



# Ohio High School Athletic Association

Doug Ute, Executive Director

Tuesday, October 29, 2024

## **ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE**

2024-25 School Year, No. 7

**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.

### **NEW! New State Law Requiring AEDs Now In Effect**

The new state law which requires Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) to be placed in each public and chartered nonpublic school and each municipal sports and recreation location, except in townships and villages with populations of less than 5,000, became effective last week. As part of the law, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) has developed a Model AED Emergency Action Plan for the Use of the AED for those required to follow the new regulation. The model and other resources are available on ODH's website here:

<https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/sudden-cardiac-arrest/model-action-plan>.

### **NEW! OHSAA State Tournament Dates and Locations**

#### **Cross Country – Saturday, Nov. 2, Fortress Obetz, Obetz**

- State tournament qualifiers and schedule:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Cross-Country/Cross-Country-2024/2024-Cross-Country-State-Tournament-Coverage>

**Field Hockey** Semifinals – **Thursday, Oct. 31** at Thomas Worthington High School; Finals – **Saturday, Nov. 2** at Thomas Worthington High School

- State tournament bracket: <https://officials.myohsaa.org/Admin/Bracket/PublicBracket?TournamentId=3932>

**Soccer** Semifinals – **Tuesday, Nov. 5 (girls) and Wednesday, Nov. 6 (boys)** at neutral sites; Finals – **Friday and Saturday, Nov. 8 and 9 (girls), and Sunday and Monday, Nov. 10 and 11 (boys)** at Historic Crew Stadium, Columbus

- Boys regional and state tournament brackets:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Soccer/Soccer-2024/2024-OHSAA-Boys-Soccer-Statewide-Tournament-Brackets>

- Girls regional and state tournament brackets:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Soccer/Soccer-2024/2024-OHSAA-Girls-Soccer-Statewide-Tournament-Brackets>

**Volleyball – Semifinals Nov. 7 and 8** at either Nutter Center, Wright State University, Dayton, or

Vandalia Butler, Kettering Fairmont or Clayton Northmont High Schools; **Finals Nov. 8-9** at Nutter Center

- Regional and state tournament brackets:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Volleyball-Girls/2024-Girls-Volleyball/2024-OHSAA-Girls-Volleyball-Statewide-Brackets>

**Football – Friday, Nov. 29** (Semifinals) and **Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 5-7** (Finals): Semifinals at Statewide Neutral Sites; Finals at Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium, Canton

- Regional tournament brackets:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Football/Football-2024/2024-OHSAA-Football-Playoffs-Coverage>

- Regional tournament tickets: Tickets for regional playoff games (first four rounds) will go on sale every Monday with staggered start times. Division I and II go on sale at 10 a.m., Division III and IV go on sale at 11 a.m., and Division V, VI and VII go on sale at noon. All tickets are purchased at [www.OHSAA.org/tickets](http://www.OHSAA.org/tickets)

### **NEW! State Football Championship Games Assignments and Times Announced**

Thursday, December 5 – Division II at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, December 6 – Division VII at 10:30 a.m.

Friday, December 6 – Division III at 3:00 p.m.

Friday, December 6 – Division I at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 7 – Division VI at 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, December 7 – Division V at 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 7 – Division IV at 7:30 p.m.

### **NEW! OHSAA Technology Updates**

Athletic Administrators should have recently received an email with the latest OHSAA Quarterly Technology Update. If you did not receive the email or misplaced the link, the update can be accessed here: [Technology Newsletter - Vol 2](#). An item worth noting is the update on tournament officials voting and ratings. That information follows:

*During the week of October 7, DragonFly completed the functionality for Tournament Officials Voting by Athletic Administrator within the platform. Over the next several weeks, the OHSAA officiating department will be providing instructions on how to access and complete this requirement. Please keep an eye on your email for more information. Additionally, DragonFly will begin the work on Officials Ratings by Coaches soon. This will involve FinalForms and DragonFly working together. The plan is to utilize the coach information within FinalForms and “push” it into DragonFly through an API, creating those accounts for coaches in DragonFly. This is part of our goal to limit the number of locations in which information needs to be entered and the number of accounts that need to be created. We will keep you updated on any features that become available to work through this functionality.*

### **NEW! OHSAA September 26 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Available**

Here is the link to the minutes from the September 26, OHSAA Board of Directors Meeting:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Board-of-Directors-Minutes/2024-25/20240926BoardMinutes.pdf>. Please feel free to share these meeting minutes links with other staff members and coaches that you believe may have an interest in them.

