



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Doug Ute, Executive Director



Tuesday, November 23, 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.

State Football Tournament Information

Schedule, State Semifinals (Neutral Sites) – Friday, Nov. 26, 7:00 (Div. I, II, III, IV); Saturday, Nov. 27, 7:00 (Div. V, VI and VII)

Schedule, State Finals (Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium, Canton) – Thursday, Dec. 2, 7:00 (Div. II); Friday, Dec. 3, 10:30 (Div. IV); 3:00 (Div. III), and 7:30 (Div. I); Saturday, Dec. 4, 10:30 (Div. VII); 3:00 (Div. VI), and 7:30 (Div. V)

Digital Ticketing: www.ohsaa.org/tickets

Winter Tournament Information

Girls Basketball: Season Began – Friday, Nov. 19

Boys Basketball: Season Begins – Wednesday, Nov. 24

Bowling: Season Began – Friday, Nov. 19

Gymnastics: Season Begins – Monday, Dec. 6

Ice Hockey: Season Began – Friday, Nov. 19

Swimming & Diving: Season Begins – Monday, Nov. 29

Wrestling: Season Begins – Thursday, Dec. 2

Winter Sports State Online Rules Meetings Required

This is a reminder that 2021-22 OHSAA state rules meetings for each winter sport (basketball, bowling, gymnastics, ice hockey, swimming & diving and wrestling) are currently live. Completion of these meetings is required for tournament participation. Please have the head coach, an assistant coach or the athletic administrator complete the meeting prior to the final meeting date* for each sport (*coincides with the tournament entry/withdraw without penalty date). All rules meetings are available through *myOHSAA* and can be accessed through the 'Rules Meeting' icon. Here are the timelines, deadlines and additional information:

| Sport | Meeting Live Dates | Late Fee Begins | End Date to View Meeting | OHSAA Sport Coordinator |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Basketball | Currently Live | Thursday, Nov. 25 | Mon., Jan. 24 at 11:59 p.m. | John Kuzio jkuzio@ohsaa.org |
| Wrestling | Currently Live | Friday, Dec. 3 | Mon., Feb. 7 at 11:59 p.m. | Tyler Brooks tbrooks@ohsaa.org |
| Swimming & Diving | Currently Live | Tuesday, Nov. 30 | Mon., Jan. 24 at 11:59 p.m. | Kate Barnett kbarnett@ohsaa.org |
| Ice Hockey | Currently Live | Saturday, Nov. 20 | Fri., Feb. 4 at 11:59 p.m. | Ronald Sayers rsayers@ohsaa.org |
| Gymnastics | Currently Live | Tuesday, Dec. 7 | Mon., Jan. 31 at 11:59 p.m. | Kate Barnett kbarnett@ohsaa.org |
| Bowling | Currently Live | Saturday, Nov. 20 | Mon., Jan. 24 at 11:59 p.m. | Emily Mason emason@ohsaa.org |

Winter Tournament Regulations to be Approved

The OHSAA Board of Directors is expected to approve tournament regulations for the OHSAA's winter sports at a special meeting to be held on Thursday, Dec. 2. Look for the approved tournament regulations to be posted on each sports' individual page on the OHSAA website (www.ohsaa.org) the week of Dec. 6. In the meantime, each winter sport currently has its respective coaches manual posted on its individual sport page. The manuals contain lots of reminders, points of emphasis and new information for the 2021-22 season.

OHSAA Board of Directors Approves Running Clock for Regular Season Basketball Games

With a running clock regulation (score differential) already in place during OHSAA basketball tournament contests, the OHSAA Board of Directors recently approved a recommendation that the running clock regulation also be extended to all levels of regular season contests. Any time a score differential reaches 35 points during the second half, a running clock will be utilized. After the 35-point differential has been met but the score drops below 30 points, the clock reverts to regular timing. Should a game reach the 35-point

differential in the second half, the clock shall only be stopped for an injured player on the court, team timeouts or when there is an unusual delay deemed necessary by the contest officials.

Ohio Department of Health Recommends Alternative Quarantining Option for Students in “Mask to Stay/Test to Play” Program

The Ohio Department of Health is recommending a new program for K-12 students exposed to COVID-19 that would allow them to continue to go to school and participate in extracurricular activities rather than quarantine in a program called “Mask to Stay/Test to Play.” The alternative to quarantining for students exposed to COVID-19 and desiring to remain in the classroom requires masking, while masking and testing are required as an alternative to quarantining for students exposed to COVID-19 and desiring to remain participating in extracurricular activities. For complete details on the “Mask to Stay/Test to Play Option” for K-12 students, go to: <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/responsible/schools/k-12-schools-quarantine-alternative.pdf>.

OHSAA Spirit State Championship to be Held Dec. 11 at Wittenberg

In partnership with Varsity Brands, the OHSAA is excited to host its first Spirit State Championship Saturday, Dec. 11, at Wittenberg University in Springfield. The OHSAA has not sanctioned the sport of cheerleading but is welcoming this as a unique opportunity to recognize and promote sideline spirit. While specific “non-stunting” divisions will NOT be offered, the Spirit State Championships will focus on a team’s leadership and crowd-effectiveness as opposed to difficulty or individual technical skills. For details, go to: <https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Spirit/2021/2021OHSAAspiritStateChampionshipsOverview.pdf>. Additional information, including registration information, can be obtained at: <https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Spirit>.

