

# 2025

## BOYS VOLLEYBALL

# STATE FINALIST MANUAL

**MAY 30 & 31, 2025**

WITTENBERG UNIVERSITY

Pam Evans Smith Arena



**Ohio High School Athletic Association**

4080 Roselea Place | Columbus, Ohio | 43214

# State Volleyball Finalists,

**CONGRATULATIONS on reaching the Boys Volleyball State Tournament!** Much will happen in the next few days and this manual is designed to be a helpful resource to school administrators and coaches. Though most of this will be covered on our online State Finalists Meeting, this provides you information to work with throughout the week.

Playing in the State Tournament is certainly the goal of every team and every coach. The officials in your games have also achieved a milestone and will put forth their best effort. We are looking forward to an excellent experience for your team and community!

Best of luck to all teams coming to the State Tournament.

Respectfully,

**Emily Mason**

**Senior Sport Administrator**

**Boys Volleyball Sport Administrator**

# STATE TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

## STATE TOURNAMENT VENUE

We are looking forward to the OHSAA Boys Volleyball State Tournament at the Pam Evans Smith Arena on the campus of Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio. The town of Springfield is excited to bring all State Finalists and their communities to Springfield. The Springfield area has many restaurants, hotels and attractions to offer, and do not hesitate to reach out to the Greater Springfield Partnership to provide any helpful information in the area.

## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Emily Mason, OHSAA Volleyball Administrator	<a href="mailto:emason@ohsaa.org">emason@ohsaa.org</a>	B: (614) 549-6968	C: (479) 236-5901
Jonathon Levin, Site Manager – Wittenberg	<a href="mailto:levinj@wittenberg.edu">levinj@wittenberg.edu</a>	C: (440) 623-0927	
Tim Stried, OHSAA Media Coordinator	<a href="mailto:tstried@ohsaa.org">tstried@ohsaa.org</a>	B: (614) 549-6964	
Claudia Markoff, OHSAA Ticketing Manager	<a href="mailto:cmarkoff@ohsaa.org">cmarkoff@ohsaa.org</a>	B: (614) 549-6973	

## STATE VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT GAME SCHEDULE

DI Semifinals	Friday, May 30	12:00 PM
DI Semifinals	Friday, May 30	2:00 PM
DII Semifinals	Friday, May 30	4:00 PM
DII Semifinals	Friday, May 30	6:00 PM
DI Finals	Saturday, May 31	12:00 PM
DII Finals	Saturday, May 31	3:00 PM

## HOTEL INFORMATION

The OHSAA does not provide hotel reservations or accommodations for teams. There are many great hotels in Springfield, Ohio near Wittenberg University, but it will be up to the school staff to reserve hotel rooms.

# TICKET INFORMATION

## TICKET INFORMATION – *SPECTATORS*

All State Tournament tickets will be sold online. Tickets may be purchased on our Tickets webpage ([HERE](#)). Tickets for the State Volleyball Tournament are **\$10.00 for students and \$15.00 for adults**. Children under the age of five are permitted free of charge. *There will be no physical tickets sold, other than a QR code to direct a spectator to the ticketing webpage—all must be purchased online.*

The school administrators will continue to utilize the codes for the 8 complimentary tickets they have used throughout the postseason.

Should you have any questions regarding tickets, please contact Claudia Markoff.

Claudia Markoff

E: [cmarkoff@ohsaa.org](mailto:cmarkoff@ohsaa.org)

P: 614-549-6973

***An individual that is not given a bag tag or complimentary code/ticket (fully detailed in “Admittance to Arena” section) will need to enter the Pam Evans Smith Arena through the main admission gates.***

## TICKET INFORMATION – *SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS*

The school administrators will continue to utilize the codes for the 8 complimentary tickets they have used throughout the postseason. It is the responsibility of the school Athletic Director to provide the codes to the correct individuals. The 8 tickets are typically intended for the Superintendent (2), Principal (2), Athletic Director (2), Other (2).

*These 8 individuals will need to utilize the main entrance for admission, so their ticket may be scanned.*

## ARRIVAL AT WITTENBERG | PARTICIPANTS

### ARRIVAL TIME

Participating teams should arrive **NO EARLIER** than 1 hour, 15 minutes prior to game time—if the team transportation arrives prior to this time frame, we kindly ask that you stay in your vehicle or parking lot until 1 hour, 15 minutes prior to game time. This will benefit your team as much as the tournament staff! We appreciate you following this procedure.

