

Weekly E-Newsletter of the South Carolina High School League

January 21, 2025

eekly E-Newsletter of the South Carolina High School League Romanda Noble-Watson, Editor

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Upcoming Events

Spring Rules Clinics (Big Teams): Jan. 2-31, 2025

Class AAA Meeting: Jan. 28, 2025 – 10:00 am

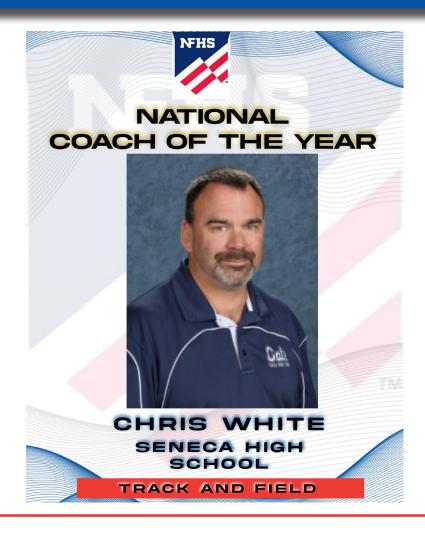
Class AAAA Meeting: Jan. 29, 2025 – 10:00 am

AA Wrestling Seeding Meeting Jan 30, 2025 – 10:00 am



For job openings around the SCHSL, visit <u>www.schsl.org/jobs</u>

CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to the Seneca High School's girls and boys Track and Field head coach, Chris White, who was selected as the NFHS 2023-24 National Coach of the Year for track and field. White is among twenty-four high school coaches selected from across the country.

"I am honored and humbled to be recognized by the NFHS," said coach White. "As much as I appreciate it, I know that any success we have had has been due to the hard work, put in day in and day out by the amazing kids we have at Seneca High School."

White continued, "Our assistant coaches are phenomenal, and our kids have bought into what they do, and it has paid off for our teams."

Earlier this month, he was one of three coaches from the SCHSL to earn NFHS Section 3 Coach of the Year Honors.

Read complete release here.



NFHS HOTA & SOS Nomination Deadline

The NFHS Heart of the Arts and Spirit of the Sports Nominations are due to the South Carolina High School League (SCHSL) Office by 12 noon, this Friday, January 24, 2025. Please send completed nomination forms with a headshot of the nominee to <u>Romanda@schsl.org</u> on or before the deadline. Please do not send forms directly to the NFHS Office, they will not be accepted. Nomination Forms were emailed to High School Principals and High School Athletics Director, Tuesday, January 14, 2025.

Include any supporting documentation you would like to have considered during the selection process (i.e., action photos).

Thank you and please feel free to contact the League Office with any questions.

Heart of the Arts Award: Deadline to SCHSL is this Friday, January 24, 2025: Noon

For the Heart of the Arts Award, the nominee could be any student, adult or group associated with the school's performing arts program. This award seeks to recognize individuals who exemplify the ideals of the positive heart of the art that represent the core mission of education-based activities. Complete criteria are listed on the application.

Spirit of Sport Award: Deadline to SCHSL is this Friday, January 24, 2025: Noon

For the Spirit of Sport Award, the nominee can be a coach, athletic administrator, administrator, contest official, trainer, student-athlete, or any others associated with the school or the school's athletic program. This award seeks to recognize individuals who exemplify the ideals of the positive spirit of the sport that represent the core mission of education-based activities. Complete criteria are listed on the application.



Spring Sports Rules Clinic

The 2025 Spring Sports Rules Clinics are up and running through next **Friday**, **January 31**, **2025**, on Big Teams.

ArbiterSports[®]

The Only One That's All In One

Arbiter Reminders

Below, are some important reminders related to basketball and wrestling scheduling in Arbiter. Contact Jill White, SCHSL Arbiter Booking Coordinator, at Jill@schsl.org with any questions regarding scheduling. Please review the bullet points below and address any issues ASAP.

- Varsity games should be set to SCHSL 101800 for officials.
- Girls and boys games are linked for officials to be assigned, please verify the times match and the sites are the exact same.
- Schools should not make any changes to schedules in Arbiter. Varsity game changes and updates should be emailed to Jill@schsl.org.
- Contact your local assigner to verify your Sub-Varsity games.
- Contact your wrestling assigner to verify your matches.

Winter Sports Brackets

The 2024-25 Winter Sports Brackets are available on the SCHSL website. Brackets can be accessed under the brackets link on the SCHSL website, www.schsl.org, or by clicking the following link: <u>https://schsl.org/brackets</u>

For additional information on brackets, please contact Romanda Noble-Watson, Director of Communications and Public Relations at Romanda@schsl.org.

Girls Wrestling Duals Championship

For the first-time ever, the South Carolina High School League (SCHSL) will host a Girls Wrestling Duals State Final. The Girls Duals will open the 2025 Wrestling Duals Championship slated for Saturday, February 8, 2025, at Dreher High School. Complete details, for the 2025 SCHSL Wrestling State Finals will be available soon on the SCHSL Website at www.schsl.org.

