



Oregon School Activities Association

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November 27, 2017

TO: Superintendents, Principals, Athletic Directors, and Football Coaches

FROM: Brad Garrett, Assistant Executive Director

SUBJECT: OSAA Football Ad Hoc Advisory Committee Update

The Football Ad Hoc Committee conducted its first public meeting on November 27, 2017 at the OSAA Office in Wilsonville. Committee recommendations will be forwarded to the OSAA Executive Board for review and potential adoption.

OSAA staff provided a summary of correspondence received to this point and the results of a recent survey to committee members prior to the start of the meeting. The Committee received testimony from individuals representing four different schools. The group then convened into a work session to discuss strategies to address the observations/issues list outlined in their October 22 update.

The Committee requests that member schools refrain from scheduling football games for the 2018 season at this point. The group will provide an update on their progress at the Executive Board's next meeting on December 4, 2017.

At this point the group has reached consensus on the following recommendations:

- Creating a criterion based system that identifies schools eligible to "play down" in Football only for a defined period of time.
- Allowing variations in game formats (i.e. 1, 2, or 3 quarter games) at the sub-varsity level to provide needed flexibility for some programs when creating sub-varsity participation opportunities.
- Codifying modifications to NFHS Football playing rules at the sub-varsity level (i.e. no kicking game, no blitzing, etc.) and making sure that all schools are aware of potential options moving forward.
- Recommending that sub-varsity scheduling be separated from varsity scheduling enabling schools to better match teams competitively with an emphasis on local geographic play.

The Committee continues to have interest in exploring the following items:

- Splitting a classification into divisions each with its own Championship bracket (specifically the 6A and 1A).
- Adding 6-man Football as a sponsored activity.
- Using enrollment zones to allow a school to select either 8-man or 11-man.
- Strategies to address the structure of youth football.
- A process to consider transitioning schools that are playing down in football back to their adopted classification after a defined period of time.

After extensive discussion and review of multiple data sets and models the Committee has reached agreement that any school with an in-classification winning percentage over the last four years that is 22% or lower (2 wins per year) and any school with 12 or fewer in-classification games (3 games per year) over the last four years are under consideration to be moved down in Football only. Committee members believe that those schools identified as meeting these criteria should have the option to decline and remain at their adopted classification placement. A list of the schools who meet the four-year 22% or lower threshold or played 12 or fewer in-classification games during the last four years are listed below.

Aloha	McKay
Benson	McLoughlin / Griswold
Bonanza	North Eugene
Butte Falls / Crater Lake Char. Acad.	Pilot Rock / Nixyaawii
Cleveland	Ridgeview
Corbett	Riverside / Lone
Creswell	South Eugene
David Douglas	The Dalles
Enterprise	Waldport
Hidden Valley	Warrenton
Madras	

The following schools have met one or both benchmarks mentioned above but have already been assigned to a lower classification based on the 2018-2022 classifications and districts adopted by the Executive Board, and therefore their placement would not change again.

Brookings-Harbor	Riddle
Crow	Rogue River
Elgin	Sutherlin
Gervais	Woodburn
Illinois Valley	Yamhill-Carlton

The criteria also identified the 1A schools listed below as having met one or both benchmarks above. The option for these schools to play down is currently not available since they are participating at the 8-man level. If the Committee were to support the concept of adding 6-man football these schools would be under consideration to play at that level.

Prairie City	McKenzie
Burnt River	South Wasco
Huntington	Alsea

The above lists of schools under consideration to play down should not be considered final. The Committee has requested staff develop several additional data sets to help the group determine if other schools should be added.

The Committee also requested that the staff survey all 1A schools to determine interest level in 6-man football. Earlier survey results did show positive support for exploring the concept but more data is needed before a decision can be made on this concept.

The OSAA staff will provide a Committee update, like this one, to all superintendents, principals, athletic directors, and football coaches following each meeting. The Committee roster, charge, and any additional committee information is available at <http://www.osaa.org/governance/committees>.

Written suggestions and proposals should be emailed to the OSAA at bradg@osaa.org. Any communication received by the OSAA will be shared with all committee members for review and discussion.

The next public meeting of the Ad Hoc Football Advisory Committee will be at 9am on Monday, December 18, 2017, at the OSAA office in Wilsonville. The general format for the meeting will be for the Committee to receive public testimony followed by a closed work session.

The Committee appreciates your support and encourages your participation in this process. Please do not hesitate to contact Brad Garrett (bradg@osaa.org) at the OSAA if you have any questions.