

To: Principals and Athletic Administrators of all OHSAA member schools

Re: Pre-participation Physical Evaluation (PPE) for 2012-2013 is now available

This message alerts you to the recent posting of our PPE, which has been updated for the 2012-13 school year. As you are aware, Bylaw 3-4-1 requires that *“Athletic participation forms for participants in any of the grades 7-12 shall be signed by a medical examiner (Physician [M.D., D.O., or D.C.], Advanced Nurse Practitioner or Physician’s Assistant), the participant and by a parent or guardian. These forms must be on file with the principal or designee before any candidate for a team may participate in a practice. These forms shall require the medical examiner to certify the individual’s physical fitness no less than once each calendar year.*

*EXCEPTION: If the pre-participation athletic evaluation is conducted between May 1 and June 1, the pre-participation evaluation, signed by the medical examiner, is valid for one calendar year plus the remainder of the next school year.”*

The form can be found at this link on our website:

<http://www.ohsaa.org/medicine/PreparticipationPhysicalEvaluation.pdf>. We really appreciate your patience as we underwent a rather extensive review and revision of this evaluation tool with our Joint Medical Advisory Committee. Many of the revisions were made in conjunction with recommendations that appear in the fourth monograph entitled “PPE – Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation” which was published by the American Academy of Pediatrics with contributions by six major American medical societies as authors of the monograph and resulting PPE. Those six societies are the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Sports Medicine, The American Medical Society for Sports Medicine, the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine, and the American Osteopathic Academy of Sports Medicine.

One new feature of the PPE for 2012-13 is a section dedicated to the evaluation of the student with special needs. Please feel free to use this section, which is found on page two (2) as a supplement to the history questions on page one, which have also been revised, when appropriate. The actual physical exam form, which is to be used by the medical examiner, has been extended to a two page document represented as pages three and four. Page three includes some questions of a sensitive nature that the physician or medical examiner may consider when evaluating the student. Page four is the actual clearance section, and we have expanded the section for emergency information and other information that might be useful in protecting a student. Enough space has been left for the physician, the nurse practitioner or the physician’s assistant to stamp the form as opposed to affixing his or her signature. Please remember that under Ohio law, the following medical examiners are permitted to perform the PPE: Doctor of Medicine (M.D.), Doctor of Osteopathy (D.O.), Doctor of Chiropractic (D.C.), Advanced Nurse Practitioner (A.N.P) and a Physician’s Assistant (P.A.).

While the OHSAA bylaw does not prescribe that a specific PPE form be used, the OHSAA and its medical advisors believe that this recent revision represents the most comprehensive, standardized and evidence-based system for the purpose of promoting a student’s health and safety and screening for preventable illness and/or injury.

Should a school choose to accept another form of the PPE, please be advised that all students and their parents, prior the authorization of any participation, must sign the HIPAA consent form on page five (5) and the consent to participate on page (6). We recommend that you review these forms, in particular the items on page 6 with parents and students prior to their participation.