



Administrator **UPDATE**

2025-26
School Year
No. 13

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

NEED HELP?

✓ 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 (lvvermilya@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)

✓ Scholar-Athlete Scholarships

Bob Goldring (bgoldring@ohsaa.org)

✓ General Questions

Michelle Kern (mkern@ohsaa.org)

✓ Executive Director

Doug Ute (dute@ohsaa.org)

NEW ITEMS

• Girls and Boys Basketball Tournament Draw Dates and Brackets

Draw dates for the upcoming OHSAA basketball tournaments take place soon and are as follows:

Girls (Div. III-VII) Sunday, Feb. 8 **Boys (Div. III-VII)** Sunday, Feb. 15
Girls (Div. I-II) Sunday, Feb. 15 **Boys (Div. I-II)** Sunday, Feb. 22

Statewide tournament brackets will be available following the draws as follows:

Girls: <https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Basketball-Girls/Girls-Basketball-2025-26-Statewide-Tournament-Brackets>

Boys: <https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Basketball-Boys/Boys-Basketball-2025-26-Statewide-Tournament-Brackets>

• Other Winter Sports Tournament Draw Dates

Here are the dates for the upcoming OHSAA winter sports tournament draws in the sports of girls and boys wrestling, ice hockey and gymnastics. Schools will be provided details on the draws from their respective OHSAA District Athletic Board.

Swimming & Diving – completed **Bowling** – completed
Girls & Boys Wrestling – Sunday, Feb. 8 **Ice Hockey** – Thursday, Feb. 12
Gymnastics – Sunday, Feb. 15

• OHSAA State Basketball Tournaments Schedules

Girls State Tournament

Thursday, Mar. 12

11:00 - Div. III SF, WSU*
12:00 - Div. IV SF, UD*
5:00 - Div. VI SF, WSU*
6:00 - Div. I SF, UD*

Friday, Mar. 13

11:00 - Div. VII SF, WSU*
12:30 - Div. IV F, UD
3:45 - Div. III F, UD
5:00 - Div. V or II SF, WSU*
6:00 - Div. II or V SF, VB*
7:00 - Div. VI F, UD

Saturday, Mar. 14

10:45 - Div. VII F, UD
2:00 - Div. V or II F, UD
5:15 - Div. II or V F, UD
8:30 - Div. I F, UD

Keys: **SF** = semifinal; **F** = final; **UD** = University of Dayton; **WSU** = Wright State University; **VB** = Vandalia Butler High School; * = Second game begins 30 minutes after the conclusion of the first game

Boys State Tournament

Thursday, Mar. 19

12:00 - Div. IV SF, WSU*
6:00 - Div. III SF, UD*

Friday, Mar. 20

10:45 - Div. V SF, UD*
12:00 - Div. VII SF, WSU*
4:15 - Div. IV F, UD
6:00 - Div. VI SF, WSU*
7:30 - Div. III F, UD

Saturday, Mar. 21

11:00 - Div. II SF, WSU*
1:00 - Div. V F, UD
4:15 - Div. VII F, UD
5:30 - Div. I SF, WSU*
7:30 - Div. VI F, UD

Sunday, Mar. 22

12:00 - Div. II F, UD
3:15 - Div. I F, UD

Keys: **SF** = semifinal; **F** = final; **UD** = University of Dayton; **WSU** = Wright State University; * = Second game begins 30 minutes after the conclusion of the first game

• OHSAA January 15 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Available

Here is the link to the minutes from the January 15, 2026, OHSAA Board of Directors Meeting:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Board-of-Directors-Minutes/2025-26/20260115BoardMinutes.pdf>. Please feel free to share this link with other staff members and coaches that you believe may have an interest in the minutes.

OHSAA Board Resolution Cards for Membership

The OHSAA Constitution requires the board of education or similar governing body to adopt a resolution authorizing its schools that were members during the 2025-26 school year to continue membership for the 2026-27 school year. The OHSAA Board Resolution Card, which requires a signature from the governing body's president and superintendent/head of school, were mailed recently. 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, 2026. For questions, please contact Alexis Holderman (aholderman@ohsaa.org).

• Mandatory Online Spring Sports Rules Meetings Requirements

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

Sport	Start Date	Late Fee Begins	End Date	OHSAA Credit Coordinator for Coaches
Baseball	Wed., Feb. 11, 2026	Sat., Mar. 28, 2026	Mon., Apr. 27, 11:59 p.m.	Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org)
Lacrosse (B)	Mon., Feb. 9, 2026	Sat., Mar. 14, 2026	Tue., Apr. 21, 11:59 p.m.	Monroe Britton (mbritton@ohsaa.org)
Lacrosse (G)	Mon., Feb. 9, 2026	Sat., Mar. 14, 2026	Tue., Apr. 21, 11:59 p.m.	Monroe Britton (mbritton@ohsaa.org)
Softball	Mon., Feb. 16, 2026	Sun., Mar. 22, 2026	Tue., Apr. 21, 11:59 p.m.	Kelly Schoenly (kschoenly@ohsaa.org)
Tennis (B)	Fri., Feb. 13, 2026	Sat., Mar. 28, 2026	Mon., Apr. 20, 11:59 p.m.	John Kronour (jkronour@ohsaa.org)
Track & Field	Mon., Feb. 9, 2026	Sat., Mar. 28, 2026	Mon., Apr. 20, 11:59 p.m.	BJ Duckworth (bduckworth@ohsaa.org)
Volleyball (B)	Wed., Feb. 4, 2026	Sat., Mar. 14, 2026	Mon., Apr. 20, 11:59 p.m.	Emily Mason (emason@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 and The Ohio State University Coach Beyond Program Updates

