Important information for Athletic Directors

Mission Statement

“To serve our member schools and enrich interscholastic opportunities for students”

Doug Ute
Executive Director
The OHSAA Mission Statement
To serve our member schools and enrich interscholastic opportunities for students.

The OHSAA Believes That . . .

- Participation in interscholastic athletics programs is a privilege, not a right.
- Participation in interscholastic athletics programs complements a student's school experience and teaches lifelong lessons of hard work, teamwork and self-discipline.
- Participation in interscholastic athletics programs promotes citizenship and sporting behavior, instills a sense of community and promotes a lifetime appreciation for sports and healthy lifestyles.
- All students, regardless of ethnicity, race or gender, should have an equal opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics programs.
- Sporting and ethical behavior are expectations in interscholastic athletics by all participants, coaches, administrators, officials and spectators.
- Coaches, administrators and contest officials should serve as positive role models who are critical to a student's development and success.
- In order to minimize health and safety risks and maintain ethical standards, it is mandatory that interscholastic athletics participants are free from use of anabolic steroids or other performance-enhancing drugs.
- All rules, regulations and facilities for and supervision of interscholastic athletics programs should ensure maximum protection of the health, safety and well-being of each participant.
- Limitations should be placed upon the length of sport seasons and the number of interscholastic contests played by participants.
- Students should engage in a well-rounded experience that encourages participation in a multitude of extracurricular activities.
- All attempts should be made to accommodate students with disabilities in interscholastic athletics programs.
- Compliance with all school, OHSAA and state regulations along with contest playing rules is essential for everyone involved in interscholastic athletics programs.
- Student academic achievement and success take priority over athletics achievement and success.
- The success of a team is more important than individual awards.
- Interscholastic athletics programs exist to prepare students for the next level of life, not the next level of sports.
- Participation in interscholastic athletics programs can be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and create memories that will last forever.

The OHSAA Is Committed To . . .

- Establishing and regulating regular season and tournament standards in order for competition to be fair and equitable.
- Administering exceptional interscholastic athletics tournaments.
- Promoting that interscholastic athletics participation complements a student's educational experience.
- Providing unparalleled leadership and customer service to our various constituents that is objective, responsive and inclusive.
- Providing rulings that are swift, fair, consistent and impartial.
- Operating with openness and demonstrating fiscal accountability.
- Honoring our tradition of excellence, which has served our member schools for the past 100-plus years.
- Honoring our ultimate purpose, which is to promote lifetime values, good citizenship, academic success, ethics and fair play in safe and sporting environments.
Welcome to the 2021-22 School Year!

On behalf of the Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Directors and staff, I would like to welcome you to the start of the 2021-22 school year and thank your school for being a member of the OHSAA. We also can’t thank you enough for all of your efforts and work in providing interscholastic athletic participation opportunities for our student-athletes last school year during the COVID-19 pandemic. While no one could have predicted the obstacles we all had to face, we are no doubt hopeful that 2021-22 will be as “normal” as possible!

As a service organization, the OHSAA works with nearly 400,000 student-athletes in grades 7 through 12 at 818 member high schools and 750 member 7th-8th grade schools. It is through the combined efforts of our boards and staff, our coaches, our registered contest officials and our administrators that we have the privilege of working in educational athletics, where we can help prepare our young people for the next phase of their lives and to become the leaders of tomorrow.

Included in this packet are various items we believe you will need in order to have a successful school year. While the beginning of the school year is a time of excitement but is also hectic, we ask that you please take some time to review and familiarize yourself with the items in this packet and share the appropriate information with your fellow staff members, coaches, student-athletes and parents. Most of the general questions you may have about the OHSAA are answered within this packet. Please know, however, that our staff is here to serve, so do not hesitate to contact us with questions should they arise.

Thank you in advance for the work you will be performing and the service you will be providing our student-athletes. We wish you nothing but success in 2021-22, and I look forward to connecting with many of you personally throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Doug Ute, Executive Director
Ohio High School Athletic Association
Bylaw 4-4 (Scholarship) Important Reminders

- OHSAA Executive Director Doug Ute has created a memo for your student-athletes to remind them to get scheduled for enough credits/classes during the first grading period of the 2021-22 school year. You are encouraged to post this memo to your school website and/or print copies and provide them to your athletes. The memo can be obtained at: https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Eligibility/ExecutiveDirectorScholarshipReminder.pdf
- All student-athletes are eligible, with respect to their OHSAA scholarship eligibility, for the first grading period of the 2021-22 school year (unless your school chose to enforce your own scholarship standard or unless the student-athlete failed to meet your self-established minimum GPA standard).
- Fall and winter athletes need to be certain they are scheduled for at least five (5) credits at the high school level or four (4) classes at the 7th-8th grade level.
- If an athlete does not pass the five-credit/four-class standard in the first grading period this coming fall, then he/she will become ineligible at the start of the fifth school day of the second grading period. For schools on quarters, this likely will fall toward the end of your fall season, rendering these athletes ineligible for the rest of the season. Check your student-athlete schedules and work with your guidance counselor to ensure this does not happen!
- For questions, please contact Kristin Ronai (kronai@ohsaa.org) or Ronald Sayers (rsayers@ohsaa.org) of our compliance staff.

Tournament Divisions, Enrollment Data Remain the Same in 2021-22

Per action by the OHSAA Board of Directors, the 2020-21 enrollment data and tournament divisions will be utilized again in the 2021-22 school year. Constitution Article 6-1-9 allowed the Executive Director’s Office to make this change, and it was subsequently approved by the Board. With some schools not offering sports along with many students transferring to non-traditional learning modules last fall due to COVID-19, the Executive Director’s Office deliberated on how to handle enrollment data, since October 2020 is when the OHSAA traditionally would have received that data (EMIS) from the Ohio Department of Education for use in tournament representation, tournament division breakdowns and classifications for OHSAA District Athletic Board elections. While understanding many schools had various unique enrollment situations this year, it was determined that utilizing the same data for a third and final year was the fairest for all OHSAA member schools since any new data collected would likely be severely skewed and/or an unreliable representation.

2021-22 Pre-Participation Physical Exam (PPE) Form Available

The Pre-Participation Physical Exam form for the 2021-22 school year is now available on the OHSAA website at: https://www.ohsaa.org/medicine/physicalexamform.

The 2021-22 PPE form has been authorized by the OHSAA’s Joint Advisory Committee on Sports Medicine (JACSM). This physical form was developed for youth student-athletes by the American Academy of Pediatrics and is in its fifth edition. Like last year’s form, our JACSM has chosen to retain all of the questions within the history section. COVID-19 questions have been moved to the “optional” section and are not required to be answered. A Spanish version of the history portion of the form is also included on the website.

The medical clearance must be completed once every 13 months and kept on file indefinitely. Although use of this OHSAA-adopted PPE is not required (for example, a school via its Board policy could accept another type of physical exam), signing all four consent forms is required before a student may commence any athletic participation in a member school. In Ohio, a physician (MD, DO), a doctor of chiropractic (DC), a physician’s assistant (PA) and an advanced practice nurse (APN) are eligible to complete the exam and sign the form.

Guidance/Resources for COVID-19

As you are likely aware, Ohio lifted most statewide pandemic-related health orders, effective June 2, 2021. While these requirements have been lifted, Ohioans are still at risk for COVID-19 illness. The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) urges all Ohioans to continue to follow safe protocols to protect themselves and others, especially those individuals who are not fully vaccinated. The following are the ODH’s recommended best practices for ongoing safety and prevention against COVID-19. Athletic administrators are highly encouraged to read and follow these recommendations.

Social Distancing, Masking and Congregating:

Youth, Collegiate, Amateur, Club and Professional Sports:
https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/responsible/Youth-Collegiate-Amateur-Club-Pro-Sports.pdf

Sports Venues:

Posters and Signs:
Items to Know for the 2021-22 School Year

No Contact Period in August
The mandatory no-contact period for coaches in the sports of baseball, basketball, ice hockey, lacrosse and softball returns August 1, 2021, and lasts through August 31. Any coach, paid or volunteer, approved by the Board of Education to coach in those sports is prohibited from providing coaching, providing instruction or supervising conditioning and physical fitness programs or open gyms to members of a school team in their sport in August. This includes any type of tryouts in or out of school for purposes of non-interscholastic competition.

Admission Charges Permitted for Scrimmages
For the 2021-22 school year, schools ARE PERMITTED to charge admission for interscholastic scrimmages. It has not been determined if this regulation will become permanent following this school year.

NFHS Virtual National Student Leadership Summit August 8-10
The National Federation of State High School Association will present the second year of its virtual National Student Leadership Summit (NSLS) on August 8, 9 and 10. There is no cost for students to participate, although registration is required. The virtual conference will begin each of those three days at 12:45 p.m., with presentations between 1:00 and 3:00. The NSLS will focus on relevant and contemporary issues facing students participating in interscholastic athletics. For more information, go to: www.nfhs.org/resources/conferences/meetings/national-student-leadership-summit/

OHSAA Foundation Virtual Student Leadership Conference October 5
The Ohio High School Athletic Association Foundation will host as many of Ohio’s high schools as possible in a Virtual Student Leadership Conference on Tuesday, October 5, 2021. The virtual platform was created to inspire students to re-think the win-at-all-costs mentality which is so prevalent in youth sports today and provide tools to create a transformational culture, one that builds strong character and leadership traits . . . traits that will benefit them (and their school and community) long after their playing days. Online registration information will be available soon. In the meantime, school administrators are asked to mark their calendars now and think of the best ways to include student leaders of your interscholastic athletics programs in this important opportunity.

Take Advantage of the NFHS Learning Center
The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Learning Center is an education tool that offers online courses for coaches, contest officials, administrators, students and parents, many of which are free. Examples of courses include:
• Protecting Students from Abuse
• First Aid, Health and Safety
• Fundamentals of Coaching
• Concussion in Sport
• Title IX
• Implicit Bias
• The Collapsed Athlete (a “must” for coaches as they begin their fall sports seasons)

To view the list of approximately 80 courses offered, go to: https://www.nfhslearn.com

Please Update Items in myOHSAA
Member school athletic administrators are highly encouraged to login to your myOHSAA account this summer to provide updates in Staff Management (are all your coaches listed?; is your principal listed and is his/her email correct?) and Pre-Season Parent Meetings (have you entered all sport meetings that have already been held?). For more information on how to add staff to your school’s myOHSAA account, please use the video icons on the ‘Staff Management’ page in myOHSAA.

Long-time OHSAA staff member and Manager of Membership Services Brenda Murray has retired from the OHSAA. While her emails will be automatically forwarded to OHSAA Chief Operating Officer Kim Kiehl, we ask for your patience in answering questions on myOHSAA until a replacement for Brenda is hired. Thank you!

Member Schools Encouraged to Set Up Vaccination Partnerships
The OHSAA, in partnership with the Governor’s Office and Ohio Department of Health, is encouraging its member schools to partner with COVID-19 vaccine providers in their communities to set up vaccination clinics for eligible students. Students below the age of 18 who are not emancipated must have parental or legal guardian consent for any vaccine. A parent or legal guardian generally should accompany the minor to receive the vaccine, unless the administration of the vaccine occurs in a physician’s office, school-based or school-associated clinic setting, or similar setting. In those cases, parents/legal guardians will be asked to provide consent in advance of the vaccination. School administrators can go to this link, which lists providers who are interested in creating partnerships for vaccination clinics in their communities: https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/vaccine/business-provider-partners.pdf
Items to Know for the 2021-22 School Year

Contests with Out-Of-State Schools
Changes to Bylaw 9 were approved during the May 2021 referendum process. The first modification now requires schools to obtain approval from the OHSAA Executive Director’s Office prior to traveling to any non-bordering state for competition. This will allow the OHSAA staff to better track a respective team’s travel in order to comply with sanctioning requirements from the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS).

