



# HANDBOOK FOR OFFICIALS

2010

## **OFFICIATING PROGRAM MISSION**

Creating a competent community of sports officials who play a key role in developing Ohio student-athletes into good citizens of tomorrow.

2010 INDEX

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## **I. INTRODUCTION**

Sports officiating can be a fulfilling and challenging avocation. This activity provides individuals with opportunities for physical fitness, earning extra income, meeting people, goal setting, continuing education, and public service. Most importantly, officiating interscholastic sports provides officials with the privilege to play a vital role in the education of student-athletes.

An interscholastic sports official is an important contributor to the development of young men and women. Because of this role, every official is expected to be a person of good character, integrity and free of racial, religious and personal bias. The sports official represents the very integrity of the game.

Ohio interscholastic sports officials are required to obtain an officiating permit from the Ohio High School Athletic Association. The oversight of the OHSAA interscholastic sports officiating program is the responsibility of the OHSAA Commissioner's office.

Officiating is a privilege, not a right. Officials that are unfair or biased, exhibit a lack of fitness, fail to comply with OHSAA administrative requirements or exhibit questionable conduct on or off the playing surface can be penalized. The OHSAA reserves the express authority to suspend or permanently revoke any officiating permit.

## **II. OFFICIATING PROGRAM MISSION**

Creating a competent community of sports officials who play a key role in developing Ohio student-athletes into good citizens of tomorrow.

## **III. OFFICIATING PROGRAM GOALS**

- Recruit men and women of diversity into sports officiating
- Train prospective officials in order that they will have the entry level skills needed to enjoy officiating and competently manage lower level contests. In addition, train and educate the current officiating community in order to manage contests of all levels
- Support officials and their activities
- Reward officials through advancement opportunities, tournament assignments and enhanced fees
- Recognize officials and their achievements
- Develop leadership of local association officers, assigners, instructors and others

## **IV. STATEMENT OF BELIEFS**

1. WE believe that the recruitment of officials is most successful by individuals through local associations.
2. WE believe that training leads to enjoyment in officiating and in turn leads to retention of officials.
3. WE believe that continuing education leads to talented and competent officials.
4. WE believe that the OHSAA must support officials through training, education and action.
5. WE believe that reward and recognition of officials creates enthusiastic officials.
6. WE believe that strong leadership must be present in all local associations.
7. WE believe that a strong officiating program and competent officials creates a positive experience for student-athletes.

## **V. OFFICIATING CODE OF ETHICS**

Schools have entrusted us to assist them in the education and development of their youth through athletics. The proper operation of such a process requires that officials be independent, impartial and responsible to people they serve. In recognition of these expectations there is hereby established a Code of Ethics for all officials. The purpose of the code is to establish guidelines for ethical standards of conduct for all officials.

**An Official** must devote time, thought and study to the rules of the game and the mechanics necessary to carry out these rules so that one may render effective and creditable service in a fair and unbiased manner.

**An Official** must work with fellow officials and the state association in a spirit of harmony and cooperation in spite of differences of opinion that may arise during debate of issues.

**An Official** must resist every temptation and outside pressure to use one's position as an official to benefit oneself. Under all circumstances, officials must avoid promoting the special interest of any person or group of persons other than the athletes we serve.

**An Official** must constantly uphold the honor and dignity of the officiating industry in all personal conduct and relations with student-athletes, coaches, athletic directors, school administrators, colleagues, and the public, to be a worthy example to the athletes under one's jurisdiction.

**An Official** will be prepared both physically and mentally, dress according to expectations and maintain a proper appearance that is befitting the importance of the game.

**An Official** shall avoid the use of tobacco and products at the contest site.

**An Official** shall not consume alcohol prior to or during the contest.

**An Official** must remember and recognize that it is important to honor contracts regardless of possible inconvenience or financial loss. Every member of the officiating profession carries a responsibility to act in a manner becoming a professional person. The conduct of any official influences the attitude of the public toward the profession in general as well as toward the official in particular.

## **VI. PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING AN OHSAA OFFICIATING PERMIT**

### **SECTION A**

Any person who is 18 years of age or older and no longer enrolled in high school is eligible to apply. (High school students may enroll in an OHSAA officiating class and obtain a Class 3 permit upon successful completion).

#### **1. Beginning Officials in Basketball, Football, Soccer (USSF Grades9-12), Volleyball, Baseball, Softball and Wrestling.**

- a. Required to enroll in and complete OHSAA Approved Officiating Class.
- b. Class application fee is required for each sport.
- c. After first year, must attend an annual State Rules interpretation meeting and required number of local rules meetings.  
Refer to Official and Officiating Requirements, Section VIII.
- d. Annual officiating permit fee required for each sport.

#### **2. Beginning Official in Field Hockey, Ice Hockey, Swimming & Diving, Track & Field.**

- a. Application form with application fee of \$55.00 attached for each sport must be completed and sent to the OHSAA – Proceed to Section “B” for application deadlines.
- b. Must pass **an online exam with 80% or higher.**  
See Section “B” for examination dates. Two attempts will be permitted.
- c. Must attend minimum required local rules meetings – meetings attended prior to test shall be counted towards local meeting requirements.
- d. State Rules Interpretation Meeting not required in year tested, but is an annual requirement thereafter. Refer to Section VIII Official and Officiating Requirements
- e. Annual Officiating permit fee required for each sport.

#### **3. Official Suspended for failure to attend minimum required meetings (Local or State).**

- a. Application form with application fee of \$80.00 attached for each sport must be completed and sent to the OHSAA – Proceed to Section “B” for application deadlines.
- b. Must pass **an online exam with 80% or higher.**  
See Section “B” for examination dates. Two attempts will be permitted.
- c. Must annually attend minimum number of required local rules meeting.
- d. State Rules Interpretation Meeting not required in year tested, but is an annual requirement thereafter. Refer to Section VIII Official and Officiating Requirements,

- e. Ineligible for tournament assignments IN THAT SPORT, IN THAT SEASON.
- f. The officiating test in a given sport may **not** be taken in successive years by same person if that person passed test the preceding year.
- g. Annual officiating permit fee required for each sport.

**A suspended official is not eligible to enroll in an officiating class without prior approval from the OHSAA office.**

**4. An out-of-Ohio Official who is registered in West Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana, Pennsylvania or Michigan, but not registered in Ohio. (Only Ohio residents or residents of a contiguous state may apply for or hold an OHSAA officiating permit.)**

- a. Application form with application fee of \$55.00 attached for each sport must be completed and sent to the OHSAA – Proceed to Section “B” for application deadlines.
- b. Submission of experience and training in sport of interest required.
- c. Must pass **an online review exam with 80% or higher.**  
See Section “B” for examination dates. Two attempts will be permitted.
- d. Must attend minimum required local rules meetings – meetings attended prior to test shall be counted towards local meeting requirements.
- e. State Rules Interpretation Meeting not required in year tested, but is an annual requirement thereafter. Refer to Section VIII Official and Officiating Requirements.
- f. Annual Officiating permit fee required for each sport.

**5. Person who has current certification through USSF (Grade 1-7) or another sport Association Officiating program**

- a. Application form with application fee of \$55.00 attached for each sport must be completed and sent to the OHSAA – Proceed to Section “B” for application deadlines.
- b. Submission of experience and training in sport of interest required.
- c. Must pass **an online review exam with 80% or higher.**  
See Section “B” for examination dates. Two attempts will be permitted.
- d. Must attend minimum required local rules meetings – meetings attended prior to test shall be counted towards local meeting requirements.
- e. State Rules Interpretation Meeting not required in year tested, but is an annual requirement thereafter. Refer to Section VIII Official and Officiating Requirements.
- f. Annual Officiating permit fee required for each sport.

**6. Person who has current certification through USSF (Grade 8)**

- a. Application and fee submitted to class Instructor along with Proof of Current Grade 8 Certification.
- b. Attend 10-hour OHSAA approved officiating class covering OHSAA, differences between FIFA’s Laws and NFHS Rules, Dual System Officiating Mechanics and Double-Dual System Officiating Mechanics.
- c. Score a minimum of 75% on NFHS Rules Test
- d. Score a minimum of 75% on NFHS Class II Mechanics Exam.
- e. Annual Officiating permit fee is required.
- f. After first year, official must attend an annual State Rules Interpretation Meeting and the required number (i.e. four) Local Rules Meetings.

