



Administrator **UPDATE**

**2025-26
School Year
No. 3**

Tuesday, September 2, 2025

NEED HELP?

✓ **Fall Sports & Tournaments**

Cross Country: BJ Duckworth (bjduckworth@ohsaa.org)

Field Hockey: Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org)

Football: Beau Rugg (brugg@ohsaa.org)

Golf: Monroe Britton (mbritton@ohsaa.org)

Soccer: Kelly Schoenly (kschoenly@ohsaa.org)

Tennis (Girls): John Kronour (jkronour@ohsaa.org)

Volleyball (Girls): Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org)

✓ **Eligibility**

Kristin Ronai (kronai@ohsaa.org)

Ronald Sayers (rsayers@ohsaa.org)

Lizzy Wilson (lwilson@ohsaa.org)

Membership Services

Alexis Holderman (aholderman@ohsaa.org)

✓ **Officiating**

Beau Rugg (brugg@ohsaa.org)

Charles Anderson (canderson@ohsaa.org)

Amanda Harding (aharding@ohsaa.org)

Keaton Jones (kjones@ohsaa.org)

✓ **Finance**

Laura Vermilya (lvermilya@ohsaa.org)

✓ **Technology (Final Forms/DragonFly)**

Ronald Sayers (rsayers@ohsaa.org)

Alexis Holderman (aholderman@ohsaa.org)

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

✓ **Regional Update Meetings**

Bob Goldring (bgoldring@ohsaa.org)

✓ **Job Postings/Open Dates**

Tim Stried (tstried@ohsaa.org)

✓ **Sports Medicine**

Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org)

✓ **Tournament Tickets**

Claudia Markoff (cmarkoff@ohsaa.org)

✓ **Competitive Balance**

Kristin Ronai (kronai@ohsaa.org)

Ronald Sayers (rsayers@ohsaa.org)

✓ **General Questions**

Michelle Kern (mkern@ohsaa.org)

✓ **Executive Director**

Doug Ute (dute@ohsaa.org)

NEW ITEMS

• **Registration Continues for OHSAA Regional Update Meetings and Administrators' Workshops**

In-person OHSAA Regional Update Meetings continue this month, with three more opportunities for administrators to hear updates and reminders on key issues from OHSAA Executive Director Doug Ute and his staff and ask questions. The meetings are for school superintendents, principals and athletic administrators, and attendance is highly recommended. To register, go to: <https://www.ohsaa.org/meetings>. The remaining dates, locations and times are:

• **Tuesday, Sept. 9, Findlay** (Findlay High School Auditorium, 10:00-12:00)

• **Thursday, Sept. 11, Cincinnati** (Princeton H.S. Matthews Aud., 10:00-12:00)

• **Monday, Sept. 15, Cambridge** (Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center, 10:00-12:00)

• **Finance Team to Present Review of 2025 OHSAA Spring Tournaments**

On Wednesday, Sept. 10, starting at 8:30 a.m., the OHSAA finance team, led by Chief Financial Officer Laura Vermilya, will be hosting a virtual meeting for member school administrators to provide a financial review of the OHSAA's 2025 spring tournaments. All administrators are welcome to participate, and no advance registration is required. Use the following link on Sept. 10 at 8:30 a.m. to access the live presentation: <http://bit.ly/4mc8wK5>.

• **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, 2025, 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.

• **Schools Encouraged to Enhance Efforts to Create Better Contest Environments**

With the fall season upon us, let's continue to work together to ensure everyone is displaying proper and appropriate sporting behavior at all times to create better environments for our contests and events. As was mentioned in the last edition of the Administrator Update, Administrators needing assistance in best practices for sporting behavior will find **plenty of resources available on the OHSAA website** at [OHSAA.org/Respect-The-Game](https://www.ohsaa.org/Respect-The-Game). Included 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
- And more!!!

In addition . . .

- Public address announcers a play key role in promoting sporting behavior
 - NFHS Learning Center provides a free course on public address announcing available at: nfhslearn.com/courses/p-a-announcing

• Schools Asked to Report Catastrophic Situations to OHSAA and NCCSIR

The OHSAA reminds school administrators of their reporting obligations when an unforeseen catastrophic situation occurs with a student-athlete at your school. First, please report the incident to OHSAA Senior Sport Administrator Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org), who oversees sports medicine/healthy lifestyles issues within the office. She will help ensure the proper OHSAA staff members involve the Association's catastrophic insurance carrier and will inform the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS).

