



Oregon School Activities Association

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2024 FOOTBALL PLAN BOOK

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SEASON DATES

First Practice Date	August 19
First Jamboree Date	August 29
First Contest Date.....	August 30
6A, 5A, Rankings Freeze Date	10pm, November 1
6A, 5A, Cutoff Date.....	November 1
4A, 3A, 2A (9), 1A (8), 1A (6) Rankings Freeze Date	10pm, November 2
4A, 3A, 2A (9) , 1A (8), 1A (6) Cutoff Date.....	November 2
All Sub-Varsity Cutoff	November 4
All Classifications First Round	November 8-9
6A, 5A, 4A, 3A, 2A (9), 1A (8), 1A (6) Quarterfinals	November 15-16
6A, 5A, 4A, 3A, 2A (9), 1A (8), 1A (6) Semifinals	November 22-23
6A, 5A, 4A, 3A, 2A (9), 1A (8), 1A (6) Championships.....	November 29-30

Reporting Schedules and Scores – Find Account Instructions on our Help Page at <http://www.osaa.org/help>

NFHS 2024 FOOTBALL RULES

Order a NFHS Football Rules Book from the [OSAA Corner Store](#) or contact the OSAA (503.682.6722) for more information.

For more information about NFHS Football Rules, visit <http://www.nfhs.org/activities-sports/football/>.

2024 RULES CHANGES

Clarified Home Team Uniform Requirement For Each Player [1-5-1b(3)]	The jerseys of the home team shall all be the same dark color(s) that clearly contrasts with white.
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2024 EDITORIAL CHANGES

Football Helmet Warning Statement; 1-3-1b; 1-3-1g; 1-3-1i(5); 1-5-1a(1); 1-5-1b(2), (3); 1-5-1c(5); 1-5-1d(5)a; 1-5-2b; 1-5-3b(6); 1-5-3c(6); 1-7(7); 1-8; 2-8; 2-32-16; 5-2-4; 7-2 PENALTY; TABLE 7-5; 9-2 PENALTY; 9-5-1g; 9-8-1j; 9-8 PENALTY; 10-3-1c NOTE; 10-4; 10-5; TABLE 10-4; PENALTY SUMMARY; NFHS OFFICIAL FOOTBALL SIGNALS.

2024 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

SPORTSMANSHIP AND ALTERCATION PREVENTION AND PROTOCOL

The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), state associations, coaches and game officials across the country are concerned as unsporting behavior in education-based athletics continues to escalate across all sports. A commitment to a collaborative, working relationship to promote good sportsmanship and teach and enforce NFHS rules and state association expectations is paramount to continue to safely conduct the game.

Everyone associated with high school football has a role to play in creating a positive, sportsmanlike atmosphere at games. The NFHS must continue to address poor sporting behavior and promote the value of good sportsmanship. State associations must clearly set expectations in regard to unsportsmanlike behavior and enforce association rules regarding violations of those expectations. School administrators and coaches must teach, promote, model and set clear standards of behavior for themselves, players and fans. School administrators and coaches should also ensure that additional personnel on the sideline, outside the

team box, adhere to set standards of sportsmanship. Game officials must fairly and consistently enforce NFHS rules in all aspects related to unsporting behavior by coaches and participants. Players and parents must model respect for coaches and game officials' decisions, opponents and adhere to and promote the set expectations regarding sportsmanship.

Everyone involved must clearly understand that education-based athletics is an extension of the classroom and is about more than just winning and losing, getting scholarships and gaining accolades. Education-based athletics is about learning, and the conduct and actions of everyone involved should reflect this.

In order to prevent unsportsmanlike issues from escalating please consider the following preventive protocols.

Fight or Altercation Protocol

Most fights end quickly. Fights that escalate beyond the initial incident tend to do so because others run toward the fight. Running toward a fight normally contributes to the escalation of the altercation.

1. Prepare before it happens. Make sure to instruct and even practice what to do in case an altercation occurs.
 - a. Assign specific coaches or administrators to run to the altercation to assist with breaking it up.
 - b. Assign specific coaches to immediately step off the sideline and turn their attention to keeping the players on the sideline.
 - c. Team members already on the field should distance themselves from the altercation.
 - d. Educate all participants about the penalties associated with fighting, leaving the team area, taunting, using offensive gestures, and other unsportsmanlike acts.
 - e. Instruct your video crew to continue to record or to start recording if an altercation occurs.
 - f. Know where security is stationed.
 - g. Keep all non-essential people off the sideline and preferably behind a fence or barrier.
2. If an altercation does occur, execute the above plan.
3. Once the participants are separated, keep them separated until play can safely resume or until administrators and game officials decide how to proceed.
4. Do not allow teams to simultaneously use the same exits or occupy the same areas following an altercation or chippy contest.

