



Administrator **UPDATE**

2025-26
School Year
No. 7

Tuesday, October 28, 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)

Soccer: Kelly Schoenly (kschoenly@ohsaa.org)

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

✓ Winter Sports & Tournaments

Basketball: Doug Ute (dute@ohsaa.org)

Bowling: Michael Cornathan (mcornathan@ohsaa.org)

Gymnastics: Kelly Schoenly (kschoenly@ohsaa.org)

Ice Hockey: John Kronour (jkronour@ohsaa.org)

Swim & Dive: Kelly Schoenly (kschoenly@ohsaa.org)

Wrestling: Monroe Britton (mbritton@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

✓ 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

• OHSAA Offers Webinars on NIL to Provide Information, Answer Questions on Upcoming Referendum Vote

As you are aware, a temporary restraining order has been issued by the judge overseeing the ongoing lawsuit filed against the OHSAA regarding Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL). This order currently prevents the OHSAA from enforcing any NIL rules, leaving our schools and student-athletes without clear guardrails. To help you make an informed decision on the upcoming emergency vote between November 17 and 21 on the proposed NIL language, the OHSAA has announced an exclusive partnership with Influential Athlete, LLC, to educate and support our member schools on the proposed language that would allow high school athletes in Ohio to participate in NIL opportunities under a structured, education-first framework.

It is highly recommended that school administrators attend one of the two educational webinars below. These sessions will clarify what the proposed language means so you can cast your vote with full confidence.

Webinar Options (choose one):

Tuesday, November 4 at 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 12 at 10:00 a.m.

Webinar Registration Link:

www.ohsaa.org/meetings

Influential Athlete, the nation's leading NIL education and consulting company, brings a proven national track record in helping athletic associations, schools and programs navigate the NIL landscape responsibly and effectively. The company recently partnered with the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) following a failed NIL vote in that state. After months of comprehensive education and administrative support led by Influential Athlete, Wisconsin's NIL proposal was brought back to vote and passed nearly 3 to 1 statewide in April 2025.

• OHSAA September Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Available

Here is the link to the minutes from the September 26, 2025, OHSAA Board of Directors Meeting:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Board-of-Directors-Minutes/2025-26/20250926BoardMinutes.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.

• Leveling the Playing Field Offers Sports Equipment At No Cost

Leveling the Playing Field (LPF), a non-profit company which redistributes sports equipment to programs in under-resourced communities, is offering its gently used and/or extra equipment to Ohio's schools at no cost. Interested schools can complete an application, schedule a site visit or call and, if approved, schedule a time to pick up your equipment in LPF's Columbus location. To apply, go to: www.levelingthefield.org/apply-for-equipment/. Applicants must serve economically disadvantaged children or children or adults with disabilities. For more information, visit the LPF website at www.levelingthefield.org, or contact Ohio representative Eric Rutkowski at eric@levelingthefield.org. LPF, which has provided \$500,000 worth of equipment to 150 unique programs in Ohio since January 1, also accepts equipment donations.

REMINDERS

• OHSAA Fall State Tournaments and Dates

Field Hockey – Thursday, Oct. 30 (Semifinals) and Saturday, Nov. 1 (Finals): Thomas Worthington High School

- See state tournament brackets here:

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

Cross Country – Saturday, Nov. 1: Fortress Obetz, Obetz (suburban Columbus)

- See state tournament qualifiers and schedule here:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Cross-Country/2025-Cross-Country/2025-Cross-Country-Tournament-Coverage>

Soccer – Tuesday and Wednesday, Nov. 4-5 (girls Tuesday, boys Wednesday) and Friday and Saturday, Nov. 7-8 (girls), and Sunday and Monday, Nov. 9-10 (boys): Semifinals at Statewide Neutral Sites, Finals at Historic Crew Stadium, Columbus

- See girls regional and state tournament brackets here:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Soccer/Soccer-2025/2025-OHSAA-Girls-Soccer-Statewide-Tournament-Brackets>

- See boys regional and state tournament brackets here:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Soccer/Soccer-2025/2025-OHSAA-Boys-Soccer-Statewide-Tournament-Brackets>

Girls Volleyball – Thursday through Sunday, Nov. 6-9: Semifinals Nov. 6, 7 and 8 at Wright State Nutter Center, Vandalia Butler High School and Wittenberg University; Finals Nov. 8-9 at Wright State Nutter Center

- See regional and state tournament brackets here:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Volleyball-Girls/2025-Girls-Volleyball/2025-OHSAA-Girls-Volleyball-Statewide-Brackets>

Football – Friday, Nov. 28 (Semifinals) and Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 4-6: Semifinals at Statewide Neutral Sites; Finals at Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium, Canton

- See regional tournament brackets here:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Football/Football-2025/2025-OHSAA-Football-Tournament-Coverage>

Regional tournament tickets: Tickets for regional playoff games (first four rounds) will go on sale every Monday at noon. All tickets are purchased at www.OHSAA.org/tickets.