School administrators are also asked to report their catastrophic situation with the National Center for Catastrophic Sport Injury Research (NCCSIR) at www.sportinjuryreport.org. The NCCSIR, a research center that has tracked fatalities and catastrophic high school sports injuries in the United States since 1982, is directed by Kristen Kucera, Ph.D., at the University of North Carolina. Catastrophic athletic injuries, illnesses and medical conditions are defined as:

- 1.) Fatalities;
- 2.) Permanent disability injuries;
- 3.) Serious injuries (fractured spine/neck or serious head injury), even though the athlete has fully recovered;
- 4.) Temporary or transient paralysis (athlete has no movement for a short time but has a complete recovery);
- 5.) Heat stroke or exertional sickling due to exercise, and
- 6.) Sudden cardiac arrest or death in an athlete (even if not directly related to athletics).

For more information, including the NCCSIR's most recent reports, go to:
<https://nccsir.unc.edu/reports/>

REMINDERS

• Mandatory Online Rules Meetings Requirements

Please remind your coaches that all 10 OHSAA fall sports have a mandatory on-line rules meeting requirement. Rules meetings have been posted in FinalForms, and details will be sent from the OHSAA Sport Management team to coaches. Here is the schedule for fall 2025 sports:

Sport	Start Date	Late Fee Begins	End Date	OHSAA Credit Coordinator for Coaches
Football	Already Started	Already Begun	Mon., Sept. 29, 11:59 PM	Beau Rugg (brugg@ohsaa.org)
Field Hockey	Already Started	Already Begun	Mon., Sept. 22, 11:59 PM	Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org)
Girls Volleyball	Already Started	Already Begun	Mon., Sept. 22, 11:59 PM	Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org)
Soccer	Already Started	Already Begun	Mon., Sept. 22, 11:59 PM	Kelly Schoenly (kschoenly@ohsaa.org)
Golf	Already Started	Already Begun	Mon., Sept. 1, 11:59 PM	Monroe Britton (mbritton@ohsaa.org)
Girls Tennis	Already Started	Already Begun	Mon., Sept. 8, 11:59 PM	John Kronour (jkronour@ohsaa.org)
Cross Country	Already Started	Already Begun	Mon., Sept. 22, 11:59 PM	BJ Duckworth (bjduckworth@ohsaa.org)

NOTE: The late fee begins the day after the first date of competition

If the OHSAA sport administrator is unavailable to answer questions regarding credit, contact Michael Cornathan in the OHSAA Office at mcornathan@ohsaa.org.

For details on how to view the meetings in FinalForms, go to:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/SchoolResources/FinalForms-CoachesRulesMeetingsInstructions.pdf>.

• Ohio State Coach Beyond Program

Coach Beyond and USCAH Provide Pupil Activity Permit (PAP) Option

LiFEsports and the U.S. Council for Athletes' Health (USCAH) have partnered to develop a coach training package that meets the Pupil Activity Permit requirements in Ohio. The package includes state-approved Coach Beyond content, such as our Supporting Student-Athlete Mental Health and Coaching Essentials (Fundamentals of Coaching) courses. All trainings were created in collaboration with and alongside coaches and athletic directors, as well as experts in sports medicine, strength and conditioning, mental health, youth development, and sport psychology. Click here to learn more about the individual package or bulk pricing for your school:

<https://uscah.com/ohio-pupil-activity-coaching-permit-coursework/>

<https://uscah.com/cdn/USCAH-Ohio-Requirements-for-Schools-5.22.2025.pdf>

Quick Tips for Coaching Beyond the X's and O's

With fall sports in full swing, it is nice to have reminders for how to best support student-athletes on and off the field/court/mat, etc. Coach Beyond created a short video highlighting multiple strategies for any coach to use to go “beyond the X's and O's” of the game! Need a refresher or inspiration for your coaching? Check out our **Coaching Beyond the X's and O's** short video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Muv6Xqy36x4>.

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 four 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 our training of coaches to go beyond the X's and O's has exceeded that goal! Congratulations to everyone on the state team, LiFEsports and the OHSAA.

OHSAA Mission Statement

To serve our member schools and enrich interscholastic opportunities for students.