



# Ohio High School Athletic Association

Doug Ute, Executive Director

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

## **ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE**

2023-24 School Year, No. 19

**TO:** Member Schools' Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Administrators  
**FR:** OHSAA Executive Director's Office

The following are updates and reminders for member school superintendents, principals and athletic administrators. Please share this update with other interested administrators and coaches on your staff.

### **Referendum Voting Begins Tomorrow and Continues Through May 15**

Voting begins tomorrow (Wednesday, May 1) on the 2024 OHSAA referendum issues. Member school principals have until 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 15, to vote on the six OHSAA items, all of which are Bylaw issues. 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 2024 OHSAA referendum items, go to:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/SchoolResources/refvote/2024ReferendumIssues-MarchApproved.pdf>.

As a reminder, voting is required via Constitution Article 8-1-9, although principals have the option to abstain on any issues while completing their ballot.

### **District Athletic Board Voting Also Begins Tomorrow and Continues Through May 15**

Voting also begins tomorrow (Wednesday, May 1) for OHSAA District Athletic Board positions. Member school principals have until 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 15, to vote for expiring or interim positions that are open on their respective District Athletic Boards. Principals will vote for candidates running for positions in their classification within their district only and/or any at-large positions within their district. Expiring terms (August 1, 2024-July 31, 2030) are: **Central District**-Class AAA representative (Molly Feesler, incumbent); **East District**-Class AA representative (Jeff Wheeler, incumbent); **Northeast District**-Class A representative (Bill Nye, Ph.D., incumbent); **Northwest District**-Class AA representative (Jeff Snyder, incumbent); **Southeast District**-Class AAA representative (Bo Arnett, incumbent), and **Southwest District**-Class A representative (Matt Macy, incumbent). Unexpired terms are: **Central District**-Class A representative (Lindsey Smith, 2023-24 interim), term August 1, 2024, to July 31, 2026; and 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade representative (Matt Gallatin, Ed.D., 2023-24 interim), term August 1, 2024, to July 31, 2027; **Northeast District**-7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade representative (Bill Conley, 2023-24 interim), term August 1, 2024 to July 31, 2025; and **Southeast District**-Ethnic Minority representative (Joe Turner, 2023-24 interim), term August 1, 2024 to July 31, 2025).

### **OHSAA Finance Team to Present Review of Winter Tournaments Tomorrow**

Starting at 8:30 a.m. tomorrow (Wednesday, May 1), the OHSAA finance team led by Senior Director of Finance Laura Vermilya will be hosting a virtual meeting for member school administrators to provide a financial review of the OHSAA's winter tournaments. All administrators are welcome to participate. Go here that morning to join the meeting: <https://bit.ly/OHSAAWin2324FinUp>. For questions, please contact Laura Vermilya at ([lvermilya@ohsaa.org](mailto:lvermilya@ohsaa.org)).

### **Communication Coming Soon on 2024 Soccer and Girls Volleyball and 2025 Basketball Tournament Dates**

The OHSAA Executive Director's Office is preparing communication that will be sent to athletic administrators and coaches soon on the tournament dates for girls and boys soccer and girls volleyball in 2024 and girls and boys basketball in 2025. With tournament divisions being expanded in those sports (along with baseball and softball) beginning next school year, the communication will highlight that Division I and II teams will likely be able to schedule regular season contests a week later into the season from previous years since there will be approximately 64 teams participating in those respective divisions.

### **OHSAA Board Approves Fall and Winter Tournament Representation, Division Assignments**

At its April 25 regularly scheduled meeting, the OHSAA Board of Directors approved tournament representation and/or division assignments for the 2024 fall sports, including the Competitive Balance sports of football, boys soccer, girls soccer and girls volleyball, and the 2025 winter sports, including the Competitive Balance sports of boys basketball and girls basketball. The exception was boys wrestling, which will be approved at a later date. Football division and region assignments were shared with the membership last Thursday (April 25), fall sports tournament representation and/or division assignments will be shared later today and winter sports tournament representation and/or division assignments will be shared later this week.

Tournament divisions and representation are based on the schools that competed in the tournament the previous year, and the data includes their OHSAA Board of Directors-approved tournament enrollment from the most recent cycle of the EMIS count (October 2023). While the EMIS counts are used for a two-year period, tournament representation and divisional assignments are also approved for a two-year period other than the eight Competitive Balance sports, where tournament representation and divisional assignments are revised annually.

