



# Administrator **UPDATE**

2025-26  
School Year  
No. 22

Tuesday, June 16, 2026

## **NEED HELP?**

### ✓ Fall Sports & Tournaments

**Cross Country:** BJ Duckworth ([bjduckworth@ohsaa.org](mailto:bjduckworth@ohsaa.org))

**Field Hockey:** BJ Duckworth ([bjduckworth@ohsaa.org](mailto:bjduckworth@ohsaa.org))

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

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

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

**Tennis (g):** John Kronour ([jkronour@ohsaa.org](mailto:jkronour@ohsaa.org))

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

### ✓ Eligibility

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

Andy Bixler ([abixler@ohsaa.org](mailto:abixler@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

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

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

### ✓ Regional Update Meetings

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

### ✓ General Questions

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

### ✓ Executive Director

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

## **Thank You for Your Work!**

As I have done in the past, I want to take the opportunity to thank all administrators for the work you do with the student-athletes at your schools. I take great pride in working at the OHSAA, and our programs are only as good as the tremendous work you do with our students. Providing athletic participation opportunities teaches life lessons and helps create our future leaders, so, again, thank you for helping impact the lives of our young people and setting them on a path for success.

I also want to thank those of you who serve as hosts for our tournaments. We could not provide great events without you, so please know how much we appreciate you, your staff and community members. Our OHSAA District Athletic Boards also deserve a huge thank you for organizing and overseeing the early rounds of the tournaments, and I also want to thank our staff's sport administrators for their great work with our tournaments.

I wish you all the best for a great and relaxing summer, and thanks again!

Respectfully,

Doug Ute, Executive Director, Ohio High School Athletic Association

## • 2026-27 Guidance and Forms Updated in Eligibility Resource Center

To assist administrators in preparing for the 2026-27 school year, and in accordance with changes which were approved by the membership in May, the OHSAA has updated its eligibility resource center guidance and forms. Those forms and the guidance are located here:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Eligibility>.

Please discard all old forms and guidance that you may have in your files since they are no longer valid. Under the Transfer Guidance, please pay special attention to the following forms/guidance which were updated:

- Bylaw 4-7-2, Exception 1 (parents' bona fide change of legal residence) and the Affidavit of Bona Fide Legal Residence (ABFR) form (available at the same link as shown above). The 2026-27 version does have a few new questions, so please be sure to print out/save the new version of the form.

- New Bylaw 4-7-8 This new bylaw will allow a transfer student to have their eligibility fully restored upon a transfer if the Superintendents or Heads of School from both OHSAA member school systems enter into a Memorandum of Understanding confirming that the transfer is necessary to protect the student's physical or mental well-being or to address other appropriate extenuating circumstances. The MOU can be found at the new following link:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Eligibility/forms/4-7-8Form.pdf>.

We thank you in advance for taking the time to review these documents and, as always, invite you to contact Ronald Sayers, director of eligibility and technology; Andy Bixler, director of eligibility and student services; or Lizzy Wilson, manager of eligibility, for answers to questions you might have regarding student eligibility.

## • Board Approves Athletic Enrichment Fund Donation

At its regularly scheduled meeting June 11, the OHSAA Board of Directors approved providing each member school with \$1,250 from the OHSAA's Athletic Enrichment Fund. This is the fourth year the Board has approved the donation after the fund was established to provide an equal financial contribution to each member high school's athletic department to assist with costs of equipment, uniforms, game transportation, officials and improving sporting behavior. Schools that return their membership cards and past due invoices by June 30 will be receiving the check from the OHSAA office in August.

## • Fall Statewide Meetings Schedule

The OHSAA will again conduct the annual Regional Update Meetings around the state in August and September. The two-hour meetings are intended for superintendents, principals and athletic administrators and will consist of updates, reminders and a review of key changes from Executive Director Doug Ute and other staff members within the Association as we begin the 2026-27 school year. Also in August, the Executive Director's staff will host three Administrator Workshops for first- or second-year school administrators. The workshops will review key OHSAA bylaws and regulations and provide various updates and reminders. Two of the workshops will be in-person at the OHSAA Offices in Columbus and one will be virtual. Registration information will be forwarded to the membership later this summer. All meetings will begin at 10:00. Here are the dates, sites and times for the meetings:

### Regional Update Meetings

- Monday, Aug. 31, Waverly High School
- Tuesday, Sept. 1, Westerville, Quest Conference Center
- Tuesday, Sept. 8, Streetsboro High School
- Thursday, Sept. 10, Liberty-Benton High School, Findlay
- Monday, Sept. 14, Cambridge, Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center
- Tuesday, Sept. 15, Cincinnati Princeton High School

### Administrator Workshops

- Tuesday, Aug. 4, OHSAA Office
- Wednesday, Aug. 12, OHSAA Office
- Monday, Aug. 24, Virtual

## • OHSAA May 20, 2026, Board of Directors Special Virtual Meeting Minutes Available

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

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Board-of-Directors-Minutes/2025-26/20260520BoardMinutesSpecialVirtual.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.

