

DATE: September 5, 2023

TO: All Track & Field / Cross Country Officials

FROM: BJ Duckworth

Assistant Sport Administrator & Director of Officiating Development  
OHSAA Track & Field and Cross Country



RE: September In-Season Update

### Video Update

Click [HERE](#) to view a brief video update.

### Virtual Local Meeting

This year's virtual local meeting has been posted to MyOHSAA; please refer to the email sent to you on September 1 for more information. This meeting will be posted until September 12, and credit will be posted by the 15<sup>th</sup>. **I encourage you to view this educational video regardless of whether you need a local meeting or not for eligibility/permit renewal.** This meeting reviews the proper cross country start, heat illness and several of the most common cross-country situations.

### 2023 Cross Country Tournament Assignments

This year's Cross Country Tournament Assignments can be found [HERE](#). **Congratulations to those officials selected** by the OHSAA for the Early Season Invitational, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Invitational, Key 9 Positions for Regionals and 2023 Cross Country State Championship.

The cross country tournament assignment and selection process was updated in June 2022 based on the feedback from the assignment task force. The full policy is posted [HERE](#). I encourage you to take a few minutes to view a video detailing the new policy by clicking [HERE](#). If you have questions please let me know.

### 2023 Officials Education Survey

Please take five minutes to complete a brief survey to help me provide you with better educational material in 2024; I want to know what you think we need to focus on. The survey can be completely confidential if you choose. Click the below link to view and complete the survey. <https://forms.gle/XmNRCkooNiraq8Db7>

### Out of The Office

I will be out of the office without any phone or email access from September 14 to 18 and from September 30 to October 7. If you need immediate assistance with a rules issue during that time, please contact Bob Meuleman at [bob@meuleman.us](mailto:bob@meuleman.us); if you need immediate assistance with a sports administration issue, please contact Dustin Ware at [Dware@ohsaa.org](mailto:Dware@ohsaa.org). I will respond to all other messages upon each return.

### Dustin Ware

As some of you may be aware, Dustin, our sport administrator, has been suffering from debilitating back issues since the spring; these issues forced him to miss the track state championship. He will undergo surgery to repair the issue on September 20 and then will be taking some time off and then working remotely. If you wish to send him a card of support or well wishes, you may send them to the below address.

Dustin Ware | 4080 Roselea Place | Columbus OH 43214

## 2023 OHSAA Cross Country Officials Manual

The 2023 OHSAA Cross Country Officials Manual is available by clicking [HERE](#). Please make sure you review this document as you would the NFHS Rule Book and have the manual available in either paper or electronic form when officiating. If you have a smartphone, you can bookmark the link or save the document to your files/cloud.

## OT&F&CCOA Officers Needed

The OT&F&CCOA will be holding elections for president-elect and trustee at the clinic in January. If you are interested in either position, please email Mariah Hohman at [hohmanmi@gmail.com](mailto:hohmanmi@gmail.com). For more information on the responsibilities of these positions, click [HERE](#) and then click on "Responsibilities."

## DragonFly Updates

- Many people have been reaching out to me asking for technical support on using the platform. The best resource for technical help is the link below to their support page. This support page also has a link to contact them, as well as other self-paced help resources.  
<https://www.dragonflymax.com/contact-us>
- One common request is that Dragon Fly not send you an email each time someone accepts a contract for your event. There is no way to adjust this setting currently; however, I encourage you to reach out to DragonFly to let them know you want them to add the feature in the future. I have already passed along that request on my end.
- One of the things that people have been upset about is the \$5 charge you receive to withdraw money. This fee ONLY applies if you withdraw money more than four times in a calendar month. My recommendation is that you withdraw your money once a month or bi-weekly (twice a month) to avoid any charges. Each transfer will take 3-5 days to show in your designated account. This will not only save you from paying the fee for excessive transfers, but it also will save you time from going in after every meet to transfer your money
- As a reminder, effective with this cross-country season, all assignments made by the OHSAA will be done through this system. Schools and leagues will each continue to have discretion in determining what system they use for assignments. If you have not set up your account, you WILL NOT be able to be assigned to a tournament.
- As was the case with Arbiter, schools are NOT required to use DragonFly for assigning their regular season contests. A local school or assigner may use any means they wish to assign and pay officials, including the continued use of Arbiter.

## OHSAA 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Cross Country Invitational

Registration is open for the 2023 OHSAA 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Cross Country Invitational; this is the **ONLY** OHSAA-sponsored post-season event for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade cross country. Registration is open until October 12 and can be completed via the link below. Please share this information with any 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade coaches you know.

<https://www.ohsaa.org/sports/cc>

## Reminders From Previous Updates

Click [HERE](#) to view the August Update

**Thank you for all you do for our student-athletes.**

**BJ Duckworth**

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