



# Ohio High School Athletic Association

Doug Ute, Executive Director

Tuesday, February 18, 2025  
**ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE**  
2024-25 School Year, No. 14

**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!** Winter Tournament Information

Draws for all OHSAA winter tournaments have been completed. For statewide basketball and ice hockey tournament brackets, go to the OHSAA website as follows:

### **Girls Basketball**

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Basketball-Girls/Girls-Basketball-2024-25/2025-Statewide-Tournament-Brackets>

### **Boys Basketball**

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Basketball-Boys/Boys-Basketball-2024-25/2025-Statewide-Tournament-Brackets>

### **Ice Hockey**

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Ice-Hockey/2024-25-Ice-Hockey/2025-Ice-Hockey-State-Tournament-Coverage>

For school assignments for sectional and/or district **Bowling**, **Gymnastics** and **Wrestling** tournaments, visit your specific OHSAA District Athletic Board website by going to: <https://www.ohsaa.org/about/districtboards>.

To see state qualifiers and to obtain results from this week's **State Swimming & Diving** tournament, go to:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Swimming-Diving/Swimming-and-Diving-2024-25/2025-Swimming-Diving-State-Tournament-Coverage>

## **NEW!** Tickets Remain on Sale for Upcoming OHSAA Tournaments

Tickets remain on sale for the upcoming OHSAA winter state tournaments and must be purchased online through the OHSAA's digital ticketing partner, HomeTown Ticketing, or Ticketmaster by going to <https://www.ohsaa.org/tickets>. Here is additional information:

### **Boys and Girls Division II Bowling**

Friday-Saturday, February 28-March 1, HP Lanes, Columbus

### **Gymnastics**

Saturday-Sunday, March 1-2, Hilliard Bradley High School

### **Boys and Girls Division I Bowling**

Friday-Saturday, March 7-8, HP Lanes, Columbus

### **Boys and Girls Wrestling**

Friday-Sunday, March 7-9, Schottenstein Center,  
The Ohio State University, Columbus

### **Ice Hockey**

Saturday-Sunday, March 8-9, Nationwide Arena,  
Columbus

### **Girls Basketball (Finals)**

Friday-Saturday, March 14-15, University of Dayton Arena

### **Boys Basketball (Finals)**

Friday-Saturday, March 21-22, University of Dayton Arena

For questions, contact OHSAA Customer Experience Manager Claudia Markoff at [cmarkoff@ohsaa.org](mailto:cmarkoff@ohsaa.org).

## **NEW!** Free Course Available for School Counselors on the NCAA Eligibility Center

In conjunction with Butler University, the NCAA recently released an online learning course titled "[A High School Counselor's Tutorial to the NCAA Eligibility Center](#)." This interactive course was designed to equip high school counselors with an understanding of and best practices for Eligibility Center processes. The free course includes interactive elements and checks for understanding and is an easy way for counselors to earn continuing education credits. The course's six modules cover common tasks school counselors complete when assisting student-athletes who are preparing to compete in NCAA collegiate athletics. Administrators are asked to please share this information with your high school counselors.

## **NEW!** 2025 Spring Sports Schedules

Spring practices have started for some sports. Here is a calendar of important dates for the OHSAA's spring sports season:

### **Baseball**

Coaching, tryouts and Instruction Begins – Monday, Feb. 24  
Scrimmages and/or Previews with Other Schools – 4 after practice begins  
First Contest – Friday, March 28  
Non-Interscholastic Deadline Date – Monday, April 7

### **Boys Lacrosse and Girls Lacrosse**

Coaching, tryouts and Instruction Begins – Monday, Feb. 17  
Scrimmages with Other Schools – 3 after practice begins  
First Contest – Friday, March 21  
Non-Interscholastic Deadline Date – Monday, March 31

### **Softball**

Coaching, tryouts and Instruction Begins – Monday, Feb. 17  
Scrimmages with Other Schools – 4 after practice begins (or 3 scrimmages and 1 preview)  
First Contest – Saturday, March 22  
Non-Interscholastic Deadline Date – Saturday, March 22

