



Oregon School Activities Association

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TO: Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Directors

FROM: Kelly Foster, Assistant Executive Director
Kyle Stanfield, Chief Operating Officer

SUBJECT: Update to the Proceedings of the Championship Thresholds Task Force

The Championship Thresholds Task Force held its fourth meeting via Zoom on November 10, 2024. The Task Force will be utilizing a virtual format for all meetings that allows both Task Force members and those seeking to provide input the option of participating via webinar.

The Championship Thresholds Task Force was created at the request of the Executive Board after receiving feedback from the previous State Championship Committee. The State Championship Committee felt that their condensed timeframe made it difficult to delve into the intricacies of the overall qualifying percentages across each sport and activity.

Peter Weber reviewed the feedback received from the Oregon Athletic Director Association League Representative Meeting in October. Like the data shared from the October Delegate Assembly meeting, it was noted that there seems to be a disconnect between the committee's focus on reducing qualifying percentages and the coaches' desire for more. This highlights the necessity for improved communication regarding the committee's current thinking.

The Task Force then jumped in to review data regarding team bracket size for each classification. The group had extensive conversation regarding bracket size as it pertains to the qualifying percentage for that classification including the implications of allowing teams with records below .500 to qualify for the playoffs. Discussions also included the ongoing evaluation of girls cross country and boys soccer at the 2A/1A classifications. There is a strong sentiment from the group to look at options in team sports that range from 30%-45% qualifying percentage. The staff will bring back more data for the next meeting, including specifics for team and individuals sports plus activities by sport and classification.

Financial aspects were a significant focus for the task force with shared data provided by a couple of the members. Michele Napier detailed her district's coaching stipends for the 2023-24 school year and the general fund expenditures for travel and related expenses for state playoff events. Majalise Tolan noted that booster clubs covered a substantial portion of state participation costs, emphasizing the challenges of managing travel expenses. Peter underscored the importance of understanding the financial implications for schools, especially those in lower classifications. The meeting concluded with a discussion on postseason costs and the need for data collection to inform future decisions.

The Task Force will continue meeting throughout the 2024-25 school year. The next meeting will take place on Thursday, January 23.

Written suggestions and proposals on these issues should be emailed to Kelly Foster (kellyf@osaa.org) **Any communication received by the OSAA will be shared with all task force members for review and discussion.** The Task Force will keep the OSAA Executive Board up to date on their work during the process.

A future list of meeting dates, Task Force Roster, charge to the Task Force, and information are available at the OSAA website: <https://www.osaa.org/governance/task-forces#thresholds>.

The Task Force appreciates your support and encourages your participation in this process. Please do not hesitate to contact Kyle Stanfield (kyles@osaa.org) or Kelly Foster (kellyf@osaa.org) at the OSAA if you have any questions.