



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Doug Ute, Executive Director

Tuesday, February 20, 2024

ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

2023-24 School Year, No. 14

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

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

OHSAA Board of Directors Approves Recommendation to Expand Tournament Divisions in Baseball, Basketball, Soccer, Softball and Girls Volleyball Beginning in the Fall

The OHSAA Board of Directors unanimously approved a proposal last Thursday at their regularly scheduled meeting to utilize a new formula to determine how many divisions will be offered for postseason tournaments. The change affects OHSAA General Sports Regulation 17 and will result in girls and boys soccer now having five tournament divisions, while girls volleyball, girls and boys basketball, softball and baseball will all have seven tournament divisions. In those sports, Division I and Division II will only include 64 schools. The new divisions will go into effect in the fall of 2024. The Board will continue to discuss additional sports and has already had recent discussions regarding track and field. There are no changes to the number of football divisions, which is already at seven. In addition, any changes to the current deployment of the Competitive Balance process would need to be voted upon by OHSAA member schools during the annual referendum voting process.

To read the complete news release on the Board's action, go here:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/news-media/articles/ohsaa-board-of-directors-approves-expansion-proposal>.

Current List of 2024 Referendum Issues Available; Dates & Sites Set for Athletic Discussion Meetings

The OHSAA Board of Directors has currently approved recommendations from the Executive Director's Office to place five items (all Bylaws) up for referendum vote of the membership for 2024. Member school principals will vote upon these issues between May 1 and 15. A few additional referendum items to place before the membership may be approved by the Board in March. Details on the current approved referendum issues are here:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/SchoolResources/refvote/2024ReferendumIssues-FebApproved.pdf>.

In addition, the OHSAA will again host Athletic Discussion Meetings for school administrators in each of the six OHSAA athletic districts in April. **Registration information will be sent soon** asking athletic administrators to complete the registration process for not only themselves but also superintendents and principals. Director Kristin Ronai will review the upcoming OHSAA referendum issues on which member school principals will vote in May, and Executive Director Doug Ute will discuss current issues of interest. Meetings will take place as follows:

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

Tuesday, April 16, 10:00 to noon – Auditorium, **Streetsboro** High School

Thursday, April 18, 10:00 to noon – Ohio University Inn & Conference Center, **Athens**

Monday, April 22, 10:00 to noon – Quest Conference Center, **Westerville**

Thursday, April 25, 1:30 to 3:30 – Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center, **Cambridge**

Tuesday, April 30, 9:00 to noon – *Camden Falls Reception & Conference Center, **Tiffin**

**Combined with Northwest District Athletic Board awards ceremony and lunch*

Winter Tournament Information

Draws for all OHSAA winter tournaments have been completed. For statewide basketball and ice hockey tournament brackets, go to the OHSAA website as follows:

Girls Basketball

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Basketball-Girls/Girls-Basketball-2023-24/2024-Statewide-Tournament-Brackets>

Boys Basketball

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Basketball-Boys/Boys-Basketball-2023-24/2024-Statewide-Tournament-Brackets>

Ice Hockey

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Ice-Hockey/2023-24-Ice-Hockey/2024-Ice-Hockey-State-Tournament-Coverage>

For school assignments for sectional and/or district **Bowling, Gymnastics, Swimming & Diving** and **Wrestling** tournaments, visit your specific OHSAA District Athletic Board website by going to: <https://www.ohsaa.org/about/districtboards>.

Tickets Remain on Sale for Upcoming OHSAA Tournaments

Tickets remain on sale for the upcoming OHSAA winter state tournaments. These tickets must be purchased online through the OHSAA's digital ticketing partner, HomeTown Ticketing, or Ticketmaster by going to <https://www.ohsaa.org/tickets>. Here is additional information:

Boys and Girls Division II Bowling

Friday-Saturday, March 1-2, HP Lanes, Columbus

Gymnastics

Saturday-Sunday, March 2-3, Hilliard Bradley High School

Girls Basketball

Thursday-Saturday, March 14-16, University of Dayton Arena

Boys and Girls Division I Bowling

Friday-Saturday, March 8-9, HP Lanes, Columbus

Boys and Girls Wrestling

Friday-Sunday, March 8-10, Schottenstein Center,
The Ohio State University, Columbus

Ice Hockey

Friday and Sunday, March 8 and 10, Nationwide Arena,
Columbus

Boys Basketball

Friday-Sunday, March 22-24, University of Dayton Arena

For questions, contact OHSAA Customer Experience Manager Claudia Markoff at cmarkoff@ohsaa.org.

State Basketball Tournaments Ticketing Information

Athletic administrators were sent information recently about the digital ticketing purchase process for the state girls and boys basketball tournaments. The window for schools to order tickets opened last week. That process has replaced the paper forms schools were sent in the past and is being handled by our digital ticketing partner, HomeTown Ticketing.

Each OHSAA member school has access to purchase up to eight (8) all-session tickets for the girls tournament AND eight (8) all-session tickets for the boys tournament before tickets are available to the public. Those eight tickets can be located together. Each school has been provided with ONE presale code that works for both boys and girls tournament tickets. Purchasers have the opportunity to click on and select their seats from a seat map of the University of Dayton Arena. All-session ticket sales will be valid through Friday, March 1, or until your school's presale code has been used to purchase your eight (8) all-session tickets. All-session tickets sales for the public began earlier this month.