In addition, modifications to Bylaw 9-2-3 were necessary to comply with current NFHS sanctioning requirements. Whether a contest/event is in Ohio or outside of Ohio, schools need to secure a sanction through the NFHS for competition by a member school in any of the following contests:

a.) Any event which includes either an Ohio or an out-of-state school that is co-sponsored by or titled in the name of an organization outside the school community;

b.) Events involving non-bordering states where five (5) or more states are involved;

c.) Events involving non-bordering states if more than eight (8) schools are involved;

d.) Events involving two (2) or more schools that includes a team from a foreign country, with the exception of Canada and Mexico.

Notes: In b.) and c.) above, no sanction is required if the contest(s) only involve Ohio schools and/or schools which border Ohio. Schools desiring to participate in an event covered under the aforementioned scenarios must visit [www.nfhs.org/Sanctioning](https://www.nfhs.org/Sanctioning) in order to obtain the sanction.

As a reminder, last year Bylaw 9 was revised to permit a school to travel to a non-contiguous state one time per season irrespective of whether school time will be missed. The decision regarding missed school time is at the discretion of the district. Please check your athletic schedules as the penalty is ineligibility for the OHSAA tournament.

Rules Interpretation Meetings
General Sports Regulation 2 requires high schools to complete the OHSAA State Rules Interpretation Meeting to participate in the OHSAA tournament. The meeting must be completed by either the head coach, assistant coach or athletic director prior to the final deadline of the meeting. A late fee of $50 will be charged to each school that does not complete the meeting prior to the first day a contest is allowed in that sport.

All state rules interpretation meetings are available through myOHSAA. Make sure your coaches’ myOHSAA accounts are linked to the school’s account through the Staff Management link.

Mandatory Preseason Meetings
Bylaw 3-1-4 indicates that your school is required to conduct a mandatory, preseason meeting with all student-athletes who wish to participate in the upcoming sports seasons, their parents and booster club officer(s) no later than two weeks after the beginning of each sports season. The OHSAA has developed sample agendas, PowerPoints, cover letters, etc. which can be used to assist you with developing your meeting. These samples are located under the OHSAA Preseason Meeting Information” section at: [https://www.ohsaa.org/School-Resources](https://www.ohsaa.org/School-Resources)

After you have completed your school’s preseason meeting, you are required to enter the completion date into your school’s myOHSAA account, so you are not subject to a $500 penalty (General Sports Regulation 5). Instructions on how and where to enter your preseason meeting date are located here: [https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/SchoolResources/PreSeasonMeetings/PreseasonParentMeetingInstructions.pdf](https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/SchoolResources/PreSeasonMeetings/PreseasonParentMeetingInstructions.pdf)

Non-Interscholastic Competition
A student is considered a member of a school team once he/she participates in an interscholastic contest.

- Once a student’s status as a team member has been established in the team sports of baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball and volleyball, the student may NOT participate in an athletic contest, a tryout or any type of team or group training or practices (including open gyms/fields) with a non-interscholastic team in that same sport during the school team’s season.

- Once a student’s status as a team member has been established in the individual sports of bowling, cross country, golf, gymnastics, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field and wrestling, the student may NOT participate in an athletic contest with a non-school team in that same sport during the school team’s season. Athletics in these individual sports ARE permitted to participate with a non-interscholastic program in a tryout or a practice(s) during the school season.

The penalty for a violation of this non-interscholastic rule will result in a period of ineligibility for the athlete, and potentially require forfeitures for your school’s team. Additionally, each sport has a non-interscholastic date by which all non-interscholastic competition must cease in order for the student to be eligible for the postseason tournament. So, if a student decides to join a team late (common in gymnastics, swimming & diving, etc.), please ensure they have not participated in a non-interscholastic activity past the non-Interscholastic date. Please familiarize yourself with these non-interscholastic dates. Contact the OHSAA sports management staff should you have questions.
Items to Know for the 2021-22 School Year

- Students who do not attend your school are not eligible to participate in an OHSAA recognized sport at your school unless the student meets one of the exceptions to the enrollment and attendance bylaw or is permitted a participation opportunity in accordance with state law.

- State law mandates students that attend a non-OHSAA member school that is designated as a STEM school by the Ohio Department of Education have athletic participation opportunities at a school within their district of residence only.

- Each student participating in the school’s athletic programs must meet all OHSAA eligibility requirements.

- Students in grades 6 or lower may not practice or participate in sports programs with 7th & 8th grade students.

- Students in grades 7 & 8 may not practice or participate in sports programs with 9-12 grade students.

- A signed copy of the OHSAA Eligibility and Authorization Statement, in conjunction with a current Pre-Participation Physical Examination Evaluation, must be on file at the school for each student participating in the school’s athletic programs.

- The Ohio Department of Education and Ohio Revised Code requires all interscholastic coaches (paid or unpaid) to obtain and hold a current Pupil Activity Coaching Permit and complete training in Sudden Cardiac Arrest – Lindsay’s Law.

- All coaches (paid or unpaid) shall be approved by your Board of Education or similar governing body.

- The building principal at each school is required to submit ballots for annual District Board Elections and Referendum Voting.

- Each member school must sponsor a minimum of two OHSAA recognized sports each sport season and participate in at least 50% of the maximum allowed regular season contests in team sports.

- If a student or coach is ejected from a contest, they are immediately ineligible to participate/coach until the penalty for the ejection has been served.

- OHSAA tournament divisions are determined by sport and the school’s base enrollment for grades 9-11, as provided by the Ohio Department of Education biannually, is used in determining the tournament divisions. Additional data may be added for competitive balance sports based on the roster of students submitted by the school.
Who to Contact at the OHSAA

Responding to inquiries from member schools, officials and tournament managers is the OHSAA’s top priority. Parents of student-athletes are asked to direct questions about eligibility or OHSAA regulations to a school administrator before contacting the OHSAA. If school administrators need assistance answering questions, the school administrator will contact the OHSAA.

OHSAA Main Phone: 614-267-2502
OHSAA General Email: webmaster@ohsaa.org
OHSAA Fax: 614-267-1677

OHSAA Sanctioned Sports

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Contacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>Emily Gates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>John Kuzio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowling</td>
<td>Emily Gates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>John Kuzio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Hockey</td>
<td>Emily Gates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>Beau Rugg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>Tyler Brooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
<td>Kate Barnett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Hockey</td>
<td>Ronald Sayers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacrosse</td>
<td>Tyler Brooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>Kate Barnett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>Kate Barnett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming &amp; Diving</td>
<td>Kate Barnett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis</td>
<td>John Kuzio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track &amp; Field</td>
<td>John Kuzio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>Emily Gates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrestling</td>
<td>Tyler Brooks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eligibility and Transfer

(School Administrators Only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eligibility Questions</th>
<th>Kristin Ronai</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appeals (Student Eligibility)</td>
<td>Kristin Ronai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custody Change</td>
<td>Kristin Ronai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Exchange Students</td>
<td>Molly Downard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Supporting Students</td>
<td>Kristin Ronai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moves Into the District</td>
<td>Kristin Ronai</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Officiating

If You Are Calling About........ Ask to Speak With

Officiating Certification Classes .................. Charles Anderson
Assigners ............................................. Tyler Brooks
Clinics ............................................... Beau Rugg, Tyler Brooks
Insurance ............................................. Beau Rugg
Registrations/Renewals/Records ...... Charles Anderson,
                                      Angie Lawler & Tyler Brooks
Regulations ................................. Beau Rugg, Angie Lawler & Tyler Brooks
Rule Books ........................................ Charles Anderson
Supplies ........................................... Charles Anderson
Tournament Assignments ............... Beau Rugg, Angie Lawler, & Tyler Brooks

Other OHSAA Areas

If You Are Calling About......................... Ask to Speak With

Arbiter/Sports – School Use .................. Ronald Sayers
Arbiter/Sports – Officials/Assigners ........ Angie Lawler
Accounting/Finance .......................... Laura Vermilya
Athletic Discussion Meetings ................. Molly Downard
Board of Directors Meetings ................... Bob Goldring
Bylaws/Constitution ........................... Kristin Ronai
Catastrophic Insurance ........................ Kim Kiehl
Competitive Balance – General ............... Bob Goldring, Kristin Ronai
Competitive Balance – Use of Arbiter (Technical) ....... Ronald Sayers
Corporate Sponsorships ...................... Luke Sayers
DVs (of state tournaments) ................... Chris Walker
Ejections – Athletes/Coaches .................... Charles Anderson
Elections – District/State Boards ............ Bob Goldring, Molly Downard
Enrollments and Classifications ............... TBD
General Questions ............................... Molly Downard
Insurance .......................................... Kim Kiehl
Job Postings ................................. Tim Stried
Licensing/Merchandise .......................... Jacki Windon
Mailings ............................................ Chris Walker
Media, Broadcasts & State Tournament Credentials .... Tim Stried
Membership Inquiries (including lists) ........... TBD
myOHSAA Support ................................ Kim Kiehl
Open Dates ........................................ Tim Stried
Participation and Board Resolution Cards .... Kim Kiehl
Photos (from state tournaments) .............. Tim Stried
Publication Sales ............................... Molly Downard
Regional Update Meetings ...................... Bob Goldring
Representation/Divisional Breakdowns ............ TBD
Sanctioning – Non-Member/Interstate Contests .... Molly Downard
Scholar-Athlete Certificates/Scholarships ...... Ronald Sayers
Sports Medicine/Healthy Lifestyle Issues .......... Emily Gates
State Records ...................................... Tim Stried
Ticketing .......................................... Jacki Windon
Tournament Finances ......................... Laura Lemanski
Website and Social Media ................. Tim Stried

OHSAA Staff Contact Information

Main Phone Number: 614-267-2502 | Fax: 614-267-1677

Name ................. Extension .............. Email
Charles Anderson .............. 110 ........... canderson@ohsaa.org
Kate Barnett .................. 127 ............. kbarnett@ohsaa.org
Tyler Brooks .................. 112 ............. tbrooks@ohsaa.org
Molly Downard ............... 108 ............. mdowndow@ohsaa.org
Emily Gates ................... 107 ............. egates@ohsaa.org
Bob Goldring ................. 116 ............. bgoldring@ohsaa.org
Kim Kiehl ...................... 133 ............. kkiehl@ohsaa.org
John Kuzio ..................... 129 ............. jkuzio@ohsaa.org
Angie Lawler ................. 113 ............. alawler@ohsaa.org
Laura Lemanski .............. 118 ............. lemanski@ohsaa.org
Kristin Ronai ................ 132 ............. kronai@ohsaa.org
Beau Rugg ...................... 111 ............. brugg@ohsaa.org
Luke Sayers .................. 119 ............. luke.sayers@teallpropeirtiesgroup.com
Ronald Sayers ................. 130 ............. rson@ohsaa.org
Tim Stried .................... 124 ............. t stried@ohsaa.org
Doug Ute ......................... 108 ............. dute@ohsaa.org
Laura Vermilya ............... 103 ............. lvermilya@ohsaa.org
Chris Walker ................. 102 ............. cwalker@ohsaa.org
Jacki Windon ................ 109 ............. jwindon@ohsaa.org

Updated July 1, 2021
Your Guide to myOHSAA

What is myOHSAA?
myOHSAA is the shared database through which each member school provides the OHSAA with required information to ensure compliance with the OHSAA Constitution, Bylaws and Sport Regulations. Each member high school, grades 9-12, and each member 7th & 8th grade school has a separate myOHSAA account even if the 7-12 grades share the same building.

Each member school’s account can be accessed and maintained by the school principal, athletic administrator(s) and athletic secretary. In addition, sport coaches have access to view and complete information required of them for the school.

