



OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, Ohio 43214

Phone: 614-267-2502 • Fax: 614-267-1677 • www.ohsaa.org

TO: Member JH Principals, ADs, Assistant ADs and Athletic Secretaries

RE: December 2019 Junior High Membership Update

Happy December! Hopefully you have had a great school year so far!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the OHSA 7th and 8th Grade Cross Country Invitational on October 19! Invoices have been mailed and **payment was due by November 30**. If you have not received an invoice, please contact Brenda Murray (bmurray@ohsaa.org) or Ronald Sayers (rsayers@ohsaa.org) to get a new one mailed to you as soon as possible.

JUNIOR HIGH TRACK AND FIELD TOURNAMENT ENTRY

Currently, the OHSA offers a state tournament for 7th-8th grade track and field. Therefore, if your school offers track and field, please review your school's Tournament Entry for the 2019-20 State Track and Field tournament. **We recommend that you set tournament entry to YES for both boys and girls TODAY.** Unlike the high school tournaments, there is NO penalty for non-participation in this tournament. However, there is NO LATE ENTRY into this tournament. After **March 28, 2020**, only those schools with YES for tournament entry will be eligible to participate.

PRE-SEASON PARENT MEETINGS – WINTER SPORTS

Don't forget to enter the date(s) of your Pre-Season Parent Meetings on your school's myOHSA account. Meetings for grades 9-12 are to be recorded on the high school's myOHSA account, while 7th and 8th grade meetings are recorded in the 7th & 8th grade school's myOHSA account. If one meeting was held for all grades, the date must be recorded on both accounts.

Bylaw 3-1-4 requires the meeting date(s) to be entered in myOHSA by a school administrator. Please login to your school's myOHSA account today and click the Pre-Season Parent Meeting link to view or enter your meeting dates.

Schools that fail to enter their pre-season parent meetings are subject to a \$500 penalty per sport season. Schools that are subject to this penalty for the 2019 fall sports season will be invoiced on December 1. Therefore, make sure your meetings have been entered in myOHSA to avoid this penalty.

REMINDER - BYLAW 1-6-4 EXCEPTION – MULTI-SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Member schools containing grades 7 and 8 may combine students from two or more schools within the school district/system to form one or more interscholastic team in a sport provided all requirements have been met. **Requests for permission to combine students from two or**

more schools in the same public district or non-public system must be submitted prior to the beginning of each sports season using the form located on the OHSAA's [Eligibility page](#) at [ohsaa.org](#). The form must be completed by the superintendent or head of the public district or non-public system. The OHSAA sent superintendents instructions to apply for this exception in August. Please ensure your school is in compliance with Bylaw 1-6-4 and has received approval to combine students from more than one school if applicable. Contact Debbie Moore (dmoore@ohsaa.org) if you need assistance or have further questions.

JUNIOR HIGH PARTICIPATION AND PHILOSOPHY

The OHSAA fully believes the purpose of seventh and eighth grade education-based athletics is to provide rich and wholesome activities for as many students as possible who meet the eligibility standards that have been approved by OHSAA members schools. While our regulations allow districts to develop their own rules, regulations and policies regarding team selection and participation, we believe each school and coach should make every effort to provide an opportunity for participation for all eligible students wanting to be involved in a sport.

The junior high level is where fundamental skills necessary for further growth and improvement in their respective sports are instilled. Junior high athletic participation is where school pride and a desire to compete at a higher level grows exponentially. We ask that you continue your work in growing your programs, using the philosophy above to provide more opportunities and foster school pride, a desire to compete and a love of the sport through junior high athletics.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Our November memo is included below with several other important links and communications that have gone out recently:

[myOHSAA Monthly Checklist](#)

[November Membership Update – Junior High Schools](#)

August Administrator Workshop Videos

- [Morning Session](#)
- [Afternoon Session](#)

[ArbiterSports Resource Center](#)

As always, the OHSAA Membership Services team is here to serve you. Please contact us with any questions.

OHSAA Membership Services Team:

Brenda Murray - Director of Membership Services

Email: bmurray@ohsaa.org, P: 614-267-2502 Ext. 120, Direct Line: 614-549-6989

Ronald Sayers – Assistant Director of Membership Services

Email: rsayers@ohsaa.org, P: 614-267-2502 Ext. 130, Direct Line: 614-549-6969

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Date	Description
March 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deadline to change tournament entry for the JH State Track and Field Meet