Handshake Line Protocol

1. Administrators/security from both schools should be stationed on the field in close proximity to the handshake line.
2. One team should be on the right and the other team should be on the left. Players from one team should not be allowed to walk down both sides of the line.
3. Absolutely no non-essential personnel should be allowed on the field or sidelines until both teams have reached a designated area after completion of the handshake line.
4. A coach or administrator should be stationed at the end of the handshake line to direct the players who have completed the line to a designated area on their end of the field. Do not allow the players to continue to the opposing sideline or to the other end of the field.
5. Have one or more coaches at the front of the line and one or more at the end of the line.

Improving the current state of the game regarding the prevalence of unsporting behavior requires that everyone involved commit to addressing the issue. Civility, even in the midst of intense competition, matters.

PLAYER EQUIPMENT AND ENFORCEMENT

To support the safety of all participants, players must wear equipment and uniforms that are properly fitted and worn as intended by the manufacturer. Before starting each game, the head coach must verify that all players are properly and legally equipped.

The use of knee pads is an area targeted for emphasis. Due to potential injury, it is essential that players only be allowed to participate if their pants and knee pads comply with the rules. Pants must completely cover the knees, and knee pads must be worn over the knee. In pregame duties, game officials should be watchful and proactive in addressing potential equipment, and more specifically, knee pad issues. Players often wear pants that slide up and expose the knee during movement. Game officials should communicate with coaches and/or players and ensure that only legally and properly equipped players are allowed to participate – noncompliance results in nonparticipation.

It is the shared responsibility of the coaches, players and game officials to closely monitor equipment issues and act in accordance with NFHS football playing rules on this subject. The specific areas of concern include the wearing of mandatory equipment by each player at all times while the ball is live, properly wearing any mandatory/legal equipment as intended by the manufacturer, and avoiding the use of any illegal equipment at any time by any player. It must be noted that NFHS Football Rules 3-5-10e and 9-8-1h directly address the correct enforcement for violations of these specific equipment rules. Coaches, game officials and players should work together and support the safety of all participants by ensuring that NFHS football equipment and uniform rules are followed.

FORMATIONS

Over the past several years, there has been a considerable decline by many teams in their efforts to line up legally. There has also been a decrease by game officials with enforcement of illegal formations, especially involving offensive linemen. Linemen are legally on the line of scrimmage when they face their opponent's goal line and have head or foot breaking the imaginary plane through the waist of the snapper. It has become fairly common to see guards or tackles line up a yard or two off the ball to aid in pass blocking or pulling. Doing so provides a significant advantage for the offense and should be addressed at the first opportunity by coaches and game officials.

A back is an "A" player who has no part of his body breaking the plane of the waist of the nearest teammate who is on the line of scrimmage. Formations become illegal when backs are not clearly in the backfield. If an offensive player lines up by intersecting the waistline of the tackle, but not the center, Team A has committed an illegal formation foul because all Team A players must be a lineman or back. Receivers who wish to line up as a back should have "daylight" between the rear end of the nearest lineman and their nearest body part. Communicating with the line of scrimmage official on your side of the field is the best way to avoid a formation foul.

All coaches should spend time learning and periodically reviewing the current NFHS football playing rules so they can effectively pass correct information on to their players. Someone on the coaching staff should be assigned to monitor player compliance and understanding of formation rules during practice and game play. Early and consistent communication between coaches, players and game officials will permit the game to proceed with less disruption to the flow.

Game officials should monitor pre-game warm-up and communicate (through coaches) to allow them to correct borderline or illegal formation issues they have observed. Once the contest begins, preventive officiating skills should be used at the earliest opportunity to allow coaches to make adjustments before formation issues become egregious. However, formations that clearly and obviously do not meet the specifications of NFHS Football Rules 2-32-3, 2-32-9 and 7-2 must be penalized as fouls without warning.

2024 NFHS RULES INTERPRETATIONS

2024 JERSEY & PANT RULES (April 2024)

RULE 1-4-3:

ART. 3 . . . Each player shall be numbered 0 through 99 inclusive. Any number preceded by the digit zero is illegal. See 7-2-5.

RULE 1-5-1:

ART. 1 . . . Mandatory Equipment. Each player shall participate while wearing the following pieces of properly fitted equipment, which shall be professionally manufactured and not altered to decrease protection:

b. Jersey:

1. A jersey, unaltered from the manufacturer's original design/production, and which shall be long enough to reach the top of the pants and shall be tucked in if longer. It must completely cover the shoulder pads and all pads worn above the waist on the torso.
2. Players of the visiting team shall wear jerseys, unaltered from the manufacturer's original design/production, that meet the following criteria:

(a) The body of the jersey (inside the shoulders, inclusive of the yoke of the jersey or the shoulders, below the collar, and to the bottom of the jersey) shall all be white.

