Two Days, Six Games!
State championships return to Crew Stadium Nov. 11-12 as OHSAA expands girls soccer to three divisions

Seeking Balance
Future of Competitive Balance Proposal to hinge on survey and possible referendum vote next spring

Worth the Price
With nothing in the budget for athletics, pay-to-participate fees and donations keep sports going strong at West Muskingum

By the Numbers
A look inside the OHSAA's 2011-12 calendar and budget, plus last year's ejection totals per school

Cincinnati Madeira won its first soccer state championship in 2010.
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About the OHSAA ........................................................................ 2
From the Commissioner .......................................................... 3
Ready Reference Calendar ...................................................... 4
OHSAA Allied Organizations ................................................... 4
From the Board President ........................................................... 5
News and Notes ........................................................................ 10-11
Feature Story: Worth the Price ................................................. 12-14
  Athletics are important at West Muskingum, where the entire athletic department is funded by pay-to-participate fees and donations.
Eligibility Update .................................................................... 15
AD Spotlight .......................................................................... 16
Athletic Director Updates ......................................................... 16-17
Sports Medicine Updates ........................................................ 18-19
Summary of Ejections per School ........................................... 20
Officiating Update .................................................................. 21
2011-12 OHSAA Budget Overview .......................................... 22
2011-12 OHSAA Board of Directors ....................................... 23
2010-11 OHSAA Scholar-Athletes .......................................... 23
OHSAA Foundation Update .................................................... 24
Meet the OHSAA’s Corporate Partners .................................. 25-27
Fall Tournament Previews ....................................................... 28

Inside OHSAA Magazine

The 2010 Division IV volleyball state championship was won by the Sidney Lehman Catholic Cavaliers. After losing their season opener to reigning state champion, Maria Stein Marion Local, the Cavaliers went on to win 29 consecutive matches en route to their third state title (2000, 2005, 2010). The state volleyball tournament returns to Wright State University’s Ervin J. Nutter Center Nov. 10-12.

The Ohio High School Athletic Association does not seek to prepare student-athletes for the next level of competition, but for the next level of life.

Student-Athletes

1,604
Member Schools

826 high schools, 778 junior high schools

24 sports
1 Mission

OHSAA Magazine is published three times per year by the Ohio High School Athletic Association. It is mailed to superintendents, principals and athletic directors of all member schools. Annual subscriptions may be purchased for $20 and single copies are available for $7 by contacting Brandy Young, byoung@ohsaa.org or 614-267-2502.

On the Cover: Columbus Bishop Watterson senior Erik Oman and the Eagles aim for a return to the football state championships. Oman, who is on the school’s Sportsmanship Committee, caught three passes in Watterson’s 2010 Division III state championship win over Akron Buchtel.

Inset Photo: Cincinnati Madeira sophomore Cass Niesman (#36) helped the Amazons win the 2010 Division III girls soccer state championship in thrilling fashion, 2-1, in overtime over Shaker Heights Hathaway Brown.

All photos in OHSAA Magazine, unless otherwise credited, are provided by Impact Action Sports Photography, the official photographer of OHSAA Championships.

Printed on a recycled paper

Created and Edited by Tim Stried, OHSAA Director of Information Services
Email comments and suggestions to Tim Stried at tstried@ohsaa.org

OHSAA Magazine
Volume Three, Number One. Fall 2011

Layout and Design by Matt Cooperrider, West-Camp Press, Westerville, OH

In sports

The Ohio High School Athletic Association does not seek to prepare student-athletes for the next level of competition, but for the next level of life.
**Mission**

The Ohio High School Athletic Association’s mission is to regulate and administer interscholastic athletic competition in a fair and equitable manner while promoting the values of participation in interscholastic athletics as an integral part of a student’s educational experience. The OHSAA represents its member schools by recognizing and promoting academics, the safety of participants, good citizenship and lifelong values as the foundation of interscholastic athletics.

**Commitment**

The Ohio High School Athletic Association is committed to serving its member schools by being the nation’s premier non-profit athletic administration organization.

**We will:**

- Provide exemplary athletic oversight through swift, fair, consistent and impartial regulatory rulings;
- Operate with openness that generates trust and with strict fiscal accountability;
- Provide impartial, responsive and inclusive leadership;
- Conduct tournaments of nationally recognized excellence; and
- Honor our ultimate purpose, which is to foster lifelong values, good citizenship, ethics and a fair-play approach to life among student-athletes while promoting safe and sporting-like athletic environments.

The OHSAA is a member of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), which consists of the 50 individual state high school athletic and/or activities associations and the association of the District of Columbia and 10 Canadian organizations. These associations have united to secure the benefits of cooperative action and increased efficiency through the coordinating of ideas of all who are engaged in high school athletic and activities programs.

**Did you Know?**

- The OHSAA receives no tax dollars of any kind.
- The OHSAA is a private, not-for-profit organization and is audited by an independent firm every year.
- Membership status in the OHSAA is on a volunteer basis.
- The OHSAA has no full-time staff members assigned to compliance or investigations. The responsibility of following OHSAA bylaws and regulations resides with each member school. Violations are to be reported in writing to the OHSAA.
- Student-athletes tend to have better attendance records, lower dropout rates, higher grade-point averages, improved self-confidence and are better prepared for a successful career.
As I have said many times, I believe the annual referendum voting process is one of the most important things we do. It is an exercise in the democratic procedure and power given to our member schools. That was proven to be true once again last spring and the procedure was even more of a learning experience for us all because of the much-discussed Competitive Balance Proposal.

Following the defeat of the proposal by a slim margin in May, the summer seemed to last the blink of an eye due to the ongoing discussion, evaluation and planning as to where we go from here. As you might have seen following the June Board of Directors meeting, we conducted a thorough survey of the membership in August to get their feedback about the proposal. We will then reconvene the Competitive Balance Committee – made up of about 30 administrators and coaches from around the state – this fall to decide if a revised proposal will go to the membership for a vote in May 2012.

To reiterate the longstanding position of the OHSAA, it is our goal to keep public and non-public schools together in the same association and together in the same tournaments. We understand that not everyone shares that position and it will be an interesting fall and winter leading up to the referendum process next spring, if a proposal again goes to the ballot.

But when I recently took a few minutes to stop and ponder what might lie ahead with a proposal and what all could develop this school year on that and many other issues, I was reminded that no matter what happens, the mission and commitment of the OHSAA must not change. The purpose of interscholastic athletics has to remain focused on sportsmanship, teamwork, citizenship, academic accountability, self-discipline and bringing schools and communities together.

Balancing those ideals with the thrill of competition and winning is the ultimate goal. If we can achieve that, we can accomplish the mission of preparing kids for what will be their biggest challenge of all – life. In that, we should all strive to win.

