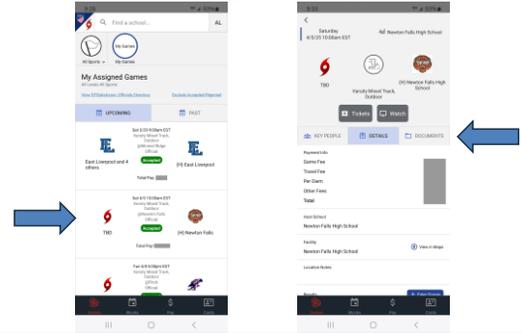


# GYTOA Local Rules Meeting

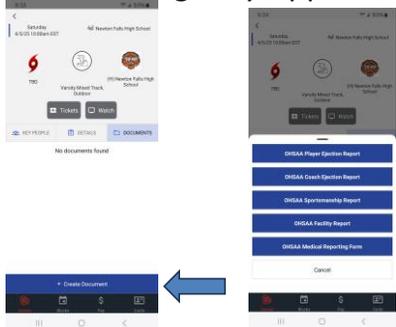
February 23, 2026

## Referee Marshal Umpires

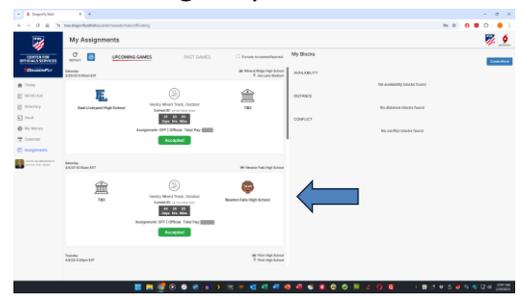
### Game Reports from the Dragonfly App



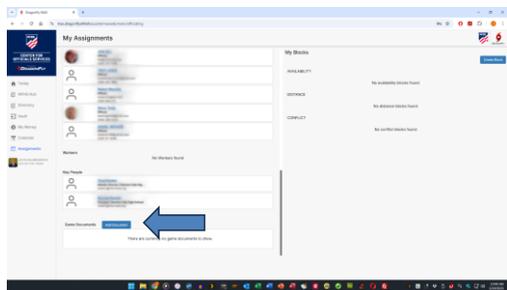
### Game Reports from the Dragonfly App



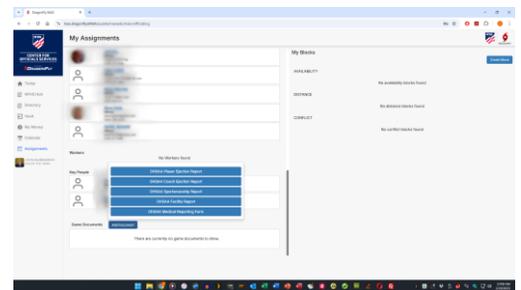
### Game Reports from the Dragonfly Web Site



### Game Reports from the Dragonfly Web Site



### Game Reports from the Dragonfly Web Site



## NFHS stuff

- Various NFHS resources can be found here:  
<https://www.nfhs.org/activities-sports/track-fieldcross-country/>
- These resources include new rules and their interpretations, and many others
- There are also links to a variety of training materials at [gytoa.com](http://gytoa.com)

## Referee

- The role of the referee is to have overall supervision and responsibility for the meet. The referee shall perform all responsibilities as outlined by the NFHS including:
- Inspect all field event venues and ensure any needed modifications take place. You will need to reference the NFHS Rule Book and OHSAA Officials Manual to ensure venues meet all competition and safety specifications.
- Ensure all officials are aware of their roles and responsibilities.
- Ensure FAT & EDM operators are aware of their responsibilities and the limits of their authority.
- Hold an effective coaches meeting prior to the start of the meet.
- Ensure all teams have completed a verification form.
- Ensure safety is the front of mind for all officials.

## Referee

- Move as needed, visiting each field event and viewing each running event from high-impact areas. The referee DOES NOT sit at the finish line or in any single area.
- Verify the order of finish as needed.
- Verify measurements/performances for all records.
- Rule on all reported infractions and document as appropriate.
- Ensure the time schedule, if used, is followed.
- Ensure appropriate rest times per the order of events are followed (i.e. 20min between 200 & 4x400).
- Ensure the starters are aware of their responsibility to count and signal laps for the appropriate races.
- Sign the results of the meet. If results are not printed, review and verbally approve the results before they are posted as final and awards are given.

