



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Cross Country Tournament Officials Assignment & Selection Policy

Effective 2022 Cross Country Season

Regional Officiating Assignments & Selection

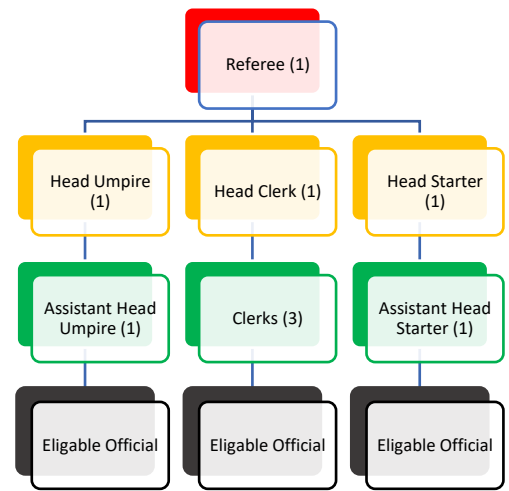
- 1) All officials assigned to the regional tournament must meet all eligibility criteria set for by the OHSAA in the Officials Handbook that be found on the OHSAA website. Waivers of eligibility can be granted by the DOD or OHSAA staff at their discretion.
- 2) The OHSAA will assign the following nine (9) positions to each regional location known as the “Nine Key Positions”:
 - One (1) Referee
 - One (1) Starter
 - One (1) Assistant Starter*
 - One (1) Head Umpire
 - One (1) Assistant Head Umpire*
 - One (1) Head Clerk
 - Three (3) Clerks

* Indicates new position as of the 2022 season
- 3) Local meet managers will be responsible for assignment of all additional officials at their meet per their own guidelines, provided they meet the requirements as stated above.
- 4) Selection of officials in each of these positions will be made utilizing evaluations on file, observations made by the DOD or other OHSAA staff, as well as the discretion of the assigner.
- 5) Officials assigned to the nine key positions will remain in their position until one of the below:
 - a. They are elevated to the next position in the linear progression (see chart below).
 - b. They are rotated out of their position to fill an open position at the state tournament.
 - i. Officials rotated out of their position to take a state meet position will be eligible to officiate in a meet manager assigned position immediately for the regional tournament.
 - c. Based on evaluations and observations are found to not be performing their assignments at the high level expected of this level of tournament.

Note: Please see more information on how officials will rotate from their regional nine key position to the state meet in the state meet section of this document.

- 6) Assignments will follow the linear progression for advancement in the regional tournaments. The chart to the right details the progression.
- Green is the first level of assignment to one of the nine key positions.
 - Orange is the second level of assignment to one of the nine key positions.
 - Red is the highest level of assignment to one of the nine key positions.

Note: Eligible Official for the purpose of this document is defined as an official who is eligible to officiate but has not yet been assigned to one of the nine key positions.



- 7) When the position of Referee is open at a regional location, those currently serving in positions in the orange level are eligible for advancement to the red level (Referee). That decision will be made using evaluations and observations and will be at the discretion of the DOD or other OHSAA staff.
- 8) When a position in the orange level is open the official serving in the green level will become eligible for advancement to that level. That decision will be made using evaluations and observations and will be at the discretion of the DOD or other OHSAA staff.
- 9) When a position in the green level is open, those positions will be filled by an eligible official. That decision will be made using evaluations and observations and will be at the discretion of the DOD or other OHSAA staff.

