



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Doug Ute, Executive Director

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

2024-25 School Year, No. 17

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! Plan to Recognize Spring Sports Officials April 6-12

The OHSAA is celebrating our contest officials for their hard work and dedication. The week of April 6-12 is OHSAA Spring Sports Officials Appreciation Week. We ask that athletic administrators show your appreciation and respect for our officials, who give their time to contribute to the experience our student-athletes receive in education-based athletics, by reading the OHSAA-provided script before ALL games that week as well as use your social media accounts. The scripts are available here:

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

NEW! OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Application Deadlines Approaching

The OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Program application process is well underway, and the application timeline is below. Note that submission deadlines for student candidates and school counselors are quickly approaching. The OHSAA and its six District Athletic Boards annually award \$200,000 in college scholarships to 200 high school graduates after selections are made by each of the OHSAA's six District Athletic Boards. Each of the 200 recipients will receive a one-time, non-renewable \$1,000 award. Here is the scholarship application timeline:

- **Thursday, April 10, 2025** – Deadline for all student candidates to submit their applications
- **Tuesday, April 29, 2025** – Deadline for school counselors to submit their portion of the applications
- **Thursday, May 1, 2025** – Spring sport addendum entry/update opens
- **Monday, June 16, 2025** – Deadline for spring sport addendums to be submitted

NEW! OHSAA District Athletic Board Election Process

Administrators have recently 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 are: **Central District**, Class AAA representative (Mark Shively, incumbent) and female representative (Pam Bosser, incumbent); **East District**, Class AAA representative (John Harris, incumbent) and ethnic-minority representative (Angelita Forte, incumbent); **Northeast District**, Class AA representative (Randy Tevepaugh, incumbent) and 7th-8th grade representative (Jim Penk, incumbent); **Northwest District**, Class AA representative (Jay Selgo, incumbent) and female representative (Brenda Frankart, incumbent); **Southeast District**, Class A representative (Tony Deem, incumbent) and ethnic-minority representative (Joe Turner, incumbent), and **Southwest District**, Class A representative (Andy Bixler, incumbent) and 7th-8th grade representative (Paul Stone, incumbent). The three unexpired terms are: **Central District**, Class A representative (Lindsey Smith, 2024-25 interim), term August 1, 2025, to July 31, 2026; **Northeast District**, Class AA representative (Dan May, 2024-25 interim), term August 1, 2025, to July 31, 2026, and **Southwest District**, Class AA representative (Tom Nerl, 2024-25 interim), term August 1, 2025, to July 31, 2027.

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 2024-25 *OHSAA Handbook*), which can be accessed here:

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

NEW! OHSAA Staff News

Special honors and recognition have been awarded to three OHSAA staff members. Associate Executive Director **Kristin Ronai** was recognized as a member of the OHSAA Circle of Champions during the boys state basketball tournament last month in Dayton. The Circle of Champions, in place for 17 years, recognizes individuals who not only had an outstanding high school career in Ohio but also went on to outstanding achievements following their prep careers and exhibit high character and integrity. Ronai helped lead Warsaw River View to back-to-back OHSAA state basketball championships and was a two-time state coaches association Ms. Basketball award winner. While playing at the University of Dayton, where she is a member of the school's athletic hall of fame, she was three-time All-

Atlantic 10 and was the A-10 Women's Basketball Student-Athlete of the Year. She is in her 13th year on the OHSAA staff. In June, OHSAA Executive Director **Doug Ute** will begin serving a four-year term as the Section 2 representative on the 12-person National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Board of Directors. The Board conducts all business of the NFHS and interprets and makes final decisions regarding all matters of the NFHS. Ute is in his fifth year at the OHSAA. Additionally, Senior Sport Administrator **Emily Mason** has been named chair of the NFHS Volleyball Rules Committee, which oversees rules for the sport and discusses and recommends possible rule changes. Mason is in her 11th year on the OHSAA staff.

NEW! 2025-26 Pre-Participation Physical Exam (PPE) Forms Available

The Pre-Participation Physical Exam form for the 2025-26 school year is available on the OHSAA website. The latest version is accessible here: <https://www.ohsaa.org/medicine/physicalexamform>.

The PPE form is authorized by the OHSAA's Joint Advisory Committee on Sports Medicine (JACSM), which reviews potential changes to the form each winter. 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 will also be 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 (APN) are eligible to complete the exam and sign the form.

NEW! Winning Beyond the Game: New Updates from the Ohio State Coach Beyond Program Million Coaches Challenge

A well-trained coach can make all the difference in a young athlete's experience, fostering confidence, resilience and a love for the game. Yet, coaching across the U.S. remains under-supported, under-trained and fragmented. The Million Coaches Challenge (MCC), part of The Ohio State University's Coach Beyond program, is changing that. Preliminary findings from the MCC Implementation Study highlight the influence of coaches trained by MCC Partners:

- 93% of coaches agreed training had an influence on building their confidence.
- 94% believe all coaches should receive foundational training in youth development-related practices.
- 71% of coaches believe that their participation in training positively influenced athlete retention and made athletes more likely to return.

