

# OHSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES (June 11, 2026)

The Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Directors held a regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, June 11, 2026, at 7 17 Credit Union Park in Akron prior to the OHSAA State Baseball Tournament. President Stephanie Evans called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and introductions of guests in attendance.

**Board Members In Attendance:** Stephanie Evans, president; Randy Tevepaugh, vice president; John Carter; Ray Hibbs; Matt Hutchinson; Tom Nerl; Mark Rose; Lane Warner; Jeff Wheeler, and Glen Gillespie (ex-officio).

**Board Member Excused:** Jared Cole (ex-officio).

**Staff Members In Attendance:** Doug Ute, executive director; Kristin Ronai, associate executive director; Andy Bixler, Bob Goldring, Scott Kaufman, John Kronour, Beau Rugg and Ronald Sayers, directors; Laura Vermilya, chief financial officer, and staff members Charles Anderson, Greg Bossick, Michael Cornathan, Alexis Holderman, Keaton Jones, Kelly Schoenly and Lizzy Wilson.

**Others In Attendance:** Joe Fraley, Josh Fraley and David Fraley, OHSAA legal counsels; Frank Gamble, Ohio High School Baseball Coaches Association; Joe Balogh, Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association, and Gerald Cooke, Ohio High School Football Coaches Association.

## I. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Jeff Wheeler, second by Tom Nerl to **adopt** the agenda as amended for the June 11, 2026, Board of Directors meeting.

Motion passed 9-0.

## II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Ray Hibbs, second by John Carter to **approve** the minutes from the April 23, 2026, Board of Directors Meeting and the May 20, 2026, Board of Directors Special Virtual Meeting.

Motion passed 9-0.

## III. FINANCIAL ITEMS

### A. Recommendation to Approve the OHSAA Financial Report through May 31, 2026

Chief Financial Officer Laura Vermilya provided the financial report through May 31, 2026. She said that, while virtually none of the spring sports tournament reports have been submitted, she expects the net profit for the 2025-26 fiscal year to be approximately \$825,000 (the proposed budget expected a loss), and expenses to be five percent favorable to budget.

When combining cash and investments, the OHSAA's current total cash was at \$17.5 million, which would cover 8.7 months of expenses, and that is similar to where the Association stood a year ago. The financial report is summarized as follows:

#### OHSAA Financial Report (Through May 31, 2026)

<u>District</u>	<u>Total Cash</u>	<u>Year to Date Gross Revenue</u>	<u>Year to Date Gross Expenses</u>	<u>Year to Date Net Profit/Loss</u>
OHSAA Office	\$10,577,278	\$13,009,575	\$12,338,779	\$670,796
Central	\$1,102,957	\$896,671	\$891,252	\$5,419
East	\$1,029,808	\$496,559	\$348,142	\$148,417
Northeast	\$714,584	\$1,535,296	\$1,757,364	— \$222,068
Northwest	\$1,784,239	\$1,578,678	\$1,220,641	\$358,037
Southeast	\$864,308	\$622,363	\$564,164	\$58,198
Southwest	\$1,484,167	\$1,253,867	\$1,423,104	— \$169,236
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$17,557,341</b>	<b>\$19,393,009</b>	<b>\$18,543,446</b>	<b>\$849,563</b>
		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Prior Month</u>	<u>Prior Year</u>
Checking		\$5,093,901	\$5,022,817	\$6,466,842
Savings		\$1,055,897	\$1,053,767	\$1,026,954
<b>Total Operating Cash</b>		<b>\$6,149,798</b>	<b>\$6,076,584</b>	<b>\$7,493,796</b>
Months on Hand		3.0	3.0	3.7
Board Designated Capital Improvements		\$280,861	\$280,377	\$1,008,807
Investments - Morgan Stanley		\$11,126,682	\$10,975,436	\$9,347,317
<b>Total Investments</b>		<b>\$11,407,543</b>	<b>\$11,255,813</b>	<b>\$10,356,124</b>
Months on Hand		5.6	5.6	5.1
<b>Total Cash &amp; Investments on Hand</b>		<b>\$17,557,341</b>	<b>\$17,332,397</b>	<b>\$17,849,920</b>
Months on Hand (Cash & Investments)		8.7	8.7	8.8
Athletic Enrichment Fund		\$2,232,045	\$2,225,380	\$3,163,781

Motion by Jeff Wheeler second by Tom Nerl to **approve** the financial report as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

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### B. Recommendation to Approve Athletic Enrichment Fund Donation for 2025-26 School Year

Chief Financial Officer Laura Vermilya said the Executive Director's Office recommended distributing \$1,250 to each member school for the 2025-26 fiscal year as a donation from the OHSAA's Athletic Enrichment Fund. Schools that return their membership cards and pay past due invoices by June 30 will receive a check from the OHSAA in August 2026.