(b) The body of the jersey shall contain only the listed allowable adornments and accessory patterns in a color(s) that contrasts to white:

(1) as the jersey number(s) required in 1-5-1c or as the school's nickname, school logo, school name and/or player name within the body and/or on the shoulders,

(2) either as a decorative stripe placed during production that follows the curve of the raglan sleeve or following the shoulder seam in traditional yoke construction, not to exceed 1 inch at any point within the body of the jersey; or as decorative stripe(s) added in the shoulder area after production, not to exceed 1 inch per stripe and total size of combined stripes not to exceed 3.5 inches,

(3) within the collar, a maximum of 1 inch in width, and/or

(4) as a side seam (insert connecting the back of the jersey to the front), a maximum of 4 inches in width but any non-white color may not appear within the body of the jersey (inside the shoulders, inclusive of the yoke of the jersey or the shoulders, below the collar, and to the bottom of the jersey). The exception to (4) would be what is stated in (2) above.

NOTE: One American flag, not to exceed 2 inches by 3 inches, may be worn or occupy space on each item of uniform apparel. By state association adoption, to allow for special occasions, commemorative or memorial patches, not to exceed 4 square inches, may be worn on the uniform without compromising

its integrity.

(c) The visiting team is responsible for avoidance of similarity of colors, but if there is doubt, the referee may require players of the home team to change jerseys.

3. Players of the home team shall wear jerseys, unaltered from the manufacturer's original design/production, that meet the following criteria:

(a) The body of the jersey (inside the shoulders, inclusive of the yoke of the jersey or the shoulders, below the collar, and to the bottom of the jersey) may not include white, except as stated below.

(b) The jerseys of the home team shall all be the same dark color(s) that clearly contrasts to white. If white appears in the body of the jersey of the home team, it may only appear:

(1) as the jersey number(s) required in 1-5-1c or as the school's nickname, school logo, school name and/or player name within the body and/or on the shoulders,

(2) either as a decorative stripe placed during production that follows the curve of the raglan sleeve or following the shoulder seam in traditional yoke construction, not to exceed 1 inch at any point within the body of the jersey; or as decorative stripe(s) added in the shoulder area after production, not to exceed 1 inch per stripe and total size of combined stripes not to exceed 3.5 inches,

(3) within the collar, a maximum of 1 inch in width, and/or

(4) as a side seam (insert connecting the back of the jersey to the front), a maximum of 4 inches in width but any white color may not appear within the body of the jersey (inside the shoulders, inclusive of the yoke of the jersey or the shoulders, below the collar, and to the bottom of the jersey). The exception to (4) would be what is stated in (2) above.

NOTE: One American flag, not to exceed 2 inches by 3 inches, may be worn or occupy space on each item of uniform apparel. By state association adoption, to allow for special occasions, commemorative or memorial patches, not to exceed 4 square inches, may be worn on the uniform without compromising its integrity.

(c) The visiting team is responsible for avoidance of similarity of colors, but if there is doubt, the referee may require players of the home team to change jerseys.

c. Numbers:

1. The numbers shall be clearly visible and legible using Arabic numbers 0-99 inclusive and shall be on the front and back of the jersey.
2. The numbers, inclusive of any border(s), shall be centered horizontally at least 8 inches and 10 inches high on front and back, respectively.
3. The entire body of the number (the continuous horizontal bars and vertical strokes) exclusive of any border(s) shall be approximately 1½-inches wide.
4. The color and style of the number shall be the same on the front and back.
5. The entire body of the number (the continuous horizontal bars and vertical strokes) shall be a single solid color that clearly contrasts with the body color of the jersey.

d. Pads and Protective Equipment – The following pads and protective equipment are required of all players:

1. Hip pads and tailbone protector which are unaltered from the manufacturer's original design/production.
2. Knee pads which are unaltered from the manufacturer's original design/production, which are worn over the knee and under the pants and shall be at least ½ inch thick or 3/8 inch thick if made of shock absorbing material.
3. Shoulder pads and hard surface auxiliary attachments, which shall be fully covered by a jersey.
4. Thigh guards which are unaltered from the manufacturer's original design/production.

e. Pants - which completely cover the knees, thigh guards and knee pads and any portion of any knee brace that does not extend below the pants.

