







2026 Field Hockey

State Tournmant

Qualifiers Manual





Thomas Worthington High School | November 5 & 7

Congratulations on qualifying to the OHSAA State Field Hockey Final Four! This manual is meant to provide you guidance in preparing for your trip. After you review this manual, please let us know if you have any questions.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFO

BJ Duckworth, Sport Administrator| bjduckworth@ohsaa.org | 614-549-6968
Tim Stried, Media Coordinator | tstried@ohsaa.org | 614-549-6961
Garret Sendelbach, Asst. AD & Tournament Manager | gsendelbach@wscloud.org | 567-230-3972
Claudia Markoff, Customer Experience Manager | cmarkoff@ohsaa.org | 614-549-6973

STATE TOURNAMENT VENUE

We are looking forward to Thomas Worthington High School hosting the State Field Hockey Tournament! Thomas Worthington High School is located just off of SR-315 and I-270, with easy access to their Stadium. The address is *300 W Granville Road, Worthington 43085*. With a new turf field, ample parking and outstanding amenities, we thank Thomas Worthington and Worthington Schools for bringing the fantastic State Tournament to their community!

You may use the *300 W. Granville Road* address and may also type in "Thomas Worthington Stadium" or "Thomas Worthington High School" into your GPS.

OHSAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

Clock will start 1 hour prior to game time.

Semifinal Game 1 – Thursday, November 5 | 4:30 PM
3:30 PM – 4:15 PM Official warm-up on field
4:15 PM – 4:20 PM Officials' pre-game check with both teams
4:20 PM – 4:30 PM Pre-Game Ceremony

Semifinal Game 2 – Thursday, November 5 | 7:00 PM
6:00 PM – 6:45 PM Official warm-up on field
6:45 PM – 6:50 PM Officials' pre-game check with both teams
6:50 PM – 7:00 PM Pre-Game

Final Game – Saturday, November 7 | 1:00 PM
12:00 PM – 12:45 PM Official Warm-up on Field
12:45 PM – 12:50 PM Officials' Pre-Game Check with both Teams
12:15 PM – 1:00 PM Pre-Game Ceremony

FINAL FOUR BRACKET

Regional winners from: Central 1, Central 2, Northeast, Southwest

1. Southwest (H) vs. 2. Central 1

Thursday, November 5 | 4:30 PM

3. Central 2 (H) vs. 4. Northeast

Thursday, November 5 | 7:00 PM

FINAL: Saturday, November 7**|** 1:00 PM
Winner of Southwest vs. Central 1 will be the home team.

TEAM FORMS

TEAM PROGRAM

Publicity material for the official program is due to the OHSAA as soon as possible. Team publicity forms are located on the field hockey page of the OHSAA website for download. The four forms are in .doc format and must be completed electronically and returned to Tim Stried (tstried@ohsaa.org) as soon as possible. These forms include:

- School information form
- Team roster
- Season results
- Team photo & team photo ID form
- School logo

In addition, a digital team photograph must be emailed to Tim Stried. The team photograph must be in .jpg format and be a minimum of 7 x 5 inches AND 300 dpi resolution. These forms are found here: http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/fh/tournament-info.

TEAM LINE-UP

The official line-up form must be turned in at least 15 minutes prior to the start of game time to the Tournament Manager or other appropriate personnel. They will approach the teams for this form. This form is found here: http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/fh/tournament-info.

TEAM STATS

Please send team stats to Tim Stried in any preferred format by Monday, November 2 at Noon

INFORMATION SHEET

Please send the below completed form to BJ Duckworth at bjduckworth@ohsaa.org no later than 5pm on Wednesday, November 4th.

Ohio High School Athletic Association

State Final Information Sheet

School Name: _____

Head Coach's Name	
Head Coach's Cell Phone	
Athletic Director's Name	
Athletic Director's Cell Phone	

Name of Administrator(s) Helping with Awards Ceremony:

NAME	TITLE

Please send completed form to BJ Duckworth at bjduckworth@ohsaa.org no later than 5pm on Wednesday, November 4th

TEAM ROSTER AND PASS GATE INFORMATION

OHSAA Field Hockey Tournament Regulations permit a total of 35 individuals admitted without charge that is to be made up of the 25 players, and all other coaches, managers, statistician, team physician(s), Athletic Trainers and team personnel. Only 25 players will be admitted and permitted on the sideline.

Admission through the pass gate at Thomas Worthington Stadium will be granted to these 35 individuals via a **commemorative bag tag**. You will receive the bag tags upon arrival at Thomas Worthington. Anyone beyond the 35 permitted a bag tag will require a ticket for admission.

