



Oregon School Activities Association
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October 21, 2008

TO: Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Directors
FROM: Tom Welter
SUBJECT: Summary of Delegate Assembly Action at the October 20, 2008, Meeting

At the meeting on October 20, 2008, the OSAA Delegate Assembly took the following actions:

- Received a “State of the Association” report from Executive Director Tom Welter and the OSAA staff covering the following subjects:
 - Legal Update
 - Financial Update
 - Legislative Update
 - Appeals Update
 - Medical Aspects of Sports Update
 - Major New Rule Changes
 - Classification and Districting Committee Charge and Procedures
 - Rule of Two – Sport Specific Classes
 - Oregon Connections Academy Clarification
 - NFHS Coaches Education Program
 - Officials Fee Review Committee
 - Fall Administrator Workshops
 - Participation Survey
 - Ejection Summary
 - Spectator Conduct - Sportsmanship Update
 - OSAA Foundation Update
 - Corporate Sponsor Update
- Discussed the following questions in classification caucus groups and received written and oral reports back to the full Delegate Assembly.
 - Should the contest limitations for 3A/2A/1A schools be reduced? Should the practice and first contest dates for the Winter and Spring seasons be shifted for 3A/2A/1A schools?
 - Should the OSAA place limits on the length and frequency with which individual school districts would be able to use protective equipment during the summer?
 - Should the OSAA prohibit all coaches, even on-staff teachers, from teaching a sport specific class outside of the sport’s assigned season?



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- What are the main issues/concerns that your school/league/classification has regarding classification and districting?
- Elected Randy Wharton, Principal, Nestucca HS to the vacant 2A Executive Board Position.
- Received a “First Reading” of the following proposals that will be action items at the April 6, 2009, Delegate Assembly Meeting:
 - A proposal to Amend Article 4.2 – “Delegate Assembly Qualifications” and 5.2.1 – “Executive Board Qualifications” to expand the definition of potentially eligible applicants to the Executive Board and Delegate Assembly.
 - A proposal to Amend Article 6.2 – “Changes in Classification during the Four-Year Time Block” by clarifying that “play up” requests shall be for the duration of the four year time block, and that league adjustments within a classification are not allowed during the four year time block. (see attached)
 - A proposal to Amend Rule 1 – “Responsibility of the Principal” by deleting the requirement that principals submit a Seasonal Eligibility Report.
 - A proposal to Amend Rule 1.2 - “Athletic Director and Coach Certification” by requiring that all coaches (except volunteer coaches in some circumstances) be certified through the NFHS Coaches Education Program. (see attached)
 - A proposal to Amend Rule 5 – “Violations of Regulations – Penalties” to allow the Executive Board more penalty options in the case of the use of a non-certified coach.
 - A proposal to Amend Rule 5.2.3 – “Maximum Fine” by increasing the maximum fine per violation from \$1,000 to \$2,500.
 - A proposal to Amend Rule 6 – “Association Sports / Activities” by clarifying that the authority to add/delete a sport/activity sponsored by the Association belongs to the Delegate Assembly.
 - A proposal to Amend Rule 6.1.2 – “Fall Sports First Contest Dates” by moving the first fall contest date from the Tuesday after Labor Day to the Thursday prior to Labor Day.
 - A proposal to Amend Rule 6.3 – “Contest Limitations at the 3A/2A/1A Classifications” by reducing the number of contests allowed and shortening the length of the sports seasons at the 3A/2A/1A classifications. (see attached)
 - A proposal to Amend Rule 8 – “Individual Eligibility (Attendance – Semester – Grades)” to increase the minimum standards for eligibility to participate in OSAA activities. (see attached)
 - A proposal to Amend Rule 8.6.3 – “Exceptions to Fundamental Rule” (CSIET) to prevent a CSIET student from returning for a second year of eligibility as a boarding school student.
 - A proposal to Amend Rule 8.5 – “School Representation” by specifying that students attending approved alternative schools are eligible at the public school in the attendance boundary where they reside with their parents.

Copies of the detailed official minutes of the October 20, 2008, Delegate Assembly Meeting are available from the OSAA office upon request. Please feel free to contact the OSAA office if you have questions.