The school’s myOHSAA account must be accurate at all times. The information you provide allows us to effectively communicate with your school and the correct persons at your school. It allows your school to receive the proper sport mailings, covers your athletes with the OHSAA catastrophic insurance and participate in our tournaments. Therefore, we suggest that you check the school’s account at least twice a month using the myOHSAA Monthly Checklist printed within this booklet. Frequent checks of these important links on the school’s myOHSAA account will allow you to stay current on all communications and easily meet required deadlines.

Who, What, When, Where?
Who is your school’s building principal, athletic administrator(s), and Superintendent/Head of School? What sports do you offer and who are your coaches? Do you want to participate in the OHSAA tournaments? Has your school held the required pre-season parent meetings, completed the required state rules meetings, or completed the required tournament officials voting process? Has your principal submitted the school’s ballots for referendum voting and board elections? All of these items are maintained through the school’s myOHSAA account. Because of this, access to the account is essential for the athletic administrator(s) and school principal. If you do not have access to your school’s myOHSAA account, please contact OHSAA Membership Services today!

Need Help? No Worries!
How to videos are available. Just click the “How to myOHSAA” link at the bottom of the left column. In addition, OHSAA Membership Services is always ready to help with any question you have. Contact us at membershipservices@ohsaa.org.
### MYOHSAA MONTHLY CHECKLIST

#### 2021-22 School Year

**Sports Offered (2021-22)**
- All sports approved by my Board of Education or governing body are checked.
- Non-Competitive Cheer is checked under Non-Recognized Sports if my school has uniformed cheerleaders participating at OHSAA recognized or emerging sporting events.

**Tournament Entry (2021-22)**
- Tournament Entry is accurately set for all OHSAA Tournaments.

**Staff Management**
- The Building Principal is correctly listed under Staff and has a myOHSAA account.
- The HEAD coach of each OHSAA tournament sport is correctly listed under Staff and has a myOHSAA account.

**View State Meeting Attendance**
- There are NO "red flagged" sports which indicates my school has NOT received credit for the required state rules meeting.

**Pre-Season Parent Meeting**
- The dates of our school’s pre-season parent meetings are entered in myOHSAA for all sports.

**My School**
- The addresses, phone numbers and other information listed is accurate.

**My District**
- The name, email and phone numbers of our Superintendent or Head of School is accurate.
  - NOTE: Email corrections/updates to membershipservices@ohsaa.org.

**My Facilities**
- The address of my school’s home facilities are accurately listed.  NOTE: This information will be used to direct fans and officials for OHSAA tournaments.

**Emergency Contact Form (2021-22)**
- The Emergency Contact form for each OHSAA tournament sport has been submitted.  NOTE: This information will be used by OHSAA Tournament managers.

**Tournament Officials Voting**
- I have submitted the tournament officials voting ballot for my 9-12 grade school.  One ballot per school per required sport.
  - Fall Sports deadline without penalty is December 1. (FH, FT, SO, VB)
  - Winter Sports deadline without penalty is April 1. (BK, IH, WR)
  - Spring Sports deadline without penalty is June 1. (BB, BLAX, GLAX, SB)

---

### MYOHSAA MONTHLY CHECKLIST – 7th & 8th Grade

#### 2021-22 School Year

**Sports Offered (2021-22)**
- All sports approved by my Board of Education or governing body are checked.
- Non-Competitive Cheer is checked under Non-Recognized Sports if my school has uniformed cheerleaders participating at OHSAA recognized or emerging sporting events.

**Tournament Entry (2021-22)**
- Tournament Entry is accurately set for the OHSAA state track and field tournaments.

**Staff Management**
- The Building Principal is correctly listed under Staff and has a myOHSAA account.
- The 8th grade coach of each OHSAA sport is correctly listed under Staff and has a myOHSAA account.

**Pre-Season Parent Meeting**
- The dates of our school’s pre-season parent meetings are entered in myOHSAA for all sports.

**My School**
- The addresses, phone numbers and other information listed is accurate.

**My District**
- The name, email and phone numbers of our Superintendent or Head of School is accurate.
  - NOTE: Email corrections/updates to membershipservices@ohsaa.org.

**My Facilities**
- The address of my school’s home facilities are accurately listed.  NOTE: This information will be used to direct fans and officials for OHSAA tournaments.

**Emergency Contact Form (2021-22)**
- The Emergency Contact form for each OHSAA tournament sport has been submitted.  NOTE: This information will be used by OHSAA Tournament managers.
The Basics

Voted in place by OHSAA member schools in May 2014, Competitive Balance is a process which makes modifications to how schools are placed into tournament divisions in the team sports of baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball and volleyball. The modifications are based on which students are actually on each respective roster. The roster data collection takes place in ArbiterGame within the ‘Students’ tab, and the data is entered by each respective athletic administrator or his/her designee. There is a window after the conclusion of each season when roster data is required to be entered and a deadline date when all roster data must be received. Failure to submit roster data may result in penalties as determined by the OHSAA. Refusal to submit roster data or falsification of roster data may result in removal from the OHSAA tournament.

The Formula

**Initial Enrollment** (from EMIS - all students in grades 9 through 11 in a school)

+ **Competitive Balance Enrollment** (the students on a respective team, which is determined by multiplying each student on the Initial Roster Count by either Tier 0, Tier 1 or Tier 2 Sport Specific Factor (which is explained below) and adding them together)

= **(Final) Tournament Enrollment** (count used for tournament division placement; calculated by the Executive Director’s Office)

Basic Principles of Tiering

Tier 0 = each student on a particular team’s roster meeting the criteria of this factor, is multiplied by 0 (so that number will always be 0).

Tier 1 = each student on a particular team’s roster meeting the criteria of this factor, multiplied by 1 (so that number will always be 1).

Tier 2 = each student on a particular team’s roster meeting the criteria of this factor, multiplied by the sport specific factor (Football = 3; Soccer, Volleyball, Basketball, Baseball, & Softball = 7).

Tier 1 Non-Enrolled = each student on a particular team’s roster meeting the criteria of this factor (so that number will always be 1).

Non-Competitive Balance Student **(IMPORTANT!)** = each student on your Arbiter roster **WHO SHOULD NOT** be counted for Competitive Balance purposes (soccer, volleyball, basketball, baseball, softball: the student was NOT on the tournament roster and did NOT play in a varsity regular season contest; football: the student is a freshman and did NOT appear in a varsity regular season contest).

How to Determine Tiers

There is a fundamental difference in how public schools and non-public schools determine Tiers. For a public school, begin with “Does the student and at least one parent currently reside within your school district (or within your attendance zone for multiple high school districts)?” For a non-public school, begin with “Has the student been continuously enrolled in the same system of education since the start of 7th grade?” A more detailed explanation for each of the three scenarios follows.

Public Schools – Determining Tiers (Single H.S. District)

Ask: “Does the student and at least one parent currently reside within your school district?”

If Yes: Enter this student as a Tier 0. **(Visit [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) for non-enrolled students)

If No, Ask: “Has the student maintained continuous enrollment inside your district since the start of 7th grade (likely via open enrollment)?”

If Yes: Enter this student as a Tier 1.

If No: Enter this student as a Tier 2.

Public Schools – Determining Tiers (Multiple H.S. District)

Ask: “Does the student and at least one parent currently reside within your attendance zone?”

If Yes: Enter this student as a Tier 0. **(Visit [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) for non-enrolled students)

If No, Ask: “Does the student and at least one parent currently reside within your school district?”

If Yes: Enter this student as a Tier 1.

If No, Ask: “Has the student maintained continuous enrollment at a school inside your district since the start of 7th grade (likely via open enrollment)?”

If Yes: Enter this student as a Tier 1.

If No: Enter this student as a Tier 2.
Non-Public Schools – Determining Tiers

Note: For non-public schools, it does not matter where the student and his/her parents currently reside.

Ask: “Has the student maintained continuous enrollment in the same system of education since the start of 7th grade?”
If No: Enter this student as a Tier 2.
If Yes, Ask: “Did the student attend your designated feeder school since the start of 7th grade and, if he/she did not enter the high school at the beginning of 9th grade, has he/she maintained continuous enrollment in the same system of education?”
If Yes: Enter this student as a Tier 0.
If No: Enter this student as a Tier 1.

Rostering Reminders

In May 2019 and December 2019, respectively, the membership approved four referendum issues related to Competitive Balance and the OHSAA Board of Directors approved a change to the Competitive Balance Business Rules. While understanding that athletic administrators have had a multitude of issues with which to deal during the pandemic and also realizing that many administrators are in their first year at their respective schools, we wanted to provide you with a few reminders on Competitive Balance:

1.) The biggest change from the 2019 referendum issue is that in the sports of soccer, volleyball, basketball, baseball and softball, all students shall be annually assigned a specific tier who were on your school’s tournament roster (including those who were moved onto the roster as your school advanced in the tournament and those students who never played in a varsity regular season contest), along with students who were not on the tournament roster but played in a varsity regular season contest (including those who DID play but later transferred, became ineligible, quit, became injured or are now sitting out due to the OHSAA transfer consequence).

2.) Also approved in the 2019 referendum voting is that in the sport of football, all students shall be annually assigned a specific tier who are in grades 10 through 12 and are listed on ANY roster (including those who DID play but later transferred, became ineligible, quit, became injured or are now sitting out due to the OHSAA transfer consequence), along with any ninth-grade student who played in a varsity regular season contest (including those who DID play but later transferred, became ineligible, quit or became injured).

Note: Counting whether a freshman played in a contest for Competitive Balance purposes in football is different than the football regulation on counting whether a student played in a quarter.

3.) The change to the Competitive Balance Business Rules is that a second option will permit non-public schools to utilize any school within the same system of education that is physically located within a 12.5-mile radius of the high school as a feeder school. The 12.5-mile radius shall be the most direct path between the high school and the elementary school(s).

Use of EMIS Data vs. Competitive Balance Data

A few common questions posed to the Executive Director’s Office are ‘How often does my school submit its Competitive Balance Data’ and ‘Is EMIS data utilized annually?’

A1.: Administrators are to submit their Competitive Balance data for the eight Competitive Balance sports ANNUALLY. This data is used in arrears (e.g. roster data submitted during the 2021-22 school year will be used in the 2022-23 school year).

A2.: The OHSAA utilizes EMIS data for a two-year period. It is collected from the Ohio Department of Education the fall of an odd-numbered year and utilized for a two-year period beginning with the next odd-numbered year (e.g. collected in fall 2021; utilized for both the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years).

Roster Submission Deadlines*

- FALL SPORTS
  (Football, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Volleyball)
  Friday, Oct. 15, 2021 - Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2021
- WINTER SPORTS
  (Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball)
  Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022 – Friday, Apr. 1, 2022
- SPRING SPORTS
  (Baseball, Softball)
  Monday, May 2, 2022 – Wednesday, June 15, 2022

* Schools are HIGHLY ENCOURAGED to begin entering roster data when the roster submission date begins and only save the ending date for making any updates. See Reminder: Recent Changes to Competitive Balance for specifics on which students to roster (do NOT assign a tier to all students in grades 9 through 12).

Additional Competitive Balance Assistance

We want to make sure you are receiving help if it is needed. The OHSAA website has a comprehensive Competitive Balance Resource Center that includes help for a variety of situations. So be sure to visit: https://www.ohsaa.org/School-Resources/Competitive-Balance-Resource-Center

For specific answers to questions that could not be found with- in the Competitive Balance Resource Center, please contact the following OHSAA staff members:

Rostering/Tiering Questions:
Kristin Ronai (kronai@ohsaa.org)

Technical Questions on Using ArbiterGame for Rostering:
Ronald Sayers (rsayers@ohsaa.org)
Overview

Participating in your school’s interscholastic athletics program will provide some of the most memorable and enjoyable moments of your life. Since your school is a member of the Ohio High School Athletic Association, there are standards that must be met in order to be eligible to compete.

