



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Doug Ute, Executive Director

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

2022-23 School Year, No. 13

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

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

Update on Team Sport Travel Stipends for OHSAA Fall Tournaments

For those administrators who reviewed the minutes from the OHSAA Board of Directors Special Virtual Meeting of December 16, 2022, there was an error in the refund amounts that were listed for travel stipends which are being provided to schools that participated in OHSAA's fall team tournaments. The correct information should be: field hockey regional finalists and regional boys/girls soccer and regional volleyball qualifiers will receive \$750/game; state field hockey, boys/girls soccer and volleyball qualifiers will receive \$1,500/game, and football regional finalists will receive \$1,500, football state semifinalists will receive \$3,000 and football state finalists will receive \$5,000. Those figures, which total approximately \$525,000, were the ones originally approved by the Board of Directors but were listed incorrectly in the December 16 special meeting minutes that were first published. On January 19, 2023, the OHSAA Board of Directors approved a revised version of those minutes. We apologize for this error and creating confusion.

OHSAA to Support Esports Ohio State Tournament

The OHSAA has announced a partnership with nonprofit organization Esports Ohio and to support and promote its annual state tournament in May. There are currently 250 schools that have teams affiliated with Esports Ohio. Esports Ohio was created by teachers and school technology and IT coordinators to enhance the fast-growing participation in electronic gaming competitions so it serves as a positive developmental option for students and to be a part of a school team. The Esports Ohio state tournament is scheduled for May 20 and 21 at the University of Akron. The trophies will be the same style as what the OHSAA uses for its 28 sanctioned sports. More information about Esports Ohio can be found at: <https://www.esportsohio.org/>.

School administrators and technology coordinators can learn more about Esports Ohio and how to get your students involved by attending a special presentation during the 2023 Ohio Educational Technology Conference. This session will be held on Tuesday, February 14, from 2:15 to 3:15 at the Short North Ballroom of the Greater Columbus Convention Center. For registration details, go to: <https://oetc.ohio.gov>.

"Participation in Esports is growing very rapidly and Esports Ohio has been a big part of making it an educational and competitive opportunity for students. The opportunity for these students to be a part of a team and represent their school is very exciting. We are excited to work with an Ohio-based organization that is made up of teachers and school people." — Doug Ute, Executive Director, OHSAA

"We are excited to partner with the OHSAA, which will allow us to continue to provide more opportunities to students. Esports Ohio and the OHSAA both share a common goal to enrich interscholastic opportunities for students. At our core, similar to OHSAA, Esports Ohio believes that participation in extracurriculars helps enhance a student's school experience and teaches lifelong lessons of accountability, hard work and teamwork. With this partnership we will be able to open more doors for more students to compete free of charge in our growing league." — Jacob Gebers, Technology Director for Napoleon Area Schools and president of the Esports Ohio Board of Directors

OHSAA Finance Team To Present Review of Fall Tournaments

On Tuesday, January 31, starting at 8:30 a.m., the OHSAA finance team led by Chief Operating Officer Kim Kiehl and Controller Laura Vermilya will be hosting a virtual meeting for member school administrators to provide a financial review of the OHSAA's fall tournaments. All administrators are welcome to participate, so please use this link (<https://www.ohsaa.org/meetings>) to register for that meeting and receive your link. The link to access the meeting will be located in the "Additional Information" section of your confirmation email. If you have any questions on connectivity, please contact OHSAA Manager of Membership Services and Compliance Ronald Sayers (rsayers@ohsaa.org).

Plan to Celebrate National Girls & Women in Sports Day on February 1

February 1, 2023, marks the 37th annual National Girls & Women in Sports Day (NGWSD). This celebration inspires girls and women to play and be active and to realize their full potential. The confidence, strength and character gained through sports participation are the very tools girls and women need to become strong leaders in sports and life. Following a year-long celebration of Title IX's 50th Anniversary in 2022, this year's event will serve as the kickoff for the next 50 years so future generations continue to provide equal access and opportunities. For resources and to find events near you, visit the Women's Sports Foundation website at: <https://www.womenssportsfoundation.org/get-involved/ngwsd/>.