Respectfully,

Daniel Ross, Ph.D., Commissioner
Ohio High School Athletic Association
### OHSAA Ready Reference Sports Dates (Subject to Change)

#### FALL 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>1st Practice</th>
<th>Scrimmages</th>
<th>1st Contest</th>
<th>State Tournament/Site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>Aug. 1</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Aug. 22</td>
<td>Nov. 5 - National Trail Raceway, Hebron (Girls III/II, Boys III/I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Hockey</td>
<td>Aug. 1</td>
<td>4 scrimmages after practice begins or 3 scrimmages/1 preview (See Preview Date)</td>
<td>Aug. 27</td>
<td>Nov. 4 - State Semis/Upper Arlington H.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nov. 5 - State Finals/Upper Arlington H.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>Aug. 1</td>
<td>2 scrimmages after practice begins plus 1 preview (See Preview Date)</td>
<td>Aug. 22</td>
<td>Nov. 4 - Reg. Quarterfinals (Div. II, III, V)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Nov. 5 - Reg. Quarterfinals (Div. I, IV, VI)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 11 - Reg. Semifinals (Div. II, III, V)</td>
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<td>Nov. 12 - Reg. Semifinals (Div. I, IV, VI)</td>
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<td>Nov. 18 - Reg. Finals (Div. II, III, V)</td>
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<td>Nov. 19 - Reg. Finals (Div. I, IV, VI)</td>
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<td>Nov. 25 - State Semis (Div. II, III, V)</td>
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<td>Nov. 26 - State Semis (Div. I, IV, VI)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 2 - State Finals (Div. V-Massillon; Div. Ill-Canton; Div. Il-Massillon)</td>
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<td>Dec. 3 - State Finals (Div. VI-Canton; Div. IV-Massillon; Div. I-Canton)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>Aug. 1</td>
<td>1 scrimmage any time during season</td>
<td>Aug. 5</td>
<td>Oct. 14-15 (B1L, BILL/GI/OSU &amp; NorthStar, Sunbury)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Oct. 21-22 (B1 &amp; GI/OHIO State)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>Aug. 1</td>
<td>4 scrimmages after practice begins plus 1 preview (See Preview Date)</td>
<td>Aug. 20</td>
<td>Nov. 8-9 - State Semis (B-8th; G-9th)/Sites TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 11-State Finals/Columbus Crew Stadium, (Boys Div. Ill, I, I)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 12-State Finals/Columbus Crew Stadium, (Girls Div. Ill, I, I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis (Girls)</td>
<td>Aug. 1</td>
<td>1 scrimmage prior to first match</td>
<td>Aug. 15</td>
<td>Oct. 21/OSU Stickney Tennis Center (1st &amp; 2nd rnds.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Oct. 22/OSU Stickney Tennis Center (Semi &amp; Finals)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>Aug. 1</td>
<td>5 scrimmages after practice begins plus 1 preview (See Preview Date)</td>
<td>Aug. 27</td>
<td>Nov. 10-State Semis/Wright St. Nutter Ctr. (Div. III &amp; II)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 11-State Semis/Wright St. Nutter Ctr. (Div. I &amp; IV)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 12-State Finals/Wright St. Nutter Ctr. (all 4 divs.)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### WINTER 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>1st Practice</th>
<th>Scrimmages</th>
<th>1st Contest</th>
<th>State Tournament/Site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basketball (Boys)</td>
<td>Nov. 4</td>
<td>8 scrimmages after practice begins plus 1 preview (OHSAA Foundation Game may replace 1 scrimmage) (See Preview Date)</td>
<td>Dec. 2</td>
<td>Mar. 22-State Semis/Ohio State Value City Arena - (Div. IV &amp; III)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar. 23-State Semis/Ohio State Value City Arena - (Div. II &amp; I)</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar. 24-State Finals/OSU Value City Arena (all 4 divs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball (Girls)</td>
<td>Oct. 28</td>
<td>5 scrimmages after practice begins plus 1 preview (OHSAA Foundation Game may replace 1 scrimmage) (See Preview Date)</td>
<td>Nov. 25</td>
<td>Mar. 15-State Semis/Ohio State Value City Arena - (Div. IV &amp; III)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar. 16-State Semis/Ohio State Value City Arena - (Div. II &amp; I)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar. 17-State Finals/Ohio State Value City Arena - (all 4 divs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowling</td>
<td>Nov. 4</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Nov. 18</td>
<td>Mar. 2-Boys/Wayne Webb’s Bowling, Columbus</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar. 3-Girls/Wayne Webb’s Bowling, Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
<td>Nov. 4</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Dec. 5</td>
<td>Mar. 2-Team/Hilliard Bradley H.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Mar. 3-Individual &amp; AA/Hilliard Bradley H.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Hockey</td>
<td>Nov. 4</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Nov. 25</td>
<td>Mar. 10-State Semis/Nationwide Arena, Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar. 11-State Final/Nationwide Arena, Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming/Diving</td>
<td>Nov. 4</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Nov. 28</td>
<td>Feb. 22-25-C.T. Branim Natatorium, Canton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrestling</td>
<td>Nov. 11</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Dec. 2</td>
<td>Mar. 1-3-State Value City Arena</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SPRING 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>1st Practice</th>
<th>Scrimmages</th>
<th>1st Contest</th>
<th>State Tournament/Site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>Feb. 20</td>
<td>4 scrimmages after practice begins or 3 scrimmages/1 preview (See Preview Date)</td>
<td>Mar. 24</td>
<td>May 31-State Semis/Cols. Huntington Park (Div. II &amp; I)</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>June 1-State Semis/Cols. Huntington Park (Div. III &amp; IV)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>June 2-State Finals/Cols. Huntington Park (all 4 divs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>Feb. 20</td>
<td>4 scrimmages after practice begins or 3 scrimmages/1 preview (See Preview Date)</td>
<td>Mar. 24</td>
<td>May 31-State Semis/Akron Firestone Stad. (Div. IV &amp; III)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>June 1-State Semis/Akron Firestone Stad. (Div. II &amp; I)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>June 2-State Finals/Akron Firestone Stad. (all 4 divs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis (Boys)</td>
<td>Mar. 5</td>
<td>One prior to first match</td>
<td>Mar. 26</td>
<td>May 25/OSU Stckney Tennis Center (1st &amp; 2nd rnds.)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>May 28/OSU Stckney Tennis Center (Semi &amp; Finals)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track &amp; Field</td>
<td>Mar. 5</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Mar. 24</td>
<td>June 1-2/Ohio State Jesse Owens (Div. III, II, I)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Dates and locations are subject to change

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**OHSAA Allied Organizations**

- National Federation of State High School Associations
- Ohio Department of Education
- Ohio School Boards Association
- Buckeye Association of School Administrators
- Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators
- Ohio Middle Level Association
- Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators

**Buckeye Association of School Administrators**

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Columbus, OH 43235-6482
(614) 846-4080
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www.osba-ohio.org

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www.osba-ohio.org

**Ohio Middle Level Association**

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www.ohmla.org

**Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators**

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**Ohio Department of Education**

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Columbus, OH 43215-4183
General Information: (614) 995-1545
General Fax: (614) 644-5960
www.ode.state.oh.us

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**OHSAA Calendar**

- OHSAA Calendar
- OHSAA Ready Reference Sports Dates (Subject to Change)

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**OHSAA Key Dates**

- OHSAA Calendar
- OHSAA Ready Reference Sports Dates (Subject to Change)
THE DRIVE UP STATE ROUTE 23 FROM PORTSMOUTH TO COLUMBUS ALWAYS GIVES ME A CHANCE TO THINK AND REFLECT. THAT WAS CERTAINLY THE CASE DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF AUGUST, ALTHOUGH IT SEEMED MORE LIKE A CRAM SESSION THAN A LEISURELY DRIVE. THAT PARTICULAR DRIVE LED TO MY FIRST MEETING AS PRESIDENT OF THE OHSAAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

THE ROLE OF BOARD PRESIDENT IS MANY THINGS. WITHOUT QUESTION, IT IS AN HONOR AND A CHALLENGE, BUT IT IS ALSO AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE. I HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS ALL MY LIFE AND THAT HAS HELPED PREPARE ME FOR THE 2011-12 SCHOOL YEAR AS BOARD PRESIDENT.