## Referee

- Rule 3-4, pages 14-15; Officials Manual pages 10-12
  - Authority begins upon arrival and ends 30 minutes after last results are posted
  - Still retain clerical authority until all reports are filed (eg, DQ, unsportsmanlike conduct report)
  - Sole responsibility for determining if a rerun will occur and who will participate (Rule book guidelines – page 14-15)
  - Meet with meet management, field event judges, head finish judge, head umpire, scorer, FAT personnel, clerks
  - Be familiar with exchange zones
  - Jury of Appeals – none in Ohio – can still consult head field judge, field referee, other officials
  - Responsible for making sure laps are counted and announced to competitors correctly

## Referee

- What do you need from the host school?
  - Program, rosters, order of events, meet regulations, 2-way radio (if available) – cell phones also work well
  - Pre-meet communications to coaches
  - Restricted areas
  - Starting heights, scratch lines, spike length
  - Qualifying procedures
  - Restricted areas
  - Is there a head field judge?
  - Where are results posted? Where is the scorer?
  - How many places are being scored?
  - Athlete check-in location, scratches and substitutions

## Referee

- Pre-meet conference with coaches
  - Coaches' verification form, roster, uniforms, Inhaler or other medical forms
  - Restricted areas
  - Emphasize good sportsmanship
  - Location of field events, athlete check-in area, scratches and substitutions
    - Where can coaches find you if an issue arises?
- Notification of disqualified athlete and coach
- Sole authority for ruling on issues not covered in the rules
- Communicate with field event judges if there is no head field judge
- Declaring facilities unfit for competition, splitting of points
- Re-runs – when should it be done, who should be included – Rule 3-4-3, pages 14-15

## Referee

- Possible DQ
  - Who, what, when and where
  - Communicate to coach (and competitor) ASAP
  - **No other official should talk to coaches, athletes or spectators regarding a possible violation**
- Ejection – unsportsmanlike conduct
  - Form to fill out (online – Dragonfly)
  - Contact with school, OHSAA
- Weather situations – when to suspend, when to resume, how long can you wait out the weather?
- Will hats/gloves be allowed?

## Ejection Procedure (Track & Field and Cross Country)

- ALL ejections REQUIRE a report to be completed and filed with the OHSAA.
- Ejection Reports are completed and submitted electronically through Dragonfly.
- The official must call or email the school principal or athletic administrator no later than the next business day after the ejection unless the official has notified that administrator at the match site.
- The offending school (coach, athletic administrator or principal) must file a written report with the OHSAA anytime a coach or player is ejected from a contest, home or away.
- In the event of a coach or player ejection, he/she is ejected from ALL GAMES for the remainder of the day of the ejection PLUS all contests at all levels until two regular season/tournament contests are played at the same level of the ejection or disqualification. Ejected coaches may have additional penalties.

## Ejection Procedure (Track & Field and Cross Country)

- Ejected **COACHES** are required to LEAVE the premises immediately. If no assistant coach is present, that team must leave the meet; if no other teams are at the meet, the meet ends.
- Ejected **PLAYERS** are to remain in the BENCH AREA under the supervision of the coach.
- As of 2001 – Any player or coach ejected **for fighting** is ejected from ALL GAMES for the remainder of the day of the ejection and will be ineligible for all contests at all levels until **FOUR** regular season/tournament contests are played at the same level as the ejection or disqualification.
- **ALL EJECTIONS ARE FINAL AND NOT PERMITTED TO BE APPEALED** per the OHSAA's Board of Directors.
- Though every ejection has its own story, do not call the OHSAA office asking for an appeal of the ejection. It will not and cannot be overturned. The circumstances surrounding the ejection can and should be expressed on the "School Response Form" that will be received by the school after the ejection occurs.

## Ejection Procedure (Track & Field and Cross Country)

After an Ejection	
PLAYERS	COACHES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remain supervised in team area</li> <li>• Ineligible for all remaining play that day</li> <li>• Ineligible for next two or more contest</li> <li>• May travel to or sit with team</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LEAVES</b> the facility</li> <li>• Ineligible for all remaining play that day</li> <li>• Ineligible for next two or more contest</li> <li>• May <b>NOT</b> travel to or sit with team</li> <li>• Pays \$100 fine</li> <li>• Completes NFHS Course</li> </ul>

## Marshal

- Rule 3-12, page 20 in rule book; officials' manual page 33
- Red/white flag at finish line
- Let the starters know when the finish line is ready
- Keep competition areas free from all persons except officials, contestants, and other individuals authorized by the games committee
- Be polite but firm – know when athletes need access to jumping areas
- May help as lap counter

