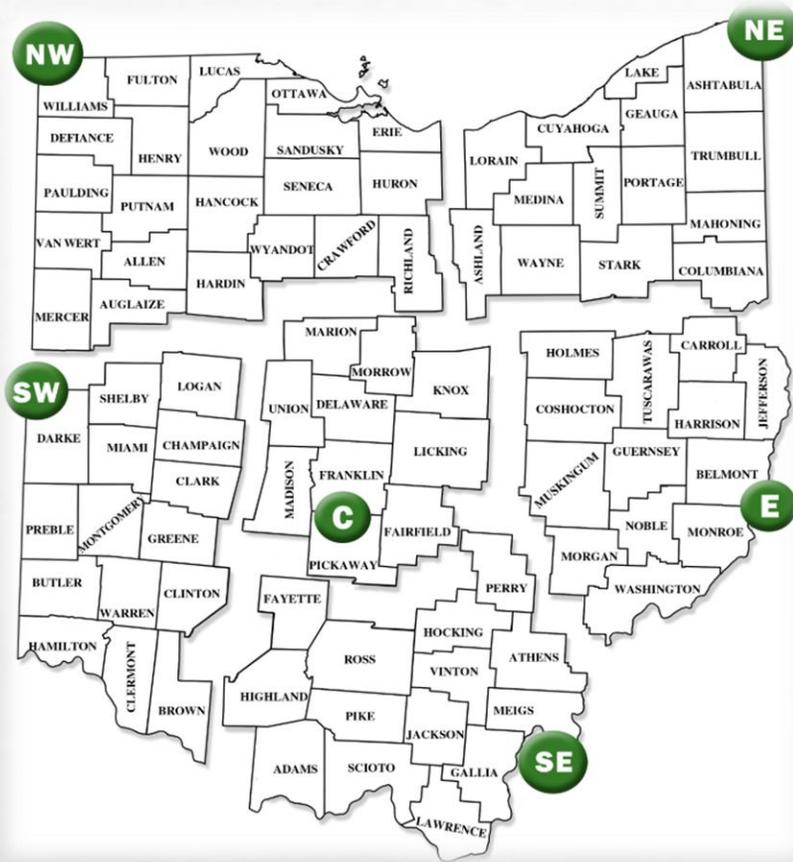


WELCOME TO THE 2025 FALL REGIONAL UPDATE MEETING

DOUG UTE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR





- **THANK YOU TO OUR HOSTS AND SPONSORS!**
- **INTRODUCTIONS**
 - **SPECIAL WELCOME TO ALL SCHOOL AND ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATORS, AS WELL AS ANY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS, STATE LEGISLATORS, MEDIA AND/OR PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERS**
 - **OHSAA STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**
 - **STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND DISTRICT ATHLETIC BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

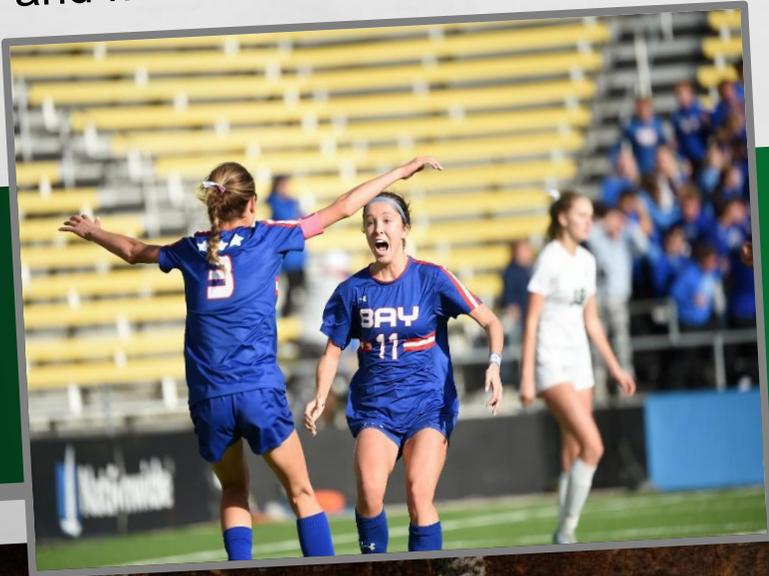
OHSAA: Who We Are

- We are a member-based, voluntary, not-for-profit organization.
- Now in our 119th year, we are the third-largest state-based high school athletic association in the nation, overseeing more than 400,000 student-athletes with 815 public and private high schools and over 700 7th-8th-grade schools.



OHSAA: What We Do

- We run a state series of tournaments, monitor eligibility for student-athletes, provide coaches' education, regulate officiating, offer parent resources, run sportsmanship programs and help ensure the health, safety and well-being of each participant is the priority.
- We work with our member schools' superintendents, principals, athletic administrators and coaches to set the appropriate rules and regulations and expect them to serve as positive role models and mentors.



OHSAA: How We Do The Work

- We are governed by member schools that are represented by a Board of Directors, which guides the work of the OHSAA and ensures the integrity of our operations and that we meet the needs of the moment.
- Approximately 85 percent of the OHSAA's revenue comes from ticket sales from tournaments. The remaining 15 percent of our revenue comes from corporate sponsorships, officials' dues and school membership dues. We do not receive tax dollars.



OHSAA: Why It Matters

- We provide equal opportunities to student-athletes across all athletic programs and maintain fairness and integrity across OHSAA-organized events.
- We understand the value education-based athletics programs provide students through lessons learned in hard work, teamwork, citizenship, sporting behavior and healthy lifestyles.



