



Oregon School Activities Association

25200 SW Parkway Avenue, Suite 1

Wilsonville, OR 97070

503.682.6722

<http://www.osaa.org>



December 19, 2025

TO: Superintendents, Principals, Athletic Directors, and Football Coaches
FROM: Kris Welch, Assistant Executive Director
SUBJECT: OSAA Football Ad Hoc Advisory Committee Update – December 18 Meeting

The Football Ad Hoc Advisory conducted its second public meeting of this school year in a hybrid model with most committee members in-person at the OSAA Office and four attending via Zoom. The goal of this group is to review football data for schools, along with any proposals, and make recommendations to the Executive Board for their February 2nd meeting.

OSAA staff provided a summary of 24 pieces of correspondence received prior to the meeting. During the meeting the Committee received testimony from three individuals, either in-person or online, representing three different schools. At the completion of the testimony, the Committee convened into a work session to discuss a variety of topics, review testimony, and develop this update. Topics discussed include:

2026 Special Districts 1st DRAFT

The Committee discussed all the testimony and correspondence submitted and has created its first draft of Football Special Districts for 2026 (see attached). This draft incorporates changes adopted by the Executive Board on Monday regarding the Classification and Districting Committee's work. Please note this is a DRAFT proposal and not the final recommendation.

The Committee is interested in receiving feedback from schools regarding these placements prior to its January 9th meeting.

- This draft began with the Special District placements from the 2025 season and adjustments were made from there according to the classifications adopted by the Executive Board.
- 28 schools met the criteria to enter the pool for discussion to play down. Many of those schools chose to stay at their current classification. The Committee reviewed information submitted by each requesting school and four of the 28 were moved by the Committee in this draft: Country Christian from 1A-8 to 1A-6, Vernonia from 2A to 1A-8, Reedsport from 2A to 1A-8, and Willamina from 3A to 2A.
- Four schools who had been playing down met the criteria to enter the pool for discussion to be moved back up to their original classification. The Committee reviewed information submitted by each school and each of the four were moved back up to their original classification: Gresham from 5A to 6A, Crescent Valley from 4A to 5A, Phoenix from 3A to 4A, and Harrisburg from 2A to 3A.
- The Committee also received a request from Willamette to play 6A football.

Enrollment Zone for 1A 8-Player and 1A 6-Player

The Committee once again discussed the cutoff for an enrollment zone for both the 8-player and 6-player divisions. The Committee remains dedicated to keeping both 6-player and 8-player football viable in the state of Oregon. The Committee is currently supporting moving the 6-player football enrollment zone to 0-49 and 50-77 for 8-player football. In the current draft that led to four special districts for 32 teams for 8-player football and three special districts of 22 teams for 6-player football.

The Committee is interested in receiving feedback from schools regarding these enrollment zone numbers.

Roster Cap for 1A 6-player football

There was more discussion on the concept of a roster cap for 6-player football. The Committee believes that 6-player teams with large rosters should be playing 8-player football. Currently the Committee is discussing a roster cap of 15 or less players over a 3-year average.

The Committee is interested in receiving feedback from schools regarding creation of a roster cap for 6-player football.

Potential Timeline for Schools Playing Down a Classification for Multiple Years

The Committee spent time discussing those schools who have been playing down a classification for multiple years (i.e., four or more, etc.) and the pathway for them to get back to their original classification. The Committee talked about providing a timeline for these schools with the idea that playing down shouldn't be as open-ended. The Committee plans to discuss this topic in more depth at their next two meetings.

The Committee is interested in receiving feedback from schools regarding putting a timeline on how long a school is allowed to play down a classification.

Two-Year Review for Schools Petitioning to Play Down

After hearing from the OADA about the challenges created by moving so many schools every year, the Committee spent time discussing a two-year review timeline for schools who meet the criteria to enter the pool for consideration for discussion to play down. The Committee would only review annually those schools who qualify to enter the pool for consideration to be moved back to their original classification.

Future Meetings: These meetings will be hybrid format with both in-person and via Zoom. All will include public testimony sessions for schools.

Friday, January 9th, 10:00am (OSAA Office and Zoom)

Thursday, January 22nd, 10:00am (OSAA Office and Zoom)

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 krisw@osaa.org. Any communication received by the OSAA will be shared with all committee members for review and discussion.

Please contact Kris Welch (krisw@osaa.org) at the OSAA if you have any questions.

Football Ad Hoc Committee Proposal DRAFT - December 18, 2025