



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Doug Ute, Executive Director

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

2023-24 School Year, No. 17

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.

Athletic Discussion Meetings Begin April 10

The OHSAA will host in-person Athletic Discussion Meetings for school administrators in each of the six OHSAA athletic districts later this month, where the focus will be a review of the upcoming referendum issues from Associate Executive Director Kristin Ronai. The registration link is here: <https://ohsaameetings.hometownticketing.com/embed/all?schools=2>, 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. 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*

There are six total referendum items this year (all 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://www.ohsaa.org/School-Resources/referendum-voting>.

Final EMIS Numbers Approved by OHSAA Board of Directors and Posted on OHSAA Website

Final OHSAA enrollment counts and classifications for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years have been approved by the OHSAA Board of Directors and are now posted on the OHSAA website at <https://www.ohsaa.org/school-resources/school-enrollment>. Enrollment numbers are used for placement within tournament divisions for both the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years and for determining school classification for governance purposes. Note that for Competitive Balance sports, a team's Additional Roster Count will be added to the base EMIS numbers to obtain a final Adjusted Enrollment Count, which will then be used to place a team into a tournament division.

OHSAA District Athletic Board Election Process

Administrators have recently received a separate email that explains the process to submit nominations for expired or unexpired OHSAA District Athletic Board positions and also shows the specific positions available for their particular school. Nominating petitions for these positions must be completed through *myOHSAA* by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 30. Voting for these positions will take place between May 1 and 15, with terms officially beginning on August 1, 2024, and running through the specified date.

Expiring terms (August 1, 2024-July 31, 2030) are: **Central District**-Class AAA representative (Molly Feesler, incumbent); **East District**-Class AA representative (Jeff Wheeler, incumbent); **Northeast District**-Class A representative (Bill Nye, Ph.D., incumbent); **Northwest District**-Class AA representative (Jeff Snyder, incumbent); **Southeast District**-Class AAA representative (Bo Arnett, incumbent), and **Southwest District**-Class A representative (Matt Macy, incumbent). Unexpired terms are: **Central District**-Class A representative (Lindsey Smith, 2023-24 interim), term August 1, 2024, to July 31, 2026; and 7th-8th grade representative (Matt Gallatin, Ed.D., 2023-24 interim), term August 1, 2024, to July 31, 2027; **Northeast District**-7th-8th grade representative (Bill Conley, 2023-24 interim), term August 1, 2024 to July 31, 2025; and **Southeast District**-Ethnic Minority representative (Joe Turner, 2023-24 interim), term August 1, 2024 to July 31, 2025).

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 2023-24 *OHSAA Handbook*), which can be accessed here: <https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/SchoolResources/Handbook.pdf>.

Spring Sports Contest Officials Appreciation Week is This Week (April 14-20)

The OHSAA is celebrating spring Officials Appreciation Week April 14-20 to recognize our contest officials for their hard work and dedication. With the intense scrutiny of our officials contributing to a nationwide shortage of officials, we believe it is important to show our appreciation and respect for these men and women who give their time to our student-athletes so they can play the games they love and contribute so much to the overall experience our student-athletes receive while participating in educational athletics. We ask that athletic administrators read an OHSAA-provided script before ALL games that week as well as use your social media accounts to show your appreciation. Thank you for your participation, and we look forward to a great week of celebrating our officials. The script is available here: <https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Respect-the-Game/OfficialsAppreciationWeekScript.pdf>.

OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Application Deadlines Approaching

The OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Program application process is well underway, and the application timeline is below. Note that submission deadlines for student candidates and school counselors are quickly approaching. The OHSAA and its six District Athletic Boards annually award \$169,000 in college scholarships to 169 high school graduates after selections are made by each of the OHSAA's six District Athletic Boards. Each of the 169 scholarships will receive a one-time, non-renewable \$1,000 award. Here is the scholarship application timeline:

- **Wednesday, April 10, 2024** – Deadline for all student candidates to submit their applications
- **Monday, April 29, 2024** – Deadline for school counselors to submit their portion of the applications
- **Wednesday, May 1, 2024** – Spring sport addendum entry/update opens
- **Monday, June 10, 2024** – Deadline for spring sport addendums to be submitted

Ohio State Coach Beyond Program Offers Student-Athlete Mental Health Trainings

The Ohio State University's Coach Beyond program has a **FREE** one-hour training session on *Supporting Student-Athlete Mental Health* that is approved for the new PAP requirements in Ohio. Here are the links for more information and to register: • [Southwest Ohio Trainings on April 14th & 15th](#) • [Southeast Ohio Trainings on April 21st & 22nd](#) • [Northeast Ohio Trainings on May 30th & 31st](#) • Northwest Ohio – May 13th & 14th – More info coming soon!