### TEAM BUS PARKING

The team transportation will be instructed to drive into a drive located off of Lowry Avenue and The Steemer indoor facility. Please put in the physical address listed below—once you arrive at that address (a house), turn left into the drive from Lowry Avenue, up towards The Steemer. It is important the bus driver enter Lowry Avenue from McCreight Avenue, as this will be the easiest way to navigate to the drop-off area. The appropriate parking attendants will then direct the bus drivers where to park the team transportation vehicle(s) after team drop-off. ***Please see additional maps on page 11.***

The physical address that will bring you to the drop-off area is:

**1025 N. Lowry Avenue  
Springfield, OH 45504**

The team transportation/bus should drop-off and have the team unload the bus at the garage door area of The Steemer. Wittenberg staff members will be there to greet the teams and escort you to your locker room. *Your team transportation driver will be provided complimentary admission, but they must enter through the garage door area of The Steemer.*



## ADMITTANCE TO ARENA/PASS GATE INFORMATION – PARTICIPATING TEAMS

OHSAA Boys Volleyball Tournament Regulations permit a total of 22 individuals to be admitted without charge, that is to be made up of the 15 players, coaches, managers, statistician, team Athletic Trainers\* and other team personnel. We will not be utilizing a physical pass list at the pass gate at State Volleyball but will provide these 22 individuals with a commemorative bag tag that teams will pick up upon their arrival to the pass gate at the team entrance.

*\*As a note, there will be a Wittenberg Athletic Trainer on site for all State Tournament matches*

**Admission for teams will be at the team entrance, which is the garage door entrance of The Steemer indoor facility.** Admission will be granted to the 22 individuals with a commemorative bag tag, which you will pick up at the team check-in table inside the garage door/team entrance of The Steemer. **Please know if you are NOT a player in uniform (coaches and team personnel) you are REQUIRED to have your bag tag visible to step on to the court.** Each bag tag comes with a plastic loop that you will be able to loop through an article of clothing to have it visible on the court. The Wittenberg staff will only allow court access to those with their bag tag. The bag tag will come with a connector device that you may attach to a piece of clothing or gear bag.

***Should additional individuals beyond the 22 permitted, arrive with the team, will require a ticket for admission (with the exception of the bus driver).***

***THERE SHOULD BE NO TRANSFER OF BAG TAGS ONCE IN THE FACILITY!***

***Once you receive admission upon checking in with our tournament staff, you **MAY NOT** transfer your bag tag to another individual. If any Wittenberg tournament staff sees a transfer of a bag tag, it will be documented and your school will be invoiced.***

## ADMITTANCE TO ARENA | NON-PARTICIPATING TEAMS

School teams and coaches are permitted to attend any other tournament matches throughout the weekend. For admission, we ask that you enter the team entrance on the backside of The Steemer and show your bag tag. Anyone that does not show their bag tag, will be required to purchase a ticket for entry. If you would like to attend a game earlier than your own, you are permitted to pick up your bag tags early; however, you will be responsible for keeping track of your bag tags for your own game.

## LOCKER ROOM ACCESS

Locker room access will be limited to the 22 individuals with a bag tag and the one school photographer and one school videographer that will have a media credential, as outlined below. No other individuals will be permitted in the locker rooms.

## SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER/VIDEOGRAPHER

One school photographer and one school videographer can be credentialed for the State Tournament. Those individuals will receive a media credential, which can be picked up at the media entrance, just inside the main admission doors at the front of Pam Evans Smith Arena off Bill Edwards Drive. **Since we will not be requiring names of these two individuals, there will only be one school photographer credential and one school videographer credential for each school, for pick-up at the media entrance—please make sure to communicate this with those individuals.** The OHSAA may ask to receive a CD of the photos for promotional use.

## BENCH

There will be 16 seats available for your team and other personnel. Fifteen players may be in uniform for each tournament game. The names and numbers of the 15 players must be given to the official scorer before each game, and the six starting players designated 10 minutes before the end of time warm-ups. **We request that the *Team Bench List (on the Volleyball Tournament Information webpage on our website)* be submitted to our office by Monday.** The 15 players on the list may be changed from the Semifinal match to the Final match.

## AUXILARY GYM PRIOR TO MATCH

The auxiliary gym will be available for teams prior to their official warm-up period beginning prior to their match. Warm-up volleyballs will be provided by Wittenberg.