The pass gate is located at the Dow Nelson Sports Complex (fieldhouse), located just past the main entrance of the Stadium. Once you enter the parking lot off Dublin Granville Rd, the Stadium will be on your left. Continue north and you will see the Dow Nelson Sports Complex on your left.



No one without the approved OHSAA bag tag will be admitted without a paid admission ticket.

Each team will also be provided 8 complimentary admission tickets for the Superintendent, Principal, Athletic Director and bus driver. These will be distributed with an online code from HomeTown Ticketing. Should there be any questions regarding tickets, please contact Claudia Markoff at cmarkoff@ohsaa.org

TEAM PARKING INFORMATION

Entry to the Stadium and parking for team bus/vans:

THURSDAY & SATURDAY: Buses may drop off the team at the Dow Nelson Sports Complex and will be directed where to park by a parking attendant. Buses may have the option to park down on the west side of the stadium (there is a road just to the left of the Dow Nelson Sports Complex) or may be directed to park closer to the school.

SPECTATOR ADMISSION

ADMISSION

THURSDAY & SATURDAY: Main entrance of Stadium (east side) off Dublin Granville Road.



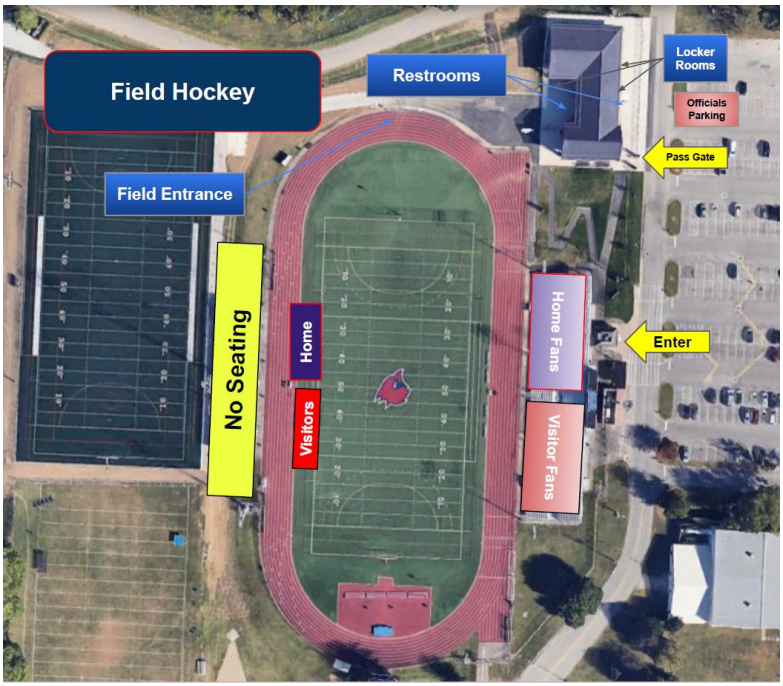
Tickets may be purchased online through the OHSAA website at https://www.ohsaa.org/tickets.

Tickets for the State Field Hockey Tournament are **$10.00 for students and $16.00 for adults.** Children under the age of five are provided with complimentary admission.

Student tickets will not be available for purchase online. They will be available for purchase through your athletic department prior to the game or at the gate the day of the event.

If you are interested in purchasing a block of group tickets for your school please contact Claudia Markoff at cmarkoff@ohsaa.org

If you plan to bring a fan or spirit bus, please notify Tournament Manager, Garret Sendelbach at gsendelbach@wscloud.org to make parking arrangements.



SPECTATOR PARKING

PARKING FOR SPECTATORS

Please use the school parking lot, located on the east side of the stadium and the west side of the main school building. Parking is complimentary. Please be respectful of the construction and "Do Not Enter" zones.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The OHSAA does not currently plan to provide reimbursements for 2026-27 OHSAA Tournaments. Please keep this in mind when traveling and planning your visit to the State Tournament.

GAME BALL INFORMATION

Neon yellow balls will be used during the State Semifinals and Final.

PRE-GAME | FIELD REGULATIONS | TEAM INTRODUCTIONS

A 45-minute warm-up period shall be provided on the end of the field which that team will defend in the first quarter.

Twenty minutes prior to the game, the coach of each team shall submit the game roster with a maximum of 25 players who are designated as eligible to play. It is the responsibility of the coaches and the Tournament Manager to ensure that the number of players in uniform does not exceed 25 for each game. If either team is over the limit, it must be corrected at once. Failure to comply with the regulation at any time after notification by the Tournament Manager shall result in the forfeiture of the game.

Only players in uniform and other personnel, to a maximum of 35, shall be permitted on the team bench/sideline. Both benches will be on the west side of the stadium.

