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Convention & Sports Alert

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This alert contains information on the conventions and sporting events that will be arriving in November and December 2026. We hope you find this information useful for scheduling and to help welcome attendees.

November Events

Club Ohio Fall Classic | October 31–November 1

The 2026 Club Ohio Fall Classic will take at Darree Sports Complex, SportsOhio, and Soccer First in Central Ohio. The youth soccer tournament will feature teams from across the region competing in a weekend of club-level competition. Approximately 3,000 players, coaches, families, and spectators are expected to visit the Dublin area for the tournament.

Attendance: 3,000

Location: Various Regional Sports Parks

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for their own meals.

Facebook: facebook.com/ClubOhioNational

Group Contact: Jon Heath

Sports Commission Contact: Jen Beck

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Boys and Girls State Soccer Championships | November 3–7

The 2026 Boys and Girls State Soccer Championships will take place November 3–7, 2026, at ScottsMiracle-Gro Field in Columbus. The five-day championship will feature top high school boys' and girls' soccer programs from across Ohio competing for state titles in multiple divisions. With 17,000 attendees expected, the event will bring players, coaches, families, and supporters to Columbus for one of the state's largest high school soccer events.

Attendance: 17,000

Location: ScottsMiracle-Gro Field

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for their own meals.

Facebook: facebook.com/OHSAASports

Group Contact: Kelly Schoenly

Sports Commission Contact: Ariana Tyler

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Key Communications, Inc. Glass Expo Midwest | November 4–5

Glass Expo Midwest™ '26 returns for two days of high-impact networking, education, and exhibition serving the architectural, metal, and auto glass industries. This is where industry decision-makers come to source products, evaluate innovations, and build long-term partnerships.

Attendance: 800

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for their own meals.

Location: Greater Columbus Convention Center

Facebook: facebook.com/glassexpos

Group Contact: Tina Czar

Experience Columbus Contact: Jeremy Tipton

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State Field Hockey Championship | November 5–7

The 2026 State Field Hockey Championship will take place November 5–7, 2026, at Thomas Worthington High School. Following regional tournament play, Ohio's top high school field hockey teams will advance to Columbus to compete for state titles. The three-day championship is expected to attract approximately 2,000 athletes, coaches, families, and spectators from communities throughout Ohio.

Attendance: 2,000

Location: Thomas Worthington High School

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for their own meals.

Facebook: facebook.com/OHSAASports

Sports Commission Contact: Ariana Tyler

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Big Ten Field Hockey Championship | November 5–8

The 2026 Big Ten Field Hockey Championship will take place November 5–8, 2026, at Buckeye Varsity Field at The Ohio State University. The tournament will feature the conference's top field hockey programs, with quarterfinals, semifinals, and the championship game taking place over four days. With an expected attendance of 4,000, the championship will give Columbus the opportunity to host a premier collegiate field hockey event and Big Ten competition on a national stage.

Attendance: 4,000

Location: The Ohio State University (Buckeye Varsity Field)

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for their own meals.

Facebook: facebook.com/BigTenConference

Group Contact: Tyler Eatman

Sports Commission Contact: Jen Beck

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Boys and Girls State Cross Country Championships | November 7

The 2026 Boys and Girls State Cross Country Championships will take place November 7, 2026, at Fortress Obetz & Memorial Park. The OHSAA championship will feature top high school boys' and girls' runners and teams competing across multiple divisions for state titles. With approximately 12,500 attendees expected, the one-day event will draw athletes and supporters from communities throughout Ohio to Central Ohio.

Attendance: 12,500

Location: Fortress Obetz & Memorial Park

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for their own meals.

Facebook: facebook.com/OHSAASports

Group Contact: BJ Duckworth

Sports Commission Contact: Ariana Tyler

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MAC Women's Soccer Championships | November 7–13

The 2026 MAC Women's Soccer Championship will take place November 7–13, 2026, at ScottsMiracle-Gro Field in Columbus. The tournament will determine the conference's women's soccer champion through quarterfinal, semifinal, and championship matches held throughout the week. The event is expected to attract approximately 2,000 attendees while giving Columbus a chance to host some of the MAC's top collegiate programs.

Attendance: 2,000

Location: ScottsMiracle-Gro Field

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for their evening meals.

Facebook: facebook.com/GetSomeMACtion

Group Contact: Jonathan Lakra

Sports Commission Contact: Ariana Tyler

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Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting and Exhibition | November 8–11

Get ready for Entomology 2026, ESA's 74th Annual Meeting! Our goal for every attendee is to "Connect Your Science. Expand Your Net," strengthening our community's bonds, building meaningful partnerships, and weaving together different perspectives to amplify the impact of entomology.

Attendance: 3,400

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for most of their meals.

Location: Greater Columbus Convention Center

Facebook: facebook.com/entsoc

X: x.com/EntsocAmerica

Group Contact: Rosina Romano

Experience Columbus Contact: Lindsey Wolfe

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SkillsUSA Fall Leadership Conference | November 11–13

The Fall Leadership Conference is the premier professional development opportunity for High School SkillsUSA students and advisors. This conference is open to all students, advisors, and administrators.

Attendance: 1,500

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for their own meals. Expect dinner traffic on Nov. 11 from 4:30-8 p.m. On Nov. 12, expect lunch traffic from 10-11:30 a.m. and dinner traffic from 4-7 p.m. Please consider offering student value meals or specials for lunch and dinner on Nov. 14, with dinner traffic expected from 4:30-6:45 p.m.

