



Oregon School Activities Association

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December 15, 2023

TO: Superintendents, Principals, Athletic Directors, and Football Coaches
FROM: Kris Welch, Assistant Executive Director
SUBJECT: OSAA Football Ad Hoc Advisory Committee Update – December 14 Meeting

The Football Ad Hoc Advisory conducted its first meeting of this school year. It was a closed work session in a hybrid format at the OSAA office. The goal of this group is to review school data regarding football and make recommendations to the Executive Board prior to their February 5th meeting.

OSAA staff began the meeting by providing a summary of 17 pieces of correspondence received prior to the meeting. After considering the correspondence, the Committee reviewed the group's current roster and expiring terms while discussing potential committee members with a strong knowledge of football who would be additions. The OSAA Staff will work directly with the Oregon Athletic Directors Association (OADA) and Oregon Athletic Coaches Association (OACA) in developing a list of recommended committee members to begin in the 2024-25 school year.

There was a brief discussion on the proposal to allow football games to be played during "zero" week (when jamborees are typically played). It has been supported by the Football Ad Hoc Committee, OADA, the Delegate Assembly, and the OSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, and on Monday gained support from the OSAA Executive Board. It will now be an action item at the Delegate Assembly meeting on April 8 with the expectation that it will be adopted for the 2024-25 school year.

OSAA staff provided a list of schools in their current football special districts, including the latest ADM figures. The Committee first examined 2022 and 2023 data for the schools who are currently playing down a classification based on previous Football Ad Hoc recommendations. Criteria outlining when these schools would be required to move back to their regularly assigned classification was reviewed and one school was identified as having met the criteria by virtue of winning a state championship playoff game this past season in the 1A-8 bracket. No other schools previously placed down based on recommendations of the Football Ad Hoc Committee met the criteria to be moved back up a classification.

Schools who met the criteria to move back to their original classification:

Enterprise

The Committee next looked at schools who met the criteria of less than a 22% in-class winning percentage over the past two years for possible movement to a lower classification.

Schools who meet the criteria to move down a classification based on a less than 22% in-class winning percentage over the past two years:

Aloha, Astoria, Beaverton, Brookings-Harbor, Chemawa, Chiloquin, Cleveland, Corvallis, Cottage Grove, Crescent Valley, David Douglas, Glencoe, Grant Union, Gresham, Harrisburg, Jefferson, Klamath Union, Madras, McDaniel, McLoughlin, McNary, Oakridge, Pilot Rock, Reedsport, Ridgeview, Roseburg, Sweet Home

The Committee requests that each school listed respond in writing to the OSAA indicating whether they intend to stay at their current classification or request consideration to move down a classification. **This information must be provided to the OSAA by January 8th, 2024**, so that the Football Ad Hoc Committee has the necessary information to draft special

districts at its January 10th meeting. Schools requesting to play down a classification must include the following information in their written request as outlined in the OSAA Handbook:

- 1) Participation numbers by grade level (9-12).
- 2) Win/loss records, including point differentials, for each level in the program.
- 3) Listing of any forfeits for each level in the program.
- 4) Coaching staff continuity for each level in the program.
- 5) School Administration continuity.
- 6) Description of off-season programs (team camp, youth camp, 7 on7/lineman challenge, summer weights).
- 7) Youth program participation numbers by grade level and coaching staff continuity for the past four years.
- 8) Description of school/community support and action steps taken, or planned, by the school to return the program to its original classification.

Other schools were identified as having an in-class winning percentage of less than 22% over the past two years, however, because those schools already play down a classification they are not eligible to move down a second classification.

Next, the Committee began discussing 1A-8 and 1A-6 player football. After a lengthy discussion the Committee determined that, in an effort to maintain the viability of both the 8-player and 6-player games, there needs to be an adjustment to the enrollment cutoffs. This group is looking at changing the cutoff for 1A-8 player from 60-74 to 50-74. The group understands the complexity and impact of these cutoff points for some 1A-6 player teams and encourages affected schools that have concerns about maintaining their football program to provide participation numbers by grade level and any other pertinent information prior to, or at, the next meeting for consideration.

With this adjustment, the following schools would move from 6-player to 8-player:

Alesa, Crow/City First Christian, Echo, Elkton, Falls City/Kings Valley Charter, Glendale, Joseph, Prospect Charter/Butte Falls, Riddle, Triangle Lake, Wallowa

Lastly, the group discussed the first two years of the 6A Columbia Cup. They've instructed the OSAA Staff to send out a survey to schools that have participated in the Columbia Cup during either of the past two years for feedback and input.

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 <https://www.osaa.org/governance/committees>.

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

The next two public meetings of the Football Ad Hoc Advisory Committee are Wednesday, January 10th, 2024, and Wednesday, January 24th, 2024, with both occurring at 10:00am. The meetings will be conducted at the OSAA Offices in Wilsonville in a hybrid format. The general format for the meetings 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 contact Kris Welch (krisw@osaa.org) at the OSAA if you have any questions.