OHSAA Mission Statement

TO SERVE OUR MEMBER SCHOOLS AND ENRICH
INTERSCHOLASTIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS.

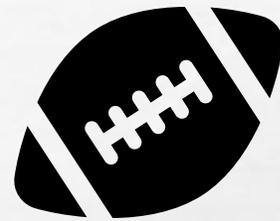




OUR NEWEST OPPORTUNITY: GIRLS FLAG FOOTBALL

- SANCTIONED CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT IN SPRING 2026
- HOPEFUL TO BE A RECOGNIZED SPORT IN 2026-27 (TBD)
 - MODIFICATIONS TO CURRENT FORMAT WOULD BE REQUIRED (EX. FOLLOWING NFHS RULES, 7V7)
 - CONTACT BEAU RUGG FOR NFHS RULE QUESTIONS
- RECOMMEND STARTING TO FOLLOW OHSAA STUDENT ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES
- NO MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 25-26. INTENT TO PARTICIPATE INSTRUCTIONS TBD





CHANGES TO FOOTBALL FORMAT

- Top 12 teams in each region will qualify for playoffs
- Top four seeds in each region earning a first-round bye
- First three rounds will be hosted by higher-seeded teams

NOVEMBER 2025

Playoff
Qualifiers
Announced

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6

Regional First Round

Regional Quarterfinals

Regional Semifinals

Regional Finals (neutral sites)

State Semifinals (neutral sites)

State Championships

2025 Football Divisional Breakdown

Div.	Adjusted Enroll.	# Teams
I	592+	72
II	378-591	104
III	268-377	107
IV	202-267	105
V	157-201	106
VI	112-156	106
VII	111 or less	106
		Total Teams: 706

INVESTING IN STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS

The last 4 years...	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22
Catastrophic Insurance to cover high school athletes	465,000	465,000	485,000	465,000
Arbiter software license fees for schools	-	-	265,525	265,525
Scholarships paid to student athletes	200,000	200,000	169,000	159,000
Greens fees, lineage fees, weight mgmt for tournaments	450,000	425,000	350,000	325,000
Student Leadership Conference	24,150	14,000	-	-
Student ticket prices	3,169,000	2,500,000	1,500,000	-
Travel Stipends to offset travel to select Regional/State events	1,711,000	1,700,000	1,078,000	523,000
Athletic Enrichment Fund distribution	1,021,250	1,632,000	1,017,500	-
Total Investment in Students and Schools	\$7,040,400	\$6,936,000	\$4,865,025	\$1,737,525

- **OHSAA HAS WRITTEN CHECKS TO SCHOOLS FOR \$8.7 MILLION IN FORM OF ATHLETIC ENRICHMENT DONATION AND TRAVEL STIPENDS OVER PAST FOUR YEARS**
- **IN 2022, OHSAA ESTABLISHED STUDENT TICKET PRICES, SAVING STUDENTS \$7 MILLION SINCE INCEPTION**
- **OHSAA HAS AWARDED OVER \$728,000 IN STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS**

OHSAA FINANCIAL OBJECTIVES

Operate at a Profit
\$575K Profit

Build
Maintain
Reserves
3.3 mos. Operating
5.3 mos. Reserves

Support Opportunities for Student Participation
Athletic Donation to Schools \$1M
Scholarships \$200K



Budget
\$128K Profit



Goal to
“maintain”
9 months
cash on hand



+ Division Expansion
+ Athletic Enrichment donation to schools
+ Scholarships

NOTE: Virtual seasonal recap meetings occur 3x per year. Next meeting for spring 2025 is September 10 at 8:30am

2025-26 UPDATES

- **DIVISIONAL EXPANSION**

- **VB, FB, BSOC, GSOC, BBKB, GBKB, BB & SB- ONE YEAR COMPLETED**
- **VARYING FORMATS DURING FIRST YEAR- GATHERING FEEDBACK**
 - **GOING BACK TO “FINAL FOUR” WEEKEND FOR BASKETBALL**

- **2025-26 DIVISIONAL EXPANSIONS**

- **CROSS COUNTRY- EXPANDING TO 4 DIVISIONS THIS FALL**
- **TRACK & FIELD- EXPANDING TO 5 DIVISIONS IN SPRING 2026**
- **CONTINUED ANALYSIS FOR OTHER SPORTS**

- **SCHEDULING CONFLICTS DURING TOURNEY TIME**

- **CHECK SCHOOL CALENDAR BEFORE PLACING SELF ON BRACKET!**
- **NO GUARANTEES WE CAN ACCOMMODATE CHANGE IN TOURNEY DATE/TIME**



COMPLIANCE UPDATE

KRISTIN RONAI,
ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



EMIS YEAR

- BYLAW 2-1-2. STARTS WITH EMIS. COLLECTED EVERY TWO YEARS. **ALL * BOYS AND GIRLS IN GRADES 9, 10 AND 11 INCLUDED IN THE SCHOOL'S OCTOBER ENROLLMENT REPORT.**
- FOR MULTI-HS DISTRICTS, ADD BACK NON-TRADITIONAL SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO ARE ASSIGNED TO PLAY SPORTS AT MEMBER SCHOOLS.
- ONCE BASE # IS ESTABLISHED, ADD ON CB ROSTER DATA FOR APPLICABLE SPORTS.**
 - OCTOBER 2025- BASE EMIS DATA COLLECTED FROM ODEW
 - **FEBRUARY 2026- APPEAL PERIOD FOR SCHOOLS**
 - MARCH 2026- BOARD APPROVES BASE ENROLLMENT & CLASSIFICATIONS, **THEN OHSAA ADDS IN CB ROSTER DATA**
 - APRIL 2026- BOARD APPROVES FALL AND WINTER DIVISIONS FOR 2026-27
 - AUGUST 2026- BOARD APPROVES SPRING DIVISIONS FOR 2027

