Plan was voted in place by the OHSAA member schools in May 2014. Committee wanted to identify factors that account for the disproportionate number of championships won by non-public schools and determine if the playing field could be leveled in addressing any of these factors.

Idea was originally proposed by a Competitive Balance Committee that wanted to develop a plan that is reliable and can be clearly applied and fairly administered.

What Is Competitive Balance

Is a process which makes modifications to how schools are placed into tournament divisions.

Is being utilized in eight team sports:
- Fall Sports – football, boys and girls soccer and volleyball
- Winter Sports – boys and girls basketball
- Spring Sports – baseball and softball

The modifications are based on which students are actually on each respective roster.
Basic Principle of Competitive Balance

- When a team’s roster is comprised of a number of students whose parents (or the students themselves) do not reside within the school’s district or attendance zone, or the student did not come from the same system of education as that school, there may be modifications in how that team is placed in its tournament division.

Competitive Balance One-Year Delay

- Original implementation was scheduled for 2016–17.
- Needed to delay to 2017–18 since the roster data collection system had not been built.
- Once the system was built, it also had not been tested.
- Delay will now allow the plan to coincide with the start of the next two-year enrollment cycle.

The OHSAA Board and Competitive Balance Committee

- Recognized that any proposals would not address all issues.
- Believed that any new plan will create a better system than the current system.
- Majority on board and committee were opposed to separate tournaments.
The OHSAA Board and Competitive Balance Committee

- Are committed to continuing to study this issue and make proposals for improving the formula.

- Any feedback and data collected during the initial rollout will only help strengthen what changes can take place in the future.

- Any changes to the formula will continue to be voted upon by the membership.

Competitive Balance Rostering

- Roster data collection will take place in ArbiterGame within the ‘Students’ tab.

- **EVERY** student on each team roster (whether freshman, j.v., reserve, gold squad, blue squad, varsity, etc.) that is part of Competitive Balance **MUST** be entered in the rostering system and must be assigned a specific tier.

- The data is entered by each respective athletic administrator or his/her designee each year.

- There is a window at the beginning of the season when roster data entry is required and a defined period at the conclusion of the season where changes can be made for very narrowly-defined situations.

Competitive Balance Rostering

- Approximately 50 schools were part of the rostering beta (pilot) testing.

- Schools can now begin entering fall sports rosters in the Arbiter system.
Competitive Balance Rostering

- An open period has been designated for initial roster entry.
  - The period will end two or three weeks after the start of the regular season.
  - This is when the bulk of the roster entry will be done.

- Another open period will be held for a period after the season ends.
  - This will allow schools to delete or add students.
  - This is for very narrowly-defined situations.

Competitive Balance Rostering

- Schools will be expected to enter rosters for the following eight sports:
  - Fall Sports – football, boys and girls soccer and volleyball
  - Winter Sports – boys and girls basketball
  - Spring Sports – baseball and softball

- Roster data will be used in arrears (i.e. 2016–17 data will be used for 2017–18).

- Roster data will include ALL students on the roster from grades 9–12.

Competitive Balance Rostering

- Even though some schools will invariably be in Division 1 in all sports, the smallest division in all sports or every student on the roster will be a certain tier, ALL SCHOOLS are required to submit roster data.

- Transparency is important for ALL schools, and where their kids come from and what their true numbers are is important.

- Parents and communities sometimes unfairly connect “size of school” to anticipated success and those true numbers will be very important for all to see.
Competitive Balance Rostering

- Open enrollment has made Competitive Balance much deeper than just a public school vs. non-public school debate. Therefore, roster data entry will help ensure that all schools are accountable and up front.
- The roster data collected will help the OHSAA make decisions down the road (and may also be necessary should data requests be made by groups such as lawmakers).

2016-17 Initial Roster Submission Dates

- Boys Soccer: Monday, Aug. 1 – Tuesday, Sept. 13
- Girls Soccer: Monday, Aug. 1 – Tuesday, Sept. 13
- Volleyball: Monday, Aug. 1 – Tuesday, Sept. 13
- Football: Monday, Aug. 1 – Monday, Sept. 19
- Girls Basketball: Tuesday, Nov. 1 – Friday, Dec. 23
- Boys Basketball: Tuesday, Nov. 1 – Friday, Dec. 23
- Baseball: Wednesday, Mar. 1 – Monday, Apr. 10
- Softball: Wednesday, Mar. 1 – Monday, Apr. 10