Motion by Lane Warner, second by Mark Rose to **approve** the recommendation as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

**Note:** In April 2023, the Board approved the establishment of the athletic enrichment fund for the purpose of providing a financial contribution, on an equitable basis, to each member high school's athletic department to assist with costs of equipment, uniforms, game transportation, officials and improving student sportsmanship and adult fan behavior. On an annual basis, the Board will determine whether to transfer money to the fund from operating cash and then decide the contribution amount to be provided - which may fluctuate each year - for each school. The donation was also \$1,250 in 2024-25.

## IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

### A. Updates on Spring Sports Tournaments

OHSAA sport administrators provided brief updates to the Board on their respective spring sports tournaments. It was reported that all tournaments went well, including **boys tennis, boys volleyball, softball, track and field, boys lacrosse** and **girls lacrosse**. The state **baseball** tournament was about to begin while the Board of Directors Meeting was taking place. Of note, the OHSAA Jesse Owens State Track and Field Tournament expanded to five divisions from three for the first time and was held over four days rather than two. And Melvin Blake was recognized for his outstanding work again as the state softball tournament manager.

### B. Review of OHSAA Athletic Discussion Meetings

Executive Director Doug Ute informed the Board that the six in-person OHSAA Athletic Discussion Meetings were completed and successful. The OHSAA is required by the Constitution to conduct these meetings in order to explain the upcoming referendum issues, so the majority of the meetings were spent with Director Ronald Sayers reviewing those items. Mr. Ute thanked Director Bob Goldring for organizing the meetings; the school administrators who attended, and Streetsboro, Clayton Northmont and Logan high schools that volunteered to host three of the meetings, which were also held at facilities in Cambridge, Tiffin and Westerville.

### C. Review of 2026 Referendum Voting

Associate Executive Director Kristin Ronai said voting on the 12 OHSAA Referendum issues (one Constitution, 11 Bylaw; three of the issues for 7th-8th grade schools) took place between May 1 and 15, and all of the issues passed with the exception of the proposal that would have permitted students at OHSAA member public schools that do not offer a team sport to participate in that sport at another OHSAA member public school, with certain stipulations. The results can be found on the OHSAA website ([www.ohsaa.org/School-Resources](http://www.ohsaa.org/School-Resources)). Member school principals are required to vote but may abstain on any issue, and 803 of 815 high school principals voted and 562 of the 741 7th-8th grade principals voted.

### D. Review of 2026 District Athletic Board Elections

Director Ronald Sayers said voting for the 16 expiring and unexpired/interim positions on the six OHSAA district athletic boards took place between May 1 and 15. He thanked fellow staff member Alexis Holderman for her work during the petition and voting processes. The results can be found on the OHSAA website ([www.ohsaa.org/School-Resources](http://www.ohsaa.org/School-Resources)).

### E. Update on 2026 Fall Meetings

The OHSAA will again conduct Regional Update Meetings in August and September and Administrator Workshops in August. Regional Update Meetings are intended for superintendents, principals and athletic administrators and will consist of updates, reminders and a review of key changes from Executive Director Doug Ute and other staff members within the Association to kick off the 2026-27 school year. The two-hour meetings all begin at 10:00 and will be on the following dates and locations: **Monday, Aug. 31**, Waverly High School; **Tuesday, Sept. 1**, Westerville, Quest Conference Center; **Tuesday, Sept. 8**, Streetsboro High School; **Thursday, Sept. 10**, Liberty-Benton High School, Findlay; **Monday, Sept. 14**, Cambridge, Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center, and **Tuesday, Sept. 15**, Cincinnati Princeton High School.

The three Administrator Workshops are intended for first- or second-year school administrators and will review key OHSAA bylaws and regulations and provide various updates and reminders. Two of the workshops will be in-person at the OHSAA Office in Columbus and one will be virtual. All meetings will begin at 10:00 and will be on the following dates: **Tuesday, Aug. 4**, OHSAA Office; **Wednesday, Aug. 12**, OHSAA Office, and **Monday, Aug. 24**, Virtual. Registration information for all meetings will be sent to administrators later this summer.

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### F. Reminder on Board Resolution Cards

Staff member Alexis Holderman said the Executive Director's Office is still receiving Board Resolution Cards, which must be returned to the office by June 30 in order for schools to continue membership within the OHSAA and to confirm the requirement to follow OHSAA regulations. At last count, she said 27 of the 670 expected cards have yet to be submitted. Ms. Holderman said she will continue to follow up with schools that have not returned the card and will provide an update at the August 27 Board of Directors Meeting.