## Umpires

- Rule 3-11, pages 19-20; Officials' Manual – pp 26-31
- Be where ya gotta be to see what ya gotta see – positioning at exchange zones.
- Before the athletes show up
  - Get specific assignments
  - Confer with referee
  - Get familiar with exchange zones (Rules 5-10-7, 5-10-9)
- Specific rules to apply
  - Rules 5-9, 5-10, 5-11, 5-12, 5-13, 5-14
  - Uniform rules – OHSAA manual pages 20 – 22
- **You should not engage with coaches, athletes or spectators about possible violations!**

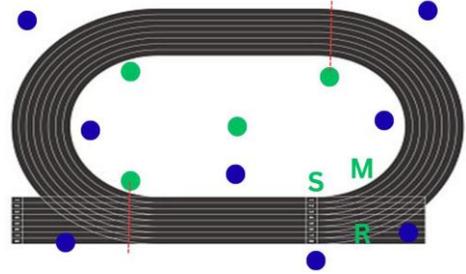
### General Umpiring Notes For All Running Events

- When a limited number of umpires are available, the green circles indicate the most important positions, and the starter(s) should be used as indicated by the green "S".
- At times the referee will need to serve as an umpire to ensure track coverage.
- The use of flags is **required**, officials **MUST** signal with a flag each time runners pass their position.
- Umpires **MUST** be standing during the entire race. They may sit between races but must be in position, standing by "on you marks" and must remain standing until the final athlete finishes.
- When more than one umpire is positioned at an exchange zone, only the zone chief shall signal with a white flag when ready. Umpires should signal with a thumbs up for a clean exchange and with a yellow flag when they have something to report.
- Umpires **MUST** pay attention to the races and not be distracted talking with other officials, coaches or athletes. While talking to others is allowable, it must be done at appropriate times.
- Umpires **MUST NEVER** discuss decisions with coaches or athletes, they shall direct all questions about decisions to the Head Umpire or Referee.

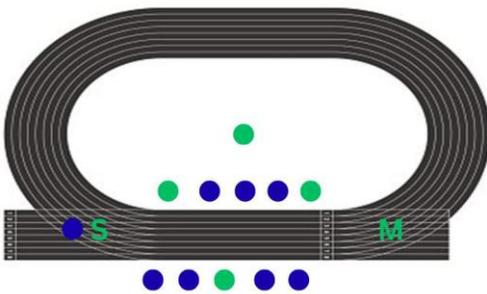
### Positions

(green circles indicate most important positions)

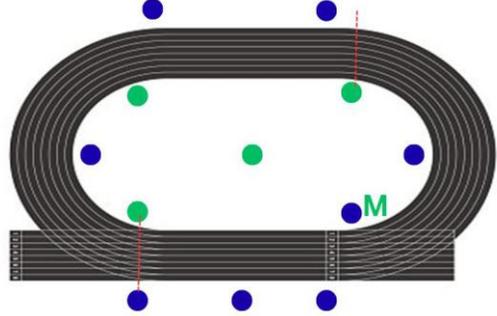
4x800 & 4x400



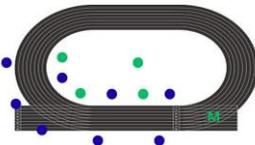
100 Dash, 100/110 Hurdles



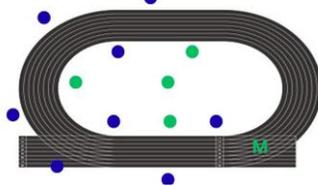
400, 800, 1600, 3200



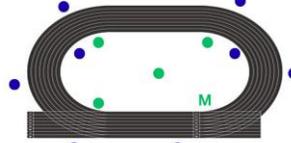
200D



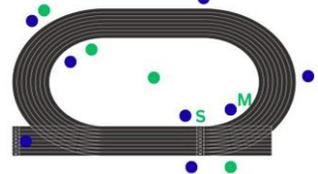
300H



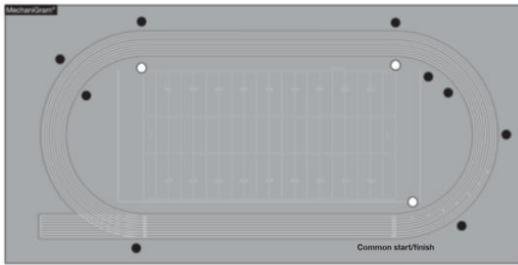
4x100



4x200



## Sprint Medley Relay



800m Medley Relay (100-100-200-400)

## In Conclusion

- Next meeting is Wednesday, March 4 – Crestview HS
- Topics will be Seeding, Clerking, Starting, Finish Line, Scoring
- Don't forget to finish your state rules meeting on Dragonfly
- Watch your emails for the online local meetings from BJ Duckworth
- Also watch for an email announcing the state meet clinic.

Verification Code

43f3r3e