**Message from president:**

The OSSCA is sending out this newsletter to detail information that would have been covered at the state clinic. The state clinic was cancelled due to low numbers and the OSSCA is required to hold an annual meeting and it was voted by the board to update the membership this year only through a newsletter.

Elections were held this year through online voting on the association website. The results are the following: John Johnson, President; Mike Haney, VP-Education; VP-Banquet, John Orozco; VP-Honors, George Hunter; Secretary, Bill Mees; and Treasurer, Bob Ellis. The Executive Director, which is an appointed position, is Brian Stevens.

As we enter another season there are several reminders to our membership. The dues information is located on the homepage of the association website. You can download a registration form and a dues chart. Each district has different deadlines and membership amounts. Please locate your district and mail your payment to designated person for each district. The state dues are $20 for all members. The dues to join the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) are $55. The OSSCA has had a unification deal with the NSCAA several years and because of this arrangement dues to the NSCAA are $55 instead of their standard rate of $95. There are benefits to joining the NSCAA. Each member will receive 7 Soccer Journals which has a vast variety of training tips and informational articles. Each member has 1 million dollars in liability coverage for most soccer related activities. Camp insurance can be purchased through the NSCAA at a reduced rate. The OSSCA has also purchased a video library which each member of the OSSCA has access to. This library includes all the training and lectures from the last national convention. Your district president has a code for you to use to view these sessions.

It is important that each member update their schedule on the OSSCA website. You have a login and password provided by the OSSCA. If you forgot your login, password, or are a new coach you can contact the webmaster to receive that information. We also ask that you enter your scores after each game. The website will have the All-State forms for you complete as you nominate your player(s) for All-District honors. Each district also has a link on the website which contains information related directly to your district.

You will also find the Top Ten polls on the website. The Top Ten is usually brings about several questions. Each district president designates a coach per division per gender to represent their district and vote in the Top Ten process. It is up to that representative to provide other representatives information from their district. A team can only be voted on if they are nominated from their district. Each district has their own process of determining who to nominate and if you have questions regarding why a team was or was not nominated you would need to contact your district president. Nominations take place on Friday during the season; we understand that games are played on Saturday but there are deadlines that need to be reached to nominate teams for the NSCAA Regional Poll which than determines the teams nominated for the NSCAA national poll. In order to meet those deadlines, representatives nominate teams on Friday and generally vote on Saturday. The poll is released on Tuesday the following week and we understand that records will not be accurate because other games will have been played, but in the end the poll is somewhat accurate. In the final poll last season, 4 of the 6 teams rated #1 in their respective division won the state championship. A #2 rated won a state title and in only one division did an unranked team win a state title. Ohio also had 4 teams ranked nationally in the final NSCAA poll. On the girls side, Rocky River (Division II State Champions) were ranked #5 and Walsh Jesuit (Division I State Champions) were ranked #16. On the boys side, Mason (Division I State Champions) finished the year ranked #1 in the country. Revere (Division II State Champions) finished ranked #19 in the country.

All-State voting will take place on Sunday, October 26 in Columbus. The site will be confirmed prior to the start of the season. All-State selections will be posted on the OSSCA website Friday of the state finals. The All-State voting process and selections is also a typical topic of conversation. Each district is allotted a number of All-State players based upon membership. This is exactly how the NSCAA determines their All-Region and All-American selections; it is all based upon membership. The OSSCA is always looking for ways to improve everything we do, so if you have ideas on how to improve this process or the Top Ten poll please share that with your district president who will present that to the OSSCA Board.

I hope you have a successful season and if you have any questions please contact me at wadssoccer@aol.com or call me at 330-334-5023 or 330-329-4611.

**Information from** Jerry **Snodgrass:**

Jerry Snodgrass is the Assistant Commissioner of the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) and he handles all items related to soccer. During the soccer season, Jerry writes a weekly newsletter called *Ohio Soccer Weekly*. This can be found on the OHSAA website at www.ohsaa.org. This is a very informational newsletter and I encourage all members to visit the OHSAA website to read it throughout the season. The online rules presentation will be available starting July 22 and end on August 15. All coaches are required to watch this presentation. The state finals will again be held at Crew Stadium on Friday, November 7 and Saturday, November 8. The OHSAA has the 2014 Soccer Manual online under the soccer link. You should have received information from the OHSAA regarding soccer online presentation and a National Federation Rules Book. If you have not received this please check with your Athletic Director. Nike will again provide all game balls for Regional and State tournament play. If you have questions regarding OHSAA rules or other soccer related questions, the proper protocol is to ask your Athletic Director and not contact Jerry Snodgrass directly.

**VP-Banquet Report:**

The VP-Banquet is John Orozco. His main function is to organize the All-Ohio Banquet held annually to not only honor the All-State players, but to also honor the coaches of the year, official of the year, and induct members into the OSSCA Hall of Fame. John has arranged for key note speakers that are nationally recognized in the soccer community. There is a banquet for girls and one for the boys; last year over 900 people attended this event. The banquet will be held on Saturday, January 10 in Columbus at the Villa Milano. Invitations to the banquet will be mailed out the weekend of the state finals. The girl’s banquet will take place at 12:00 PM followed by the boy’s banquet at 4:00 PM. Sunday, January 11 will be the make-up date should we experience bad weather. It is very important that when you complete the All-State form to nominate your player that you provide the proper spelling of your players name, their home address, and their email. An email confirmation will be sent out as John receives the player/coaches RSVP card. The player or coach receiving the honor attends for free, but family members are charged for the meal. If your player is not able to attend the banquet, the district president will bring the plaque back to your area. You or your player will need to contact your district president to arrange to pick up the plaque.