The essential eligibility requirements in this publication are only a summary of some of the regulations affecting student eligibility. OHSAA eligibility requirements are published in the OHSAA Handbook, which can be found in the offices of your principal, your athletic administrator and on the OHSAA website (www.ohsaa.org). Your school district also has the authority to establish additional eligibility standards, including academic and codes of student or athletic conduct.

Any questions you have concerning OHSAA standards or your athletic eligibility should be reviewed with your school principal or athletic administrator. You should also meet with these administrators EVERY TIME before you change your course schedule or drop a course.

If you are a transfer student, you must ensure that you and your school administrators have submitted all forms, if applicable, to the OHSAA Office in Columbus.

The bylaws and regulations, including the eligibility standards, of the OHSAA are annually adopted by each member school as a required condition of membership within the Association. You are urged, as a student-athlete, to review these standards since you are equally responsible for compliance with these standards. Best wishes as you learn the valuable lessons that come with your participation in interscholastic athletics!

PLEASE NOTE: Student-athletes and parents have the opportunity to ask school administrators questions on OHSAA and school eligibility requirements, the school’s Athletic Code of Conduct policy and other issues during preseason meetings that the OHSAA requires schools to hold no later than two weeks after the beginning of each sports season. Meetings should include showing a presentation prepared by the OHSAA that reviews key student eligibility issues, healthy lifestyles, sporting behavior, concussion management and sudden cardiac arrest.

OHSAA Eligibility – Falsified Information (Bylaw 4-1)

If you compete under a name other than your own or provide false information in an attempt to establish athletic eligibility you will be subject to a period of ineligibility.

OHSAA Eligibility – Age (Bylaw 4-2)

When a high school student (grades 9-12) turns 20 years of age, he/she becomes ineligible for interscholastic athletics. There is an exception to this bylaw, so please arrange a meeting with your principal or athletic administrator to review this exception within Bylaw 4-2-1.

OHSAA Eligibility – Enrollment & Attendance (Bylaw 4-3)

After establishing ninth-grade eligibility, you are permitted only eight (8) semesters of athletic eligibility. The semesters are taken in order of attendance once ninth-grade eligibility has been established. Semesters are counted toward eligibility whether you participate in interscholastic athletics or not. There are exceptions to this regulation, so please arrange a meeting with your principal or athletic administrator to review these exceptions.

Furthermore, students are only permitted to participate in sports at the school where they are enrolled and attending fulltime (Bylaw 4-3-1). State law permits certain classifications of non-enrolled students (home educated, non-public, community school, STEM students) to have participation opportunities at the public high school that the student would be entitled to attend under the tuition statute, (i.e., the school located in the parents’ residential district or attendance zone for multiple high school districts). There is an additional option for home-educated and non-public school students. If you are participating via this legislation, note that the language says you shall be given the “same opportunities” to participate – not greater opportunities — and that you must meet the same eligibility requirements as other students. For more information on participation opportunities for non-enrolled students, go to the Eligibility section of the OHSAA website (https://www.ohsaa.org/Eligibility/Enrollment).
**OHSAA Eligibility – Scholarship (Bylaw 4-4)**

In order to be eligible for the first grading period upon entrance into grade 9, you must have received passing grades in a minimum of four (4) classes in the immediately preceding grading period. In order to maintain eligibility for grades 9-12, you must have received passing grades in a minimum of five (5) one credit courses, or the equivalent, in the immediately preceding grading period. In addition:

- Summer school, College Credit Plus taken in the summer and other educational options (e.g. work permitted after the conclusion of the grading period) may not be used to bring a student into compliance with scholarship bylaws, nor can they be used to compensate for lack of courses taken in the preceding grading period.
- Your semester or yearly grades have no effect on OHSAA eligibility (although they could, depending upon your school’s official grading periods). OHSAA eligibility is dependent upon grades received in the immediately preceding grading period.
- Those taking postsecondary school courses, including College Credit Plus, must comply with OHSAA scholarship regulations.
- The eligibility or ineligibility of a student continues until the start of the fifth school day of the next grading period, at which time the grades from the immediately preceding grading period become effective. **Note:** Check with your principal or athletic administrator for the exact date that eligibility will be determined.

**OHSAA Eligibility – Conduct, Character & Discipline (Bylaw 4-5)**

In matters pertaining to personal conduct in which athletic contests and their related activities are not involved, the school itself is to be the sole judge as to whether the student may participate in athletics. In matters pertaining to personal conduct in which athletic contests and their related activities are involved, the principal and game officials shall file a report and the OHSAA office shall have jurisdiction to determine additional penalties including whether or not the student may participate in athletics. Further, any student who is subject to a penalty or consequences for violations of a school’s Board adopted Code of Conduct (Student, Athletic) shall be declared ineligible in the event the student transfers to another school before the penalty or consequence has been fully served.

**OHSAA Eligibility – Residency (Bylaw 4-6)**

If your parent(s) or legal guardian live outside of Ohio, you are ineligible unless one of the exceptions to the residence bylaw is met. The exceptions for out-of-state residency are found within Bylaw 4-6.

**OHSAA Eligibility – Transfers (Bylaw 4-7)**

Once your eligibility is established at a high school, a transfer to a different high school may mean you will lose eligibility for interscholastic athletics for a period of time at your new school. For the specifics on the period of ineligibility, visit [https://www.ohsaa.org/Eligibility/Transfer](https://www.ohsaa.org/Eligibility/Transfer).

- If you are new to this school as a transfer student, all required paperwork must be submitted to the OHSAA by your school administrator, if applicable, and, depending on your situation, the state office may have to grant approval for eligibility. Full eligibility, insofar as transfer is concerned, may be granted only if one of the exceptions to the OHSAA transfer bylaw has been met or if you have not participated in the sport at any high school in the 12 months immediately preceding your transfer.
- To determine if you qualify for an exception or you have other questions on these regulations, arrange a meeting with your principal or athletic administrator. If questions remain, ask them to contact the OHSAA.
OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
Doug Ute, Executive Director

OHSAA Eligibility – International & Exchange Students (Bylaw 4-8)
If you are an International Student, you are ineligible unless you live in Ohio with your parent(s) or unless you meet one of the exceptions to the International & Exchange student bylaw (Bylaw 4-8). Please schedule a meeting with your school administrator to discuss the different exceptions.

OHSAA Eligibility – Recruiting (Bylaw 4-9)
You may be declared ineligible if you are recruited by a person or group of persons to transfer to or enroll in a high school for athletic purposes. This may include your transferring to a school at which one of your former school coaches has been hired. In addition, any attempt by you to recruit a prospective student-athlete for athletic purposes is also prohibited. A violation may also affect the eligibility of the school team.

OHSAA Eligibility – Amateurism/Awards (Bylaw 4-10/Bylaw 5)
You may receive awards valued at $400 or less from any source as a result from participation in any sport in which you are an interscholastic athlete as long as the award is not dependent upon your performance/finish. However, you may never accept cash awards. You will lose your amateur status in a sport and forfeit your eligibility if you:
• Compete for money or other compensation.
• Capitalize on your athletic fame by receiving money, merchandise or services.
• Sign a contract or make a commitment to play professional athletics.
• Receive services, merchandise or any form of financial assistance from a professional sports organization.
• Compete with a professional athletics team even if no pay is received.
• Enter into an agreement with a sports or marketing agent.

Expenses for travel, meals and lodging may be accepted provided they are available to all participants and they are not contingent upon your team’s and/or your finish. A form is available at www.ohsaa.org to maintain amateur status and must be submitted to the OHSAA.

OHSAA Sport Regulation – Open Gyms/Facilities
School officials may designate open gyms/facilities, the sport to be played, the grade levels involved and may also limit participants to those from your school. You may participate in open gyms/facilities, but remember:
• No one from the respective school may be excluded from participating;
• No one shall be required to attend;
• No school officials may invite selected students or determine the teams;
• No school officials may transport students to or from either school or non-school facilities;
• No coaching or instruction may be provided.

The OHSAA may impose penalties against you, your school and/or your coach for violating these regulations.

OHSAA Sport Regulation – Individual Instruction
There are restrictions on the instruction a student-athlete can receive from school coaches outside of the season. Some of these regulations are also different for team sports vs. individual sports. Before receiving instruction outside the season from school coaches, visit https://ohsaa.web.bloxb.core.windows.net/files/Sports/GeneralSportRegs2021_22.pdf and review the section on Instructional Programs to ensure all regulations are being followed. Some other key notes on these regulations:
• Besides during the season of your sport, school coaches may also provide team instruction between June 1 and July 31. This would include such activities as volleyball, field hockey, soccer, basketball, ice hockey, lacrosse, baseball or softball teams competing in tournaments or ‘shootouts;’ football teams participating in 7-on-7’s, or coaches conducting or taking teams to instructional camps from June 1-July 31 only.
• Between August 1 and May 31 and outside defined “no contact periods,” school coaches may also provide individual instruction outside the season of play. There are restrictions for team sports, so review the OHSAA’s Individual Skill Instruction regulations to ensure all standards are being followed.
• Individual skill instruction from non-school coaches may be received in any sport by a squad member at any time in individual or group lessons provided that these individual skill instructions do not violate any Board of Education, school administrators’ or coaches’ policies.
• It is a violation if a coach suggests a student-athlete’s participation in instructional programs is mandatory outside the school season.
OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
Doug Ute, Executive Director

OHSAA Sport Regulation – Preparticipation Evaluation & Consent Forms

Before the student’s first practice (or prior to the student’s first participation should he/she join the team after the season has started), each student must have had a physical examination within the past year and an examination form signed by a medical examiner must be on file at your school. Physical examinations are valid for participation for 13 months from the date of the exam except for those that take place from May 1-June 1. Those exams are valid for one year plus through the end of the next school year’s spring sports season.

In addition, no student will be eligible unless that student and his or her parents have signed the OHSAA Authorization Form, the OHSAA Eligibility & Authorization Statement, the Concussion Form and the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Form, all of which must be on file at your school.

Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs & Steroids

The OHSAA does not permit the use of any form of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs at the site of any interscholastic contests. Besides the health risks involved, use of any of these items will result in you being disqualified from contests and likely facing additional school and legal penalties.

There are additional issues related to illicit drugs, such as anabolic steroids and some prescription drugs used with the goal of aiding performance. If you use anabolic steroids or other performance-enhancing drugs of which the OHSAA is aware, you are ineligible for interscholastic competition until medical evidence indicates that your system is free of these drugs.

Another prominent issue is the use of supplements. The increased availability of these items allows student-athletes access to a wide variety of products aggressively marketed in fitness and strength training magazines and websites. Often their marketing campaigns include promises, endorsed by faulty research claims, of extra-ordinary weight loss, explosive power or tremendous strength gains. It is important for coaches, athletic administrators and parents to educate themselves about what substances your student-athletes may be using and about the potential risks involved with uneducated supplement use.