Participation Encouraged in 30th Annual OASSA Cheer & Dance Regional Qualifiers and State Championships Events

OHSAA member schools are encouraged to have their students register to participate in the 30th Annual Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators Association (OASSA) Cheer and Dance Regional Qualifier and State Championship events. The 2022 Regional Qualifiers will be held Jan. 29 (Central - Dublin Jerome); Jan. 30 (Northeast - Massillon Perry); Feb. 5 (Southwest - Cincinnati Anderson); Feb. 6 (Northwest - Whitehouse Anthony Wayne) and Feb. 6 (Southeast - Belmont Union Local); the 2022 State Cheer & Dance Championship will be held Feb. 26 (Pickerington North and Pickerington Lakeview Junior High), and the 2022 State Cheer Championship will be held Feb. 27 (Pickerington North). To register your participants, go to <https://oassa.org/regionals/2022-oassa-regional-qualifier-registration/>. For more details, call 614-430-8311.

OHSAA October Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Available

Here is a link to the minutes from October 21, 2021, OHSAA Board of Directors Meeting: <https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Board-of-Directors-Minutes/2021-22/October212021BoardMinutes.pdf>

Please feel free to share this link with other staff members and coaches that you believe may have an interest in the board minutes.

Modifications Made to Transfer Bylaws Per Constitution Article 6-1-9

With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the concern about students changing schools for pandemic-related reasons, the OHSAA Executive Director’s Office has elected to utilize Constitution Article 6-1-9 to waive the strict compliance with some OHSAA Transfer Bylaws. Among the modifications include: 1.) Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers (sub-varsity transfers); 2.) Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers (students who transfer but keep playing for the same school from which they transferred in accordance with state law), and 3.) Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers (students who transfer but come back to the same school without playing for any other school). For complete details on these modifications, please go to: <https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Eligibility/OtherEligibilityDocs/6-1-9Modifications.pdf>.

In addition, the OHSAA has used Constitution Article 6-1-9 to waive Constitution Articles 3-3-4 and 3-3-5, Continuing Membership, as it relates to sponsoring two sports per sports season, the requirement to participate in 50 percent of the maximum allowable regular season contests in a team sport and, at the high school level, participate in the OHSAA sponsored tournament for each of those sports. For more information, contact Manager of Compliance and Membership Services Ronald Sayers at rsayers@ohsaa.org.

Competitive Balance Roster Data Entry Period for Fall Sports Ends Soon

Administrators are reminded that the window to enter Competitive Balance roster data for the fall sports of football, soccer and volleyball has opened. Athletic administrators, or their designees, must submit their roster data within the ArbiterGame system (under the ‘Eligibility’ tab). The deadline to submit fall sports roster data is **Friday, December 17, 2021**. **ALL** schools that compete in a varsity contest in those sports must submit their roster data by that date. All other fall sports are **not** part of Competitive Balance. For questions, contact Kristin Ronai (kronai@ohsaa.org) or Ronald Sayers (rsayers@ohsaa.org) of our compliance staff..

Administrators Asked to Work with EMIS Coordinators to Ensure Data Accuracy

October 2021 was the month that the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) obtained a snapshot of enrollment data (EMIS) from OHSAA member schools for use to determine school placement within tournament divisions for both the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years*. The OHSAA will be asking school administrators to review their data this winter during the review/appeal process when the EMIS numbers are sent to you for verification for OHSAA tournament use. Please be sure to work closely with your EMIS coordinators to ensure data reported to ODE is both accurate and complete.

As a reminder, counts of students provided by ODE do not represent *eligible* students but rather enrollment at a school district using one of the EMIS status codes that are identified in the OHSAA Enrollment Business Rules that are found here:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Portals/0/SchoolResources/EnrollmentBusinessRules.pdf>. There is no correlation between the data of enrollment and those students eligible to participate in athletic competition at a member school. Administrators are also reminded that the information presented by ODE to the OHSAA is for this limited purpose. ODE is not required by law to provide this data but rather does so as a courtesy.

*Denotes that the data is also used in determining school classification for governance purposes and also that tournament divisions in the eight Competitive Balance sports (football, soccer, volleyball, basketball, baseball and softball) are recalculated annually.

View the OHSAA Foundation Student Leadership Conference

The Ohio High School Athletic Association Foundation virtual Student Leadership Conference was held on Tuesday, October 5, and administrators are welcome to gather school groups to still view the presentation at: <https://mjvirtualevents.com/ohsaa2021>. The presentation lasts approximately two hours and 20 minutes and will be available for viewing through March 2022. Featured speakers are nationally renowned motivational speaker and organizer of the OHSAA Foundation Student Leadership Conference **Harvey Alston**; **Javier Sanchez**, whose passion is to move audiences from inspiration to action through stand-up comedy, poetry and powerful story telling; **Jenny Oaks-Baker**, who will share her real life story while also displaying her Grammy-nominated talents as an accomplished violinist; **Brian Wagner**, a speaker and author whose brain surgery changed his life and he now inspires others to improve their leadership vision, and **Jason Michaels**, who overcame Tourette's Syndrome to become an award-winning sleight-of-hand artist and professional speaker.

Online Learning Education Available in Variety of Topics at NFHS Learning Center

The NFHS Learning Center is the leader in online education for the interscholastic community. At www.nfhslearn.com, administrators, coaches, student-athletes and parents can find over 70 courses, with over 30 free courses, such as Concussion in Sports; The Collapsed Athlete; Sudden Cardiac Arrest; Protecting Students from Abuse; Implicit Bias; Bullying, Hazing and Inappropriate Behaviors, and Positive Parenting within School Programs. Earlier this fall, the NFHS already broke its single school year record for most courses viewed with more than 2.5 million courses ordered. For more information, go to www.nfhslearn.com.

Thank you for your attention to this information and for the work you are doing with our student-athletes. Have a blessed and peaceful Thanksgiving, and please contact us if we can be of service!