



Administrator **UPDATE**

2025-26
School Year
No. 9

Tuesday, November 25, 2025

NEED HELP?

✓ Fall Sports & Tournaments

Football: Beau Rugg (brugg@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 (FinalForms/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 Emergency Referendum Issue on NIL Passes

A new bylaw that allows high school athletes in Ohio to participate in Name, Image and Likeness (NIL)/Personal Branding Rights opportunities under a structured, education-first framework passed by OHSAA member schools during one-week emergency referendum voting that ended November 21, 447 to 121, while 247 schools abstained from voting.

The emergency referendum vote was in response to a judge's temporary restraining order that prevented the OHSAA from enforcing any NIL rules. The OHSAA Office will continue to keep the membership informed on the pending legal case. However, the adoption of this new bylaw will help ensure a stable and secure framework for NIL and Personal Branding Rights at the high school level in Ohio moving forward.

"Our school administrators took ownership of this issue, whether through participating in a November 2024 committee meeting, giving feedback during our fall Regional Update Meetings or participating in the recent informational webinars," said OHSAA Executive Director Doug Ute. "Whether individuals agree with NIL at the high school level or not, the courts have spoken on this issue across the country that the NCAA and high school athletic associations cannot prevent a student-athlete from making money on their NIL."

"Now the real work begins, because this will be a continually evolving piece of high school athletics," Ute added. "The OHSAA will track NIL deals and make sure that our recruiting and transfer bylaws are still enforced, which is something our member schools have asked for throughout this process."

To read the full language of the new bylaw, go here:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/SchoolResources/refvote/NILFINAL-2026ReferendumItems.pdf>

To read a condensed summary of the new bylaw, go here:

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

Recordings of each of our recent webinars, completed in conjunction with Influential Athlete, can be found here:

Session 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y4UYkn31ys8>

Session 2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t4pd4E9VQaI>

The OHSAA partnered with Influential Athlete to assist in presenting the information surrounding the proposed language given the short turnaround time available to do so and is extremely appreciative of them. With their work with the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association and others, we have full confidence in their ability to assist those who are interested in utilizing their services. Influential Athlete will continue helping develop educational materials that will be available on our website for our schools.

Please note, however, schools are not obligated or required to partner with Influential Athlete and may choose to utilize others that best fit if students engage in NIL/Personal Branding Rights deals. Here are two brief handouts created by Influential Athlete:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Eligibility/OHSAASStudent-AthleteYESNOList.pdf>

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Eligibility/OHSAAName,Image,LikenessInfographic.pdf>

OHSAA FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS CENTRAL

• **This Week's State Semifinals Schedule**

The 2025 OHSAA football playoffs are down to four teams in each of the seven divisions (28 total teams) as we enter the state semifinals Friday, Nov. 28. All kickoffs are at 7:00 p.m. The schedule for Friday is as follows:

Division I: Middletown vs. Cincinnati St. Xavier at Dayton Welcome Stadium

Lakewood St. Edward vs. Lewis Center Olentangy Orange at Mansfield Arlin Field

Division II: Avon vs. Cuyahoga Falls Walsh Jesuit at University of Akron InfoCision Stadium

Cincinnati Anderson vs. Sunbury Big Walnut at Historic Crew Stadium, Columbus

Division III: Toledo Central Catholic vs. Cuyahoga Falls CVCA at Fostoria Memorial Stadium

Tipp City Tippecanoe vs. Columbus Bishop Watterson at Mason Tri-Health/Beacon Stadium

Division IV: Gnadenhutten Indian Valley vs. Cleveland Glenville at Minerva High School

Shelby vs. Cincinnati Indian Hill at Sidney Memorial Stadium

Division V: Wheelersburg vs. Youngstown Cardinal Mooney Westerville Central High School

Liberty Center vs. Lewistown Indian Lake at Lima Spartan Stadium

Division VI: North Robinson Colonel Crawford vs. Kirtland at Parma Byers Field at Robert Boulton Stadium

Bascom Hopewell-Loudon vs. Coldwater at Wapakoneta Mercy Health Wapak VFW Field

Division VII: Columbus Grove vs. St. Henry at Troy Memorial Stadium

McDonald vs. Jeromesville Hillsdale at New Philadelphia Quaker Stadium

• **State Semifinal Tickets**

Tickets for the state semifinals are currently on sale and can purchased at www.OHSAA.org/tickets.

• **Television/Streaming**

Spectrum is the official TV partner of the OHSAA. Its game selections for the state semifinals are available here:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Football/Football-2025/2025-OHSAA-Football-on-Spectrum-News-1>

Live games can be viewed on linear television for Spectrum customers or on-line by going here: <http://SpectrumNewsApp.com> and <http://OHSAA.tv>. Spectrum will also stream live some playoff games, and those are available here:

<http://spectrumnews1.com> and <http://OHSAA.tv>.

Spectrum will again provide live television and streaming coverage of the state finals December 4-6 from Canton.

• **State Finals Schedule** (at Canton's 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

• **State Finals Tickets and Ticket Packages**

Sales of all-session and indoor Stadium Club tickets, single-day packages and a team one-day discount package continue 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 go on sale Saturday (Nov. 29).**

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

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

• **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.athleticshealthspace.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 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.