

DATE: March 6, 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: March Pre-Season Update

## Pre-Season Video

Please click [HERE](#) to view a brief pre-season video update.

## OHSAA Track & Field Officials Manual

The 2023 OHSAA Track & Field and Cross County Officials Manual has been posted and can be found [HERE](#). It also can also be found on the bottom left hand side the OHSAA Track & Field Page under the heading of “Track & Field Officiating”. 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.

## 2023 OHSAA Documents & Websites

Click the item below to be taken to the page/document

- [2023 Track & Field Page](#)
- [2023 Track & Field Officials Manual](#)
- [2023 Track & Field Coaches Manual](#)
- [2023 Track & Field Mixed Gender Relay Waiver](#)  
Completed by meet management for all meets that will include mixed-gender relays.
- [2023 Seated Athlete Competition Guide](#)
- [2023 HS Seated Athlete Qualification Form](#)  
Completed by meet management for all meets hosting seated athletes that want those performances to count for the HS State Meet.
- [2023 Middle School State Meet Page & Qualification Instructions](#)
- [2023 Middle School Meet Qualification Form](#)  
Completed by meet management for all meets wishing to count as a qualifier for the MS State Meet.
- [2023 Tournament Regulations](#)
- [2023 Regional Tournament Sites & Meet Manager Information](#)
- [2023 Tournament Meet Managers Manual](#)

## Virtual Local Meeting Provided By The OHSAA

We will again provide two local virtual meetings that, when viewed in their entirety, count as a local meeting credit. Once these meetings are available, all officials will be notified, and you will have a set period of time to log into MyOHSAA and view them. There is no ETA on when they will be posted; please do **not** send me or the OHSAA office emails asking when they will be posted.

## Update On Assignments

The process of selecting officials for assignments to the OHSAA HS State Meet, OHSAA MS State Meet, and OHSAA-assigned positions to the regional tournaments are underway. State assignments will go out first, then regional and middle school to follow. Once all assignments have gone out, the officiating community will be notified via my monthly update. Later this spring, most likely in May, all assignments will be announced publicly. The hope is to have assignments for all three levels completed by mid-month.

For information on the new policy, please click [HERE](#).

## 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 – 7 p.m.**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 228 586 295 723

Passcode: AixCn6

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

**March 8, 2023 | 6 – 7 p.m.**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 288 433 798 805

Passcode: btaqoL

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

## NFHS Learning Platform

The NFHS provides FREE virtual officials education content that can be found at [NFHSLearn.com](https://www.nfhslearn.com)

## How Your Officiating Dues Work For You

To learn more about how your officiating dues work for you, click [HERE](#). To learn about the insurance provided to you as an official, click [HERE](#).

## Weather Safety

From snow and cold temperatures in April to severe storms with HOT and humid temps in May: spring in Ohio is unpredictable. Make sure you know not only the “30 Minute Rule” but also are prepared for what might come your way. Work with meet management to understand their emergency action plan. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about inclement weather.

## Concussion Certification

Officials are required to take concussion training every three years. This training is provided FREE through the NFHS or CDC. The OHSAA will send you a reminder email when it is time for you to retake your training. Upon completing the training, you **must** log into your MyOHSAA account and update your concussion information. If you do not update your information on MyOHSAA, the OHSAA office will not have a record of your completion and will continue to remind you to take the training or possibly suspend your license. For more information on this training, please click [HERE](#).

## State Rules Meeting

The mandatory state rules meeting for officials went 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.

## 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](mailto:bjduckworth@ohsaa.org) – New Email Address

Director of Officiating Development & State Rules Interpreter  
OHSAA Track & Field and Cross Country