



# Ohio High School Athletic Association

Friday, May 21, 2021

## *Administrator Update*

**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.

### **Ohio Department of Health Director's Order Modified Again on May 17**

As many of you are aware, the Ohio Department of Health Director's Order was modified again on May 17. Two of the major items to note as they relate to OHSAA spring tournaments are:

- Individuals not fully vaccinated shall continue to wear a facial covering if they are unable to consistently maintain a distance of six feet or more from individuals who are not members of their family/household. Among the exceptions continue to be for those actively participating in athletic practices, scrimmages or competitions or for an individual who has a medical condition that would make wearing a mask unsafe.
- Those who are fully vaccinated (and received their second dose of the two-dose vaccine or their dose of the single-dose vaccine at least two weeks ago) can resume activities without wearing a mask.

The vast majority of the Ohio Department of Health orders are expected to be rescinded on June 2. Here is a link to the May 17, 2021, Ohio Health Director's Second Amended Order:

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/publicorders/rev-2nd-final-amended-do-soc-dist-remove-face-cover-21.pdf>

### **Observers Program Ending**

With the Health Director's Order being modified, the OHSAA has ended the Observers Program for the remainder of the spring. We thank the observers for all of their time and efforts and also thank school administrators for hosting and working with the observers. Originally recommended by the Governor's Office, the Observers Program has played a role in the success Ohio has had in conducting our fall, winter and spring seasons as normally as possible by providing valuable feedback on the COVID-19 protocols for schools, which ultimately allowed our student-athletes to continue to reap the rewards of interscholastic athletics participation.

### **Referendum Voting Results**

Voting on OHSAA referendum issues ended last weekend, and all nine issues passed. We thank member school principals who cast their votes and salute the collaboration that took place between principals, superintendents and athletic administrators in reviewing the proposals. Here is the OHSAA news release on the referendum voting:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/SchoolResources/refvote/2021RefVoteRESULTS.pdf>

Updated guidance documents as they relate to student eligibility bylaws will be posted soon on the OHSAA website. Also posted will be a preseason meeting PowerPoint presentation that schools may consider utilizing for their required preseason meetings with student-athletes and their parents.

### **You Are Invited → Finance Team To Present Review of OHSAA Fall and Winter Tournaments**

On Tuesday, May 25, starting at 8:30 a.m., the OHSAA finance team of Chief Operating Officer Kim Kiehl, Controller Laura Vermilya and Senior Accountant Laura Lemanski will be hosting a virtual meeting for member school administrators to provide a financial review of the OHSAA's fall and 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. If you have any questions on connectivity, please contact OHSAA Compliance and Eligibility Specialist Ronald Sayers ([rsayers@ohsaa.org](mailto:rsayers@ohsaa.org)).

### **Spring Tournaments Ticketing**

All ticketing for OHSAA spring tournaments is being handled by the OHSAA's digital ticketing partner, HomeTown Ticketing, and tickets for most tournaments are available and open to the public by going to <https://www.ohsaa.org/tickets>. Other ticketing notes:

- Unlike the fall and winter tournaments, passcodes are not be utilized unless a tournament manager would like to set up team codes for a particular matchup/event. If that is the case, site managers should contact OHSAA Director of External Affairs Jacki Windon ([jwindon@ohsaa.org](mailto:jwindon@ohsaa.org)) to work out details.
- There is no admission charge this spring for children age 5 and under.
- Further details on tickets through HomeTown Ticketing for OHSAA state tournaments will be forthcoming.

## **Your Participation Is Appreciated → Spring Surveys**

### • **Student-Athletes Encouraged to Participate in New University of Wisconsin COVID-19 Study** •

The OHSAA is encouraging member schools' student-athletes to participate in a University of Wisconsin research study titled "The Impact of Restarting High School Sports on the Health of Adolescent Athletes." The objective of the study, conducted by UW's Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation within the School of Medicine and Public Health, is to document the effects that sport participation has on the physical activity, quality of life and mental health of adolescent athletes during the COVID-19 pandemic.

To participate, student-athletes (age 13 to 18 years old) should gain permission from their parents and then complete a short, anonymous, online survey regarding current and former sport participation, level of physical activity, anxiety, depression and health related quality of life. The research has been approved by the UW Institutional Review Board and is funded by a grant from the NFHS. No personal identifiers are being collected, and the internet service provider or computer address for any respondent cannot be identified. The online link to complete the survey is available here: [https://uwmadison.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_a5EPmtGzppoGokJ](https://uwmadison.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_a5EPmtGzppoGokJ).

The deadline to complete the survey is Monday, May 31, at 5:00 p.m. **We have been informed that Ohio is currently lagging behind in its student involvement in this survey, so we ask that you encourage your student-athletes to participate.** Once the data is analyzed, the results will be shared with the hope that it can help inform ongoing discussions on the continuation of sports during the pandemic.

### • **Athletic Administrators, Football Coaches, Student-Athletes and Parents Encouraged to Participate in NFHS Football Survey** •

The OHSAA is encouraging member schools' athletic administrators, football coaches, student-athletes (current and former football players) and parents to participate in an NFHS football research project, which asks questions about their experiences in football and the benefits of participation. Here is a link to the survey: <https://www.nfhs.org/sports-resource-content/nfhs-high-school-football-survey/>. Once the link is accessed, participants will be able to choose their role and take that specific survey. The deadline is May 28. The data from this survey can help to inform state association offices and school leaders about the participation and perception trends in their school and perhaps spark strategic efforts to grow/sustain football programs. Once there are enough respondents from Ohio, the OHSAA will receive a link that can be shared with the membership that will show our data.

### • **NFHS Participation Survey** •

The NFHS Student Participation Survey is now live on each school's *myOHSAA* account. The NFHS Student Participation Survey is conducted annually and is an important data collection tool completed by athletic administrators. We have made the survey easier to complete by making it available throughout the school year rather than just the end, so the survey no longer needs to be done all at one time. You can add, remove and edit participation numbers any time before the June 1, 2021, deadline.

## **Compliance Reminders**

The OHSAA compliance department has created a "May Compliance Reminders" video with two brief updates. We encourage building-level administrators to review this two-minute YouTube video at your convenience at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GOw1o7clkL8>.

## **Spring Sports Dates**

### **Baseball**

State: June 10-12, Akron Canal Park

Statewide Brackets: <http://bit.ly/BBBrackets>

### **Boys Lacrosse and Girls Lacrosse**

State Finals: June 5, Ohio Wesleyan University

Boys Statewide Brackets: <http://bit.ly/BLABrackets>

Girls Statewide Brackets: <http://bit.ly/GLABrackets>

### **Softball**

State: June 3-5, Akron Firestone Stadium

Statewide Brackets: <http://bit.ly/SBBBrackets>

### **Boys Tennis\***

State: May 28-29, Lindner Family Tennis Center, Mason

### **Track & Field\***

State: June 4-5 (Division I: Hilliard Darby; Division II: Pickerington North; Division III: Westerville North)

\*Visit the respective OHSAA District Athletic Board websites for links to school tournament assignments and results:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/about/districtboards>

## **Please View the April 1 OHSAA Administrator Update to Answer Questions on the Following:**

- August 1 is beginning **fall coaching date** for all sport practices
- Clarification on summer coaching in team sports (**10-day rule**)
- Bylaw 4-4 (**Scholarship Bylaw**) waived through the 2020-21 school year
- Tournament divisions (and enrollment data) **to remain the same** in 2021-22
- **2021 Friday Night Futbol**

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/BulletinBoard/20210401AdministratorUpdate.pdf>.

Thank you for your attention to this information and for the service you are providing our student-athletes!