A SUMMER’S Place
School grounds are now just as busy in June, July and August as during the school year, and OHSAA Magazine examines what activities are permitted.

News, Notes & Numbers
From previews and recaps to committee updates and Board of Directors meeting highlights.

The MARCH is ON
How every school can join the March to a Million Campaign and make service its own chapter in the playbook.

From ‘Step Up Cincinnati’ to the UCREW, service projects are now a fixture in the Queen City.
A Midsummer Night’s Dream

Cincinnati Archbishop Moeller third baseman Kevin Thamann takes a flying leap to join his Crusader teammates in celebrating their 2009 OHSAA Division I State Baseball Championship at Huntington Park in Columbus. The baseball state tournament returns to the downtown Columbus ballpark — voted the nation’s best new baseball stadium last year — June 3-5.
After advancing to the semi-finals as a sophomore in 2008, Cincinnati Country Day’s Joey Fritz rolled through the 2009 Division II boys’ tennis state tournament field to claim the school’s fourth boys tennis state title. Fritz amassed a 48-6 cumulative margin of victory during the two-day state tournament and topped Beachwood’s Mark Goldberg in the finals, 6-1, 6-2.
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.

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, ethics and a fair-play approach to life among student-athletes. It is an issue that has transcended the summer period itself because it not only affects how we go about our daily work at the OHSAA, but also how our coaches and school administrators run their entire athletic programs. It is quite a balancing act that our school people are forced to deal with on top of their other traditional responsibilities, and during a time when school facilities are no longer quiet.

As a youngster growing up in Southern Ohio, when our daily chores were done, we were always starting a pickup game of some kind. It didn’t matter what sport – we just wanted to be outside playing, and it never included uniforms, coaches, application fees or traveling further than our back yard.

Times have changed, haven’t they?

These days, summers are filled with camps, travel teams, tournaments, open gyms and seemingly more options for our kids than they could possibly fit into their schedules. Unfortunately, the result has meant that “free play” – both in terms of organization and dollars – has almost disappeared, and the traditional family vacation right along with it.

That is why we have bylaws and sports regulations in place that specifically address the summer period – defined as being from June 1 through July 31. Those bylaws and sports regulations are explained on various pages of this issue and I invite you to read and study the feature article and supporting information on pages 10 and 11.

There are several issues at the heart of this matter. First is the proliferation of non-interscholastic programs such as club teams, Junior Olympics and the whole AAU scene. Some may say that the OHSAA has created that opening and those non-interscholastic programs have merely filled the void, especially when there is a dollar to be made.

Second is the fact that parents often push their kids toward the highest level attainable, thinking it will lead to a full-ride college scholarship. And third is we regularly hear from our high school coaches and administrators that they do not want increased contact with their student-athletes during the summer because they need a break, too.

It is a complex issue and added to the mix is that college coaches often now spend more time recruiting the non-interscholastic landscape than spending time talking with the high school coach or administrator inside the school. Who could have ever imagined that a college coach would offer a scholarship to a student-athlete without ever having seen him or her play a game at the school’s facility?

What I fear the most, though, is that we could lose that time of year when ‘kids can be kids.’ Let’s all work together to ensure that doesn’t happen.

Respectfully,

Daniel Ross, Ph.D., OHSAA Commissioner
Ohio High School Athletic Association

Photo by Terry Gilliam.
Our monthly Board of Directors meetings are filled with great discussion and decision making that improves the quality of interscholastic athletics in Ohio. Unfortunately, some meetings tend to end in a disappointing way.

What I am talking about is the appeals process. This is a time where school administrators and/or families are hoping that the interpretation of a bylaw that was made by an OHSAA administrative staff member and has forced a student-athlete to the sideline will be overturned by the OHSAA Board.

After hearing each appeal and usually having to deny the appellants’ request for eligibility, I am often left with these questions: 1. Have our school administrators become familiar with the bylaws and, if they do not understand something, have they taken the time to call the OHSAA office to pose their question to an administrator, and 2. Do our school administrators and their families understand the Board’s role when it comes to appeals?

In looking at the first question, I certainly am not advocating that every school administrator become an expert when it comes to reading and interpreting the OHSAA bylaws. Even if they are read, the arguments that “the bylaws are confusing,” or “my situation is unique” can often be true. But, after nearly two years of sitting on the Board and hearing 112 appeals during my 16 meetings, it does seem apparent that school administrators should take the time to understand the basic OHSAA eligibility bylaws, and there could be more dialogue taking place between our administrators and the OHSAA staff when something is unclear.

Also, in looking at the role of the Board of Directors during the appeals process, it is important to remember that the Board has no authority to set aside the requirements of the bylaws. Rather, the Board’s role is to determine if there was a mistake made in the initial ruling, if another bylaw should have been considered that is controlling or if the original ruling was arbitrary. Quite frankly, if all of us heard the uniqueness of each appeal where circumstances certainly tug at our hearts, most of us would likely grant a waiver for each and every case. However, that is not what the OHSAA Constitution permits us to do.

There are a few additional items I would like to mention that should help with this process. First, the OHSAA will conduct the first-ever “regional update” meetings in the fall for school principals and athletic administrators. These meetings will take place on four dates in August in the Columbus, Findlay, Akron-Canton and Dayton areas (specifics will soon be posted on the OHSAA web). One of the main purposes of these meetings is to address key regulations of which you need to be aware to help keep your student-athletes eligible. I highly encourage you to attend one of these meetings.

In addition, the preseason meetings that schools must have with their student-athletes and parents can go a long way to making sure there is an awareness and attention to OHSAA rules. Distribution of the OHSAA eligibility brochure and showing the OHSAA preseason meeting DVD — where basic eligibility rules are addressed — should be included at every one of these gatherings.

So please keep these issues in mind when it comes to the appeals process. Taking the time to become more familiar with OHSAA bylaws, asking questions when they come up and understanding the role of the Board in this process will only help all of us better serve the student-athletes across Ohio.

Sincerely,

Steve Stirn, President
OHSAA Board of Directors

OHSAA Board of Directors

STEVE STIRN
Board President, Superintendent,
Logan-Hocking Local Schools
(Class AAA Rep., Southeast District)

ROCCO NERO
Board Vice President,
Superintendent, Lowellville
Local Schools (Class A Rep.,
Northeast District)

TERESA ALBERTS
Principal, Sugarcreek
Garaway H.S. (Female Rep.)

DAVE GRAY
Superintendent,
Pittsburg Franklin Monroe
Local Schools (Class A Rep.,
Southwest District)

JOSE HERNANDEZ
Principal, Fremont Ross H.S.
(Ethnic Minority Rep.)

STEVE KELLER
Principal, Coldwater H.S.
(Class AA Rep.,
Northwest District)

MIKE ROTONDA
Director of Student
Activities, Columbus City
Schools (Class AAA Rep.,
Central District)

WALT SKAGGS
Superintendent, Bl
Clairsville-Richland City Schools
(Class AA Rep., East District)

STEVE ZIMMERMAN
Athletic Administrator, Cincinnati
Nagel M.S. (7th-8th Grade Rep.)

MATT SHOMPER
Athletic Administrator, Tipp City
Tippecanoe H.S. (ex-officio,
Ohio Interscholastic Athletic
Administrators Association Rep.)