Proposal to Amend Article 6.2 – Changes in Classification During a Four-Year Time Block

(First Reading)

QUESTION: *Should the Delegate Assembly amend Article 6.2 “Changes in classification during a four-year time block” to make it clear that any request by a school to the Classification and Districting Committee to “play up” shall be for the duration of the four-year time block?*

RATIONALE: The Classification and Districting Committee makes classification and league placements with the expectation that “play up” requests are for the duration of the four-year time block. A four-year commitment is required in order to create stable leagues for the duration of the time block, but is not directly required in OSAA rules. In order to remove any chance of misunderstanding, the requirement that a “play up” request be for the duration of the four-year time block should be clearly stated in OSAA rules.

RULE CHANGE SPONSORED BY: OSAA Executive Board

POSSIBLE RULE CHANGES:

KEY: Add
Delete

Article 6 – Classification of Schools

6.2 Changes in classification during a four-year time block.

6.2.1 The Executive Board may make what it considers a necessary change or changes in classification either up or down during a four-year time block.

6.2.2 The process for changes in classification **during a four-year time block** shall be as follows:

(a) ~~A school may petition for a change in its assigned classification.~~

(a) After placement **a school has been placed** in a classification for a four-year time block and a **the** school exceeds the upper enrollment limit for its classification, the school shall be subject to review by the Executive Board **with for** possible placement in the next higher classification for the remainder of the time block.

(b) After placement **a school has been placed** in a classification for a four-year time block and a **the** school falls below the lower enrollment limit for its classification, the school may petition the Executive Board for **emergency** placement in the next lower classification for the remainder of the time block.

(c) **After a school has been placed in a classification for a four-year time block based upon a request to the Classification and Districting Committee to “play up” to a higher classification than required by the ADM for that school, that classification placement may not be reviewed by the Executive Board during the four-year time block.**

6.2.3 The Executive Board shall consider classification changes during the four-year time block only at the annual December Board meeting.

Proposal to Amend Rule 1.2 – “Athletic Director and Coach Certification”

(First Reading)

QUESTION: Should the Delegate Assembly amend Rule 1.2 – “Athletic Director and Coach Certification” to require that all coaches be certified?

RATIONALE: The proposed rule change would strengthen and clarify the current rule.

RULE CHANGE SPONSORED BY: OSAA Executive Board

POSSIBLE RULE CHANGES:

KEY: Add
Delete

Rule 1 – Responsibility of the Principal

1.1. Certification of Student Eligibility. The high school principal shall be held accountable for accurate certification regarding eligibility of students. The high school principal shall submit a seasonal eligibility report to the Executive Director prior to the first interscholastic competition of that season.

1.2. Athletic Director and Coach Certification. Athletic directors and **all coaches** shall be certified through the NFHS Coach Education Program – “Fundamentals of Coaching” by achieving a passing score on the certification test prior to assuming duties as an athletic director or coach. The high school principal shall be held accountable for verifying that athletic directors and coaches have been certified. The high school principal shall submit a seasonal eligibility report to the Executive Director prior to the first interscholastic competition of that season. **EXCEPTION:** Any emergency exception must be authorized in writing by the OSAA.

1. **Q.** When should Eligibility Reports be submitted to the Executive Director of the Association?
A. Eligibility Reports are due to the Executive Director prior to the first contest date in each sport season.
2. **Q.** Does certification through the American Sport Education Program (ASEP) satisfy the requirement in Rule 1.2?
A. Yes, so long as the athletic director or coach was certified through ASEP prior to August 1, 2007. Thereafter, only the NFHS Coach Education Program “Fundamentals of Coaching” will satisfy this requirement unless an exception is granted in writing by the OSAA.
3. **Q.** When must a coach be certified?
A. **All coaches must be certified prior to assuming coaching duties unless an emergency exception is authorized in writing by the OSAA.** if at any time for any reason (ejection, illness, etc.) the coach is, or could be, solely responsible for coaching a team.
4. **Q.** Is certification required of all **volunteer** coaches?
A. **Yes.** No, coaches need NOT be certified if a certified coach is present at all times when the non-certified coach is working with students.