RULE 1-5-3:

ART. 3 . . . Illegal Equipment. No player shall participate while wearing illegal equipment. This applies to any equipment, which in the opinion of the umpire is dangerous, confusing or inappropriate. Illegal equipment shall always include but is not limited to:

a. The following items related to the **Game Uniform:**

1. Jerseys and pants that have:
 - (a) A visible logo/trademark or reference exceeding 2¼ square inches and exceeding 2¼ inches in any dimension.
 - (b) More than one manufacturer's logo/trademark or reference on the outside of either item. (The same size restriction shall apply to either the manufacturer's logo/trademark or reference).
 - (c) Sizing, garment care or other nonlogo labels on the outside of either item.
3. Tear-away jerseys or jerseys that have been altered in any manner that produces a knot-like protrusion or creates a tear-away jersey.
4. Any transverse stripe on the sleeve below the elbow.

c. The following items related to **Other Illegal Equipment:**

1. Ball-colored helmets, jerseys, patches, exterior arm covers/pads, undershirts or gloves.
5. Jerseys, undershirts or exterior arm covers/pads manufactured to enhance contact with the football or opponent.
9. Equipment not worn as intended by the manufacturer.

Requests for rule interpretations or explanations should be directed to the OSAA. The NFHS will assist in answering rules questions from the state associations whenever called upon.

OSAA ADOPTED FOOTBALL RULES AND INTERPRETATIONS

The 2024 NFHS Football Rules Book will be used with the following clarifications:

1. TIE GAMES – REGULAR SEASON

- A. The procedure on page 86-88 of the 2021 NFHS Football Rules Book shall be used to decide all ties in varsity games played in Oregon with the exception that the first and second overtime series shall begin on the 25-yard line; any subsequent overtime series shall begin on the 10-yard line.
- B. **NOTE:** It is the option of each athletic district as to whether the tie-breaking method will be utilized below the varsity level. This option should be communicated to the local officials' Association.

2. **FOOTBALL – CLEATS:** In addition to the unsportsmanlike conduct penalty (15 yards) specified by the National Federation Rules Book, a student who is wearing illegal cleats in excess of 1/2" in length shall be ejected from the contest, whether or not the student has participated.

3. **FOOTBALL – LEAGUE PLAYOFF PROHIBITION:** Leagues shall not use on-the-field procedures such as the "Kansas Plan" to break ties in league football standings at the end of the regular season. Each league shall develop its own standard operating procedure for resolving league ties off the field.

4. **FOOTBALL – VIDEO EXCHANGE:** Each school participating in the Football State Championships, excluding schools assigned to the 1A classification, shall be required to exchange at least two videos with their next opponent *using HUDL*. The opposing coaches choose which videos to receive, and the exchange must be completed by noon on Sunday preceding the game in which the two schools meet.

5. **TEAM BOX:** *The team box will remain between the 25-yard lines and will NOT be extended.*

6. **ONE VOICE from the BENCH POLICY:** *The voice shall either be the head coach or their one designee.*

- A. *Initial violation shall be penalized under Rule 9-8-1a, b, c, or d AND, shall include a warning to the head coach.*
- B. *Subsequent violations shall be penalized to both the offending non-player AND the head coach with only one 15-yard penalty enforced.*

7. **Coin Flip Mechanic** – The pre-game coin flip will be conducted 3-min prior to scheduled game time. A recommended timeline is listed below: (*Adjust as necessary for various start times*). Failure by a team to have captains present and ready for the coin flip 3-min prior to scheduled kickoff will result in an Unsportsmanlike penalty charged to the Head Coach.

5:30pm -	Field open for pre-game warm-up
6:30pm -	Officials should meet the head coaches to cover any issues before the game, provide a list of the officials for the game, cover any unusual plays, ensure all players are legally equipped, discuss halftime length, etc. The game clock should be set at 30 minutes.
6:50pm -	National Anthem and teams should be introduced
6:57 pm-	With 3-min on the game clock the field must be cleared, and no more than four team members in uniform meet with officials for the coin toss and sportsmanship message.
7:00 pm-	Kickoff

8. Enforcement of Required Equipment Rules

- a. Officials choosing not to enforce the following interpretation are subject to individual and/or association sanctions including reduction or elimination of playoff games.
- b. Coaches shall consider this a directive from the OSAA office and therefore are requested to work with the officials in accomplishing these tasks. Cooperation makes life better for all involved.

The OSAA is working pro-actively with coaches, athletic directors and officials to prevent and resolve illegal equipment issues before they surface. By rule, each player shall wear mandatory equipment prior to participating. A full description of mandatory equipment can be found in NFHS Rule 1-5. Coaches are required to verify their players are properly equipped and in accordance with the rules in the pre-game meeting. While football officials will observe players in their pre-game warm-ups and verbally

notify the Head Coach of equipment violations, the onus for ensuring that players are properly equipped has always belonged to the coaching staff. The provisions of NFHS Rule 1-5 were written with the safety of the players as an indisputable goal. Knowing and practicing the provisions of NFHS Rule 1-5 will help us all achieve the OSAA's goal of preventing and resolving any issues before they surface.

