



# Administrator **UPDATE**

2025-26  
School Year  
No. 15

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

## **NEED HELP?**

### ✓ Winter Sports & Tournaments

**Basketball:** Doug Ute ([dute@ohsaa.org](mailto:dute@ohsaa.org))

**Bowling:** Michael Cornathan ([mcornathan@ohsaa.org](mailto:mcornathan@ohsaa.org))

**Gymnastics:** Kelly Schoenly ([kschoenly@ohsaa.org](mailto:kschoenly@ohsaa.org))

**Ice Hockey:** John Kronour ([jkronour@ohsaa.org](mailto:jkronour@ohsaa.org))

**Swim & Dive:** Kelly Schoenly ([kschoenly@ohsaa.org](mailto:kschoenly@ohsaa.org))

**Wrestling:** Monroe Britton ([mbritton@ohsaa.org](mailto:mbritton@ohsaa.org))

### ✓ Eligibility

Kristin Ronai ([kronai@ohsaa.org](mailto:kronai@ohsaa.org))

Ronald Sayers ([rsayers@ohsaa.org](mailto:rsayers@ohsaa.org))

Lizzy Wilson ([lwilson@ohsaa.org](mailto:lwilson@ohsaa.org))

### ✓ Membership Services

Alexis Holderman ([aholderman@ohsaa.org](mailto:aholderman@ohsaa.org))

### ✓ Officiating

Beau Rugg ([brugg@ohsaa.org](mailto:brugg@ohsaa.org))

Charles Anderson ([canderson@ohsaa.org](mailto:canderson@ohsaa.org))

Amanda Harding ([aharding@ohsaa.org](mailto:aharding@ohsaa.org))

Keaton Jones ([kjones@ohsaa.org](mailto:kjones@ohsaa.org))

### ✓ Finance

Laura Vermilya ([lvermilya@ohsaa.org](mailto:lvermilya@ohsaa.org))

### ✓ Technology (FinalForms/DragonFly)

Ronald Sayers ([rsayers@ohsaa.org](mailto:rsayers@ohsaa.org))

Alexis Holderman ([aholderman@ohsaa.org](mailto:aholderman@ohsaa.org))

## **ADDITIONAL CONTACTS**

### ✓ Job Postings/Open Dates

Tim Stried ([tstried@ohsaa.org](mailto:tstried@ohsaa.org))

### ✓ Sports Medicine

Emily Mason ([emason@ohsaa.org](mailto:emason@ohsaa.org))

### ✓ Tournament Tickets

Claudia Markoff ([cmarkoff@ohsaa.org](mailto:cmarkoff@ohsaa.org))

### ✓ Competitive Balance

Kristin Ronai ([kronai@ohsaa.org](mailto:kronai@ohsaa.org))

Ronald Sayers ([rsayers@ohsaa.org](mailto:rsayers@ohsaa.org))

### ✓ Scholar-Athlete Scholarships

Bob Goldring ([bgoldring@ohsaa.org](mailto:bgoldring@ohsaa.org))

### ✓ General Questions

Michelle Kern ([mkern@ohsaa.org](mailto:mkern@ohsaa.org))

### ✓ Executive Director

Doug Ute ([dute@ohsaa.org](mailto:dute@ohsaa.org))

## **NEW ITEMS**

### • Current List of 2026 Referendum Items Available

The OHSAA Board of Directors has currently approved recommendations from the Executive Director's Office to place nine items (all Bylaws, including three 7th-8th grade issues) up for referendum vote of the membership for 2026. Member school principals will vote upon these issues between May 1 and 15. A few additional referendum items to place before the membership may be approved by the Board in March. Details on the current approved referendum issues are posted here and will be updated if necessary:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/SchoolResources/refvote/2026RefItemsAsOfFeb26.pdf>.

### • 2026 Athletic Discussion Meeting Dates and Sites Set

The 2026 OHSAA Athletic Discussion Meetings have been finalized with the dates and locations for the six meetings listed below. OHSAA Directors Kristin Ronai or Ronald Sayers will review the 2026 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.

