



# Ohio High School Athletic Association

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**TO:** Boys and Girls Lacrosse Coaches and Directors of Athletics

**FROM:** Kate Barnett, Sport Administrator

**DATE:** June 26, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Boys and Girls Lacrosse Post-Season Reminders

## **NEW OHSAA ADMINISTRATOR**

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With some staff changes taking place at the OHSAA office, I have been asked to step down from oversight of softball and serve as the sport administrator for boys and girls lacrosse. I have been at the OHSAA for two years overseeing the sports of soccer, swimming and diving, gymnastics and softball. Prior to the OHSAA, I served as the Assistant Commissioner for Championships at the Ohio Valley Conference (NCAA Division I FCS) located in Brentwood, TN. I have spent most of my career within college athletics and enjoy working to enhance the student-athlete experience. I am a northeast Ohio native and graduated from Lakeview High School in Cortland. I look forward to serving and working with all of you!

## **2023-24 IMPORTANT DATES**

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Aug. 1-31	No contact period
Feb. 7	Online State Rules Interpretation information is available
Feb. 19	First Day of Coaching
Mar. 15	First date of competition
Mar. 25	Non-Interscholastic Date
April 22	Deadline to indicate OHSAA Tournament Entry

**Note:** Feedback is being collected regarding the future tournament dates.

## **OFFICIATING**

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Lee Spitzer serves as the OHSAA boys lacrosse Director of Officiating Development and Lissa Fickert serves as the OHSAA girls lacrosse Director of Officiating Development. Both also serve as our NFHS rules interpreters and are happy to assist with any questions regarding the sport rules. Their contact information is below. Additionally, if you have any former players, staff, or any others who have interest in staying involved with the sport of lacrosse, please share more information about becoming an official through the link [here](#).

Lee Spitzer (boys): [lspitzer@ohsaa.org](mailto:lspitzer@ohsaa.org)

Lissa Fickert (girls): [lfickert@ohsaa.org](mailto:lfickert@ohsaa.org)

## SPORT REGULATION UPDATES AND REMINDERS

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### No Contact Period

For the sports of boys and girls, August 1-31, 2023 serves as the no contact period. Per GSR 11.2, below are the various exceptions that may take place during the month of August.

Exceptions: all-star contests; awards ceremonies; fundraisers; providing oversight during weight training; conditioning or physical fitness programs; verbal contact with underclass athletes for the purpose of reviewing the season that just concluded and goal setting for the next season; verbal contact with a senior athlete for the purpose of facilitating the college recruitment process; contact as a faculty member assigned to teach in the regular curriculum (ex.: physical education courses such as weight training, fitness, etc.); contact as a certified athletic trainer involved with athlete rehabilitation and treatment, pick up and return of school-issued equipment, and attendance at OHSAA tournaments.

### Summer Contact Days Beginning May 15, 2023 – **NEW Beginning Spring/Summer 2023**

The Board of Directors voted to expand the non-mandatory summer coaching period for all sports to include 13 days of coaching instead of 10 and to open the summer period on May 15 instead of June 1.

During this time, school coaches working with 6 or more boys lacrosse players or 7 or more girls lacrosse players must count the day toward one of the 13 contact days. School coaches working with 5 or less boys lacrosse players or 6 or less girls lacrosse players would not count toward one of the 13 permitted contact days. Therefore, the established non-interscholastic limitation number for boys and girls lacrosse is the threshold for whether a day counts toward one of the summer contact days or not.

### Individual Skill Instruction

Individual skill/coaching instruction is permitted any time prior to and after the school season and outside the defined no contact period from school coaches.

**\*Note: This has been modified to expand the number of groups of students that can receive individual skill instruction at the same time in the same facility, if:**

1. The number of student-athletes working together in each specific group does not exceed 5 for boys and 6 for girls;
2. The student-athletes remain in their specific groups of [a maximum of] 5 for boys and 6 for girls during the entire instruction session\*;
3. The number of student-athletes in their groups of [a maximum of] 5 for boys and 6 for girls do not engage in team play against students in any of the other groups.

\*The specific groups can rotate together to different coaches at the facility in which the instruction is being provided, but there should never be more than 5 for boys and 6 for girls working together with any one coach and/or a group of coaches.

### Non-interscholastic Participation

From the end of the scholastic season through July 31, 2023 there may be an unlimited number of lacrosse players from the same school on a non-interscholastic team as long as the school coach is not coaching. If the school coach is coaching the summer non-interscholastic team, then there may only be 5 boys players or 6 girls players from the same school on the team.

Beginning September 1, 2023 through the start of the scholastic season, there may only be 5 boys players or 6 girls players on a non-interscholastic team no matter if the school coach is coaching or not.

For other forms of lacrosse that utilize the same skills such as but not limited to box lacrosse and indoor lacrosse, there may be an unlimited number of players from the same school on the team, and the school coaches may coach his or her players own players.

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**KATE BARNETT**

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