Among the items on the agenda at our September board meeting, we will lay out our goals for this school year. I was a part of the process last year in my first year on the state board of directors and understand the significance of establishing these goals. They will guide our discussions and help shape our decisions.

The members of the board of directors come from every part of the state and we have all been elected by our own districts. Through the rotation process utilized by the OHSAAN for decades, we now find ourselves on the state board of directors. Just as I feel I have been preparing for many years to fulfill this role, I know my colleagues bring the same level of preparedness and dedication.

There are two things I hope to communicate throughout this school year. First, no matter what role you have in school sports, we all have a big part to play in the OHSAAN. We all share the responsibility of keeping the ideals and mission of the OHSAAN at the heart of what we do, including sportsmanship, citizenship, teamwork, academic accountability and self-discipline. Together, we must ‘Respect the Game.’

Second, no matter what part of the state you come from, we are all similar. We all are a part of our family, our school, our community and our great state. We all want what’s best for kids. Sometimes that means making tough decisions, but it is what we have been entrusted to do by our member schools. Each of us has been preparing for this opportunity for many years.

Like I said, the drive from Portsmouth gives me time to think and reflect. There is much work to be done. Let’s get started.

Sincerely,

Tony Mantell, President
OHSAA Board of Directors
Leader of the Pack

Cincinnati Glen Este’s Michelle Thomas (#862) took an early lead that she never relinquished on her way to the 2010 Division I state cross country title. This year the state cross country finals will take place at National Trail Raceway in Hebron, Ohio. The move comes after the OHSAA’s 26-year stint ended at Scioto Downs in Columbus, which annually saw crowds in excess of 10,000.
A FOOTBALL FLURRY

Lakewood St. Edward junior Quincy Jones catches a two-point conversion pass over Huber Heights Wayne defenders late in the fourth quarter. The conversion made the score 35-28, and gave St. Edward the 2010 Division I state title, its first- ever in football. The 2011 state football championships return to Canton and Massillon December 2-3.
Cleveland St. Ignatius goalkeeper Brendan Cash saves a header by Centerville senior forward Memme Onwudiwe during the 2010 OHSAA Division I soccer state championship game in Columbus Crew Stadium. Cash, then a junior, and the Wildcats went on to win the match 4-1 to cap a 23-0-0 season and their fourth state title. The soccer state championships return to Crew Stadium November 11-12.
Cross Country State Finals on the Move

At its August meeting, the OHSAA Board of Directors voted unanimously to move the 2011 cross country state finals to National Trail Raceway in Hebron, Ohio, from its previous home at Scioto Downs Racetrack in Columbus. Crowds in excess of 10,000 have annually attended the cross country state finals during its 26-year stay at Scioto Downs, making it the largest attended cross country event in the nation. The 2011 state finals will be held November 5 and include three girls races and three boys races.

Board Meeting Highlights and Minutes Posted at OHSAA.org

Following each OHSAA Board of Directors meeting, the OHSAA immediately releases a memo detailing the highlights from the meeting. The memo is emailed to all principals, athletic directors and media and is posted at OHSAA.org. The complete set of meeting minutes is then posted at www.OHSAA.org/Events/BODmtg.htm.

Regional Update Meetings Again a Success

For the second consecutive year, the OHSAA conducted four Regional Update Meetings in August for school administrators. The meetings are designed for superintendents, principals and athletic administrators and included an update from Commissioner Dan Ross on current issues, an eligibility update by Associate Commissioner Deborah Moore and a legal issues update by Steve Craig, the OHSAA’s legal counsel. The meetings were held Aug. 9 at the University of Findlay, Aug. 10 at Hudson High School, Aug. 16 at Wright State University and Aug. 17 at Dublin Scioto High School. The next round of regional administrators’ meetings will take place in April as part of the annual referendum voting process.

New Eligibility Documents Posted Online

Regarding eligibility and transfers, the OHSAA asks school administrators to use only new forms and guidance (see page 15 for more information). Please refer to the guidance documented in the updated eligibility resource center and use the appropriate form, when such a form is required, to request an eligibility ruling. Please note that some of the exceptions simply require a cover letter from the principal or athletic administrator. Each guidance document has very specific instructions to assist you in preparing your request. We thank you in advance for taking the time to review these documents and, as always, invite you to contact OHSAA administrators Deborah Moore or Roxanne Price if you have any questions.

Reminder about Updates to School Sportsmanship Program

The OHSAA’s sportsmanship program has been modified to a tiered system: 1.) Schools that inform the OHSAA that they have developed an awareness for sportsmanship within their school community and have completed a form indicating such will be given recognition for having met the OHSAA “Respect The Game Challenge,” 2.) Schools that provide a detailed electronic presentation that indicates that they have completed an eight-part program that promotes sportsmanship, ethics.
Wapakoneta's Zack Brannan, then a junior, reaches full extension in helping the Redskins to a state runner-up finish during the 2011 state bowling tournament. Wayne Webb's Columbus Bowl will again play host to the 2012 boys and girls state tournaments March 2-3.

New Administrators Conference Provides Leadership

More than 140 school administrators attended the OHSAA's annual one-day seminar for school administrators who have been newly-appointed to their positions. The seminar is designed to give these individuals a better understanding of the OHSAA and to assist them in fulfilling their duties as they relate to the administration of interscholastic athletics. Topics reviewed at the seminar include responsibilities of principals and athletic administrators, various OHSAA forms, overview of student eligibility Bylaw 4, OHSAA tournament entry and withdrawal, school mailings, catastrophe insurance plan, OHSAA publications, sports regulations including open gym, instructional programs, coaches no-contact period and the sportsmanship regulations regarding ejections.

Two Receive Team Physician Awards

The OHSAA Joint Advisory Committee on Sports Medicine has selected its 2011 recipients of the Outstanding Team Physician Awards. The two recipients selected are Dr. Carl Berasi from Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School and Dr. David Mouch from Cincinnati LaSalle High School. Of note, the OHSAA was the first state association to have a Joint Advisory Committee on Sports Medicine.

OHSAA.org Offers Many Resources

With a click of the mouse, member schools and coaches have access to a wide variety of informational tools and resources on OHSAA.org.

The 'Members School' page is the online headquarters for school administrators and coaches. It offers a wealth of helpful information, whether it is looking for eligibility information, open dates, job vacancies, tournament or divisional breakdowns, conference affiliation information or simply looking up a school in the member directory.

Want to stay up to date on current health related items? Check out the 'Sports Medicine' page for items pertaining to concussions, living a healthy lifestyle, proper hydration in heat and the most recent information and regulations on head and neck injuries.

See what's happening around the state in the news by clicking on the 'News & Media' page. Headlines and releases covering all aspects of high school athletics are featured and even look back through past years in the archived news section.

The different sports pages will supply all the necessary dates and information needed to follow along all the way to the state championship. Sports regulations, forms, records, and archived results can also be found for all 24 OHSAA sponsored sports.

OHSAA.org is your complete resource for high school athletics in Ohio.
Worth the Price

FROM PAY-TO-PARTICIPATE FEES TO BAKE SALES, INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS AT WEST MUSKINGUM STILL EXIST DESPITE NO SCHOOL FUNDING

It’s early August and the practice fields are buzzing with activity up on the hill at West Muskingum High School. And yes, those practice fields are literally up on a hill, which is appropriate considering the financial uphill climb that student-athletes, coaches and families face each school year to represent the sports teams of this rural mid-size school about 45 miles east of Columbus.