About Coach Beyond: In 2021, the OHSAA and LiFEsports at The Ohio State University started collaborative work to change the landscape of coach training and education in Ohio. Ultimately, this partnership grew into a statewide initiative known as Coach Beyond. Over the last three years, a team of coaches, athletic administrators, OHSAA administrators and LiFEsports leaders set out to audit coaching education, conduct a statewide needs assessment, design and pilot trainings and ultimately train 15,000 coaches by June 2024. We are excited to share that [LiFEsports at The Ohio State University](#), in partnership with the OHSAA, has reached this goal, training 15,000 coaches to go beyond the X's and O's! Congratulations to everyone on the state team, LiFEsports and the OHSAA. To learn more about Coach Beyond, please visit this [website](#).

Student Help Needed with Absent-TEEN-ism Survey

The First Ring Student Leadership Institute (FRSLI) and The Ohio State University Student Leadership Research Collaborative (SLRC) are leadership organizations in Northeast and Central Ohio, respectively, led by Ohio high school students. The students in these two organizations are conducting a year-long action research study to better understand the factors that cause student absenteeism in Ohio high schools. The study is called **Absent-TEEN-ism**, and the findings will be used to advocate for changes to education policy to better support Ohio students. **Administrators are asked to assist the program by distributing this survey link to any and all Ohio high school students regarding Absent-TEEN-ism:** <https://bit.ly/OHSurvey24>. Responses are anonymous.

OHSAA Award Certificates

The annual OHSAA Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity Awards (Archie Griffin, NFHS Award of Excellence, etc.) and other miscellaneous school awards are available through your school's *myOHSAA* account for you to print. These awards are available through June 30, 2024, 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.

2024-25 Pre-Participation Physical Exam (PPE) Form Available

The Pre-Participation Physical Exam form for the 2024-25 school year is currently available on the OHSAA website. The latest version can be accessed here: <https://www.ohsa.org/medicine/physicalexamform>.

The 2024-25 PPE form has been authorized by the OHSAA's Joint Advisory Committee on Sports Medicine (JACSM), which last met in October and reviewed the form virtually last month. The form was originally developed for youth student-athletes by the American Academy of Pediatrics. A Spanish version of the history portion of the form is also included on the OHSAA website. The medical clearance must be completed once every 13 months and kept on file at the school indefinitely. **Although use of the OHSAA-adopted PPE is not required (for example, a school via its Board policy could accept another type of physical exam), signing all four consent forms is required before a student may commence any athletic participation in a member school.** In Ohio, a physician (MD, DO), a

doctor of chiropractic (DC), a physician’s assistant (PA) and an advanced practice nurse (ANP) are eligible to complete the exam and sign the form.

Basketball Out-of-Season Reminders

School coaches are permitted to coach non-school teams (AAU, AYBT, GYB, etc.) outside the season with players from your school teams on it. Before they coach and have voluntary practice outside the season, read these regulations that must be followed:

- 1.) The No-Contact Period must be followed. It still exists and means that your school coach will NOT be permitted to coach starting with the first day after the school’s last interscholastic contest and ending 28 days later. This means that no coach, paid or volunteer and approved by the Board of Education, shall coach or provide skill instruction to team members in the sport of basketball during this no-contact period. This includes any type of tryouts in or out of school for purposes of non-interscholastic competition.
- 2.) General Sports Regulation 7-3-1 indicates the number of team members that can participate together on a non-interscholastic team. In place since August 1, 2022, a non-interscholastic team may now have three (3) players that played for the same school team. Whether a school coach or a non-school coach is coaching a non-school team, only three players from the same school team are permitted.
- 3.) There can be no rotating players from your school teams from one non-school game to another. In other words, a team that consists of three players from your school does NOT mean that non-school team can use three different players in each game in which it plays or cannot move players in and out of that same non-school team from one weekend to the next. This is true whether or not the school coach is coaching the non-school team.

For more details, please review OHSAA General Sports Regulation 7.3.1, which can be accessed here:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Sports/GeneralSportsRegulations.pdf>

Competitive Balance Basketball Roster Data Entry Deadline is Friday (April 5)

Administrators are reminded that the deadline to enter Competitive Balance roster data for the winter sports of boys basketball and girls basketball is **Friday, April 5, 2024**. Athletic administrators, or their designees, must submit their roster data within FinalForms. The **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. For questions, please contact 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 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	Has Started	Mon., Apr. 22, 11:59 p.m.	Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org)
Lacrosse (B)	Currently Available	Has Started	Mon., Apr. 22, 11:59 p.m.	Kate Barnett (kbarnett@ohsaa.org)
Lacrosse (G)	Currently Available	Has Started	Mon., Apr. 22, 11:59 p.m.	Kate Barnett (kbarnett@ohsaa.org)
Softball	Currently Available	Has Started	Mon., Apr. 15, 11:59 p.m.	Monroe Britton (mbritton@ohsaa.org)
Tennis (B)	Currently Available	Has Started	Mon., Apr. 15, 11:59 p.m.	John Kronour (jkronour@ohsaa.org)
Track & Field	Currently Available	Has Started	Mon., Apr. 15, 11:59 p.m.	BJ Duckworth (bjduckworth@ohsaa.org)
Volleyball (B)	Currently Available	Has Started	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!