



Tues News

Weekly E-Newsletter of the South Carolina High School League

March 17, 2026

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Editor

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Lighting

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Upcoming Events

Virtual Leadership Summit: Mar. 19, 2026

Upcoming Deadlines

“NFL Grassroots Field Grant”
Monday, Mar. 30, 2026

Scholar Athlete and Multi-Sport Award
Wednesday, Apr. 1, 2026, at 3:45 pm



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VIRTUAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

MARCH 19, 2026 @ 10AM

REGISTER NOW!



SPONSORED BY



The South Carolina High School League is thrilled to host the Virtual Leadership Summit sponsored by the Carolina Panthers.

The Summit is this **Thursday, March 19, 2026**, at 10 am. This is an incredible opportunity for student-athletes to grow as leaders, and we encourage you to register as many as possible.

The Leadership Summit is completely free. Schools can pre-register for the free virtual conference by clicking the link below.

[Spring Virtual Leadership Summit](#)

For any questions, please contact the Director of Educational Services, Dr. Curtrell Rhodan, at curtrell@schsl.org or (803) 798-0120.

We look forward to you watching!

High School League Pass Deadline Passed

Please be advised, the deadline to request Carolina High School League Passes has passed.

If you have any questions concerning High School League passes, please contact the Director of Technology, Keith Warren, at keith@schsl.org.

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Scholar Athlete & Multi-Sport Nominations

As a reminder, the deadline to submit the student-athlete names for both the South Carolina High School League (SCHSL) Scholar Athlete and Multi-Sport Award 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](#)

Arbiter Information

Below is the information for assistance with Arbiter, please see information below.

Arbiter Customer Service: 1-800-311-4060

Arbiter Support Website: <https://arbitersportshelp.zendesk.com/hc/en-us>

If you have any questions, please contact the SCHSL Arbiter Booking Coordinator, Jill White, at jill@schsl.org.

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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.



For the month of March, we spotlight Ashley Smith-Baseball.

1) How long have you been an official in the SCHSL? 14 years

2) What sports do you currently officiate? Baseball

3) Is officiating your full-time job? If not, what is your profession? No. My full-time role is Athletic Director with the Irmo Chapin Recreation Commission.

4) Why are you a high school official? I officiate sports because I find it rewarding and enjoyable. It allows me to give back to the game while supporting the growth and integrity of athletics within the community. I value the opportunity to mentor and pass along my knowledge and experience to younger umpires, helping them develop both their skills and confidence. Officiating also strengthens community connections and reinforces the importance of teamwork, sportsmanship, and accountability on-and-off the field.

To become an official in the South Carolina High School League, click link below.

[Become a High School Official](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 Commissioner, *Dr. Jerome Singleton*. [Click here](#) for the current installment of the Commissioner's Chat and Beyond.

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 MaeoCeisha Jenkins, Office Coordinator, at maeoceisha@schsl.org.

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NFL Grassroots Program: Grant Opportunity

The NFL Foundation and the Local Initiatives Support Corporation “NFL Grassroots Field Grant” program is currently accepting applications for consideration. Grant funding is available to assist both new or renovation field projects.

- Matching grants up to \$250,000 are available through the program.

Please Note: Application deadline is Monday, **March 30, 2026**.

Please read the complete RFP found at the following link: <https://www.lisc.org/our-initiatives/sports-recreation/nfl-foundation-grassroots-program/>, before submitting a proposal.

For additional questions, please contact the Carolina Panthers at communityrelations@panthers.nfl.com.

Email Submissions to: Sportsandyouthdevelopment@lisc.org



GRASSROOTS
Field Grant Program in partnership with LISC

LISC
SPORTS & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

NFL FOUNDATION GRASSROOTS PROGRAM *A Community Football Fields Program* REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Overview

The NFL Foundation Grassroots Program is a partnership of the National Football League (NFL) Foundation, which provides funding for the program, and the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), which provides technical assistance and manages the program. The goal of the program is to provide nonprofit, neighborhood-based organizations with financial and technical assistance to improve the quality, safety, and accessibility of local football fields. The NFL Foundation Grassroots Program provides grants of up to \$250,000 for capital improvement projects.