Location: Greater Columbus Convention Center

Facebook: facebook.com/SkillsUSAOhio

X: x.com/SkillsUSA

Group Contact: Jackie Walker

Experience Columbus Contact: Jeremy Tipton

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Ohio School Boards Association Annual Capital Conference & Trade Show | November 15–17

The OSBA Capital Conference and Trade Show is one of the nation's premier education conventions, offering exceptional opportunities for learning, sharing and networking. The three-day event offers general sessions and more than 150 breakout sessions.

Attendance: 9,500

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for their own meals.

Location: Greater Columbus Convention Center

Facebook: facebook.com/OHSchoolBoards

X: x.com/ohschoolboards

Group Contact: Scott Clay

Experience Columbus Contact: Lindsey Wolfe

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Ohio Star Ball 2026 Dancesport Superbowl | November 17–22

Ohio Star Ball is a six day festival celebrating dance competition. This event brings together those who love the sport at all experience levels.

Attendance: 4,000

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for their own meals.

Location: Hyatt Regency Columbus

Facebook: facebook.com/ohiostarball

X: x.com/OhioStarBall

Group Contact: Sam Sodano

Experience Columbus Contact: Zach Wellman

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North American Cup | November 20–23

The 2026 North American Cup, hosted by USA Fencing, will take place November 20–23, 2026, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. The national competition will feature Division I, Junior, and Cadet fencers competing across épée, foil, and saber. With approximately 4,000 attendees expected, the four-day event will bring elite fencing competition to Columbus and further establish the city as a destination for national sporting events.

Attendance: 4,000

Location: Greater Columbus Convention Center

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for their own meals.

Facebook: facebook.com/USAFencing

Group Contact: Glen Hollingsworth

Sports Commission Contact: Jen Beck

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December Events

2026 DIII Men's & Women's Soccer Finals | December 3–6

The 2026 NCAA Division III Men's and Women's Soccer Finals will bring the nation's top Division III soccer programs to Columbus, Ohio, for the final stage of the NCAA championship tournament. The event will feature the men's and women's semifinal and championship matches, with teams competing for a national title at Historic Crew Stadium. The four-day championship event will showcase some of the best collegiate soccer in the country and will bring many supporters to Columbus. The semifinals will take place December 3-6, 2026, with Columbus serving as the host city for both championships.

Attendance: 1,000

Location: Historic Crew Stadium

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for their own meals.

Group Contact: Kevin Alcox

Sports Commission Contact: Ariana Tyler

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GalaxyCon | December 4–6

GalaxyCon Columbus is a large pop culture convention featuring celebrities, comic creators, voice actors, cosplay, gaming, panels, and fan experiences.

Attendance: 20,000

Location: Greater Columbus Convention Center

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for their own meals. Please be prepared for increased volume, unique dining hours and potential peaks around the convention schedule.

Facebook: facebook.com/galaxyconlive

Group Contact: Mike Broder

Experience Columbus Contact: Jeremy Tipton

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Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Regional Conference & Show | December 8–10

This event brings together top state and national industry leaders who will discuss current issues impacting the Green Industry.

Attendance: 1,400

Location: Greater Columbus Convention Center

Meals: Lunch is provided, but attendees will be responsible for most of their own meals.

Facebook: facebook.com/OhioTurfgrass

X: x.com/OhioTurfgrass

Group Contact: Tyler Carr, Ph.D.

Experience Columbus Contact: Zach Wellman

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Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, Inc. Annual Meeting | December 9–11

Ohio Farm Bureau is a grassroots membership organization that is committed to supporting our farm and food community. They are involved everywhere from

events hosted by county Farm Bureaus to the halls of local, state, and federal government, advocating for policy that supports the future of farming.

Attendance: 1,200

Location: Greater Columbus Convention Center

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for most of their meals.

Facebook: facebook.com/OhioFarmBureau

X: x.com/OhioFarmBureau

Group Contact: Julie Shull

Experience Columbus Contact: Carrie Thiel

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Resolute Lacrosse Champions Cup | December 18–20

The Champions Cup 2026 will bring some of the top youth lacrosse teams to Columbus, Ohio, for a competitive tournament featuring teams from across the country. The event will feature multiple age groups competing throughout the weekend, with teams showcasing their skills and competing against high-level competition. The tournament will take place December 18-20, 2026, with Columbus serving as the host city for the event.

Attendance: 300

Location: Resolute Lacrosse Complex

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for their own meals.

Facebook: facebook.com/ResoluteLacrosse

Group Contact: Jeremy Schocken

Sports Commission Contact: Jen Beck

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Holiday Hoopla High School Basketball Showcase | December 19–22

The 2026 Holiday Hoopla High School Basketball Showcase will bring high school basketball teams to Columbus, Ohio, for a competitive showcase featuring talented players and programs from across the region. The event will feature multiple high school teams competing in a series of games, providing athletes with an opportunity to showcase their skills and compete against strong

competition. The showcase will take place December 19-22, 2026, with Columbus serving as the host city for the event.

Attendance: 2,500

Location: The Greater Columbus Convention Center

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for some of their own meals.

Facebook: facebook.com/BigTenConference

Group Contact: Matt Morgan

Sports Commission Contact: Ariana Tyler

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National Inspirational Youth Convention | December 27–31

Founded in 1938, the convention brings together youth, families, and church leaders for worship, learning, fellowship, and leadership development.

Attendance: 1,000

Location: Hyatt Regency Columbus

Meals: Attendees will be responsible for their own meals.

Facebook: facebook.com/theniyc

X: x.com/theniycorg

Group Contact: Rev. Dr. Marsha Gadsden

Experience Columbus Contact: Jeremy Tipton

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