



TuesNews

Weekly E-Newsletter of the South Carolina High School League

September 16, 2025

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Editor

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Lighting

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Upcoming Events

Middle School Summit
Sept. 18, 2025: 10:00 am

Last Meet - Swim: Oct. 4, 2025

Fall Officials Appreciation Week
Oct. 6, 2025 – Oct. 11, 2025



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Clean plays. Clear minds. Strong character. It's Living Clean Week across South Carolina!

As we celebrate Living Clean Week, please be reminded that this is a time to uplift sportsmanship, respect, and integrity in high school and middle school athletics. Let's model humility in victory, grace in defeat, and respect for all who make the contests possible.

The SCHSL encourages all student-athletes, coaches, and fans to embrace the values of sportsmanship, respect, and community. Whether you're on the field of play, in the stands, or behind the scenes—your actions shape the culture of school sports. Let's celebrate clean competition and character-driven leadership.

Be sure to submit your Living Clean information by 2 p.m., Monday, September 22, 2025, at the following link: <https://schsl.org/archives/1417>.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Middle School Leadership Summit



The graphic features the SCHSL logo at the top left. Below it, the text reads: "SEPTEMBER 18 @10AM VIRTUAL MIDDLE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT FEATURING STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COUNCIL OFFICERS". At the bottom left, it says "SPONSORED BY BHDD SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES OFFICE OF SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES". On the right side, there are four portrait photos of the officers, each with a caption: Carolina Pettway (Historian) from Westwood High School, Kennedy Miller (Secretary) from Southside High School, Makel Tillman (Vice President) from McCormick High School, and Niyah Haywood (President) from Spring Valley High School.

The Virtual Middle School Leadership Summit is this Thursday, September 18, 2025, at 10 a.m.

For the second straight season, the Middle School Summit will feature the Officers of the SCHSL Student Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC).

Online registration for the virtual Middle School Leadership Summit is available now through Wednesday, September 17, 2025, at the following link: [Middle School Leadership Summit Registration Link](#).

All students must be registered through their school.

Director all questions pertaining to the virtual Middle School Leadership Summit to Dr. Lenard Hudnal, Assistant Commissioner for Middle School Athletics, at Lenard@schsl.org.



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Middle School Volleyball Invitational

The South Carolina High School League (SCHSL) will offer the annual middle school volleyball regional invitational on Saturday, October 25, 2025. In preparation for this event, we are requesting a response from your program regarding your interest in participating or not participating.

If your school offers middle school volleyball, please use the link below to respond to the volleyball invitational interest form. The response is due on or before Monday, September 29, 2025.

[Middle School Volleyball Regional Invitational Interest Form](#)

Director all questions pertaining to the middle school volleyball regional invitational to Dr. Lenard Hudnal, Assistant Commissioner for Middle School Athletics, at Lenard@schsl.org.

SAAC Student Spotlight



The South Carolina High School League (SCHSL) Student Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC) Vice President, Makel Tillman, was named the FOX54 A+ Athlete of the Week (September 3, 2025).

Tillman, a senior at McCormick High School, is a multi-sport athlete (football and track and field).

In addition to serving as the SCHSL SAAC Vice President, he is actively involved in student leadership at McCormick. Tillman serves on the Student Body Government and participates in the Beta Club.

[Click here](#) for complete story.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

High School Today Features

The September 2025 issue of High School Today (HST) Magazine features the SCHSL SAAC President, Niyah Haywood (page 16), and two articles written by SCHSL staff members (pages 40-41 & pages 52-53). All features can be viewed via the following link: <https://tools.nfhs.org/uploadedfiles/3dIssue/HSToday/2025issues/september2025/index.html>.

HST is the NFHS voice for education-based athletics and school activities. In 2025, HST magazine moved from a printed magazine to a digital format.

Click the link below to sign up and start receiving valuable insights, best practices, and stories from across the nation. You are also able to leave reviews of current articles and suggestions for future articles.

[High School Today Registration](#)

Director all questions pertaining to HST to Romanda Noble-Watson, Director of Communications and Public Relations, at Romanda@schsl.org.

Commissioner's Chat & Beyond



Periodically, South Carolina High School League's (SCHSL) Commissioner Dr. Jerome Singleton, and members of the staff, will provide highlight key happenings within the League.

This installment of Commissioner's Chat and Beyond features SCHSL Director of Health, Safety, and Wellness, Tim Kinney. [Click here](#) for the current installment of the Commissioner's Chat and Beyond.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Open Conversation Student Survey



The South Carolina High School League (SCHSL) is pleased to be continuing its partnership with the South Carolina Department of Public Health's Office of Substance Abuse Services.

A Substance Abuse Awareness Check-in link was emailed to Principals and Athletic Directors Tuesday, September 16, 2025. We strongly encourage you to share the link with your students.

The first 500 students who respond to the survey will receive a gift card from Dick's Sporting Goods, and the school(s) that have the highest rate of participation will receive cash awards.

Thank you for your support of the Open Conversation SC campaign!

Sanctioning

With the kick-off for fall sports season, please be reminded that any event outside of regular season play, must be sanctioned by the League. Sanctioning requests must be submitted online using the following link: <https://schsldirectory.knack.com/sanctioning>.