JEFF JORDAN
Director of Finance Program
Services, Ohio Department of
Education (ex-officio, State
Department of Education Rep.)

www.ohsaa.org

Photo by Terry Gilliam.
Center Stage

With a packed house at Ohio State’s Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium looking on, the top 8 placers in the 2009 Division I girls discus competition take their place on the podium stand. Senior Melissa Dodaro took first with a state-record throw of 146’04” to help lead Reynoldsburg to a state championship.
Junior Adam Mizer lets one fly toward home plate during the 2009 Division III baseball state tournament at Huntington Park, where he helped lead Gnadenhutten Indian Valley to a 7-6 win over Hamilton Badin in the championship game. Awaiting the pitch is Zach Toerner, who had two hits and drove in two runs in the championship game, but Mizer gave up just one earned run in 5.2 innings of relief work to earn the win and added two base hits himself to send the Indians to their first state title.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>R</th>
<th>H</th>
<th>E</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BADI</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2 BALLS: LF 3 Staarmann, CF 13 VanNatta, 1B 12 Toerner, DH 24 McKinney, B 25 Cassano, C 7 Purcell, S 4 Wurzelbacher

2 OUTS: 2B 29 Pate, RF 30 Brown

MPH: 23 Mizer
**OHSAA Planner**

- May 17 – Deadline for referendum voting by principals.
- June 1 through July 31 – Summer instructional period (see pages 10-11 for feature story).
- June 15 – Submit spring sport tournament officials voting ballot. One ballot per school, to be filled out by athletic administrator, indicating the top 15 officials who should receive 2011 tournament consideration.
- June 15 – Complete spring sport officials ratings. Based on game-by-game evaluation of officials’ performances and can be filled out by head coaches or athletic administrator.
- June 15 – Submit 2010-11 NFHS Participation Survey.
- July 1 – Harold A. Meyer Award applications due to OHSAA by 4 p.m.
- Aug. 2 – Football and golf practice may begin.
- Aug. 3 – Annual OHSAA New Administrators Workshop in Columbus.
- Aug. 9 – All other fall sports practices may begin. (Note that if classes begin Aug. 20 or earlier, practice may begin Aug. 6.)

**Upcoming OHSAA Publications**

This summer, the OHSAA will update its annual publications and mail copies to all superintendents, principals and athletic administrators. Schools needing additional copies can call the OHSAA at 614-267-2502.

- Handbook (contains constitution, bylaws, ready reference calendar, general sports regulations and sport-specific regulations)
- Eligibility Guide
- School Directory
- Pocket Calendar
- Wall Calendar
- Year in Review

**Spring State Tournaments Highlighted at OHSAA.org**

Visit OHSAA.org to read previews of each of the OHSAA’s four spring state tournaments. They include boys tennis May 28-29 at Ohio State University’s Stickney Tennis Facility, softball June 3-5 at Akron Firestone Stadium, baseball June 3-5 at Huntington Park in downtown Columbus and track & field June 4-5 at Ohio State University’s Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium. The winter issue of OHSAA Magazine, which is available at OHSAA.org, also included brief previews of the spring tournaments.

**Annual Referendum Process Held in April and May**

The OHSAA’s annual referendum process concluded May 17 when the deadline passed for high school principals to submit their ballots for proposed changes to the OHSAA’s Constitution and Bylaws. See page 14 in this issue of OHSAA Magazine for a detailed look at how this exercise reflects the membership-driven structure of the OHSAA. In April, a series of 19 Athletic Discussion Meetings around the state were held before the voting period took place from May 1-17. Visit OHSAA.org for complete referendum results.

**myOHSAA Accepting Varsity Football Schedules**

School administrators are reminded that beginning May 15, the myOHSAA system is accepting 2010 varsity football schedules. Throughout the fall, game results must be entered into myOHSAA, which enables the OHSAA to compute the weekly Harbin Ratings used in determining the football tournament participants. Schools are also asked to call the Associated Press national score center with their final scores at 1-800-300-8340.

**Committee Formed to Study OHSAA Tournament Structure**

OHSAA Commissioner Dr. Dan Ross has formed a committee to study the OHSAA’s tournament structure related to public and non-public school participation. Three years ago, a similar committee was formed and recommended no changes be made. Twice in the past 30 years, the membership was asked to vote on the issue of separating OHSAA postseason events into public and non-public tournaments. In 1978, the proposal was defeated 83.9 percent to 16.1 percent, and in 1993 the proposal was defeated 66.8 percent to 33.2 percent.

**NFHS Survey Due June 15**

The annual National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Participation Survey is due June 15. It continues to be the most-used public relations tool and high school identity instrument available to the general public and media, as well as a variety of governmental and private agencies.

**Spring Sport Officials Rating and Voting Due June 15**

The deadline is June 15 for schools to rate spring sport officials and vote for...
the top 15 officials they believe should receive tournament consideration in 2011. Both procedures are done through the myOHSAA system. The rating process can be done by either the head coach or athletic administrator, while the tournament voting is available only to athletic administrators.

**New Administrator’s Workshop Set for Aug. 3**

The OHSAA’s annual new administrator’s workshop will be held Aug. 3 in Columbus. Details will be distributed to all member superintendents, principals and athletic administrators. The workshop is also open for veteran administrators. In addition, any new athletic administrator hired after July 1 should contact Angie Lawler (alawler@ohsaa.org) or Brenda Murray (bmurray@ohsaa.org) for myOHSAA login credentials.

**OHSAA to Offer “Regional Update” Meetings in August**

The OHSAA will be conducting “Regional Update” meetings for the first time at four locations in August. OHSAA Commissioner Dan Ross will give an update on current issues, OHSAA Associate Commissioner Deborah B. Moore will address key regulations in which administrators should be aware regarding student-athlete eligibility and OHSAA legal counsel Steve Craig will offer insight into legal issues that may impact interscholastic athletic programs. Specific dates, times and locations will be emailed to school administrators and posted on the OHSAA web site in the near future.

**Highlights and Minutes Published from BOD Meetings**

Immediately following each OHSAA Board of Directors meeting, a summary of meeting highlights is emailed to all member schools and media and posted at OHSAA.org. Complete minutes of each meeting are then posted to OHSAA.org at a later date. Upcoming Board meetings are scheduled for June 10, Aug. 5, Sept. 9, Oct. 21 and Dec. 9.

**NFHS Sportsmanship Campaign Inventory Available**

The NFHS has ample inventory of the “Sportsmanship. It’s up to you.” toolkits available. This new and innovative initiative was released in 2009 and contains resources for implementing a successful sportsmanship awareness and improvement program. Log on to NFHS.org for more information.

---

**2009-10 OHSAA Board of Directors Action Highlights**

The following are highlights of some of the action taken by the Board of Directors from August through April:

**August:** Approved the National Federation of High School Association (NFHS) Teaching and Modeling Behavior as the course that all coaches ejected from contests will be required to take.

**August:** Approved a revised lightning and inclement weather policy.

**September:** Per NFHS adoption, approved the use of replay equipment at the state high school basketball championships to review field-goal attempts at the expiration of time in the fourth quarter or any overtime period, but only in games when the last-second attempt would affect the outcome of the game.

**October Special Meeting:** Approved revisions to Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Exception 11, that allows those students who transfer to another school, once their district ceases to sponsor their interscholastic athletic program, to transfer back to the district from which he or she transferred should that district reinstate its interscholastic athletics program and provided that certain stipulations are met.

**October Special Meeting:** Approved a Tournament Postponement Policy that was developed in the event of a public health/safety concern including, but not limited to, an influenza or H1N1 influenza outbreak.

**December:** Approved the Ohio Association of Track and Cross Country Coaches proposals to lower the weight of the shot put for girls 7th and 8th graders from eight pounds to six pounds while maintaining the four kilograms for boys 7th and 8th graders, and to expand the coaches pole vault education requirement to recertify coaches every three years beginning with the 2010 track and field season.

**December:** Authorized sending a statement from the OHSAA 7th-8th Grade Committee to the membership that indicates that the Middle School Athletic Association (MSAA) and The Ohio Athletic Committee (OAC) are not affiliated with the OHSAA and that participation in events sponsored by the MSAA, the OAC and similar organizations must comply with OHSAA bylaws and sports regulations and those participating outside of the OHSAA defined sports seasons in events sponsored by outside organizations would not be covered under the OHSAA catastrophic insurance policy.