OHSAA Sport Regulation – Non-School Teams

If you compete on a non-school team or in non-school competition as an individual in the same sport during your school team’s season (example: non-school soccer during the school’s soccer season), you may lose eligibility. There are also certain restrictions regarding tryouts, practices and competitions with non-school teams before, during and after your school season. Before participating with a non-school team, visit https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Sports/GeneralSportRegs2021_22.pdf and review the sections on Non-School Programs/Teams to ensure all regulations are being followed. Some other key notes on these regulations:

- A member of an interscholastic squad in a team sport (baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball and volleyball) may not participate in an athletic contest, tryouts or any type of team or group training or practices on or with a non-school squad in the same sport during the school’s interscholastic season once you become a member of the school team. This would include college teams and/or college tryouts.
- In the individual sports of bowling, cross country, golf, gymnastics, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field and wrestling, however, you may practice and try out for a non-school team but may not compete in a contest during your school season.
- A member of an interscholastic squad in a team sport (baseball, basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball and volleyball) may try out, practice and compete on non-school teams before and after the school season from August 1 to May 31 (there are exceptions for baseball and softball) provided:

The OHSAA’s ‘50 percent limitation’ regulation is maintained, meaning the number of students from the same school team on the roster of the non-school team is limited to five (5) students in the sports of soccer, field hockey, ice hockey and lacrosse; four (4) students in the sports of baseball and softball; three (3) students in the sport of volleyball, and two (2) students in the sport of basketball. School football team members are prohibited from competing on non-school teams except from June 1 to July 31. All football activities during the June 1 to July 31 period must be non-contact and the only football equipment permitted are helmets and cleats. Note: Seniors are exempt from these limitations after the conclusion of their sport season.

- There is no limit on the number of students from the same school team that may participate on the same non-school team from June 1 to July 31.

Check the OHSAA Sport-by-Sport Regulations (available at www.ohsaa.org) for the date you must cease participation on non-school teams in order to be eligible for OHSAA tournament competition, along with penalties for non-compliance with this date.

Note:
- Seniors are exempt from these limitations after the conclusion of their sport season.
OHSAA Sport Regulation –
Concussion & Sudden Cardiac Arrest Management

It is everyone's responsibility to take the necessary precautions to reduce the likelihood of brain injuries and sudden cardiac arrest.

In Ohio, any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion, such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems, shall be immediately removed from the contest or practice and shall not return to play that same day. Thereafter, the student shall not return to practice or competition until cleared with written authorization from a physician or health care provider approved by the local board in accordance with state law.

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is the most common cause of death among student-athletes, and dizziness, loss of breath and a racing heart are often symptoms that are overlooked. In many cases, recognizing the signs of cardiac trouble means student-athletes can continue their athletic participation.

Each school is required to review both its concussion and sudden cardiac arrest management protocols with students and their parents; each student and his or her parents must review and sign both the Ohio Department of Health’s “Concussion Information Sheet” and a “Sudden Cardiac Arrest Information Sheet” prior to participation, and parents and students are highly encouraged to review short video presentations on both concussions and sudden cardiac arrest. Check with your school administrators on where to find these videos.

OHSAA Sport Regulation –
Sporting Behavior

The OHSAA’s vision for positive sporting behavior is built on expectations. It calls on the school community — administrators, teachers, coaches, students, parents and fans — to strive for positive sporting behavior in everything they do by teaching the values of ethics, integrity, equity, fairness and respect.

As a student-athlete, you are expected to accept the responsibility and privilege of representing your school and community while participating in school sports. You are expected to:

• Treat opponents, coaches and officials with respect, and
• Ensure your actions do not incite fans or other participants or attempt to embarrass, ridicule or demean others.

The OHSAA has established a policy for students ejected for unsporting behavior or flagrant fouls. If you are ejected:

• You will be ineligible for all contests for the remainder of that day, and you will be ineligible for all contests at all levels in that sport until two regular season contests are played at the same level as the ejection (one contest in football).
• If you are ejected for fighting you will be ineligible for all contests for the remainder of that day, and you will be ineligible for all contests at all levels in that sport until FOUR regular season contests are played at the same level as the ejection (two contests in football).

If you are ejected a second time in a season, you are subject to additional, more stringent penalties, including a maximum penalty of suspension from play for the remainder of the season in that sport.

As a participant in school sports, you are expected to act with dignity, speak with courtesy and play with pride. In short, Respect the Game!

See Eligibility Checklist on Page 6…
2021-22 OHSAA Eligibility Checklist
For High School Students Enrolled and/or Participating at an OHSAA Member School

Before you play, you must be eligible. Please review the following checklist with your parents. Unchecked boxes may mean you are NOT eligible. For questions, see your principal or athletic administrator.

☐ I am officially enrolled in an OHSAA member high school or participating in accordance with state law.
☐ I am enrolled in at least five one credit courses or the equivalent, each of which counts toward graduation.
☐ I received passing grades in at least five one credit courses or the equivalent, each of which count toward graduation, during the immediately preceding grading period, or as an incoming 9th grader, I have passed four classes.
☐ I have a biological and/or adoptive parent who lives in Ohio.
☐ I have not changed schools without a corresponding move by my parents or legal guardian or by qualifying for one of the exceptions to the OHSAA transfer regulation.
☐ If I have changed schools (transferred), I have followed up with my new school to ensure that all proper forms (if applicable) have been submitted to the OHSAA Office.
☐ I understand I am permitted only eight semesters of eligibility taken in order of attendance, whether I play or not, once I have become eligible for athletics at grade 9.
☐ I understand I will become ineligible once I turn 20 years old.
☐ I have not received an award, equipment or prize in a sport in which I compete interscholastically valued at greater than $400/item/source.
☐ I was either 1) born in the United States, 2) born outside the United States but am living here with a parent, or 3) have been approved for eligibility under Bylaw 4-8, International Students.
☐ I am competing under my true name and have provided my school with my correct home address.
☐ I have not competed in a mandatory open gym/facility, conditioning or instructional program outside the school season.
☐ I have not been coached or provided instruction by a school coach in a team sport in which I participate other than during my sport season, during an instructional period approved by the OHSAA outside the season observing the 50% roster limitation.
☐ I am not competing on a non-school team or in non-school competition as an individual during my school team’s season in the same sport.
☐ I have not been recruited for athletic purposes to attend this school.
☐ I am not using anabolic steroids or other performance-enhancing drugs.
☐ I have had a physical examination within the past year and it is on file at my school.
☐ My parents and I attended a preseason meeting at my school which the OHSAA requires to be held no later than two weeks after the beginning of each sports season. We viewed a presentation prepared by the OHSAA to review key eligibility issues, healthy lifestyles and sporting behavior.
☐ My school also reviewed with my parents and me its concussion management protocol, we reviewed and signed the Ohio Department of Health’s “Concussion Information Sheet” prior to participation and we reviewed a short presentation on concussions available at no cost at www.nfhslearn.com.
☐ My school also reviewed with my parents and me the Sudden Cardiac Arrest video, and we reviewed and have signed the Ohio Department of Health’s “Sudden Cardiac Arrest Information Sheet” prior to participation and we reviewed a short presentation on Sudden Cardiac Arrest.
☐ My parents & I have signed the OHSAA Authorization Form and the OHSAA Eligibility and Authorization Statement. They are on file at my school.

___________________________________________  ______________________________________
Student Printed Name  Parent/Guardian Printed Name

___________________________________________  ______________________________________
Student Signature  Date  Parent/Guardian Signature  Date

NOTE: This form has been provided as a service to the OHSAA membership for schools to utilize with student-athletes and their parents/guardians. Use of this form is at the sole discretion of each member school.
Student Eligibility Guide for 2021-2022 School Year for Interscholastic Athletic Participation in 7/8 Grade Schools

Overview

The purpose of seventh and eighth grade education-based athletics is to provide rich and wholesome activities for as many students as possible who meet the eligibility standards that have been approved by OHSAA members schools. As a result, students will develop to the greatest degree talents and skills such as leadership, teamwork and discipline, which will enable them to become responsible citizens in our society while demonstrating good sporting conduct.

We believe in interscholastic athletics as an integral part of the total school program reflecting the needs of the school, the community and the student. We believe the potential values to the student and coaches to be very essential. Competition under prescribed regulations and policies provides adolescents with the opportunity to develop ideas and habits of health, fair play, initiative, achievement, emotional control, good sporting conduct, social adaptability and good citizenship. Athletics foster team and school spirit and a sense of community.

We believe each coach should make every effort to provide an opportunity for participation for all eligible students involved in a sport. The students shall be taught the fundamental skills necessary for further growth and improvement in their respective sports. These skills are to be taught by an educated, trained and qualified coach. We believe that high quality skill development for students at the seventh and eighth grade level is of utmost importance.

PLEASE NOTE: Student-athletes and parents have the opportunity to ask school administrators questions on OHSAA and school eligibility requirements, the school’s Athletic Code of Conduct policy and other issues during preseason meetings that the OHSAA requires schools to hold no later than two weeks after the beginning of each sports season. Meetings should include showing a presentation prepared by the OHSAA that reviews key student eligibility issues, healthy lifestyles, sporting behavior, concussion management and sudden cardiac arrest.

OHSAA Eligibility – Falsified Information (Bylaw 4-1)
If you compete under a name other than your own or provide false information in an attempt to establish athletic eligibility you will be subject to a period of ineligibility.

OHSAA Eligibility – Age (Bylaw 4-2)
A student who turns 15 before August 1 of the school year in which he/she desires to participate is not eligible for seventh and eighth grade athletics. There are limited exceptions to this regulation, so please arrange a meeting with your principal or athletic administrator to review these exceptions within Bylaw 4-2-2.

OHSAA Eligibility – Enrollment & Attendance (Bylaw 4-3)
After you complete the sixth grade and before entering ninth grade, you are permitted athletic eligibility for a period not to exceed four semesters taken in the order of attendance, whether you participate or not. This relates in concept to the eight-semester limit regulation that is in place for high school students and has one limited exception.

Furthermore, students are only permitted to participate in sports at the school where they are enrolled and attending fulltime (Bylaw 4-3-1). State law permits certain classifications of non-enrolled students (home educated, non-public, community school, STEM students) to have participation opportunities at the public high school that the student would be entitled to attend under the tuition statute, (i.e., the school located in the parents’ residential district or attendance zone for multiple high school districts). There is an additional option for home-educated and non-public school students. If you are participating via this legislation, note that the language says you shall be given the “same opportunities” to participate – not greater opportunities — and that you must meet the same eligibility requirements as other students. For more information on participation opportunities for non-enrolled students, go to the Eligibility section of the OHSAA website (https://www.ohsaa.org/Eligibility/Enrollment).
### OHSAA Eligibility – Scholarship (Bylaw 4-4)

In order to maintain eligibility for grades 7 and 8, you must be currently enrolled in a member school or be participating in accordance with state law, and you must have received passing grades **in a minimum of four (4) classes** in the immediately preceding grading period.

Summer school and other educational options may not be used to bring a student into compliance with scholarship bylaws, nor can they be used to compensate for lack of courses taken in the preceding grading period.

Your semester or yearly grades have no effect on OHSAA eligibility (although they could, depending upon your school’s official grading periods). OHSAA eligibility is dependent upon grades received in the immediately preceding grading period.

In order to be eligible for the first grading period upon entrance into grade 9, you must have received passing grades **in a minimum of four (4) classes** in the immediately preceding grading period.

### OHSAA Eligibility – Conduct, Character & Discipline (Bylaw 4-5)

In matters pertaining to personal conduct in which athletic contests and their related activities are not involved, the school itself is to be the sole judge as to whether the student may participate in athletics. In matters pertaining to personal conduct in which athletic contests and their related activities are involved, the principal and game officials shall file a report and the OHSAA office shall have jurisdiction to determine additional penalties including whether or not the student may participate in athletics. Further, any student who is subject to a penalty or consequences for violations of a school’s Board adopted Code of Conduct (Student, Athletic) shall be declared ineligible in the event the student transfers to another school before the penalty or consequence has been fully served.

### OHSAA Eligibility – Residency (Bylaw 4-6)

If your parent(s) or legal guardian live outside of Ohio, you will be ineligible unless one of the exceptions to the residency bylaw is met. The exceptions for out-of-state residency are found within Bylaw 4-6.