• Mandatory Online Rules Meetings Requirements

Please remind your coaches that all 10 OHSAA winter 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 winter 2026 sports:

Sport	Start Date	Late Fee Begins	End Date	OHSAA Credit Coordinator for Coaches
Basketball (G)	Already Started	Sat., Nov. 22	Mon., Feb. 2, 11:59 PM	Doug Ute (dute@ohsaa.org)
Basketball (B)	Already Started	Thu., Nov. 27	Mon., Feb. 9, 11:59 PM	Doug Ute (dute@ohsaa.org)
Bowling	Already Started	Sat., Nov. 15	Mon., Jan. 19, 11:59 PM	Michael Cornathan (mcornathan@ohsaa.org)
Gymnastics	Already Started	Tue., Dec. 2	Mon., Jan. 26, 11:59 PM	Kelly Schoenly (kschoenly@ohsaa.org)
Ice Hockey	Already Started	Sat., Nov. 15	Mon., Jan. 19, 11:59 PM	John Kronour (jkronour@ohsaa.org)
Swimming & Diving	Already Started	Tue., Nov. 25	Mon., Jan. 19, 11:59 PM	Kelly Schoenly (kschoenly@ohsaa.org)
Wrestling	Mon., Nov. 3	Fri., Dec. 4	Mon., Jan. 26, 11:59 PM	Monroe Britton (mbritton@ohsaa.org)

NOTES: 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>.

• OHSAA Football Playoffs Details

The 2025 OHSAA football playoffs will begin Friday, and this year's tournament features some new elements. Each region has qualified 12 teams to the playoffs (336 total teams; 48 teams per division); regional first-round, regional quarterfinal and regional semifinal games will be hosted by the higher seeds, and 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. 4-6. Here are football dates to remember for 2025:

- Oct. 31 First-Round Playoff Games – Higher Seeded Team Hosts (top 4 seeds in each region receive a bye; Seed 5 vs. 12; Seed 6 vs. 11; Seed 7 vs. 10; Seed 8 vs. 9)
- Nov. 7 Regional Quarterfinals – Top Four Seeds Host (Seed 1 vs. winner of 8/9; Seed 4 vs. winner of 5/12; Seed 2 vs. winner of 7/10; Seed 3 vs. winner of 6/11).
- Nov. 14 Regional Semifinals – Higher Seeds Host
- Nov. 21 Regional Finals – at Neutral Sites
- Nov. 28 State Semifinals – at Neutral Sites
- Dec. 4-6 State Championships in Canton at Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium (Thursday, Dec. 4, Div. II – 7:00; Friday, Dec. 5, Div. IV – 10:30; Div. III – 3:00; Div. I – 7:30; Saturday, Dec. 6, Div. VII – 10:30; Div. VI – 3:00; Div. V – 7:30)

• OHSAA State Football Finals Ticket Sales Have Begun

All-session and indoor Stadium Club tickets, single-day packages and a team one-day discount package have started for the 2025 OHSAA State Football Finals that will be held Dec. 4-6 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 in late November.

ALL-SESSION STADIUM CLUB: All-session Stadium Club tickets are \$155 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 \$215 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 \$95 for adults and \$60 for students, or three-game, single-day packages for Friday or Saturday games only that cost \$77 for Club Seating or \$42 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 Form 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.

• Reminders from The Ohio State University Coach Beyond Program

NEW — Online Coach Beyond Module for Promoting Life Skills Through Sport

Sports can be a great tool for teaching life skills to athletes. However, life skills development does not happen without intentional teaching from coaches! Coach Beyond has launched a new FREE online course giving coaches practical strategies to maximize the development of their athletes in time management, work ethic, and more. Let's make high school sport as impactful as possible! Enroll in the Promoting Life Skills Through Sport course here using the program code SCsports:

<https://www.athletichealthspace.com/login/index.php>.

Need a Pupil Activity Permit (PAP) for Winter? Coach Beyond and USCAH Have Coaches Covered

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>

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 and was have reached over 52,000 coaches in Ohio! 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.