**December:** Approved criteria for consideration of recommended courses within the Coaches Education Program.

**December:** Approved a recommendation that the starting dates and seasons for football be moved to a week later for the 2013, 2014 and 2019 seasons. The move would mean coaching for those three years would begin during the first week in August (rather than in July) and that the state finals would be held the week after Thanksgiving weekend.

**February:** Approved a recommendation that the sports of cross country, field hockey, golf, soccer, girls tennis and volleyball move the starting date for coaching (all fall sports other than football) to the first Monday of August beginning with the 2011-12 school year. The starting date for coaching in 2010 for golf will be August 2, as approved by the Board of Directors at its August 2009 meeting.

**February:** Approved a contract extension with Rawlings as the official OHSAA tournament volleyball to a black, white and silver Molten with the OHSAA, NFHS and OHSVCA logos beginning with the 2010 season.

**February:** Approved the selection of directors of officiating development for the various OHSAA sports: baseball-Kyle McNeely; basketball-Dennis Morris; field hockey-Bill Gardiner; football-Bruce Maurer; gymnastics-Lori Powers-Basinger; ice hockey-Gary Wilkins; soccer-Don Muenz; softball-Jerry Fick; swimming & diving-Ken Gipe; track & field-Dale Gabor; volleyball-Diane Plas, and wrestling-Jim Vreeland.

**April:** Approved a proposal that field hockey players be permitted to participate in a maximum of two games per day up to a maximum of three halves per day per common opponent with a total of 38 halves (rather than the current limit of 32) for the season and that a mercy rule be adopted. Modified the dates for the 2010 Volleyball Foundation Service Week as being from Aug. 1 through the Saturday of the first full week of October (Oct. 9 in 2010).
It has been many years since school grounds sat quietly day after day during the summer months, waiting for August to arrive so they could come alive with activity once again. These days, it seems that school facilities are just as busy in June, July and August as during the traditional school year.

A never-ending lineup of camps, open facilities, summer leagues and, of course, the commencement of fall sports preseason practices in August, quickly fill administrators’ and coaches’ schedules. Such activity has not only dramatically changed their work loads, but it has created an entire set of by-laws and sports regulations from the Ohio High School Athletic Association to govern it.

“We didn’t need rules that covered the summer 30 years ago,” Dr. Dan Ross, OHSAA Commissioner, said. “Times have changed, and though the summer is an important time for development of skills and teamwork, our member schools have also asked for and adopted rules to give coaches and administrators a break and give kids a chance to be kids.”

OHSAA rules govern what is permissible for interscholastic programs during the summer, which is defined as from June 1 to July 31, in the team sports of baseball, basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, softball, soccer and volleyball and in the individual sports of cross country, track & field and wrestling. A coaching staff (all members combined) in each of those sports has a total of 10 days of coaching contact in either instructional programs or non-interscholastic competition programs.

“The summer is special because now you can have contact with your student-athletes, such as coaching them in a league or even going to an out-of-state team camp,” Dr. Deborah Moore, OHSAA Associate Commissioner, said.

Because the vast majority of high school student-athletes do not play at the college level, the OHSAA believes it is essential to have rules in place to keep kids from having to pick one sport over another if they do not want to.

“A lot of students are multiple-sport athletes, which is healthier and more beneficial from a developmental standpoint rather than specializing in one sport at a young age,” Moore said. “It is imperative that school administrators work with their coaches to create non-conflicting schedules so that students are not forced to specialize because of what is presented to them in the summer.”

Even a concept as seemingly simple as ‘open gym’ has grown into a gray area in some cases.
“It used to be that a coach could roll out a basketball and let the kids just play for a couple hours,” Ross said. “In some cases, that has become complicated, and it’s not just basketball anymore, either. Open gyms were never intended to be for individual sport instruction.”

Fall sports coaches must also decide how to handle the days between the end of the summer period (July 31) and the date coaching is permitted. In 2010, coaching may begin Aug. 2 for golf and football and Aug. 9, 2010, for all other fall sports (coaching may begin Aug. 6 if classes begin Aug. 20 or earlier).

“Conditioning, physical fitness programs, open gyms or fields are all permitted during that time as long as no coaching takes place,” Moore said of the days between July 31 and the start of practice.

Ross and Moore agreed that athletic administrators should monitor their athletic programs during the summer and are responsible for facility scheduling and knowing which groups are using their facilities at what times. The policies of each local Board of Education often govern such scheduling.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**What may I do in a physical fitness program?**

The rules governing Physical Fitness Programs do not permit the coaching or instruction of sports techniques and skills, and the equipment used to play the sport shall not be utilized. The exception is that sticks may be used in both field hockey and ice hockey. These programs cannot be mandatory or restricted to a select group of students. Issuing invitations, requiring make-up dates, requiring the taking of attendance and/or suggesting that participation will influence one’s ability to be selected for a school sports team are all violations of these regulations.

**What may an interscholastic coach do with athletes from his/her program during the summer (from June 1 to July 31)?**

This period of time is considered the “summer” period during which coaches may have contact with student-athletes who participated in their interscholastic programs during the past school year. Members of a school coaching staff, both paid and volunteer, in team sports of baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, ice hockey, softball, soccer and volleyball and in the individual sports of cross country, track and field and wrestling may have a combined total of 10 days of coaching contact in either instructional programs or non-interscholastic competition programs.

**What may an interscholastic coach do with athletes from his/her program during the season of the sport?**

In team sports (baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, ice hockey, softball, soccer and volleyball) and in individual sports (cross country, track and field and wrestling) a coach may supervise open gyms, conduct fitness programs and converse with students regarding non-interscholastic competition/training opportunities. The coach may not state nor imply in any way that attendance at these permissible activities is a prerequisite for trying out for or being selected for the school squad. The coach MAY NOT provide any type of instruction, either group or individual, coach players or play on their teams in a non-interscholastic program (involvement in tryouts, practices and/or competition) during the school year. This applies to all athletes in one’s program including one’s own children. Note: May 31 denotes the end of the school year. In the individual sports of bowling, gymnastics, golf, swimming and diving and tennis, members of the coaching staff may coach students from the school where employed outside the interscholastic season of the sport. No coach may require participation until the official start of the interscholastic sports season.

**May the varsity coach have 10 days of contact during the summer in addition to the JV, freshman and volunteer coaches?**

No. The 10-day provision refers to the combined efforts of all coaches for that school. It is not permissible for each coach to have 10 days with his/her athletes separately. In addition, ALL coaches in public as well as non-public schools, whether they receive a salary or are volunteers, must be approved by their respective Boards of Education (or other governing board in a non-public school) and must meet all required coaching standards as stipulated by the State Department of Education. The only way that a person can work with student-athletes in an OHSAA member school during the interscholastic season is to have this approval and meet all standards. Thus, “volunteer” coaches are also accountable to the 10-day restriction as well as all other OHSAA bylaws and regulations governing coaches.

**What may I do in an open gym or facility?**

Supervision of open gyms and the conducting of physical fitness programs are not considered as organizational or instructional contact. Thus, this type of activity is not governed by the rules that are specified as “Instructional Program” regulations or Bylaw 10 - Non-Interscholastic Teams. However, during an open gym or other facility, either at a member school facility or a non-member facility, coaching staff members may have NO organizational or instructional contact with participants. Likewise, attendance cannot be mandatory, no scoring or timekeeping is permitted, and the supervisor may not participate in designating who is to play on which teams. Note: It is not a violation for the coach or other adult supervisor to participate as a player in an open gym as long as the adult does not coach the students.

**Does watching an “open gym or facility” count as one of the 10 contact days?**

No. However, a coaching staff member who is either supervising the open facility or has simply shown up to watch must be certain that he or she has not been involved in organizing competition between two schools who just happen to appear at the “open facility.” To organize team competition under the guise of an “open gym” or other facility is a violation of the provision prohibiting invitations and organization on the part of adults.