**7. Official who retired in good standing and now wishes to reactivate the OHSAA Permit.**

- a. Application form with application fee of \$55.00 attached for each sport must be completed and sent to the OHSAA – Proceed to Section “B” for application deadlines.
- b. Submission of experience and training in sport(s) of interest required.
- c. Must pass **an online review exam with 80% or higher.**  
See Section “B” for examination dates. Two attempts will be permitted.
- d. Must attend minimum required local rules meetings – meetings attended prior to test shall be counted towards local meeting requirements.
- e. State Rules Interpretation Meeting not required in year tested, but is an annual requirement thereafter. Refer to Section VIII Official and Officiating Requirements.
- f. Annual Officiating permit fee required for each sport.

## **8. An official who is registered by another State Association and changes residence by moving to Ohio - Reciprocity**

An official who moves to Ohio from another state may secure an officiating permit in Ohio upon the presentation of evidence of a current registration as an official in the previous state and upon the payment of Ohio fees, providing there is a reciprocity agreement between the two states and providing this application is made within three months after moving to Ohio.

This reciprocity provision is not applicable to officials in neighboring states who hold current registration in their home state. Such officials must follow the procedure outlined in **Section A #4.**

The Classification of a transfer official will be assigned by the OHSAA Commissioner after verification of previous training and experience.

- a. Application form with application fee attached must be completed and sent to the OHSAA (\$55.00 for the first sport and \$27.00 per additional sport)
- b. Submission of experience and training in sport(s) of interest required.
- c. Must pass **an online review exam with 80% or higher when previous state did not use NFHS rules.** Two attempts will be permitted.
- d. Must attend minimum required local rules meetings – meetings attended prior to test shall be counted towards local meeting requirements.
- e. If testing State Rules Interpretation Meeting not required in year tested, but is an annual requirement thereafter. Refer to Section VIII Official and Officiating Requirements.
- f. If testing NOT required must annually attend four local rules meetings and a State Rules Interpretation Meeting. Refer to Section VIII Official and Officiating Requirements.
- g. Annual Officiating permit fee required for each sport.

## **9. Girls Gymnastics Judges**

Judges in girls' gymnastics must first receive a rating through the USA Gymnastics in order to be eligible for an OHSAA officiating permit. Contact one of the Test Administrators listed below for testing information. DO NOT contact the OHSAA office.

### **OHSAA Class 1 Registration**

1. Must have tested with the USA Gymnastics with the current rules.
2. Must hold a minimum of Level 9 Rating: dated – expiration 2013.
3. Must include photocopy of rating card with application by reciprocity or with renewal form.

### **OHSAA Class 2 Registration**

1. Must have tested with the Joint Certification Exam for Women's Gymnastics Judges with the current rules.
2. Must hold a minimum of Level 7/8 Rating: dated – expiration 2013.
3. Must include photocopy of rating card with application by reciprocity or with renewal form. After receiving a current USA Gymnastics, expiration date 2013, request an application form from the OHSAA Officiating Department to apply for an OHSAA registration by reciprocity.

### **Joint Certification Test Administrators**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
Carol Arnaut	503 Windermere Dr, Hubbard, OH 44425	(330) 534-5224
Betty Sroufe	2096 Rolling Hills Fairfield, OH 45014	(513) 829-5671
Judy Dobransky	3446 Gordon Dr Sterling Heights, Michigan 48077	(810) 264-2047
Char Christensen	1260 Churchbell Way, Columbus, OH 43235	(614-846-7792
Nina Dent	10808 Watkins Rd SW, Pataskala, OH 43062	(740) 927-8465

**NOTE: All OHSAA officials are enrolled in the National Federation Officials Association.**

## SECTION B — APPLICATION & EXAMINATION DEADLINES

1. The completed application form and fee must be received by the deadline date.
2. An application or check sent without the other will not be accepted.
3. No refunds are made after the deadline date.

Sports	Application Deadline	Examination Dates
Football, Soccer, Volleyball, Field Hockey	Aug. 5	July 15 – Aug. 15
Basketball, Ice Hockey, Swimming & Diving, Wrestling	Nov. 5	Oct. 15 – Nov. 15
Baseball, Softball, Track and Field	Feb. 5	Oct. 15 – Nov. 15 Jan. 15 – Feb. 15

**TEST RESTRICTIONS** — The officiating test in a given sport may **not** be taken in successive years if that person passed the preceding year.

**SECTION C — LATE RENEWAL** — An official who failed to pay the renewal fee on time (by June 30th) may renew by paying the renewal fee plus a penalty fee of \$50.00 prior to the deadline listed below. There is only one penalty fee of \$50 when the late renewals for more than one sport are made at the same time. If the late renewals for more than one sport are made at separate times, there is a penalty fee of \$50 for each. See Official and Officiating Requirements, Section VI.

**PROCEDURE** — Renew online or send renewal notice or reasonable facsimile with the correct fee to the OHSAA on or before the deadline date below:

Official renewal period is June 1<sup>st</sup> – June 30th. After June 30<sup>th</sup> officials can renew WITH late fee prior to dates listed below.

Field Hockey, Football, Soccer, Volleyball	July 31
Basketball, Girls Gymnastics,	October 31
Ice Hockey, Swimming and Diving, Wrestling	October 31
Baseball, Softball, Track and Field	January 31

Missing all renewal dates will result in an automatic lapse of the officiating permit. (inactive status)

## VII. CLASSIFICATION OF OFFICIALS

### A. CLASS DESIGNATIONS

Class 1 — Eligible to officiate all levels. Required for OHSAA post-season tournaments.

Class 2 — Eligible to officiate all levels of contests **except varsity high school** in football, basketball and Referee position in volleyball.

Class 3 — Restricted to 7-8-9th grade and non-interscholastic officiating.

### B. SPORTS FOR WHICH OFFICIATING PERMITS MAY BE ISSUED

1. FALL:	Field Hockey	Class 1
	Football	Class 1, 2, 3
	Soccer	Class 1, 2, 3
	Volleyball	Class 1, 2, 3
2. WINTER:	Basketball	Class 1, 2, 3
	Girls Gymnastics	Class 1, 2
	Ice Hockey	Class 1
	Swimming and Diving	Class 1, 3
	Wrestling	Class 1, 2, 3
3. SPRING:	Baseball	Class 1, 2, 3
	Softball	Class 1, 2, 3
	Track and Field	Class 1, 3

**OFFICIATING CLASSIFICATION** upon successful completion of the requirements:

- a) No previous experience in the sport —
  - CLASS 3:** All sports when applicant is less than 18 years of age and a high school student.  
(Applicable only to officiating class applicants)
  - CLASS 2:** Baseball, softball, basketball, football, soccer, volleyball, wrestling
  - CLASS 1:** Field hockey, ice hockey, swimming and diving, track and field
- b) Suspended officials — Same classification that was held at time of suspension

**C. PROCEDURE TO CHANGE CLASSIFICATION**

- 1. **Class 2 Permit to Class 1** — All sports except Girls Gymnastics.
  - 1.1 **Contact local officials' association secretary a minimum of three weeks prior to the testing dates** to obtain an application form and instructions regarding the “upgrade” procedure. See 2.3 below.
  - 1.2 The applicant shall complete the application form and return to the local association secretary.
  - 1.3 Each applicant must take an online rules examination and an online mechanics examination.  
**Passing score is 80% on each examination.**
  - 1.4 The observation of the applicant will be conducted according to local association standards and procedures.
  - 1.5 Local association recommendation required.
  - 1.6 Completed applications for all sports must be sent to the OHSAA office.
  - 1.7 The promotion from one Class to another Class becomes effective on August 1 of the succeeding year provided the official renews his/her Officiating Permit.
- 2. **Minimum Eligibility Requirements**
  - 2.1 The Class 2 and Class 1 official must be 18 years old and out of high school.
  - 2.2 Must receive a minimum of two favorable observation reports from Class 1 officials or inactive Class 1 officials, who have observed the official's work during athletic contests.  
**NOTE:** Observation of an official is acceptable when the observing official is officiating with the Class 2 official.
  - 2.3 Must take the online rules and mechanics examinations within the following timeline:

Football, Volleyball, Soccer	November 1-15
Basketball, Wrestling	March 1-15
Baseball, Softball	April 20-May 5
- 3. **Class 2 Permit to Class 1 — GIRLS GYMNASTICS ONLY**
  - 3.1 Applying for Level 9 Test with USAG Test Administrator.
  - 3.2 Send OHSAA application, application fee and copy of new rating card to OHSAA.
- 4. **Class 1 or 2 Permit to Inactive** — During school year for reasons such as employment, medical, family or other hardship.
  - 4.1 Application must be made two weeks prior to the opening date of the sports season (**first date for interscholastic contests**). The application includes:
    - a. Written agreement that official will not work any interscholastic contests during current school year.
    - b. Written acknowledgment that failure to abide by the terms of this agreement requires a suspension of officiating privileges for all sports for a period of one to five years as determined by the OHSAA Commissioner.
    - c. The Local Association Secretary must certify that to the best of his or her knowledge the official is not officiating any interscholastic contests.
  - 4.2 The official will make sure the Local Secretary has all documents to file with OHSAA.
- 5. **Class 3 to Class 2** – Once the official graduates from High School
  - 5.1 An application must be filled out by the official and sent to the OHSAA Officiating Dept.  
The application can be found at this link: <http://www.ohsaa.org/officials/forms/upgrade.PDF>

## VIII. OFFICIAL AND OFFICIATING REQUIREMENTS

### A. GENERAL - Each Official is responsible for maintaining accurate information in his/her personal profile on myOHSAA.

