

To: Ohio Prep Sportswriters Association Members
From: Tim Stried, OHSAA Director of Media Relations
Re: Officer Voting and Other Updates

May 4, 2022

Ohio Prep Sportswriters Association Officers Announced

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 can 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 Officers

President: Eric Frantz, MaxPreps.com

Has served on the OPSWA Board (current President) since the organization was resurrected in 2013. Employed as a state partnership manager and senior writer for MaxPreps.com. Previously served as an editor/writer at JHuddle.com, the Lancaster Eagle-Gazette and the Centerville-Bellbrook Times. Has freelanced for the Dayton Daily News since 2003.

Vice President: John Kampf, Willoughby News Herald

I've been a sports writer in Northeastern Ohio since graduating from Ohio State in 1991, including six years at the Ashtabula Star Beacon and 20 at The News-Herald in Willoughby. I was the district chairman of the Northeast Lakes District from 2010-2022. Among the awards I've been blessed with are the National Football Foundation's Ohio Writer of the Year in 2017, Wrestling Media Service Award in 2019 and Ashtabula County Basketball Hall of Fame in 2018.

Vice President: Tom Wilson, Lancaster Eagle-Gazette

I have been with the Lancaster Eagle-Gazette since 2013 and before that, I was at the Newark Advocate from 2007-2013. I was also the Sports Editor at the Mount Vernon News from 1990-1999. I have been a part of the Central District football and basketball board for more than 20 years. It would be an honor to help the Ohio Prep Sportswriters Association grow and have an even stronger presence around the state with new and fresh ideas as we move forward. I would like to be considered for a spot in the OPSWA Board of Officers. Thank you for your consideration.

Vice President: Jake Furr, Mansfield News Journal

I have been with the Mansfield News Journal since 2018 with previous stops in Bucyrus and Norwalk from 2015-2018. I have been a part of the Northwest District football and basketball board for the last four years. I would like to be considered for a spot on the OPSWA Board of Officers to help grow the organization's presence in the state as well as hopefully bring some fresh and new ideas to how to move forward.

Annual Writing and Photography Contest Results Announced May 12

Results of the annual OPSWA writing and photography contest will be announced May 12. The contest included articles and photos about Ohio high school sports published in print or online between Jan. 1, 2021 and Dec. 31, 2021.

The OPSWA needs more members entering the contest, so please enter the 2022 contest next year to support the OPSWA. The cost is \$15 per person to enter the contest, which is the OPSWA's only source of funding. Members serve as judges in the contest, while the OHSAA coordinates the judges packets, tabulating results, etc.

OPSWA Member Meeting

We are planning for an in-person OPSWA member meeting on Thursday, July 28, 2022 at the OHSAA office. The last two in-person meetings were cancelled due to the pandemic.

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 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.

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, Norwalk Reflector

Southeast: Paul Boggs, Portsmouth Daily Times

East: Jeff Harrison, Caldwell Journal-Leader

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

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

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.

Tim Stried

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