Financially speaking, the school district isn’t too much different than many school districts across Ohio right now. To say that the budget is tight is an understatement. There are more questions and uncertainties than answers and stability on this campus located a stone’s throw from the old National Road, which played such a key role in making Ohio a gateway to westward expansion of the United States in the 19th century.

By Tim Stried, OHSAA Director of Information Services
But one thing is for sure – the odds of a dollar in the district’s budget ever being allocated for athletics again are slim. In 2006, the school board was forced to eliminate anything in the budget toward athletics.

“We saw that coming and started to prepare,” said Daryl Satterfield, the athletic director for the high school and junior high. “The members of this community weren’t going to let sports and music and clubs cease to exist.”

The Ohio High School Athletic Association says that interscholastic athletics are vital to schools, communities and Ohio’s youth. School sports are an extension of the classroom and support the academic mission of schools. Nowhere else is that better defined than at West Muskingum, where nothing is taken for granted and everyone plays a part in helping 19 sports suit up in the blue and gold for the Tornadoes.

“Sports are important here,” said Don Jeffers, the booster club president. “We felt like we had to do something to keep those opportunities available for the kids.”

With the school funding crisis in Ohio, some are starting to question if sports should have a place in a district’s budget, despite the fact that athletics typically account for only one to three percent of the finances. Pay-to-participate fees are often looked at as the answer, however they often end up limiting participation. On the other hand, school fees are still usually much lower than the high costs of non-school programs like AAU, junior Olympics, travel and club teams.

“We got within 100 votes of passing a levy,” said Satterfield when asked if there was hope of athletics being funded again anytime soon. “We’re preparing for another try, but the unique thing about this is that even if a levy passes, we’ll probably never get back to having paid assistant coaches.”

You read that correctly. Other than a couple assistant football coaches, all assistant coaches at the school are volunteer. Consider, too, that head coaches took a 15 percent pay cut when pay-to-participate fees were enacted and they took another 10 percent cut a couple years ago to help balance the athletic department budget.

In 2010, the OHSAA conducted a statewide survey of pay-to-participate fees. At that time, about 42 percent of the respondents said they had pay-to-participate fees. That number is most likely higher now and the OHSAA will conduct another survey next year. It is the Association’s plea that districts keep fees as low as possible so that participation remains as high as possible.

But faced with the loss of all extracurricular activities at West Muskingum, members of the staff and community stepped up to save them. The booster club took over payment for all costs associated with athletics, from coaches’ salaries and officials’ fees to team uniforms, transportation and equipment. Electric, water and heating bills add up quickly, and even nets and field paint have to be accounted for.

Pay-to-participate fees and a host of other measures were enacted to save athletics at the school and the West Muskingum Sports Council was established to oversee payment of the bills.

Continued on page 14

“In addition to the fees, we rely on gate receipts, donations, concession sales, bingo, a walk-a-thon – you name it. If there’s an event in the community where we can cook food, we’ll be there.”

– Don Jeffers, West Muskingum Athletic Booster Club President
“The Sports Council is strictly a management group,” said Jeffers, who noted that most sports also have their own parent support group. “The Council coordinates fundraising in the community and determines how much the pay-to-participate fees have to be each year. In addition to the fees, we rely on gate receipts, donations, concession sales, bingo, a walk-a-thon — you name it. If there’s an event in the community where we can cook food, we’ll be there.”

Several of the school’s athletic facilities needed an upgrade, which is nearly impossible considering the fundraising and pay-to-participate fees only cover the costs of running the athletic department.

“We keep the fees as low as possible,” Satterfield said. “We try to do everything we can so that any family that wants to play sports here can do so.”

That means there is no fund for capital improvement projects. The school hasn’t hosted a track meet in five years because the track has sunk in one corner, and the lights on the football field, which are the same lights that went up in 1963, are so weak that many began to question if the school should host games. Once again, though, the community and parents stepped up.

“Considering the track, the lights and improvements to locker rooms, bleachers, restrooms and concession stands, it’s a $400,000 project,” Jeffers said. “Within six months, the Football Fathers Club came up with the $70,000 for the lights, which should be installed before our first game. We’re up to about $120,000 overall.”

Pay-to-participate isn’t exclusive to athletics at West Muskingum. The music programs and extracurricular clubs are also funded by their own pay-to-participate fees. For sports, the fees are $295 per sport this year for high school students and $225 per sport for junior high students. For three-sport athletes, the third sport is half price and students on the free lunch program pay $50 per sport.

According to the OHSAA’s most recent survey, those fees are not the highest in the state. For that, the school can thank a pair of two large grants that recently came in from area foundations, among several other corporate donations, which are slim considering there is no town within the school district to provide support from private businesses.

Participation numbers at the high school aren’t what they could be. Head football coach Jeremy Ketchem opened camp with 24 players and is also facing the fact that West Muskingum has the fewest number of boys in the school among all Division IV schools in the state.

“It’s not just a pay-to-participate problem,” Ketchem said. “It’s also a society problem. It’s easier to stay home and play video games. We haven’t had a freshman football team in five years and some kids wait until they are a junior or senior to come out for the team since their playing time when they are younger might not justify the fee.”

Contrast the situation at West Muskingum with that of its eastern neighbor, Zanesville City Schools, which recently was able to eliminate pay-to-participate fees. Zanesville took several budget restructuring steps so that pay-to-participate fees weren’t needed, thus encouraging participation and embracing athletics as a part of the educational process.

Unfortunately, that is the exception to the rule across the state these days. The OHSAA tries to remind communities that students who participate in school sports tend to have higher grade-point averages, better attendance records, lower dropout rates and fewer discipline problems than the general student population.

“Another really tough thing about all this is that we’re losing great teachers due to better job security elsewhere,” said Jeffers. “Everyone here has to sacrifice so kids can participate. We have come a long way, but we still have a tremendous journey in front of us.”

Perhaps the ironic twist to all this is that Satterfield takes phone calls on a regular basis from schools around the state asking how West Muskingum keeps its athletic department going.

“We’re actually ahead of the game in some respects because we are already funding our athletic department on our own,” Satterfield said. “Sometimes when this situation happens in other school districts, they just don’t know what to do, so they call us and ask how we are doing it.”

“We feel that we have done our homework and created a system of checks and balances,” Jeffers said. “There are still a few bumps in the road, but it works.”
Last May, the membership adopted a new provision to bylaw 4-7-2 (transfers) that took effect June 1, 2011. The new changes were specific to exceptions one and two of the bylaw, which now require the OHSAA staff to make a determination as to why a transfer is being requested.

The OHSAA will make this determination by checking with school administrators at the school from which the student is seeking the transfer in order to ascertain whether the student's sports participation is a controlling factor in the move or the change of custody.

In order to be fair to all students and our member schools, it is important that transfers under these two exceptions are not being used to circumvent the transfer bylaw. The change of custody or the parents' bona fide move must not have been done merely so the student could change schools.

Please understand that it takes some time to verify this information. Therefore, please advise the student seeking such a transfer, and parents, that approval is not automatic and it may take several days to reach a final decision. Please review carefully all Affidavits of Bona Fide Residence (exception one) for accuracy and completeness before submitting, and the OHSAA advises that administrators investigate the transfer before submitting the paperwork.