For additional information on the 2025 Wrestling Duals State Finals, contact Tim Kinney, Director of Health, Safety, and Wellness at Tim@schsl.org.

Wrestling Credential Request Link

The Credential request link for the 2025 SCHSL Wrestling Duals will open next Saturday, Feb. 1, 2025, and will close at 3 pm on Wednesday, February 5, 2025. There will be a separate request link for the Wrestling Individuals State Finals. The Individuals credential request link will open Friday, Feb. 14, 2025 and will close at 3 pm on Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2025. Please make note of the request deadline.

The credential links can be found under the Communications tab on the SCHSL website, <u>www.</u> <u>schsl.org</u>.

Please Note: School media credentials request should only be submitted for school photographers, school newspaper writers, yearbook staff, etc. This link should not be used to request credentials for team personnel or local media.

Student-Athlete of the Month Deadline



This Student-Athlete of the Month Award (SOTM) is presented monthly to one male and one female student-athlete who display excellence in the areas of academics, athletics, and leadership/community service. Students in grades 9-12 who attend SCHSL member schools are eligible to receive the award. Monthly award winners will receive recognition via social media, be featured on the SCHSL.org. website, and in TuesNews Weekly E-Newsletter.

The deadline to nominate for the January 2025 Student-Athlete of the Month is next **Friday**, **January 31**, **2025**, **11:59 pm**. The January 2025 SOTM will be announced on Tuesday, February 11, 2025.

The link to nominate the student-athlete is below. Please be sure to include a high resolution head shot and an action of the nominee on the link.

For additional questions about the Student-Athlete of the Month, please contact the Director of Educational Services, Dr. Curtrell Rhodan at curtrell@schsl.org.

Student-Athlete of the Month Nomination Form

Scholar Athlete & Multi-Sport Nominations

The South Carolina High School League (SCHSL) Scholar Athlete and Multi-Sport award nomination links are now open.

As a reminder, the deadline to submit the student-athlete names for the SCHSL Scholar Athlete and Multi-Sport Athlete Certificates is **Tuesday**, April 15, 2025 at 3:30 pm.

ALL names must be entered on below links to be valid and have a certificate generated for your student-athlete (**no email forms will be accepted**).

Please Note: It is important that nominations for both Scholar Athlete and Multi-Sport Awards be submitted to the League Office on or before the deadline so that your student-athletes names can be placed on the League Website for public recognition.

SCHOLAR ATHLETE NOMINATION FORM MULTI-SPORT NOMINATION FORM

Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

The South Carolina High School League (SCHSL) has selected 14 student-athletes to serve on the SCHSL Student Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC). The 14 members represent each SCHSL classification and the more than 100,000 athletic participants. The purpose of the Council is to provide a voice for student-athletes within the SCHSL governance structure. Principals and Athletic Directors selected their best and brightest leaders, and those student-athletes submitted a rigorous application to the SCHSL for consideration. Selections were made on January 6, 2025.

Below are the 2025-2027 SCHSL Student Athlete Advisory Council Members:

5A: Ryann Robbins: Lexington; Caroline Wells: River Bluff; Lillie Ivey: Sumter

4A: Elizabeth Reese: North Augusta; Marydavis Hallman: Gray Collegiate; Kennedy Miller: Southside

3A: Winthrop A. Jeter (AJ): Newberry; Markel Tilman: McCormick; Katherine Gunnells: Belton-Honea Path

2A: Trenton A. Budd: Buford; Addyson Davis: Andrews

1A: Keatley N. Sack: Brashier Middle College; Samya Daniels: Wagener-Salley; Lily Kennington: Great Falls

Returning members of SAAC include: Niyah Haywood: Spring Valley and Ella Barnett: Aynor

Officials' Spotlight

Throughout the year, we will shine the spotlight on the unsung heroes of high school sports, our officials. We will profile officials from different sports so that you can get to know them and why they do what they do.

This month we spotlight Scott Harmon.



How long have you been an official in the SCHSL?
years

2) What sports do you currently officiate? Wrestling and Soccer

3) Is officiating your full-time job? If not, what is your profession? No- I am an Assistant Administrator for a high school.

4) Why are you a high school official?

I want to give back to the sports that have given me so much over my years as a student-athlete and high school coach. I want our current student-athletes to have the ability to participate in athletics and without officials that cannot happen. I also want to help ensure that student-athletes have a positive experience on the mat and field and to be able to be a positive example to them so that perhaps one day they will make the decision to give back to their sport(s) and become an official.

To become an official in the South Carolina High School League. Click Link below.

Become a High School Official



SCHSL Sales Weekend at Dick's Sporting Goods!