“Kids are inundated in the summer with opportunities and families need to be careful that burn-out doesn’t set in,” Moore said. “It’s important to note, too, that the five individual sports – tennis, gymnastics, bowling, swimming/diving and golf – have a lot more freedom because they are more likely to employ professional coaches who work with those sports as their vocation.” No matter what sport, school administrators and coaches should become very familiar with General Sports Regulations No. 4 through 8 for issues pertaining to the summer period. They can be found in the OHSAA handbook or online at OHSAA.org. Please see page 10 sidebar information for more general sports regulations.
OHSAA supports NFHS and CDC guidelines for concussion management

While it has now become a hot-button topic in the media, concussion management has long been a subject that the OHSAA has taken very seriously. If not handled properly, even seemingly minor concussions can have devastating effects.

Instances of long-term disability and even death have been reported from “second impact syndrome” when a second concussion occurs before the brain has recovered from the first concussion, regardless of how mild both injuries may seem.

It is crucial to note that concussions are not just a “football injury.” All coaches and student-athletes should be aware of what signs to look for when it comes to diagnosing a concussion and which medical professionals have the authority to allow a student-athlete to return to play following a concussion.

The two-page pamphlet from the NFHS contains sections on:

- Signs and Symptoms of Concussion
- Checking for Concussion
- Sideline Management of Concussion
- Return to Play
- Prevention

The CDC has developed the “Heads Up: Concussion in Youth Sports” initiative. It features a youth sports tool kit that teaches coaches, student-athletes and parents to play it safe when it comes to concussions.

The free tool kit, which can be downloaded or requested online, contains:

- Fact sheet for coaches on concussion
- Fact sheet for athletes on concussion
- Fact sheet for parents on concussion
- Clipboard with concussion facts for coaches
- Magnet with concussion facts for coaches and parents
- Poster with concussion facts for coaches and sports administrators
- Quiz for coaches, athletes, and parents to test their concussion knowledge

New material is available regarding the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of concussions from both the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The OHSAA has embraced the new material from both organizations and strongly encourages all member school administrators and coaches to become well-versed in this area.

Ample material is posted at OHSAA.org in the ‘Sports Medicine’ section under the ‘Brain and Spinal Injuries’ tab. Included there are a two-page pamphlet from the NFHS and a link to the CDC’s Concussion Information Center.
GET TO KNOW THE ADMINISTRATOR’S CORNER
What to look for and where to find it

An important component of the OHSAA’s web site is the ‘Administrator’s Corner,’ which is located under the ‘Member Schools’ tab at OHSAA.org. The site is filled with important resources for school administrators, from referendum voting results and divisional breakdowns to contracts and eligibility forms.

Future issues of OHSAA Magazine will focus on specific pieces and documents within the Administrator’s Corner, but first, below is an overview of the various items that can be referenced as of April 2010.

Administrators are encouraged to send a note to webmaster@ohsaa.org with questions, comments or suggestions for improving the Administrator’s Corner.

Center Page Content (as of April 2010)
- 2009-11 OHSAA Tournament Divisional Breakdowns
- OHSAA Preseason DVD – ‘Sports Report’
  - Request a DVD Copy
  - Download the Video
  - Sample Scripts and Information for Preseason Meetings
- Guidance for Member Schools situations pertaining to non-interscholastic competition, instructional programs, open facilities, physical fitness programs, etc.)
- 2009-10 Referendum Results
- Game Preparation
  - OHSAA Game Management Manual
  - Pregame Public Address for Contests
  - Procedures for Saluting the Flag

Left Side Links (as of April 2010)
- School Directory (search by name, district or county)
- Open Dates (listed by sport, as submitted by athletic administrators)
- Job Vacancies (listed by date received)
- Equipment Classifieds (listed by date received)
- OHSAA Bylaws
- Athlete Eligibility

Eligibility Forms
- Pre-Participation Physical Exam Form
- Exception Request for Students with Disabilities or Students Retained K-3
- Residential Transfer – Exception 6 Form
- Affidavit for Bona Fide Residence Form
- Poor Performing School Transfer Instructions
- Request for Self-Supporting Status
- Eligibility of Foreign Exchange Students
- CSI Educational Travel Advisory List

Eligibility Index
- OHSAA Bylaws
- Eligibility Guide for Student-Athletes
- Eligibility Guide for Guidance Counselors
- Eligibility Checklist
- Bylaw Situations Requiring the Commissioner’s Approval
- OHSAA Appeals Process
- OHSAA Eligibility Certificate

Eligibility Announcements
- Reminder Regarding New Requirements of Bylaw 4-7-2, Exception 1
- Procedures in Place for Schools Accepting Transfers
- Instructions for Approval of Transfer Students from Poor Performing Schools, Bylaw 4-7-5
- FAQ Regarding Schools Dropping Sports Programs

OHSAA Forms
- Game Contracts
- Officiating Contracts
- Requesting School Supplies
- NFHS Online Sanctioning
- OHSAA Publications Order Form
- Outstanding Team Physician Award

Eligibility Forms
- Eligibility Certificate
- Eligibility Bulletin
- Eligibility Checklist
- Exception 6
- Exception 7
- Foreign Exchange Students
- Self Supporting Status

PRESEASON MEETINGS ARE FOR EVERYONE!

Preseason meetings with parents are now mandatory and may occur along with other sport teams. This is determined by each school’s Athletic Administrator. The pre-season meetings provide the setting to cover such things as eligibility requirements, individual school policies, individual sport policies, sportsmanship issues and expected travel plans for away contests, etc.

In addition, the OHSAA encourages schools to invite local officials to the pre-season meeting and to meet with their teams during early practices. It allows officials to meet the coaches and athletes and discuss new rules. It gives athletes an opportunity to ask questions and have a discussion prior to game days, while also promoting healthy discussions and an opportunity for parents to learn more about the game.

OHSAA Sports Regulations (sport-by-sport listing)

Helpful Information
- 2009-11 Enrollment Figures
- 2009-11 Tournament Divisional Breakdowns
- Conference-by-Conference Listing
- Catastrophic Insurance for OHSAA Recognized Sports
- Template for Board of Education Approval of Policy for Bylaw 4-4-3
- Exception 2 – Mandatory Grade Report Date
- OHSAA Scholarships
- NCAA Freshman Eligibility Rules
- OHSAA Telephone Policy
- Uniforms Regulations
- OHSAA Ball Contracts
- School Nicknames Lists

A pair of sisters from Columbus St. Francis DeSales, senior Kim My Li and freshman My Linh Li, took home the Div. II doubles crown after posting a 6-2, 6-7 (7-9), 6-2 win at the 2009 girls tennis state championships.
FALL REGIONAL UPDATE MEETINGS PLANNED

In addition to the New Administrators Workshop set for Aug. 3 in Columbus, the OHSAA will conduct new update meetings for school administrators between Aug. 10 and 19 in the Columbus, Fairborn, Akron/Canton and Findlay/Bowling Green areas. Specific meeting location and dates will be announced during the summer at OHSAA.org.

OHSAA Commissioner Dr. Dan Ross will provide an update on current issues, while OHSAA Associate Commissioner Dr. Deborah Moore will provide student eligibility reminders and the OHSAA’s legal counsel, Steve Craig, will provide information on legal issues of which school administrators should be aware.

By Brian Day, OHSAA Sports Information Intern

At a round table meeting in 1906, before the Ohio High School Athletic Association was in existence, future Board president George R. Eastman and a committee of school officials sat down to draft what would become the state’s first Constitution and Bylaws for interscholastic athletics. The task was needed, according to J.R. Clarke’s 1938 article on the Genesis of the OHSAA, in order to “check the baleful influences accompanying inter-school games and festivities, such as playing ringers, fights, riots, gambling, drinking, outside interferences and miscellaneous, uncurbed conduct of pupils and others attending the games with no chaperones.”

Fast-forward 104 years and, although the document looks completely different, the importance of the Constitution and Bylaws to the Board of Directors and the Association’s member schools remains the same.