With legal changes of custody, please follow the guidance at this link in preparing your letter request http://www.ohsaa.org/eligibility/4-7-2Guidance_Exc2.pdf, and please include the name of the school from which the student is transferring.

The following are some examples of instances in which the OHSAA may not approve a transfer under either of these exceptions: 1) a student who has had an athletic code of conduct violation resulting in a denial of participation; 2) a student whose parents have had a disagreement with a coaching staff member; 3) a student who has played on a non-interscholastic team with another school's coaching staff; 4) a student who has quit or been dismissed from an athletic team. This list is not exclusive but is representative of some of the reasons that schools have cited for a student's transfer.

Those forms and the guidance for their use can be found at www.ohsaa.org/eligibility/TransferBylawGuidance.htm.

The OHSAA is committed to serving school administrators as quickly as possible while performing due diligence in accordance with the changes adopted by the membership. Patience and cooperation are needed with this process. As always, please feel free to call or email OHSAA administrators Deborah Moore or Roxanne Price with your questions.

Deborah Moore
Dr. Deborah Moore joined the OHSAA as an assistant commissioner in June of 1989 and was promoted to Associate Commissioner for Eligibility in August of 2008. A native of Newark, Ohio, she owns degrees from Kent State and Ohio State and spent 15 years as a teacher and professor before joining the OHSAA. Dr. Moore also serves as the OHSAA's administrator for the sports of field hockey, volleyball, swimming & diving and gymnastics.

Roxanne Price
After 20 years in intercollegiate athletics, Roxanne Price came to the OHSAA in February of 2006 and was promoted to assistant commissioner in August of 2007. After graduating from Fremont Ross High School and Ohio State, she worked at the University of Virginia, Akron, Ohio State and Columbus State in the areas of student support services and athletics administration. The author of three children's books, Roxanne oversees the sports of tennis, bowling and softball in addition to the OHSAA's sportsmanship program.
Preseason meetings with student-athletes, families and coaches are a crucial first step in a successful start to a new school year or season. Discussing a school's athletic code of conduct and OHSAA regulations, as well as coaches' expectations, can help solve many issues before they begin.

Preseason meeting DVDs have been mailed to member school high school athletic administrators and 7th-8th grade principals. The OHSAA prepares the 20-minute DVDs every other year for schools to be utilized during the preseason meetings. Topics include information about and the role of the OHSAA; the purpose of interscholastic athletics; key OHSAA eligibility regulations; healthy lifestyles, including drugs and supplements, concussions and heat illness; and sporting behavior. Also included in the mailing is a sample template for conducting a preseason meeting. The video and agenda template are posted on the OHSAA website under the “Member Schools” tab.

**myOHSAA Preseason Parent Meeting Scheduling Tool**

OHSAA Bylaw 3-1-4 stipulates that no later than two weeks after the beginning of a sports season, the principal, through his/her athletic administrator, coaches and such other personnel as deemed advisable by said principal, shall conduct a mandatory, preseason program with all student-athletes who wish to participate in the upcoming sports seasons, their parents and booster club officer(s). The meeting shall consist of (a) a review of the student-eligibility bulletin and key essential eligibility requirements; (b) a review of the school’s Athletic Code of Conduct; (c) a sportsmanship, ethics and integrity component, and (d) a review of issues concerning concussions and steroids.

The penalty for non-compliance of this bylaw is stated in General Sports Regulation 4 – Penalties for Failure to Conduct Preseason Meetings. When it has been verified that the member school has failed to conduct a preseason meeting(s), the member school shall be fined $500 for each violation. The OHSAA intends to do random audits of compliance with this standard.

Each member school shall record in the myOHSAA system the date and location of each meeting as well as the person responsible for each meeting. To assist with meeting this requirement, a Preseason Parent Meeting scheduling tool has been added to myOHSAA. This tool is available for athletic directors, assistant athletic directors and athletic secretaries after logging in to myOHSAA. The dates a preseason meeting can be conducted for each season are outlined in the table below. **Note:** All meetings for a sports season are to be recorded in myOHSAA prior to the last date a meeting is permitted to be conducted for that season in the school year.

### PRESEASON PARENT MEETING CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Year</th>
<th>Fall Sports</th>
<th>Winter Sports</th>
<th>Spring Sports</th>
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A point of emphasis by the OHSAA Board of Directors is to expand and document the Association’s communications with member schools. The following is a summary of those communications efforts.

EMAILED MEMOS
• Transfer Bylaw Resource Center, updated June 2011
• Mandatory Preseason Meetings Memo and new DVD, mailed June 2011
• Concussion Management Resources, updated July 2011
• Heat Precautions, updated July 2011
• New School Year Reminders (mid August 2011)
• Board Meeting Highlights (immediately following all Board meetings)
• Complete Board Meeting Minutes (following all Board meetings)
• Upcoming myOHSAA deadlines (as needed)
• myOHSAA update (annual)
• Tournament Entry/Withdrawal Deadlines
• Sport Participation Cards (annual)
• Reminders for Online Rules Meetings (seasonal)

ANNUAL MEETINGS
• New Administrators Workshop, August
• Fall Update Meetings, August
• Spring Athletic Discussion/Referendum Process Meetings, April
• State Tournament Qualifiers Meetings, seasonal

OTHER MAILINGS
• Sport Mailings (preseason manual, rules meeting dates, rule books, etc.)
• Referendum Ballots
• District Athletic Board Ballots
• Board Resolution Cards
• Football Weight Charts
• SEI Award Certificates (Archie Griffin Sportsmanship, Courageous Student)
• Basketball and Wrestling Ticket Applications
• Other Special Ticket Promotions (football and basketball)

PUBLICATIONS …
Additional copies can be purchased by emailing Brandy Young at byoung@ohsaa.org.
• Handbook (constitution, bylaws and sports regulations)
• Eligibility Brochure and Card
• School Directory
• Pocket Calendar and Wall Calendar
• Guide to 7th and 8th Grade Athletics
• Year in Review
• OHSAA Magazine (September, February and May)
• Working with the Media Brochure

Jerry Snodgrass joined the OHSAA in August 2008 as assistant commissioner. For the previous 31 years he served as a high school teacher, coach and athletic director, including the last 25 years at Findlay High School. Snodgrass was elected president of the OHSAA Board of Directors for the 2006-07 school year and is a trustee for the OHSAA Foundation.


This replaces the NFHS Coaches’ Quarterly, which is no longer being printed. Material on the site will be changed regularly, with new features and department articles being posted each month. The NFHS Coaching Today Publications Committee is responsible for approving all editorial material.
The OHSAA has created two documents to further assist member schools with fulfilling the OHSAA’s concussions regulations and policies. The “Authorization to Reenter Form” and the “OHSAA Concussion Report” documents are posted on every sport page at OHSAA.org and posted on the Sports Medicine page.

The ‘Authorization’ form is to be used by the proper medical professional (MD, DO or AT) when a student-athlete has been determined not to have sustained a concussion. Copies of the form should accompany each team. The ‘Report’ is to be used by officials which remove a student-athlete from a contest when he/she shows the symptoms of being concussed.


It is important for all adults involved in interscholastic athletics to recognize the potential for catastrophic injury and even death from concussions. Thus it is extremely important that each coach, administrator, contest official and medical support personnel review their responsibilities in protecting students.