OIAAA and NIAAA Offer Virtual Meetings for Athletic Administrators Interested in Quality Program Award

Athletic administrators interested in pursuing the distinguished National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) Quality Program Award are invited to attend two virtual informational meetings conducted by Randy Tevepaugh, CMAA, NIAAA QPA Mentor, and Don Bales, CMAA, NIAAA QPA Coordinator. The virtual meetings will be conducted on **Wednesday, February 8, starting at 9:00 a.m.**, and **Sunday, February 26, starting at 7:30 p.m.** Those administrators interested in participating should contact Randy Tevepaugh at rtevepaugh@scsrockets.org. An email notification will be sent prior to the meeting time(s) detailing pertinent information regarding participation.

The Bruce Brown Award of Excellence will be awarded to those administrators and school districts achieving this level of professional development from the Ohio Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (OIAAA). Additionally, a national recognition will be made at the National Athletic Directors Conference in December of each year.

State Basketball Tournaments Ticketing Information

Superintendents, principals, athletic administrators and head girls and boys basketball coaches will be sent information early next week about the digital ticketing purchase process for the state girls and boys basketball tournaments. The ticket window for schools will open Thursday, February 2, at 10 a.m. That process has replaced the paper forms schools were sent in the past and is being handled by our digital ticketing partner, HomeTown Ticketing.

Each OHSAA member school will have access to purchase up to eight (8) all-session tickets for the girls tournament AND eight (8) all-session tickets for the boys tournament before tickets are available to the public. Those eight tickets can be located together. Each school will be provided with one presale code for the girls tournament and a separate one for the boys tournament. Purchasers have the opportunity to click on and select their seats from a seat map of the University of Dayton Arena. All-session ticket sales will be valid through Friday, March 3, or until your school's presale code has been used to purchase your eight (8) all-session tickets. All-session tickets will be available to the public starting Monday, February 6, at 10:00 a.m.

The 2023 girls state basketball tournament is Thursday through Saturday, March 9-11, while the boys state basketball tournament is Friday through Sunday, March 17-19. For more questions, including the steps to claim tickets contact OHSAA Customer Experience Manager, Claire Duesdieker Keohane, at claired@ohsaa.org.

Schools Can View the OHSAA Foundation Student Leadership Conference

In conjunction with the Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center, the Ohio High School Athletic Association Foundation Student Leadership Conference was held in November, and administrators are welcome to gather school groups to view the presentation beginning Monday, January 16, at: <https://mjvirtualevents.com/ohsaa/mid-oh-slc>. The presentation lasts approximately two hours and will be available for viewing through February 17, 2023. The theme of the leadership conference is "Leave a Legacy – Be the Voice of Change," and features four highly acclaimed speakers in **Harvey Alston**, opening keynote speaker: "Be the Voice," followed by **Deb Hult**: "Creating Actions," **Omari Pearson**: "Creating a Shared Vision" and **Jason Michaels**: "Overcoming Difficulties." Note that to view the conference, simply click on the link above (no passwords are needed and there is no cost).

New Safety Innovation Grants Available Through Ohio Attorney General's Office

Over \$11.7 million in safety grants is available to Ohio schools through Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost's office for the 2023-24 school year. Included will be a limited number of 'innovation grants' of up to \$20,000 that will be awarded for technology that links schools with law enforcement agencies for improved safety, crime prevention and response. The new innovation grants can be used for one building or multiple buildings within a district. The money is expected to be used for crisis-response technology designed to alert law enforcement of potential safety breaches on school property. In addition, Ohio schools are eligible for safety grants of \$2,500 or \$5.50 per student, whichever amount is greater. The funding is intended to give school leaders flexibility in determining how best to improve student safety. Public schools, charter schools, educational service centers, STEM schools and schools operated by county boards of developmental disabilities can apply for the grant funding, which comes from House Bill 110. Applications may be submitted via the [Ohio Grants Portal](#) (Please select funding opportunities, then select Ohio Attorney General's FY22 School Safety Grant). There is a separate application for each type of grant opportunity. Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. on February 28, 2023. For questions, go to: SchoolSafetyGrants@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.