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

****All dates subject to change**

EMIS YEAR-RESOURCES



SPORTS & TOURNAMENTS

SCHOOL RESOURCES

ELIGIBILITY

SPORTS MEDICINE

OFFICIATING

SCHOOL DIRECTORY

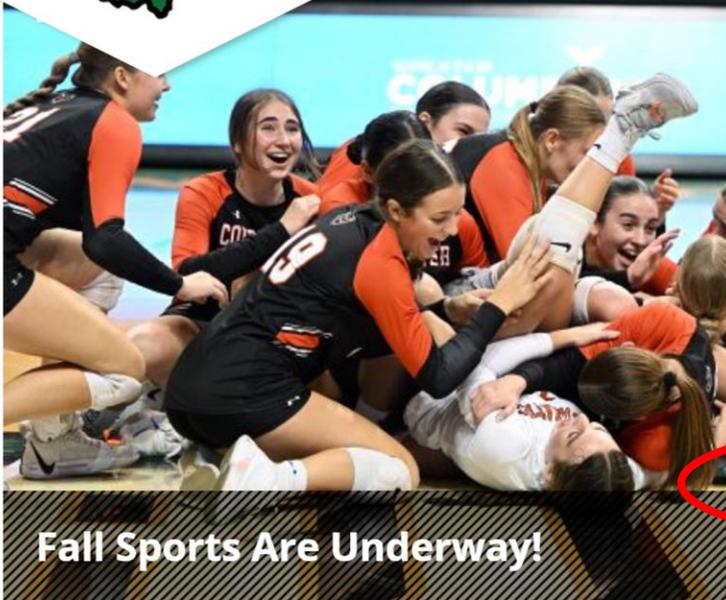
STATE

SCHOOL RESOURCES

COACHES CORNER

TICKETS & FAN GUIDE

CALENDAR



Fall Sports Are Underway!

Latest News

OHSAA ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH M...

