



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Doug Ute, Executive Director

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

2023-24 School Year, No. 18

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 Continue

Four more OHSAA in-person Athletic Discussion Meetings for school administrators are upcoming, where the focus will be on reviewing 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. The four remaining meetings are as follows:

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

OHSAA District Athletic Board Election Process

Administrators have 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>.

OHSAA Finance Team to Present Review of Winter Tournaments

On Wednesday, May 1, starting at 8:30 a.m., the OHSAA finance team led by Senior Director of Finance Laura Vermilya 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. Go here that morning to join the meeting: <https://bit.ly/OHSAWin2324FinUp>. For questions, please contact Laura Vermilya at (lvermilya@ohsaa.org).

OHSAA Board Expected to Approve Fall and Winter Tournament Representation, Divisional Assignments

At its upcoming April 25 regularly scheduled meeting, the OHSAA Board of Directors is expected to approve tournament representation and divisional assignments for the 2024 fall sports, including the Competitive Balance sports of football, boys soccer, girls soccer and girls volleyball, and the 2025 winter sports, including the Competitive Balance sports of boys basketball and girls basketball. Tournament divisions and representation are based on the schools that competed in the tournament the previous year, and the data includes their OHSAA Board of Directors-approved tournament enrollment from the most recent cycle of the EMIS count (October 2023). While the EMIS counts are used for a two-year period, tournament representation and divisional assignments are also approved for a two-year period other than the eight Competitive Balance sports, where tournament representation and divisional assignments are revised annually.

OHSAA Board of Directors Special Meeting Minutes Available

Here is a link to the minutes from March 23, 2024, OHSAA Board of Directors Special Meeting:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Board-of-Directors-Minutes/2023-24/20240323BoardMinutes-Special.pdf>.

Here is a link to the minutes from April 1, 2024, OHSAA Board of Directors Special Virtual Meeting:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Board-of-Directors-Minutes/2023-24/20240401BoardMinutes-Special-Virtual.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.

Spring Sports Contest Officials Appreciation Week Ends Saturday (April 20)

The OHSAA is celebrating spring Officials Appreciation Week this week through Saturday (April 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 this week as well as use your social media accounts to show your appreciation. Thank you for your participation, and we hope you are involved in celebrating our officials. The script is available here:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Respect-the-Game/OfficialsAppreciationWeekScript.pdf>.

OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Deadline Has Passed for Student Applicants

The OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Program application process is well underway, and the application timeline is below. Note that the submission deadline for student candidates has passed, and the deadline for school counselors to submit their portion of the application(s) is quickly approaching. The OHSAA and its six District Athletic Boards annually award college scholarships to high school graduates after selections are made by each of the OHSAA's six District Athletic Boards. Last year, 169 students each received 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

Two New Sites for State Golf Tournaments Added; Start Date Changed; Tournaments to Run Nearly Concurrently

The OHSAA has announced the host courses and dates for the girls and boys golf state tournaments in October, which include two new venues. NorthStar Golf Club in Sunbury will continue to host a state tournament, while Firestone Country Club in Akron and NCR Country Club in Kettering will both host two state tournaments for the first time. Also, the OHSAA has announced that schools can begin the 2024 golf regular season on Monday, July 29, instead of the previously announced start date of August 1. In addition, the girls and boys sectional tournaments for all divisions will be held Sept. 18-28, followed by the districts Sept. 30-Oct. 8. Here are the dates and sites for the 2024 state golf tournaments:

- Boys Division III – October 11-12 (Friday-Saturday) at NorthStar Golf Club (Sunbury)
- Girls Division II – October 13-14 (Sunday-Monday) at Firestone Country Club, Fazio Course (Akron)
- Boys Division II – October 13-14 (Sunday-Monday) at Firestone Country Club, North Course (Akron)
- Girls Division I – October 14-15 (Monday-Tuesday) at NCR Country Club, North Course (Kettering)
- Boys Division I – October 14-15 (Monday-Tuesday) at NCR Country Club, South Course (Kettering)

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: • [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](#).

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.ohsaa.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.

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	Deadline Has Passed	Monroe Britton (mbritton@ohsaa.org)
Tennis (B)	Currently Available	Has Started	Deadline Has Passed	John Kronour (jkronour@ohsaa.org)
Track & Field	Currently Available	Has Started	Deadline Has Passed	BJ Duckworth (bjduckworth@ohsaa.org)
Volleyball (B)	Currently Available	Has Started	Mon., Apr. 22, 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!