As soon as the warm-up time has concluded, the announcer will ask players to clear the field and return to the team benches. Players should immediately move to these areas and prepare for the introduction ceremony.

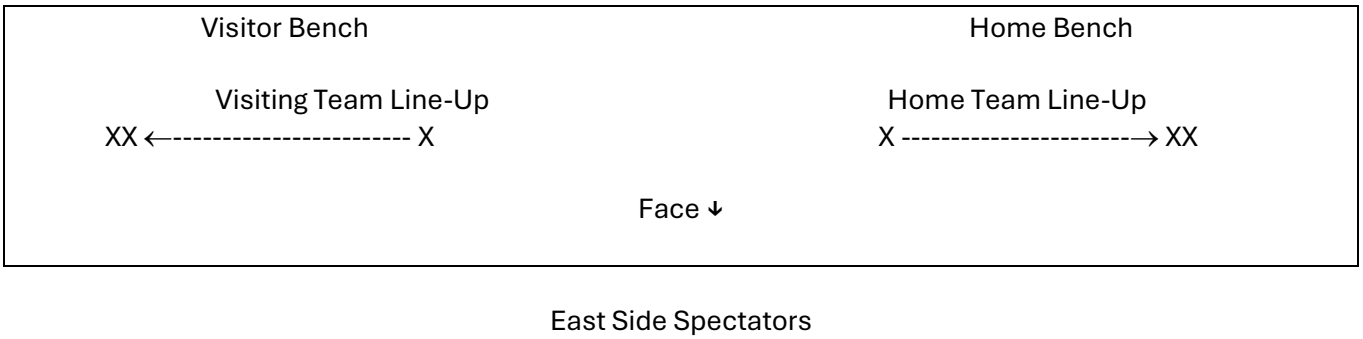
The announcer will make a brief welcoming statement and then will introduce the officials for the contest. During these remarks, players, coaches and other team personnel should face toward the east at or near their bench area. As soon as the officials have been introduced, the announcer will introduce the players for each team using an alternating procedure.

A player from the visiting team (team on the lower bracket) will be introduced first followed by a player from the home team, etc. The non-starters will be introduced first, then the starting 11 and finally the coaches.

As each person's name is called, please run out on the field near the center line and face that half of the field toward the goal your team will be attacking. Remain in that line until your opponent is introduced. At the end of each set of introductions, each player or coach should be facing an opponent. Please greet each other in the spirit of good sportsmanship and then move down the field in a line facing the east side spectators.

Please remain standing on the field for the National Anthem. At the completion of the anthem, please leave the field quickly and return to your benches. The starters should then return to the field, and the game will commence.

DIAGRAM



BALL RETRIEVERS

Each school has received three (3) passes for "ball retrievers." Please make sure the individuals are able to keep up with the pace of the game. Only 35 persons are permitted in the bench area, as the ball retrievers will be working around the perimeter of the field. Their pass will be different, ensuring they stay out of the bench area.

FIELD ACCESS – SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

Each school may be provided two (2) Field Access Passes for Administrators. All Field Passes issued will be strictly for supervision of school fans and participation in the Awards Ceremony. Field passes are not a form of admission. Field passes will be distributed per the names provided on the team information sheet found in this document and can be picked up at the team check in.

SPORTING CONDUCT

We have high expectations for team personnel and spectators in the area of sporting conduct, with respect for oneself and others.

Please ensure that this message is reflected in all communications to the guests that will be traveling with you to Columbus for this State Tournament. We expect all team personnel and spectators to conduct themselves in a sporting fashion. Please be advised that we will not tolerate fan misbehavior, public intoxication or other forms of inappropriate conduct that is inconsistent with the values of interscholastic athletics. We will not hesitate to involve school and athletic administrators and call security, if necessary. We really appreciate your communication with your fan base and students on these issues.

OFFICIALS

The officials for the State Tournament have been selected based on the procedures adopted by the board of directors. We expect all participants to treat all contest officials with respect. Protests arising from the decisions and interpretations of the rules by officials during the game will not be considered. Their decisions and interpretations are final. (*OHSAA Bylaw 8-3-l*).

Disrespect toward officials in any form, whether on site or after a contest through social media or the press, shall not be tolerated.

NFHS NETWORK

The NFHS Network will be broadcasting all State Field Hockey Tournament games. A pay-per-view link will be posted on the OHSAA Field Hockey Tournament Coverage page closer to the start of the tournament.

