



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Doug Ute, Executive Director

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

2024-25 School Year, No. 5

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.

Take Part in Officials Appreciation Week → [Plan to Recognize Fall Sports Contest Officials October 6-12](#)

The OHSAA is celebrating our contest officials for their hard work and dedication. Mark your calendars the week of October 6-12, 2024, for OHSAA Fall Sports Officials Appreciation Week. 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 (available here: <https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Respect-the-Game/OfficialsAppreciationWeekScript.pdf>) before ALL games during the week as well as use your social media accounts to show your appreciation. Please tag @OHSAASports on X and show us what your school is doing to show our officials love. Thank you for your participation! Additional OHSAA Officials Appreciation Weeks will be January 12-18, 2025, and April 6-12, 2025.

NEW! [OHSAA Tournament Tickets for School Administrators](#)

Complimentary tickets for school administrators to attend OHSAA tournament events will work the same in 2024-25 as last year. All member school athletic administrators received an email in mid-September with their school comp code and instructions. This comp code allows schools to redeem tickets through HomeTown Ticketing, the OHSAA's official digital ticketing partner, when your teams are competing in OHSAA tournaments (three for individual sports; eight for team sports). The code you received is different from last year's code, but this code can be used throughout the 2024-25 school year.

Superintendents and principals who desire to attend a sectional or district tournament contest that does NOT involve your school can request a maximum of two complimentary tickets. This request needs to include the date, time and sport and should come from your official school email address. The request needs to be emailed to Claudia Markoff, OHSAA Customer Experience Manager (cmarkoff@ohsaa.org), a minimum of 24 hours before the event. For questions, please email Claudia or call her at 614-267-2502, ext. 109.

NEW! [School Dues Invoices to be Sent Soon](#)

Invoices will be sent to OHSAA member schools soon regarding your dues for the 2024-25 school year. No changes were made in the amount for this school year, with the approved fee continuing to be \$50 per OHSAA recognized sport. Schools that fail to pay these dues will not be eligible receive their annual athletic enrichment fund donation check next year. That amount for the 2023-24 school year was \$2,000 per school.

NEW! [Non-Contact Periods for Team Sports](#)

As a reminder to administrators and coaches, OHSAA General Sports Regulation 11 says "Any coach, paid or volunteer, approved by the Board of Education shall not coach or provide skill instruction (including, but not limited to, video or film study) to team members in their sport in the sports of baseball, basketball, boys volleyball, ice hockey, boys and girls lacrosse or softball for the period of time between August 1 and August 31. This includes any type of tryout in or out of school for purposes of non-interscholastic competition, or any skill instruction facilitated or organized by any coach, paid or volunteer, by the Board of Education." Some of the exceptions, listed on pages 72 and 73 of the 2024-25 OHSAA Handbook, include providing oversight during weight training, conditioning or physical fitness programs. **This regulation is being mentioned now since some member schools' ice hockey programs did not adhere to this regulation in August.** As a further reminder, another no-contact period will be in place for coaches in the sports of basketball, field hockey, football, ice hockey, soccer and girls volleyball beginning with the first day after the school's last interscholastic contest and ending 28 days later.

NEW! Mandatory Online Rules Meetings Requirements

Please remind your winter sports coaches that all OHSAA sports have a mandatory on-line rules meeting requirement. Rules meetings will be posted in *myOHSAA*, and details are sent from the OHSAA Sport Management team to coaches. Here is the schedule for winter 2025 sports:

Sport	Start Date	Late Fee Begins	End Date	OHSAA Credit Coordinator for Coaches
Basketball	Thur., Oct. 10 at 9:00 a.m.	Mon., Nov. 18	Sat., Jan. 18 at 11:59 PM	Doug Ute (dute@ohsaa.org)
Bowling	Wed., Oct. 16 at 9:00 a.m.	Sat., Nov. 16	Mon., Jan. 20 at 11:59 PM	Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org)
Gymnastics	Mon., Oct. 21 at 9:00 a.m.	Tues., Dec. 3	Mon., Jan. 27 at 11:59 PM	Kelly Schoenly (kschoenly@ohsaa.org)
Ice Hockey	Wed., Oct. 16 at 9:00 a.m.	Sat., Nov. 16	Fri., Jan. 31 at 11:59 PM	Monroe Britton (mbritton@ohsaa.org)
Swim/Dive	Mon., Oct. 28 at 9:00 a.m.	Tues., Nov. 26	Mon., Jan. 20 at 11:59 PM	Kelly Schoenly (kschoenly@ohsaa.org)
Wrestling	Wed., Oct. 23 at 9:00 a.m.	Fri., Dec. 6	Mon., Feb. 3 at 11:59 pm	Monroe Britton (mbritton@ohsaa.org)
Late Fee Begins	Day after first date of competition			

NEW! Register Now for the Health Action Council Golf Outing

Registration continues for the Fifth Annual Health Action Council Healthy Kids Golf Outing, which will be held on Monday, Oct. 7, at NorthStar Golf Club in Sunbury. **The top three teams will receive a cash prize of \$500 to donate to the school district of their choice.** Network, learn about improving health and wellness in schools and enjoy a day of golf. To learn more and register, go here: https://healthactioncouncil.my.site.com/events/evt_QuickEvent?id=a1PPe000000JyEz.