To be eligible for a grant under the program, projects must be sponsored by nonprofit community-based organizations registered as exempt from Federal Income Tax under Internal Revenue Service Code Section 501(c)(3) or middle or high schools. In addition, **all organizations applying for funds must be located specifically and exclusively within NFL Target Markets, listed in Attachment A and serve low to moderate-income areas within those markets.**

Strong preference will be given to those proposals that (1) seek to upgrade existing facilities that are in poor condition or otherwise underutilized; (2) demonstrate active use of the fields; (3) **attract matching funding that exceeds the minimum required match of 1:1**; (4) involve local partnerships with nonprofit community partners (e.g., USA Football, Parks and Recreation Departments, YMCA branches, etc.) to promote youth sports safety and community programming on the fields; (5) provide for continuing maintenance and field safety; and (6) involve youth football programs that are currently registered and compliant with USA Football's Football Development Model education program. As noted above, grants are given only for capital expenditures. Applicants may request a maximum of \$250,000 from the NFL Foundation Grassroots Program to be used for capital improvements. Please see "Availability of Funding" for stipulations involved with a \$250,000 maximum grant request.

Proposals are due by March 30, 2026- No Exceptions

Please read the complete RFP before submitting a proposal.

EMAIL SUBMISSIONS TO
Sportsandyouthdevelopment@lisc.org

PLEASE SEND THE PROPOSAL AS A PDF ATTACHMENT AND INCLUDE ALL
REQUIRED DOCUMENTS AS PER THE RFP.

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](#). For more information about SC YTS contact MavathRR@dph.sc.gov.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Health Spot

Transitioning to Spring Sports

As we transition into spring sports and temperatures begin to rise, the SCHSL encourages schools to remain proactive in protecting the health and safety of student-athletes.

Coaches and administrators should prioritize proper hydration, gradually acclimatize athletes to increasing heat, and schedule adequate rest and recovery during practices and competitions.

Monitoring weather conditions, adjusting practice intensity during hotter parts of the day, and ensuring access to water and shaded areas are simple but important steps to prevent heat-related illnesses.

Athletic trainers, coaches, and school staff should also review emergency action plans and be prepared to recognize and respond to signs of heat exhaustion or heat stroke. Taking these precautions early in the season helps ensure a safe and successful spring for all SCHSL athletes.

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

Spring into Service: A Community Clean-Up Initiative

This week (March 15-20, 2026) is Spring Living Clean Week in the South Carolina High School League (SCHSL). We invite all of our member schools to participate in this week of service.

Schools can clean up common areas used amongst students or participate in cleaning up the surrounding communities.

Be sure to submit your Living Clean photos and videos on the following Link:

[Living Clean Reporting Form](#)

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

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Officials' Whistle

Displaying Good Sportsmanship

As we continue through our spring sports season, we have received numerous reports about inappropriate behavior at contests. Below are a few tips to use at spring sports contests to be proactive and also deal with inappropriate behavior.

- 1) If you have a student section at your contests, be sure to set parameters for their behaviors. Meet with student leaders to establish baselines for behavior at contests.
- 2) Be sure to handle inappropriate spectator behavior swiftly. When you see a spectator getting out of hand, or an official ask you as game management to handle inappropriate behavior, do it right then and there. This is the responsibility of both home administration and visiting administration who may attend an away contest. Remember, what you allow, you promote.
- 3) Be sure to have security present. You know your community, have the appropriate amount of security for your contests.
- 4) Positively cheer on your school's team. Do not make negative/degrading remarks or inappropriate gestures to the officials or opposing team.

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

Future Five Stars

Dedicated to Middle Schools in the SCHSL

Know the Rules

As spring sports are taking off, we want to encourage schools to make sure your head coaches are properly prepared and knowledgeable with their specific rules.

If your head coach does not have a copy of their sports rule book, please use the link below to purchase.

[Rule Book Purchase 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.