9. Sub-Varsity Kicking Game Modifications

- a. Mutual agreement to use the following NFHS kicking rules deviations at the sub-varsity level is required of the participating schools prior to the coin flip. Failure to have mutual agreement prior to the coin flip results in the game being played with the Kicking Game modifications below.

If modifications are being used, the kicking game modifications outlined below apply to both kickoffs and scrimmage kicks (punts.) Teams cannot agree to modify one and not the other.

Once an option is selected it can't be modified during the game for any reason.

It is recommended that these modifications be discussed and agreed upon by Athletic Directors and coaches well before game time, preferably in the week leading up to the game.

b. Kickoff Modifications

Options for the team that wins the coin toss will be to defer choices OR choose to go on either offense or defense OR choose the goal that team will defend. The team on offense will start 1st and 10 at their 35-yard line anywhere between the hash marks. The game clock will start on the snap.

- Following a score, the non-scoring team will put the ball in play 1st and 10 at their 35-yard line after their opponents PAT. The ball will be placed on the 35-yard line anywhere between the hash marks. The game clock will start on the snap.
- Following a safety, the ball will be placed on the Team B 45-yard line, 35 yards from the Team A 20-yard line, anywhere between the hash marks. The game clock will start on the snap.
- Following a touchback, the ball will be placed on the Team B 20-yard line anywhere between the hash marks. The game clock will start on the snap.

c. Scrimmage Kick (Punt) Modifications

The receiving team will put the ball in play 1st and 10 at the succeeding spot 25- yards from the previous spot anywhere between the hash marks. If the previous spot is on or inside the Team B 45-yard line, the ball will be placed at the Team B 20-yard line. The game clock will start on the snap. This does not eliminate Team A's option of "going for" a first down on 4th down.

NOTE: Field goal attempts and PAT's by placekick will be conducted under NFHS Football Rules. These are considered scoring plays; rushing by the defense is allowed and blocked or errant field goal attempts may be advanced by either team.

NOTE: Team A may "quick-kick" the ball at any time during their offensive series. However, the defense may not advance the ball. The ball becomes dead where the defense catches or recovers the ball or the ball otherwise becomes dead by rule.

OSAA FOOTBALL POLICIES

Effective outside Association Year.

1. SUMMER POLICY

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "SUMMER POLICY" in the OSAA Handbook, revised Fall 2017.

Effective during Association Year, outside the designated OSAA sport season.

2. PRACTICE LIMITATION RULE (6A, 5A, 4A)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "PRACTICE LIMITATION RULE (6A, 5A, 4A)" in the OSAA Handbook, revised July 2022.

3. [PRACTICE LIMITATION RULE \(3A, 2A, 1A\)](#)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "PRACTICE LIMITATION RULE (3A, 2A, 1A)" in the OSAA Handbook, revised July 2022.

Effective First Practice Date through End of HS Season.

1. [PRACTICE MODEL](#)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "PRACTICE MODEL" in the OSAA Handbook, revised July 2021.

2. [PARTICIPATION LIMITATIONS](#)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "PARTICIPATION LIMITATIONS" in the OSAA Handbook, revised December 2020.

3. [OFFICIALS – CERTIFIED REQUIREMENT](#)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "OFFICIALS – CERTIFIED REQUIREMENTS" in the OSAA Handbook, revised Summer 2023.

4. [INTERRUPTED CONTESTS](#)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "INTERRUPTED CONTESTS" in the OSAA Handbook, revised Fall 2015.

5. [SCORE DIFFERENTIAL PROCEDURES](#)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "SCORE DIFFERENTIAL PROCEDURES" in the OSAA Handbook, revised Summer 2020.

2. [FOOTBALL – PLACEMENT IN A DIFFERENT CLASSIFICATION](#)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "SCORE DIFFERENTIAL PROCEDURES" in the OSAA Handbook, revised September 2023.

[\(Placement in a Different Classification – Football Only\)](#)

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS INFORMATION

1. **STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS POSTING TIMELINES:** <https://www.osaa.org/activities/fbl>

- A. **Athletic Directors, Coaches and Spectators:** Detailed information regarding the Football State Championships will be posted on the OSAA website on Friday, **October 25**. It is essential that participating teams and individuals access this information prior to the state championships. Included will be information regarding ticket prices, parking, maps, how to submit souvenir program information, souvenir merchandise, etc.
- B. **Event Management Information (EMI):** Beginning Friday, **October 25**, schools that host state championship games must download Event Management Information from the OSAA website. Included will be information regarding expenses, admission policies, game management & ticket report, ticket booth signs, PA script, etc.