### OHSAA Eligibility – Transfers (Bylaw 4-7)

The transfer bylaw is not applicable for seventh and eighth grade students. However, after completing eighth grade and/or establishing ninth-grade eligibility, a transfer to a different high school will mean you may lose eligibility for interscholastic athletics at your new school for a period of time. For the specifics on the period of ineligibility, visit [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org).

### OHSAA Eligibility – International & Exchange Students (Bylaw 4-8)

If you are an International Student, you are ineligible unless you live in Ohio with your parent(s) or unless you meet one of the exceptions to the International & Exchange student bylaw (Bylaw 4-8). Please schedule a meeting with your school administrator to discuss the different exceptions.

### OHSAA Eligibility – Recruiting (Bylaw 4-9)

You may be declared ineligible if you are recruited by a person or group of persons to transfer to or enroll in a high school for athletic purposes. This may include your transferring to a school at which one of your former school coaches has been hired. In addition, any attempt by you to recruit a prospective student-athlete for athletic purposes is also prohibited. A violation may also affect the eligibility of the school team.
OHSAA Eligibility –
Amateurism/Awards (Bylaw 4-10/Bylaw 5)

You may receive awards valued at $400 or less from any source as a result from participation in any sport in which you are an interscholastic athlete as long as the award is not dependent upon your performance/finish. However, you may never accept cash awards. You will lose your amateur status in a sport and forfeit your eligibility if you:

- Compete for money or other compensation.
- Capitalize on your athletic fame by receiving money, merchandise or services.
- Sign a contract or make a commitment to play professional athletics.
- Receive services, merchandise or any form of financial assistance from a professional sports organization.
- Compete with a professional athletics team even if no pay is received.
- Enter into an agreement with a sports or marketing agent.

Expenses for travel, meals and lodging may be accepted provided they are available to all participants and they are not contingent upon your team’s and/or your finish. A form is available at www.ohsaa.org to maintain amateur status and must be submitted to the OHSAA.

OHSAA Sport Regulation – Open Gyms/Facilities

School officials may designate open gyms/facilities, the sport to be played, the grade levels involved and may also limit participants to those from your school. You may participate in open gyms/facilities, but remember:

- No one from the respective school may be excluded from participating;
- No one shall be required to attend;
- No school officials may invite selected students or determine the teams;
- No school officials may transport students to or from either school or non-school facilities;
- No coaching or instruction may be provided.

The OHSAA may impose penalties against you, your school and/or your coach for violating these regulations.

OHSAA Sport Regulation – Instruction

There are restrictions on the instruction you can receive from school coaches outside of your season. Some of these regulations are also different for team sports vs. individual sports. Before receiving instruction outside the season from your school coaches, visit https://ohsaaonline.blob.core.windows.net/files/Sports/GeneralSportRegs2021_22.pdf and review the section on Instructional Programs to ensure all regulations are being followed. Some other key notes on these regulations:

- Besides during the season of your sport, school coaches may also provide team instruction between June 1 and July 31. This would include such activities as volleyball, field hockey, soccer, basketball, ice hockey, lacrosse, baseball or softball teams competing in tournaments or ‘shootouts,’ football teams participating in 7-on-7’s, or coaches conducting or taking teams to instructional camps from June 1-July 31 only.
- Between August 1 and May 31 and outside defined “no contact periods,” school coaches may also provide individual instruction outside the season of play. There are restrictions for team sports, so review the OHSAA’s Individual Skill Instruction regulations to ensure all standards are being followed.
- Individual skill instruction from non-school coaches may be received in any sport by a squad member at any time in individual or group lessons provided that these individual skill instructions do not violate any Board of Education, school administrators’ or coaches’ policies.
- It is a violation if a coach suggests your participation in instructional programs is mandatory outside the school season.

OHSAA Sport Regulation –
Preparticipation Evaluation & Consent Forms

Before the student’s first practice (or prior to the student’s first participation should he/she join the team after the season has started), each student must have had a physical examination within the past year and an examination form signed by a medical examiner must be on file at your school. Physical examinations are valid for participation for 13 months from the date of the exam except for those that take place from May 1-June 1. Those exams are valid for one year plus through the end of the next school year’s spring sports season.

In addition, no student will be eligible unless that student and his or her parents have signed the OHSAA Authorization Form, the OHSAA Eligibility & Authorization Statement, the Concussion Form and the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Form, all of which must be on file at your school.
### OHSAA Sport Regulation – Non-School Teams

If you compete on a non-school team or in non-school competition as an individual in the same sport during your school team's season (example: non-school soccer during the school's soccer season), you may lose eligibility. There are also certain restrictions regarding tryouts, practices and competitions with non-school teams before, during and after your school season. Before participating with a non-school team, visit [https://ohsaa.org/files/Sports/GeneralSportRegs2021_22.pdf](https://ohsaa.org/files/Sports/GeneralSportRegs2021_22.pdf) and review the sections on Non-School Programs/Teams to ensure all regulations are being followed. Some other key notes on these regulations:

- A member of an interscholastic squad in a team sport (baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball and volleyball) may not participate in an athletic contest, tryouts or any type of team or group training or practices on or with a non-school squad in the same sport during the school’s interscholastic season once you become a member of the school team. **This would include college teams and/or college tryouts.**
- In the individual sports of bowling, cross country, golf, gymnastics, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field and wrestling, however, you may practice and try out for a non-school team but may **not compete in a contest during your school season.**
- A member of an interscholastic squad in a team sport (baseball, basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball and volleyball) may try out, practice and compete on non-school teams **before and after** the school season from August 1 to May 31 (there are exceptions for baseball and softball) provided:

  - The OHSAA’s ‘50 percent limitation’ regulation is maintained, meaning the number of students from the same school team on the roster of the non-school team is limited to five (5) students in the sports of soccer, field hockey, ice hockey and lacrosse; four (4) students in the sports of baseball and softball; three (3) students in the sport of volleyball, and two (2) students in the sport of basketball. **School football team members are prohibited from competing on non-school teams except from June 1 to July 31.** All football activities during the June 1 to July 31 period **must be non-contact and the only football equipment permitted are helmets and cleats.**
  - **Note:** Seniors are exempt from these limitations after the conclusion of their sport season.
  - There is no limit on the number of students from the same school team that may participate on the same non-school team from June 1 to July 31.

Check the OHSAA Sport-by-Sport Regulations (available at [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org)) for the date you must cease participation on non-school teams in order to be eligible for OHSAA tournament competition, along with penalties for non-compliance with this date.

### OHSAA Sport Regulation – Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs & Steroids

The OHSAA does not permit the use of any form of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs at the site of any interscholastic contests. Besides the health risks involved, use of any of these items will result in you being disqualified from contests and likely facing additional school and legal penalties. There are additional issues related to illicit drugs, such as anabolic steroids and some prescription drugs used with the goal of aiding performance. If you use anabolic steroids or other performance-enhancing drugs of which the OHSAA is aware, you are ineligible for interscholastic competition until medical evidence indicates that your system is free of these drugs.

Another prominent issue is the use of supplements. The increased availability of these items allows student-athletes access to a wide variety of products aggressively marketed in fitness and strength training magazines and websites. Often their marketing campaigns include promises, endorsed by faulty research claims, of extra-ordinary weight loss, explosive power or tremendous strength gains. It is important for coaches, athletic administrators and parents to educate themselves about what substances your student-athletes may be using and about the potential risks involved with uneducated supplement use.

### OHSAA Sport Regulation – Concussion & Sudden Cardiac Arrest Management

It is everyone’s responsibility to take the necessary pre-cautions to reduce the likelihood of brain injuries and sudden cardiac arrest.

In Ohio, any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion, such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems, shall be immediately removed from the contest or practice and shall not return to play that same day. Thereafter, the student shall not return to practice or competition until cleared with written authorization from a physician or health care provider approved by the local board in accordance with state law.
Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is the most common cause of death among student-athletes, and dizziness, loss of breath and a racing heart are often symptoms that are overlooked. In many cases, recognizing the signs of cardiac trouble means student-athletes can continue their athletic participation.

Each school is required to review both its concussion and sudden cardiac arrest management protocols with students and their parents; each student and his or her parents must review and sign both the Ohio Department of Health’s “Concussion Information Sheet” and a “Sudden Cardiac Arrest Information Sheet” prior to participation, and parents and students are highly encouraged to review short video presentations on both concussions and sudden cardiac arrest. Check with your school administrators on where to find these videos.

### OHSSAA Sport Regulation – Sporting Behavior

The OHSAA’s vision for positive sporting behavior is built on expectations. It calls on the school community — administrators, teachers, coaches, students, parents and fans — to strive for positive sporting behavior in everything they do by teaching the values of ethics, integrity, equity, fairness and respect.

As a student-athlete, you are expected to accept the responsibility and privilege of representing your school and community while participating in school sports. You are expected to treat opponents, coaches and officials with respect, and ensure your actions do not incite fans or other participants or attempt to embarrass, ridicule or demean others.

The OHSAA has established a policy for students ejected for unsporting behavior or flagrant fouls. If you are ejected:

- You will be ineligible for all contests for the remainder of that day, and you will be ineligible for all contests at all levels in that sport until two regular season contests are played at the same level as the ejection (one contest in football).
- If you are ejected for fighting you will be ineligible for all contests for the remainder of that day, and you will be ineligible for all contests at all levels in that sport until FOUR regular season contests are played at the same level as the ejection (two contests in football).

If you are ejected a second time in a season, you are subject to additional, more stringent penalties, including a maximum penalty of suspension from play for the remainder of the season in that sport.

As a participant in school sports, you are expected to act with dignity, speak with courtesy and play with pride. In short, Respect the Game!

See Eligibility Checklist on Page 6…
2021-22 OHSAA Eligibility Checklist
For 7/8 Grade Students Enrolled and/or Participating at an OHSAA Member School

Before you play, you must be eligible. Please review the following checklist with your parents. Unchecked boxes may mean you are NOT eligible. For questions, see your principal or athletic administrator.

- I am officially enrolled in an OHSAA member high school or participating in accordance with state law.
- I received passing grades in at least four subjects during the immediately preceding grading period.
- I have a biological and/or adoptive parent who lives in Ohio.
- I did not turn 15 before August 1 of the school year in which I desire to participate.
- I understand I am permitted only four semesters of eligibility taken in order of attendance, whether I play or not, once I have enrolled in grade seven and before entering grade 9.
- I have not received an award, equipment or prize in a sport in which I compete interscholastically valued at greater than $400/item/source.
- I was either 1) born in the United States, 2) born outside the United States but am living here with a parent, or 3) have been approved for eligibility under Bylaw 4-8, International Students.
- I am competing under my true name and have provided my school with my correct home address.
- I have not been coached or provided instruction by a school coach in a team sport in which I participate other than during my sport season, during an instructional period approved by the OHSAA outside the season observing the 50% roster limitation.
- I am not competing on a non-school team or in non-school competition as an individual during my school team’s season in the same sport.
- I have not been recruited for athletic purposes to attend this school.
- I am not using anabolic steroids or other performance-enhancing drugs.
- I have had a physical examination within the past year and it is on file at my school.
- My parents and I attended a preseason meeting at my school which the OHSAA requires to be held no later than two weeks after the beginning of each sports season. We viewed a presentation to review key eligibility issues, healthy lifestyles and sporting behavior.
- My school also reviewed with my parents and me its concussion management protocol, we reviewed and signed the Ohio Department of Health’s “Concussion Information Sheet” prior to participation and we reviewed a short presentation on concussions available at no cost at www.nfhslearn.com.
- My school also reviewed with my parents and me the Sudden Cardiac Arrest video, and we reviewed and have signed the Ohio Department of Health’s “Sudden Cardiac Arrest Information Sheet” prior to participation and we reviewed a short presentation on Sudden Cardiac Arrest.
- My parents and I have signed the OHSAA Authorization Form and the OHSAA Eligibility and Authorization Statement, and they are on file at my school.

