

July 11, 2022

Ohio Prep Sportswriters Association Updates

Greetings from the Ohio Prep Sportswriters Association and the Ohio High School Athletic Association. The upcoming 2022-23 school year will include several changes for the OPSWA. There will be an important member meeting on Tuesday, July 26, at 11 a.m. at the OHSAA office. Please see below for details on the July 26 meeting and other updates.

OPSWA Member Meeting Tuesday, July 26

There will be an in-person OPSWA member meeting at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, July 26 at the OHSAA office in Columbus. Lunch will be provided. In the first hour, the OPSWA officers will discuss several changes and points of emphasis during the upcoming school year. After lunch, OHSAA Executive Director Doug Ute will hold a Q&A session with the membership.

Please RSVP to Tim Stried by July 24 so we have an accurate count for lunch.

Agenda for OPSWA Member Meeting, July 26, 11 a.m.

1. Officer comments
2. Writing and photographer contest overview and presentation of 2021 and 2022 Writers of the Year
3. Updates and timing for football and basketball all-district teams
4. Updates and timing for Mr. Football and Ms./Mr. Basketball Awards
5. Updates on Associated Press weekly polls
6. Lunch
7. OPSWA Hall of Fame overview
8. Q&A with OHSAA Executive Director Doug Ute

OPSWA Membership List

Please check the OPSWA district membership lists. If you are aware of any edits, please notify Tim Stried at tstried@ohsaa.org. The membership 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.

2021 OPSWA Contest Results

On May 12, the results of the 2021 OPSWA writing and photography contest were announced. Results are posted at: <https://www.ohsaa.org/news-media/articles/ohio-prep-sportswriters-association-contest-award-winners-1>

OPSWA Officers

Ohio Prep Sportswriters Association members conducted officer voting in April. Congratulations to the following four individuals who were elected to a two-year term from May 1, 2022 through April 30, 2024:

President: Eric Frantz, MaxPreps.com
Vice President: John Kampf, Willoughby News Herald
Vice President: Tom Wilson, Lancaster Eagle-Gazette
Vice President: Jake Furr, Mansfield News Journal

Please don't hesitate to reach out to the officers with any OPSWA suggestions or issues. OPSWA officers select the Hall of Fame (members nominate potential honorees), vote for All-Ohio teams (with the district chairmen, listed below), determine any changes to OPSWA procedures, etc. Thank you to all members who were on the officer ballot. They have all committed to remaining involved with OPSWA work.

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: Matt Goul, Cleveland.com

Northeast Inland: Chris Beaven, Canton Repository

Northwest: Mark Hazelwood, Norwalk Reflector

Southeast: Paul Boggs, Portsmouth Daily Times

East: Jeff Harrison, Caldwell Journal-Leader

Central: Steve Blackledge, PressProsMagazine.com, retired from Columbus Dispatch

Southwest: Football – Greg Shoemaker, TriStateFootball.com and John Cummings, Miami Valley Newspapers;
Basketball – John Cummings, Miami Valley Newspapers and Scott Halasz, Xenia Daily Gazette

Hall of Fame

The 2020 induction class for the OPSWA Hall of Fame was honored at the 2022 boys basketball state tournament. They include Craig Dunn (Logan), Mark Huber (Wilmington), and the late Pat Galbincea (Cleveland Plain Dealer). The Hall of Fame ceremony did not take place in 2020 or 2021 due to the pandemic.

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 their media outlet logo(s). 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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