#### 1. Local Officials Associations and Officials

Officials are encouraged to become members of a local officials association. Officials who are not members of any local officials association shall pay \$10 to the secretary of the local association at the local rules discussion meetings attended. Each secretary will record the attendance of all officials that attend a meeting. An official who is a member of a local officials association is not required to pay a non-member fee in order to receive attendance credit.

#### 2. Officials in Military Service

An official called into active duty military service may withdraw his/her officiating permit from an active status by notifying the OHSAA office. The official is excused from attending OHSAA meetings and completing the review examination during this time and is not required to pay registration fees, but is ineligible to officiate in Ohio during this period of time. Upon returning from active military service, notify the OHSAA WITHIN 30 DAYS. Upon receipt of a copy of separation orders/sufficient proof of date of separation from active military service and officiating permit fee, the official's OHSAA officiating permit will be reinstated. Attendance at local association rules discussion meetings is again required. It may be necessary to again pass the qualification examination(s) if the official fails to become actively reinstated **within 30 days** of date of separation from active military service.

#### 3. Payment of Officiating Permit Fees:

3.1 Renewal of officiating permit fees for all officials are due for payment to the OHSAA office during the period **June 1 – June 30. Only officials residing in Ohio or a contiguous state are eligible to obtain or renew an OHSAA officiating permit.**

#### Section I – Fees

##### Officiating Renewal Fees

	Renew On-line	Renew by Mail
1 <sup>st</sup> Sport	\$50	\$55
Each Additional	22	27
After June 30 <sup>th</sup> Late Fee is \$50 per transaction		

3.2 **RENEWAL NOTICES** are sent via email from the OHSAA to the email address on file for each official eligible to renew. Officials with no email address will receive a post card via USPS reminding them to renew.

**THE OHSAA IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR NON-DELIVERY OF SUCH NOTICES. FAILURE TO RECEIVE A RENEWAL NOTICE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AS A LEGITIMATE REASON FOR FAILURE TO PAY RENEWAL FEES ON TIME!**

#### 4. Attendance Requirements:

4.1 **Local Rules Meetings.** An OHSAA Class 1, 2 or 3 official must attend the required local rules meetings conducted by a local association. An official cannot be credited for two meetings on the same day. Officials may receive credit for attendance at local rules meetings in other states. It is the responsibility of the official to provide proof of attendance at such meetings. Proof of attendance must be forwarded to the local secretary of the association where the official is a member. The OHSAA Officiating Administrator may allow meeting attendance credit for special events.

**Exception:** An official who successfully completes an OHSAA approved officiating class during the **current** school year is not required to attend local rules meetings **during that school year.**

4.2 **State Rules Meetings.** An official registered with the OHSAA is required to attend the OHSAA State Rules Interpretation Meeting in the sport in which registered, or an OHSAA online meeting. **State Rules Interpretation Meetings from other states are not acceptable.** In order to receive credit for attendance, the official must be present **within 10 minutes** of the start of the meeting and must stay until the conclusion of the meeting. The

cost of any make-up meeting is \$50. Make up meetings must be completed as directed by the OHSAA Commissioners Office.

- 4.3 An official who passed an OHSAA officiating class or the State Rules **Examination**, in a given sport for the current year school year is **not** required to attend an OHSAA State Rules Interpretation Meeting in that sport during that same year.

**NOTE: This exception does not apply to the examination required as a part of advancement requirements from Class 2 to Class 1.**

- 4.5 Officials may review their attendance record online at [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) . Select the myOHSAA icon. Attendance Records can be found on the officials profile page.

#### **5. Required Reports:**

Officials shall file a written report with the school and the OHSAA office whenever a coach or player is ejected from an athletic contest. Use the "Official's Report" form. The Official's Report form is located on [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) . The report shall be filed with the reported school and the OHSAA **within two business days** of the ejection. Whenever an ejection occurs, the ejecting official shall speak with the offender's principal/athletic director no later than the **first school** day following the ejection. An Official failing to follow the ejection protocol and/or failing to file the Official's Report may be penalized in accordance with Section 7. The "Official's Report" form may also be used to report good or poor sportsmanship, severe injuries, facility problems, or equipment problems. Please use only one form per school. Each offending school will need its own copy. **It is the official's responsibility to send the forms to the reported school.** Please write legibly and include the ejected person's first and last names. Make sure that the form is complete at the bottom with the date and name of the **administrator** that you spoke with at the school.

#### **6. Failure to fulfill local and/or state meeting requirements:**

- 6.1 The official who does not meet minimum meeting attendance requirements will be suspended and the official is ineligible to renew the officiating permit without retesting.
- 6.2 The official will be sent a Notice of Suspension and how he/she may appeal.
- 6.3 Failure of the official to file an appeal by the date stated in the suspension notice will result in the forfeiture of the right of an official to appeal.
- 6.4 Failure to meet the minimum meeting attendance requirements causes the official to be ineligible for tournament assignments in the current season and the following season.

#### **7. Breach of regulations/agreements/ethics and penalties:**

##### **7.1 Nonpayment of Officiating Permit Fees/Bad Check Policy.**

When an official fails to pay the permit fee by June 30, a late fee will also apply. Officials who pay late may not be considered for tournament selection. When the permit fee and late fee are not received on or before the late payment deadline, the official must apply the following school year. A bad check fee of \$30 will apply for all returned checks. Once notified, the official has 10 business days to provide payment in full. Failure to pay any/all officiating dues and the bad check charges within that period of time can lead to the official's suspension. No reinstatement will occur until all past dues and bad check fees have been paid. Officials with a bad check history (three bad checks in a four year period) will not be permitted to reinstate until a hearing is held to determine the terms of reinstatement, if reinstatement is possible. Individuals who fail to satisfy their financial obligations may face possible prosecution.

##### **7.2 Failure to Fulfill Game Contract.**

###### **Regular Season**

When an official fails to fulfill a regular season game contract the offended home school's administrator or certified assigner may require that official to pay the contract amount to the offended school or league. If the official does not comply with the directions of the administrator or assigner, the OHSAA shall be notified where upon the official's permit may be suspended. An official suspended for failure to comply with the above directions will not be reinstated until the fee is paid. A game contract is not assignable to any other party without the express written consent of both parties (official and assigning agent). When either of the contracting parties fails to fulfill/honor a game contract and the act is found to be willful (example: changing a contract date

or time; officiating another game - college or high school), the offending party shall pay the other the contract amount. The OHSAA may impose an additional penalty not to exceed \$200 per occurrence.

### **Tournaments**

When an official fails to fulfill a sectional/district tournament contract obligation the District Athletic Board may require that official to pay the contract amount. The District Athletic Board is authorized to void future contracts in the sectional/district tournaments when it is considered to be in the best interest of the OHSAA sectional/district tournaments. Contracts voided through mutual consent are not "actionable".

The OHSAA Assistant Commissioner may require payment of the contract fee of an official who fails to honor a regional or state tournament contract. The Commissioner may void tournament contracts, at any level of an OHSAA tournament, when it is considered in the best interest of the OHSAA.