August 13

STATE RULES MEETINGS

COMPETITIVE BALANCE
RESOURCE CENTER

OPEN DATES

JOB OPENINGS

CONFERENCES

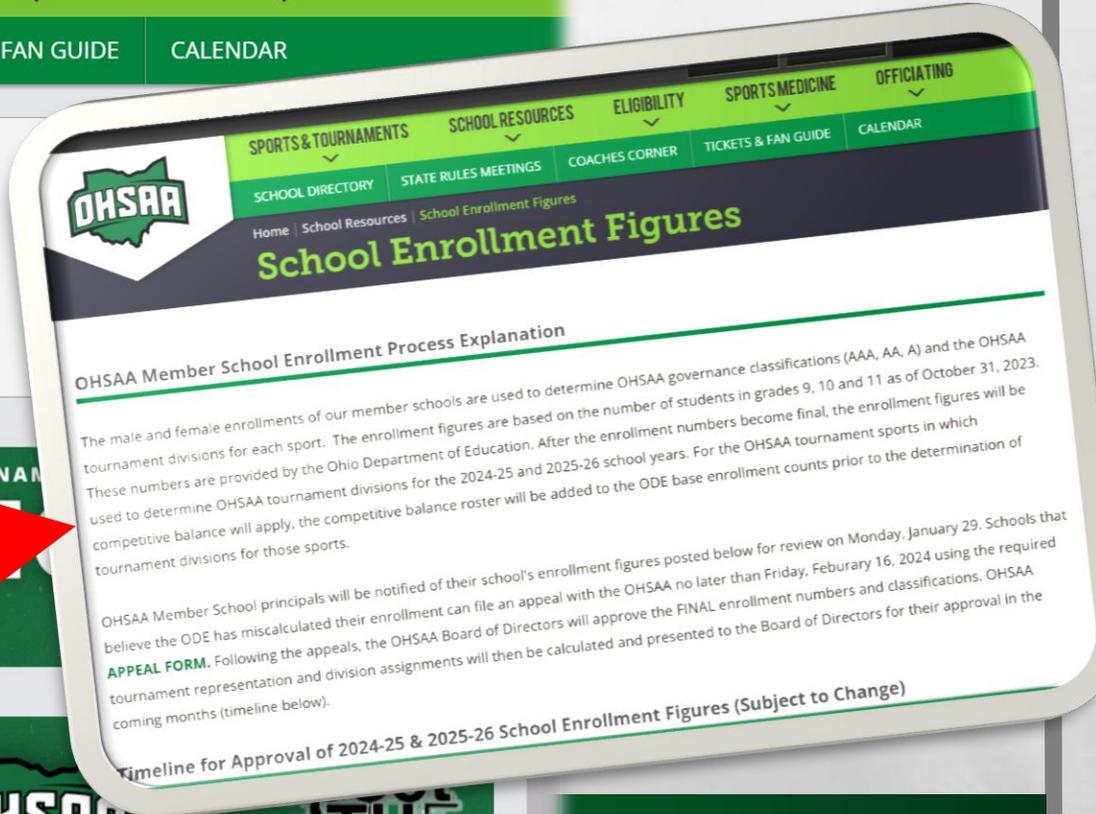
BOOSTER CLUB RESOURCES

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT FIGURES

REFERENDUM VOTING

OHSAA SCHOLARSHIPS

DIVISIONAL BREAKDOWNS -
2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR



SPORTS & TOURNAMENTS | SCHOOL RESOURCES | ELIGIBILITY | SPORTS MEDICINE | OFFICIATING

SCHOOL DIRECTORY | STATE RULES MEETINGS | COACHES CORNER | TICKETS & FAN GUIDE | CALENDAR

School Enrollment Figures

OHSAA Member School Enrollment Process Explanation

The male and female enrollments of our member schools are used to determine OHSAA governance classifications (AAA, AA, A) and the OHSAA tournament divisions for each sport. The enrollment figures are based on the number of students in grades 9, 10 and 11 as of October 31, 2023. These numbers are provided by the Ohio Department of Education. After the enrollment numbers become final, the enrollment figures will be used to determine OHSAA tournament divisions for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years. For the OHSAA tournament sports in which competitive balance will apply, the competitive balance roster will be added to the ODE base enrollment counts prior to the determination of tournament divisions for those sports.

OHSAA Member School principals will be notified of their school's enrollment figures posted below for review on Monday, January 29. Schools that believe the ODE has miscalculated their enrollment can file an appeal with the OHSAA no later than Friday, February 16, 2024 using the required **APPEAL FORM**. Following the appeals, the OHSAA Board of Directors will approve the FINAL enrollment numbers and classifications. OHSAA tournament representation and division assignments will then be calculated and presented to the Board of Directors for their approval in the coming months (timeline below).

Timeline for Approval of 2024-25 & 2025-26 School Enrollment Figures (Subject to Change)



THE GAME

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REMINDERS

- **NOT EVERY STUDENT WILL QUALIFY FOR AN EXCEPTION**
- **MEMBERSHIP HAS APPROVED THE EXCEPTIONS; STAFF'S ROLE IS TO ENFORCE THE REGULATIONS**
- **CONCERNING TREND SEEING USE OF "SUPERINTENDENT'S AGREEMENT" TO AVOID TRANSFER CONSEQUENCE**
 - *"THE PURPOSE OF SUCH ATTENDANCE IS TO PROTECT THE STUDENT'S PHYSICAL OR MENTAL WELL-BEING OR TO DEAL WITH OTHER EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY THE SUPERINTENDENTS."*
 - *CANNOT ACCEPT OPEN ENROLLMENT MONIES*
- **BYLAW 4-4-1, EXCEPTION 4...ALLOWING "SPRINT CCP COURSES" TO COUNT FOR DURATION OF SEMESTER**
- **STATE LAW ALLOWS PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR CERTAIN GROUPS OF NON-ENROLLED STUDENTS**
 - **HOME EDUCATED**
 - **OHIO NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS**
 - **OHIO CHARTER/COMMUNITY SCHOOL STUDENTS**

ODEW RESOURCES- SCHOOL DIRECTORY

TO ACCESS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

GOOGLE: "SEARCH ORG ODEW"



[SAFE HOME](#) [ABOUT ODEW](#) [STATE AGENCIES](#) [ONLINE SERVICES](#)

Ohio.gov

[LOGIN](#) Session Timeout:00:29:00

[HOME](#) [CREATE ORGANIZATION](#) [SEARCH ORGANIZATION](#) [OEDS DATA](#)

Search Organizations

Search Organizations

SEARCH BY NAME(OR) IRN

SEARCH BY ADDRESS

Search Organizations

ohio virtual academy

Search by Organization Type

Please select ...

RESET

SEARCH

Search Tip

Searches are not case sensitive. Searches return all organizations that match your search term in any part of the organization's name, city or county of its address, or its IRN. For example, searching for "colu" will show all schools and districts with "Columbus" in their name, all schools and districts in Columbiana county, etc.

Filter 5 Results

County

City

Org Type

Search Results

Returned 5 results.

SHOW 10 ENTRIES

NAME	IRN	COUNTY	CITY	ORG TYPE	SCHOOL TYPE	STATUS	GRADE LEVEL
OHIO VIRTUAL ACADEMY	142950	Lucas	Maumee	COMMUNITY SCHOOL	High School	OPEN	K-12

ODEW RESOURCES- EDCHOICE SCHOOLS

TO ACCESS EXCEPTION 5 (POOR PERFORMING) LIST

GOOGLE: "ODEW EDCHOICE SCHOOL LIST"

***ONLY APPLIES IF THE STUDENT IS LEAVING EDCHOICE SCHOOL**

Home

Data Notes

Exporting the Data
If you would like to export the data, you can hover over the table, click on the ellipsis (three dots) and select "Export Data". This function will export the data contained in the table in an Excel spreadsheet with proper data types for viewing within Microsoft Excel.

Description
Contains EdChoice Designated List of public school buildings for the current and/or upcoming school year. Note that building name, district IRN, district name, county, grade levels served, and open/closed status are refreshed weekly with data from the Ohio Educational Directory System (OEDS).

2024-2025 Designated School List
List of public schools that are designated for the EdChoice Scholarship program. Schools are designated if they are:
1) Ranked in the lowest 20% in the Performance Index Rankings for both the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years; and
2) Operated by a school district for which the average Title 1 formula percentage is 20% or above across the last three school years (2021-2022, 2022-2023, and 2023-2024 school years).
School buildings are also designated if they are operated by a school district that has an Academic Distress Commission in place.

2025-2026 Designated School List
List of public schools that are designated for the EdChoice Scholarship program. Schools are designated if they are:
1) Ranked in the lowest 20% in the Performance Index Rankings for at least two of the 2021-2022, 2022-2023, or 2023-2024 school years; and
2) Operated by a school district for which the average Title 1 formula percentage is 20% or above across the last three school years (2022-2023, 2023-2024, and 2024-2025 school years).
School buildings are also designated if they are operated by a school district that has an Academic Distress Commission in place.

