



# TuesNews

Weekly E-Newsletter of the South Carolina High School League

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Romanda Noble-Watson  
Editor

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## Staff Directory

**Dr. Jerome Singleton, Commissioner**  
jsingle@schsl.org: 803-798-0120

**Charlie Wentzky, Deputy Commissioner**  
charlie@schsl.org: 803-896-5251

**Amy Boozer, Associate Commissioner**  
amy@schsl.org: 803-896-4009

**Sarah Hayes, Associate Commissioner**  
sarah@schsl.org: 803-896-6955

**Dr. Lenard Hudnal, Assistant Commissioner  
for Middle School Athletics**  
Lenard@schsl.org: 803-896-5573

**Dr. Curtrell Rhodan, Director of Educational Services**  
curtrell@schsl.org: 803-896-4271

**Tim Kinney, Director of Health, Wellness & Safety**  
tim@schsl.org: 803-896-3891

**Romanda Noble-Watson, Director of  
Communications & Public Relations**  
romanda@schsl.org: 803-896-0417

**Deanna Lott, Director of Executive Affairs**  
deanna@schsl.org: 803-896-4377

**Cindi Drakeford, Finance Consultant**  
cindi@schsl.org: 803-798-0120

**Keith Warren, Director of Technology**  
keith@schsl.org: 803-798-0120

**Jill White, Arbiter Booking Coordinator**  
jill@schsl.org: 803-896-9560

**Brooke Baker, Coordinator of Events/Office Manager**  
brooke@schsl.org: 803-798-0120

**Maoceisha Jenkins, Officer Coordinator**  
maoceisha@schsl.org: 803-798-0120

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## Upcoming Events

Executive Committee Special Called Meeting  
Feb. 26, 2026 – 10:00 am

Basketball Semi-Finals  
Feb. 27, 2026 – Feb. 28, 2026



**For job openings around the  
SCHSL, visit [www.schsl.org/jobs](http://www.schsl.org/jobs)**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BASKETBALL LOWER STATE AND STATE FINALS INFORMATION



The 2026 SCHSL Basketball Semifinals and State Finals presented by Live Vape Free, are quickly approaching.

The Basketball State Semifinals are this Friday-Saturday, February 27-28, 2026. The Lower State Semifinals will be held at the Florence Center in Florence, SC, while the Upper State Semifinals will be played at neutral sites agreed upon by competing schools. Tickets for the Lower State Semifinals will be available at [gofan.co](http://gofan.co).

The 2026 Basketball State Finals will be played Thursday-Saturday, March 5-7, 2026, at Colonial Life Arena in Columbia, SC. Tickets are available at the following link: [Tickets](#).

The 2026 basketball brackets are available on the SCHSL website. Brackets can be accessed under the brackets link in the blue bar at the top of the SCHSL website, [www.schsl.org](http://www.schsl.org), or by clicking the following link: <https://schsl.org/brackets>.

See page 3 for a complete Playoff Schedule.

For additional information contact Romanda Noble-Watson, Director of Communications and Public Relations, at [Romanda@schsl.org](mailto:Romanda@schsl.org)

**Championship Merchandise:** NW Designs will be selling official championship merchandise on-site at the Basketball State Finals. Fans can also purchase via their online store, which is accessible at:

<https://online-apparel.com/s/schsl-store/basketball-state-championships/>.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## 2025-26 SCHSL BASKETBALL STATE PLAYOFFS

