



Oregon School Activities Association
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July 29, 2020

TO: Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Directors

FROM: Peter Weber, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Summary of Executive Board Action at the July 20-22, 2020, Summer Workshop Meeting

At the OSAA Executive Board Summer Workshop, the Board took the following actions:

- Delayed the 2020-21 first contest date for Cross Country, Volleyball and Soccer until Wednesday, September 23 (previously August 27). The original first Fall practice date of August 17 remains in place at this time.
- Determined that it is necessary that any Football restrictions be lifted by September 28 in order to have a modified regular season this Fall that would include some type of restructured postseason due to the Governor's and OHA guidelines currently prohibiting the activity.
- Amended the academic waiver process for the 2020-21 school year in alignment with ODE's Safeguarding Student Opportunity Clause and advised the Executive Director to err on the side of students when making academic eligibility decisions.
- Instructed staff to be flexible in working with schools to determine full-time enrollment for the purpose of participation in the 2020-21 school year given the variety of approaches to course schedules being implemented.
- Adopted changes to Board Policy – Practice Model to prohibit multiple practice sessions on the same day for the 2020-21 school year. Mandated that a student shall become eligible to participate in a jamboree or interscholastic contest/meet/competition after completing a minimum of nine days of actual practice in all sports/activities.
- Adopted the Athletic Officials Handbook (AOH) for the 2020-21 school year. For more information, visit: <http://www.osaa.org/docs/officials/AOH.pdf>.
- Deleted Board Policy – Inclement Weather as this language is now included in the recently adopted Board Policy – Adverse Weather Conditions / Area-Wide Emergency Procedures.
- Adopted changes to Board Policy – Officials – Certified Requirement to include Cheerleading judges who are now affiliated with the Oregon Athletic Officials Association (OAOA).
- Adopted changes to Board Policy – Reporting Schedules, Rosters and Results to add a requirement for tennis schedules and results to be submitted through www.tennisreporting.com.
- Adopted changes to Board Policy – Practice Limitation Rule (6A, 5A Pilot) renewing the pilot for the 2020-21 school year.
- Added Board Policy – Score Differential Procedures (Mercy Rule) addressing procedures when a contest's score differential reaches a certain point in baseball, basketball, football, soccer and softball. **(Attached)**
- Adopted changes to Board Policy – State Championships – Rankings updating seasonal dates after which contests won't be counted in the rankings.
- Adopted the 2020-21 Eligibility Appeals Board roster and calendar of hearing dates.
- Approved revised Cheerleading Score Sheets.

- Approved a request from the Oregon Athletic Coaches Association (OACA) to expand the number of qualifiers in the girls division at the Wrestling State Championships from 8 to 12 in each weight class for the 2020-21 school year.
- Tabled proposals from the OACA regarding cross country qualification changes at the 4A, 3A/2A/1A Girls and 2A/1A Boys until the Board's September 14 meeting.
- Referred proposals from the OACA in swimming and 1A Basketball to the OSAA's State Championship Committee for further review.
- Adopted a change to the number of officials at Basketball State Championships from 18 to 15 per final site.
- Changed the Fall Administrator Workshops to online Zoom meetings rather than in-person.
- Changed the September 14 Executive Board meeting to an online Zoom meeting rather than in-person.

A summary of Executive Board actions is posted on the OSAA website following each Executive Board Meeting.

Proposal to Add Board Policy – Score Differential Procedures

(Action Item)

QUESTION: Should the Executive Board add a new Board Policy addressing procedures when the score differential reaches a certain point?

RATIONALE: Over the past few years, there have been margins of victory in several sports where the contest is no longer beneficial for either team. The data shows at the Varsity levels over 15% of the contests played have been won by a greater margin of victory than necessary. In the sports of Soccer (17), Football (19), Basketball (24), Baseball (4), and Softball (21) there are states that have instituted some type of “mercy rule”. We have been talking with the membership for the past year about sportsmanship and large score differentials can contribute to these issues. Additionally, addressing these negative experiences may assist in increasing participation.

RULE CHANGE SPONSORED BY: OSAA Executive Board

NEXT STEP IF PASSED: Effective immediately unless otherwise stated in the motion.

POSSIBLE RULE CHANGES:

KEY: Add
Delete

Board Policy – Score Differential Procedures

The following procedures shall be followed when the score differential reaches the level outlined in this policy at all contests, regardless of classification and level.

- A. **Baseball.** *If a ten-run score differential occurs at the completion of five full innings, or the completion of any inning thereafter, the game is terminated and considered a completed game.*
- B. **Basketball.** *If a 30-point score differential occurs at the start of the 4th quarter or anytime thereafter, a running clock shall be used. Once the running clock is started it shall continue until the conclusion of the game and only be stopped for the following reasons:*
 - 1) *An official’s timeout for an injured participant or safety reasons.*
 - 2) *A charged team timeout.*
 - 3) *Disqualification of a player, coach, or fan.*
 - 4) *When a TV/radio timeout is granted.*
 - 5) *Stoppage to administer free throws.*
- C. **Football.** *If a 35-point score differential occurs at halftime or anytime thereafter, a running clock shall be used. The running clock shall be started with the ready-for-play signal from the official. Once the running clock is started it shall continue until the conclusion of the game and only be stopped for the following reasons:*
 - 1) *An official’s timeout for an injured participant, safety reasons, or a possible first down.*
 - 2) *A charged team timeout.*
 - 3) *A one-minute intermission between the third and fourth periods and following a try, successful field goal, or a safety.*
 - 4) *Disqualification of a player, coach, or fan.*
 - 5) *When a TV/radio timeout is granted.*
- D. **Soccer.** *If an eight-goal differential occurs at halftime or anytime thereafter, the match shall be terminated and considered a completed match.*

- E. **Softball.** *If a 15-run score differential occurs at the completion of three full innings or a ten-run score differential occurs at the completion of five full innings, or any inning thereafter, the game is terminated and considered a completed game.*