Cross Country State Meet Assignments & Selection

- All officials assigned to the state meet must meet all eligibility criteria set for by the OHSAA in the Officials Handbook that be found on the OHSAA website. Waivers of eligibility can be granted by the DOD or OHSAA staff at their discretion.
- Assignments to the state meet will be made based on the representation of the overall number of registered officials in each athletic district.
- Officials will sit out four (4) years before being eligible for re-assignment to the state meet. Exception: An official receiving an assignment to a higher-level position based on a regional to state meet progression. (Ex. Umpire being moved to Clerk after 4 years as umpire based on being the next in rotation from their regional Head Clerk position)
- The OHSAA will assign the following positions to the state tournament and each will serve in their role for the number of years indicated. No positions will be lifetime assignments:
 - One (1) Referee | 2 Years
 - One (1) Starter, who will also umpire | 2 Years
 - One (1) Assistant Starter, who will also umpire | 2 Years*
 - One (1) Head Umpire | 2 Years
 - One (1) Assistant Head Umpire | 2 Years*
 - One (1) Head Clerk | 1 Year
 - Three (3) Clerks | 3 Years
 - Twenty-Three (23) Umpires | 4 Years
 - Four (4) Marshalls | 4 Years*

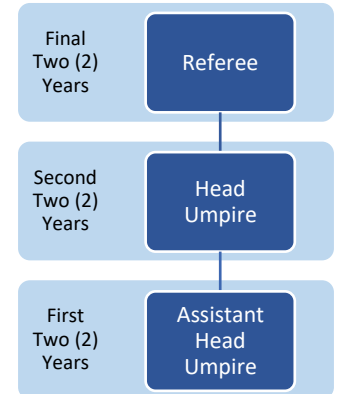
* Indicates new position as of the 2022 season

5) The OHSAA will hire the following to non-officiating positions. These positions will be chosen by the OHSAA in conjunction with meet management. These positions will not be listed in the tournament questionnaire and are not subject to rotation:

- 2 Announcers
- 1 Lead Cart Driver

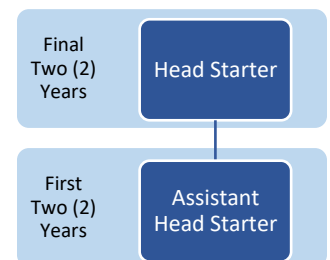
6) Officials assigned to the positions of Referee, Head Umpire & Assistant Head Umpire will serve two (2) years in each role progressively per the chart to the right.

- a. Officials assigned to the position of Assistant Head Umpire will come from those who have been assigned as Referee at regional tournament level.
- b. Officials will be chosen for elevation from the regional level based on evaluations and observations and will be at the discretion of the DOD or other OHSAA staff.
- c. Every effort for equitable rotation between the four regions will be made; however, the best eligible official will be selected.



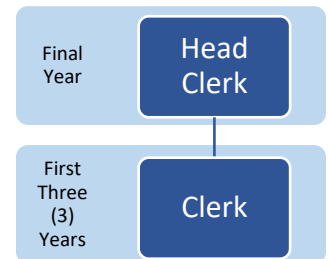
7) Officials assigned the positions of Assistant Starter & Head Starter will serve two (2) years in each role progressively per the chart to the right.

- a. Officials assigned to the position of Assistant Starter will come from those who have been assigned as Head Starter at regional tournament level.
- b. Officials will be chosen for elevation from the regional level based on evaluations and observations and will be at the discretion of the DOD or other OHSAA staff.
- c. Every effort for equitable rotation between the four regions will be made; however, the best eligible official will be selected.



8) Officials assigned to the position of Clerk will serve in this role for three (3) years and will serve their final year as Head Clerk.

- a. Officials assigned to the position of Clerk will come from those who have been assigned as Head Clerk at regional tournament level.
- b. Officials will be chosen for elevation from the regional level based on evaluations and observations and will be at the discretion of the DOD or other OHSAA staff.
- c. Every effort for equitable rotation between the four regions will be made; however, the best eligible official will be selected.



9) Officials assigned as Umpires or Marshalls will be assigned based on evaluations and observations, and will be at the discretion of the DOD or other OHSAA staff. Those filling these roles do not need to have had served as an umpire the year of assignment or year prior. Both Umpires and Marshalls will come from the list of officials who have selected Umpire in the tournament questionnaire.

Special thanks to the Ohio Track & Field and Cross Country Officials Association as well as the Assignment Taskforce.