### **First Round:**

Mon 2/16

1A Girls  
2A Boys  
3A Boys  
4A Girls  
5A Div.1 Girls  
5A Div.2 Boys

Tues 2/17

1A Boys  
2A Girls  
3A Girls  
4A Boys  
5A Div.1 Boys  
5A Div.2 Girls

### **Second Round:**

Fri 2/20

1A Girls  
2A Boys  
3A Boys  
4A Girls  
5A Div.1 Girls  
5A Div.2 Boys

Sat 2/21

1A Boys  
2A Girls  
3A Girls  
4A Boys  
5A Div.1 Boys  
5A Div.2 Girls

### **Third Round:**

Mon 2/23

1A Girls  
2A Boys  
3A Boys  
4A Girls  
5A Div.1 Girls  
5A Div.2 Boys

Tues 2/24

1A Boys  
2A Girls  
3A Girls  
4A Boys  
5A Div.1 Boys  
5A Div.2 Girls

### **Finals:**

Thurs 3/5

2:00 2A Girls  
4:00 2A Boys  
6:00 5A Div.2 Girls  
8:00 5A Div.2 Boys

Fri 3/6

2:00 3A Girls  
4:00 3A Boys  
6:00 5A Div.1 Girls  
8:00 5A Div.1 Boys

Sat 3/7

12:00 1A Girls  
2:00 1A Boys  
4:00 4A Girls  
6:00 4A Boys

*Location: Colonial Life Arena*

### **Semi Finals:**

#### **Lower State**

Fri 2/27

12:30 1A Girls  
2:00 1A Boys  
3:30 4A Girls  
5:00 4A Boys  
6:30 5A Div.2 Girls  
8:00 5A Div.2 Boys

Sat 2/28

11:00 2A Girls  
12:30 2A Boys  
2:00 3A Girls  
3:30 3A Boys  
5:00 5A Div.1 Girls  
6:30 5A Div.1 Boys

*Location: Lower State – Florence Center*

#### **Upper State**

Friday 2/27

1A Girls  
2A Boys  
3A Boys  
4A Girls  
5A Div.1 Girls  
5A Div.2 Boys

Sat 2/28

1A Boys  
2A Girls  
3A Girls  
4A Boys  
5A Div.1 Boys  
5A Div.2 Girls

*Location: Upper State – Neutral sites agreed upon by competing schools – 7:00pm start time unless otherwise agreed on*

**\*\*Upper State Representative will be the Home Team for all State Finals.\*\***

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Playoff Score Reporting

As the basketball playoffs continues, please be reminded that playoff scores should be entered on the score reporting forms link following the contest so we can update the brackets in a timely manner. The links are below and can also be found on the front page of the SCHSL website.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Boys Basketball Score Reporting: <https://schsl.org/archives/9797>

Girls Basketball Score Reporting: <https://schsl.org/archives/9798>

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## Playoff Financial Forms Due

**Reminder:** Please be reminded a playoff financial statement must be completed and sent to the League Office within 15 days of the event. All financial forms are located on the SCHSL website at the following link: [Financial Forms](#). The financial forms are mid-way down the page on the link.

Please direct all questions/concerns to Cindi C. Drakeford, Finance Consultant, at [cindi@schsl.org](mailto:cindi@schsl.org).

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## Deadline to Order High School League Passes

Please be advised, the final day to request South Carolina High School League Passes is **Sunday, March 15, 2026**.

If you need instructions on requesting passes or have any questions concerning High School League passes, please contact the Director of Technology, Keith Warren, at [keith@schsl.org](mailto:keith@schsl.org).

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Final Realignment

The South Carolina High School League (SCHSL) has finalized the classification/regional placements of all schools beginning with the 2026-27 school year. This regional placement will be in effect for two years (2026-2028).

Below is the link for the final region placements.

[Final Classification/Regional Placements](#)

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## Scholar Athlete & Multi-Sport Nominations

The South Carolina High School League (SCHSL) Scholar Athlete and Multi-Sport Award nomination links opened **January 1, 2026**.

As a reminder, the deadline to submit the student-athlete names for both the SCHSL Scholar Athlete and Multi-Sport Athlete Certificates is **Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at 3:45 pm**.

**ALL** names must be entered on the links below 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](#)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Arbiter Reminders

### Varsity Basketball Playoffs

All varsity basketball playoff games will be entered by the SCHSL according to the brackets posted on the League website. Please make note of the information below.

- Standard game start time: 7:00 PM
  - If both girls and boys teams are playing:
    - \* Girls: 6:00 PM
    - \* Boys: 7:30 PM

If both teams agree to a different start time, please email this information to Jill at [jill@schsl.org](mailto:jill@schsl.org), as soon as that information is available.

If you have any questions, please contact Jill, at [jill@schsl.org](mailto:jill@schsl.org).

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## Book Order Links

The 2025-26 NFHS Rules and Case Books for **ALL** sports seasons 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 Maeoisha Jenkins, Office Coordinator, at [maeoisha@schsl.org](mailto:maeoisha@schsl.org).