### **7.3 Unsatisfactory Officiating**

The OHSAA will investigate reports of unsatisfactory officiating when such reports are submitted by a school administrator, OHSAA board member or staff. The OHSAA official's administrator may request information from such parties deemed appropriate. The OHSAA official's administrator may direct the Assigner who assigned the official in question to respond to the complaint and the OHSAA. A trained observer/evaluator may be assigned to report on the official's performance. When an official is found to have officiating deficiencies, the official's administrator may request a local association to provide remedial work, or change the official's classification or suspend the official's permit.

### **7.4 Officiating Without a Proper Permit**

An individual who officiates an interscholastic contest without a permit where the OHSAA requires a permit will be fined up to \$200 per occurrence. That person will not be granted an official's permit until the fine is paid. An official who officiates an interscholastic contest when not qualified by permit classification to do so may be fined a maximum of \$200 per contest and placed on probation for one year. Multiple offenses may require an official's suspension.

**Note 1:** Contracts shall be issued to officials who have the proper permit. Contracts shall be signed by officials with the proper permit.

**Note 2:** School Administrators or Assigners may be fined up to \$200 per occurrence for hiring officials without the proper permit.

### **7.5 Criminal Convictions**

**1. New License Application or Renewal.** An Officiating Permit will not be issued or renewed for anyone:

- a. convicted, or adjudicated with a finding of fault, guilt or violation, in regard to an offense involving a minor any sexual offense unless/until such offense has been reversed by proper authority with jurisdiction over the matter; or,
- b. convicted, or adjudicated with a finding of fault, guilt or violation, in regard to an offense involving any illegal/illicit drug or controlled substance as prescribed by federal or state law or regulation, prior to five (5) years following the completion of any sentence/parole/probation period imposed for the offense; or,
- c. currently serving a sentence or a parole/probation period for any offense or adjudication of guilt imposed by any court, judge or administrative body, other than simple traffic violations.

#### **2. Currently Licensed Officials**

- a. When a current OHSAA official is indicted or charged with any criminal offense or charged with a violation of any statute pertaining to minors, drugs or a controlled substance, such license will automatically be suspended, pending resolution of the indictment or charge. Conviction or adjudication of fault, guilt or a violation under any such indictment or charge shall result in immediate and automatic forfeiture of the officiating permit.
- b. Current OHSAA sports officials must inform the OHSAA of any such indictment or charge immediately upon receipt of or upon having knowledge of such indictment or charge. Failure to notify the OHSAA shall itself be a basis for immediate and automatic

forfeiture of the officiating license.

3. **Reinstatement/Reapplication of License.** An official whose permit has been forfeited, suspended or revoked or an applicant who is denied a permit, under the provisions of this policy, may petition for reinstatement/reapplication based on the following:
  - a. If suspension, revocation or forfeiture of a permit is based upon conviction, adjudication or finding as a result of a felony: the official/applicant may petition for a permit one year after the completion of the parole/probation period; other than conviction of illegal illicit drugs, controlled substance where a 5 year probation period is used, or immediately upon dismissal or reversal of the charge or conviction (provided the offense was NOT involving a minor or a sexual offense).
  - b. If suspension, revocation, forfeiture or denial results from a misdemeanor or other non-felony charge: the official/applicant may petition for a permit immediately upon the completion of the parole/probation period (provided the offense was NOT involving a minor or a sexual offense).
  - c. If suspension, revocation, forfeiture or denial of a permit is based upon any conviction, adjudication or finding involving a minor or sexual offense, reinstatement/reapplication will not be permitted, unless/until such offense has been reversed by proper authority having jurisdiction over the matter.

#### 7.6 Unethical Conduct

Unethical conduct covers a multitude of indiscretions: Failure to accurately complete an Officials Report and submit it in a timely manner; failure to wear the approved uniform; chronic tardiness to games; disruptive behavior during meetings; officiating a contest where there is a conflict of interest; inappropriate dress arriving at or departing from a contest site; use of tobacco at a game site (locker room, field, boiler room, etc.); consuming alcohol on game day prior to a game; disrespectfully addressing fans, players, coaches, administrators, officials; failure to cooperate with OHSAA personnel; illegal gambling; gambling on high school events; campaigning for tournament assignments; and lack of preparation are some examples of unethical conduct. Certainly this listing is not intended to be all-inclusive. Conduct determined to be unethical may be penalized. Penalties include, but are not be limited to, letters of reprimand, public censure, single or multiple contest suspensions, monetary fines up to \$200 per incident and suspension as an OHSAA official. **Note:** Individual officials and officiating crews that communicate with coaches and/or administrators in order to solicit tournament votes will become immediately ineligible for tournament officiating.

#### 7.7 Tournament Officials Agreement

Officials selected to officiate OHSAA postseason contests are expected to be a “cut above.” When an official accepts a tournament assignment he/she agrees to be eligible in all respects. In addition the official agrees that he/she will NOT officiate another contest on the same day as the tournament game without the express consent of the District Athletic Board representative (sectional and district contests) or the OHSAA official’s administrator (regional and state contests).

**Note 1:** Officials may request a waiver of the required minimum number of regular season games due to illness or injury or active military service. Send your written waiver request and supporting documents to the OHSAA Officiating Department.

**Note 2:** The OHSAA recommends that a coach shall not serve as a tournament official in the same sport in which he/she coaches. If it is necessary to utilize said coach as a tournament official, then the coach shall be assigned to a division other than the division in which he/she coaches. (Golf and tennis are excluded)

- 7.8 Each OHSAA sports official agrees that he/she is an independent contractor and that contests under his/her supervision will be administered in an unbiased and non-prejudicial manner and contests will be officiated with adopted mechanics in accordance with NFHS and OHSAA rules and interpretations. In addition, the official agrees that the OHSAA possesses the authority and responsibility to uphold its constitution, bylaws and regulations.

7.9 The following tournament officials fee schedule applies:

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Per Unit</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Regional</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Sectional</b>
Basketball		Game	\$180.00	\$135.00	\$100.00	\$70.00
Football		Game	\$180.00	\$135.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Soccer		Game	\$135.00	\$100.00	\$70.00	\$55.00
Baseball		Game	\$135.00	\$100.00	\$70.00	\$55.00
Softball		Game	\$135.00	\$100.00	\$70.00	\$55.00
Volleyball	R/U	Match	\$100.00	\$70.00	\$55.00	\$45.00
Volleyball	LJ	Match	\$55.00	\$45.00	\$35.00	\$25.00
Wrestling		Tournament	\$575.00	\$0.00	\$315.00	\$245.00
Wrestling		Friday only session	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$55.00
Wrestling		Saturday only session	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$190.00
Field Hockey		Game	\$135.00	\$70.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ice Hockey		Game	\$135.00	\$70.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cross Country		State - Day; Regional & District - Race	\$180.00	\$25.00	\$20.00	\$0.00
Track	Referee	Day	\$180.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
Track	Starter/Clerk/Head	Day	\$160.00	\$80.00	\$80.00	\$0.00
Track	Others	Day	\$135.00	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$0.00
Gymnastics	Referee	State - Day; District & Sectional - Session	\$180.00	\$0.00	\$135.00	\$100.00
Gymnastics	Chief Judge	State - Day; District & Sectional - Session	\$160.00	\$0.00	\$115.00	\$90.00
Gymnastics	Judge	State - Day; District & Sectional - Session	\$135.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$70.00

Swimming	Referee	State - Day; District & Sectional - Session	\$225.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$70.00
Swimming	Starter	State - Day; District & Sectional - Session	\$205.00	\$0.00	\$90.00	\$65.00
Swimming	Others	State - Day; District & Sectional - Session	\$170.00	\$0.00	\$70.00	\$55.00
Diving	Referee	Panel	\$70.00	\$0.00	\$70.00	\$70.00
Diving	Judge	Panel	\$55.00	\$0.00	\$55.00	\$55.00
Golf		Day	\$135.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tennis	Head	Day	\$180.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tennis	Others	Day	\$135.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bowling			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

**Comments**

The formula for official's payment when working tournament contests shall be fee plus travel payment (if any). After the index is applied to the base fee, amounts will be rounded to the nearest \$5.00.

At state championship level any tournament official will receive one travel payment. At all other tournaments levels, officials will receive the travel for each day of an assignment.

In Tournaments in which both licensed and unlicensed officials are used, the unlicensed officials will be paid 75% of the established fee plus the regular travel payment.

Stand by officials will be paid \$35.00 per game plus regular travel payment.