## ARRIVAL AT WITTENBERG | SPECTATORS

### SPECTATOR PARKING

Wittenberg University has ample parking around the campus and the Pam Evans Smith Arena, particularly south of the arena. Please keep in mind that any lots designated for Faculty/Staff will not be enforced, as these designations are not enforced on the weekends. There is also street parking and overflow parking at a nearby hospital, which is outlined on the Wittenberg Athletic Department website here: <https://www.wittenbergtigers.com/gameday/parking/index>

### SPECTATORS

The Wittenberg arena staff will have designated signs for the home and away teams and will navigate the spectators accordingly. Fans are not permitted to stand on the seats. **No one is permitted on the playing floor at any time, and particularly after a match, except for the school administrators—please communicate this with your fans.**

After the Final matches on Saturday, teams and fans will be directed to move outside of the arena, where they may congregate until exiting the facility. This will allow personnel to keep the court area clear of people to start the next match.

*Administrators*, please remind members of your student body and fans, about the OHSAA's "no use" policy regarding alcohol, tobacco and drugs.

### STUDENT SECTIONS

*Since teams are no longer switching benches, we ask that student sections not sit behind the bench of the opposing team.* This should only apply to the schools that are on the same side of the arena as the team benches. Thank you!

## STATE TOURNAMENT PERSONNEL & ATTENDEES

### SCORERS AND TIMERS

The OHSAA will use the electronic VolleyWrite scoring system as the official scoring mechanism for the State Volleyball Tournament. **A courtesy scorer from each school is request at the scorer's table next to the team bench and should be provided 1 of your 22 bag tags.**

### MEDICAL

An Athletic Trainer from the Wittenberg University staff will be onsite for every volleyball match. They will arrive at the facility no later than one hour prior to the match start time each day and will be available through the conclusion of the last match.

### SPECTATOR BEHAVIOR

Please review the *Boys Volleyball Tournament Regulations* ([HERE](#)) to review expectations for spectators. No one is permitted in the court at any time, except for the players and coaches. We ask for assistance from school administrators in helping us enforce these rules with your communities. If there are any issues, tournament management, security or OHSAA staff shall get involved and we want to alleviate that happening. Thank you in advance!

# PRE-MATCH AND WARM-UP PROCEDURES

In order to coordinate our match activity, the following time schedule will be followed:

## 1. WARM-UP PROCEDURES

There will be a 30-minute warm-up on the playing court by both teams. Once the coin toss has been conducted, teams shall be provided 10 minutes of ball handling on their side of the net. The remaining 20-minute warm-up shall be divided into the following designated times in order. A 20-minute warm-up on the court by both teams is required. Teams may not be on the official playing court until 30-minutes prior to their match start. Main clock will start at 30 minutes prior to match time. Team Hosts will ensure your team makes it to the court on time.

1. 2 minutes – both teams ball handling on their side of the net (20:00 – 18:00)
2. 6 minutes – the serving team has the whole court (18:00 – 12:15)
3. 6 minutes – the receiving team has the whole court (12:00 – 6:15)
4. 3 minutes – the serving team has the whole court (6:00 – 3:15)
5. 3 minutes – the receiving team has the whole court (3:00 – 0:15)

**NOTE:** There may be no use of volleyballs in the facility while team is not on the court for the designated time.

## 2. NATIONAL ANTHEM

*Friday:* Prior to each Semifinal match

*Saturday:* Prior to each Final match

## 3. INTRODUCTION OF TEAMS, COACHES, OFFICIALS AND OHSAA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Before each match, all players will be introduced beginning with substitutes, and then the starting six. Players are requested to line-up at the end line, and step forward when their names are announced. Coaches shall remain at the bench area and shall come to half court to greet the opposing coaching staff when introduced.

## 4. EQUIPMENT (NET) CHECK

## AUX GYMS

Wittenberg has an auxiliary gym available for unofficial warm-up, so teams may utilize this space for stretching, ball handling, etc. prior to the match. Wittenberg will have warm-up volleyballs for teams to use.

## PRE-MATCH MEETING

With the assistance from a Tournament Host, it is each team's responsibility to ensure that it reports to the competition court for the official warm-up period. A Tournament Host will alert your team approximately five minutes before the official clock will start. Team captains and coaches of participating schools will be asked to report to the scorer's table, courtside, to participate in the mandatory pre-match conference and coin-toss. At the conclusion of the conference, players and coaches may rejoin their team and the start of the 30-minute warm-up will begin. A reminder of the note regarding no use of volleyballs in the facility while team is not on the court for the designated time during the official 30-minute warm-up period.