The MCC Partners are also aligning on what it means to be a "good" coach and setting a shared standard for youth development-focused coaching. MCC Partners recommend the following for the youth sport field:

- Define, operationalize and adopt a minimum standard or framework for what it means to be a "good" coach in the United States.
- Review trainings available in the field to ensure they reflect what it means to be a "good" and "trained" coach.
- Expand access to high-quality, comprehensive training.
- Build capacity for policy implementation, professionalize coaching and change the narrative about coaching youth sport.
- Develop a shared research-practice agenda and prioritize systematic, shared measurement efforts to understand the coaching landscape and document coach development and effectiveness.

We're winning beyond the game! Learn more about our efforts at MillionCoaches.org/implementation-study/.

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](https://LIFEsports.at.theohiostate.edu/), 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](#).

REMINDERS

Current List of 2025 Referendum Issues Available

The OHSAA Board of Directors has currently approved recommendations from the Executive Director's Office to place 13 items (two Constitution, 11 Bylaws) up for referendum vote of the membership for 2025. Member school principals will vote upon these issues between May 1 and 15. Details on the current approved referendum issues are posted here:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/School-Resources/referendum-voting>.

2025 Athletic Discussion Meetings Begin Next Week

The 2025 OHSAA Athletic Discussion Meetings dates and locations for the six meetings are listed below. OHSAA Associate Executive Director Kristin Ronai will review the 2025 referendum issues and Executive Director Doug Ute will discuss a few topics of current

interest to administrators involved with or interested in the school’s interscholastic athletics program. Meetings will last approximately two hours, and there is no cost to attend. The meetings are intended for superintendents, high school principals, high school athletic administrators, 7th-8th grade principals and city supervisors. Attendance by at least one school administrator is highly encouraged. Here is the link to register: <https://www.ohsaa.org/meetings>. An email will be returned to inform you that your registration has been received. The sites and dates for the 2025 OHSAA Athletic Discussion Meetings are:

- **Northeast** — **Tuesday, April 8 – 10:00 a.m.**, Streetsboro High School Auditorium
- **Southwest** — **Thursday, April 10 - 10:00 a.m.**, Clayton Northmont Community Auditorium
- **Southeast** — **Tuesday, April 22 – 10:00 a.m.**, Logan High School Auditorium
- **East** — **Thursday, April 24 – 1:30 p.m.**, Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center, Cambridge
- **Central** — **Monday, April 28– 10:00 a.m.**, Quest Conference Center, Westerville
- **Northwest** — **Wednesday, April 30 – 9:00 a.m.**, Camden Falls Reception & Conference Center, Tiffin

Basketball Out-of-Season Reminders

School coaches are permitted to coach non-school teams (AAU, AYBT, GYB, etc.) outside the season with players from your school teams on it. Before they coach and have voluntary practice outside the season, read these regulations that must be followed:

- 1.) The No-Contact Period must be followed. It still exists and means that your school coach will NOT be permitted to coach starting with the first day after the school’s last interscholastic contest and ending 28 days later. This means that no coach, paid or volunteer and approved by the Board of Education, shall coach or provide skill instruction to team members in the sport of basketball during this no-contact period. This includes any type of tryouts in or out of school for purposes of non-interscholastic competition. A second No-Contact Period for basketball exists each year from August 1-31.
- 2.) General Sports Regulation 7-3-1 indicates the number of team members that can participate together on a non-interscholastic team. In place since August 1, 2022, a non-interscholastic team may now have **three (3)** players that played for the same school team. Whether a school coach or a non-school coach is coaching a non-school team, only three players from the same school team are permitted.
- 3.) There can be no rotating players from your school teams from one non-school game to another. In other words, a team that consists of three players from your school does NOT mean that non-school team can use three different players in each game in which it plays or cannot move players in and out of that same non-school team from one weekend to the next. This is true whether or not the school coach is coaching the non-school team.

For more details, please review OHSAA General Sports Regulation 7.3.1, which can be accessed here:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Sports/GeneralSportsRegulations.pdf>.

Competitive Balance Roster Data Entry Period 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 is currently open. 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) or 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 in Final Forms, 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	Has Already Begun	Mon., Apr. 28, 11:59 p.m.	Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org)
Lacrosse (B)	Currently Available	Has Already Begun	Mon., Apr. 21, 11:59 p.m.	Monroe Britton (mbritton@ohsaa.org)
Lacrosse (G)	Currently Available	Has Already Begun	Mon., Apr. 21, 11:59 p.m.	Monroe Britton (mbritton@ohsaa.org)
Softball	Currently Available	Has Already Begun	Tue., Apr. 22, 11:59 p.m.	Kelly Schoenly (kschoenly@ohsaa.org)
Tennis (B)	Currently Available	Has Already Begun	Mon., Apr. 21, 11:59 p.m.	John Kronour (ikronour@ohsaa.org)
Track & Field	Currently Available	Has Already Begun	Mon., Apr. 21, 11:59 p.m.	BJ Duckworth (bjduckworth@ohsaa.org)
Volleyball (B)	Currently Available	Has Already Begun	Mon., Apr. 21, 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!