Coaches representatives to the Games Committee will receive the regular travel payment for the State

**Tournament only.**

Officials shall receive a travel payment of \$1.00 per mile one way, beginning at mile 51 from the official's headquarters location (e.g. if a tournament site is 65 miles from the official's headquarters address, the officials would receive a \$15.00 travel payment).

Officials shall not receive mileage expense reimbursement and no miscellaneous allowance for tournament contests.

All payments made to officials for tournament officiating will be treated as income for the purpose of IRS reporting.

If an official is notified of a cancellation, or rescheduling, prior to departure the official will not receive any compensation. If an official is notified en route, the officials will receive the travel payment, but no game fee. In cases the payment will be a minimum of \$20.00. If after arriving, the tournament contest is either not started or is interrupted due to weather or reason beyond control and not completed on the day scheduled, the official will receive full payment.

The distance from an official's headquarters shall be measured by tournament managers as the distance found by entering the starting point and ending point on Mapquest or other similar Internet mapping program.

In extraordinary cases, due to weather or other unanticipated occurrences, the District Athletic Boards (Sectional & District) or State Office (Regional or State) may approve payments to officials to compensate them for expenses.

## **8. Tournament Officials Selection Information**

8.1 The selection of tournament officials in the sports of cross country, track and field and girls gymnastics is conducted through an application process. All officials with four or more years of experience may apply for a tournament officiating position. The selections will be finalized by one or more individuals including an OHSAA staff member.

8.2 For the sports of soccer, volleyball, football, basketball, swimming and diving, wrestling, ice hockey, baseball and softball tournament officials selection will be based on information from head coaches, athletic administrators, assigners, local officials associations, District Athletic Board members and OHSAA staff. Ratings will be provided by head coaches and OHSAA staff; AD's, Assigners, DAB's members may each provide the OHSAA with a list of their top 15 list. Local associations with more than 125 members can provide a list of 30 tournament officials. Coach's ratings will be averaged and used as a multiplier on the accumulative points of the other five categories. The results will be used to rank - State, Regional, District/Sectional. Each pool will consist of more officials than necessary for that level of tournament. The selections for State and Regional tournaments will be finalized by one or more individuals including state interpreter(s) Director of Officiating Development and an OHSAA staff member. The selections for District/Sectional tournaments will be finalized by/through the District Athletic Boards.

8.3 Certified Assigners are not eligible to officiate regional and state tournament contests.

## **9. OHSAA Action Concerning Officials**

The OHSAA Board of Directors, District Athletic Boards and Administrative Staff possess the authority and responsibility to uphold the OHSAA constitution, bylaws and regulations. When officials' behavior's or officiating conduct requires OHSAA attention the appropriate board of staff member may immediately rule/act on the situation. When appropriate an investigation may be conducted prior to any ruling or action.

## **10. Appeals**

Appeals exist for officials who have been affected by adverse rulings.

### **10.1 Failure to attend Local or State Rules Meetings**

- a. Notice of suspension and right of appeal
- b. Official sends a written request for appeal to the OHSAA by date specified in suspension letter.
- c. The OHSAA Review Committee will review the appellants' information. Examples for consideration may include work schedule, personal or family illness or catastrophe, residential move and military duty.
- d. The OHSAA Review Committee will render a timely decision and notify the official in writing.
- e. The decision of the OHSAA Review Committee is final.

### **10.2 Decision or Ruling by Local Officials Association**

When a local officials association renders a decision, whether by an officer or the executive committee or the grievance committee, an official may appeal as follows:

- a. Written appeal to the OHSAA Assistant Commissioner responsible for the officials program.
- b. The Assistant Commissioner will render a timely decision which may uphold, set aside or alter in any manner the action of the local association.

### **10.3 Decision or Ruling by an OHSAA Administrator**

When an OHSAA Administrator renders a decision or ruling an official may appeal as follows:

- a. Written appeal to the OHSAA Commissioner within 10 days of notification of the Administrative Ruling.
- b. Written appeal to the Board of Directors when the decision or ruling is by the OHSAA Commissioner.
- c. The ruling by the Board of Directors is final.

## X. STATE RULES INTERPRETERS

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## **XI. INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR OHSAA REGISTERED OFFICIALS**

This is only a general reference to what coverage(s) the insurance policy provides, and is not intended to attempt to describe all of the various details pertaining to the policy. Actual coverages are detailed in the policy of insurance and are always subject to all terms, provisions, conditions, and exclusions as contained therein.

**Effective July 1, 2010, American Specialty will be the sole provider of insurance for OHSAA registered officials. Through the American Specialty program, general liability, accident medical and accidental death and dismemberment insurance is provided as described below.**

**All coverage will exclude claims for officiating at the professional level.**

The officials insurance program offers several types of insurance designed specifically for OHSAA officials. Coverages include General Liability and Participant Accident. Eligibility & Policy Period (all coverage). In order for coverage to apply, the individual must be a registered official with the OHSAA. Membership will be verified with the OHSAA before any claim is paid. Coverage for each official will begin the later of **July 1, 2010** or the date the official registers with the OHSAA, and will expire on **August 1, 2011**.

### **General Liability**

Policy will provide \$1 million per occurrence, subject to a policy aggregate of \$2 million per official. Participant Legal Liability is included within the limits of coverage.

### **Participant Accident Benefits**

**Accident Medical:** Coverage is provided up to a limit of \$50,000, with a \$250 deductible. Coverage is excess of any other valid and collectible insurance the official may have in force.

**Accidental Death & Dismemberment:** Policy provides a \$7,500 limit for accidental death and dismemberment, including limited coverage for heart and circulatory disorders.

### **Covered Activities** (\* all coverages)

This insurance coverage shall apply only while the member is engaging in officiating activities during regularly scheduled activities or sports competition. That sport/activity must be recognized in that state by the member state high school association or by high schools that follow the guidelines of the member state associations. If a sport is recognized for either men or women in that state, the official will be covered for officiating both men and women.

Coverage may extend to include travel directly to and from a covered activity for all participant accident benefits. **No liability coverage is provided for travel to and from a covered activity.**

Officiating activities include assigning, chain crew, and attending or operating officiating camps, clinics or meetings.

All coverage will exclude claims for officiating at the professional level.

#### Claims & Questions

Report claims to American Specialty Insurance & Risk Services, Inc. 142 N. Main Street, Roanoke, IN 46783.

For questions regarding this summary, please contact American Specialty at 800-245-2744.

## **XII. SPORT SPECIFIC REGULATIONS AND LOCAL OFFICIALS ASSOCIATIONS**

### **1. BASEBALL**

#### 1.1 Regular Season Officials Requirements

1.11 High School Varsity — Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 or Class 2 Baseball umpire required. Regardless of number, all must be Class 1 or Class 2.

1.12 High School Reserve/Junior Varsity — Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 or Class 2 umpire required. Regardless of number, all must be Class 1 or Class 2.

1.13 Freshman/7-8th grade — Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1, 2 or 3 required. Regardless of number all must be Class 1, 2, 3 or an umpire in training.

#### 1.2 Tournament Officials Requirements

1.21 Tournament level to which applicable — Sectional, District, Regional, State.

##### 1.22 Minimum Requirements

1.221 Must hold an OHSAA Class 1 Permit in baseball.

1.222 Must have been an OHSAA Class 1 umpire in good standing the previous year.

1.223 Must have attended an OHSAA-conducted rules interpretation meeting.

1.224 Must attend a minimum of four local rules discussion meetings.

1.225 Must have umpired a minimum of eight regular season varsity high school boys baseball games during the preceding Ohio season and must umpire or contracted to umpire eight regular season varsity high school boys baseball games during the current season to be eligible for tournament assignment.

1.226 The Commissioner may assign an umpire to officiate more than one regional or state tournament game when there is a specific need.

1.227 Must be physically fit and have an athletic appearance.

1.228 An official may not officiate in both the boys Regional/State Baseball and girls Regional/ State Softball Tournaments in the same year. Baseball umpires are ineligible to officiate the State Baseball Semis and Finals in successive years.

#### 1.3 Required Uniform

1.3 Required Uniform for interscholastic baseball (Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman, and Junior High).

1.3.1 Gray Pants (Either Heather Gray or Charcoal Gray).

1.3.2 MLU navy shirt with the OHSAA embroidered logo (New logo mandatory beginning August 1, 2012) on the right breast. It is not permissible to wear a long sleeve garment under the short sleeve shirt.