Data Notes | 2024-2025 Designated School List | **2025-2026 Designated List**

OHSAA OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
Doug Ute, Executive Director

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING ELIGIBILITY REQUEST UNDER BYLAW 4-7-2 #5 and BYLAW 4-7-4 #5, POOR PERFORMING SCHOOLS - 2025-26

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS: Please complete this form and return it, along with the required documentation (see Q11), to the OHSAA office via an email attachment, Attn: Ms. Kristin Ronai (kronai@ohsaa.org), ensuring all interested parties are aware of the ramifications of using this bylaw/exception as outlined in Q8-Q10. Please note that the student(s) will continue to be held accountable to the transfer consequence (i.e. sitting after the first 50% of maximum allowable regular season varsity contests and OHSAA tournament in all applicable sports) until a ruling is provided by the OHSAA office.

1. Name of Student(s): _____ 3. Grade Level of Student(s): _____
2. Gender of Student(s): _____
4. Sport(s) Competed in During 12 Months Immediately Preceding Transfer: _____ High School
5. Transferring From: _____ IRN #: _____ High School
****Note: This exception will only be considered if the above school is included on the referenced list of EdChoice schools found at this link: [Reports Portal](#)**
6. Transferring To: _____ (DATE FIRST ATTENDED NEW SCHOOL)
7. Transfer Date: _____
8. I am verifying that ALL interested parties have confirmed that this transfer is being done for purely academic reasons and not for athletic reasons and that there has been no contact with the student by any member of the athletic department staff for the purpose of encouraging the transfer. _____ (Initials of School Administrator)
9. I am verifying that ALL interested parties understand that the student shall be entitled to only one transfer under the provisions set forth in this bylaw/exception. _____ (Initials of School Administrator)
10. I am verifying that ALL interested parties understand that if the student ever transfers back to the poor performing school from which he/she transferred under the provisions set forth in this bylaw/exception then the student shall not be permitted to regain full transfer eligibility under the provisions of any other exception. _____ (Initials of School Administrator)

11. ATTACH A COPY OF STUDENT'S COMPLETE TRANSCRIPT ALONG WITH THIS APPLICATION.

I hereby acknowledge that the responses on the above are accurate and correct, to the best of my knowledge.
Date: _____
Administrator Signature: _____
I hereby acknowledge the ramifications of requesting the application of this bylaw, as outlined in Q8-10 above.

HOW OHSAA RULES CHANGE...

- **CONSTITUTION ARTICLE 8, SECTION 1 - AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS**
- **ARTICLE 8-1-2, MEMBERSHIP VOTE VIA REFERENDUM**
- **ARTICLE 8-1-1, LEGISLATIVE ACTION OR COURT ORDER**
 - *IN THE EVENT OF A PROPOSED OR ADOPTED LEGISLATIVE ACTION OR COURT ORDER THAT MODIFIES AN EXISTING BYLAW OR ARTICLE OF THE CONSTITUTION, **THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MAY IMMEDIATELY AUTHORIZE THE CHANGE IN THE BYLAW OR CONSTITUTION SO THAT THE BYLAWS AND/OR CONSTITUTION OF THE OHSAA WILL BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH OHIO STATE LAW OR THE PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE ACTION.***
(EXAMPLE: BUDGET BILL CHANGES)
 - *IN ADDITION, THE BOARD IS AUTHORIZED TO **CIRCULATE AN EMERGENCY PETITION FOR REFERENDUM VOTE TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AND/ OR BYLAWS IN THE EVENT OF **CIRCUMSTANCES THAT ARISE THAT CAUSE CONFLICT** WITHIN THE CONSTITUTION AND/OR BYLAWS.***



ARTICLE 8-1-2...MAY 2025 REFERENDUM CHANGES

- **ALL 13 ISSUES PASSED**
- **ISSUE 1C- SCHOOLS NOW ONLY HAVE TO OFFER 1 SPORT PER SEASON, AND OFFER 6 SPORTS PER SCHOOL YEAR TO MAINTAIN MEMBERSHIP. GIVES FLEXIBILITY**
- **ISSUE 1B- ALLOW SCHOOLS IN THE SPORTS OF BOWLING, CROSS COUNTRY, GOLF, SWIMMING & DIVING, TRACK & FIELD AND/OR WRESTLING TO REQUEST AN ASSIGNMENT INTO THE HIGHER DIVISION IF BOTH GENDERS OF THE SPORT ARE NOT INITIALLY ASSIGNED TO THE SAME DIVISION.**
- **ISSUE 10B- REORGANIZE SOME TRANSFER EXCEPTIONS- TRANSFER FROM POOR PERFORMING=EXCEPTION 5**

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION HOME | ABOUT THE OHSAA | NEWS & MEDIA | CONTACT US MY OHSAA DRAGONFLY Search...