Note that it has always been the ultimate responsibility of the coaching staff, in all sports, to ensure that players are only put into practice or contests if they are physically capable of performing. However, all adults involved in the conduct of interscholastic competition have responsibilities in this endeavor.

The OHSAA Board of Directors has adopted a sports regulation which incorporates the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) rules. This regulation reads: “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 and shall not return to play until cleared with written authorization by an appropriate health care professional. In Ohio, an ‘appropriate health care professional’ shall be a physician, as authorized under ORC Chapter 4731 and includes both doctors of medicine (M.D.) and doctors of osteopathy (D.O.) and an athletic trainer (A.T.), licensed under ORC Chapter 4755.”

In January 2011, the OHSAA Board of Directors further defined parameters to guide OHSAA licensed officials, medical personnel and member school representatives in implementing this change. See the top left sidebar for details.

Pair of Documents Created to Assist with New Concussion Protocol

“Authorization to Reenter Form” and “OHSAA Concussion Report” documents posted online at OHSAA.org.
INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS AND SOCIAL NETWORKING

By Christopher Stankovich, Ph.D., OHSAA Magazine Contributor

These days nearly every student-athlete has a Facebook page, a twitter account or utilizes another social networking service, and for most kids the content they choose to post is fun, harmless and safe. When kids use social media to talk about the events in their lives (including sports) and upload game pictures and video files, the idea of social networking can be a really enjoyable endeavor. Unfortunately, not all kids think through the impact and negative consequences of posting information that others might find offensive and degrading, and as a result run into future problems stemming from the content they posted on their social networking page.

Problems can occur when kids don’t think through the ramifications of the content they post, as the impressions others develop of them may be compromised if irresponsible content is posted. Kids today need to know that many people see their daily activities on social networking pages, even if they are not aware of this. In fact, it is quite common today for colleges and potential employers to do Google searches on student-athletes, as well as check out their social networking pages. A youngster with questionable comments and pictures on his/her social networking page will likely lose future opportunities because he is viewed as a “high risk.”

It is vitally important to analyze your social networking pages and look at your page content through another person’s eyes. Is there content posted that could come back to haunt you, or possibly lead to family, school or legal problems? Perhaps most important, does your page accurately show all the good things about you, like your success in the classroom, volunteer efforts, sport success or other school activities?

It is imperative that parents have access to their child’s social networking pages to ensure appropriate content is being posted. The consequences today are great when it comes to potentially lost or missed opportunities simply because of poor choices made in Facebook posts. Please keep in mind the following tips when it comes to social networking:

LANGUAGE

Probably the biggest problem kids have when it comes to social networking is the graphic and slang language that is often used. While most kids would never speak with coarse language in front of their parents, teachers or coaches, with social networking it is easy to use whatever language you want. Always keep it clean and stay away from rude language, racist or other stereotypical remarks.

PICTURES

Similar to language, visual images can cause big problems for kids as well. Kids will often post pictures of things they would never want their parents or other adults in their lives to see. Be sure that the pictures you post are of good taste and portray you as a responsible and goal driven individual!

DRUG/ALCOHOL COMMENTS

Many kids think it’s cool to post comments and pictures that reference drugs and/or alcohol. In some instances, blatant pictures and references are posted, while in other examples references are made (like seeing a group of kids cheering with plastic cups that are commonly associated with parties). Aside from the fact that it is illegal for kids to use, party pictures will never sit well with colleges or possible employers when they sit down to examine personality traits pertaining to leadership, responsibility, and decision making.

BULLYING/HAZING

Bullying in schools is receiving more attention than ever before. Similarly, hazing is also a big problem and can lead to school and legal consequences. While kids might think it is funny to post pictures of another student athlete being taped to a goal post, or posting threatening messages on Facebook, both of these examples can lead to big problems.
At its July meeting, the OHSAA’s Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity Committee recommended that a list of all schools that had a player or coach ejected during the 2010-11 school year be published in OHSAA Magazine. Below is that list alphabetically, with total number of ejections. Schools with five or more ejections are in bold print.
OHSAA Inducts 12 New Members into Officials Hall of Fame

Twenty-third class enshrined into the OHSAA’s only ‘Hall of Fame’ June 11 in Columbus

By Kristin Daugherty, OHSAA Sports Information Intern

When you think of high school athletics, you immediately think of the players and coaches who put in the endless hours of practice, conditioning and strength training to perform their best once competition begins. But on June 11, the Ohio High School Athletic Association recognized another group of invaluable individuals who play a key role in the execution of high school athletics – the officials.

OHSAA Assistant Commissioner Henry Zaborniak, who oversees nearly 16,000 officials across the state, said this particular hall of fame is unique in that it is the only one sponsored by the OHSAA.

“It’s extremely important to find and keep quality officials,” Zaborniak said. “If a student-athlete has a bad coach, they are not as likely to have a good experience. The same goes for officiating. If our officials do a good job, then it provides a better experience for our student-athletes.”

This year, 12 new members were recognized and honored for their significant contributions to interscholastic officiating in the state of Ohio. Members of the 23rd class include Cynthia L. Saling, Newark; Pegi A. Bannan, Yorkville; Jordan G. Kareklas, Columbus; Ronald G. Davis, Zanesville; Edward S. Dohanos, Wellington; Robert E. Mansfield, Youngstown; Lowell L. Everingham, Sandusky; Gordon J. Schutt, New Albany; John M. Jackson, Wellston; Scott A. Moore, Otway; Ted Dageford, Loveland; and Eric L. Shroyer, DeGraff.

To be considered for the Officials Hall of Fame, individuals must have either been named the NFHS Ohio Official of the Year or meet a minimum years of service. For retired officials, a nominee must be retired for two years after a minimum of 15 years of officiating experience or officiating administration. For active officials, a nominee must have at least 25 years of experience in officiating or officiating administration.

The 2011 OHSAA Officials Hall of Fame Banquet inductees pose at Huntington Park in downtown Columbus for the 23rd Annual Officials Hall of Fame Banquet.


Rating and Voting Information

Each athletic administrator votes for a maximum of 15 officials who are added to the school’s ballot and then submitted. Coaches or athletic administrators also rate each regular season contest official. Officials do not see these individual school ratings or comments.

Both the officials’ voting by athletic administrations and the ratings by coaches are done through the myOHSAA system (instructions are sent through a separate email) and are important in the selection of officials for future OHSAA tournaments. Schools that fail to vote for or rate tournament officials by the deadline are subject to a $150 fine per sport.

Voting

Tournament officials voting is only available through the athletic administrator’s login to myOHSAA. Voting by athletic administrators occurs at the end of the sport season. Athletic administrators vote for a maximum of 15 officials to be added to their school’s ballot and submit the ballot. These ballots are important in the selection of tournament officials for future OHSAA tournaments.

Rating

For complete rating instructions, including how to create and issue a user name and password for your head coach, and a page of step-by-step instructions to provide to the coach on how to rate contest officials, go to www.ohsaa.org/myOHSAA/OfficialRatingInstructions.pdf. These instructions also include procedures to add officials to the rating form if the officials were not entered by the athletic administrator. The instructions have been posted to the OHSAA homepage (www.ohsaa.org), under the myOHSAA login along the left side of the page.

Coaches or Athletic Administrators rate each regular season contest official. Officials do not see individual school ratings or comments. Both the official’s ratings by coaches and voting by athletic administrators are done through the myOHSAA system.
As the OHSAA's CFO, Jordan will oversee internal financial operations, the annual budget, tournament financial operations and the independent company that performs the annual audit. He will also serve as the financial advisor for the OHSAA Foundation.

