

DATE: February 7, 2023

TO: All Track & Field / Cross Country Officials

FROM: BJ (William) Duckworth
Director of Officiating Development & State Rules Interpreter
Track & Field and Cross Country



RE: Track Assignment Policy Announcement, Name Badge Orders & February Update

Track & Field Assignment & Rotation Policy

In November 2021, a taskforce was assembled to review the current processes used and make recommendations for changes. The group worked through the year, making a proposal to me in late fall/early winter. Combining their recommendation with my own, the OHSAA approved a new process in January. The full policy will be posted [HERE](#). I encourage you to take some time to view a video detailing the new policy; to view the video, please click [HERE](#). I truly feel that this new policy honors the solid foundation built by those who have come before me, recognizes the hard work of our veteran officials, and ensures knowledge is passed down before new officials take leadership positions.

State Rules Meeting

The mandatory state rules meeting for officials will go live on February 9 and must be completed by March 25. Anyone completing it between March 26 and April 24 will be subject to a late fee of \$50. If you attended the in-person rules meeting at the officials' clinic, you **do not** need to view the online meeting. If you are a coach and an official, you **MUST** complete **BOTH** the coach's rules meeting and the officials' rules meeting.

Officials Name Badge Order Form

By request of many officials, the Ohio Track and Field and Cross Country Officials Association will be selling name badges. Badges can be ordered by clicking [HERE](#) and completing the order form; orders are due February 25, 2023. Each badge is \$18 and will include a lanyard; they are expected to be mailed in late March. Any profits from the purchase of these badges will go towards the OT&F&CCOA Fred Dafler and Rick Haddix Scholarship Fund. Name badges are an optional part of the official's uniform; when they are worn, they must meet the specifications listed in the official handbook. These are being sold by the OT&F&CCOA, **not** the OHSAA.

Middle School State Meet Form

The form that is now required for middle school meets to count as a qualifier to the MS State Meet can be found by clicking [HERE](#). The form is about halfway down the page; it is an online form and needs to be completed on a computer/smart device.

Mixed Gender Relay/Mixed Gender Team Field Event Waiver

The waiver request form for these events can be found [HERE](#). This is a printable paper form that needs to be completed by the school administrator and submitted to Dustin Ware in advance of the meet. All needed instructions are included on the form.

Q & A Sessions

With all of the state rules meetings being virtual; question & answer sessions are for officials to ask questions about the state rules interpretation meeting. This does not count as a meeting credit and we will only review rules based on the questions asked. Meetings will be held via Microsoft Teams:

March 6, 2023 | 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 228 586 295 723

Passcode: AixCn6

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

March 8, 2023 | 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 288 433 798 805

Passcode: btaqoL

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

NFHS Rule Book & OHSAA Officials Manual

The NFHS 2023 Rule & Case Books, as well as the 2023-24 NFHS Officials Manual, have been mailed to officials by the OHSAA Office. If you would like an electronic copy of the rules or case book, they can be purchased through the NFHS app for a \$6.99 per book. If you did not receive your books, please contact Charles Anderson at the OHSAA office directly at canderson@ohsaa.org.

The 2023 OHSAA Track & Field and Cross County Officials Manual will be posted on the OHSAA site soon. I will send a direct link to the document, in the regular monthly update I send, once it is completed and posted online. I recommend downloading a copy onto or bookmarking it on the browser of your smartphone. Every official needs to read and understand this manual the same as they would the NFHS Rule Book.

Presentations & Pictures from OT&F&CCOA Clinic

All of the presentations and photos from the OT&F&CCOA clinic have now been posted to their website. <https://otfcco.wixsite.com/ohiotrackofficials>. Dates for future clinics have also been added.

Sincerely,

BJ (William) Duckworth

bjduckworth@ohsaa.org – New Email Address

Director of Officiating Development & State Rules Interpreter

OHSAA Track & Field and Cross Country