### G. Update on Appeals, Legislative Issues and Legal Cases

Staff member Lizzy Wilson provided the Board with a list of schools that have recently violated OHSAA bylaws or sports regulations. **Toledo Start High School** had two student-athletes in boys track and field and boys basketball violate Bylaw 4-3-1, Enrollment and Attendance, when they participated in regular season contests without being enrolled in and attending the school full time. Further, the student did not meet the requirements of any of the enumerated exceptions codified within Bylaw 4-3-1. In accordance with Bylaw 11, Penalties, the school was fined \$200 and they must forfeit all victorious contests in which the ineligible students participated. **Springfield High School** had a student-athlete violate General Sports Regulation 7.2.1 when he participated in a non-interscholastic contest after establishing himself as a member of the school's baseball program. The Executive Director's office accepted the school's self-imposed penalties of a one-game suspension. **Trenton Edgewood City School District** violated Bylaw 4-9-3, Recruiting Marketing, when the school posted a social media post promoting only the school district's athletic programs through a multi-stage marketing campaign that discussed other facets of offerings within the district. In accordance with Bylaw 11, Penalties, the school district was fined \$500 and is hereby publicly reprimanded for this violation. **Amherst Steele High School** violated General Sports Regulation 7.3.1, 50 Percent Limitation, when more than three boys basketball players participated on the same non-interscholastic team. In accordance with Bylaw 11, Penalties, the students are suspended for the first two games of the 2026-27 basketball season. **Pataskala Licking Heights High School's** junior varsity baseball coach violated General Sports Regulation 7.3.1, 50 Percent Limitation, when he permitted more than six baseball players to participate on the same non-interscholastic team. In accordance with Bylaw 11, Penalties, the coach is prohibited from participating in the 13 summer day practices from May 15-July 31, 2026. **Dayton Chaminade Julianne High School** had a student-athlete in girls track and field violate Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, when she participated in a contest during the period of ineligibility required within the transfer bylaw. In accordance with Bylaw 10-2-5, Forfeitures, the school forfeited the victorious contest in which the ineligible student participated. **Duncan Falls Philo High School** had a student-athlete violate General Sports Regulation 7.2.1 when she participated in a non-interscholastic contest after establishing herself as a member of the school's softball program. In accordance with Bylaw 11, Penalties, the student-athlete was suspended for one regular season contest. **Convoy Crestview Middle School** had a student-athlete violate General Sports Regulation 7.2.1 when he participated in a non-interscholastic contest after establishing himself as a member of the school's baseball program. In accordance with Bylaw 11, Penalties, the student-athlete was suspended for several regular season contests. **Sebring McKinley Middle School** had a student-athlete in 7th-grade boys basketball and track and field violate Bylaw 4-3-4, Semesters, when the student competed in his third and fourth semesters during the 2024-25 season. In accordance with Bylaw 10-2-1, Forfeitures, the school forfeited the victorious contest in which the ineligible student participated. **Delaware Hayes High School's** junior varsity boys lacrosse team violated Boys Lacrosse Regulation B.7, Contest Limitations, when the team participated in more than 18 contests. In accordance with Bylaw 11, Penalties, the number of summer contact days has been reduced from 13 to 10. **Lewis Center Olentangy Orange High School** did not comply with Bylaw 3-1, Administrative Responsibility and Institutional Control, when it did not conduct an appropriate inquiry when information arose concerning a possible violation of OHSAA Bylaws surrounding the participation of a football player during the 2025 season. In accordance with Bylaw 11, Penalties, the OHSAA is issuing Olentangy Orange High School a monetary penalty of \$10,000. **Euclid Middle School** violated Track and Field Regulations C.2., Competition Prior to Season Start Date, and 1.10, Exhibition Competition, when the track and field team participated in an unscored meet prior to the March 27 start date. In accordance with Bylaw 11, Penalties, the school's track and field team was not permitted to participate in the 2026 OHSAA 7th and 8th Grade State Championships. **Mentor Memorial Middle School** violated Track and Field Regulations C.2., Competition Prior to Season Start Date, and 1.10, Exhibition Competition, when the track and field team participated in an unscored meet prior to the March 27 start date. In accordance with Bylaw 11, Penalties, the school's track and field team was not permitted to participate in the 2026 OHSAA 7th and 8th Grade State Championships. **Cincinnati North College Hill High School** violated Bylaw 4-9-4 #10, Recruiting, by failing to submit the required documentation to refute the presumption of recruiting after multiple student-athletes transferred to the school following the hiring of their former coach. Under the bylaw, any student-athlete who transfers under these circumstances is presumed to have been recruited and is ineligible for one calendar year unless that presumption is successfully refuted through the required review process. Because the necessary paperwork was not submitted, the review process was never completed prior to two student-athletes competing in the 2026 track and field season. As a result, those two students competed while ineligible. Pursuant to Bylaw 10-2-5, Forfeitures, the ineligible students were removed from participation and all meets in which either athlete competed must be forfeited. Eligible participants will retain their

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individual points, records, awards and qualifying positions. **Pataskala Liberty Christian Academy** had a student-athlete who was eligible to qualify for full eligibility, regarding the Scholarship Bylaw, under Bylaw 4-4-1 Exception 1, Sufficient Credit Exception. However, the school failed to submit the request for eligibility to the Executive Director's Office prior to the student participating in a regular season competition. The Executive Director's Office restored the student-athlete's eligibility retroactively and prospectively, but, in accordance with Bylaw 4-1-1, Administrative Error, the school was fined \$100. **Akron Archbishop Hoban High School** violated General Sports Regulation 4, Failure to Acquire a Pupil Activity Permit, when it permitted a student to sit in the coaches box at the 2026 state wrestling tournament without being properly credentialed as a coach. In accordance with Bylaw 11, Penalties, and the general sports regulation, the school has been fined \$400. **Batavia West Clermont High School** violated General Sport Regulation 11.2, Mandatory No-Contact Period, when the baseball coach supervised student-athletes participating in baseball-related activities during the no-contact period in August. The Executive Director's office accepted the school's self-imposed penalty of dismissal of the coach involved and the school is hereby publicly reprimanded for this violation.

