



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Doug Ute, Executive Director

Tuesday, October 15, 2024

ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

2024-25 School Year, No. 6

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.

Tuesday, October 22, at Cincinnati Princeton High School

Space Remains for All Schools 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 at all OHSAA 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, or Harvey Alston, event coordinator, at h.alston@att.net.

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.

NEW! OHSAA State Football Finals Ticket Sales Begin Monday

All-session and indoor Stadium Club tickets, single-day packages and a team one-day discount package go on sale Monday, Oct. 21, for the 2024 OHSAA State Football Finals that will be held Dec. 5-7 at Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium in Canton. Stadium Club all-session tickets include free access to tour the Pro Football Hall of Fame during the state championship weekend. The Pro Football Hall of Fame and Hall of Fame Village are located adjacent to the stadium. Tickets for the state football finals, and all OHSAA postseason tournament contests in all sports, are available at www.OHSAA.org/tickets. Single-game tickets for the football state finals will be on sale at a later date.

ALL-SESSION STADIUM CLUB: All-session Stadium Club tickets are \$150 each and provide one ticket to all seven games in a theater style seat as well as access to the indoor club level of the press box containing its own concessions. Patrons with club access do not need to exit the stadium between games. The all-session Stadium Club package also includes access to tour the Pro Football Hall of Fame during the OHSAA Football State Championship weekend. A limited number of all-session Stadium Club tickets that include a parking pass are also available for \$210 each. These ticket holders will receive a parking hangtag for the weekend valid for a lot near the stadium.

ALL-SESSION GENERAL ADMISSION OR SINGLE-DAY PACKAGES: Other options include all-session general admission tickets that are \$90 for adults and \$60 for students, or three-game, single-day packages for Friday or Saturday games only that cost \$75 for Club Seating or \$40 for adults or \$30 for students for general admission seating.

TEAM ONE-DAY DISCOUNT PACKAGE: Additionally, a one-day discount package is available for football teams from elementary through high school. Teams can choose to attend the single game on Thursday, all three games on Friday or all three games on Saturday. There is a maximum of four adults who can purchase tickets for every 12 youth tickets purchased (e.g. a minimum of 12 youth tickets must be purchased per order, although there is no maximum number of youth tickets that can be purchased). The

breakdown is as follows (**Note:** Purchasers will be directed to a Google page to complete information. A promo code will then be generated to complete the purchase):

Youth Tickets: \$6* Adult Tickets: \$12*

* Indicates the option of a \$10 per person add-on for a discounted Pro Football Hall of Fame tour pass

NEW! OHSAA Football Playoffs Details

The 2024 OHSAA football playoffs will begin soon and feature many of the same elements as last year’s tournament. Each region will qualify 16 teams to the playoffs (448 total teams; 64 teams per division); regional first-round and regional quarterfinal games will be hosted by the higher seeds, and regional semifinals, regional finals and state semifinals contests will be held at neutral sites. Like last year, all tournament contests prior to the state finals will be held on Fridays. The state finals will return to Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium in Canton Dec. 5-7. Here are football dates to remember for 2024:

- Oct. 26 Regular Season Ends
- Oct. 27 Final Computer Points and Playoff Qualifiers Announced (top 16 schools in each region)
- Nov. 1 First-Round Playoff Games – Higher Seeded Team Hosts
- Nov. 8 Regional Quarterfinals – Higher Seeded Team Hosts
- Nov. 15 Regional Semifinals – at Neutral Sites
- Nov. 22 Regional Finals – at Neutral Sites
- Nov. 29 State Semifinals – at Neutral Sites
- Dec. 5-7 State Championships in Canton at Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium (Thursday, Dec. 5, Div. I, II, III or VII – 7:00*; Friday, Dec. 6, Div. I, II, III or VII – 10:30, 3:00, 7:30**; Saturday, Dec. 7, Div. IV, V and VI – 10:30, 3:00, 7:30**)
 - *Exact division TBA; **Division assignments to times TBA

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 FinalForms, 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	Fri., Oct. 18 at 9:00 a.m.	Sat., Nov. 23	Mon., Jan. 20 at 11:59 p.m.	Doug Ute (dute@ohsaa.org)
Bowling	Fri., Oct. 18 at 9:00 a.m.	Sat., Nov. 16	Mon., Jan. 20 at 11:59 p.m.	Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org)
Gymnastics	Mon., Oct. 21 at 9:00 a.m.	Tues., Dec. 3	Mon., Jan. 20 at 11:59 p.m.	Kelly Schoenly (kschoenly@ohsaa.org)
Ice Hockey	Fri., Oct. 18 at 9:00 a.m.	Tues., Nov. 26	Mon., Jan. 20 at 11:59 p.m.	John Kronour (jkronour@ohsaa.org)
Swim/Dive	Mon., Oct. 28 at 9:00 a.m.	Tues., Nov. 26	Mon., Jan. 20 at 11:59 p.m.	Kelly Schoenly (kschoenly@ohsaa.org)
Wrestling	Wed., Oct. 23 at 9:00 a.m.	Fri., Dec. 6	Mon., Jan. 27 at 11:59 p.m.	Monroe Britton (mbritton@ohsaa.org)
Late Fee Begins	Day after first date of competition			

NEW! Reminder: State Law Requires All Coaches to Have PAP and to be Board-Approved

With OHSAA fall tournaments under way, administrators are reminded that state law REQUIRES individuals who direct, supervise or coach in your athletics program to have a valid **coaching or pupil activity permit**. That requirement is codified in OHSAA Bylaw 6-1-2 and applies to all coaches, whether paid or volunteer. School districts determine which staff members need to have a permit. Details are available through the State Board of Education website at:

<https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Teaching/Licensure/Audiences/Coaching-Permits>.

In addition, OHSAA Bylaw 6-1-3 requires that all coaches be approved by the Board of Education or similar governing board in non-public schools.

NEW! Winter Sport Beginning of Practice (Coaching and Tryouts) Dates

- Basketball (Girls) — Friday, Oct. 25
- Basketball (Boys) — Friday, Nov. 1
- Bowling — Friday, Nov. 1
- Gymnastics — Friday, Nov. 1
- Ice Hockey — Friday, Oct. 25
- Swimming & Diving — Friday, Oct. 25
- Wrestling — Friday, Nov. 15

NEW! Schools Can Apply to Become Purple Star School in Ohio

Many OHSAA member schools have already been recognized as Purple Star Schools, which those who show a major commitment to students and families connected to our nation’s military. There are currently more than 600 Purple Star Schools in Ohio – a statewide coalition for military families and pre-K-12 students, and the local educators who support these frontline, hero families. To read more about this designation and if interested in how to apply to become a Purple Star School, please visit this link: <https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/Military-Resources/Schools/Purple-Star-Award>.

REMINDERS

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.

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://lifespports.osu.edu/get-involved/lifespports-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-plus coaches receiving this training. To learn more about Coach Beyond, please visit this website: <https://lifespports.osu.edu/coach-beyond/about-coach-beyond/>.

Fall Sports Tournament Dates

With tournament season here for fall sports, here are some key upcoming dates (football is listed earlier in this update):

Golf

State Trnt. (Div. I) – Oct. 14-15

Girls Tennis

State Trnts. – Oct. 17-18

Cross Country

District Trnt. – Oct. 19

7th-8th Grade Invitational – Oct. 20

Regional Trnts. – Oct. 26

State Trnts. – Nov. 2

Field Hockey

Regional Trnts. – Oct. 14-26

State Semifinals – Oct. 31

State Final – Nov. 2

Soccer

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

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

OHSAA State Tournament Dates and Locations

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!