“It is one of the top priorities of the Board and our staff to ensure that our Constitution and Bylaws are fair, equitable and consistent for our student-athletes and member schools,” said Dr. Deborah Moore, OHSAA Associate Commissioner of Eligibility. “We live in a fast-changing world in education and athletics and it is important that we keep on top of that.”

The referendum process that occurs each spring allows the OHSAA Constitution and Bylaws to be amended to keep up with changes taking place. This process is also one way the OHSAA stays member-driven, as principals of the member schools are the voters on the issues.

A referendum item can be placed on the ballot for a vote either by the Board of Directors or by a petition process. In the first and most common method, the Board of Directors takes issues it has heard from districts and schools around the state and discusses them, starting at its very first meeting in August. The Board works through the topics with the OHSAA staff and puts together language for a potential referendum item.

The second way to place a referendum item on a ballot is for an administrator, teacher, coach or another interested individual at a member school to gather at least 75 signatures from principals with a minimum of five from each athletic district. The petition must be submitted to the OHSAA prior to circulation to ensure accuracy and that it is constructed in the proper manner. Once the signatures are collected, the petition is then filed with the OHSAA, checked for accuracy and then placed on the referendum ballot. Petitions must be filed with the OHSAA office by December 1.

Once the referendum items are finalized, the OHSAA notifies member schools about the details of the issues through web postings and emails. Communication then occurs via athletic discussion meetings, which are held throughout the state in April, where an OHSAA staff member presents and takes questions regarding the issues on which school principals will be voting.

Voting takes place by member school principals the first two weeks of May, and if the item gains majority approval, it goes into effect the following August unless the Board has stipulated a different date. Regardless of the size of a school or whether a school is public or non-public, each member school has one vote to approve or disapprove the proposed changes. Results are then posted on the OHSAA home page and are emailed to member schools along with further explanations of the important changes.

“This is an extremely critical process for our member schools,” said Dr. Moore. “Sometimes referendum items are small clarifications and codifying of existing bylaws, but often times major change occurs in high school athletics each May as a result of this vote.”

Voting results of the 15 Bylaw and two Constitution referendum items from 2010 can be found at www.ohsaa.org.
For the AD, by the AD

By Brian Day, OHSAA sports information intern

OHSAA Magazine sat down with OHSAA Assistant Commissioner and former Findlay High School athletic director Jerry Snodgrass to get an update on some of the current issues affecting athletic directors and schools today.

OHSAA Magazine: What are some of the things athletic directors should keep in mind heading into the summer?

Snodgrass: Despite the fact that some athletic directors are not 12-month employees, summer has become one of the busiest and toughest times of the year, especially with the instructional days. Conflicts often arise about pulling athletes one way or another during this time. Late spring and early summer is a great time to sit down with coaches and map out schedules to avoid conflicts as much as possible with multiple-sport athletes.

Also, many schools conduct summer sports medicine classes. Ohio Administrative Code requires the Pupil Activity Validation Certificate and application to be submitted to the Ohio Department of Education. OHSAA Board of Directors action in June 2008 also requires the completion of the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching class for renewal of the certificate. All this information can be found on the Sports Medicine page of OHSAA.org.

OHSAA Magazine: Even though we haven’t yet reached summer, are ADs already thinking about the 2010-11 school year?

Snodgrass: The new season always has a tendency to sneak up on us. Athletic directors should be reminded that start dates for fall sports have had some adjustments over the course of the past year. This fall, football and golf practices may begin on Monday, August 2, and effective in the fall of 2011, all fall practices except football will begin having a uniform start date as the first Monday in August. In 2011, practice for all fall sports is Monday, Aug. 1. In the fall of 2012, football will begin Monday, July 30, while other sports will begin Monday, Aug. 6.

OHSAA Magazine: The OHSAA recently met with the presidents of the various coaches associations. What do athletic directors need to know about these meetings?

Snodgrass: Athletic directors are often not aware that the various coaches associations make proposals for changes to their specific sport regulations at Board of Directors meetings. These proposals take place on a schedule printed on page 18 of the OHSAA Handbook. Action on these proposals is taken by the Board of Directors for implementation usually for the next school year. Since these proposals occur at various times of the year, they are incorporated into the Board of Directors Meeting Highlights, which is posted on OHSAA.org and emailed to schools immediately following Board meetings.

Athletic Director Spotlight

Mike Vannett

A three-sport athlete at Bowling Green High School, Mike Vannett returned to his alma mater in 1990 as athletic director and head basketball coach for the Bobcats. Vannett spent 13 years as head coach and now serves as the school’s athletic director and dean of students.

Vannett graduated from Wittenberg University, where he received his degree in health and physical education, while playing both basketball and baseball. He furthered his education at Bowling Green State University and spent his first eight years in education in the Riverdale and Crestview school districts as a teacher and coach before moving back to Bowling Green.

As a former athlete and coach, serving as an athletic director has helped Vannett stay connected to sports and student-athletes.

“I love watching kids compete on the field and grow as a person throughout their four years of high school,” said Vannett. “It’s great to still be able to play a role in that.”

One of the keys to his success as an athletic director has been making communication one of his top priorities.

“You have to be able to communicate your goals and philosophy as an athletic department to your different constituents,” said Vannett. “Demonstrating the value of athletics within an education program, especially in our economic situation, is extremely important.”

Vannett also focuses on being a good listener, oftentimes one of the forgotten aspects of communication. He regularly attends seminars and conferences and interacts with other athletic administrators to implement new ideas into his own department.

“Being a good listener is one of the biggest skills to have as an athletic director,” said Vannett. “Not only listening to other administrators, but really listening to parents, coaches and the community goes a long way.”
With more than 16,000 officials involved in high school athletics across the state of Ohio, providing a unified and cohesive message is a vital part of the OHSAA's communication with those officials. Thanks to the hard work of Assistant Commissioner Henry Zaborniak Jr., the OHSAA has taken another positive step to improve that communication with enhancements to the Officiating Development Program and the introduction of a Director of Officiating Development for 12 OHSAA sports.

In the works for more than a year, the Board of Directors approved the appointment of a Director of Officiating Development at its February meeting in the sports of baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, gymnastics, ice hockey, soccer, softball, swimming & diving, track & field, volleyball and wrestling.

In addition to strengthening communication, the goal of the newly added positions is to foster the development of local association based education and training for officials.

“Our officials are always looking to improve and we want to provide the resources they need,” said Zaborniak. “Appointing an individual who is an expert in the sport will allow us to help our officials become better.”

The 12 new directors will act as the state rules interpreter for their respective sports, work to develop training materials for local association rules meetings and assist in the development of evaluation standards for assessment of officials, among other responsibilities.

Assuming those duties for the sport of baseball is 30-year veteran official and National Federation of State High School Associations Baseball Rules Chair Kyle McNeely.

“I believe we can help our local associations by providing more resources and opportunities in their programs so that training, development and continuing education is better,” said McNeely. “Our goal is that with more consistent training throughout the state, we produce better officials.”

McNeely has already started to communicate with many of the local associations, putting out a weekly bulletin in coordination with Assistant Commissioner Jerry Snodgrass’ ‘This Week in Baseball’ feature. Snodgrass’ newsletter focuses on common questions coaches may have, while McNeely applies the same idea, providing officials with information and answers.

One of McNeely’s goals for the upcoming year is to pool the different training materials used at the local associations across the state and create a library of the best information for training and educating.

Joining McNeely with the title of Director of Officiating Development is Lori Powers-Basinger in gymnastics, Gary Wilkins in ice hockey, Don Muenz in soccer, Jerry Fick in softball, Ken Gipe in swimming & diving, Diane Plas in volleyball, Jim Vreeland in wrestling, Bruce Maurer in football, Dennis Morris in basketball, Dale Gabor in track & field, and Bill Gardiner in field hockey.