School administrators are asked to coordinate their registration efforts through the high school athletic administrator. He/she was emailed a link to register on-line. An email will be returned to athletic administrators to inform them that their registration has been received. Here are the sites and dates for the 2026 OHSAA Athletic Discussion Meetings:

- **Southeast** — Tuesday, April 14 – 10:00 a.m., Logan High School Auditorium
- **Southwest** — Wednesday, April 15 - 10:00 a.m., Clayton Northmont Community Auditorium
- **Central** — Monday, April 20 – 10:00 a.m., Quest Conference Center, Westerville
- **East** — Thursday, April 23 – 1:30 p.m., Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center, Cambridge
- **Northeast** — Monday, April 27 – 10:00 a.m., Streetsboro High School Auditorium
- **Northwest** — Tuesday, April 28 – 9:00 a.m., Camden Falls Reception & Conference Center, Tiffin

### • OHSAA February 19, 2026, Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Available

Here is the link to the minutes from the February 19, 2026, OHSAA Board of Directors Meeting:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Board-of-Directors-Minutes/2025-26/20260219BoardMinutes.pdf>.

Please feel free to share this meeting minutes link with other staff members and coaches that you believe may have an interest in them.

## • 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:

- 1.) The No-Contact Period must be followed. It 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 and in 2026 will be from August 1-24.
- 2.) General Sports Regulation 7.3.1 indicates the maximum 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. The team limit is NOT in effect between Monday, May 18, and Friday, July 31, when the team is coached by a coach not employed by the school in which the team members are participating.
- 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.
- 4.) Between May 18 and July 31, members of the school team's coaching staff may coach and/or provide instruction to any number of students from their team in excess of the team limit set forth in General Sports Regulation 7.3 for **13 days**. This participation cannot be mandatory, and there are further limitations that should be read in General Sports Regulations 7.5.
- 5.) Read General Sports Regulation 7.10 to review regulations on individual skill/coaching instruction that can be provided.

For more details, all OHSAA General Sports Regulations, including General Sports Regulation 7, can be accessed here: <https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Sports/GeneralSportsRegulations.pdf>.

## REMINDERS

### • Attention Athletic Administrators: Need Help With the OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Program?

Athletic administrators were sent information via email (and principals were copied) on the process to begin nominating qualified senior student-athletes for a one-time \$1,000 OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship. Here are two questions?

- 1.) Was the email **NOT** received, or
- 2.) Was the email received but you are having problems activating the process (which likely means issues with your User Name and Password)?

If you answered 'YES' to either question, please email Bob Goldring at the OHSAA Office for help at [bgoldring@ohsaa.org](mailto:bgoldring@ohsaa.org). For details on Scholar-Athlete Scholarships, go here: <https://www.ohsaa.org/School-Resources/OHSAA-Scholarships>.

### • Tickets Remain on Sale for Upcoming Winter Tournaments

Tickets remain on sale for the upcoming OHSAA winter state tournaments and must be purchased online through the OHSAA's digital ticketing partner, Hometown, or Ticketmaster by going to [www.ohsaa.org/tickets](http://www.ohsaa.org/tickets). For questions, contact OHSAA Customer Experience Manager Claudia Markoff at [cmarkoff@ohsaa.org](mailto:cmarkoff@ohsaa.org). Here is additional information:

#### Boys and Girls Division I Bowling

Friday-Saturday, Mar. 6-7  
HP Lanes, Columbus

#### Gymnastics

Saturday-Sunday, Mar. 7-8  
Hilliard Bradley High School

#### \*Girls Basketball

Thursday-Saturday, Mar. 12-14  
University of Dayton Arena; Wright State University, and Vandalia-Butler High School