Hosting Great Tryouts: Tips from Coach Beyond

Tryouts can shape an athlete's entire experience. So how do you get them right? Coach Beyond has a short training sharing insightful ideas on best practices for tryouts. From designing an effective evaluation process to setting transparent selection criteria and communicating decisions with care, this session offers tools every coach can use. Watch it here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=EpiLj_mm7cA.

Support the Ohio Coach Survey Wave II

The OHSAA and The Ohio State University Coach Beyond Program are conducting a coaches' study to examine the training needs, interests and practices of Ohio coaches. Whether paid or volunteer, coaching young children or adolescents, working in schools, community programs, developmental leagues, or competitive clubs, the perspective from coaches matters. **Please forward the link to this voluntary survey to your coaches.** Their insights will help improve resources for coaches across the state. Any coach over age 18 is eligible. All perspectives are valuable. Thank you for helping strengthen youth sport in Ohio! The survey is available here: <https://go.osu.edu/ohiocoachsurvey>.

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. That training of coaches, which goes beyond the X's and O's, has exceeded that goal and we have reached over 52,000 coaches in Ohio. Congratulations to everyone on the state team, LiFEsports and the OHSAA!

REMINDERS

• Mandatory Boys Basketball Online Rules Meetings Requirements

Please remind your boys basketball coaches that they have a mandatory on-line rules meeting requirement. Rules meetings are posted in FinalForms, and details were sent from the OHSAA Sport Management team to coaches. The deadline date for boys basketball coaches to complete the course is Monday, Feb. 9, by 11:59 p.m. A late fee will be charged since the original deadline date has passed. For questions, contact OHSAA Basketball Administrator Doug Ute (dute@ohsaa.org) or staff member Michael Cornathan (mcornathan@ohsaa.org).

• OHSAA Scholarship Program Information Emailed

Athletic administrators were sent information via email (and principals were copied) on the process to begin nominating qualified senior student-athletes for an OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship. Each school may submit only one male, one female, one male ethnic minority and one female ethnic minority candidate for scholarship consideration. Recipients of any athletic scholarships (full or partial) in NCAA Division I or II institutions or appointees to military academies are not eligible. The on-line application process includes 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 again includes the school administrator emailing student candidates directly with the application information.

IMPORTANT NOTE ON THE OHSAA SCHOLAR-ATHLETE PROGRAM: Please note — and remind your students and parents — that the OHSAA has two (2) separate scholar-athlete recognition opportunities. Besides the Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Program outlined above, in which a \$1,000 monetary award is provided, 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 Ticketing Information

Athletic administrators were sent information last week about the digital ticketing purchase process for the state girls and boys basketball tournament through the OHSAA's digital ticketing partner, Hometown. The window for schools to order tickets will be open for a week prior to tickets going on sale to the general public.

Each OHSAA member school has access to purchase up to eight (8) Finals Package and Semifinals Package tickets for the girls state tournament AND eight (8) Finals Package and Semifinals Package tickets for the boys state tournament. Those eight tickets can be located together. Each school this week will be provided with ONE presale code that works for both girls and boys tournament tickets. Purchasers have the opportunity to click on and select their seats from a seat map of the University of Dayton Arena. Tickets for Wright State University's Nutter Center and Vandalia Butler High School are general admission. All-session ticket sales will end on Mar. 8 for the girls tournament and Mar. 15 for the boys tournament or until your school's presale code has been used to purchase your eight (8) all-session tickets. Ticket Packages and center court club ticket sales for the public begin Wednesday, Feb. 11. Single-game tickets for the state finals go on sale Monday, Mar. 9 (girls) and Monday, Mar. 16 (boys).

The championship games for the 2026 state basketball tournaments will again all be held at the University of Dayton Arena, with the girls on Friday and Saturday, Mar. 13-14, and the boys on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Mar. 20-22. The girls state semifinals will be held Mar. 12-13 at either Dayton, Wright State or Butler, and the boys state semifinals will be held Mar. 19-21 at either Dayton or Wright State. For questions, including the steps to claim tickets, contact OHSAA Customer Experience Manager Claudia Markoff at cmarkoff@ohsaa.org.

See the schedules for the 2026 state basketball tournaments on page 1 of this newsletter.

OHSAA Mission Statement

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