Feature articles about officiating from past OHSAA Magazine issues can be read online at OHSAA.org. Click on the OHSAA Magazine cover photo on the left side of the front page. In the fall of 2009, OHSAA Assistant Commissioner Henry Zaborniak Jr. talked about many of the current issues facing officials, while a feature article in the winter issue described how officials are selected for OHSAA tournament contests.
Eight champions were crowned during the 2010 edition of the OHSAA state basketball tournaments this past March at Ohio State’s Jerome Schottenstein Center. While players and coaches from those schools went home donning gold medals, a first-place trophy and smiles as wide as can be imagined, there’s no doubt the pageantry and thrills created plenty of lifetime memories for everyone in attendance.

With its top goals of ensuring that participants are treated in a first-class manner and the games are conducted without a hitch, the OHSAA has made extra efforts in recent years to make the state basketball tournaments as exciting and affordable as possible and has added “extras” to make it the place to go for basketball fans of all ages.

The Hoop FanFest Championship Zone provides fans the opportunity to celebrate their school’s championship with players and coaches. “Championship Saturday Value Pack” tickets are an affordable alternative for groups of 10 or more who have the opportunity to see the finals of either state tournament at a discounted rate and receive some additional give-away items. Other recent additions to the boys tournament include the Circle of Champions program, where the OHSAA honors past Ohio greats for their outstanding accomplishments; a girls and boys three-point shooting contest; individual students and student groups singing the National Anthem, and player introductions that rival some of the best that the NBA and WNBA have to offer.

If you haven’t been to the state tournament in awhile, you’ll be surprised with all the exciting changes. It’s not too early to plan a trip to “the Schott” in 2011 when the thrills of the state tournaments return March 17-19 (girls) and March 24-26 (boys).
A pair of key groups – one a regular visitor to the OHSAA and the other an assembly of many longtime friends – was invited to the OHSAA recently for meetings with Commissioner Dan Ross and the OHSAA administrative staff.

The regular visitors were the presidents of the various coaches associations, who met April 7 for their annual spring meeting. They also attend each monthly OHSAA Board of Directors meeting. The other group was made up of conference commissioners from around the state, many of whom are well-known by the OHSAA and are now being tapped as a resource and group to keep informed of current issues facing the Association.

“The conference commissioners are a tremendous resource that I don’t think we have developed or utilized in the past as well as we should have,” Ross said after the group’s most recent meeting April 27, which marked the commissioners’ third and final meeting during the 2009-10 school year. Their next meeting will take place in the fall.

Ross and the OHSAA staff brought the conference commissioners together to talk about common issues they all face, as well as possible issues that could affect them in the future. One such situation is the sudden withdrawal of schools from their conference similar to what the Ohio Capital Conference witnessed in August 2009 when the South-Western City School District’s levy failed, causing four high schools to drop all extracurricular programs.

Ross also took time to explain recent measures taken by the OHSAA and the National Federation of State High Schools Associations (NFHS) to increase education and awareness in the area of concussions. Ross said the national sports medicine committee has put together a DVD that will be beneficial to all member schools and should be shown at the mandatory preseason meetings.

“It’s an education piece pertaining to the cerebral part when the next day they are sitting in the classroom,” Ross told the group. “There is quite a bit of research coming out on that piece, including a national rule that could say – it’s not if a youngster has a concussion, it’s if the youngster has the symptoms of a concussion.”

Ross went into detail explaining other issues, including how and why the OHSAA actively has dialogue with state legislators, emerging sports (specifically lacrosse and boys volleyball) and the recently formed committee that will study the debate surrounding public and non-public schools in OHSAA tournaments. The commissioners stayed longer to discuss officials’ pay rates and assigning, conference websites and a template for a conference constitution and bylaw model.

The presidents of the coaches associations, meanwhile, also discussed a lengthy list of topics, beginning with time spent by Ross explaining many of the same issues he addressed with the conference commissioners. The OHSAA administrative staff then spoke on the following topics:

- Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity (SEI) Awards
- NFHS Coach of the Year Awards
- Mandatory Preseason Meetings and the new Concussion DVD
- Coaches Education
- Spring Athletic Discussion Meetings
- March to a Million Campaign Update (Service Initiative)
- Trends in 7th and 8th Grade Tournaments
- Participation of 7th and 8th Coaches in Online Rules Meetings
- Committee to Study Public/Non-Public Tournament Unbalance

The presidents then spent the rest of their meeting time talking about a wide-ranging array of discussion items facing coaches and student-athletes, including implications of possible additional instructional periods in the summer or pre- and post-season, non-interscholastic participation, open gyms/facilities and free/unstructured play vs. organized drills, college recruiting and the future of high school athletics.
SFC Announces Varsity 101

The OHSAA’s proud partner, SFC Graphics, has recently announced the formation of Varsity 101, a dedicated division of SFC focusing on the goals and specific needs of decision-makers in school athletics.

The new division is responsible for the company’s relationships with athletic directors, coaches and school administrators at universities, colleges and high schools across the U.S. It will also be continuing the growth and development of the products and services that comprise the company’s Campus Identity and Facility Branding Programs.

SFC Graphics has been helping schools create exciting and colorful campus environments since 2004. Decades of color expertise coupled with proven design and development methods allow the company to guide customers confidently through the creative process. The team has worked with over 200 schools throughout the Midwest, Texas and Florida.

“After attending the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association conference in Dallas, we received project inquiries from 22 states outside of our ‘home’ region” said Phil Toyne, Managing Director of SFC Graphics. “This conference really confirmed the impact our work can have with schools. Our dedicated team coupled with a brand that relates to the market can help us start from a more familiar place with our customers.”

The company has been able to help schools remodel and renovate facilities at a fraction of the cost in dramatically less time when compared to traditional renovations. A custom-designed Campus Identity Program can be completed very quickly or phased in over months or even years. Whatever the schedule or funding requirements, the company can help schools of any size to make their Master Design Plan a reality. The division’s school athletic products and services include:

• A Master Design Plan
• Arena Enhancements
• Stadium Upgrades
• Motivational Walls
• Record Boards
• Hall of Fame Walls
• Team Windscreens

Members of the Columbus Bishop Watterson Field Hockey team celebrate their 2009 State Championship victory over Gahanna Columbus Academy, 1-0.

OHSAA District Athletic Boards

1. Central cdab.org
2. Northeast nedab.org
3. Northwest nwdab.org
4. Southwest swdab.org
5. East eastohsaa.com
6. Southeast seodab.org

Core Partners

Sponsors
The OHSAA Foundation and UGIVE.ORG are teaming up again to help Ohio schools make a difference in their communities through the March to a Million campaign. Students and their respective teams will encourage fellow classmates to take an active role in providing community service with a goal of one million total service hours. Students will have the ability to impact their communities, and along the way be rewarded for their efforts through contests and recognition.

For more information on March to a Million please visit www.MARCHTOAMILLION.org
How will you join in the March?
UGIVE Overview and Programs

UGIVE partnered with the OHSAA Foundation to create Volleyball and Basketball Service Weeks. In 2009, the two events challenged Ohio high school teams to participate in service during two week periods. With more than 400 teams and their schools participating, the impact on the community was tremendous.

Schools held canned food drives and collected over 24,000 pounds of food, teams provided yard makeovers for neighbors in hospice, and kids gave their time to provide Christmas gifts for those less fortunate… just to name a few.

UGIVE is a non-profit online organization on a mission to catalyze, excite and empower the next generation of volunteers. It links students to volunteer opportunities in their areas that they are passionate about by providing service events for all interests. It is 100-percent free for students, schools, and charities, with the ultimate goal being to make the community thrive and make lifelong givers.

UGIVE helps students by tracking and validating their hours, which will help them get into college and get jobs after graduation. Charities benefit by getting volunteers who are truly passionate about giving back, and UGIVE handles all of the paperwork for schools. UGIVE strives to make philanthropy relevant to students, guiding them to give their time and talents to build communities.

