

Ohio High School Athletic Association

Quarterly Technology Update Vol. 1

Hello and thank you for taking the time to read our new quarterly technology update! Within these updates, we will discuss new features recently implemented within our platforms, projects that are currently being worked on by our partners, and timelines for future evolutions of our technology solutions.

Any time sensitive updates that appear throughout the year will continue to be relayed through separate communications so that you and your constituents do not miss important deadlines or requirements when it comes to compliance with OHSAA rules and regulations.

OHSAA Technologies & You

Our goal when considering our technology platforms is to create an ecosystem for our member schools that is user friendly, not labor intensive, and something that simply makes our administrators' lives easier. In working toward this goal, we need to hear from you to ensure we are covering your needs as best we can. While not every single request can be accommodated, we will strive to listen and work toward a solution that simplifies your workflow.

As you read through this newsletter, please think about any problems you have encountered, functions you desire, creative solutions you have discovered, and anything else you believe will help our office and your colleagues around the state. I urge you to share these items with our office so that we can continue to grow and learn from one another.

FinalForms & myOHSAA

FinalForms continues to build out functionality and features to replace myOHSAA as our information database over the next couple of years. Most recently, schools gained the ability to sync their school and staff data between FinalForms and myOHSAA, with FinalForms serving as the point of entry for this information. <u>We encourage you to update your information within FinalForms and turn on the sync function to reduce any sort of discrepancies between the two systems. Keeping FinalForms up to date is extremely important as we work towards utilizing the mass communication functions within FinalForms for all OHSAA information in the very near future.</u>

One change you will see in FinalForms as we move into the 2024-25 school year is an updated user interface for Competitive Balance. We heard from multiple schools about the number of clicks and readability when it came to the original CB system. FinalForms has been able to implement several changes that will significantly reduce the time needed to curate and submit this information, while increasing your confidence in the data submitted to our office. Please keep an eye out for more information later this fall.

The biggest item on which FinalForms is for implementation later this school year are Coaches State Rules Meetings. <u>While Rules Meetings will still be completed in myOHSAA for fall sports</u>, our goal is to have coaches complete these meetings in FinalForms starting with the 2024-25 winter sports season. This is another reason why it is vitally important that your staff information is up to date within FinalForms.

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So, what remains in myOHSAA for the 2024-25 school year? At this time, schools will still need to make changes to **sports offered and tournament entry** through myOHSAA; as mentioned, <u>fall</u> state rules meetings for coaches; **end of year awards** (i.e. Archie Griffin, Scholar Athlete, etc.); and, probably the most important thing, **OHSAA tournament management**.

OHSAA tournament management and bracketing is most certainly the largest hurdle we will need to clear in the coming years. We are beginning to work with all groups that this functionality touches to ensure we dot every 'i' and cross every 't' before moving to a new system, and we expect this to be a multi-year project. More information will come to you as we move through this process.

DragonFly

Our office continues to work with the DragonFly team to "Ohio-ize" our new officiating and scheduling software. We remain as optimistic as ever regarding the potential of the system and DragonFly's willingness to provide our constituents with the features they need and want.

Most recently, the OHSAA officiating team successfully launched official registration and the ability for officials to view their required rules meetings through DragonFly. Additionally, assignors now have the ability to utilize a "mass-link" function within the system.

Coming later this fall will be the ability to submit contest official ratings (by coaches) and ballots (by athletic administrators) through DragonFly; another feature that is being removed from myOHSAA and placed elsewhere. With this, our office is working with both FinalForms and DragonFly to implement a sync function for staff information, similar to that with myOHSAA. This will push coach information into DragonFly and allow those coaches to log in and rate officials as games become final. It will, again, allow schools to utilize FinalForms as the single platform for data entry when it comes to personnel within their school. Please keep an eye out for additional information in the coming weeks.

Lastly, the DragonFly team was at the OHSAA office late last week and conducted a training session for our association. This training was recorded and can be found on YouTube at this link: <u>https://youtu.be/kMJJsGKP-Zg?si=VU_RW0nMBdIToVYS&t=908</u>

Thank you again for taking the time to review this information. If you have any questions, comments, or ideas to share, please do not hesitate to reach out. We look forward to continuing to grow and mold our technology solutions with you all, for you all.

Have a great rest of your summer!

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