2016-17 Updated Roster Submission Dates*

- Boys Soccer: Monday, Nov. 14 – Thursday, Dec. 1
- Girls Soccer: Monday, Nov. 14 – Thursday, Dec. 1
- Volleyball: Monday, Nov. 14 – Thursday, Dec. 1
- Football: Monday, Dec. 5 – Tuesday, Dec. 20
- Girls Basketball: Monday, Mar. 20 – Monday, Apr. 10
- Boys Basketball: Monday, Mar. 27 – Monday, Apr. 10
- Baseball: Monday, June 5 – Monday, June 19
- Softball: Monday, June 5 – Monday, June 19

* Updates only permitted for very narrowly-defined circumstances
Updating Your Competitive Balance Roster

- Why delete a student who was on original roster?
  - Student was expected to become eligible but never did,
  - Student was expected to play, was injured before the first regular season contest and never recovered from the injury, or
  - Student quit before the first regular season contest.

- Why add a student who was not on the original roster?
  - Student was not expected to be eligible but became eligible,
  - Student was not expected to come back from injury but did,
  - Student moved or transferred into the school and gained OHSAA eligibility, or
  - Student was not expected to play but joined team after ceasing non-interscholastic competitive 6 weeks before Monday of state tournament.

- Why change a student’s Tier (public schools)?
  - Student lives in the district and is a Tier 0 at the beginning of the season but moves out of the district. Student needs to be changed to a Tier 1 or 2 during the update period, depending on their educational history (public schools).

Competitive Balance Rostering

- Students who were on the roster but did not play during the season (likely coach’s decision) CANNOT be deleted from the roster count. These students COUNT on that sport’s roster.

- A student who participates in two sports during a season MUST count on both team’s rosters unless that student quits one of those teams PRIOR TO the first regular season contest.

Competitive Balance Rostering

- A student who was on your roster but later transferred to a different school CANNOT be deleted from the roster count regardless if he/she never played (likely coach’s decision).

- A student who is sitting out due to the OHSAA transfer consequence does NOT count on a roster if that student never becomes eligible for the team, even if your school permits that student to practice, sit on the bench and/or travel with the team.
**Competitive Balance Formula**

Initial Enrollment Count +  
(from EMIS - all students in grades 9-11 in a school)

Additional Roster Count =  
(determined by multiplying every student on a respective team’s roster by either the Tier 0, Tier 1, Tier 2, or Tier 2 Non Enrolled and adding them together)

Adjusted Enrollment Count  
(count used for tournament division placement; calculated by the OHSAA office)

**Explanation of Tiers**

- A student’s Tier is determined based on how the student came to your school (or came to have a participation opportunity at your school).
- This formula will vary depending on if you are a public or non–public school.
- There are four Tiers (Tier 0, Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 2 Non Enrolled), and each Tier is a multiplier.
- Tiers MUST be assigned to EVERY participant (whether on freshman, j.v., reserve, gold squad, blue squad, varsity, etc.) on a team’s Initial Roster Count.

- Tier 0 = each student on a particular team’s roster meeting the criteria of this factor, multiplied by 0 (so that number will always be 0).
- Tier 1 = each student on a particular team’s roster meeting the criteria of this factor, multiplied by 1 (so that number will always be 1).
**Explanation of Tiers**

- Tier 2 = each student on a particular team’s roster meeting the criteria of this factor, multiplied by the sport specific factor (Football = 2; Volleyball, Basketball, Baseball, & Softball = 5; Soccer = 6).

- Tier 2 Non Enrolled = (for public schools only) each student on a particular team’s roster meeting the criteria of this factor, multiplied by the sport specific factor (Football = 2; Volleyball, Basketball, Baseball, & Softball = 5; Soccer = 6).

- Note that the Tier 2 and Tier 2 Non Enrolled multipliers are determined by the number of divisions in each respective sport.

---

**How Do I Determine Tiers**

- Again . . . there is a fundamental difference in how public schools and non-public schools determine Tiers.

  - For a public school, begin with “Does the student and at least one parent currently reside within your school district (or within your attendance zone for multiple high school districts)?”

  - For a non-public school, begin with “Has the student been continuously enrolled in the same system of education since the 7th grade?”

---

**Competitive Balance Tier 0**

- Tier 0 – Public School: Student and at least one parent currently resides in the school district or attendance zone. “Unless the student is participating as a non-enrolled student under the Ohio Revised Code. If so, they are Tier 2 Non Enrolled.”

- Tier 0 – Non-Public School: Student entered high school from a school-designated feeder school(s) that he/she has been attending continuously since 7th grade.
**Competitive Balance Tier 1**

- **Tier 1 – Public School:** Student opened enrolled into the district and has been there continuously since 7th grade, or student and at least one parent currently reside in the district but not in the attendance zone (multiple high school districts).