The work that volunteers have done through UGIVE has tremendously impacted the community. Specifically, the Summer Internship Program brought together 40 high school students who served the community once a week for 10 weeks and also coordinated Step Up Cincinnati. Step Up Cincinnati was a service event that took place in September 2009 when over 1,000 kids volunteered at 17 charities around the Greater Cincinnati area for three hours, with an after party sponsored by local businesses to celebrate their efforts.

Another notable program UGIVE created was the UCREW — a group of 40 high school students who have teamed up to “adopt” a non-profit and also serve as an advisory board. They work as liaisons between their charity and their schools to recruit volunteers and spread the word about the importance of community service.

In addition to the work with their charities, the UCREW students were crucial players in the success of Global Youth Service Day: Unite to Ignite, which took place April 17, 2009. More than 300 students from 48 different area high schools gave their Saturday morning to give back to the community for three hours. In addition to those students from the Greater Cincinnati area, the Jefferson Awards brought in dozens of students from all across the country for the event.

Following the service event and the after party on Fountain Square, the Service Symposium highlighted the amazing work of students dedicated to service work. There were more than 100 presentations from students ranging from elementary school to college age who have been working hard to give back to their community.

UGIVE.Org Mission
UGIVE.Org is a non-profit organization on a mission to catalyze, excite and empower the next generation of volunteers. We make philanthropy relevant to students, guiding them to give their time and talents to build communities. Our goal is to create LIFE-LONG GIVERS!

UGIVE Provides Students:

- FREE access to volunteer opportunities for ALL types of causes that meet their own interests and schedules - all UGIVE posted opportunities are with 501(c)3 nonprofits or schools
- FREE online verified service resume to use for school requirements and college apps
- Opportunity to earn National Jefferson Awards and “Hall of Fame” school status
- Priceless opportunity to connect with like-minded students to serve and change the world!

UGIVE Provides Schools:

- FREE access to volunteer opportunities for ALL types of non-profits. Opportunities can be qualified to meet each school’s needs - all UGIVE posted opportunities are with 501(c)3 nonprofits or schools
- FREE online reports and verification of students volunteer opportunities and hours. Opportunity to earn National Jefferson Awards
- FREE school portal to post qualified opportunities, news stories, photos, and feedback
Beginning in September 2009, Eastbay became the Official Team Uniform and Athletic Apparel Provider of the Ohio High School Athletic Association. Originally formed as a grassroots project to support local high schools and college athletes in central Wisconsin, Eastbay has grown to become a leading world supplier of athletic footwear, apparel and sports equipment to athletes, coaches and fans of all ages. Despite the tremendous growth that Eastbay has seen since its inception in 1980, the organization continues to firmly believe that a model that best serves today’s student-athlete is one that emphasizes the amateur, educational and character-building aspects of high school sports. That being said, the partnership with the OHSAA is a perfect fit.

The three year partnership with the OHSAA will feature various forms of brand exposure at state tournament events and will include multiple levels of involvement with individual coaches and athletic administrators across the state. This spring at the Track & Field State Championships, look for Eastbay as the title sponsor of the Athlete Camp inside of Jessie Owens Stadium. A key element of the partnership is that Eastbay will also be the OHSAA’s “in-house” expert on the ever-changing landscape of equipment and apparel needs for our member schools. Representatives from Eastbay will be available 24/7 to answer questions and provide advice. Through Eastbay, the process for schools will become simple and efficient. Finally, Eastbay will bring their vast resources and knowledge to the individual high school level to outfit the schools and amateur teams with the most extensive and cost effective inventory in the industry.

A key component that Eastbay is excited about is the "Preferred Team Sales Program." Through this unique program, Eastbay will be able to reach out to coaches, administrators and other staff at OHSAA member schools and offer sport-specific uniforms at a discounted price. The leadership at Eastbay has recognized that high schools and districts across the state have been forced to cut budgets, especially in regards to athletics. The Preferred Team Sales Program has been specifically developed so that these schools can continue to provide their student-athletes with quality uniforms that will not break the bank. While affordable, the uniforms have been very well received by both students and administrators for their performance, durability and overall looks.

“We are very excited about the partnership with the OHSAA. The involvement in and support of the OHSAA is part of our core philosophy of “Being where the Athlete is.” In addition, we feel the Preferred Team Sales Program is a groundbreaking program for high school athletics. We look forward to supporting the OHSAA and all of its member schools.”

Eastbay Team Sales Manager, Scott Neal
6 tips for ADs before ordering your Fall 2010 uniforms:

• Make sure that all uniforms are in compliance with OHSAA regulations prior to ordering. This will ensure that the member school will avoid costly mistakes and penalties incurred for non-compliance.

• Determine the fabric that you want for a specific sport’s uniform. Many uniforms are now comprised of a number of fabrics and materials designed to help an athlete maintain their flexibility and perspiration/body temperature.

• Be sure to check the sizing of uniforms as it relates to certain brands. Each brand has its own sizing specifications.

• Confirm that a brand’s uniform colors match up with your school colors. In most cases, you will be able to compare “PMS” colors to that of your school’s to ensure that what you are purchasing is correct.

• Request sample uniforms for athletes to try on in order to make sure everything fits properly.

• Become familiar with teamsales.eastbay.com. Here you will be able to browse uniforms and apparel through a number of flexible options (i.e. product number, brand, keyword and sport). You will also be able to filter options to find certain uniforms that fit into your specific needs.
The Lakota West Lady Firebirds’ basketball team from West Chester was the winner of the 2009 OHSAA Foundation Service Week basketball challenge. The team, led by Head Coach Andy Fishman, attended the January 31 Cleveland Cavaliers game and had the opportunity to be recognized for their outstanding service project and school participation during Service Week. The team also had an exclusive one-on-one meet and greet with NBA All-Star Shaquille O’Neal.

The Lady Firebirds had the highest percentage of school participation for their Service Week project. The team, along with the help of the school’s student government, teamed up with Reach Out Lakota and began their week of service by collecting clothing and canned goods upon game entry. The team also purchased holiday gifts for 96 children throughout the Lakota Local School District through the “Adopt a Child” Christmas program. The final service event included hosting the Second Annual Foundation Game for the Kristin Renneker Memorial Scholarship, which raised a total of $3,700.

In January 2010, the Ohio High School Athletic Association Foundation was pleased to announce Kimberly Combs as its new executive director. Combs, who has served as a consultant for the OHSAA for the past three years, takes over the leadership of the Foundation for Dr. Kim Mahoney, who has relocated to Iowa.

A Grove City, Ohio, native and 2000 graduate of The Ohio State University, Combs worked for the Columbus Sports Commission before forming a partnership with the OHSAA and her consulting company, KNC Solutions, which provides support for non-profit sports and charity events. Working alongside OHSAA assistant commissioner Steve Neil, Combs has been involved with the OHSAA in the areas of sponsorships, marketing, hotel partnerships and the annual OHSAA FanFest.

“My goal for the OHSAA Foundation is to provide as many service and leadership opportunities for our student-athletes as I can,” Combs said. “My hope is to have the Foundation recognized throughout the state as a premier resource for our member schools.”

Combs will work directly with the Foundation’s service week initiative, website and newsletter correspondence with member schools and the six leadership conferences recently held this spring, among other responsibilities.

During the month of April, more than 750 students attended leadership conferences held at Lorain Community College, University of Rio Grande, Wright State University, University of Northwestern Ohio, The Ohio State University and Kent State University-Stark Campus.

The conferences are free to attend and member schools are encouraged to send sophomore and junior leaders to build a foundation for future years. While there, students study and practice important values including leadership, citizenship, sportsmanship and service.

Mary Wineberg, a Cincinnati native and Olympic Gold Medalist in the 4 x 400 relay, was the featured speaker at the conference held at Wright State.

“It was encouraging to hear her story of determination and perseverance that led to her success in the Olympics,” said Combs. “Our goal is to have the student-athletes take that message home to their schools and communities.”