2. **STATE CHAMPIONSHIP LOCATIONS AND TIMES**

A. **First Round – Quarterfinals:**

- 1) Refer to brackets for locations and home team designation.
- 2) Games are to be played Friday, 7pm/7:30pm, or Saturday, 1pm for all rounds prior to the semifinals. Game times are by mutual agreement of both schools participating. Games are to be played at the times indicated unless both schools involved agree otherwise and approval is granted from the OSAA office. If schools cannot mutually agree, the OSAA will make the final decision.

B. **Semifinals:** Neutral field (preferably artificial turf) as determined by the OSAA. OSAA will determine days and times for all semifinals.

C. **Finals:** OSAA will determine days and times for all finals.

3. **PLAYOFF QUALIFICATONS**

A. **6A – 12-team 6A Open bracket and 16-team 6A bracket**

- 1) **Automatic Qualifiers** – 22 teams automatically qualify for the OSAA's **28 qualifying spots (Two brackets: 12-team 6A Open bracket and 16-team 6A bracket)** based on regular season and/or special district tournament play on or before **Friday, November 1**. Each league / special district determines how they will select their allotted playoff spots.

PIL – 4; Metro – 3; Pacific – 3; Mt. Hood – 4; Three Rivers – 3; Special District 1 - 5

- 2) **Rankings Freeze Date** – The rankings will freeze at 10pm on **Friday, November 1**.

- 3) **At-Large Qualifiers** – Six additional teams will qualify for the OSAA’s **28 qualifying spots (Two brackets: 12-team 6A Open bracket and 16-team 6A bracket)** based on the OSAA rankings. Once the rankings are frozen, the six highest ranked teams not already an automatic qualifier will qualify as At-Large teams.
- 4) **Rankings** – Once the 28 qualifying teams are determined, they will be placed on the OSAA brackets according to OSAA Executive Board Policy “[State Championships – Rankings.](#)”
 - a) **OSAA 12-team 6A Open Bracket.** The six league champions along with the next six highest ranked teams from the 28 qualifying teams will make up the 12-team 6A Open bracket. The top four (4) ranked teams will have a first-round bye. League champions ranked in the Top 12 will host a home game provided that at least two (2) league champions are among the top four (4) ranked teams. Otherwise, the lowest ranked league champion(s) would not host a home game. Any league champion ranked outside the Top 12 will be moved into the Top 12 but will not host a home game.
 - b) **OSAA 16-team 6A Bracket.** The remaining 16 qualifying teams will be placed on the 16-team 6A bracket.

B. 5A – 16-Team OSAA Bracket

- 1) **Automatic Qualifiers** – Eleven teams automatically qualify for the OSAA’s 16-team bracket based on regular season and/or special district tournament play on or before **Friday, November 1**. Each league / special district determines how they will select their allotted playoff spots.
Intermountain – 2; Special District 1 – 2; Special District 2 – 2; Special District 3 – 2; Special District 4 – 3
- 2) **Rankings Freeze Date** – The rankings will freeze at 10pm on **Friday, November 1**.
- 3) **At-Large Qualifiers** – Five additional teams will qualify for the OSAA’s 16-team bracket based on the OSAA rankings. Once the rankings are frozen, the five highest ranked teams not already an automatic qualifier will qualify as At-Large teams.
- 4) **Rankings** – Once the 16 qualifying teams are determined, they will be placed on the OSAA bracket according to OSAA Executive Board Policy “[State Championships – Rankings.](#)”

C. 4A – 16-Team OSAA Bracket

- 1) **Automatic Qualifiers** – 15 teams automatically qualify for the OSAA’s 16-team bracket based on regular season and/or special district tournament play on or before **Saturday, November 2**. Each special district determines how they will select their allotted playoff spots.
Special District 1 – 3; Special District 2 – 3; Special District 3 – 3; Special District 4 - 3; Special District 5 - 3
- 2) **Rankings Freeze Date** – The rankings will freeze at 10pm on **Saturday, November 2**.
- 3) **At-Large Qualifier** – One additional team will qualify for the OSAA’s 16-team bracket based on the OSAA rankings. Once the rankings are frozen, the highest ranked fourth place team from Special District 1, 3, or 4 will qualify as the At-Large team.
- 4) **Rankings** – Once the 16 qualifying teams are determined, they will be placed on the OSAA bracket according to OSAA Executive Board Policy “[State Championships – Rankings.](#)”

D. 3A – 16-Team OSAA Bracket

- 1) **Automatic Qualifiers** – Twelve teams automatically qualify for the OSAA’s 16-team bracket based on regular season and/or special district tournament play on or before **Saturday, November 2**. Each special district determines how they will select their allotted playoff spots.
Special District 1 – 2; Special District 2 – 2; Special District 3 – 2; Special District 4 – 2; Special District 5 – 2; Special District 6 – 2
- 2) **Rankings Freeze Date** – The rankings will freeze at 10pm on **Saturday, November 2**.
- 3) **At-Large Qualifiers** – Four additional teams will qualify for the OSAA’s 16-team bracket based on the OSAA rankings. Once the rankings are frozen, the four highest ranked teams not already an automatic qualifier will qualify as At-Large teams.
- 4) **Rankings** – Once the 16 qualifying teams are determined, they will be placed on the OSAA bracket according to OSAA Executive Board Policy “[State Championships – Rankings.](#)”