### **Boys Tennis**

Coaching, tryouts and Instruction Begins – Monday, March 10  
Scrimmages with Other Schools – 1 after practice begins but before first contest  
First Contest – Friday, March 28  
Non-Interscholastic Deadline Date – Monday, April 14

### **Track & Field**

Coaching, tryouts and Instruction Begins – Monday, Feb. 24  
Scrimmages with Other Schools – none permitted  
First Contest – Saturday, March 29  
Non-Interscholastic Deadline Date – Monday, May 5

### **Boys Volleyball**

Coaching, tryouts and Instruction Begins – Monday, Feb. 24  
Scrimmages and/or Previews with Other Schools – 6 after practice begins  
First Contest – Friday, March 14  
Non-Interscholastic Deadline Date – Monday, March 31

## **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!

## **NEW!** Coach Beyond Webinar on Becoming a Champion – February 25th

Join LiFEsports at The Ohio State University, the Ohio High School Athletic Association, and Dayton Public Schools as co-hosts Dr. Dawn Anderson-Butcher and Victoria Jones sit down with **two-time NBA Champion Norris Cole!** Join this live webinar on **February 25th from 7-8:00 pm on becoming a champion.**

Register here: [go.osu.edu/becomingachampion](https://go.osu.edu/becomingachampion)

**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 23,500-plus coaches receiving this training. To learn more about Coach Beyond, please visit this website: <https://lifesports.osu.edu/coach-beyond/about-coach-beyond/>.

## **REMINDERS**

### **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 in FinalForms, and details are sent from the OHSAA Sport Management team to coaches. Here is the schedule for spring 2025 sports:

| Sport           | Start Date                          | Late Fee Begins           | End Date                  | OHSAA Credit Coordinator for Coaches  |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Baseball        | Currently Available                 | Sat., Mar. 29, 12:00 a.m. | Mon., Apr. 28, 11:59 p.m. | Emily Mason ( <a href="mailto:emason@ohsaa.org">emason@ohsaa.org</a> )            |
| Lacrosse (B)    | Currently Available                 | Sat., Mar. 22, 12:00 a.m. | Mon., Apr. 21, 11:59 p.m. | Monroe Britton ( <a href="mailto:mbritton@ohsaa.org">mbritton@ohsaa.org</a> )     |
| Lacrosse (G)    | Currently Available                 | Sat., Mar. 22, 12:00 a.m. | Mon., Apr. 21, 11:59 p.m. | Monroe Britton ( <a href="mailto:mbritton@ohsaa.org">mbritton@ohsaa.org</a> )     |
| Softball        | Currently Available                 | Sun., Mar. 23, 12:00 a.m. | Tue., Apr. 22, 11:59 p.m. | Kelly Schoenly ( <a href="mailto:kschoenly@ohsaa.org">kschoenly@ohsaa.org</a> )   |
| Tennis (B)      | Currently Available                 | Sat., Mar. 29, 12:00 a.m. | Mon., Apr. 21, 11:59 p.m. | John Kronour ( <a href="mailto:jkronour@ohsaa.org">jkronour@ohsaa.org</a> )       |
| Track & Field   | Currently Available                 | Sun., Mar. 30, 12:00 a.m. | Mon., Apr. 21, 11:59 p.m. | BJ Duckworth ( <a href="mailto:bjduckworth@ohsaa.org">bjduckworth@ohsaa.org</a> ) |
| Volleyball (B)  | Currently Available                 | Sat., Mar. 15, 12:00 a.m. | Mon., Apr. 21, 11:59 p.m. | Emily Mason ( <a href="mailto:emason@ohsaa.org">emason@ohsaa.org</a> )            |
| Late Fee Begins | Day after first date of competition |                           |                           |   |