___________________________________________  ________________________________
Student Printed Name                     Parent/Guardian Printed Name
___________________________________________  ________________________________
Student Signature                        Parent/Guardian Signature
___________________________________________  ________________________________
Date                                     Date

NOTE: This form has been provided as a service to the OHSAA membership for schools to utilize with student-athletes and their parents/guardians. Use of this form is at the sole discretion of each member school.
Many student scholarship appeals that come to the OHSAA office place sole responsibility on you, the school counselor, for their failure to meet the requirements of the applicable scholarship bylaws found in 4-4. The OHSAA recognizes that this notion is fundamentally flawed and incorrect and emphasizes that our rules make reference to the fact that scholastic success is a shared responsibility with parents and students expected to shoulder most of the load. The Executive Director’s Office has prepared this resource to help inform you of the crucial information that you need to know in order to best advise students appropriately.

**IMPORTANT ITEMS TO KNOW**

**HIGH SCHOOL**

1. All high school students MUST be enrolled in and earn passing grades in a minimum of five one-credit courses (or the equivalent) each and every grading period to have continuing eligibility.
2. Participate in every effort to ensure that all students are fully scheduled in a minimum of five one-credit courses each grading period.
3. If a student comes to you and asks to drop a course, ask the following questions:
   a. Are you a student athlete?
   b. What sports do you play?
   c. Have you visited with your athletic administrator or principal to determine if dropping this course will affect your eligibility to play a sport?
4. Advise the student not to drop a course which reduces his/her course load below five credits unless you receive a form from a senior administrator, a template of which can be accessed here: http://www.ohsaa.org/Portals/0/Eligibility/forms/SuggestedScheduleChangeForm.pdf
5. The required Physical Education Course is not a full credit course. It usually counts as only ¼ or ½ credit. Do not count this course as one of the five full credit courses.
6. Always contact your principal or athletic administrator if you have any questions.
7. The OHSAA has no minimum grade point (GPA) requirement, thus issues regarding eligibility when only the GPA is of concern are strictly a local school district matter and not an OHSAA matter.

**Grades 7-8**

1. All 7-8th grade students MUST be enrolled in and earn passing grades in a minimum of four courses each and every grading period to have continuing eligibility.
2. Participate in every effort to ensure that all students are fully scheduled in a minimum of four courses each grading period.
3. If a student comes to you and asks to drop a course, ask the following questions:
   a. Are you a student athlete?
   b. What sports do you play?
   c. Have you visited with your athletic administrator or principal to determine if dropping this course will affect your eligibility to play a sport?
4. Advise the student not to drop a course which reduces his/her course load below four courses unless you receive a form from a senior administrator, a template of which can be accessed here: http://www.ohsaa.org/Portals/0/Eligibility/forms/SuggestedScheduleChangeForm.pdf
5. Always contact your principal or athletic administrator if you have any questions.

**NOTE:** “Grading period” is defined as your school’s board-adopted calendar. In most school districts, this is a nine-week period, while some districts use six- or 12-week periods or semesters. It should also be noted, however, that interim, biweekly or weekly evaluations are not considered “grading periods,” and restoration of eligibility is NOT permitted after such evaluations.

In addition, students who have not met the high school or 7-8th scholarship requirement are not “substantially eligible;” and a student who fails to register for enough credit hours, fails a class(es) or drops a class that lowers the student below the requisite number of credits, always has a shared responsibility for this shortcoming thus disqualifying such shortcoming from the “due solely to an administrative error” category. Therefore, the administrative error bylaw shall never be used in conjunction with Bylaws 4-4-1 or 4-4-5.

**Examples of Determining Student Eligibility – Grades 9-12**

Passing grades must be received in a minimum of five one-credit courses, or the equivalent, in the immediately preceding grading period. To determine credit equivalency, multiply full-year courses by a factor of 1; semester courses by a factor of 2; twelve-week courses by a factor of 3; and nine-week courses by a factor of 4.

**Example 1: 1st Nine-Week Grading Period**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credit &amp; Duration</th>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Credit Equivalency (Must Equal 5 Units or Equivalent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English 10</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>1 - all year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 x 1 = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish I</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1 - all year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 x 1 = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>½ - semester</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>½ x 2 = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebra</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>1 - all year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computers</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>½ - semester</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>½ x 2 = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>½ - semester</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>½ x 2 = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5 = eligible for 2nd grading period</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Example 2: 4th Nine-Week Grading Period**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credit &amp; Duration</th>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Credit Equivalency (Must Equal 5 Units or Equivalent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>1 - all year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 x 1 = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O.W.E.</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>2 - all year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O.W.E.</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1 - all year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 x 1 = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>1 - all year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 x 1 = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.E.</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>¼ - semester</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>¼ x 2 = 1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keyboarding</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>¼ - 4th 9 weeks</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4 x 4 = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 1/2 = ineligible for 1st grading period of next school year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Post-Secondary Option – College Credit Plus

Note: If a student is taking all course work at the post-secondary institution under the College Credit Plus program, the calculation of equivalency has changed. Please note that in order for a CCP class to be used for determining eligibility for Bylaw 4-4-1, the class must count toward HS graduation.

In addition, students electing to enroll in CCP must be certain that 1.) The faculty members at the post-secondary institution understand that they will need to provide grades or a progress report at the time when the high school’s grading period is over, and 2.) The student-athlete is taking enough course work at the post-secondary institution exclusively or between the post-secondary institution and the high school combined to be equivalent to five one-credit courses. Calculating equivalency of credits in the post-secondary institution is conducted in the same manner as in the high school, based on the Carnegie unit. College courses for which three or more semester hours of credit are earned shall be awarded one Carnegie unit. Fractional Carnegie units will be awarded proportionately. This means that courses which are four, five, six or even seven hours of credit receive just one Carnegie unit. Examples of CCP options:

-1-

**Example 1: 1st Nine-Week Grading Period**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Credit &amp; Duration</th>
<th>Credit Equivalency (Must Equal 5 Units or Equivalent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>1 (year course)</td>
<td>1 x 1 = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature</td>
<td>CCP</td>
<td>3 semester hours</td>
<td>1 x 2 = 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calculus</td>
<td>CCP</td>
<td>5 semester hours</td>
<td>1 x 2 = 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>CCP</td>
<td>3 semester hours</td>
<td>1 x 2 = 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7 = eligible for 2nd grading period provided all courses passed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The factor of 2 is used for post-secondary institutions that are on the semester system.

**Example 2: 4th Nine-Week Grading Period**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Credit &amp; Duration</th>
<th>Credit Equivalency (Must Equal 5 Units or Equivalent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>CCP</td>
<td>5 semester hours</td>
<td>1 x 2 = 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>CCP</td>
<td>3 semester hours</td>
<td>1 x 2 = 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computers</td>
<td>CCP</td>
<td>2 semester hours</td>
<td>.67 x 2=1.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7.34 = eligible for 1st grading period of next school year provided all courses passed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The factor of 2 is used for post-secondary institutions that are on the semester system. Note that this student is taking all courses at the post-secondary institution, which is acceptable.

**Block Scheduling**

Block scheduling or double blocking of courses does not change the calculation of credit equivalencies as required in OHSAA bylaws. Courses taken over one semester or one quarter (9-week period) carry a factor of 2 and 4, respectively. Therefore, if a student takes an English course during the first semester only and receives one credit for passing that course, that class carries an equivalency of 2 (1 credit x the factor for a semester course (2) = 2). Examples of block scheduling:

**Example 1: 1st Nine-Week Grading Period**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credit &amp; Duration</th>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Credit Equivalency (Must Equal 5 Units or Equivalent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English 10</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>1 - semester</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 x 2 = 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish 2</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>1 - semester</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 x 2 = 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>1/4 - 1st 9 weeks</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1/4 x 4 = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5 = eligible for 2nd grading period</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Example 2: 3rd Nine-Week Grading Period**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credit &amp; Duration</th>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Credit Equivalency (Must Equal 5 Units or Equivalent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calculus</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>1 - semester</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 x 2 = 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>1 - semester</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 x 2 = 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phys. Ed</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>1/4 - semester</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1/4 x 2 = 1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 1/2 = ineligible for 4th grading period</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Examples of Determining Student Eligibility – Grades 7-8**

Passing grades are required in a minimum of four subjects in which enrolled in the immediately preceding grading period. All courses, regardless of how many times per week the course meets, in which a student receives a grade count toward this eligibility requirement.

**Example 1: 1st Nine-Week Grading Period**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HomeEconomics</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computers</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subjects Passed</strong></td>
<td>3 of 6 classes = NOT eligible for 2nd grading period</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Example 2: 3rd Nine-Week Grading Period**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SocialStudies</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subjects Passed</strong></td>
<td>4 of 5 classes = eligible for 4th grading period</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:**
For additional information, contact:

Ohio High School Athletic Association
4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, Ohio 43214

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Telephone: (614) 267-2502 • Fax: (614) 267-1677 • Website: ohsaa.org

The complete text of the Bylaws and Regulations is published in the OHSAA Handbook, which is mailed to your school each summer and is posted on the OHSAA website.
Production & Mailing
Important information for Athletic Directors

The Production Department at the OHSAA is responsible for all printing & mailing of important information & materials to member schools. All materials will be mailed to the athletic director's attention for review and then the athletic director, if instructed, should forward those materials to the head coach.

**IMPORTANT:** The fall, winter, and spring preseason mailings contain an NFHS Rule Book & any other pertinent information as determined by the Director of Sport Management for that sport. Each school will receive their rule books yearly.

You *should* receive the following packets of preseason materials on or before the dates indicated for 2021-2022:

- **August 9:** Football, Volleyball, Field Hockey, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer
- **October 25:** Swimming & Diving, Wrestling, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Ice Hockey
- **February 14:** Boys Track & Field, Girls Track & Field, Baseball, Softball, Girls Lacrosse, Boys Lacrosse

Contact Chris Walker, Production Specialist, if for whatever reason you do not receive your packet. cwalker@ohsaa.org

In addition, if you ever need additional NFHS materials, you may contact [www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org), click on Resources & then Publications.

*Did you know.........*
The OHSAA has a library of state tournament DVDS for sale. Visit our web site at [www.ohsaa.org/fanguide/dvds](http://www.ohsaa.org/fanguide/dvds).
OHSAA Board of Directors Pass

This pass was approved at the September 15, 1961 OHSAA Board Meeting. It allows admission of the bearer and one guest to all athletic events sponsored by member schools of the OHSAA. This year, the pass is WHITE with 2021-2022 in RED.

Please provide the following information to your admission/pass gate personnel.
Below is a sample of both sides of the card.

This pass admits the bearer and one guest to all athletic events sponsored by member schools of the OHSAA

**FRONT**

**BACK**

Ohio High School Athletic Association
Board of Directors Pass

2021-2022

Chris Walker
Production & Facilities Specialist
OHSAA Staff

This ID/Board Pass Admits Bearer and One Guest to All Athletic Events Sponsored by Member Schools of the OHSAA

This Complimentary Pass Was Made Available to All Current OHSAA Staff, Members of the Board of Directors, District Athletic Boards and Others So Designated By Action of the OHSAA State Board at Its Regular Meeting on September 15, 1961.

Scott Kayhun
BOARD PRESIDENT

2021-2022

Doug Ute
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Non Transferrable
**Photography Regulations Continued on Back Page**

**Flash Photography**

Authorized news media representatives, who have been approved for credentials by contest managers or the OHSAA, shall be permitted to use electronic lighting equipment (includes both strobe lights and flashes mounted to cameras) throughout the course of a given activity in all sports except bowling, gymnastics and diving (including warm-ups). In addition, electronic lighting is NOT permitted to be used in the following situations: in basketball in the free throw lane area (behind the background); in golf during and a few seconds before the swing; and in swimming immediately before the start of a race so as to not interfere with the starter’s signal.