## • Long-Time Staff Member Goldring to Retire; Bixler and Kaufman Join OHSAA Staff

**Bob Goldring** is retiring from the OHSAA July 31 after 31 years with the Association. He began his tenure as director of information (media relations) in October 1995 and has since served in several roles, the latest being director of communications and special projects since the fall of 2020. Bob also served as the OHSAA's acting commissioner for a three-month period in 2016 and was interim executive director in the summer of 2020 when the office developed policies and procedures for re-opening school competition during the COVID-19 pandemic. During his 13 years as director of information, Goldring helped enhance the OHSAA's media and public relations, publications, website, records and archives, and he oversaw the media at state tournaments. His main duties in his current role were to plan and compile information for board of directors meetings; write public address scripts and create run-of-show schedules for state tournaments; produce bi-weekly administrator update newsletters; plan statewide meetings; oversee the scholar-athlete scholarship program; secure, nominate and write biographical information on individuals for special national and OHSAA awards, and participate in student eligibility appeals. Prior to joining the OHSAA, the Orrville (OH) native worked 12 years in athletic communications departments at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology (one year); Purdue University (six years) and The Ohio State University (five-plus years), from which he earned two degrees. He and his wife, Terri, have two adult sons, Sam and Max.

Joining the OHSAA staff are two former Association Board of Directors presidents and long-time members of the Southwest District Athletic Board, **Andy Bixler** and **Scott Kaufman**. Bixler is serving as director of eligibility and student services whose main duties are to assist in the eligibility department, help plan and organize the OHSAA student leadership conference, oversee the scholar-athlete scholarship program and assist with the sports of cross country and track & field. He will also assist with the tournament division assignment and representation process. Andy came to the OHSAA from Anna Local Schools, where he was superintendent between 2006 and May 2026. Kaufman is serving as director of sport administration and operations whose main duties are to assist with the sports of football, girls basketball and boys basketball and write public address scripts and create run-of-show schedules for state tournaments. He will also oversee sport site contracts along with the OHSAA's production and facilities department. He came to the OHSAA from the West Chester Lakota West High School, where he was assistant principal/athletic administrator between 2013 and May 2026.

• **Congratulations 2025-26 State Champions!**

**Fall Sports**

**Cross Country (boys)** – Beaver Creek (I); Lexington (II); Peninsula Woodridge (III); Convoy Crestview (IV)  
**Cross Country (girls)** – Gahanna Lincoln (I); Columbus Bishop Watterson (II); Dayton Oakwood (III); Toledo Ottawa Hills (IV)  
**Field Hockey** – Worthington Thomas Worthington  
**Football** – Lewis Center Olentangy Orange (I); Avon (II); Columbus Bishop Watterson (III); Cleveland Glenville (IV); Liberty Center (V); Kirtland (VI); St. Henry (VII)  
**Golf (boys)** – Dublin Jerome (I); Kettering Archbishop Alter (II); Warren John F. Kennedy (III)  
**Golf (girls)** – Dublin Jerome (I); Gahanna Columbus Academy (II)  
**Soccer (boys)** – Dublin Jerome (I); Avon (II); Columbus Bishop Watterson (III); Worthington Christian (IV); Cincinnati Summit Country Day (V)  
**Soccer (girls)** – Upper Arlington (I); Whitehouse Anthony Wayne (II); Bay Village Bay (III); Cincinnati Summit Country Day (IV); Cincinnati Madeira (V)  
**Tennis (girls)** – Soleil Cordell, Delaware Olentangy Berlin (I singles); Saavani Reddy/Adriana Moreno, Mason (I doubles); Genevieve Hayden, Pepper Pike Orange (II singles); Grier Peckham/Caroline Koch, Gates Mills Gilmour Academy (II doubles)  
**Volleyball (girls)** – Cincinnati Seton (I); Whitehouse Anthony Wayne (II); Tipp City Tippecanoe (III); Cincinnati Archbishop McNicholas (IV); Mentor Lake Catholic (V); Newark Catholic (VI); Tiffin Calvert (VII)

**Winter Sports**

**Basketball (boys)** – Cincinnati Princeton (I); Massillon Washington (II); Trotwood-Madison (III); Cincinnati Wyoming (IV); Cleveland Heights Lutheran East (V); Berlin Hiland (VI); Delphos St. John’s (VII)  
**Basketball (girls)** – Kettering Fairmont (I); Akron Archbishop Hoban (II); Dayton Chaminade-Julienne (III); Shaker Heights Laurel (IV); Portsmouth (V); Columbus Grove (VI); Strasburg-Franklin (VII)  
**Bowling (boys)** – Cincinnati St. Xavier (I); St. Henry (II)  
**Bowling (girls)** – Celina (I); Napoleon (II)  
**Gymnastics** – Brecksville-Broadview Heights  
**Ice Hockey** – Gates Mills Gilmour Academy  
**Swimming & Diving (boys)** – Columbus St. Charles (I); Hunting Valley University School (II)  
**Swimming & Diving (girls)** – Upper Arlington (I); Shaker Heights Hathaway Brown (II)  
**Wrestling (boys)** – Perrysburg (I); Columbus Bishop Watterson (II); St. Paris Graham Local (III)  
**Wrestling (girls)** – Massillon Perry