1.3.3 Undershirts or t-shirts shall be red.

1.3.4 When needed, a navy blue jacket or coat shall be worn.

1.3.5 Predominately black plate or base shoes with black laces.

1.3.6 Black leather belt 1 ½ to 2 inches wide with plain buckle.

1.3.7 Navy cap with OHSAA printed in block letters on the crown.

1.3.8 Shirts and caps with OHSAA logo shall be purchased from only OHSAA authorized dealers.

- 1.3.9 Dark Blue or Gray ball bags when the Plate Umpire.
- 1.3.10 Any other emblems or patches (American Flag?) are not permitted on the officiating uniform.
- 1.3.11 Jewelry may not be worn except wedding band, medical ID, or religious medal.
- 1.3.12 All umpires on a crew must be dressed alike.
- 1.3.13 The plate umpire shall wear all protective equipment as specified by rule.

## **2. BASKETBALL**

### **2.1 Regular Season Officials Requirements**

- 2.11 High School Varsity — Class 1 OHSAA Basketball Only.
- 2.12 High School Reserve/Junior Varsity — Class 1 or Class 2 OHSAA Basketball only.
- 2.13 Freshman/7-8th grade — One Class, 1, 2, or 3 official required. All other officials required to be Class 1, 2 or 3 OHSAA basketball official or official in training.

### **2.2 Tournament Officials Requirements**

- 2.21 Tournament level to which applicable — Sectional, District, Regional, State.
- 2.22 Minimum Requirements
  - 2.221 Must hold an OHSAA Class 1 Permit in basketball.
  - 2.222 Must have been an OHSAA Class 1 official in good standing the previous year.
  - 2.223 Must attend an OHSAA State-conducted rules interpretation meeting.
  - 2.224 Must attend a minimum of four local rules interpretation meetings.
  - 2.225 Boys — Must have officiated a minimum of 16 boys regular season varsity high school basketball games during the previous Ohio season and must officiate a minimum of 16 boys regular season varsity high school basketball games during the current Ohio season. Girls — Must have officiated a minimum of 16 girls regular season varsity high school basketball games during the previous Ohio season and must officiate a minimum of 16 girls regular varsity high school basketball games during the current Ohio season.

EXCEPTION #1: A Class 1 basketball official who officiates boys and girls varsity basketball meets the games eligibility requirements for both boys and girls tournaments if the official officiates a minimum of 14 regular season varsity girls games and a minimum of 14 regular season boys games in the same year.

- 2.226 An official is not eligible to officiate in both the boys and girls Regional or State Basketball Tournaments in the same year. In addition, a basketball official is ineligible to officiate a Boys State Basketball Tournament game in successive years or Girls State Basketball Tournament game in successive years.

### **2.3 Required Uniform**

Black and white vertically striped short sleeve knit shirt with v-neck collar, black slacks, black belt (if used), black socks, and black shoes. Note: A warm-up jacket may be worn for regular season, JV and Varsity games, and OHSAA required for tournament games. It shall be black and unadorned except that it shall have the OHSAA logo on the left breast. Beginning August 1, 2012 the “new” OHSAA logo is the only acceptable logo. The only legal jacket is that sold by authorized distributors. No watch or jewelry may be worn except wedding band, medical ID or religious medal. Emblems and patches are not permitted on the officiating uniform.

## **3. FIELD HOCKEY**

### **3.1 Regular Season Officials Requirements**

- 3.11 Varsity Only — Two field hockey officials required. It is recommended that one of the two be an OHSAA Class 1 official. In the event that only one official is available to officiate, the game may be played provided the participating coaches agree.

### **3.2 Tournament Officials Requirements**

- 3.21 Tournament level to which applicable — State Qualifying, State.
- 3.22 Minimum Requirements

3.221 Must be a current Class 1 field hockey official with the OHSAA in good standing.

3.222 Must attend an OHSAA-State conducted rules interpretation meeting.

3.223 Must have completed and filed a field hockey review examination.

3.224 Must officiate at least six high school varsity contests during the current season.

### 3.3 Required Uniform

3.31 A fuchsia, orange or yellow shirt shall be worn by both officials in a game. If the officials cannot match their colors or the colors do not contrast with the teams colors a black and white 1 inch vertical stripe shirt may be worn.

3.32 Black skirt, culottes, slacks or shorts

3.33 Black shoes

No jewelry or watch may be worn except wedding band, medical ID or religious medal. Emblems and patches are not permitted on the officiating uniform.

## 4. FOOTBALL

### 4.1 Regular Season Officials Requirements

4.11 High School Varsity — Class 1 OHSAA football only.

4.12 High School Reserve/Junior Varsity — Class 1 or Class 2 OHSAA football only.

4.13 Freshman/7-8th grade — One OHSAA Class 1, 2, or 3 official is required. All additional officials shall be OHSAA Class 1, 2 or 3 officials or officials in training.

### 4.2 Tournament Officials Requirements

4.21 Tournament level to which applicable — Regional, State.

#### 4.22 Minimum Requirements

4.221 Must have been an OHSAA Class 1 football official in good standing the previous year. Must be a Class 1 official during the current sports year.

4.222 Must officiate a minimum of 8 high school varsity football games during the current Ohio season.

4.223 Must have officiated a minimum of 8 high school varsity football games during the previous Ohio season.

4.224 Must attend or go online for 1 OHSAA State Football Rules interpretation meeting.

4.225 Must attend a minimum of 4 local rules discussion meetings.

4.226 Must officiate during the current football season a minimum of 8 varsity high school games at the position for which applying.

4.227 Must complete an application certifying the above requirements and return the completed application to the OHSAA.

4.228 An official is ineligible to work a Championship Football game in successive years.

4.229 Must be physically fit; possess an athletic appearance; and able to read/react and flow with the play.

4.230 Must use all OHSAA Approved Standards for FB Officiating Mechanics.

4.231 Must arrive at the game site 1.5 hours before game time and dressed in a professional manner (no blue jeans, no baseball hat, and no t-shirts).

### 4.3 Required Uniform

4.31 Black and white vertically striped, long or short-sleeved knit shirt. The shirts shall have one-inch stripes, a black knit cuff and Byron collar. All officials in a given game shall wear the same type shirt.

4.32 Standard, all white tapered knickers worn with a short overlap below the knee (not more than four inches). The alternate black pants with white stripes may be worn when long sleeve shirts only are worn. For non-varsity games, white or black shorts may be worn. (Effective 2011) Season: Black Shorts will be required) The entire crew should be dressed alike.

4.33 One-piece northwestern stripe stocking. For non-varsity game, white crew socks may be worn (Effective 2011 Season: White ankle socks will be required only).

- 4.34 Solid black football shoes with black laces.
- 4.35 Black baseball cap with white piping, except the Referee who shall wear a white cap.
- 4.36 Black leather belt 1 1/2 to 2 inches wide with plain buckle.
- 4.37 Black and white vertically striped jacket when worn during the game.
- 4.38 Blue or white bean bag (Effective 2011 Season: Blue bean bag will be required).  
The uniforms should fit properly and be clean and neat. Shoes should be shined before each game. No jewelry may be worn except wedding band, medical ID or religious medal and a watch. Emblems and patches are not permitted on the officiating uniform.

## 5. GYMNASTICS

### 5.1 Regular Season Officials Requirements

- 5.11 High School Varsity — Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 judge required. It is strongly recommended that two OHSAA Class 1 judges officiate each meet. Class 2 judges may be utilized, but it is highly recommended that a Class 2 official judge with a Class 1 official.
- 5.12 High School Reserve/Junior Varsity — Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 or Class 2 judge recommended.
- 5.13 Freshman/7-8th grade — OHSAA Class 1 or Class 2 or non-registered level 8 JCI or higher recommended.

### 5.2 Tournament Officials Requirements

- 5.21 Tournament level to which applicable — District, State.
- 5.22 Minimum Requirements
  - 5.221 District — Must be Class 1 or Class 2 on panel under guidance of Class 1.
  - 5.222 State — Must be an OHSAA Class 1 girls gymnastics judge.
  - 5.223 Must complete and pass a yearly rules review examination.
  - 5.224 Must complete and return an application listing experience and judging reference.
  - 5.225 Must have officiating experience in position for which application is made.
  - 5.226 Must not be actively coaching girls gymnastics as a head coach at the high school level.
  - 5.227 Must have attended a state-conducted rules interpretation meeting in girls gymnastics.

