attention to this information. Please contact us if we can be of service!