

To: OPSWA Members
From: Tim Stried
Re: Member Updates and Zoom Meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 15, 11:00 AM

August 31, 2021

Ohio Prep Sportswriters Association Memo

Greetings OPSWA members and thank you for your coverage of high school sports. Please see below for several updates.

Member Meeting on Zoom, Wednesday, Sept. 15, at 11:00 AM

OPSWA members are invited to join a live zoom update meeting on Wednesday, September 15, at 11:00 AM. If you are available to join the meeting, please RSVP to Tim Stried at tstried@ohsaa.org to receive the meeting link. Topics discussed will be the football all-district and All-Ohio voting procedure, the annual writing and photography contest, officer elections coming in April 2022, and more.

OPSWA Membership List

Updates are needed to the OPSWA membership list. Please check the district membership lists, and if you are aware of any edits, please email Tim Stried at tstried@ohsaa.org. The lists are posted at: <https://www.ohsaa.org/news/OPSWA/membership>. The goal is that OPSWA members utilize the list to communicate with other members for such things as exchanging information on out-of-area opponents, facility details, etc.

OPSWA Officers and Website

OPSWA officers were elected at the statewide meeting in April 2019 and their terms expire in April 2022. An in-person OPSWA meeting is expected to happen in mid-April 2022, at which officer elections will take place. Any OPSWA members who are interested in being an officer should contact Tim Stried. OPSWA officers select the Hall of Fame, vote for All-Ohio teams, assist with the annual contest and other duties.

President: Eric Frantz, MaxPreps and Dayton Daily News

Vice President: Scott Halasz, Xenia Daily Gazette

Vice President: John Cummings, Miami Valley Newspapers

Vice President: Greg Shoemaker, TriStateFootball.com

Website: <https://www.ohsaa.org/news/OPSWA>

OPSWA Members Encouraged to Join All-District Voting Process

Since 2017, the OPSWA has coordinated the All-District and All-Ohio teams in football and basketball. All OPSWA members are encouraged to be a part of the selection process for the all-district teams in football and basketball. The All-Ohio teams are based on the work and nominations of the district committees. Please contact your district chairperson to be a part of the process.

Northeast Lakes: John Kampf, Willoughby News-Herald

Northeast Inland: Chris Beaven, Canton Repository

Northwest: Mark Hazelwood, Sandusky Register

Southeast: Paul Boggs, Portsmouth Daily Times

East: Jeff Harrison, Caldwell Journal-Leader

Central: Steve Blackledge, retired from Columbus Dispatch

Southwest: Eric Frantz, Dayton Daily News and MaxPreps.com; John Cummings, Miami Valley Newspapers; Greg Shoemaker, TriStateFootball.com

Annual Writing and Photography Contest

Congratulations to all the award winners in the 2020 OPSWA Writing and Photography Contest and thanks to everyone who entered the contest and judged. The contest continues to be the only funding source for the OPSWA. It is hoped that there will be an increase in entries for next year's contest. More details will be discussed at the member meeting Sept. 15. The 2020 award winners are posted at: <https://www.ohsaa.org/news-media/articles/ohio-prep-sportswriters-association-contest-award-winners>

Hall of Fame

The 2020 induction class for the OPSWA Hall of Fame includes Craig Dunn (Logan), Mark Huber (Wilmington), and the late Pat Galbincea (Cleveland Plain Dealer). The Hall of Fame ceremony has not yet taken place due to the cancellation of the 2020 basketball state tournaments and the restrictions on the 2021 basketball state tournaments. We are hopeful to have the induction ceremony at the 2022 boys basketball state tournament. OPSWA members can submit nominations to the OPSWA Hall of Fame by contacting an officer or Tim Stried.

The complete OPSWA Hall of Fame list is posted at: <https://www.ohsaa.org/news/OPSWA/HOF>

OPSWA ID Badges Available

The OHSAA produces ID badges for OPSWA members that include the member's photo and the media outlet logo. Any OPSWA member that wants a new ID badge should email their headshot and media outlet logo, if desired to Tim Stried. There is no cost for the ID badge and a green OHSAA lanyard is included.

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