### **NEW! NCAA Eligibility Center Provides Upcoming Free Webinars**

The NCAA Eligibility Center will be hosting free one-hour webinars that may be of interest to your parents and their student-athletes who will be participating in athletics next year at an NCAA institution. Here are the links for the upcoming webinars the Eligibility Center will be hosting:

- High School Counselors and Administrators (Oct. 30, 2:00-3:00 p.m.): [https://on.ncaa.com/Web\\_10302024](https://on.ncaa.com/Web_10302024)
- College-bound Student-Athletes (Nov. 3, 6:00-7:00 p.m.): [https://on.ncaa.com/Web\\_11032024](https://on.ncaa.com/Web_11032024)
- International Student-Athletes (Nov. 21, 9:30-10:30 a.m.): [https://on.ncaa.com/Web\\_11212024](https://on.ncaa.com/Web_11212024)
- Homeschool Student-Athletes (Dec. 11, 2:00-3:00 p.m.): [https://on.ncaa.com/Web\\_12112024](https://on.ncaa.com/Web_12112024)

### **NEW! National Athletic Equipment Reconditioners Association Provides Recommendations on Helmet Reconditioning/Recertification for Football, Lacrosse, Baseball and Softball**

The National Athletic Equipment Reconditioners Association (NAERA), National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE) and helmet manufacturers have provided the OHSAA with reconditioning and recertification recommendations for football, lacrosse, baseball and softball helmets, and those are being shared with the membership. NAERA recommends that during every football, lacrosse, baseball and softball season or practice period, every helmet in those sports be cleaned and inspected regularly by a school staff member with knowledge of manufacturer recommendations. It is further recommended that every helmet be reconditioned and recertified annually unless stated otherwise by the manufacturer. ONLY a company licensed by NOCSAE can perform the recertification of helmets in those four sports. For a list of NAERA members that are licensed by NOCSAE, go to: [www.naera.net](http://www.naera.net). More information regarding NOCSAE and their standards can be found at [www.nocsae.org](http://www.nocsae.org).

To view specific information and recommendations, please go here:

<https://www.nfhs.org/media/7213271/2024-25-naera-reconditioning-information-final.pdf>

## **REMINDERS**

### **OHSAA State Football Finals Tickets on Sale**

All-session and indoor Stadium Club tickets, single-day packages and a team one-day discount package are currently on sale 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](http://www.OHSAA.org/tickets). Single-game ticket sales for the football state finals begin November 29.

**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

### **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:

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 Finals in Canton, Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium (Thursday, Dec. 5, Div. II – 7:00; Friday, Dec. 6, Div. VII – 10:30, Div. III – 3:00, Div. I – 7:30; Saturday, Dec. 7, Div. VI – 10:30, Div. V – 3:00. Div. IV – 7:30)

### **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	Now Available	Sat., Nov. 23	Mon., Jan. 20 at 11:59 p.m.	Doug Ute ( <a href="mailto:dute@ohsaa.org">dute@ohsaa.org</a> )
Bowling	Now Available	Sat., Nov. 16	Mon., Jan. 20 at 11:59 p.m.	Emily Mason ( <a href="mailto:emason@ohsaa.org">emason@ohsaa.org</a> )
Gymnastics	Now Available	Tues., Dec. 3	Mon., Jan. 20 at 11:59 p.m.	Kelly Schoenly ( <a href="mailto:kschoenly@ohsaa.org">kschoenly@ohsaa.org</a> )
Ice Hockey	Now Available	Tues., Nov. 26	Mon., Jan. 20 at 11:59 p.m.	John Kronour ( <a href="mailto:jkronour@ohsaa.org">jkronour@ohsaa.org</a> )
Swim/Dive	Now Available	Tues., Nov. 26	Mon., Jan. 20 at 11:59 p.m.	Kelly Schoenly ( <a href="mailto:kschoenly@ohsaa.org">kschoenly@ohsaa.org</a> )
Wrestling	Now Available	Fri., Dec. 6	Mon., Jan. 27 at 11:59 p.m.	Monroe Britton ( <a href="mailto:mbritton@ohsaa.org">mbritton@ohsaa.org</a> )
<b>Late Fee Begins</b>	Day after first date of competition			

### **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.

### **Winter Sport Beginning of Practice (Coaching and Tryouts) Dates**

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

## **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](mailto: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-plus coaches receiving this training. To learn more about Coach Beyond, please visit this website: <https://lifesports.osu.edu/coach-beyond/about-coach-beyond/>.

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