Staff member Alexis Holderman provided the Board with an update on appeals. She said the OHSAA Appeals Panel has made 113 rulings on 105 appeals held during 19 hearings this school year, and 26 appeals were either granted or the penalties modified. Associate Executive Director Kristin Ronai also provided the Board with an update on current legislative issues. She said it's possible that, even though the membership just voted not to approve such a proposal for the third time, Senate Bill 276 will possibly be approved which will permit students at member public schools that do not offer a team sport to participate in that sport at another OHSAA member public school, with certain stipulations. In addition, OHSAA Legal Counsel Joe Fraley provided the Board with an update on current legal cases.

### V. OLD BUSINESS

#### A. Recommendation to Approve Tournament Divisional Dividing Lines and Representation for Fall and Winter Sports

The Board was provided 2026 and 2027 tournament divisional dividing lines and representation for five fall sports; 2026 tournament divisional dividing lines and representation for the four fall Competitive Balance sports (divisional dividing lines only for football); 2027 and 2028 tournament divisional dividing lines and representation for five winter sports (representation only for gymnastics), and 2027 tournament divisional dividing lines and representation for the two winter competitive balance sports.

While the Board of Directors previously approved initial divisional dividing lines, the Executive Director's Office recommended that the Board approve the final school assignments to each division and representation since the deadline has passed for schools to request to move to Division I or to a higher division in those individual sports in which a school currently has one gender in a lower division, and it chooses to have them both compete in the higher of the two divisions. Of note, the following schools chose to move to Division I: **Girls Cross Country:** Rocky River Magnificat (from Division II); **Football:** Austintown-Fitch (from Division II); Clayton Northmont (from Division II); Cleveland Heights (from Division II); Dublin Scioto (from Division II); Elyria (from Division II); Euclid (from Division II); Hudson (from Division II), and Toledo St. John's Jesuit (from Division II); **Boys Soccer:** Elyria (from Division II), and Findlay (from Division II); **Girls Soccer:** Cuyahoga Falls Walsh Jesuit (from Division II); **Girls Volleyball:** Cincinnati St. Ursula Academy (from Division II); Cincinnati Seton (from Division II); Cincinnati Ursuline Academy (from Division II); Cincinnati Winton Woods (from Division II); Cleveland St. Joseph Academy (from Division II); Findlay (from Division II), and Loveland (from Division II); **Boys Basketball:** Cleveland Heights Lutheran East (from Division V); **Girls Basketball:** Cincinnati Mount Notre Dame (from Division II), and Rocky River Magnificat (from Division II), and **Boys Swimming and Diving:** Cuyahoga Falls Walsh Jesuit (from Division II).

Director Ronald Sayers reviewed the information as follows:

#### Boys Cross Country

Division I, 78 teams (523 males or more from October 2025 enrollments)

Division II, 160 teams (232 to 522 males)

Division III, 160 teams (132 to 231 males)

Division IV, 158 teams (131 or less males)

Total Teams: 556

Representation from the district to the regional tournaments (96 total) for 2026 and 2027 would be: **Division II:** Central 11 (Pickerington); East 3 (Pickerington); Northeast 38 (Boardman); Northwest 18 (Tiffin); Southeast 6 (Pickerington), and Southwest 20 (Troy); **Division III:** Central 9 (Pickerington); East 12 (Pickerington); Northeast 26 (Boardman); Northwest 17 (Tiffin); Southeast 11 (Pickerington), and Southwest 21 (Troy); **Division IV:** Central 8 (Pickerington); East 4 (Pickerington); Northeast 21 (Boardman); Northwest 33 (Tiffin); Southeast 11 (Pickerington), and Southwest 19 (Troy).

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Representation from the regional to the state tournament (20 total for Division I; 24 total for Divisions II through IV) for 2026 and 2027 would be: **Division I:** Pickerington 8; Boardman (Combined Northeast and Northwest) 5, and Troy 7; **\*Division II:** Pickerington 5; Boardman 10; Tiffin 4, and Troy 5; **Division III:** Pickerington 8; Boardman 7; Tiffin 4, and Troy 5; **Division IV:** Pickerington 6; Boardman 5; Tiffin 8, and Troy 5.

\*A coin flip to break a tie in Division II resulted in Boardman remaining at 10 representatives going to the state tournament and Tiffin going from 5 to 4 representatives to the state tournament.