Reminder: If your school hosts a jamboree for any sport, a jamboree financial statement must be completed and sent to the League within 15 days of the event. All financial forms are located on the SCHSL website by sports season. A link to the jamboree financial form can be found here: <https://schsl.org/archives/3284>.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2025-26 State Playoffs and State Finals Information

The 2025-26 state playoffs and state finals dates and times can be found at the following link: <https://schsl.org/brackets>. Click the blue tab that says 2025-26 Playoff Dates.

If you have any questions, contact the League Office, at (803) 798-0120.

Fall Sports Brackets Available

The 2025 football and girls volleyball brackets are now available. The boys volleyball and girls tennis brackets will be available no later than Friday, September 19, 2025.

Brackets can be accessed under the brackets link on the SCHSL website, www.schsl.org, or by clicking the following link: <https://schsl.org/brackets>.

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

Book Order Links

The 2025-26 NFHS Rules and Case Books for Football and Volleyball, and the Rule Books for Cheer as well as Swimming and Diving are now available.

Additionally, scorebooks for Cross-Country, Wrestling, Basketball, Track and Field, and Soccer are available for purchase from the SCHSL Shopify store at the following link: <https://sc-high-school-league.myshopify.com/collections/all>.

If your entire order is not currently in stock, a partial shipment will be sent with available items. The remaining books will be mailed once they become available.

All questions pertaining to book orders should be directed to MaeoCeisha Jenkins, Office Coordinator, at maeoceisha@schsl.org.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Health Spot

US Center for Mental Health and Sport Certification Course

The South Carolina High School League (SCHSL) will once again host the US Center for Mental Health and Sport as they provide a free two hour certification course. The course will be in person on September 24, 2025, at the SCHSL office at 9:00 am.

All athletic directors, assistant athletic directors, and athletic trainers are welcome to come be a part of this valuable training. The course focuses on mental health facts, signs and symptoms of mental health disorders, and most importantly an action plan to put in place.

Register here: [Mental Health Certification Registration](#)

For more information on US Center for Mental Health and Sport: www.mentalhealthandsport.org.

All questions related to the information contained in this section, should be directed to Tim Kinney, Director of Health, Safety, and Wellness, at tim@schsl.org.

Tools for Success

Rewind and Keep it Clean

Promoting proper behavior is a shared responsibility among student-athletes, coaches, and fans. The South Carolina High School League (SCHSL) provides a Captains Course on Rewind that outlines rules, regulations, and the potential penalties for not following them. [Click here](#) to access Rewind.

Additionally, NFHS Learn offers excellent courses that can help foster sportsmanship within your school community. We encourage you to take full advantage of these resources.

For example, if an altercation occurs during a game, consider requiring all student-athletes and coaches to complete the courses at the link below. This ensures they fully understand the expectations and consequences of their actions.

<https://nfhslearn.com/courses/sportsmanship-2>

All questions related to the information contained in this section, should be directed to Dr. Curtrell Rhodan, Director of Educational Services, at curtrell@schsl.org.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Officials' Whistle

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 Sarah Simmons - Football and Basketball official.



1) How long have you been an official in the SCHSL?

I am in my second year as an official in the SCHSL.

2) What sports do you currently officiate?

I am currently a football and basketball official for District 1.

3) Is officiating your full-time job? If not, what is your profession?

Officiating has become a love, but not my full-time job. I am an Algebra 2 Math Teacher at Woodmont High School.

4) Why are you a high school official?

When I relocated from Texas in June 2024, I chose to set aside the coaching whistle and step into officiating. Basketball has always been a part of my life. I grew up playing the game, continued at the collegiate level, and moved into education and coaching after graduating from Abilene Christian University (ACU). I knew I couldn't step away from the game entirely, so officiating became the perfect way to stay connected.

Basketball was a natural fit, but I also wanted to challenge myself by trying something new, which led me to the football field. From the moment I was welcomed into District 1, I knew I had found a path I wanted to pursue. The experience has been incredibly rewarding—not only for the opportunity to learn and grow through the guidance of trainers and mentors, but also for the camaraderie and sense of community shared among officials across the state.

Each week, I look forward to stepping onto the field or court, continuing to improve, and contributing to the game alongside such a dedicated group of people.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Future Five Stars

Your Website is Important

Middle School Principals and Athletic Directors. As we continue building pride and excitement around our middle school athletic programs, we want to highlight one simple but powerful tool that is often overlooked: your school's website.

Fans, families, and community members rely on online athletic schedules to know when and where to show up, cheer loud, and support our student-athletes. When schedules are outdated or incomplete, we risk losing that vital connection—and the energy and enthusiasm that come with it.

Please take a moment this week to review your school's athletic calendar and confirm that it reflects the most up-to-date information, including date, time, and location of all athletic events.

Upcoming Middle School Events

The Virtual Middle School Summit is set for this Thursday, September 18, 2025. Details, including the sign-up link, are available on page 3.

Finally, if your school offers middle school volleyball, please use the link found on page 4 to respond to the volleyball invitational interest form. The response is due on or before Monday, September 29, 2025. Additional details are also available on page 4.

Thank you for helping us keep our communities connected and our middle school programs thriving.

All questions related to the information contained in this section, should be directed to Dr. Lenard Hudnal, Assistant Commissioner for Middle School Athletics, at Lenard@schsl.org.