It is time for another SCHSL Sales Weekend at all Dick's Sporting Goods locations across South Carolina, just in time before the start of spring sports practices! The sale is this weekend, January 24-27, 2025. There are no restrictions on who can take advantage of the offer, so we encourage you to distribute the below link to the E-flyer and the 20% off coupon that can be used for in-store purchases with your students, faculty, staff, and all other supporters of your school.



HOPE begins with you.

American Red Cross High School Scholarship Program

Through the **American Red Cross High School Scholarship Program**, your high school has the opportunity to help others, while also helping establish a scholarship fund to benefit engaged students as they move on to higher education. The scholarship program is available for high schools that host at least one Red Cross blood drive during the year.

How to get involved: Schedule Red Cross blood drives each year between July 1—June 30. In return for your efforts, the Red Cross will provide a monetary award to be used for an educational scholarship at establishments of higher education for a selected recipient(s). The more pints of blood your high school collects, the more scholarship money your school is eligible to receive. Learn more by contacting Alesha.Wilson@redcross.org

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2024-25 League Pass

The instructions on how to download the 2024-25 SCHSL League Pass were emailed to Superintendents and Principals last fall. If you have not received a link to download a pass, please see the appropriate individuals.

Additionally, please be reminded that in order to upload a photo, you must first download the pass. If you have any questions, contact Keith Warren, Director of Technology at keith@schsl. org.

Retiree Pass Information

Retiree Passes: New retirees and those with retiree passes that contain an expiration date should fill out the form at the link below to obtain a pass.

Individuals with a retiree pass denoting *Lifetime* under the issued date (see image below) do not need to request a new pass. Schools are to accept these passes for all League sponsored contests.

Retiree Pass Link



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Book Orders

The 2025 Spring Sports Rule & Case Books are now available for purchase on the SCHSL Shopify store, available at the link below. You can also access the store on the SCHSL website, <u>www.schsl.org</u>. The store link is located on the right side of the page under Quick Links.

Please allow 5-7 business days from the order date to receive your item. If an item is out of stock, you may still place the order and the item will be sent immediately upon availability.

SCHSL Rules Books and Case Books

For questions or issues with the system, contact Office Coordinator Maeoceisha Jenkins-Suber at Maeoceisha@schsl.org or 803-896-5573.

Sanctioning

Please be reminded that any event outside of regular season play, must be sanctioned by the SCHSL. Sanctioning requests must be submitted online. Additional information, including the sanctioning form can be found at the following link: <u>Sanctioning Information</u>.

Please direct all questions/concerns to Cindi C. Drakeford, Director of Finance at cindi@schsl. org.

Playoff Financial Forms Due

Reminder: If your school hosted a volleyball playoff match or a football playoff game, a playoff financial statement must be completed and sent to the League Office ASAP. All financial forms are located on the SCHSL website at the following link: <u>Financial Forms</u>. The financial forms are mid-way down on the link.

Please direct all questions/concerns to Cindi C. Drakeford, Director of Finance at cindi@schsl. org.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Health Spot

Cold Weather Guidelines

As temperatures drop, it's essential to prioritize the safety of our student-athletes during outdoor practices and workouts. Proper preparation and awareness can prevent cold-weather related injuries such as hypothermia and frostbite.

Coaches, athletic directors, and staff should be vigilant about monitoring conditions, ensuring athletes are appropriately dressed, and following cold weather protocols. For detailed guidance on maintaining a safe environment during colder months, please review our Cold Weather Guidelines here: <u>SCHSL</u> <u>Cold Weather Guidelines</u>.

Direct all questions for this section to the Director of Health, Safety, and Wellness, Tim Kinney at Tim@ schsl.org.

Officials' Whistle

Officials' Appreciation Week

Thank you to all of the schools who participated in the Winter Sports Officials' Appreciation Week which was January 13-18, 2025.

Officials are vital to interscholastic athletics, so showing appreciation for their work and efforts is also important to the success of our athletic programs. Looking ahead, there will be an officials' appreciation week for the spring season....we challenge you to participate during these weeks in the future!

#ThankYouOfficials #BenchBadBehavior

Show us how you celebrated your officials. <u>Click here</u> to submit your Winter Sports Officials' Appreciation Week Photos.

Direct all questions for this section to Associate Commissioner, Sarah Hayes at Sarah@schsl.org.

Tools for Success

Living Clean Week

Living Clean Week was last week, January 13-17, 2025. We want all of our member schools to have the tools to live clean all week! The theme for the week was centered around keeping the sport clean. This means, NO EJECTIONS, NO EXCUSES, CLEAN IT UP!

Be sure to submit pictures and videos of student athletes around the state showing their commitment to living clean! Remember, these activities count toward the sportsmanship award. The SCHSL can't wait to see what sportsmanship looks like all over our great state. Submit your photos in the form below or tag us in your posts @schsl with the #livingclean #sportsmanship #itsinthecontest.

Click below to submit your images

Living Clean Images Form Success

Direct all questions for this section to Director of Educational Services, Dr. Curtrell Rhodan at Curtrell@schsl.org.