### Girls Cross Country

Division I, 67 teams (516 females or more from October 2025 enrollments)

Division II, 134 teams (236 to 515 females)

Division III, 133 teams (137 to 235 females)

Division IV, 134 teams (136 or less females)

Total Teams: 468

Representation from the district to the regional tournaments (96 total) for 2026 and 2027 would be: **Division II:** Central 10 (Pickerington); East 4 (Pickerington); Northeast 37 (Boardman); Northwest 15 (Tiffin); Southeast 6 (Pickerington), and Southwest 24 (Troy); **Division III:** Central 6 (Pickerington); East 13 (Pickerington); Northeast 32 (Boardman); Northwest 20 (Tiffin); Southeast 8 (Pickerington), and Southwest 17 (Troy); **Division IV:** Central 9 (Pickerington); East 4 (Pickerington); Northeast 22 (Boardman); Northwest 34 (Tiffin); Southeast 8 (Pickerington), and Southwest 19 (Troy).

Representation from the regional to the state tournament (20 total for Division I; 24 total for Divisions II to IV) for 2026 and 2027 would be: **Division I:** Pickerington 9; Boardman (Combined Northeast and Northwest) 5, and Troy 6; **Division II:** Pickerington 5; Boardman 9; Tiffin 4, and Troy 6; **Division III:** Pickerington 7; Boardman 8; Tiffin 5, and Troy 4; **\*Division IV:** Pickerington 5; Boardman 5; Tiffin 9, and Troy 5.

\*A coin flip to break a tie in Division IV resulted in Tiffin remaining at 9 representatives going to the state tournament and Boardman going from 6 to 5 representatives to the state tournament.

### Field Hockey

Total Teams: 36

### Boys Golf

Division I, 211 teams (247 males or more from October 2025 enrollments)

Division II, 211 teams (130 to 246 males)

Division III, 212 teams (129 or less males)

Total Teams: 634

Representation from the district to the state tournaments for 2026 and 2027 would be: **Division I:** Central 3; Combined East and Southeast 1; Northeast 4; Northwest 1, and Southwest 3; **Division II:** Central 1; East 2; Northeast 3; Northwest 2; Southeast 2, and Southwest 2; **Division III:** Central 1; East 1; Northeast 3; Northwest 4; Southeast 1, and Southwest 2.

### Girls Golf

Division I, 218 teams (200 females or more from October 2025 enrollments)

Division II, 216 teams (199 or less females)

Total Teams: 434

Representation from the district to the state tournaments for 2026 and 2027 would be: **Division I:** Central 2; Combined East and Southeast 1; Northeast 4; Northwest 2, and Southwest 3; **Division II:** Central 1; East 1; Northeast 3; Northwest 4; Southeast 1, and Southwest 2.

### Girls Tennis

Division I, 182 teams (277 females or more from October 2025 enrollments)

Division II, 182 teams (276 or less females)

Total Teams: 364

Representation from the district to the state tournaments for 2026 and 2027 would be: **Division I:** Combined Central, an East School (Zanesville) and two Southeast schools (Chillicothe, Logan) 4; Combined Northeast and two East schools (Dover and New Philadelphia) 6; Northwest 2, and Southwest 4; **Division II:** Combined Central and two East Schools (Cambridge and Uhrichville Claymont) 2; Combined Northeast and three East schools (East Liverpool, East Liverpool Beaver and Millersburg West Holmes) 5; Northwest 4; Southeast 1, and Southwest 4.

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### Boys Soccer

Division I, 66 teams (618 males or more from October 2025 enrollments plus 2025 Competitive Balance factors)

Division II, 70 teams (416 to 617 males)

Division III, 147 teams (243 to 415 males)

Division IV, 144 teams (157 to 242 males)

Division V, 145 teams (156 or less males)

Total Teams: 572

Representation from the district to the regional tournaments for 2026 would be: **Division I:** Central 6; Combined Northeast and three Northwest schools (Findlay; Perrysburg and Toledo Whitmer) 4, and Southwest 6; **Division II:** Combined Central and one Southeast school (Logan) 5; Northeast 7; Northwest 2, and Southwest 2; **Division III:** Central 2; East 1; Northeast 5; Northwest 3; Southeast 1, and Southwest 4; **Division IV:** Central 2; East 2; Northeast 4; Northwest 2; Southeast 2, and Southwest 4, and **Division V:** Central 2; East 1; Northeast 5; Northwest 3; Southeast 2, and Southwest 3.

### Girls Soccer

Division I, 65 teams (564 females or more from October 2025 enrollments plus 2025 Competitive Balance factors)

Division II, 71 teams (376 to 563 females)

Division III, 130 teams (226 to 375 females)

Division IV, 129 teams (160 to 225 females)

Division V, 129 teams (159 or less females)

Total Teams: 524

Representation from the district to the regional tournaments for 2026 would be: **Division I:** Central 6; Combined Northeast and two Northwest schools (Perrysburg and Toledo Whitmer) 4, and Southwest 6; **Division II:** Combined Central and one Southeast school (Logan) 4; Northeast 7; Northwest 1, and Southwest 4; **Division III:** Central 2; East 1; Northeast 5; Northwest 3; Southeast 1, and Southwest 4; **Division IV:** Central 2; East 2; Northeast 5; Northwest 2; Southeast 1, and Southwest 4, and **Division V:** Central 1; East 1; Northeast 5; Northwest 4; Southeast 2, and Southwest 3.