Jordan was appointed to an ex-officio position on the OHSAA Board of Directors by the ODE from 2001 through April 2011. He has been an OHSAA licensed basketball official since 1991.

As the OHSAA’s CFO, Jordan will oversee internal financial operations, the annual budget, tournament financial operations and the independent company that performs the annual audit. He will also serve as the financial advisor for the OHSAA Foundation.

Ben Torchia (#26) from Toledo St. Francis deSales helped the Knights win the state ice hockey championship over Lakewood St. Edward at Nationwide Arena, home of the Columbus Blue Jackets, which will host the 2012 state tournament March 10-11. Torchia scored three goals to help lead his team to a 5-4 victory over Powell Olentagy Liberty in the state semifinal.
54 Students Receive OHSAA Scholarships; Ethics and Integrity Award Goes to Kelly Whelan

A total of $66,000 in scholarships were handed out to 54 students and highly respected Cincinnati-native official Kelly Whelan received the OHSAA Ethics and Integrity Award during the 19th Annual OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Banquet June 17 in Columbus.

The scholarship winners were selected by each of the six OHSAA district athletic boards. Of the 54 honorees, 42 received $1,000 awards, including six (one from each district) that were given an OHSAA Minority Scholarship presented by Farmers Insurance. Twelve students (two from each district) received $2,000 awards made possible by the OHSAA Foundation and Taco Bell. Nike and Molten have also contributed to the OHSAA scholarship program, as well as schools that participate in an OHSAA Foundation basketball game, which includes a fee given to the Foundation to help fund their portion of the scholarships.

“The scholar-athlete banquet is always one of the highlights of the school year for the OHSAA,” said OHSAA Commissioner Dr. Dan Ross. “We all know that state tournaments are exciting and a thrill for the student-athletes, schools and communities, but to see so many students be honored this way for their extraordinary work academically is just as thrilling. They truly represent what it is all about and their families and schools are to be commended for helping them achieve great things already. I would also like to personally thank the OHSAA Foundation and our corporate partners for their generous support in helping make these scholarships possible.”

More About the Scholar-Athlete Selection Process

Scholar-athlete recipients are selected based on a point system which rewards students for grade point averages; ACT or SAT scores; varsity letters earned; individual and team athletic honors; and an essay. There are seven, 10 or 13 recipients from each district, depending upon the number of schools within the district. The recipients were selected by special committees within each of the six OHSAA athletic districts. Recipients of athletic scholarships from NCAA Division I or II institutions are not eligible for the award.
Student Leadership Conferences
The OHSAA Foundation Student Leadership Conferences will be held in the spring of 2012. The Foundation will hold four Student Leadership Conferences instead of the six conferences previously held around the state. The conference sites will include Columbus, Dayton, Canton and Elyria.

These conferences are for sophomore and junior student-athletes who exhibit leadership qualities in the classroom, within their communities, as well as the team. These all-day conferences will have workshops addressing leadership, sportsmanship, teamwork, citizenship, role-modeling and current issues affecting today’s student-athletes. More information on the conferences will be available on the OHSAA Foundation website, www.ohsaafoundation.org.

Basketball Service Week
Once again it is time to start planning for Basketball Service Week! This year Service Week dates are Nov. 16 through Dec. 3. Service Week is a great opportunity for member schools to participate in a service project and highlight activities in your school.

Foundation Service Week is highlighted by a “Foundation Game,” where OHSAA member schools are encouraged to participate. Schools can use one of their five allotted basketball scrimmages to play a regulation game under all normal game conditions. Foundation Games do not count on a team’s record.

This year the Foundation wanted to show our appreciation to participating schools for their support and commitment to community service by recognizing Bishop Rosecrans and Unioto High Schools during the boys state basketball tournaments. Bishop Rosecrans and Unioto coaches and players tremendous service efforts within their school and community exemplified the purpose of Foundation Service Week!

First Friday – Tackling Prostate Cancer One Play at A Time
Archie Griffin and the First Friday Foundation encourage Ohio football coaches to support “First Friday.” September is Prostate Cancer Awareness month designated to bring awareness and funding to advance prostate cancer research. The “First Friday” Night Game in September is designated to educate and promote prostate cancer awareness. Each year 235,000 new cases are reported and 40,000 deaths are linked to prostate cancer.

The First Friday Foundation was organized by long-time football coach and official, Mike Sammons, from Columbus. Mike was diagnosed with advanced prostate cancer and in March 2007 passed away after a valiant fight against this horrible disease. Mike’s goal was to educate the football communities and officials about prostate cancer. The OHSAA Foundation sends blue wristbands to all football schools and asks that on the “First Friday” Night Game in September these wristbands are worn and public service announcements are read throughout the game regarding prostate cancer. To donate or for more information please visit www.firstfridayfoundation.org.

Kim Combs
After being involved with the OHSAA for three years in the areas of sponsorship, marketing, hotel partnerships and the annual Basketball FanFest, Kim Combs was named Executive Director of the OHSAA Foundation in January of 2010. Combs works directly with the Foundation’s service week initiatives, web site and newsletter correspondence and the six leadership conferences, which promote leadership, citizenship, sportsmanship and service and are attended by over 750 student-athletes around the state each year. The Grove City native is a graduate of The Ohio State University, has worked for the Columbus Sports Commission and owns her own consulting company, KNC Solutions, which provides support for non-profit sports and charity events.

Bob Goldring
Bob Goldring joined the OHSAA in the fall of 1995 as Director of Information Services. He was promoted to Assistant Commissioner in June 2005 and to Associate Commissioner for Operations in August 2008. A 1977 graduate of Orrville High School, he holds two degrees from The Ohio State University. Bob’s previous work has all been in collegiate sports information offices, including Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Purdue University and Ohio State University.
SportsTime Ohio and the OHSAA

SportsTime Ohio (STO) and the OHSAA are entering the fifth year of what has been a successful groundbreaking partnership for both organizations. As the “Official Television Broadcast Partner” of the OHSAA, STO has not only been able to showcase the first-class tournament events that the OHSAA puts on each school year, but has truly been able to develop community-driven programming that highlights the member schools and student-athletes who participate in OHSAA sanctioned events.

This upcoming school year, STO will carry more than 100 boys and girls athletic tournament events along with high school based programs including talk shows, highlight shows and championship preview shows. To ensure that all of the aforementioned programming is brought to the thousands of OHSAA fans across the state at a professional level, STO boasts 25 talented hosts, play-by-play and color announcers. This roster of on-air talent includes former players from the Ohio State Buckeyes, Cleveland Browns and the NBA. The combined efforts of these personalities and STO’s production staff have allowed the station to produce Emmy award-winning coverage of OHSAA events. It is worth noting that within this award-winning coverage was the first ever live, High Definition production of an OHSAA event in 2007. This laid the groundwork for much of STO’s coverage which is broadcast in HD.

Cleveland based STO saw a unique opportunity in the

Continued on page 27

Steve Neil

Steve Neil joined the OHSAA as assistant commissioner in August of 2005. He earned a pair of degrees from Miami University, where he also played baseball and worked in the athletic department for eight years. Steve works with the OHSAA’s corporate partners and serves as the administrator for ice hockey.
“SportsTime Ohio’s support of high school athletics is a key part of our overall mission to our fans and our satellite and cable partners. We are a network that seeks to create value through athletics, and you cannot do it without high school athletics, representing the purest form of competition: Competing for your community. We are excited to be extending our coverage and support of high schools, high school athletes and each community in our coverage area.”