- **Tier 1 – Non-Public School:** Student did not enter high school from the designated feeder school(s) but came from the same system of education OR student attended the designated feeder school(s) during some period of 7th or 8th grade with the other time spent at a school from the same system of education (but not a feeder school).

**Competitive Balance Tier 2**

- **Tier 2 – Public School (sport specific):**
  - Student open enrolled into the district but enrollment has not been continuous since 7th grade.

- **Tier 2 – Non-Public School (sport specific):**
  - Student did not enter high school from the same system of education.

**Competitive Balance Tier 2 Non Enrolled**

- **Tier 2 Non Enrolled – Public School (sport specific):**
  - Student and at least one parent currently reside in the school district or attendance zone, the student is NOT enrolled in the school but the student instead is participating under the Ohio Revised Code (i.e. home-educated, STEM/Community school, etc.).

- **Tier 2 Non Enrolled – Non-Public School (sport specific):**
  - Does not apply.
**What Is A Feeder School**
(for Non-Public School Application Only)

- The non-public school or schools (parishes for parochial schools; schools from the same system of education for other private schools) physically located within a designated or chosen public school district attendance zone.

- A non-public high school can have multiple feeder schools so long as they are all physically located within the same public school district attendance zone, and a school or schools can serve as feeder schools for more than one high school simultaneously.

**What Is The Same System Of Education**

- Students are considered to be from the Same System of Education as defined by the Ohio Department of Education (i.e. Catholic Conference of Ohio, Ohio Association of Independent Schools, Association of Christian Schools International or other category as denoted).

- Non-Public School, also referred to as a private school, is one that is a religious school (Catholic, Christian, Lutheran, Jewish, etc.) or an independent school.

**Public Schools – Determining Tiers (Single High School District)**

- Ask: “Does the student and at least one parent currently reside within your school district?”

- **If Yes:** Enter this student as a Tier 0 **“** (See unique situations for non-enrolled students and application of Tier 2 Non Enrolled).

- **If No,** Ask: “Has the student maintained continuous enrollment inside your district since 7th grade (likely via open enrollment)?”

- **If Yes:** Enter this student as a Tier 1. **If No:** Enter this student as a Tier 2.
Public Schools – Determining Tiers (Multiple High School Districts)

If Yes: Enter this student as a Tier 0.** (See unique situations for non-enrolled students and application of Tier 2 Non Enrolled).

If No, Ask: “Does the student and at least one parent currently reside within your school district?”

If Yes: Enter this student as a Tier 1. If No: Enter this student as a Tier 2.

Non–Public Schools – Determining Tiers

Note: For non–public schools, it does not matter where the student and his/her parents currently reside.

Ask: “Has the student maintained continuous enrollment in the same system of education since 7th grade?”

If No: Enter this student as a Tier 2.

... Continued on next slide
Non-Public Schools – Determining Tiers

- **If Yes, Ask:** “Did the student attend your designated feeder school **since the start of 7th grade** and has the student maintained continuous enrollment in the same system of education since 7th grade?”
- **If Yes:** Enter this student as a Tier 0. **If No:** Enter this student as a Tier 1.

**Unique Situations**

- **Transfer Students**
  - If the student becomes eligible anytime during the season, the student must be included on the roster. If the student transfers to your school during the season and is never able to regain eligibility due to his/her transfer consequence, do not add the student to the roster.
- **Split-Parent Situations (Public School Students)**
  - If a student moves, do not think about what the student’s Tier is at a different school. If the parents live in two different districts, the student could be a Tier 0 at both schools depending upon who has legal custody. Please note that the student’s transfer eligibility does not follow the same analysis (i.e., the student may not meet a transfer exception to regain immediate eligibility). For non-public schools, it does not matter where the parent(s) reside... only look at the student’s education history.

**Unique Situations**

- **Students Participating Per State Law**
  - **(Home-Educated, Community/STEM, Non-Public)**
    - Even if these students and his/her parents DO live in your district, enter these students as Tier 2 Non Enrolled as a consequence for not being included in the Initial Enrollment Count (i.e. EMS).
- **Foster Children (Public School Students)**
  - Start with “Does the student and his/her foster parent reside within your district?” If yes, enter this student as Tier 0. If no, continue with the analysis. For non-public schools, it does not matter where the foster parent resides... only look at the student’s education history.
Unique Situations

- **Children Residing With Grandparents (Public School Students)**
  Start with “Do the grandparents have legal custody and, if so, does the student and his/her grandparents reside within your district?” If yes, enter this student as Tier 0. If no, continue with the analysis. Please note that the student’s transfer eligibility does not follow the same analysis (i.e., the student may not meet a transfer exception to regain immediate eligibility). For non-public schools, it does not matter where the grandparents reside . . . only look at the student’s education history.