Schools Should Plan Ahead for Special Presentations During Contests

The OHSAA has been receiving feedback from administrators and coaches who are concerned when contests are halted to commemorate a special accomplishment by a student-athlete. While no prohibitions are in place, administrators and coaches are asked to use common courtesy when conducting such recognitions. It is suggested that a simple public address announcement be read when circumstances are warranted and that, rather than stopping a contest, in-person recognitions be held either after the game or prior to an upcoming home contest. Whatever you choose to do, please have prior conversations with your opponent so that no unexpected or awkward situations occur.

Mandatory Winter and Spring Sports Online Rules Meetings Requirements

Please remind your coaches that all OHSAA sports have a mandatory on-line rules meeting requirement. These are required in order for your school to participate in the OHSAA tournament for that specific sport and participation must be by either the varsity head coach, varsity assistant coach or athletic administrator. Winter sports rules meetings have been posted in *myOHSAA*, and details are sent from the OHSAA Sport Management team to coaches. Here is the schedule for winter 2023 sports:

Sport	Start Date	Late Fee Begins	End Date	OHSAA Credit Coordinator for Coaches
Basketball	Deadline has passed	Deadline has passed	Deadline has passed	Doug Ute (dute@ohsaa.org)
Wrestling	Meeting now available	Late fee now required	Mon., Feb. 6 at 11:59 pm	Beau Rugg (brugg@ohsaa.org)
Swim/Dive	Deadline has passed	Deadline has passed	Deadline has passed	Kate Barnett (kbarnett@ohsaa.org)
Ice Hockey	Meeting now available	Late fee now required	Fri., Feb. 3 at 11:59 PM	Dustin Ware (dware@ohsaa.org)
Gymnastics	Meeting now available	Late fee now required	Mon., Jan. 30 at 11:59 PM	Kate Barnett (kbarnett@ohsaa.org)
Bowling	Deadline has passed	Deadline has passed	Deadline has passed	Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org)

Here is the schedule for spring 2023 sports:

Sport	Start Date	Late Fee Begins	End Date	OHSAA Credit Coordinator for Coaches
Baseball	Wed., Feb. 8 at 9:00 AM	Sun., Mar. 26	Mon., May 1 at 11:59 PM	Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org)
Lacrosse (B)	Thur., Feb. 9 at 9:00 AM	Sat., Mar. 18	Mon., May 1 at 11:59 PM	Beau Rugg (brugg@ohsaa.org)
Lacrosse (G)	Thur., Feb. 9 at 9:00 AM	Sat., Mar. 18	Mon., May 1 at 11:59 PM	Beau Rugg (brugg@ohsaa.org)
Softball	Wed., Feb. 8 at 9:00 AM	Sun., Mar. 26	Mon., Apr. 24 at 11:59 PM	Kate Barnett (kbarnett@ohsaa.org)
Tennis (B)	Wed., Feb. 8 at 9:00 AM	Sat., Mar. 25	Mon., Apr. 24 at 11:59 PM	Dustin Ware (dware@ohsaa.org)
Track & Field	Thur., Feb. 9 at 9:00 AM	Sun., Mar. 26	Mon., Apr. 24 at 11:59 PM	Dustin Ware (dware@ohsaa.org)
Volleyball (B)	Wed., Jan. 25 at 9:00 AM	Sat., Mar. 11	Mon., Apr. 24 at 11:59 PM	Emily Mason (emason@ohsaa.org)
Late Fee Begins	Day after first date of competition			
End Date	The "End Date" is the same as the tournament entry/withdraw deadline date.			

For information published in the January 10, 2023, OHSAA Administrator Update, please go to:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/BulletinBoard/AdministratorUpdateJanuary10,2023.pdf>

For additional information published in past OHSAA Administrator Updates during the 2022-23 school year, please see page 3 of the November 29 edition at:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/BulletinBoard/11292022AdministratorUpdate.pdf>

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