### Girls Volleyball

Division I, 71 teams (567 females or more from October 2025 enrollments plus 2025 Competitive Balance factors)

Division II, 67 teams (384 to 566 females)

Division III, 129 teams (256 to 383 females)

Division IV, 129 teams (179 or 255 females)

Division V, 129 teams (128 to 178 females)

Division VI, 130 teams (90 to 127 females)

Division VII, 134 teams (89 or less females)

Total Teams: 789

Representation from the district to the regional tournaments for 2026 would be: **Division I:** Central 6; Northeast 3; Northwest 1, and Southwest 6; **Division II:** Combined Central and one Southeast school (Logan) 4; Northeast 8; Northwest 1, and Southwest 3; **Division III:** Central 2; Northeast 6; Northwest 3; Combined Southeast and East 1, and Southwest 4; **Division IV:** Central 2; East 2; Northeast 4; Northwest 3; Southeast 2, and Southwest 3; **Division V:** Central 2; East 2; Northeast 4; Northwest 2; Southeast 2, and Southwest 4; **Division VI:** Central 1; East 1; Northeast 4; Northwest 5; Southeast 2, and Southwest 3, and **Division VII:** Central 2; East 1; Northeast 3; Northwest 5; Southeast 2, and Southwest 3.

### Football

Proposed 2026 school tournament divisional dividing lines are as follows:

Division I, 80 teams (601 males or more from October 2025 enrollments plus 2025 Competitive Balance factors)

Division II, 98 teams (356 to 600 males)

Division III, 106 teams (257 to 355 males)

Division IV, 104 teams (197 to 256 males)

Division V, 105 teams (150 to 196 males)

Division VI, 107 teams (107 to 149 males)

Division VII, 108 teams (106 or less males)

Total Teams: 708

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### Boys Bowling

Division I, 242 teams (228 males or more from October 2025 enrollments)

Division II, 240 teams (227 or less males)

Total Teams: 482

Representation from the district to the state tournaments in boys bowling for 2027 and 2028 would be:

**Division I:** Central 4; Combined East and Southeast 1; Northeast 5; Northwest 2, and Southwest 4. **Division**

**II:** Central 2, East 2; Northeast 4; Northwest 3; Southeast 1, and Southwest 4.

### Girls Bowling

Division I, 213 teams (215 females or more from October 2025 enrollments)

Division II, 213 teams (214 or less females)

Total Teams: 426

Representation from the district to the state tournaments in girls bowling for 2027 and 2028 would be:

**Division I:** Central 4; Combined East and Southeast 1; Northeast 4; Northwest 2, and Southwest 5. **Division**

**II:** Central 2; East 2; Northeast 4; Northwest 3; Southeast 2, and Southwest 3.

### Gymnastics

Total Teams: 102

Representation of teams from the district to the state tournament in gymnastics for 2027 and 2028 would be: Combined Central, one East school (Dresden Tri-Valley) and two Southeast schools (Logan and Thornville Sheridan) 3; Northeast 5; Northwest 2, and Combined Southwest and one Southeast school (Washington Court House Miami Trace) 2.

Representation of individuals from the district to the state tournament in gymnastics for 2027 and 2028 would be: Combined Central, one East school (Dresden Tri-Valley) and one Southeast school (Logan and Thornville Sheridan) 9; Northeast 17; Northwest 5, and Combined Southwest and one Southeast school (Washington Court House Miami Trace) 5.

### Ice Hockey

Total Teams: 65

### Boys Swimming & Diving

Division I, 130 teams (339 males or more from October 2025 enrollments)

Division II, 129 teams (338 or less males)

Total Teams: 259

Representation from the district to the state tournaments in boys swimming and diving for 2027 and 2028 would be: **Division I:** Central 3; Northeast 3; Combined Northwest and the 16 schools in the Lakewood Sectional 3, and Southwest 3. **Division II:** Combined Central, East and Southeast 3; Northeast 3; Northwest 3, and Southwest 3. In addition, 20 at-large swimming qualifiers in each division will be selected based on times recorded in the district level of the tournament.

**Note:** Representation for the state diving tournaments is calculated based on the entries for the current season at the first level of competition.

### Girls Swimming & Diving

Division I, 145 teams (300 females or more from October 2025 enrollments)

Division II, 145 teams (299 or less females)

Total Teams: 290

Representation from the district to the state tournaments in girls swimming & diving for 2027 and 2028 would be: **Division I:** Combined Central, one East school (Dresden Tri-Valley) and one Southeast school (Chillicothe) 3; Northeast 3; Combined Northwest and the 17 schools in the Lakewood Sectional 3, and Combined Southwest and one Southeast school (Washington Court House Miami Trace) 3. **Division II:** Combined Central, East and Southeast 3; Northeast 3; Northwest 3, and Southwest 3. In addition, 20 at-large swimming qualifiers in each division will be selected based on times recorded in the district level of the tournament.