## LIVE VIDEO STREAM

The NFHS Network will be live streaming all six (6) State Volleyball matches. The live stream will be available on our [Boys Volleyball Tournament Coverage page](#)—please direct your fans to go to the Boys Volleyball page on our website and then click on "2025 Boys Volleyball State Tournament Coverage". After the tournament we will be sending the DVD's to schools at no charge and will have DVD's for your fans and community to purchase, once available.



## TENTATIVE TIME SCHEDULE

FRIDAY	CONFERENCE	WARM-UP	MATCH TIME
DI	11:20 AM	11:30 AM	12:00 PM
DI	<i>30 minutes after the conclusion of Match 1, but no earlier than 3:00 PM</i>		
DII	3:20 PM	3:30 PM	4:00 PM
DII	<i>30 minutes after the conclusion of Match 3, but no earlier than 7:00 PM</i>		
SATURDAY	CONFERENCE	WARM-UP	MATCH TIME
DI	11:20 AM	11:30 AM	12:00 PM
DII	<i>30 minutes after the conclusion of Match 1, but no earlier than 3:00 PM</i>		

*Semifinal matches will begin 30 minutes after the conclusion of the previous match.  
Final matches will begin 30 minutes after the conclusion of the awards ceremony.*

## POST-MATCH INFORMATION

### POST MATCH CONFERENCES

In order to make it possible for all credentialed media to properly cover post-match comments by the participating coaches, the following procedure has been established:

After the conclusion of the contest, the head coaches of both schools will be asked to report to press headquarters, which will be in an area directed by the Tournament Host. The defeated coach will speak first. Coaches may bring several players.

**Interviews on the floor, or at any other location, prior to the press conference in the press headquarters, are not permitted.** Private interviews may be arranged with the coaches and/or players following the official press conference, if willing.

### PUBLIC ADDRESS ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you wish to have a PA read by the Announcer, please let Emily Mason know—all announcements must be approved by the OHSAA. Examples include when your school when the team will be departing Wittenberg, or when your school will hold a “Welcome Home” celebration for the team.



## AWARD CEREMONIES

A very important part of the State Finals is the presentation of awards, both individual and team, to the State Champion and the Runner-Up. Though this will be mentioned in the online State Finalist Meeting, it is important and required for both teams to participate in this ceremony with the utmost respect it deserves. Emotions will run high and as we all know only one team will come away in each Division with a State Championship.

After shaking hands, teams will be asked to line up in front of their respective fans/benches. Names will be called and school administrators from each school will assist our Board of Directors and OHSAA staff with the presentation of individual awards. Individuals will be expected to wear their medal around their neck and observe the other team receiving their awards. Fans will not be permitted on to the court in the arena at any time.

The name(s) provided on the State Final Information Sheet (pg. 4 of your *State Tournament Instructions*) will be announced as assisting with the Awards Presentation at the conclusion of the State Championship match. Before the match is over, please come down to the court level and someone from our staff will assist you onto the court to help with your school's awards ceremony.

We will ask your assistance in lining up your team for the awards. As mentioned in this document, we do require both teams to participate in the ceremony and respect the presentation of awards to the opponent.

## STATE TOURNAMENT – MISCELLANEOUS

### VOLLEYBALLS

Match balls for the State Tournament matches are furnished by the OHSAA. The official volleyball for the State Volleyball Tournament is the *Molten Flistatec V5M5000* ball. These volleyballs have been “roughed up” by the Wittenberg volleyball team.

### SIGNS, BANNERS AND NOISEMAKERS

The use of balloons, signs, school banners, pennants, shakers, debris (such as powder or confetti), noisemakers (such as whistles, horns, bells, sirens, drums, etc.) are not permitted in the Pam Evans Smith Arena. School Administrators should emphasize this regulation prior to arrival at Wittenberg.

### BANDS

Bands, or any other musical instruments are not permitted under any circumstances.

### CHEERLEADERS

Six cheerleaders in uniform, or five cheerleaders and one mascot, and one sponsor, will be permitted admission provided a certified *Cheerleader Pass List* is provided to Emily Mason by the high school Principal. This form is on our website.

### LOCKER ROOMS

Only individuals wearing a team uniform, that have a bag tag or the one school photographer and/or videographer will be permitted in the locker rooms after the game—no exceptions. Your team will be accompanied to a locker room by a Tournament Host upon arrival. **Media admittance to the locker room(s) is not permitted.**

## TOWELS

Towels are not provided by Wittenberg. Should your players need towels, we ask that you bring them with you. Please let your Tournament Host know if your team needs a shower facility after your match.