E. **2A (9) – 16-Team OSAA Bracket**

- 1) **Automatic Qualifiers** – Twelve teams automatically qualify for the OSAA’s 16-team bracket based on regular season and/or special district tournament play on or before **Saturday, November 2**. Each league / special district determines how they will select their allotted playoff spots.

Special District 1 – 2; Special District 2 – 2; Special District 3 – 2; Special District 4 - 2; Special District 5 - 2; Special District 6 – 2

- 2) **Rankings Freeze Date** – The rankings will freeze at 10pm on **Saturday, November 2**.
- 3) **At-Large Qualifiers** – Four additional teams will qualify for the OSAA’s 16-team bracket based on the OSAA rankings. Once the rankings are frozen, the four highest ranked teams not already automatic qualifiers will qualify as At-Large teams.
- 4) **Rankings** – Once the 16 qualifying teams are determined, they will be placed on the OSAA bracket according to OSAA Executive Board Policy “[State Championships – Rankings](#).”

F. **1A (8) – 12-Team OSAA Bracket**

- 1) **Automatic Qualifiers** – Nine teams automatically qualify for the OSAA’s 12-team bracket based on regular season and/or special district tournament play on or before **Friday, November 1**. Each special district determines how they will select their allotted playoff spots.

Special District 1 - 3; Special District 2 - 3; Special District 3 - 3

- 2) **Rankings Freeze Date** – The rankings will freeze at 10pm on **Friday, November 1**.
- 3) **At-Large Qualifiers** – Three additional teams will qualify for the OSAA’s 12-team bracket based on the OSAA rankings. Once the rankings are frozen, the three highest ranked teams not already an automatic qualifier will qualify as the At-Large teams.
- 4) **Rankings** – Once the twelve qualifying teams are determined, they will be placed on the OSAA bracket according to OSAA Executive Board Policy “[State Championships – Rankings](#).”

G. **1A (6) – 12-Team OSAA Bracket**

- 1) **Automatic Qualifiers** – Eleven teams automatically qualify for the OSAA’s 12-team bracket based on regular season and/or special district tournament play on or before **Saturday, November 2**. Each special district determines how they will select their allotted playoff spots.

Special District 1 – 5; Special District 2 (North) – 3; Special District 2 (South) -- 3

- 2) **Rankings Freeze Date** – The rankings will freeze at 10pm on **Saturday, November 2**.
- 3) **At-Large Qualifier** – One additional team will qualify for the OSAA's 12-team bracket based on the OSAA rankings. Once the rankings are frozen, the highest ranked team not already an automatic qualifier will qualify as the At-Large team.
- 4) **Rankings** – Once the twelve qualifying teams are determined, they will be placed on the OSAA bracket according to OSAA Executive Board Policy “[State Championships – Rankings](#).”

4. **STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS - HOME TEAM DESIGNATION** (OSAA Handbook, Executive Board Policies) (Revised Fall 2018)

During all rounds of each OSAA State Championship bracket, the team with the better Adjusted Playoff Ranking (APR) shall be the designated home team.

5. **STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS – TEAM SIZE** (OSAA Handbook, Executive Board Policies) (Revised Fall 2023)

A. The following limitations shall apply to replacement players and maximum team sizes for team sport State Championship events, first round through championship final. **NOTE:** Only players in uniform are allowed to participate in pre-game warm-ups.

B. **Penalties for excessive team size:** Suiting up, warming up, or playing too many players shall be considered a gross act of unsportsmanlike conduct and may be punishable by fines, forfeiture and/or other penalties as determined by the OSAA Executive Board.

- 3) **Football.** Team: Replacement of players applies to each game. A player replaced on the roster may be reinstated to the roster in subsequent games. Maximum in uniform: 6A-60, 5A-50; 4A-40; 3A-33, 2A-33; 1A(8)-24; **1A(6)-18**.

6. **STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS – ADOPTED BALL** (OSAA Handbook, Executive Board Policies) (Fall 2010)

The OSAA shall require that the officially adopted ball for that sport be used in all state championship contests, first round through final sites.