NEW! Beat the Streets Cleveland to Host K-8 Wrestling Tournament and The Rumble on the Lake

Watch our future stars shine in the Beat the Streets Cleveland youth wrestling tournament, which will be held on Saturday (Oct. 5) at Cleveland Public Auditorium starting at 8:00 a.m. The **Who's Who Ohio? Preseason Youth Tournament** is the ultimate preseason youth tournament for boys and girls in grades K-8. Participants will compete for finalist singlets and premium championship trophies. All tournament participants will receive a free ticket to a Saturday evening (Oct. 5) event, **The Rumble on the Lake Showcase**, which is an electrifying experience for the entire family that will feature high-level wrestling, thrilling entertainment and community spirit.

To register for the tournament and/or order tickets, go here:

<https://btscl.networkforgood.com/events/74237-who-s-who-ohio-premier-preseason-tournament-rumble-on-the-lake-showcase>.

NEW! NFHS Learning Center Has Delivered Over 23 Million Courses

The NFHS Learning Center (<https://nfhslearn.com>) is an online education platform that provides courses, credentials and resources for the interscholastic community. Over 70 courses are available, including more than 30 that are free. Since its inception in 2007, the NFHS Learning Center has delivered over 23 million courses to administrators, coaches, student-athletes, officials and fans. Here are the most viewed courses at the NFHS Learning Center:



Here are the top courses that have been viewed on the NFHS Learning Center since its inception in 2007.

REMINDERS

Need Assistance with Sporting Behavior at Your School? Help Available on OHSAA Website

The OHSAA has created tools for school administrators to assist in your sporting behavior efforts to create better environments at your schools when hosting contests or events. Go to the OHSAA website at <https://www.ohsaa.org/Respect-the-Game> for tools, recommendations and reminders. Administrators are highly encouraged to utilize these tools and develop a program for teaching and promoting the ideals and fundamentals of good sportsmanship within your entire school community. Included categories on the OHSAA website are:

- Sporting behavior scripts for one or two students to read live prior to home games
- Ideas to assist administrators in creating a positive school environment
- Ideas to assist administrators in setting expectations for parents
- Ideas to assist administrators in engaging with student fans
- Ideas to assist administrators in protecting officials
- Ideas to assist administrators in supporting coaches and student-athletes
- Printable sporting behavior posters and banners
- Sporting behavior scripts for public address announcers
- Guidelines for public address announcers
- Preseason Parent Meetings
- 2024-25 OHSAA Officials Appreciation Weeks
- Audio Public Service Announcements
- Video Public Service Announcements
- Program Ads
- Contest & Event Management Guidelines



Participating athletes from Streetsboro High School and Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy read messages encouraging fans to demonstrate positive sporting behavior prior to their August 23 football game.

Southwest District Schools Invited to Attend OHSAA Student Leadership Conference

The OHSAA Student Leadership Conference will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 22, at Cincinnati Princeton High School's Matthews Auditorium, and administrators from Southwest District schools are encouraged to attend along with their student-athletes, coaches and other staff members. Check-in for the free event begins at 8:30 a.m., the conference will run from 9:00 until 1:30 and lunch will be provided. To register, follow these instructions:

- 1.) Go to www.VikeNation.org/tickets
- 2.) Click on the big red box
- 3.) Then select the "Have a passcode?" option and enter the code "SLC2024"

Note: This code is designed to give you access to the ticket level and is to be entered PRIOR to selecting your ticket

The conference is limited to 1,000 attendees, with a current school limit of 15. For further questions, contact Joe Roberts, athletic administrator at Princeton High School, at joroberts@vikingmail.org.

The conference is designed to provide students with the tools to create a transformational culture, one that builds strong character and leadership traits. Featured speakers will be **Doug Ute**, OHSAA Executive Director; **Tom Burton**, an educational consultant; **Hoan Do**, an international speaker, author and ninja; **Shawn Harper**, a former NFL player who is now a business and national speaker; **Rick Metzger**, a former world champion power lifter and current longtime professional speaker **Otis Winston**, a former OHSAA state high jump champion who played basketball at Ohio State and is now a professional actor, writer and producer, and **Harvey Alston**, coordinator of the OHSAA student leadership conferences and a "high octane" public speaker since 1989 who is CEO of Best, Inc.

