

August 4, 2025

## **Announcement**

### **ODACS Names New Athletic Director!**



ODACS is excited to announce the hiring of a new ODACS Athletic Director, Mrs. Jenny Riley from Chesterfield. The Executive Committee and Executive Director have interviewed Mrs. Riley at length, have spoken with her pastor John Mark Brothers, and have unanimously approved her for the new position.

Many of you already know Mrs. Riley as the coach of the volleyball team at Gill Grove Baptist School. She has been very active in ODACS sports and is well acquainted with other coaches, players, and officials. She understands the ODACS philosophy of athletics. Having interviewed her thoroughly, the Executive Committee and Executive Director are confident in her ability to provide solid leadership to ODACS athletics.

In recent years, the ODACS Board of Directors has talked frequently about the need to hire additional help for Mr. Zacharias, either full-time or part-time. In an April meeting, the board budgeted money for a new part-time position, ODACS Athletic Director. The goal was to delegate all of ODACS sports to the new person, thereby freeing up much of the Executive Director's time so that he can more effectively focus on other priorities. The Executive Committee and Executive Director were delegated the task of searching for a person to fill this role. Earlier this summer, applications were accepted and interviews conducted. An employment agreement for the coming school year was offered to Mrs. Riley and was agreed to on July 22.

Mrs. Riley assumes her duties this month. Training will take place, and she will be the Athletic Director for the fall sports. She has requested that she be allowed to continue to coach her volleyball team, and ODACS has agreed. We appreciate your patience during the transition, and we certainly appreciate your willingness to work with her, to pray for her, and to support her in her new role.

This announcement will affect ODACS spring tournaments, which have not been played for several years. In the coaches' meeting in April, the addition of spring sports, ladies' soccer and men's baseball, was approved with two conditions. One condition was that there be at least four teams in each sport. The other condition was that a new Athletic Director be hired. The hiring of Mrs. Riley means that the way has been paved for there to be spring tournaments again. We anticipate that there will be at least four ladies' soccer teams and are therefore confident that there will be an ODACS Ladies' Soccer Tournament in May. Baseball will also resume if there are at least four schools that field teams.

Many of you have been praying about this decision and waiting eagerly for news. Many also have expressed support for the idea of giving assistance to the Executive Director. Thank you for your prayers and for your enthusiastic support.