A. **State Championship Contests at Home Sites.**

2) **Football.**

- a) **Procedure.** Officials shall confirm that both teams use the officially adopted ball. If either team uses balls that are not the officially adopted balls, the contest shall be played, and officials shall report the school or schools in violation to the OSAA.
- b) **Penalty.** A school, which is found to have used a non-adopted ball in an OSAA state championship contest, shall be subject to fines, forfeiture and/or other penalties as determined by the OSAA Executive Board.

B. **State Championship Contests Administered by OSAA Staff.** Officially adopted balls (***Wilson footballs***) shall be provided by OSAA staff administering the contests.

OSAA GENERAL POLICIES

RULES

[Rule 3 – Contests – Sportsmanship – Crowd Control](#)

See RULES - Athletic, Cheerleading and Dance/Drill “Rule 3-Contests-Sportsmanship-Crowd Control” in the OSAA Handbook.

[Rule 7 – Out-of-Season and Non-School Activities](#)

See RULES - Athletic, Cheerleading and Dance/Drill “Rule 7-Out of Season and Non-School Activities” in the OSAA Handbook.

EXECUTIVE BOARD POLICIES

1. **[ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS / AREA-WIDE EMERGENCY PROCEDURES](#)**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS/AREA-WIDE EMERGENCY PROCEDURES” in the OSAA Handbook, revised May 2020.

2. **[AIR QUALITY GUIDELINES](#)**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “AIR QUALITY GUIDELINES” in the OSAA Handbook, revised February 2024.

3. **[ATTACHED AND UNATTACHED COMPETITION / EXHIBITION](#)**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “ATTACHED AND UNATTACHED COMPETITION/EXHIBITION” in the OSAA Handbook, revised August 2012.

4. **[CERTIFICATION – ATHLETIC DIRECTORS AND COACHES](#)**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “CERTIFICATION-ATHLETIC DIRECTORS AND COACHES” in the OSAA Handbook, **revised May 2024.**

5. **[CHARITABLE CAUSES](#)**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “CHARITABLE CAUSES” in the OSAA Handbook, revised Fall 2012.

6. **[CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT](#)**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT” in the OSAA Handbook, revised Summer 2020.

[\(Medical Release – Return to Participation Following a Concussion\)](#)

[\(Medical Release – Return to Learn Following a Concussion\)](#)

7. **[EJECTION POLICIES – EJECTED PLAYER OR COACH](#)**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “EJECTION POLICIES – EJECTED PLAYER OR COACH” in the OSAA Handbook, revised Summer 2024.

[\(Ejection Report\)](#)

8. **[EJECTION POLICIES – FINES](#)**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “EJECTION POLICIES -- FINES” in the OSAA Handbook, revised Summer 2024.

9. **[EJECTION POLICIES – MULTIPLE EJECTIONS OF INDIVIDUAL](#)**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “EJECTION POLICIES – MULTIPLE EJECTIONS OF INDIVIDUAL” in the OSAA Handbook, revised Fall 2012.

10. **[HAIR DEVICE / ADORNMENT](#)**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “HAIR DEVICE/ADORNMENT” in the OSAA Handbook, revised Summer 2022.

11. [HEAT INDEX](#)
See OSAA Executive Board Policy “HEAT INDEX” in the OSAA Handbook, revised Fall 2014.
[\(Heat Index Calculator\)](#) [\(Heat Index Record\)](#)
12. [LIGHTNING SAFETY GUIDELINES](#)
See OSAA Executive Board Policy “LIGHTNING SAFETY GUIDELINES” in the OSAA Handbook, revised Fall 2018.
[NFHS Position Statements & Guidelines](#)
13. [MORATORIUM WEEK](#)
See OSAA Executive Board Policy “MORATORIUM WEEK” in the OSAA Handbook, revised May 2014.
14. [NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY](#)
See OSAA Executive Board Policy “NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY” in the OSAA Handbook, revised July 2019.
[\(Complaint Form\)](#)
15. [OFFICIALS – HOST SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES](#)
See OSAA Executive Board Policy “OFFICIALS – HOST SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES” in the OSAA Handbook, revised Winter 2014.
16. [REPORTING SCHEDULES, ROSTERS AND RESULTS](#)
See OSAA Executive Board Policy “REPORTING SCHEDULES, ROSTERS AND RESULTS” in the OSAA Handbook, revised Summer 2024.
17. [SHARED FACILITIES](#)
See OSAA Executive Board Policy “SHARED FACILITIES” in the OSAA Handbook, revised Fall 2015.
[\(Shared Facility Request\)](#)
18. [STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS – RANKINGS](#)
See OSAA Executive Board Policy “STATE CHAMPIONSHIP -- RANKINGS” in the OSAA Handbook, revised Summer 2024.
19. [WITHDRAWAL DURING A COMPETITION](#)
See OSAA Executive Board Policy “WITHDRAWAL DURING A COMPETITION” in the OSAA Handbook.