SPORTS & TOURNAMENTS SCHOOL RESOURCES ELIGIBILITY SPORTS MEDICINE OFFICIATING

SCHOOL DIRECTORY STATE RULES MEETINGS COACHES CORNER TICKETS & FAN GUIDE CALENDAR

Home | Eligibility | Transfer Bylaw Resource Center

Transfer Bylaw Resource Center

Inter-District Transfer Guidance

- **Exception 9 - District Discontinues Entire Interscholastic Sports Program**
 - **Exception 9 Form**
 - Note: Old "Exception 9" has been moved to Bylaw 4-7-5, Provision 2. That form is located below, and here.
- **Exception 10 - Death in Immediate Family Necessitating Transfer**
 - **Exception 10 Form**
- **Exception 11 - Return from Domestic Exchange Program**
 - **Exception 11 Form**
- **Exception 12- Adult Criminal Behavior**
 - **Exception 12 Form**

Other Inter-District/System Provisions

- **Bylaw 4-7-5 Guidance**
 - **Provision 1- Return to Non-Public Education Form**
 - Old "Exception 5"
 - **Provision 2- Transfer to Local Residential School Form**
 - Old "Exception 9"

Other Transfer Guidance

Transfer Bylaw Chart

volleyball	22 Males	12
Wrestling	20 Points/16 points (for those schools that do not field teams- 6 or fewer weight classes)	Point 11/9

Transfer Bylaws Basics

VIDEO: SUMMARY OF TRANSFER BYLAW (Old video still valid for 22-23 school year)

Disclaimer: The below information is presented in a basic format to assist individuals in understanding the transfer bylaw. Ultimate deference will be given to the percise Bylaw language when the Executive Director's Office reviews any particular situation.

A student can establish their initial eligibility as a freshman at any school that will accept their enrollment. A student establishes initial eligibility by attending school five or more days as a ninth grader or by participating in a contest prior to the start of school.

A student is considered to have transferred whenever a.) enrollment is changed from one school to another school and the student attends a new school, or b.) enrollment is changed from one school to become home schooled (see bylaw for transfers from home education to local public school and vice versa), or c.) the student participates in a practice, scrimmage or contest with a school-sponsored squad of a school in which the student has not been enrolled and attending, or d.) the participation

ARTICLE 8-1-1...NEW STATE LAW VIA BUDGET BILL

- SEC. 3313.536. (A) THE SUPERINTENDENT OF ANY SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY AFFORD A STUDENT ENROLLED IN ANOTHER SCHOOL DISTRICT THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE **IN ICE HOCKEY** AS AN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ACTIVITY AT A SCHOOL OF THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DISTRICT IF ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS APPLY:
 - (1) THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IN WHICH THE STUDENT IS ENROLLED DOES NOT OFFER ICE HOCKEY AS AN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ACTIVITY.
 - (2) THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IN WHICH THE STUDENT IS ENROLLED IS LOCATED LESS THAN TWENTY MILES AWAY FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S SCHOOL DISTRICT.
 - (3) THE SUPERINTENDENTS OF BOTH SCHOOL DISTRICTS ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT APPROVING THE STUDENT'S PARTICIPATION IN ICE HOCKEY AT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IN WHICH THE STUDENT IS NOT ENROLLED.
- (B) A STUDENT SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO ENROLL IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT OFFERS ICE HOCKEY AS AN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ACTIVITY OR BE A RESIDENT OF THAT DISTRICT TO PARTICIPATE IN ICE HOCKEY AT THE DISTRICT UNDER THIS SECTION.
- (C) TO PARTICIPATE IN ICE HOCKEY UNDER THIS SECTION, A STUDENT SHALL BE OF THE APPROPRIATE AGE AND GRADE LEVEL FOR THE SCHOOL AT WHICH THE STUDENT PARTICIPATES IN ICE HOCKEY, AS DETERMINED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THAT SCHOOL DISTRICT, AND SHALL FULFILL AND BE SUBJECT TO THE SAME ACADEMIC, NONACADEMIC, AND FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS AS ANY OTHER PARTICIPANT, INCLUDING TRYING OUT FOR A POSITION ON THE TEAM.

Already outlined within Bylaw 4-3-1 Exception 6 (participation in accordance with state law)



2026 REFERENDUM ISSUE

- **NEW EXCEPTION TO BYLAW 4-3-1??**
- **ALLOWING STUDENTS ATTENDING **TRADITIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS** TO PLAY ELSEWHERE IF THEIR SCHOOL OF ATTENDANCE DOES NOT OFFER THE SPORT THEY WANT TO PLAY**
- **ALREADY AVAILABLE FOR HOME EDUCATED STUDENTS AND STUDENTS ATTENDING OHIO COMMUNITY OR NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS**
- **FAILED IN 2022 BY 13 VOTES (14 ABSTAINED), AND IN 2023 BY 53 VOTES**
- **WILL DEVELOP SAFEGUARDS, LIKELY APPROVAL BY SUPERINTENDENTS**



ARTICLE 8-1-1...EMERGENCY PETITION?

- **...CIRCULATE AN EMERGENCY PETITION** FOR REFERENDUM VOTE... IN THE EVENT OF **CIRCUMSTANCES THAT ARISE THAT CAUSE CONFLICT** WITHIN THE CONSTITUTION AND/OR BYLAWS.
- DONE IN SEPTEMBER 2021 WHEN STATE LAW CHANGED TO ALLOW US TO REINSTATE SOME FORMERLY STRICKEN STUDENT ELIGIBILITY BYLAWS
- IF OHSAA IS SUED, MIGHT WE CONSIDER EMERGENCY PETITION IN FALL/EARLY WINTER TO ADDRESS NIL (PERSONAL BRANDING RIGHTS)?...
 - WANT SCHOOLS TO MAKE THE RULES
 - DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE WILL DO THIS EVERY TIME WE ARE SUED...