**Additional Photography Note:** In the sport of volleyball, electronic lighting is not permitted at any time during OHSAA tournament contests, and electronic lighting is only allowed during regular-season contests in gymnasiums that do not meet the minimum lighting standards of 1600 ASA (film speed) at 500th of a second at an aperture of f/2.8. If those lighting conditions apply, flash photography may be used, but not when a student-athlete is serving. During regular-season volleyball contests, photographers must work with school administrators anytime prior to the start of a match to test equipment and have the light meter reading verified. The reading can then be used for future matches in the same facility in the same season without retesting.

**Photographer Positioning**

In basketball, photographers and videographers are prohibited to position themselves behind the backboard (within the free-throw lane area) unless approved by the OHSAA. 1. The first violation of this policy shall result in a warning from contest managers or the OHSAA, and the second violation of this policy shall result in the removal of the photographer from the contest facility by contest managers or the OHSAA.

2. Photographers may position themselves along the baseline outside the lane area of the court (and are permitted to use electronic lighting as specified in Section 6-c).

3. The use of remote-operated cameras behind a basket is permitted (without flash) so long as the guidelines listed above are followed.

4. In soccer, photographers are permitted between the team benches only if approved by the head official (who may consult with both head coaches, if needed).

Photographers for other sports shall be placed in positions in accordance with National Federation of State High School Associations National Rules. In the sport of football, field hockey and soccer, photographers shall be positioned behind the restraining line, which is two or more yards from the sidelines and end zones. In volleyball, photographers shall not be positioned in an area that could be “in play.” When a soccer match goes to penalty kicks (after overtime), photographers may position themselves on the field in the midfield area if approved by the site manager or media coordinator. In addition, photographers shall not be positioned in the team boxes between the 25-yard lines. In baseball, photographers are prohibited from being in live ball areas unless a photographer’s area (typically with a paint or chalk line) has been established by the game manager and approved by the officials before the game. The OHSAA requests that at least one area be designated for photographers that provides an unobstructed view of the field. In softball, no such photographers area is permitted inside live ball areas.

Officials have the authority to remove any member of the media for not staying in or keeping their equipment in designated dead ball areas. In the sport of golf, photographers are not permitted to take photos while a player is addressing his/her ball and during his/her swing unless the photographer is at such a distance away from the player that no audible noise can be heard by the player. In the sports of volleyball, bowling, track and field, swimming and tennis, contest officials have additional authority to decide where photographers may position themselves based on the layout of the facility or competition area.

**Special Access and Photo Sales**

1. Individual credentialed media personnel and spectators may not sell photos from OHSAA state tournaments. Furthermore, credentialed media may not give photos to current student-athletes (or their parents or legal guardians) or post galleries of their photos from state tournaments. (A gallery is defined as more than five photos displayed on one webpage.) If a credentialed media photographer posts a photo on his/her personal webpage, it may not be made available for high-resolution download.

2. In team sports (field hockey, soccer, volleyball, football, team wrestling, ice hockey, basketball, softball, baseball and lacrosse), one school-designated photographer (student or adult) may be credentialed for OHSAA tournament contests if approved by the school’s athletic administrator. The school-designated photographer may only give his/her photos to the school (athletic director, principal or head coach) for the school’s use. Photos may not be sold or posted online in galleries (see previous note) and may not be posted so they are available for high-resolution download.

3. Bona fide newspapers, as determined by the OHSAA, may sell photos from OHSAA tournament contests via the newspaper’s office or official website. Permission is granted because newspapers have always been permitted to fill the photo requests of their readership, and photo sales is not their primary purpose for covering a contest.

4. School officials have the authority to permit or deny freelance photographers (including parents) from having special access at their regular-season athletic contests.

5. School officials have the authority to permit or deny the sale of photos from their regular-season contests.

6. Freelance photographers who are granted a media credential for sectional, district and regional tournament games (and state semi-final games in the sports of football, soccer and lacrosse) may sell photos from the contest as long as the photographer is affiliated with a specific school and can produce a written or on-site verbal show of support from that school’s athletic director. However, said photographers may not set up booths or tables, distribute promotional material or request that public address announcements be read that advertise their services.

7. Freelance photographers who are not affiliated with a bona fide media outlet will not be credentialed for state tournament contests. Photos taken from spectator viewing area at state tournament contests are for personal use only and may not be sold.

**Use of Drones**

The use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), most commonly referred to as drones, is not permitted anywhere within the entire athletic facility during any OHSAA tournament contest, beginning one hour before the contest is scheduled to begin. This includes both indoor and outdoor contests. The facility includes both the area above the playing surface itself, and the areas above the surrounding surfaces that are a part of the facility, including, but not limited to, bleachers and other seating areas, parking lots, sidewalks, running/walking track, adjacent athletic fields, etc.

1. The use of UAS at regular-season contests is permitted pending approval from the host institution, which accepts all liability and confirms that the UAS complies with local, state and federal regulations.
The Value of Working with the Media
Positive exposure in the news media is not simply a by-product of having a winning program. It is often the result of preparation, good communication and providing the media with the information they need to do their jobs. That is true in any sport, any time of year, win or lose, sectional or state.

When an interscholastic athletic program or tournament site has positive relationships with the media, the value is immeasurable, both in terms of “positive press” and building relationships with the media that could last for years. It also plays an integral role in influencing public opinion.

Tips for Working with the Media
1. Be available via email and telephone to correspond with media to answer their questions, including credential requests, work spaces, parking suggestions, media seating and your specific policies, etc.
2. Establish a seating area for media members, as well as an overflow area if the area is full. Assign specific seats with name cards, if needed, giving priority to media than have followed a team for all or the majority of its season, along with larger regional or statewide media outlets.
3. BROADCAST CONNECTIONS (especially for football press boxes and basketball gymnasiums): Having internet connections or phone lines available is crucial for radio stations and is greatly appreciated. A nominal fee can be assessed (typically less than $50).
4. Be sure that electrical outlets are available. Set out power strips, if needed.
5. Explain what wireless internet signals are available. Wireless internet access is very important for media, especially for those required to provide game updates on social media.
6. If possible, provide media with rosters, programs, statistics, etc., and any other information you have been able to assemble prior to the game.
7. Explain to photographers where they may shoot from. In baseball (not softball), this includes any “dead ball” areas inside the playing field fence, pending approved by the head umpire. The umpire has authority in this area. See the full photography regulations in this brochure.
8. Explain postgame interview procedures to coaches and media before the game.

For football playoff games, host sites shall use the OHSAA press box priority seating memo posted on the OHSAA’s football webpage.

Broadcast Fees
During OHSAA tournament contests, game managers collect broadcast rights fees, when applicable. The broadcast fees chart is posted on the OHSAA’s “News & Media” page at OHSAA.org. Special video restrictions apply for tournament contests and when the OHSAA’s official television partners are covering a game. Also, some radio stations have been approved to pay fees directly to the OHSAA, or have fees waived as OHSAA Radio Network affiliates. Contact the OHSAA Communications Department to check the status of a station.

Tips for Effective Media Relations
Cooperation and a positive attitude are the cornerstones of developing relationships with the media and getting good exposure for athletic programs and tournament sites. Being prompt, following through on scheduled interview times, providing statistics or access to coaches and/or student-athletes all go a long way to having a positive relationship with the media. In return, that should result in cooperation from the media when their help is needed for making public announcements or getting exposure for a good story.

Media Needs — Understanding deadlines and specific needs of the media will go a long way toward creating good relationships. Consistency in Results Reporting — Coaches and tournament managers (or an assigned person) should contact the media report the final score immediately after the game.
Availability — Let media know when you’re available, such as in your voicemail greeting or email auto-reply.
Uniforms and Jersey Numbers — Media rely on clearly visible jersey numbers. When ordering new uniforms, please have numerals be a contrasting color to the jersey.
Mailings/School Website — When schedules are finalized, alert your local media or let them know it is posted on school website. Rosters and statistics are also a tremendous help. Sending stats to the local media or posting them on the school’s web site can cut down on the number of requests for that information.
Photo/Media Days — Publicizing your team picture day can help the media with photos and interview opportunities.

Additional Postgame Responsibilities
1. Ensure that interviews take place per the procedures you explained prior to the game.
2. Allow media members a minimum of 60 minutes after the game to work at press row or the designated media work area.
3. If inclement weather is an issue and you have an indoor space available for media to work, explain where it is located and any important details associated with that space.

Utilizing Social Media for Scores
Schools are encouraged to use their social media accounts to report scores. When reporting a score, please be sure to include the sport, gender, opponent and level of competition (varsity, JV, freshman, etc.).

OHSAA Tournament Policy/Public Address Announcement on Spectators Taking Photos and Videos
Spectators taking photographs or videos may not interfere with the view of this contest by other spectators, nor may they take additional space in seats that have been purchased. In addition, all photographs and videos taken by spectators at this event are for personal use only. The use of photographs for commercial or scouting purposes is strictly prohibited.

For more information or questions, please contact Tim Stried, OHSAA Director of Communications, at tstried@ohsaa.org or 614-267-2502, ext. 124.
Ohio law requires coaching or pupil activity permits for individuals (paid or unpaid) who will direct, supervise or coach a student activity program that involves athletics, routine or regular physical activity or activities with health and safety considerations. School districts determine which staff members need to have a permit. Those who wish to apply for a permit through the Ohio Department of Education’s Office of Educator Licensure must complete the requirements outlined here.

Types of Pupil Activity Coaching Permits
1. A **three-year permit** is for persons with no other educator credential or an educator credential other than one of those listed below.
2. A **four-year permit** is for persons with either a four-year resident or alternative resident educator license.
3. A **five-year permit** is for persons with either a five-year professional, senior professional or lead professional license.

Prior to applying for the Coaching Permit through the Ohio Department of Education (ODE), all the requirements below will need to be met:
1. **Contact the school district for which you are employed.**
   Your first step is to complete the hiring process for serving as a coach at the school or district where you wish to coach. Be sure to notify the school or district as the superintendent or a credentialed e-signer will need to electronically sign your application.
2. **Background check** - Make sure you have an up-to-date background check on file.
3. **Complete the training requirements below.**
   There are five categories of training below. Applicants are to: a) check with their school districts about preferences and procedures related to each category; and b) provide documentation to their districts that they met requirements. Coaches are encouraged to keep record of any expiration dates for their training sessions so that they can re-take them before they expire (dates vary).
   1. **Fundamentals of Coaching** [https://nfhslearn.com/courses/61113/fundamentals-of-coaching] - The National Federation of State High School Associations presents this series of online modules. (One-time training)
   2. **Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training** - Fulfill this requirement through a course approved by the school district.
   3. **First Aid for Coaches** - Fulfill this requirement through one of the four categories of options outlined below:
      A. Ohio Department of Education-approved pupil activity program. A full list of approved programs is available through the link posted at the top of this document.
      B. Nationally approved programs listed below (Select one):
         - Red Cross (First Aid Health and Safety for Coaches): [https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class;](https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class;)
      C. College or university courses: Courses must be completed within the past three years and be related to first aid or athletic training.
      D. Medical licenses: The licenses MD, DO, DC, PA, RN, EMT, ATC and SCS fulfill the first aid training requirement.
4. **Concussion Training** - Complete one of the hour-long courses that are free if you follow directions on the Ohio Department of Health website: [https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/child-injury/youthconcussions/youthconcussions](https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/child-injury/youthconcussions/youthconcussions). The online courses are each valid for three years. Other related resources are located on the ODE’s web site.
OHSAA
Ohio High School Athletic Association