### 5.3 Required Uniform

The officiating uniform for girls gymnastics officials is the official OHSAA red sweater with a white shirt and blue or black dress pants. This uniform is mandatory in all regular season competitions. Note: The Official NAWGJ Judges Uniform will be worn for invitationals and tournaments.

### 5.4 Assigning Procedures

- 5.41 Any individual acting as an OHSAA Assigner or as a volunteer limited assigner (possibly by a NAWGJ representative assigner for a group of high schools or a league) who schedules judges in an areas to aid selection by athletic administrators, schools and leagues in girls gymnastics **shall follow the outlined assignment procedures:**
  - 5.41.1 Will notify all rated area officials of the schools' schedules to obtain availability for these dates. An assigning meeting may be held, but notification must also be sent to those unable to attend.
  - 5.421.2 Will assign FIRST any available OHSAA Registered Class 1 and Class 2 officials as per regulations.
  - 5.421.3 Will assign additional officials when the number of contests on any given day/night exceeds the number of available registered OHSAA Officials in the following order: Officials holding a current USAG rating of level 9 or above or secondly the same with level 7/8. Communication and cooperation with NAWGJ Assigners will be necessary for confirmation of eligible officials who have any of these ratings.
  - 5.421.4 Assignment of any non-rated officials shall only be made when it is determined

that all registered and properly rated officials have been scheduled and none is available. Permission must be obtained from OHSAA Associate Commissioner Deborah Moore. A non-rated official may not judge an event alone (as one single judge) and would have to be placed with a Class 1 judge. This may be accomplished at one time when all assignments are being made or may be on a case basis when the need arises. There may be times that a school may be asked if they can reschedule a competition to allow officials meeting requirements to be present. Penalty - Officials who apply for OHSAA registration and knowingly do not meet the criteria or who are assigned and accept/officiate a contest without meeting the criteria outlined and without permission may be subject to penalty of: fine, censure and/or probation, suspension of officiating privilege.

**AFTER RECEIVING A USA GYMNASTICS RATING, REQUEST AN APPLICATION FORM FROM THE OHSAA OFFICIATING DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR AN OHSAA OFFICIATING PERMIT.**

**6. ICE HOCKEY**

6.1 Review Examinations

6.11 East and Southeast District officials must complete and return to the OHSAA an ice hockey rules review examination.

6.2 Regular Season Officials Requirements

6.21 High School Varsity — OHSAA Class 1 officials required.

6.22 High School Reserve/Junior Varsity — OHSAA Class 1 officials recommended.

6.23 Freshman/7-8th grade — OHSAA Class 1 officials recommended.

6.3 Tournament Officials Requirements

6.31 Tournament level to which applicable — District and State

6.32 Minimum Requirements

6.321 Must be a current Class 1 OHSAA Ice Hockey official in good standing the previous year. Must be a class 1 official during the current sports year.

6.322 Must attend an OHSAA State-Conducted Ice Hockey Rules Interpretation Meeting.

6.323 Officials living in the Central, Northeast, Southwest and Northwest Districts must attend a minimum of three local rules discussion meetings.

6.324 Must have officiated a minimum of 4 high school varsity ice hockey games during the current season.

6.325 Must be physically fit; possess an athletic appearance; able to skate; stay up with the play and able to read/react with the flow of the play.

6.326 Must arrive at the tournament game site 1 hour prior to the contest and dressed professional (not blue jeans, no baseball hats, and no t-shirts, etc).

6.4 Required Uniform

6.41 Black ice hockey referee pants.

6.42 Black and white alternation vertically striped ice hockey referee shirt. Arm bands required if three official system is used.

6.42 Ice hockey skates with white laces.

6.44 Black ice hockey helmet.

6.45 No jewelry or watch may be worn except wedding band, medical ID or religious medal.

6.46 No emblems or patches other than OHSAA insignia are permitted on the uniform.

6.47 Officials' names are not permitted on the shirt.

6.48 Uniforms should fit properly and be clean and neat.

**7. SOCCER**

7.1 Regular Season Officials Requirements

7.11 High School Varsity — Minimum of two OHSAA Class 1 or Class 2 officials required. Regardless of number officiating, all must be OHSAA Class 1 or Class 2 soccer officials.

- 7.12 High School Reserve/Junior Varsity — Minimum of two OHSAA Class 1 or Class 2 officials required. Regardless of number officiating, all must be OHSAA Class 1 or Class 2 soccer officials.
- 7.13 Freshman/7-8th grade — minimum of one OHSAA Class 1, 2 or 3 required. All other officials shall be OHSAA Class 1, 2 or 3 officials or officials in training.

NOTE: If only one OHSAA official is present to officiate the contest, the game may be played if opposing coaches agree.

#### 7.2 Tournament Officials Requirements

7.21 Tournament level to which applicable — Sectional, District, Regional, State.

##### 7.22 Minimum Requirements

- 7.221 Must be a current Class 1 OHSAA soccer official.
- 7.222 Must have been a Class 1 official in good standing during the previous year.
- 7.223 Must attend OHSAA State Conducted Rules Interpretation Meeting.
- 7.224 Must attend a minimum of four local rules discussion meetings.
- 7.225 Must be physically fit.
- 7.226 **BOYS** — Must officiate a minimum of 10 regular season boys varsity high school soccer games during the current Ohio season and must have officiated a minimum of 10 regular season boys soccer games during the previous Ohio season.  
**GIRLS** — Must officiate a minimum of 10 regular season girls varsity high school soccer games during the current Ohio season and must have officiated a minimum of 10 regular season girls soccer games during the previous Ohio season.

EXCEPTION #1: A Class 1 soccer official who officiates both boys and girls varsity soccer meets the games eligibility requirements for both boys and girls tournaments if the official officiates a minimum of 8 regular season varsity girls games and a minimum of 8 regular season varsity boys games in the same year.

#### 7.3 Required Uniform

The OHSAA soccer official's uniform is the gold jersey with black pinstripes or broader black stripes, either long or short sleeved. All officials are to wear the same color and sleeve length. Black shorts, black socks with three white rings and shoes are required. Officials may wear either the red jersey with black pinstripes or broader black stripes or the black jersey with white pinstripes or broader white stripes, when the head referee determines that the gold shirt does not contrast with the jerseys of either team's field players. There is no preference as to the red or black jersey as an alternate. All officials must wear the same color and sleeve length. There are no other alternate jerseys. The officials may wear a mixture of pinstripes and broader stripes and still be considered properly uniformed. The OHSAA soccer official's patch shall be worn on the left breast pocket. Jewelry may not be worn, except for a medical identification, wedding band and watch.

## 8. SOFTBALL

#### 8.1 Regular Season Officials Requirements

- 8.11 High School Varsity — Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 or Class 2 softball umpire required. Regardless of number, all must be Class 1 or Class 2.
- 8.12 High School Reserve/Junior Varsity — Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 or Class 2 softball umpire required. Regardless of number, all must be Class 1 or Class 2.
- 8.13 Freshman/7-8th grade — OHSAA Class 1, 2 or 3 required. Regardless of number, all must be Class 1, 2 or 3 umpires in training.

NOTE: If only one OHSAA official is present to officiate the contest, the game may be played if opposing coaches agree.

#### 8.2 Tournament Officials Requirements

- 8.21 Must hold an OHSAA Class 1 Permit in softball.
- 8.22 Must have been an OHSAA Class 1 umpire during the previous year.
- 8.23 Must attend an OHSAA State-conducted rules interpretation meeting.