#### Boys and Girls Wrestling

Friday-Sunday, Mar. 13-15  
Ohio State Schottenstein Center, Columbus

#### Ice Hockey

Saturday-Sunday, Mar. 14-15  
Nationwide Arena, Columbus

#### \*Boys Basketball

Thursday-Sunday, Mar. 19-22  
University of Dayton Arena  
Wright State University

\*See more details on the state basketball tournaments schedules on the next page

For statewide basketball and ice hockey tournament brackets, go to the OHSAA website as follows:

#### Girls Basketball

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Basketball-Girls/Girls-Basketball-2025-26/2026-Statewide-Tournament-Brackets>

#### Boys Basketball

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Basketball-Boys/Boys-Basketball-2025-26/2026-Statewide-Tournament-Brackets>

#### Ice Hockey

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Ice-Hockey/2025-26-Ice-Hockey/2026-Ice-Hockey-State-Tournament-Coverage>

For school assignments for sectional and/or district the Division I bowling or the girls and boys wrestling tournaments, visit your specific OHSAA District Athletic Board website by going to: <https://www.ohsaa.org/about/districtboards>.

## • 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

## • Mandatory Online Spring Sports Rules Meetings Requirements

Please remind your coaches that all eight 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	Currently available	Sat., Mar. 28, 2026	Mon., Apr. 27, 11:59 p.m.	Emily Mason ( <a href="mailto:emason@ohsaa.org">emason@ohsaa.org</a> )
Lacrosse (B)	Currently available	Sat., Mar. 14, 2026	Tue., Apr. 21, 11:59 p.m.	Monroe Britton ( <a href="mailto:mbritton@ohsaa.org">mbritton@ohsaa.org</a> )
Lacrosse (G)	Currently available	Sat., Mar. 14, 2026	Tue., Apr. 21, 11:59 p.m.	Monroe Britton ( <a href="mailto:mbritton@ohsaa.org">mbritton@ohsaa.org</a> )
Softball	Currently available	Sun., Mar. 22, 2026	Tue., Apr. 21, 11:59 p.m.	Kelly Schoenly ( <a href="mailto:kschoenly@ohsaa.org">kschoenly@ohsaa.org</a> )
Tennis (B)	Currently available	Sat., Mar. 28, 2026	Mon., Apr. 20, 11:59 p.m.	John Kronour ( <a href="mailto:jkronour@ohsaa.org">jkronour@ohsaa.org</a> )
Track & Field	Currently available	Sat., Mar. 28, 2026	Mon., Apr. 20, 11:59 p.m.	BJ Duckworth ( <a href="mailto:bduckworth@ohsaa.org">bduckworth@ohsaa.org</a> )
Volleyball (B)	Currently available	Sat., Mar. 14, 2026	Mon., Apr. 20, 11:59 p.m.	Emily Mason ( <a href="mailto:emason@ohsaa.org">emason@ohsaa.org</a> )

**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](mailto: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 LiFEsports Program Updates**

### **Hear from State Champion Student-Athletes on Coaching for Success**

You are invited to join LiFEsports at The Ohio State University and the OHSAA as co-hosts Dr. Dawn Anderson-Butcher and Jeni Ritter sit down with Dublin Jerome High School state champion student-athlete Nikitha Suresh (girls golf), Calan DeWalt (boys soccer) and Brady Barnum (boys golf). The student-athletes will share how coaches can create champions! The live webinar is Tuesday, March 3, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Register here: <https://go.osu.edu/championshipcoaching>.

### **Watch the Coach Beyond Webinar: Motivating Your Athletes**

LiFEsports at The Ohio State University and the OHSAA sat down with some of the best, Dr. Anthony Amorose (professor, Illinois State University), Donald Anthony Jr. (head fencing coach, The Ohio State University) and Jennifer Ritter (assistant aquatics director, University of North Florida and Head Girls Swimming Coach at Creekside High School), to discuss strategies to motivate athletes. It's perfect for winter coaches in tournament time and spring coaches gearing up for season! Watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lf1g4JbbBhw>.

**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 75,000 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.