- Jim Liberatore, President – SportsTime Ohio
partnership with the OHSAA because of the association’s vast audience. Knowing that they would need to reach communities in every corner of the state with their programming, STO formed a unique relationship with Time Warner Cable, which happens to be the major cable provider for the state. Now fans are able to tune in to all events carried by STO no matter where they are located.

STO not only supports the student-athletes, member schools and communities, but also the OHSAA’s other initiatives such as good sportsmanship through the “Respect the Game Respect Yourself” program. STO is able to use the partnership to promote this program by airing thousands of promotional spots and interviews with key OHSAA personnel during various live and on-set programming.

For the 2011-12 school year, STO will broadcast the volleyball, football, basketball, and softball championships, as well as other select sports throughout the year. Beginning during the regular season high school highlight shows are going to air weekly giving in-depth analysis and coverage of what is happening each week of the tournament.
SPORTS TIME OHIO

Ohio Radio (STO) will provide coverage of the 2011 OHSAA state volleyball championship games on Nov. 12 and the 2011 OHSAA state football championship games Dec. 2-3. STO is the official television partner of the OHSAA and has exclusive rights to selected OHSAA state tournaments. Log on to the STO Network to purchase DVDs of state tournament contests televised by STO. During the 2011-12 school year, events will include the volleyball state finals, the football state finals and other selected football playoff games, the wrestling state tournament, the bowling state tournament, the ice hockey state finals, the girls and boys basketball state finals and the softball state finals.

STO provides fans across Ohio with exceptional regional sports programming, beginning with quality coverage of the Cleveland Indians. STO’s programming expands beyond the OHSAA and baseball with coverage of the Browns, Ohio State, Cleveland State, the Mid-American Conference, golf and outdoor programming. SportsTime Ohio is your home for Ohio sports.

OHSAA RADIO NETWORK

The OHSAA Radio Network will provide live coverage of all six games of the 2011 state football championship games from Massillon’s Paul Brown Tiger Stadium and Canton’s Fawcett Stadium, Friday and Saturday Dec. 2-3. Created in the spring of 2010, the OHSAA Radio Network is a free, non-exclusive, commercial-split broadcast of selected OHSAA state tournament contests. During the 2011-12 school year, those events will include the football championship games, the entire girls and boys basketball state tournaments and the baseball state tournament for a total of 42 contests. Radio stations and streaming websites are welcome to obtain the feed, which is delivered either online via a 48K stereo broadband audio stream or from a phone line (32K mono). The OHSAA has selected veteran broadcasters and will utilize about half of the commercial time for its public service announcements and promotion of its official corporate partners. A detailed programming log will be created for each game for stations to follow. For more information, contact Tim Stried at tstried@ohsaa.org.

GET READY FOR TOURNAMENT TIME

By Paul Seiter, OHSAA Sports Information Intern

BOYS GOLF

When: October 14-15 (Div. II & Div. III) and October 21-22 (Div. I)
Where: Ohio State University Scarlet Golf Course, Columbus (Div. I & Div. III) and NorthStar Golf Resort, Sunbury (Div. II)

Now in its 86th year for the Division I golf state championship, the 2011 edition will bring an opportunity for schools to unseat back-to-back team champions. In 2009 and 2010, Columbus St. Charles (Div. I) and Dayton Oakwood (Div. II) won both years. In Division III, Gates Mills Gilmour Academy took home the 2010 team championship at NorthStar in Sunbury. The 41st edition of the Division III tournament alternates to Ohio State this year, while Division II shifts to NorthStar.

GIRLS GOLF

When: October 14-15 (Div. II) and October 21-22 (Div. I)
Where: Ohio State University Gray Golf Course, Columbus

In the 18th edition of the Division I tournament, teams look to unseat Mason, which has won an unprecedented three team championships in a row (2008, 2009, 2010). In 2010, Shaker Heights Hathaway Brown brought home the Division II championship. This year’s Division II tournament will be the fourth annual version, all of which have been held at the OSU Gray Course.

GIRLS TENNIS

When: October 21-22
Where: Stickney Tennis Center, Ohio State University, Columbus

The 36th annual girls tennis tournament returns to Ohio State and its newly renovated Stickney Tennis Center. In 2010 a new individual champion was crowned in Division I, Sandy Niehaus (Cin. Mt. Notre Dame) and a familiar face won in Division II, Alyssa Ritchie (Waynesville, also the 2009 champion). The Division I doubles title was claimed by sisters from Cincinnati Ursuline Academy, while the Division II doubles title was won by cousins from Hilliard Bradley. The rain location remains the Elysium Tennis Center in Plain City, just northwest of Columbus.

FIELD HOCKEY

When: November 4-5
Where: Upper Arlington High School, Upper Arlington

In what has become a familiar site, field hockey teams once again look to make it to the state ‘Final Four’ at Upper Arlington High School. In 2010, Cincinnati St. Ursula Academy took home the championship in its first trip to the title game. The Bulldogs defeated Thomas Worthington, 1-0.

CROSS COUNTRY

When: November 5
Where: National Trail Raceway, Hebron

After 26 years at Scioto Downs, the state cross country meet has a new home at National Trail Raceway. A new course will provide added excitement and challenges for runners, as schools and individuals will compete for the first state titles at National Trail. In 2010, Louisville claimed the Division I boys title, while Peninsula Worthington continued its dominance in Division II, winning for the fifth straight year. Independence won its second straight boys title in Division III. On the girls side, Rocky River Magnificat (Division I) and Minster (Division III) won their third titles in a row, while Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary (Division II) won its second straight title.

VOLLEYBALL

When: November 10-12
Where: Ervin J. Nutter Center, Wright State University, Dayton

The 37th annual volleyball state tournament returns to Wright State’s Nutter Center with Divisions III & II semifinals beginning things on Thursday followed by Divisions I & IV semifinals Friday. Championship matches will be played Saturday in the same divisional order. The 2010 champions in volleyball were Toledo St. Ursula (Div. I), Mentor Lake Catholic (Div. II), Middletown Bishop Fenwick (Div. III) and Sidney Lehman Catholic (Div. IV).

BOYS & GIRLS SOCCER

When: November 11-12
Where: Crew Stadium, Columbus

Three divisions of boys and, for the first time, three divisions of girls will play for state championships at Crew Stadium. Cleveland St. Ignatius (Div. I), Dayton Carroll (Div. II) and Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy (Div. III) won boys titles in 2010. On the girls side, Cuyahoga Falls Walsh Jesuit (Div. I) and Cincinnati Madeira (Div. II) went home with the state titles. This will be the first year a Division III champion will be crowned in girls soccer.

FOOTBALL

When: December 2-3
Where: Canton Fawcett Stadium (Div. I, III, VI) and Massillon Paul Brown Tiger Stadium (Div. II, IV, V)

Northeast Ohio will again open its doors as host for the six state championship football games. Divisions V, III, and II will play Friday, with Divisions VI, IV, and I playing Saturday. The 2010 state champions included Lakewood St. Edward (Div. I), Maple Heights (Div. II), Columbus Bishop Watterson (Div. III), Columbus Bishop Hartley (Div. IV), Youngstown Ursuline (Div. V, also 2008 & 2009 champion) and Delphos St. John’s (Div. VI).
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