## **Spring Sports Dates**

### **Baseball**

**Tournament Draw:** Sunday, May 5

**Sectionals:** May 11-18; **Districts:** May 20-25; **Regionals:** May 30-31; **State:** June 7-9, Akron Canal Park

**Statewide Brackets:** to come at <https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Baseball/2024-Baseball/2024-Baseball-State-Tournament-Coverage>

### **Boys Lacrosse and Girls Lacrosse**

**Tournament Draw:** Friday, May 10

**Regional Qualifying:** May 14-23; **Regional Semifinals and Finals:** May 28-31; **State Semifinals and Finals:** June 4-8 (finals June 7-8 at Historic Crew Stadium, Columbus: girls on Friday, boys on Saturday)

**Boys Statewide Brackets:** to come at <https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Lacrosse-Boys/2024-OHSAA-Boys-Lacrosse/2024-Boys-Lacrosse-Tournament-Coverage>

**Girls Statewide Brackets:** to come at <https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Lacrosse-Girls/2024-Girls-Lacrosse/2024-Girls-Lacrosse-Tournament-Coverage>

### **Softball**

**Tournament Draw:** Already Completed

**Sectionals:** May 4-11; **Districts:** May 13-18; **Regionals:** May 22-25; **State:** May 30-June 1, Akron Firestone Stadium

**Statewide Brackets:** <https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Softball/Softball-2024/2024-OHSAA-Softball-Statewide-Tournament-Brackets>

### **Boys Tennis\***

**Tournament Draw:** Already Completed

**Sectionals:** May 6-11; **Districts:** May 13-18; **State:** May 23-24, The College of Wooster

### **Track & Field\***

**Tournament Draw:** Already Completed

**Districts:** May 13-18; **Regionals:** May 22-25; **State:** May 30-June 1, Welcome Stadium, Dayton

\*Visit the respective OHSAA District Athletic Board websites for links to school tournament assignments and results:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/about/districtboards>

### **Boys Volleyball**

**Tournament Draw:** Already Completed

**Regional Qualifying:** May 4-11; **Regional Semifinals and Finals:** May 13-18; **State:** May 25-26, Wittenberg University, Springfield

**Statewide Brackets:** <https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Volleyball-Boys/Boys-Volleyball-2024/2024-OHSAA-Boys-Volleyball-State-Tournament-Coverage>

## **OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Deadline Has Passed for Student Applicants, School Counselors**

The OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Program application process is well underway, and the application timeline is below. Note that the submission deadline for student candidates has passed, as has the deadline for school counselors to submit their portion of the application(s). The OHSAA and its six District Athletic Boards annually award college scholarships to high school graduates after selections are made by each of the OHSAA's six District Athletic Boards. Last year, 169 students each received a one-time, non-renewable \$1,000 award. Here is the scholarship application timeline:

- **Wednesday, April 10, 2024** – Deadline for all student candidates to submit their applications
- **Monday, April 29, 2024** – Deadline for school counselors to submit their portion of the applications
- **Wednesday, May 1, 2024** – Spring sport addendum entry/update opens
- **Monday, June 10, 2024** – Deadline for spring sport addendums to be submitted

## **Ohio State Coach Beyond Program Offers Student-Athlete Mental Health Trainings**

The Ohio State University's Coach Beyond program has a **FREE** one-hour training session on Supporting Student-Athlete Mental Health that is approved for the new PAP requirements in Ohio. Here are the links for more information and to register: • [Northwest Ohio Trainings on May 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> at Perrysburg HS and Eastwood HS](#) • [Northeast Ohio Trainings on May 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> at Akron Administration Building](#).

**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 three 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 [LiFEsports at The Ohio State University](#), in partnership with the OHSAA, has reached this goal, training 15,000 coaches to go beyond the X's and O's! Congratulations to everyone on the state team, LiFEsports and the OHSAA. To learn more about Coach Beyond, please visit this website: <https://lifesports.osu.edu/coach-beyond/about-coach-beyond/>.

### **OHSAA Award Certificates**

The annual OHSAA Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity Awards (Archie Griffin, NFHS Award of Excellence, etc.) and other miscellaneous school awards are available through your school's *myOHSAA* account for you to print. These awards are available through June 30, 2024, on both high school and 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade school accounts. We encourage school administrators to communicate internally and follow the on-screen instructions and parameters in *myOHSAA* to select your recipients for each of these awards. Awards will print in color provided you use a color printer, and you can choose the type of paper used for the printing. Be sure to indicate any special paper used through the printing properties of your printer.

### **2024-25 Pre-Participation Physical Exam (PPE) Form Available**

The Pre-Participation Physical Exam form for the 2024-25 school year is currently available on the OHSAA website. The latest version can be accessed here: <https://www.ohsaa.org/medicine/physicalexamform>.

The 2024-25 PPE form has been authorized by the OHSAA's Joint Advisory Committee on Sports Medicine (JACSM), which last met in October and reviewed the form virtually last month. 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 is also 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 (ANP) are eligible to complete the exam and sign the form.

### **OHSAA Board Resolution for Membership Cards**

The OHSAA Constitution requires the board of education or similar governing body to adopt a resolution authorizing its schools that were members during the 2023-24 school year to continue membership for the 2024-25 school year. The OHSAA Board Resolution Card, which requires a signature from the governing body's president and superintendent/head of school, has been mailed. 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, 2024**. For questions, please contact Alexis Holderman ([aholderman@ohsaa.org](mailto:aholderman@ohsaa.org)).

Thank you for your attention to this information. Please contact us if we can be of service!