OHSAA Regional Update Meeting PowerPoint Presentation Available

The Executive Director's Office would like to thank all administrators who attended the fall OHSAA Regional Update Meetings. For those who were unable to attend or those who would like to see the presentation again, the PowerPoint presentation that was shown during the meetings is now posted soon on the OHSAA website at:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/SchoolResources/2024RegionalUpdateMtg.pdf>.

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. Access and instructions for completing the **online training** requirement can be found here through the USCAH platform: <https://uscah.com/cdn/FREE-Coach-Beyond-USCAH-MH-Training-QR-2.pdf>. Want an **in-person training** from Coach Beyond at your district? Reach out to coach_beyond@osu.edu to start scheduling! For upcoming Coach Beyond events around the state, go here: <https://lifesports.osu.edu/get-involved/lifesports-events/>.

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. This goal has been reached, with 20,000+ coaches receiving this training. To learn more about Coach Beyond, please visit this website: <https://lifesports.osu.edu/coach-beyond/about-coach-beyond/>.

Fall Sports Tournament Dates

With tournament season just around the corner for fall sports, here are some key upcoming dates:

Golf

District Trnts. (Div. III) – Sept. 30-Oct. 5
District Trnts. (Div. II) – Sept. 30-Oct. 7
District Trnts. (Div. I) – Sept. 30-Oct. 8
State Trnt. (Div. III) – Oct. 11-12
State Trnt. (Div. II) – Oct. 13-14
State Trnt. (Div. I) – Oct. 14-15

Girls Tennis

Sectional Trnts. – Sept. 30-Oct. 5
District Trnts. – Oct. 7-12
State Trnts. – Oct. 17-18

Cross Country

Draw/Seed Meeting – Oct. 6
District Trnt. – Oct. 19
7th-8th Grade Invitational – Oct. 20
Regional Trnts. – Oct. 26
State Trnts. – Nov. 2

Field Hockey

Draw/Seed Meeting – Oct. 6
Regional Trnts. – Oct. 14-26
State Semifinals – Oct. 31
State Final – Nov. 2

Soccer

Draw/Seed Meeting – Oct. 6
Sectional Trnts. – Oct. 15-19
District Trnts. – Oct. 22-26
Regional Trnts. – Oct. 29-Nov. 2
State Semifinals – Nov. 5-6
State Finals – Nov. 8-11

Girls Volleyball

Draw/Seed Meeting – Oct. 6
Sectionals Trnts. – Oct. 14-19
District Trnts. – Oct. 21-26
Regional Trnts. – Oct. 28-Nov. 2
State Semifinals – Nov. 7-8
State Finals – Nov. 8-9

Football

Trnt. Pairings Announced – Oct. 27
Regional First Round – Nov. 1
Regional Quarterfinals – Nov. 8
Regional Semifinals – Nov. 15
Regional Finals – Nov. 22
State Semifinals – Nov. 29
State Finals – Dec. 5-7

OHSAA State Tournament Dates and Locations

Golf (Division III) – Friday and Saturday, Oct. 11-12: NorthStar Golf Club, Sunbury
Golf (Division II) – Sunday and Monday, Oct. 13-14: Firestone Country Club, Akron
Golf (Division I) – Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 14-15: NCR Country Club, Kettering
Girls Tennis – Thursday and Friday, Oct. 17-18: The College of Wooster
Cross Country – Saturday, Nov. 2: Fortress Obetz, Obetz
Field Hockey – Thursday, Oct. 31 (Semifinals) and Saturday, Nov. 2 (Finals): Thomas Worthington High School
Soccer – Tuesday and Wednesday, Nov. 5-6 (girls Tuesday, boys Wednesday) and Friday and Saturday, Nov. 8-9 (girls), and Sunday and Monday, Nov. 10-11 (boys): Semifinals at Statewide Neutral Sites, Finals at Historic Crew Stadium, Columbus
Girls Volleyball – Thursday-Saturday, Nov. 7-9: Semifinals Nov. 7 and 8 and either Nutter Center, Wright State University, Dayton, or Vandalia Butler, Kettering Fairmont or Clayton Northmont High Schools; Finals Nov. 8-9 at Nutter Center
Football – Friday, Nov. 29 (Semifinals) and Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 5-7: Semifinals at Statewide Neutral Sites; Finals at Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium, Canton

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