NIL (PERSONAL BRANDING RIGHTS) TIMELINE

- **MAY 2022- FIRST MEMBERSHIP VOTE, FAILED 538-254** *(ONLY 9 STATES ALLOWED AT THAT TIME)*
- **FALL 2024- REGIONAL UPDATE MEETINGS, UPDATE THAT “NIL WAS GROWING”**
- **NOVEMBER 2024- NIL COMMITTEE, CONSISTING OF OHSAA SCHOOL ADMINS, MET TO REVIEW LANGUAGE AND PROVIDE FEEDBACK**
 - **CONSENSUS WAS TO PUT LANGUAGE ON BALLOT IN MAY 2025, BUT BOARD & STAFF DID NOT FEEL STRONG PUSH THAT IT WAS DESIRED BY MEMBER SCHOOLS IN SPRING ‘25**
- **FALL 2025- CONTACT WITH ATTORNEY CONSIDERING REPRESENTING STUDENT-ATHLETES...WE WANT SCHOOLS TO BE PREPARED FOR ANY POTENTIAL EMERGENCY PETITION.**



NIL (PERSONAL BRANDING RIGHTS)

THREE WAYS THAT NIL HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED

• 1) ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION ADOPTION

• 2) LEGISLATIVE ACTION

- SOME STATES ONLY ALLOW BECAUSE LEGISLATURE ENACTED LAW TO DO SO.
- ARKANSAS- PASSED THROUGH LEGISLATURE ALLOWING ONLY STUDENTS TO ENTER NIL DEALS ONCE THEY HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED INTO AN ARKANSAS COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY

• 3) JUDICIAL ACTION

- North Carolina Athletic Association prohibited NIL. Student athlete sued in 2024. Court entered injunction precluding Association from prohibiting NIL.

Currently – 44 states allow in some fashion

Rules vary greatly

Currently legislature introduced in Alabama. Going through hearings and then ultimately a vote.

Wyoming- May 2025 voted to approve language. Will have second reading in September. Likely to pass.



NIL (PERSONAL BRANDING RIGHTS)

- ****PROPOSED TEXT SUBJECT TO CHANGE PER BOARD OF DIRECTORS REVIEW****
- **BYLAW 4-11-1** FOR PURPOSES OF THIS BYLAW, THE TERM “PERSONAL BRANDING RIGHTS” SHALL MEAN THE PUBLIC RECOGNITION FACTOR OR NOTORIETY A PERSON HAS ATTAINED, INCLUDING THEIR NAME, IMAGE AND LIKENESS, WHICH IN TURN CAN HAVE COMMERCIAL VALUE FOR PROMOTIONAL AND MARKETING ENDEAVORS. THE TERM DOES NOT MEAN THAT AN ATHLETE CAN BE PAID FOR PLAYING A SPORT, NOR DOES IT ALLOW AN ATHLETE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT/CONTRACT WITH A PROFESSIONAL SPORTS TEAM.



NIL (PERSONAL BRANDING RIGHTS)

- **SIMILAR SAFEGUARDS IN PLACE PER LAST VOTE AND COMMON AROUND THE COUNTRY**
- **BYLAW 4-11-2** A STUDENT-ATHLETE MAY ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT/ARRANGEMENT WHEREBY THE STUDENT-ATHLETE CAPITALIZES ON HER/HIS PERSONAL BRANDING RIGHTS PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA ARE MET:
 - A) THE STUDENT-ATHLETE DOES NOT UTILIZE THE NAME, LOGOS, MASCOTS, TRADEMARKS OR OTHER PROPRIETARY PROPERTIES OF ANY OHSAA SCHOOL TEAM, OHSAA SCHOOL, OR THE OHSAA DURING ANY PROMOTIONS AND;
 - B) THE STUDENT-ATHLETE DOES NOT ENGAGE IN ANY PERSONAL BRANDING MARKETING/ENDORSEMENTS DURING “OFFICIAL TEAM ACTIVITIES” AND;
 - C) THE AGREEMENT/CONTRACT SHALL NEVER REQUIRE THE STUDENT-ATHLETE TO DISPLAY A SPONSOR’S PRODUCT, OR OTHERWISE ADVERTISE FOR A SPONSOR, DURING “OFFICIAL TEAM ACTIVITIES” AND;
 - D) THE AGREEMENT/CONTRACT SHALL ONLY IMPACT THE INDIVIDUAL STUDENT-ATHLETE WITH WHOM THE CONTRACT IS ENTERED AND SHALL NEVER PROVIDE ANY MONEY, MERCHANDISE, SERVICES OF VALUE OR ANY OTHER BENEFITS DIRECTLY TO THE STUDENT-ATHLETE’S SCHOOL/TEAM AND;
 - E) THE STUDENT-ATHLETE SHALL NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION FOR USE OF THE STUDENT’S PERSONAL BRANDING INVOLVING THE PROMOTION OF CASINOS, GAMBLING, ALCOHOL, DRUG USE, FIREARMS OR TOBACCO USE.
 - F) THE COMPENSATION IS NOT CONTINGENT ON SPECIFIC ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE OR ACHIEVEMENT (I.E., FINANCIAL INCENTIVES BASED ON POINTS SCORED, TOUCHDOWNS, ETC.)

Proposed Text subject to change per board of directors review*

NIL (PERSONAL BRANDING RIGHTS)

- **AGREEMENTS MUST BE BETWEEN STUDENT-ATHLETE AND SPONSOR. NO “COLLECTIVES!”**
- **BYLAW 4-11-3** NO SCHOOL OR ANYONE EMPLOYED BY OR AFFILIATED WITH A MEMBER SCHOOL, INCLUDING SCHOOL-AFFILIATED BOOSTER CLUBS, COACHES, AND ADMINISTRATORS, MAY SOLICIT, ARRANGE, NEGOTIATE OR PAY FOR A STUDENT’S, OTHER THAN THEIR OWN CHILD, USE OF THEIR PERSONAL BRANDING AND/OR THE PROVISION OF CONSIDERATION TO A STUDENT FOR THE USE OF THEIR PERSONAL BRANDING.