### **OHSAA Scholarship Program Information Sent to Schools**

Athletic administrators recently received information (and principals were copied) on the process to nominate qualified senior student-athletes for an OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship. Like last year, two-hundred \$1,000 scholarships will be presented. Each school may submit only one male, one female, one male ethnic minority and one female ethnic minority candidate for scholarship

consideration. The on-line application process will include information being entered by a school administrator (principal or athletic administrator), the student and a school guidance counselor. To ensure that emails do not get trapped by firewalls/sent to a spam folder, this year's process will again include the school administrator emailing student candidates directly with the application information. Here are some reminders about the OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Program:

- Recipients of any athletic scholarships (full or partial) in NCAA Division I or II institutions or appointees to military academies are **not eligible**.
- The OHSAA has two (2) **separate** scholar-athlete recognition opportunities. Besides the Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Program outlined in the memo, each member high school has the opportunity to present a senior male and a senior female with an OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Award, a certificate which exemplifies the commitment to academic excellence while participating in interscholastic athletics and is generally presented during the school's senior assembly in the spring. While each honor is important, these awards are different since not every member school will have a scholar-athlete scholarship recipient, but each school has the opportunity to present two OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Awards.

### **State Basketball Tournaments Finals Ticketing Information**

Public sales of all-session tickets and center court club tickets for the OHSAA state girls and boys basketball finals continue. Single-game tickets for the state finals go on sale Monday, March 10 (girls) and Monday, March 17 (boys).

The championship games for the 2025 state basketball tournaments will again be held at the University of Dayton Arena, with the girls on Friday and Saturday, March 14-15, and the boys on Friday and Saturday, March 21-22. **Note that the University of Dayton Arena is a cashless facility, meaning only credit cards will be accepted for the purchase of all items including tickets, apparel, concessions and souvenir programs. Virtually all other non-school facilities that will be hosting OHSAA tournaments will operate similarly.** With the expansion to seven tournament divisions that begins this year, the state semifinals will be held at neutral sites to be announced. The girls state semifinals will be held March 7-9 and the boys state semifinals will be held March 14-16.

### **2025 OHSAA State Basketball Tournament Schedule**

#### **Girls Semifinals (Sites and Times TBA)**

**Friday, Mar. 7** – Divisions VI and VII

**Saturday, Mar. 8** – Divisions III, IV and V

**Sunday, Mar. 9** – Divisions I and II

#### **Girls Finals (University of Dayton Arena)**

**Friday, Mar. 14** – Division III (1:00); Division IV (4:15), and Division II (7:30)

**Saturday, Mar. 15** – Division V (10:45); Division VI (2:00); Division VII (5:15), and Division I (8:30)

### **2025 OHSAA State Basketball Tournament Schedule**

#### **Boys Semifinals (Sites and Times TBA)**

**Friday, Mar. 14** – Divisions VI and VII

**Saturday, Mar. 15** – Divisions III, IV and V

**Sunday, Mar. 16** – Divisions I and II

#### **Boys Finals (University of Dayton Arena)**

**Friday, Mar. 21** – Division III (1:00); Division IV (4:15), and Division II (7:30)

**Saturday, Mar. 22** – Division V (10:45); Division VI (2:00); Division VII (5:15), and Division I (8:30)

### **Competitive Balance Roster Data Entry Period Opens for Winter Sports**

Administrators are reminded that the window to enter Competitive Balance roster data for the winter sports of boys basketball and girls basketball opened on **Monday, February 3, 2025**. Athletic administrators, or their designees, must submit their roster data within FinalForms. The deadline to submit basketball roster data is **Friday, April 4, 2025**. **ALL** schools that compete in varsity basketball contests must submit their roster data by that date. All other winter sports are **not** part of Competitive Balance. For questions, please contact either Ronald Sayers ([rsayers@ohsaa.org](mailto:rsayers@ohsaa.org)) or Alexis Holderman ([aholderman@ohsaa.org](mailto:aholderman@ohsaa.org)).

### **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 2024-25 school year to continue membership for the 2025-26 school year. The OHSAA Board Resolution Card, which requires a signature from the governing body's president and superintendent/head of school, were recently 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, 2025**. For questions, please contact Alexis Holderman ([aholderman@ohsaa.org](mailto:aholderman@ohsaa.org)).

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