



Administrator **UPDATE**

2025-26
School Year
No. 19

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

NEED HELP?

✓ Spring Sports & Tournaments

Baseball: Monroe Britton (mbritton@ohsaa.org)

Lacrosse: John Kronour (jkronour@ohsaa.org)

Softball: Kelly Schoenly (kschoenly@ohsaa.org)

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

Track & Field: BJ Duckworth (bjduckworth@ohsaa.org)

Volleyball (b): Michael Cornathan (mcornathan@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

Monroe Britton (mbritton@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)

To find past OHSAA Administrator Updates, which are posted on the OHSAA website under Bulletin Board Memos, go to:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/School-Resources/Bulletin-Board-Memos>

NEW ITEMS

• Referendum Voting Begins May 1 and Continues Through May 15

Voting begins Friday, May 1, for the 2026 OHSAA referendum issues. Member school principals have until 4:00 p.m. on Friday, May 15, to vote on the 12 items (11 Bylaws, including three 7th-8th grade issues, and one Constitution item). Voting will take place in *myOHSAA*. Principals are encouraged to confer with their superintendents/heads of school and athletic administrators about the proposals before casting their votes. To review the 2026 OHSAA referendum items, go here:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/School-Resources/referendum-voting>

• District Athletic Board Voting Also Begins May 1

Nominating petitions for expiring or unexpired positions on the six OHSAA District Athletic Board must be completed through *myOHSAA* by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 30. Voting for these positions will take place between May 1 and 15.

Each district athletic board has two positions with expiring terms, and those elected will serve six-year terms from August 1, 2026 to July 31, 2032. In addition, there are four unexpired terms that also must be filled, and two positions (East Class AAA and Southwest Class AA) that are currently being filled on an interim basis, but those six-year terms both expire July 31, 2026.

For more information on the election process, prospective candidates should read articles 7-2-1 through 7-9-1 of the OHSAA Constitution (pages 28-29 of the 2025-26 OHSAA Handbook), which can be accessed here:

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

• OHSAA Board of Directors Approves Several Recommendations at April 23 Meeting

Several recommendations were approved by the OHSAA Board of Directors during its regularly scheduled meeting April 23 in Columbus. Among the items approved were tournament travel stipends for teams participating in the 2026 OHSAA winter and spring regional and state tournaments. The stipends are as follows:

- Boys and Girls Basketball, Baseball and Softball: teams will receive \$750 for each regional contest and \$1,500 for each state contest.
- Ice Hockey, Boys Lacrosse and Girls Lacrosse: teams will receive \$750 for reaching the regional finals and \$1,500 for each state contest.

The Board also approved annual school membership fees for the 2026-27 to be \$50 per OHSAA recognized sport. This is half of the \$100 per recognized sport fee that was previously approved by the Board. Since the \$100 was approved, the Board has agreed to lower that fee to \$50 per recognized sport every year since the 2021-22 school year.

In addition, the Board approved preliminary 2026 and 2027 tournament division dividing lines for the fall sports of cross country, golf and girls tennis and 2026 tournament dividing lines for the fall competitive balance sports of football, soccer and girls volleyball. While the dividing lines will not change, school assignments to tournament divisions and representation could change based on schools choosing to move up to Division I; schools choosing to move to a higher division in individual sports where their boys and girls

are currently not in the same division, and schools being approved for membership or consolidating. The preliminary tournament division dividing lines will be posted on the OHSAA website (www.ohsaa.org) soon.

In the sport of football, the Board also approved school regional tournament assignments for 2026. That information can be found here: <https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Football/Football-2026>. Again, some assignments could change based on schools choosing to move up to Division I, the addition of new member schools or some schools consolidating (although the dividing lines will not change).

• 2026 Spring Sports Tournament Draw/Seed Dates

Schools will receive details from your OHSAA District Athletic Board on upcoming draw/seed meetings and dates for the 2026 spring sports tournaments. Here are the draw/seed dates:

Baseball

Sunday, May 10

Boys Tennis

Sunday, May 3

Boys Lacrosse and Girls Lacrosse

Wednesday, May 6

Track & Field

Sunday, May 3

Softball

Sunday, May 3 (Div. III-VII)

Sunday, May 10 (Div. I-II)

Boys Volleyball

Sunday, May 3

• OHSAA March 20, 2026, Board of Directors Special Meeting Minutes Available

Here is the link to the minutes from the March 20, 2026, OHSAA Board of Directors Special Meeting:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Board-of-Directors-Minutes/2025-26/20260320BoardMinutes-Special.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.