Both 2024 state basketball tournaments will again be held at the University of Dayton Arena, with the girls tournament Thursday through Saturday, March 14-16, and the boys tournament Friday through Sunday, March 22-24. For more questions, including the steps to claim tickets, contact OHSAA Customer Experience Manager, Claudia Markoff, at cmarkoff@ohsaa.org.

OHSAA January Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Available

Here is a link to the minutes from January 11, 2024, OHSAA Board of Directors Meeting:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Board-of-Directors-Minutes/2023-24/20240111BoardMinutes.pdf>.

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

LiFEsport Program at Ohio State Offers Upcoming Trainings and Other Resources

Administrators looking for more opportunities for your coaches to learn are encouraged to check out the OHSAA's partnership with [Coach Beyond](#) and the LiFEsports Initiative at The Ohio State University.

- **FREE Regional Mental Health Trainings:** Coach Beyond has a one-hour training session on *Supporting Student-Athlete Mental Health* that is approved for the new PAP requirements in Ohio, and we are bringing it to you! Here are the links for more information and to register:

- [Central Ohio Trainings on March 3rd & 4th](#)
- [Southwest Ohio Trainings on April 14th & 15th](#)
- [Southeast Ohio Trainings on April 21st & 22nd](#)
- [Northeast Ohio Trainings on May 30th & 31st](#)

Northwest Ohio Trainings dates and locations to come soon!

- **Online Mental Health Training:** In addition to an in-person training, Coach Beyond has an online one-hour training module that has been approved for the new PAP requirements. Check out the [Online Supporting Student-Athlete Mental Health](#) module on our website!
- **Coach Beyond Webinar:** Please join us for a webinar on the status of coaching for women and girls. This webinar will focus on best practices for supporting and empowering female coaches, as well as "how-to's" when coaching girls! To register for this webinar on March 22, 2024, at noon, please click here: go.osu.edu/coachingwomenandgirls

OHSAA Scholarship Program Information Has Been Emailed to Athletic Administrators

Athletic administrators were emailed information recently on the process to begin nominating qualified senior student-athletes for an OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship. Each school may submit only one male, one female, one male ethnic minority and one female ethnic minority candidate for scholarship consideration. Recipients of any athletic scholarships (full or partial) in NCAA Division I or II institutions or appointees to military academies are not eligible. The on-line application process includes information being entered by a school administrator (principal or athletic administrator), the student and a school guidance counselor. To ensure that emails do not get trapped by firewalls/sent to a spam folder, new to the process this year will be the school administrator emailing student candidates directly with the application information. **Superintendents and principals with questions should see your school's athletic administrator.**

Competitive Balance Roster Data Entry Period Opens for Winter Sports

Administrators are reminded that the window to enter Competitive Balance roster data for the winter sports of boys basketball and girls basketball opened earlier this month. Athletic administrators, or their designees, must submit their roster data within FinalForms. The deadline to submit basketball roster data is **Friday, April 5, 2024**. **ALL** schools that compete in a varsity contest in those sports must submit their roster data by that date. All other winter sports are **not** part of Competitive Balance. Note that the deadline for submitting Competitive Balance roster data for the fall sports of football, soccer and volleyball has passed. For questions, please contact either Ronald Sayers (rsayers@ohsaa.org) or Alexis Holderman (aholderman@ohsaa.org) of our compliance staff.

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 2023-24 school year to continue membership for the 2024-25 school year. The OHSAA Board Resolution Card, which requires a signature from the governing body's president and superintendent/head of school, has been mailed. 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, 2024**. For questions, please contact either Ronald Sayers (rsayers@ohsaa.org) or Alexis Holderman (aholderman@ohsaa.org).

Mandatory Online Rules Meetings Requirements for Spring Sports

Please remind your spring sports coaches that all OHSAA sports have a mandatory on-line rules meeting requirement. Rules meetings have been posted or will be posted in *myOHSAA*, and details are sent from the OHSAA Sport Management team to coaches. Here is the schedule for spring 2024 sports:

Sport	Start Date	Late Fee Begins	End Date	OHSAA Credit Coordinator for Coaches
Baseball	Currently Available	Sun., Mar. 24	Mon., Apr. 22, 11:59 p.m.	Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org)
Lacrosse (B)	Currently Available	Sat., Mar. 16	Mon., Apr. 22, 11:59 p.m.	Kate Barnett (kbarnett@ohsaa.org)
Lacrosse (G)	Currently Available	Sat., Mar. 16	Mon., Apr. 22, 11:59 p.m.	Kate Barnett (kbarnett@ohsaa.org)
Softball	Currently Available	Sun., Mar. 24	Mon., Apr. 15, 11:59 p.m.	Monroe Britton (mbritton@ohsaa.org)
Tennis (B)	Currently Available	Fri., Mar. 22	Mon., Apr. 15, 11:59 p.m.	TBD
Track & Field	Currently Available	Sat., Mar. 23	Mon., Apr. 15, 11:59 p.m.	TBD
Volleyball (B)	Currently Available	Sat., Mar. 16	Mon., Apr. 15, 11:59 p.m.	Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org)
Late Fee Begins	Day after first date of competition			

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