**Note:** Representation for the state diving tournaments is calculated based on the entries for the current season at the first level of competition.

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### Boys Basketball

Division I, 65 teams (616 males or more from October 2025 enrollments plus 2025 Competitive Balance factors)  
Division II, 72 teams (417 to 615 males)  
Division III, 132 teams (263 to 416 males)  
Division IV, 129 teams (192 or 262 males)  
Division V, 131 teams (136 to 191 males)  
Division VI, 134 teams (93 to 135 males)  
Division VII, 134 teams (92 or less males)  
Total Teams: 797

Representation from the district to the regional tournaments for 2027 would be: **Division I:** Central 6; Combined Northeast and two Northwest schools (Perrysburg and Toledo Whitmer) 4, and Southwest 6; **Division II:** Combined Central and one Southeast school (Logan) 4; Northeast 8; Northwest 2, and Southwest 2; **Division III:** Central 2; Combined East and Southeast 1; Northeast 6; Northwest 3, and Southwest 4; **Division IV:** Central 2; East 2; Northeast 5; Northwest 3; Southeast 1, and Southwest 3; **Division V:** Central 1; East 2; Northeast 4; Northwest 2; Southeast 3, and Southwest 4; **Division VI:** Central 2; East 1; Northeast 5 Northwest 5; Southeast 1, and Southwest 2, and **Division VII:** Central 1; East 1; Northeast 2; Northwest 6; Southeast 2, and Southwest 4.

### Girls Basketball

Division I, 66 teams (566 females or more from October 2025 enrollments plus 2025 Competitive Balance factors)  
Division II, 73 teams (383 to 565 females)  
Division III, 126 teams (251 to 382 females)  
Division IV, 127 teams (179 or 250 females)  
Division V, 127 teams (130 to 178 females)  
Division VI, 127 teams (89 to 129 females)  
Division VII, 127 teams (88 or less females)  
Total Teams: 773

Representation from the district to the regional tournaments for 2026 would be: **Division I:** Central 6; Combined Northeast and three Northwest schools (Perrysburg, Toledo Start and Toledo Whitmer) 4, and Southwest 6; **Division II:** Central 4; Northeast 8; Northwest 1, and Southwest 3; **Division III:** Central 2; Combined East and Southeast 1; Northeast 6; Northwest 3, and Southwest 4; **Division IV:** Central 1; East 2; Northeast 4; Northwest 3; Southeast 2, and Southwest 4; **Division V:** Central 2; East 2; Northeast 4; Northwest 2; Southeast 2, and Southwest 4; **Division VI:** Central 1; East 1; Northeast 4 Northwest 5; Southeast 3, and Southwest 2, and **Division VII:** Central 2; East 1; Northeast 3; Northwest 6; Southeast 2, and Southwest 2.

Motion by Jeff Wheeler, second by Tom Nerl to **approve** the fall and winter tournament dividing lines and representation as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

It was noted that boys and girls wrestling divisional dividing lines and representation will be presented to the Board of Directors at the August 27, 2026, meeting.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS (CONSENT)**

### A. Recommendation to Approve Reinstating Full Membership to Toledo Emmanuel High School

Staff member Alexis Holderman reported that Toledo Emmanuel Christian High School has reapplied for membership after going through the probationary period as required, has met the requirements and, therefore, it is recommended that the school be approved to be reinstated for full membership beginning with the 2026-27 school year.

It was noted that the school originally applied to be reinstated beginning with the 2026 spring sports season but was required to continue its probationary period to ensure it met the requirements.

Motion by Randy Tevepaugh, second by Ray Hibbs to **approve** the recommendation as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

### B. Recommendation to Approve Girls Flag Football as an OHSAA Recognized Sport

Executive Director Doug Ute reminded the Board that the OHSAA worked with the National Football League, Pro Football Hall of Fame, Cleveland Browns, Cincinnati Bengals and Ohio High School Football Coaches Association to sponsor a girls flag football championship event during spring 2026. He said with the growth in the number of teams and participants both in Ohio and nationally and the success of the sponsored event this spring, he recommended that the Board approve recognizing girls flag football beginning with the 2026-27 school year. If approved, this would move the OHSAA to 29 recognized sports (15 for girls, 14 for boys). Mr. Ute said he anticipated the championship event will be held next spring at the Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium in Canton as it was in 2026.

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Motion by Tom Nerl, second by John Carter to **approve** the recommendation as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

- C. Recommendation to Approve Modifications to the 2026-27 Sport-by-Sport Regulations for OHSAA Handbook  
OHSAA sport administrators reviewed proposed modifications to the sport-by-sport regulations that will appear in the 2026-27 OHSAA Handbook after the staff collaborated on the proposed changes. The staff recommended that the modifications be approved by the Board. Most of the modifications reflect date changes or were made to provide clarity. Some key modifications: In **bowling**, a regulation was added that permits and specifies how bowlers with verifiable physical disabilities can participate in contests. In **gymnastics**, a regulation was added that permits student who have participated for the school team in the current season to gain permission from the Executive Director's Office to participate in two non-interscholastic contests/events, provided the participation does not violate any coach's, school, or school district/system policy. Other stipulations must also be followed. In **swimming and diving**, formal rules or parameters were added for junior varsity diving competition to establish clear, developmentally appropriate standards that support the expansion of high school diving statewide, without "dumbing down" the sport or compromising its established expectations. In **track and field**, a regulation was added to permit students who have participated for the school team in the current season to gain permission from the Executive Director's Office to participate in one non-interscholastic event as an individual or member of a team NOT representing or associated with an OHSAA member school, provided the participation does not violate any coach's, school, or school district/system policy. Other stipulations must also be followed.