• NFHS Launches Free Course on Risks of Sports Betting for High School Students

Amid a nationwide rise in online sports betting among high school students, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) has launched a free course to educate coaches, administrators, student-athletes and parents about the risks associated with these gambling products. Available through the NFHS Learning Center, the course examines the rapid growth of sports betting, problem gambling, prevention strategies, the importance of competition integrity and the potential consequences for students.

The course provides examples of how sports betting can have serious consequences for student-athletes, including financial strain, mental health challenges, damaged relationships and long-term impacts on well-being and explains how the ease of access and gamification of these platforms has contributed to increased use among high school students. Early awareness is key to prevention, and the new course is designed to help adults and students recognize warning signs and make informed decisions. To access the course, go to www.NFHSLearn.org.

REMINDERS

• OHSAA Winter Tournaments Financial Review is Tomorrow (April 29)

Starting at 8:30 a.m. tomorrow (Wednesday, April 29), 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 2026 winter tournaments. All administrators are welcome to participate, and no advance registration is required. To access the live presentation, go here: <http://bit.ly/3Q0FhyE>.

• 2026-27 Pre-Participation Physical Exam (PPE) Forms Available

The Pre-Participation Physical Exam form for the 2026-27 school year is available on the OHSAA website. The latest version is accessible here: <https://www.ohsaa.org/medicine/physicalexamform>.

The PPE form is authorized by the OHSAA's Joint Advisory Committee on Sports Medicine (JACSM), which reviews potential changes to the form each winter. The form was originally developed for youth student-athletes by the American Academy of Pediatrics. A Spanish version of the history portion of the form will also be included on the OHSAA website. The medical clearance must be completed once every 13 months and kept on file at the school indefinitely. Although use of the OHSAA-adopted PPE is not required (for example, a school via its Board policy could accept another type of physical exam), signing all four consent forms is required before a student may commence any athletic participation in a member school. In Ohio, a physician (MD, DO), a doctor of chiropractic (DC), a physician's assistant (PA) and an advanced practice nurse (APN) are eligible to complete the exam and sign the form.

• Coaches' and Athletes' Entrance Procedures for Jesse Owens State Track & Field Tournament to Change

With the OHSAA Jesse Owens State Track & Field Tournament expanding to five divisions this spring from three, a new entrance procedure for qualifying coaches and athletes will be utilized beginning with the 2026 state tournament. For coach and participant admission, no longer will paper tickets be utilized, and instead the Association will be going to electronic tickets. In order for this to work, **please inform your head coaches that they will need to set up an account in The Ohio State University Athletic Ticket App, using the same email address that is listed in FinalForms.** Once qualifiers are known, the designated number of tickets will be created and available through each coach's account in this app. For information on how to set up an account, please have your coaches go to: <https://ohiostatebuckeyes.com/feature/digital-ticketing>.

The 2026 OHSAA Jesse Owens State Track & Field Tournament will be held June 3-6 at Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium on the campus of The Ohio State University in Columbus. The complete state tournament schedule can be found here: <https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Sports/Track-Field/2026/2026StateMeetSchedule.pdf>.

• Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Submission Deadline Passes for Students; School Counselors' Deadline is Today

The deadline for the 2026 OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Program for student applicants has passed, and the deadline for school counselors to complete their portion of the applications is today (Tuesday, April 28, by 4:00 p.m.). Deadlines for students involved in spring sports are as follows:

- Friday, May 1, 2026 – Spring sport addendum entry/update opens
- Monday, June 15, 2026 – Deadline for spring sport addendums to be submitted

The OHSAA and its six District Athletic Boards annually award \$200,000 in college scholarships to 200 high school graduates after selections are made by each of the OHSAA's six District Athletic Boards. Each of the 200 recipients will receive a one-time, non-renewable \$1,000 award. For questions, please email Bob Goldring at the OHSAA Office for help at bgoldring@ohsaa.org. For details on Scholar-Athlete Scholarships, go here: <https://www.ohsaa.org/School-Resources/OHSAA-Scholarships>.

OHSAA and The Ohio State University LiFEsports Program Updates

State Champion Student-Athletes on Coaching for Success

LiFEsports at The Ohio State University and the Ohio High School Athletic Association sat down with Dublin Jerome High School state champion student-athlete Nikitha Suresh (girls golf), Calan DeWalt (boys soccer) and Brady Barnum (boys golf) who shared how coaches can create champions on and off the field! You can watch it here: <https://go.osu.edu/championshipcoaching>.

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

OHSAA Mission Statement

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