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## INHALING VS. INGESTING: WHY VAPE FLAVORS ARE RISKY

1 in 4 youth in SC who vape nicotine say that they vape because of the flavors. Blue Dream, Gummy Bear, Cool Raspberry, Buttered Toffee, Cinnamon Bun—these flavors and more are found in vape products used by SC youth. Flavored vapes are popular, but are they safe?

Flavoring compounds are tested to make sure they are safe to eat. They are *not* tested to make sure that they are safe to inhale. When flavor compounds are heated at high temperatures, they produce volatile compounds that are acutely toxic.



**Volatile compounds** can lead to asthma, lung damage, and lung cancer.



Flavoring compounds like **cinnamaldehyde** and **artificial berry flavor** decrease the lungs' ability to fight off infections.



**Diacetyl (buttery flavor)** can cause “popcorn lung”—a serious lung condition causing irreversible damage along with wheezing and coughing.

Unfortunately, a lot of people believe that flavored vapes are safer than cigarettes. In reality, the ingredients in these nicotine products come with their own complex problems and health risks that are *only just now beginning to be studied*.

Learn more about vaping nicotine and how educators can help reduce youth nicotine addiction from the [Empower Vape-Free Youth campaign](#). Need ideas for your school? Let the SC Department of Public Health help. From free quit support options to model tobacco-free policies and technical assistance for schools, find resources at [Tobacco-Free Schools | South Carolina Department of Public Health](#).

# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

## The Health Spot

### Heart Health Awareness Month

As Heart Health Awareness Month comes to a close, we continue to encourage all student-athletes, coaches, and administrators to prioritize their cardiovascular health year-round.

Stay hydrated, get quality sleep, and fuel your body with heart-healthy foods like lean proteins, fruits, and vegetables. Regular check-ups and knowing your family history can help prevent potential risks. Most importantly, never ignore warning signs—listen to your body and seek medical attention if something feels off.

Keep training smart, playing hard, and making heart health a top priority!

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](mailto:tim@schsl.org).

## Tools for Success

### Rainy Day Rewind – Educational Tools for Every Team

The National Federation of State High School Associations has launched the initiative *Protect the Purpose: Prioritizing Education in Education-Based Athletics*. In support of that vision, the Captains Courses for each season, along with the Health Summit and Leadership Summit, are now available on SCHSL Rewind.

These resources can be used by your coaches on a rainy day, film day, or during study hall as powerful tools for teaching leadership, sportsmanship, and personal growth.

Please share this information with all appropriate staff and student-athletes.

Educational Tools for a Rainy Day:

[Fall Captains Course](#)

[Health Summit](#)

[Winter Captains Course \(previous year\)](#)

[Leadership Summit](#)

[Spring Captains Course](#)

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](mailto:curtrell@schsl.org).

# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

## Officials' Whistle

### Spring Sports Officials Plan

The SCHSL has partnered with RefReps, the official officiating education provider of the NFHS, to bring a proven, turnkey Sports Officiating Education Curriculum to high schools as an elective course or as part of existing programs like Advanced PE, Team Sports, or Leadership.

Join the SCHSL + RefReps Webinar: <https://calendly.com/refreps/solving-the-referee-shortage-w-refreps-schsl-feb-2026>.

There are two sessions to choose from on March 10, 2026: 10:00 am or 2:00 pm.

During this short informational session, you'll discover how schools just like yours are:

- Launching officiating classes that fit easily into existing schedules
- Getting creative with funding and local partnerships
- Building student leadership and career pathways in sports

At present, more than 1,030 schools and universities across 47 states are already offering this course — helping their students stay connected to sports while strengthening their communities.

Let's work together to make South Carolina a leader in this nationwide movement.

Reserve your spot now at <https://calendly.com/refreps/solving-the-referee-shortage-w-refreps-schsl-feb-2026>. We look forward to connecting with you at the webinar!

Direct all questions for this section to Associate Commissioner, Sarah Hayes, at [Sarah@schsl.org](mailto:Sarah@schsl.org).

## Future Five Stars

*Dedicated to Middle Schools in the SCHSL*

### Know the Rules

With Spring Sports Preseason starting this week, now would be a great time to review the Rules and Regulations for your respective sport.

The Rules and Regulations can be found by visiting the Middle School section of AD Notebook found at the link below.

[Rules and Regulations Link](#)

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