**VP-Honors Report:**

The VP-Honors is George Hunter. George handles all honors associated with the OSSCA and the NSCAA. Aside from All-Ohio honors for players there are many more honors that you as a coach, your team, or player can receive. Each district handles district honors, but those district winners will be presented at the All-Ohio selection meeting for state honors. Each division has a Coach of the Year and Assistant Coach of the Year. In order for your assistant coach to earn Assistant Coach of the Year they must be a member of your district. If they are members of your district the OSSCA allows them to be members of the state for free. It is optional if they want to be members of the NSCAA. Each district has a girl’s and boy’s Private School Coach of the Year. The winners on the state level are than nominated for Regional Awards. If they win the Regional Award they are nominated for a National Award. Last year Ohio had one National Coach of the Year.

There are individual academic awards presented to any senior who has maintained a 3.7 GPA on a 4.0 scale. In order to obtain this award the coach needs to present a transcript or letter from a school administrator stating they have met the requirement for this award. The OSSCA also has a team academic award. There will be a form on the OSSCA website to be completed and signed by a school administrator. In order to receive this award the team must have an overall GPA of 3.0 from the previous school year. The NSCAA also presents a team academic award, but it is a different than the OSSCA award. The NSCAA will honor your previous year’s team for their academic achievement. In August or September the NSCAA will have a form on their website for you to complete. The team must have a 3.25 total team GPA in order to qualify for this award. For example, I just recently researched my 2013 varsity team GPA for the academic year of 2013-14. I took their GPA for the past academic year and divided it by the number of players on my varsity roster and they achieved a 3.325 GPA. When the form becomes available, I will complete it and have a guidance counselor verify the grades and have the principal sign it and my team will qualify for this award. You do not need to go through George Hunter for the NSCAA Team Academic Award all the information is on the NSCAA website.

The NSCAA allots All-Region and All-American honors based upon state membership. Last year, Ohio received 40 All-Region selections for girls and 37 for boys. The players that receive this honor are based upon the votes they receive in the All-State voting process. All-American selections are also based upon state membership. Ohio had 8 girls and 7 boys named All-American. George Hunter enters all this information for All-Region, All-American, and Coaches of the Year on the NSCAA site. Coaches are not to enter this information on their own; the NSCAA will only accept George’s information. When you complete the All-State form it is essential that you include all information that is asked for. The All-State form basically mirrors the NSCAA form. It is very important that you include your NSCAA number. If you do not know your number you can find it on the mailing address of the NSCAA Soccer Journal.

The OSSCA also presents certificates for 100 coaching victories and for each additional 50 wins after. You will find a coaching victory form on the OSSCA website. You simply need to complete that form and give it to your district president at your end of the year meeting. The NSCAA also honors coaching victories and those forms can be found on the NSCAA site; complete that form and mail it person listed on the form.

**VP-Education:**

The VP-Education is Mike Haney and he has provided the following report.

The OSSCA has committed itself to the continuing education of its members. We have begun several initiatives to ensure that every avenue is explored, and where feasible, provided to the membership. Programs we currently have in place, and things in the works:

NSCAA Convention Sessions – online access. Your district presidents should have provided you information to log in to our ProLibraries account to view the 2013 and 2014 convention sessions. You have a library of 150 plus sessions, both field and lecture, to explore a myriad of topics to help you with your professional development.

Regional Clinics – our state has been divided into four regions, each tasked with hosting NSCAA diploma courses, planned according to the interest and needs of that region, and conducted with nationally recognized clinicians. Two of our regions have already completed courses, with more on the way. Check in with your district president to get the latest information for your area.

State Clinic – the OSSCA is exploring taking the state clinic in a new direction. While we have enjoyed and appreciated the work done by John Bluem from Ohio State, we are looking to providing something fresh and new to our membership. Stay tuned for more information.

OSSCA Quarterly Newsletter – we will be producing a quarterly newsletter with updates, dates to remember, news items from the OHSAA, coaching articles/training sessions, etc. . . If you would like to be a contributor to the newsletter, please feel free to contact Mike at mdhaneykr@fuse.net.

Twitter – if you are part of the Twitt-o-sphere, please follow Mike at @coachhaney3. While I don’t tweet a whole lot, I will follow several quality soccer professionals that are always sharing top-shelf training ideas and I will pass along anything I find useful.

**OSSCA Directory and information:**

President: John Johnson, wadssoccer@aol.com, (H) 330-334-5023, (C) 330-329-4611

Executive Director: Brian Stevens, B50TYKAT@aol.com

VP-Honors: George Hunter, gghoh@aol.com

VP-Banquet: John Orozco, jorozco@sfstoledo.org

VP-Education: Mike Haney, mdhaneykr@fuse.net

Secretary: Bill Mees, wmees@midlandatlantic.com

Treasurer: Bob Ellis, ellisjme@att.net

**District Presidents:**

Akron: Ruth Coney, chippsoccer@aol.com

Central: Gene DeWeese, gproxie1@aol.com

 Required Meeting:

 August 3 at Hilliard Bradley 1:00 PM

 October 19 at Hilliard 1:00 PM

Cleveland: Tobey Cook, tobeycook@yahoo.com

East: Dave Kridler, davekridler@gmail.com

 Preseason meeting August 3 at Cambridge

 High School at 3:00 PM

Miami Valley: Dan Ludwick, soccergump@yahoo.com

North Central: Chris Laux, lauxcolt@aol.com

Northwest: Mark Schwemer, NWOSSCA@gmail.com

Southeast: Sean Cook, cookssoccer@yahoo.com

Southwest: Michael Fee, fee\_m@summitcds.org

Youngstown: Scott MacMillan, soccermac@sbcglobal.net

 Preseason Meeting: August 1 at 6:00 PM

 at The Niles Wellness Center