Motion by Ray Hibbs, second by Tom Nerl to **approve** modifications to the sport-by-sport regulations that will appear in the 2026-27 OHSAA Handbook as presented.

It was noted that the football regulations were approved at the May 20, 2026, OHSAA Board of Directors Meeting and that sport regulations for girls flag football will also be developed and published in the 2026-27 OHSAA Handbook.

Motion passed 9-0.

- D. Recommendation to Approve 2026 Fall Sports Tournament Regulations  
Updates in regulations for 2026 fall sport tournaments were provided to the Board by the OHSAA's sport administrators, and the Executive Director's Office recommended that the modified regulations be approved. Most updates reflect date changes or modifications made for clarity purposes. In **football**, it was noted that the OHSAA currently does not permit the use of drones during tournament contests, and a decision on whether to modify that regulation for the 2026 season has not been made. In **soccer**, it was noted that the official OHSAA tournament ball has changed beginning with the 2026 season, and schools were notified of this change earlier this spring. In **girls volleyball**, it was noted that the exact schedule and site assignments for the state tournament have yet to be finalized, although all championship matches will continue to be held at Wright State University's Nutter Center.

Motion by Matt Hutchinson, second by Jeff Wheeler to **approve** the modifications to the fall sports tournament regulations as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

- E. Recommendation to Approve Modified OHSAA Organizational Chart  
With the upcoming retirement of Director Bob Goldring; the resignation of Sport Administrator Emily Mason; the hiring of Andy Bixler and Scott Kaufman as directors, and the promotions of Michael Cornathan and BJ Duckworth to full-time sport administrators, Executive Director Doug Ute said his staff has worked to develop a modified organizational chart, and he recommended that this chart be approved.

Motion by Mark Rose, second by Lane Warner to **approve** the modified organizational chart as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

- F. Recommendation to Approve Modifications to 2026-27 Team (Staff) Handbook  
Director John Kronour provided the Board with a draft of 2026-27 OHSAA Team (staff) Handbook. Besides date changes and updates made for clarification, the only major modification dealt with bereavement leave. Dr. Kronour said the Executive Director's Office recommended that the handbook be approved.

Motion by Mark Rose, second by Tom Nerl to **approve** the modifications as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

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### VII. NEW BUSINESS (OTHER)

None

### VIII. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS (ELECTION OF 2026-27 BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS)

Board Vice President Randy Tevepaugh asked for nominations for the position of president of the Board of Directors for the 2026-27 school year.

Tom Nerl nominated Stephanie Evans to serve as president of the Board of Directors for the 2026-27 school year. Ray Hibbs seconded the motion.

There was a unanimous motion to close nominations.

**Stephanie Evans** was unanimously elected president of the Board of Directors for the 2026-27 school year.

Board Vice President Tevepaugh asked for nominations for the position of vice president of the Board of Directors for the 2026-27 school year.

Matt Hutchinson nominated John Carter to serve as vice president of the Board of Directors for the 2026-27 school year. Tom Nerl seconded the motion.

There was a unanimous motion to close nominations.

**John Carter** was unanimously elected vice president of the Board of Directors for the 2026-27 school year.

### VIX. ONCE AROUND

Board members said the 2025-26 school year was tremendous thanks to the strength of the office team, Executive Director Doug Ute's leadership and the people associated with the OHSAA. Board President Stephanie Evans added that each person on the staff is as valuable as the next. Many first-year Board members said they enjoyed their first year on the Board of Directors and were looking forward to the next two.

Glen Gillespie, Board ex-officio and executive director of the Ohio Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (OIAAA), said the OHSAA Offices hosted the OIAAA Summer Institute earlier this week and over 100 class seats were occupied.

Staff member Keaton Jones was recognized for his upcoming wedding. Additionally, Director Bob Goldring was thanked for his work and leadership during his 31 years on the OHSAA staff, and Board members wished him a long and healthy retirement.

Motion by Jeff Wheeler, second by Tom Nerl to **adjourn** the meeting at 10:37 a.m.

Motion passed 9-0.

Bob Goldring, recorder.

### FUTURE MEETINGS

**(Unless noted, all meetings are on Thursdays and begin at 9:00 but are subject to change.)**

**2026-27 School Year:** August 27, 2026; October 1, 2026; October 29, 2026; January 14, 2027; February 18, 2027; April 22, 2027, and June 10, 2027 (8:30 at 7 17 Credit Union Park in Akron).