NOTES FROM THOMAS WORTHINGTON

There is no insurance covering property damage. If property is damaged at a tournament site by competing school teams, student body and/or spectators, the school itself shall be liable and pay the cost of repair or replacement. Other damages to facilities not attributed to a competing school could be a legitimate tournament expense and schools may be invoiced accordingly. If damage is extensive, the Board of Directors will become involved. **Student crowd control at State Tournaments is the responsibility of the school administrators of the competing schools.**

Locker rooms will be available for all teams; however, shower facilities will not be made available.

All patrons should be advised not to leave articles of value in their automobiles. The OHSAA will not be responsible for loss of property.

A licensed Athletic Trainer will be on duty at all times.

The State Field Hockey Tournament is under the supervision and sponsorship of the OHSAA with the Worthington Schools. The State Tournament Manager is:

Garret Sendelbach
Assistant Athletic Director, Thomas Worthington High School
(567) 230-3972 | gsendelbach@wscloud.org

TIE-BREAK PROCEDURES

In the event that the regulation game ends in a tie, we will use the approved OHSAA tie break procedure.

The officials will review this process with you prior to each tie break period.

The following complete overtime procedures shall be followed in **OHSAA tournament competition only**. These procedures have been approved by the Board of Directors and are not optional. **These procedures shall be used to break all ties in OHSAA tournament play** and should be thoroughly reviewed by all tournament officials and varsity coaches prior to all contests played in the OHSAA tournament.

During all overtime play:

A. All game rules apply except as specified below.
B. Unlimited substitution shall be permitted.
C. There shall be one team time-out per team permitted during each 10-minute SV overtime period.
D. There shall be a five-minute intermission between the end of the regular game and the start of the overtime period. At this time, the contest officials shall insure that the tie-break procedures are available at the scorer's table and shall review them thoroughly prior to the initiation of the overtime.
E. There shall be a two-minute intermission between each subsequent overtime period. (Not applicable for regular season tie-break procedures). During these intermissions, players may confer with their coaches, and substitutions may be made.
F. Prior to each overtime procedure, officials shall review with the head coaches the procedures for that session. This shall take place prior to the initiation of each overtime procedure until the game is decided.
G. Prior to beginning overtime, during the intermission between the end of the regular game and the start of overtime, the officials shall meet with the team captains for a coin toss, the visiting team captain calling the coin in the air. Winner shall have choice of possession.

REDUCED PLAYER 10SV-10SV - PS – SVPS

1. Play a **10-minute "Sudden Victory" (SV)** overtime period, with teams not changing goals at the end of the regular game. **Teams shall play with 6 field players and a goalkeeper**. **THE FIRST TEAM TO SCORE A GOAL SHALL BE THE WINNER.**
2. If a tie still exists, there shall be a **second 10-minute "Sudden Victory" (SV)** overtime period utilizing the reduced player procedure described in "1" above. Teams shall change goals to begin the second overtime period following the two-minute intermission. Players may confer with their coaches and substitutions may be made. **THE FIRST TEAM TO SCORE A GOAL SHALL BE THE WINNER.**
   The team not having possession of the ball to start the first overtime period shall have possession to start the second overtime period.
3. If a tie still exists after the second 10-minute "Sudden Victory" overtime period, **one series of penalty strokes shall be taken** alternating the attackers and goalkeepers at the same goal chosen by the officials. Five different strokers from each team shall be selected **from any eligible player on the team roster**. NOTE: A player taking a penalty stroke within a series of five strokes may not repeat within that set of strokes.
   Only the coaches and remaining team members may be on the field and behind the 25-yard line. Prior to the first PS set, the officials shall meet with the team captains for a coin toss. The winner of the coin toss which shall be called by the visiting team captain may choose to stroke or defend the goal first. Penalty strokes shall be terminated and a game winner declared as soon as one team has more goals than the opponent does after the set of five strokes for each side has been taken or the difference is unable to be overcome by completing the series. **Officials should insure that there are no spectators behind the end line behind the goal where the strokes are being taken. NOTE: This first set of Penalty Strokes is NOT a SUDDEN VICTORY SET.**

4. If a tie still exists after the first set of penalty strokes, there shall be **Sudden Victory** (SVPS) penalty strokes taken. The team not stroking first in the first set shall start the **Sudden Victory** Penalty Stroke procedure. **The strokers and/or order of the strokers may be changed for the Sudden Victory Penalty Stroke procedure**. Penalty strokes shall be terminated as soon as one team has more goals than the opponent does after an equal number of strokes have been taken up to a maximum of five for each team. If a tie still exists, after a total of five strokes for each team, another **Sudden Victory Penalty Stroke** procedure shall be commenced.
5. This **Sudden Victory Penalty Stroke procedure** shall continue until the tie is broken. The strokers and/or order of the strokers may be changed. The order of teams stroking or defending first shall alternate from the previous SVPS procedure.
6. Please note: On all penalty corners during the reduced play overtime, a maximum of four defenders shall be back completely behind the end line. This number includes the goalkeeper. The other three defenders shall be beyond the centerline.
7. If a player is disqualified during the regulation game, the team shall play short into the overtime procedure. The player is not eligible for return to the contest.