- **International Students**
  International students at public schools will always count as Tier 2 unless the parents/legal guardians reside in Ohio. International students at non-public schools will always count as Tier 2 unless it can be verified that the student came from the same system of education.

- **Military Compact Act**
  If a student’s parent(s) have both been deployed by the military (Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children), enter these students as Tier 0.

Notes on Student Rostering

- A school student’s tier could change from the time he/she was entered in the initial roster count to the time updates are made to the initial roster count. An example is as follows: The student open enrolled into the district and was initially a Tier 1 or Tier 2 student. During the season, the student’s parents moved into the district. When the updates are made to the roster count, this student now becomes a Tier 0 student.

- A student’s tier could also change from one season to the next. An example is as follows: A non-public school does not offer a fall sport so the student participates at the public school where the parents reside. This student is listed for the public school as a Tier 2 Non Enrolled student since the student does not appear on the public school’s EMIS numbers. The student plays a winter sport back at the non-public school since that sport is offered. If the student did not enter the non-public school from the non-public school’s feeder school or from the same system of education as the non-public school, the student is listed as either a Tier 1 or Tier 2 student.
Competitive Balance vs. OHSAA Eligibility

- A Tier assigned to a student is for Competitive Balance purposes only and is separate from whether or not a student meets OHSAA eligibility standards.

- When looking at eligibility, the OHSAA Commissioner’s Office looks at where the parents reside. The Competitive Balance analysis looks at where both the parents AND the student reside (for public schools).

Other Competitive Balance Business Rules

- Conducting this in a two-step process is necessary to ensure that schools will be limited to moving up a maximum of one division from what they would have been assigned when looking strictly at the EMIS number.

- When looking at Year 2 of the two-year cycle, a school could move up a division from its previous year’s Adjusted Enrollment Count if it did not move up a division the previous year.

- However, schools will be limited to moving up one division only from their original EMIS numbers during the two-year cycle.
Other Competitive Balance Business Rules

For public high schools within a multiple high school district, the Commissioner’s Office shall work with the district to establish an attendance zone should one not already exist.

- Public school districts with multiple high schools will need to submit their attendance zones to the OHSAA Commissioner’s Office by May 31 every other year.
- Schools that fail to meet the deadline will be subject to a fine as determined by the OHSAA Commissioner’s Office.

Other Competitive Balance Business Rules

- Non-public schools will need to submit their designated public school attendance zone (the area where the designated, or chosen, “feeder school[s]” is located) to the OHSAA Commissioner’s Office every other year.
- If the attendance zone is not designated by the deadline, the OHSAA Commissioner’s Office will assign the public school attendance zone where the non-public school is physically located.

Other Competitive Balance Business Rules

- A public school’s current district and/or current or established attendance zone (multiple high school districts) and a non-public school’s current assigned or designated attendance zone will stay constant for two years (and will not change on a sport-by-sport basis).
- An opportunity to make changes will occur every two years.
Other Competitive Balance Business Rules

- Schools that fail to submit their Initial Roster Count by the deadline (i.e. submit them late) will be subject to a fine as determined by the OHSAA Commissioner’s Office.

- Schools that refuse to submit roster data or are found to have falsified roster data will be removed from the OHSAA tournaments and may be subject to additional penalties as determined by the OHSAA Commissioner’s Office.

Competitive Balance Tools

- OHSAA Competitive Balance Resource Center ([www.ohsaa.org/CompetitiveBalance.htm](http://www.ohsaa.org/CompetitiveBalance.htm)).

- Competitive Balance one-page quick overview (Competitive Balance 101).

- Competitive Balance bylaw language.

- PowerPoint presentation on how to utilize the Rostering System within Arbiter.

- A checklist that provides step-by-step instructions on how to enter students into the Arbiter Rostering System.

Competitive Balance Tools

- Student worksheets to assist with rostering (three separate for public district with single high schools; public districts with multiple high schools, and non-public schools).

- Flow charts to assist with rostering (three separate for public district with single high schools; public districts with multiple high schools, and non-public schools).

- Q’s & A’s to assist with student/parent movement for rostering (three separate for public district with single high schools; public districts with multiple high schools, and non-public schools).
Still Have Questions?

• Use of Arbiter for Rostering •
  Jacki Windon: jwindon@ohsaa.org

  • Public Schools •
  Kristin Ronai: kronai@ohsaa.org

  • Non–Public Schools •
  Bob Goldring: bgoldring@ohsaa.org