

COMPLIANCE UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2022

BYLAW 4-4-1, SCHOLARSHIP

As most schools begin the second quarter of the school year, please be sure to double check the schedules of student-athletes (especially those who did not compete in a fall sport) to ensure they are enrolled in 5 one-credit courses, or the equivalent, at the high school level, or 4 classes for the 7th & 8th grade levels, for this second quarter. Far too often do we see students lose eligibility for simply not having enough classes on their schedule. This is especially true for students in CCP courses who may have taken a 6- or 8-week course to begin the school year, but now have an open slot due to that course concluding. Additional guidance regarding the OHSAA Scholarship Bylaw can be found here: <u>https://www.ohsaa.org/Eligibility/Scholarship</u>

BYLAW 4-7-3 - MID-SEASON TRANSFER

As we begin winter sports season, please make note of any student who transfers into your school after the start of the regular season. If they have participated in a winter sport <u>regular season contest</u> at their previous school during this 2022-23 winter sports season, they will not be permitted to resume participation at your school in that same winter sport. This is prohibited within Bylaw 4-7-3. There are two, very narrow exceptions to this bylaw that involve a bona fide change of address and a change of custody. You can review the requirements of those exceptions, along with the full guidance surrounding this bylaw, here: https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Eligibility/4-7-3TransferDuringSeason.pdf

FALL COMPETITIVE BALANCE

On October 10, 2022, the fall competitive balance entry period opened for the sports football, boys and girls soccer, and girls volleyball. Schools have until December 16, 2022, to submit data for these sports. Please keep an eye out for emails from Alexis Holderman in our office regarding the entry of this data. For information on how to tier students or utilize the ArbiterGame system to enter data, please visit the Competitive Balance Resource Center on our website: <u>https://www.ohsaa.org/School-Resources/Competitive-Balance-Resource-Center</u>

As a reminder, the data provided during the entry period will be utilized to develop divisional alignments and representation for the applicable sports for the 2023-24 fall sports season. These items will be reviewed and voted on by the OHSAA Board of Directors later in the school year.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Please take a moment to ensure all your International students are either 1) living in Ohio with a parent or 2) have been approved for eligibility under an Exception to Bylaw 4-8-1. The most common situations under this bylaw are students in Ohio on a J-1 Visa (Exception 1), or those here on an F-1 Visa (Exception 3). The forms for each of these respective exceptions can be located at this link: <u>https://www.ohsaa.org/Eligibility/International</u> International students in Ohio without a parent should not be participating in sports until they receive a ruling from our office.

REFERENDUM ITEMS

The Executive Director's Office recently presented several proposals to the OHSAA Board of Directors for consideration regarding the annual referendum vote. The Office anticipates the Board will vote on whether to place these items on the ballot during the December 2022 Board of Directors Meeting. The proposed language of any item that is approved to be placed on the ballot for a membership vote will be available to review here: https://www.ohsaa.org/School-Resources/referendum-voting. Results from prior years' referendum items can be found on the same web page.

As a reminder, OHSAA member school principals vote on proposals to change the OHSAA Constitution or OHSAA Bylaws. A simple majority vote in favor of a particular item is required for a proposal to go into effect. This vote takes place from May 1 to May 15. The OHSAA will conduct six regional meetings to review the proposals that will appear on the ballot. More information on the referendum process and these meetings will be provided later in the year.

If your school has any interest in potentially placing an issue up for a vote, please contact the Compliance staff to discuss your options. Our staff is committed to making these rules be reflective of what the membership desires! We look forward to working with any interested party in that regard.

<u>Remaining fall state</u> Tournaments

Boys Soccer:

- <u>Semifinals</u> Nov. 9
- <u>State Finals</u> Nov. 12

Girls Soccer:

- <u>Semifinals</u> Nov. 8
- <u>State Finals</u> Nov. 11

Girls Volleyball:

- <u>State Tournament</u> – Nov. 10-12

Football:

- <u>Semifinals</u> Nov. 25-26
- State Finals Dec. 1-3

CONTACT US

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AVAILABLE RESOURCES

Be sure to bookmark this page https://www.ohsaa.org/Eligibility which will take you to all the guidance documents and videos which support eligibility.