**Spring Sports**

**Baseball** – Cincinnati St. Xavier (I); New Albany (II); Hamilton Badin (III); Sandusky Perkins (IV); Apple Creek Waynedale (V); Hartsville Lake Center Christian (VI); Delphos St. John’s (VII)  
**Lacrosse (boys)** – Cincinnati St. Xavier (I); Rocky River (II)  
**Lacrosse (girls)** – Powell Olentangy Liberty (I); Columbus St. Francis DeSales (II)  
**Softball** – Hilliard Bradley (I); Kings Mills Kings (II); Carroll Bloom-Carroll (III); Springfield Kenton Ridge (IV); Wheelersburg (V); Danville (VI); Portsmouth Notre Dame (VII)  
**Tennis (boys)** – Greg Bernadsky, Mason (I singles); Carson Dwyer/Nihal Narisetty, Cincinnati St. Xavier (I doubles); Cooper Grim, Columbiana Heartland Christian Academy (II singles); Neelan Gandhi/Gareth Kurowski, Cincinnati Indian Hill (II doubles)  
**Track & Field (boys)** – Huber Heights Wayne (I); Sunbury Big Walnut and New Philadelphia (II); Cleveland Glenville (III); Castalia Margaretta (IV); Columbus Grove (V)  
**Track & Field (girls)** – Avon (I); Dayton Chaminade-Julienne (II); Dayton Oakwood (III); Beachwood (IV); Columbus Grove (V)  
**Volleyball (boys)** – Cincinnati Archbishop Moeller (I); Middletown Bishop Fenwick (II)

**REMINDERS**

• **2026-27 Sport-by-Sport and General Sports Regulations Approved by Board of Directors**

At its June 11, 2026, regularly scheduled meeting, the OHSAA Board of Directors approved changes to the OHSAA sport-by-sport regulations that will appear in the 2026-27 OHSAA Handbook after approving changes to the OHSAA General Sports Regulations that will also appear in the handbook during a special virtual meeting held May 20, 2026. The changes become effective August 1, 2026. Please check the OHSAA website ([www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org)) for these updated documents later this month and then feel free to share the links with other staff members and coaches that you believe may have an interest in them.

• **Fall Coaching Dates for Practices and Start of Season**

Sport	First Practice Date	First Contest Date	OHSAA Sport Administrator
Cross Country	Saturday, Aug. 1	Monday, Aug. 24	BJ Duckworth ( <a href="mailto:bjduckworth@ohsaa.org">bjduckworth@ohsaa.org</a> )
Field Hockey	Saturday, Aug. 1	Friday, Aug. 21	BJ Duckworth ( <a href="mailto:bjduckworth@ohsaa.org">bjduckworth@ohsaa.org</a> )
Football	Saturday, Aug. 1	Monday, Aug. 17	Beau Rugg ( <a href="mailto:brugg@ohsaa.org">brugg@ohsaa.org</a> )
Golf	Wednesday, July 29	Wednesday, July 29	Monroe Britton ( <a href="mailto:mbritton@ohsaa.org">mbritton@ohsaa.org</a> )
Soccer	Saturday, Aug. 1	Friday, Aug. 14	Kelly Schoenly ( <a href="mailto:kschoenly@ohsaa.org">kschoenly@ohsaa.org</a> )
Tennis (Girls)	Saturday, Aug. 1	Friday, Aug. 7	John Kronour ( <a href="mailto:jkronour@ohsaa.org">jkronour@ohsaa.org</a> )
Volleyball (Girls)	Saturday, Aug. 1	Monday, Aug. 17	Michael Cornathan ( <a href="mailto:mcornathan@ohsaa.org">mcornathan@ohsaa.org</a> )

## ***OHSAA and The Ohio State University LiFEsports Program Updates***

### **Coaching for Mental Health Awareness & Action: Coach Beyond Webinar**

Last month, LiFEsports at The Ohio State University and the Ohio High School Athletic Association sat down with Montee Ball (former NFL running back and founder of the Game Plan Life Foundation) and Carly Silverstein (co-founder of Sack the Stigma) to talk about mental health awareness and action in sport. Watch it here:

[https://youtube/CxCB48-X3XU?si=8D8em1Ca\\_BiMJsSy](https://youtube/CxCB48-X3XU?si=8D8em1Ca_BiMJsSy)

### **Coach Beyond Measures Impact in Hilliard Partnership**

Coach Beyond partnered with Hilliard City Schools to study the impact of training coaches and student-athletes to go beyond the X's and O's. Hear from student-athletes, Jay Smith (Hilliard Heritage athletic administrator) and researchers on how implementing Coach Beyond changed the game in Hilliard. Check it out here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wnwYIDlfZ4w>

**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.