## PROGRAMS

Each team will be provided a box of 22 complimentary programs upon arrival at the team entrance. You are more than welcome to take them with you to the locker room or put them on your team bus/van.

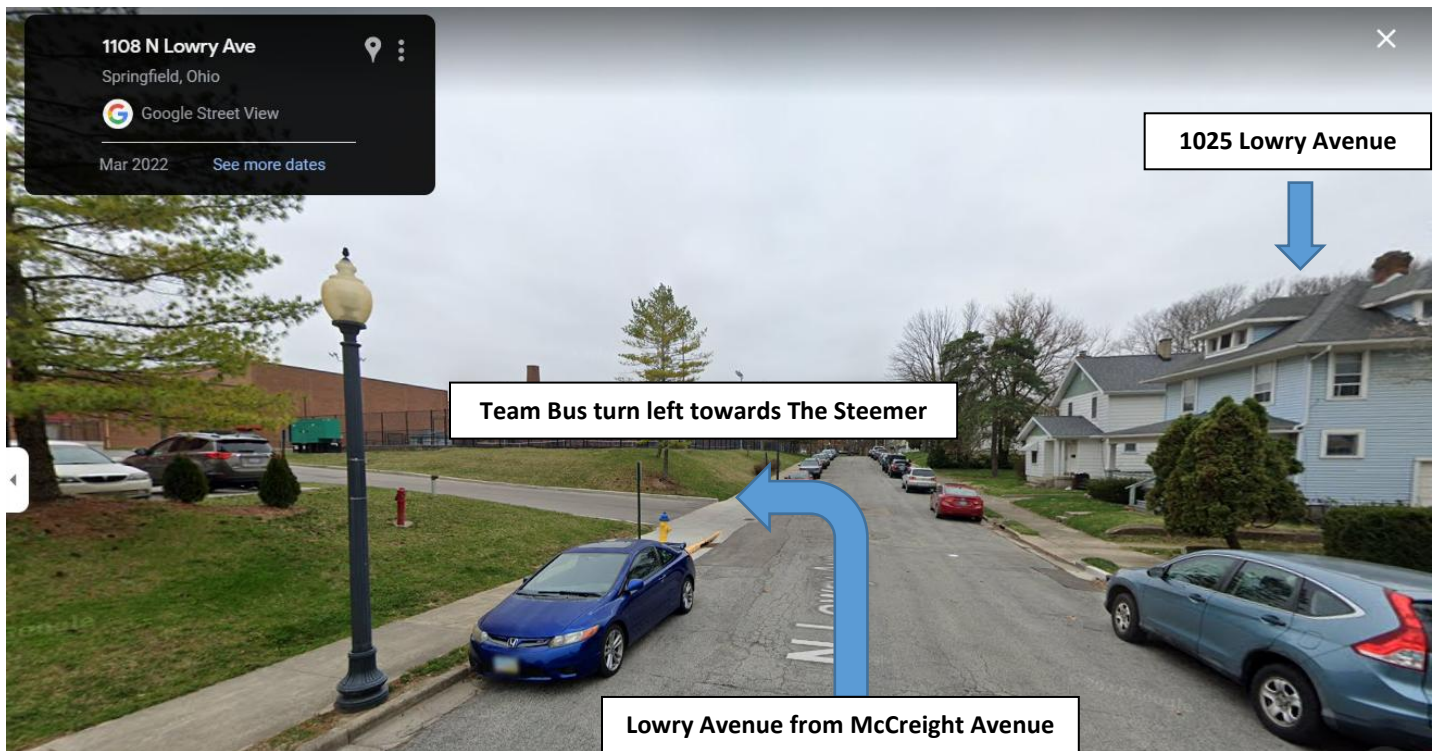
## MERCHANDISE

EA Graphics is the official merchandiser of the OHSAA. They will have State Boys Volleyball Championship apparel and merchandise for sale onsite and online at [www.shopohsaa.com](http://www.shopohsaa.com).

***Please let us know if you have any questions and  
Best of luck in the Boys Volleyball State  
Tournament!***



## ADDITIONAL MAP OF TEAM DROP-OFF



## ADDITIONAL MAP OF TEAM ENTRANCE ON BACK SIDE OF THE STEEMER

