

Oct. 3, 2017.

To: OWOA Local Secretaries, Local Rules Interpreters, and OWOA / OHSAA Certified Trainers, and OWOA Board of Governor's membership.

The 2017/2018 OHSAA wrestling season is upon us. Please pass the following information on to each of your local wrestling officials' Associations (the OWOA members).

First, the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) requires all wrestling officials to attend a state wrestling rules interpretation meetings every year. **Consequently, this 2017-2018 season you are required to either attend a live, face to face, State Rules Interpretation meeting or complete the e-meeting on the OHSAA web-site.** Check the information sent to you by the OHSAA or on its website at ohsaa.org to determine what location is best for you to attend or how to satisfy this requirement on-line. If you are going to take the on-line rules meeting, you must do so by November 15 at 11:59 p.m. to do so free of charge. There is a \$50.00 late fee. The final deadline, even with the late fee for an on-line meeting is January 22, 2018. As stated below, the last live, face to face State Rules meeting will be at the OWOA Clinic on November 4th.

Next, the OWOA will be conducting its annual **OWOA State Wrestling Officials Clinic on Saturday, November 4th.** **This Clinic will again be held North of Columbus at Little Bear Golf Club at 1940 Little Bear Loop, Lewis Center, Ohio (Columbus) 43240.** **We will also be offering a last live State Rules Interpretation meeting at this Clinic.** Directions & location can be found on the OWOA web-site. Registration for the Clinic is 8:30 a.m., with the clinic running from 9:00 a.m. to approximately 2:00 p.m. Pre-registration is \$25 or \$30 at the door. For first and second year officials and those individuals attending an Association wrestling official training/permit class, the cost is only \$15.00 (to cover the cost of food and beverages). The registration fee also includes lunch. Pre-registration is appreciated since it helps greatly in knowing how much food to order. **To pre-register, e-mail either Richard Carpenter, Treasurer, at ricarpen@yahoo.com or email David Detec, Secretary, at ddetec@mnblawyers.com.** As has been the case, the Clinic will feature videos of matches with hard/difficult calls and proper mechanics and a round table session with State Interpreters Ray Anthony, Dick Loewenstine, and the OHSAA Director of Wrestling Development/OWOA Educational Director, James Vreeland, to clarify rules or any rule changes.

It is a good idea (and should be a "must") to have your local Trainers and Rules Interpreters attend this clinic, along with any official planning on officiating the Sectional, District or State tournaments. We also encourage new officials to attend because they will get the opportunity to meet and discuss wrestling with some of the top officials in the state. If you're serious about being an active wrestling official this season, this is a must clinic. Please be supportive in this instructional initiative with your attendance and participation. **Please also feel free to invite wrestling coaches in your area to attend.**

The OWOA Board of Governors meeting will be held the night before the Clinic on Friday, Nov. 3, 2017 at 7:00pm. Each association should send at least one (1) representative to this meeting. Please email your representative's name to David Detec at ddetec@mnblawyers.com. Location of this meeting will again be at the Marysville Elks. The Marysville Elks' Club is in downtown Marysville and its address is on our website.

We also want to remind you that the OWOA's web site can serve as a resource for both coaches and officials to obtain interpretations or clarifications issued by the State Interpreters, the OHSAA Director of Wrestling Development ("the DOD"), and by the OHSAA during the course of the season. We are extremely pleased to have earned the respect and confidence of the OHSAA to have our web site as its primary resource for disseminating wrestling rule interpretations to wrestling officials during the course of the season. The OWOA's web address is www.OWOA.org.

Also, make sure you inform all of your members that they must log onto the OHSAA.org web-site and fill out, by the deadline established by the OHSAA, the Post Season Tournament Eligibility Questionnaire to be eligible for the Sect., Dist., and State Tournaments. The OHSAA should be e-mailing a notice to all wrestling officials of this requirement, usually sometime in late October to mid-November. It only takes five (5) minutes or less to complete - so please do it – again, it is required to qualify for an OHSAA tournament assignment (Sectional, District and/or State Tournaments including the OHSAA Dual meet Tournaments).

Next, remember that each association is required to have a certified trainer to teach new officials who want to become wrestling officials. Jim Vreeland has done an excellent job keeping the training program up to date for each new wrestling season and has introduced new programs in his role as DOD.

Also, just a reminder, you must take a concussion course every three (3) years by Ohio State law. You need to certify the same to the OHSAA. Information as to the approved concussion courses and how to certify that you have taken one (if necessary) is on the OHSAA website.

Each Association may make recommendations for individuals for induction into the OWOA Hall of Fame. Each Association should have done so by October 1, however, if your Association wants to make a nomination, please do so immediately – no later than October 15, 2017. Please include appropriate resume. Send nominations to Dan Cutcher at cutchref@aol.com. Individuals for induction into the OWOA Hall of Fame will be discussed and confirmed at the OWOA November 3rd Board of Governors' meeting.

Also, if your Association would like to nominate someone for the Vince Matteucci Official of the Year Award, the nomination form is on the OWOA website and needs to be in by December 30th.

Finally, attached for your review is the draft minutes of the Board of Governor's meeting which was held on March 10, 2017. Please review with your Association membership. Let David Detec, Secretary of the OWOA, know if you have any suggested changes or additions by October 30.

Please try to obtain sponsors for the Clinic and let David Detec know if you obtained sponsors. Any sponsors for the Clinic that you can obtain, would be helpful.

The OWOA hopes you find the above information helpful as you head into the 2017-2018 wrestling season. Hope to see all of you at the November 4th Clinic.

Sincerely,
Nevin Taylor,
President, OWOA

David Detec
Secretary, OWOA