If a player is suspended during the regulation game (yellow card), the suspension carries over into the overtime period until served completely, and the team shall play short. If the suspension occurs in the overtime period immediately preceding the penalty stroke procedure and the player is unable to serve the complete time of the suspension, she is no longer eligible to participate in the remainder of the overtime procedure.

CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS CEREMONY

The presentation of trophies and awards is the culmination of a great season by both teams.

Emotions run high at each level of the tournament. The high school athletes have earned their way to this important final game and deserve the recognition they are to receive from their fans. We ask that coaching staff *and* administrators assist with athletes maintaining and exhibiting good sportsmanship before, during and after the awards presentation. A few important aspects of this that are expected:

- Each athlete and coach is expected to have the medal placed around their neck
- Each athlete and coach should keep the medal around their neck and maintain this during the presentation
- Each athlete and coach should remain on the baseline during the awards presentation to the opposing team

No doubt, there will be a short wave of celebrating when the game ends. After the first wave of celebrating has subsided, please have your athletes form a line approximately 15 yards from the sideline in front of your bench facing the crowd.

RUNNER-UP TEAM

The runner-up awards will be presented first. As the name of each player and manager is called, they will step forward and the designee from the school will place the medal around his/her neck. After receiving the award, they will return to the line with the remainder of the team. The coaches and head coach will be called last. There will then be a trophy presentation, made by an OHSAA Director. Please remain in position until all awards have been made to the championship team as well.

CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM

The championship awards will be presented next. As the name of each player and manager is called, they will step forward to receive their award. As they receive the award, they will return to the line with the remainder of the team. The coaches and head coach will be called last. There will then be a trophy presentation, made by an OHSAA Director.

Tournament Regulations limit the number of awards to be presented at each level of play. Since many include more than the number of awards permitted on their team rosters, **please review this carefully** prior to the Championship game so there is no confusion to anyone that does not receive awards. Additional medals may be ordered through Croton Craft Awards, **1-800-947-5521.**

AFTER THE TOURNAMENT

See below for accessing additional information/materials after the tournament has concluded:

TEAM PHOTOS

Team photos were taken on the field prior to the start of the game. These photos can be purchased via the OHSAA's Fan Guide webpage at https://www.ohsaa.org/Tickets-Fan-Guide.

PLAYER MEDALS

Teams often wish to purchase additional medals. You can order additional medals by contacting Travis Nethers from Croton Craft at 1-800-947-5521.

STATE TOURNAMENT PROGRAMS

Though a box was provided to each team, if you need an additional one or two, contact Emily Mason directly. If fans wish to obtain them, please direct them to the OHSAA's Fan Guide webpage at https://www.ohsaa.org/Tickets-Fan-Guide.

TOURNMANT REGULATIONS

Please review the 2026 Field Hockey Tournament Regulations on the Field Hockey webpage HERE. Regulations that address number in uniform, number of individuals in the bench area, etc., that should have been enforced in previous rounds and will be strictly enforced at the State Tournament level.

Best of luck in the State Field Hockey Tournament!

2026 OHSAA FIELD HOCKEY
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



Thomas Worthington High School

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

November 7, 2026 | 1:00 pm

Winner of Southwest vs. Central 1 will be the home team.

Thomas Worthington High School

STATE SEMIFINAL

SOUTHWEST (H) vs. CENTRAL 1 (V)

November 5, 2026 | 4:30 pm

Thomas Worthington High School

STATE SEMIFINAL

CENTRAL 2 (H) vs. NORTHEAST (V)

November 5, 2026 | 7:00 pm

Semifinal 1 | Southwest vs. Central 1

3:30 pm - 4:15 pm | **Warm-up on the Field**
4:15 pm | **Officials' Meeting W/ Both Teams**
4:20 pm | **Introduction & National Anthem**

State Championship

12:00 pm - 12:45 pm | **Warm-up on the Field**
12:45 pm | **Officials' Meeting W/ Both Teams**
12:50 pm | **Introduction & National Anthem**

Semifinal 2 | Central 2 vs. Northeast

6:00 pm - 6:45 pm | **Warm-up on the Field**
6:45 pm | **Officials' Meeting W/ Both Teams**
6:50 pm | **Introduction & National Anthem**