- 8.24 Must attend a minimum of four local rules discussion meetings.
  - 8.25 Must have umpired a minimum of eight regular season varsity high school girls softball games during the previous Ohio season and must umpire four regular season varsity high school girls softball games during the current season in order to be eligible for tournament assignment.
  - 8.26 The Commissioner may assign an umpire to officiate more than one Regional or State Tournament when there is a specific need.
  - 8.27 An umpire is ineligible to officiate in the State Softball Tournament Championships in successive years. Furthermore, an umpire is ineligible to work the State Softball and State Baseball Championships in the same year.
- 8.3 Required Uniform
- 8.3 Required Uniform for interscholastic baseball (Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman, and Junior High).
- 8.3.1 Gray Pants (Either Heather Gray or Charcoal Gray).
  - 8.3.2 MLU navy shirt with the OHSAA embroidered logo (New logo mandatory beginning August 1, 2012) on the right breast. It is not permissible to wear a long sleeve garment under the short sleeve shirt.
  - 8.3.3 Undershirts or t-shirts shall be red.
  - 8.3.4 When needed, a navy blue jacket or coat shall be worn.
  - 8.3.5 Predominately black plate or base shoes with black laces.
  - 8.3.6 Black leather belt 1 ½ to 2 inches wide with plain buckle.
  - 8.3.7 Navy cap with OHSAA printed in block letters on the crown.
  - 8.3.8 Shirts and caps with OHSAA logo shall be purchased from only OHSAA authorized dealers.
  - 8.3.9 Any other emblems or patches (American Flag?) are not permitted on the officiating uniform
  - 8.3.10 Jewelry may not be worn except wedding band, medical ID, or religious medal.
  - 8.3.11 All umpires on a crew must be dressed alike.
  - 8.3.12 The plate umpire shall wear all protective equipment as specified by rule.

## 9. SWIMMING AND DIVING

- 9.1 Regular Season Officials Requirements
  - 9.11 High School Varsity — Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 official required.
  - 9.12 High School Reserve/Junior Varsity -Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 official required.
  - 9.13 Freshman/7–8th grade — minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 or 3 required.
- 9.2 Tournament Officials Requirements
  - 9.21 Tournament level to which applicable — Sectional, District, State.
  - 9.22 Minimum Requirements
    - 9.221 Must be a current OHSAA Class 1 swimming and diving official.
    - 9.222 Must have been an OHSAA Class 1 swimming and diving official during the previous year.
    - 9.223 Must attend a minimum of three local rules discussion meetings in swimming and diving.
    - 9.224 Must attend an OHSAA State-Conducted Rules Interpretation Meeting.

### 9.3 Required Uniform

The officiating uniform for swimming and diving officials shall be white shirt or blouse, dark navy blue slacks or shorts, (NO DENIM IS ALLOWED) white shoes and socks. No watch except those used in timing or jewelry except wedding band, medical ID or religious medal may be worn. Emblems and patches are not permitted on the officiating uniform except for an embroidered OHSAA logo or insignia.

## 10. TRACK AND FIELD AND CROSS COUNTRY

### 10.1 Meetings Required

10.11 Local — Must attend a minimum of four local rules discussion meetings. A maximum of two meetings held during the cross country season may be used to partially meet this requirement.

10.12 State — Must attend an OHSAA State-Conducted Rules Interpretation Meeting.

### 10.2 Regular Season Officials Requirements

10.21 High School Varsity — Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 official required who shall be the referee or the referee/starter, in dual, triangular or quadrangular meets. It is RECOMMENDED that the referee shall not be a COACH of a competing team. The referee in meets involving five or more schools must be an OHSAA Class 1 official. If there is a non-coach registered official present, the coach of a competing team may not referee.

10.22 High School Reserve/Junior Varsity — Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 official required who shall be the referee or the referee/starter, in dual, triangular or quadrangular meets. It is RECOMMENDED that the referee shall not be a COACH of a competing team. The referee in meets involving five or more schools must be an OHSAA Class 1 official. If there is a non-coach registered official present, the coach of a competing team may not referee.

10.23 Freshman/7–8th grade — minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 or 3 required.

### 10.3 Tournament Officials Requirements

10.31 Tournament level to which applicable — Regional, State.

10.32 Must have been an OHSAA Class 1 track and field official during the previous year.

10.33 Must attend a minimum of four local rules discussion meetings, and one State Conducted Rules Meeting. Two meetings in the fall are required to work the State Cross Country Meet. Four total (fall and or summer combined) are required to work the State Track Meet.

10.34 Must complete and return an application listing experience and position preference. Only outdoor varsity high school experience during the Ohio season shall be considered.

10.35 Must have officiating experience in position for which application is made.

10.36 Must have a minimum of four years experience as a registered track official.

10.37 Must not be actively coaching track and field either as head or assistant coach at the high school level.

### 10.4 Required Uniform

**NEW Beginning January 1, 2011:** Black, unadorned officiating slacks (no jogging suits or denims), white polo shirt with the OHSAA logo on the right chest (3"x3"), optional US Flag on right sleeve & on left sleeve "OHSAA Registered Track & Field Official" in black letters. When a jacket is worn it shall be black with the OHSAA logo on the right side (the local association name may be on the left side) and the US Flag may be placed on the right sleeve, 4" down from the shoulder. The black jacket will be required in 2013.

NOTE: The official OHSAA Track and Field Official's shirt must be purchased from an OHSAA authorized dealer.

## 11. VOLLEYBALL

### 11.1 Regular Season Officials Requirements

11.11 Varsity — One Class 1 official who shall be the referee is required. The umpire shall be either a Class 1 or Class 2 volleyball official.

EXCEPTION: If an emergency arises which prevents the **contracted** Class 1 official from being present, a Class 2 official may be used as the Referee provided the schools mutually agree.

In the event that only one OHSAA registered official arrives to officiate the match, the match may be played provided the participating coaches agree.

- 11.12 Reserve/Junior Varsity — Two OHSAA Class 1 or 2 volleyball officials required.
- 11.13 Freshman/7–8th grade—A minimum of one OHSAA Class 1, 2 or 3 volleyball official required. Regardless of the number, all officials shall be OHSAA Class 1, 2 or 3 or officials in training.
- 11.14 Line Judges — For varsity and reserve/junior varsity volleyball competition, all line judges shall be either well-trained adults or students not listed on the volleyball eligibility certificate for the high school.
- 11.2 Tournament Officials Requirements
  - 11.21 Tournament level to which applicable — Sectional, District, Regional, State.
  - 11.22 Minimum Requirements
    - 11.221 Must be a current OHSAA Class 1 volleyball official in good standing in order to be assigned as a Referee or Umpire.
    - 11.222 Must have been an OHSAA Class 1 volleyball official during the previous season in order to officiate as a Referee.
    - 11.223 Must attend a minimum of four local rules discussion meetings.
    - 11.224 Must attend an OHSAA State-Conducted Rules Interpretation Meeting.
    - 11.225 Must officiate a minimum of eight varsity high school matches during the current Ohio season and eight during the previous season.
    - 11.226 An official is ineligible to officiate in successive state tournaments as first referee/ second referee.

### 11.3 Required Uniform

The officiating uniform for volleyball officials is a white long- or short-sleeved knit shirt with an OHSAA embroidered logo (only OHSAA authorized shirts), black skirt or black shorts with a minimum 4" inseam, or black culottes or black slacks, black belt (if used) and black or white shoes. A white sweater is permissible. When a skirt, shorts or culottes are worn, white socks will be worn. No watch or jewelry may be worn except a timing device, wedding band, medical ID or religious medal. Emblems and patches are not permitted on the officiating uniform. Beginning August 1, 2012 the only acceptable logo is the “new OHSAA logo. For OHSAA Tournaments, the uniform shall be black slacks, white polo shirt with emblem, white shoes and white socks.

## 12. WRESTLING

- 12.1 Regular Season Officials Requirements
  - 12.11 High School Varsity -Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 or Class 2 official required.
  - 12.12 High School Reserve/Junior Varsity -Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 or Class 2 official required.
  - 12.13 Freshman/7–8th grade — Regardless of the number of officials, all officials must be OHSAA Class 1, 2 or 3 or officials in training.
- 12.2 Tournament Officials Requirements
  - 12.21 Tournament level to which applicable — Sectional, District, State.
  - 12.22 Minimum Requirements
    - 12.221 Must be a current OHSAA Class 1 wrestling official in good standing.
    - 12.222 Must attend an OHSAA State-Conducted rules interpretation meeting.
    - 12.223 Must attend a minimum of four local rules discussion meetings in wrestling.
    - 12.224 Must officiate a minimum of six varsity high school matches (contracts) during the current Ohio season and six matches during the previous season.

### 12.3 Required Uniforms

The officiating uniform for wrestling officials in OHSAA matches is the black and white vertically striped short sleeve knit shirt with Byron or v-neck collars, black full length trousers, black socks, black officiating shoes and black belt. Emblems and patches are not permitted on the officiating uniform. No jewelry may be worn except wedding band,

medical ID or religious medal. A black warm up jacket with the OWOA logo is required for all varsity officials. The V-neck shirt will be worn at the 2011 State Tournament in all OHSAA tournament officials. In 2011-12 the ONLY style shirt allowed will be that with a V-neck collar.

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