After expanding Service Week to include volleyball last year, the Foundation is pleased to announce that a second year of Volleyball Service Week will run from August 1 through October 9. Basketball Service Week will take place November 17 through December 4. For more information about the Foundation or how your school can become involved, please visit www.ohsaafoundation.org.

By Katie Botsis, OHSAA Sports Information Intern
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FALL</th>
<th>1st Practice</th>
<th>1st Scrimmage</th>
<th>1st Contest</th>
<th>State Tournament/Site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>Aug. 9(#)</td>
<td>None permitted</td>
<td>Aug. 23</td>
<td>Nov. 6/Site TBA (Boys III/II; Girls III/II)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Hockey</td>
<td>Aug. 9(#)</td>
<td>Any time after start of season</td>
<td>Aug. 28</td>
<td>Nov. 5-State Semis/Upper Arlington H.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 6-State Finals/Upper Arlington H.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>Aug. 2</td>
<td>Aug. 10</td>
<td>Aug. 23</td>
<td>Nov. 5-Reg. Quarterfinals (Div. II, IV, VI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 6-Reg. Quarterfinals (Div. I, III, V)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 12-Reg. Semis (Div. II, IV, VI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 13-Reg. Semis (Div. I, III, V)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 19-Reg. Finals (Div. II, IV, VI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 20-Reg. Finals (Div. I, III, V)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 26-State Semis (Div. II, IV, VI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 27-State Semis (Div. I, III, V)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 3-State Finals (Div. IV-Massillon; Div. VI-Canton; Div. II-Massillon)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 4-State Finals (Div. V-Canton; Div. III-Massillon; Div. I-Canton)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>Aug. 9(#)</td>
<td>None permitted</td>
<td>Aug. 23</td>
<td>Nov. 6/Site TBA (Boys III/II; Girls III/II)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Hockey</td>
<td>Aug. 9(#)</td>
<td>Any time after start of season</td>
<td>Aug. 28</td>
<td>Nov. 5-State Semis/Upper Arlington H.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 6-State Finals/Upper Arlington H.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>Aug. 2</td>
<td>Aug. 10</td>
<td>Aug. 23</td>
<td>Nov. 5-Reg. Quarterfinals (Div. II, IV, VI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 6-Reg. Quarterfinals (Div. I, III, V)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 12-Reg. Semis (Div. II, IV, VI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 13-Reg. Semis (Div. I, III, V)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 19-Reg. Finals (Div. II, IV, VI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 20-Reg. Finals (Div. I, III, V)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 26-State Semis (Div. II, IV, VI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 27-State Semis (Div. I, III, V)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 3-State Finals (Div. IV-Massillon; Div. VI-Canton; Div. II-Massillon)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 4-State Finals (Div. V-Canton; Div. III-Massillon; Div. I-Canton)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>Aug. 2</td>
<td>Any time after start of season</td>
<td>Aug. 6</td>
<td>Oct. 15-16 (BII, Bill, GII/OSU &amp; North Star, Sunbury)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Oct 22-23 (Boys Div. I &amp; Girls Div. I/OHIO State)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>Aug. 9(#)</td>
<td>Any time after start of season</td>
<td>Aug. 23</td>
<td>Nov. 9-10-State Semis (B-9th; G-10th)/Sites TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 12-State Finals/Columbus Crew Stadium - (Boys Div. III, II, I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 13-State Finals/Columbus Crew Stadium - (Girls Div. II &amp; I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis (Girls)</td>
<td>Aug. 9(#)</td>
<td>One prior to first match</td>
<td>Aug. 16</td>
<td>Oct. 22/OSU Stickney Tennis Center (1st &amp; 2nd rnds.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Oct. 23/OSU Stickney Tennis Center (Semis &amp; Finals)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>Aug. 9(#)</td>
<td>Any time after start of season</td>
<td>Aug. 28</td>
<td>Nov. 11-State Semis/Wright St. Nutter Ctr. (Div. IV &amp; III)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 12-State Semis/Wright St. Nutter Ctr. (Div. II &amp; I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 13-State Finals/Wright St. Nutter Center (all 4 divs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>1st Practice</td>
<td>1st Scrimmage</td>
<td>1st Contest</td>
<td>State Tournament/Site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>Nov. 5</td>
<td>Nov. 5</td>
<td>Dec. 3</td>
<td>Mar. 24-State Semis/Ohio State Value City Arena - (Div. II &amp; IV)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar. 25-State Semis/Ohio State Value City Arena - (Div. III &amp; I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar. 26-State Finals/OSU Value City Arena (all 4 divs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>Oct. 29</td>
<td>Oct. 29</td>
<td>Nov. 26</td>
<td>Mar. 17-State Semis/Ohio State Value City Arena - (Div. II &amp; IV)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar. 18-State Semis/Ohio State Value City Arena - (Div. III &amp; I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar. 19-State Finals/OSU Value City Arena (all 4 divs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowling</td>
<td>Nov. 12</td>
<td>Nov. 12</td>
<td>Nov. 19</td>
<td>Mar. 4-Girls/Site TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar. 5-Boys/Site TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
<td>Nov. 5</td>
<td>None permitted</td>
<td>Dec. 6</td>
<td>Mar. 4-Team/Hilliard Bradley H.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar. 5-Indiv. &amp; AA/Hilliard Bradley H.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Hockey</td>
<td>Nov. 5</td>
<td>Nov. 5</td>
<td>Nov. 26</td>
<td>Mar. 12-State Semis/Columbus Nationwide Arena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar. 13-State Finals/Columbus Nationwide Arena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming/Diving</td>
<td>Nov. 5</td>
<td>None permitted</td>
<td>Nov. 29</td>
<td>Feb. 23-24/Diving, Canton Bralin Nat. (GI, BI, BII)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb. 25-26/Swim, Canton Bralin Nat. (BI, GII, BB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrestling</td>
<td>Nov. 12</td>
<td>Nov. 12</td>
<td>Dec. 3</td>
<td>Mar. 3-5/Ohio State Value City Arena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPRING</td>
<td>1st Practice</td>
<td>1st Scrimmage</td>
<td>1st Contest</td>
<td>State Tournament/Site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>Mar. 7 (see note below)</td>
<td>Mar. 7</td>
<td>Mar. 28</td>
<td>June 2-State Semis/Cols. Huntington Park (Div. I &amp; IV)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>June 3-State Semis/Cols. Huntington Park (Div. II &amp; III)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>June 4-State Finals/Cols. Huntington Park (all 4 divs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>Mar. 7 (see note below)</td>
<td>Mar. 7</td>
<td>Mar. 28</td>
<td>June 2-State Semis/Akron Firestone Std. (Div. II &amp; III)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>June 3-State Semis/Akron Firestone Std. (Div. I &amp; IV)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis (Boys)</td>
<td>Mar. 7</td>
<td>One prior to first match</td>
<td>Mar. 28</td>
<td>May 27/OSU Stickney Tennis Center (1st &amp; 2nd rnds.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>May 28/OSU Stickney Tennis Center (Semis &amp; Finals)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track &amp; Field</td>
<td>Mar. 7</td>
<td>None permitted</td>
<td>Mar. 26</td>
<td>June 3-4/Ohio State Jesse Owens (Div. III, II, I)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Baseball and softball pitchers & catchers may begin practice on Feb. 21.  
(#) Denotes exception: If classes begin August 20 or earlier, coaching may begin August 6.
Will Power

Gahanna Lincoln forward William Trapp converted the final penalty kick to give the Lions a 1-0 win over top-ranked Cleveland St. Ignatius in the 2009 Division I state championship in Crew Stadium November 13.

The soccer state tournament returns to Crew Stadium November 12-13. Read all about it in the fall issue of OHSAA Magazine, which is scheduled to be released September 9.

Don’t tell the Lions that it was their first trip to the state championship game. They led on the stat sheet in shots (18-12), shots on goal (10-4) and corner kicks (9-5) and won the penalty kick shoot-out, 4-3, to take home the title.