Proposed Text subject to change per board of directors review*



NIL (PERSONAL BRANDING RIGHTS)

- **WILL LIKELY REQUIRE REPORTING FROM THE STUDENT TO AN ONLINE PLATFORM TO MONITOR NIL DEALS IN RELATION TO TRANSFER REQUESTS...**
- **BYLAW 4-11-4** ...SPECIFY PLATFORM AND TIMELINE FOR REPORTING OBLIGATIONS. STUDENT-ATHLETE AND FAMILY OBLIGATION
- **BYLAW 4-11-5** IF A STUDENT-ATHLETE TRANSFERS TO A SCHOOL AND THE TRANSFER CAN BE SHOWN TO BE REASONABLY LINKED TO A STUDENT'S PERSONAL BRAND AGREEMENT/ARRANGEMENT, A REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION SHALL EXIST THAT THE STUDENT-ATHLETE HAS BEEN RECRUITED IN VIOLATION OF BYLAW 4-9. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE MAY SUSPEND THE PRIVILEGE OF PARTICIPATION IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS DURING THE PENDENCY OF ANY ALLEGED VIOLATION OF THIS BYLAW.

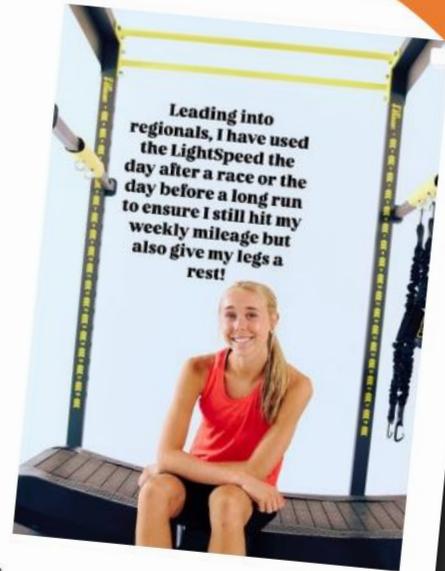
Proposed Text subject to change per board of directors review*



NIL AROUND THE COUNTRY- NFHS SUMMER MTG

Name Image Likeness Endorsements

LIGHTSPEED LI



Use code INCE50 for \$50 off your LightSpeed System

What social media platforms did you utilize for your endorsement.

Did any of the endorsements track the metrics or views on your posts?



QUESTIONS?



LEGAL UPDATE

*JOSEPH FRALEY, ESQ.
JOSHUA FRALEY, ESQ.*

*LEGAL COUNSEL TO THE OHSAA
WESTERVILLE, OHIO
JMFRALEY@PENCHEFFANDFRALEY.COM*



SCHOLARSHIP OVERVIEW:

- **CALENDARS/SCHOLARSHIP**
- **GREAT JOB AGAIN LAST YEAR AS SCHOLARSHIP APPEALS WERE DOWN THIRD YEAR IN A ROW!**
- **ONLY 3 APPEALS RELATED TO SCHOLARSHIP IN 24/25 SCHOOL YEAR.**
- **STILL AN OCCASIONAL CCP/DROP ISSUE HERE AND THERE BUT...**
- **RECOMMENDATION SOME FORM OF DISCLAIMER FOR STUDENTS WHO TAKE CCP COURSED ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES OF A DROP!**



APPEALS AND LITIGATION

- **APPEALS DOWN FROM 74 IN 23/24 TO 68 IN 24/25**
- **LITIGATION – CONSISTENT FROM YEAR TO YEAR.**
- **TRANSFER CASES AGAIN REPRESENT THE MAJORITY OF APPEALS AND LITIGATION**
 - **SEVERAL REQUESTS UNDER EXCEPTION 1 SUBMITTED THAT WERE DENIED ON INITIAL REVIEW.**
 - **DURING APPEALS PROCESS, APPLICANT PROVIDES ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION SUPPORTING THE EXCEPTION APPLICATION.**
 - **OVERTURNED ON APPEAL. SHOULD HAVE NEVER GOT THERE.**
- **FALSIFICATION. MAKE SURE WHEN COMPLETING DOCUMENTATION, COUNSEL FAMILY AS TO ACCURACY OF INFORMATION BEING PROVIDED.**



TRANSFERS:

- **EXCEPTIONS ARE NOT LOOPHOLES**
- **NOT MERELY A MATTER OF “CHECKING THE BOXES**
- ***“IF IT IS DETERMINED THAT ONE OR MORE OF THE EXCEPTIONS THAT FOLLOW REPRESENTS AN EVENT WHICH CREATES THE NEED TO TRANSFER **I.E., CREATES A CAUSE AND EFFECT RELATIONSHIP,** THEN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS MAY APPLY:”***
 - ***“IF A STUDENT IS COMPELLED TO TRANSFER...”***
 - ***SCIOTO COUNTY CASE***



LITIGATION – FINAL COMMENT

- **PARTIES TO THE LITIGATION**
- **NECESSARY AND INDISPENSABLE PARTIES**
 - **FAILURE TO JOIN SCHOOL AS PARTY DEFENDANT**
 - **INELIGIBLE PLAYER**
 - **BYLAW 10-2-1 FORFEITURES**
 - **BYLAW 11 PENALTIES**
 - **BE AWARE IF STUDENT AT YOUR SCHOOL FILES CASE IN COURT**



**THANK YOU FOR
ATTENDING!**

HAVE A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR!