Proposed Amendment to Reduce 3A-2A-1A Contest Limitations

(First Reading)

Question: Should the Delegate Assembly amend Rule 6.3 "Contest Limitations" to reduce the contest limitation for 3A-2A-1A schools?

RATIONALE: When the OSAA shifted to six classifications a few years ago, the number of teams in many leagues was reduced. As a result, it is no longer necessary to have as many league contests to determine league winners as it was in the past.

Reduction of unnecessary contests will assist districts in better supporting the needs of participants in the delicate balance between scholastics and athletics. Because fewer contests will be allowed under the proposed rule change, student athletes will miss less instructional time. The shorter league schedules will also allow more time between seasons for multiple sport athletes.

Expenses to districts will also be reduced when schedules are shorter as a result of adoption of the proposal.

RULE CHANGE SPONSORED BY: Brad Royse & Blake Carlsen (Enterprise), Mark Burrows (Morrow SD), Peter Tarzian (Falls City SD), Dave Courtney (Harney County SD), Sean Gallagher (Lake County SD), David Kerr (Prairie City), Michael Corley (Pine Eagle), Rick Pass (Knappa), Don Grotting (Nyssa), Bryn Browning (Ione), Robert Dunton (Corbett), Gordon Munck (Pilot Rock), Larry Glaze (Elgin), Michael Reule (Monument), Mike Wood (Union), John Nesemann (Wallowa), Lance Dixon (North Powder), John Nesemann (Wallowa), Rolla Weber (Marcola), Newell Cleaver & Mark Witty (Grant SD).

POSSIBLE RULE CHANGES:

KEY: Add
Delete

Rule 6 – Association Year (Sports Seasons)

6.3 Contest limitations, exclusive of any varsity district playoffs and state championships, are as follows:

6A-5A-4A

Baseball	26 games
Basketball	24 games
Cross Country	12 meets
Football	9 games
Golf	20 9-hole rounds
Soccer	14 games
Softball	26 games
Swimming*	12 meets
*NOTE: If more than 10, two shall be invitational meets.	
Tennis	16 matches
Track	12 meets
Volleyball	18 playing dates / 36 matches
Wrestling	14 events / 40 mat appearances

3A-2A-1A

Baseball	23 games
Basketball	21 games
Cross Country	10 meets
Football	8 games
Golf	18 9-hole rounds
Soccer	12 games
Softball	23 games
Swimming*	10 meets
*NOTE: If more than 8, two shall be invitational meets.	
Tennis	14 matches
Track	10 meets
Volleyball	16 playing dates / 32 matches
Wrestling	12 events / 40 mat appearances

Possible Effect that a reduction in contests at the 3A/2A/1A levels could have on OSAA Calendar
(2010-11 dates were used in these examples)

<u>Event</u>	<u>Current 2010-11 Calendar</u>	<u>Possible 2010-11 Calendar (change)</u>
Winter 1 st Practice Date (Only the Soccer Semifinals/Finals and Football Semifinals/Finals would still be going on the week of Nov. 15)	Monday, Nov. 8	Monday, Nov. 15 (one week later)
3A, 2A, 1A Football Finals (The reduction in football contests by one would necessitate this move)	Saturday, Dec. 4	Saturday, Nov. 27 (one week earlier)
Winter 1 st Contest Date (All Fall teams, with the exception of two football teams, would have at least 1 ½ weeks of practice prior to this date)	Monday, Nov. 29	Thursday, Dec. 2 (three days later)
Spring 1 st Practice Date (Only the Basketball Championship Final Sites would still be going on the week of Feb. 28)	Monday, Feb. 21	Monday, Feb. 28 (one week later)
Spring 1 st Contest Date (All Winter teams, including basketball, would have at least 1 ½ weeks of practice prior to this date)	Monday, March 14	Thursday, March 17 (three days later)

Proposal to Amend Rule 8.1 – “Attendance – Semester – Grades” to Raise the Individual Eligibility Academic Standards

(First Reading)

QUESTION: Should the Delegate Assembly adopt an amendment to Rule 8.1 – “Attendance – Semester – Grades” to raise the OSAA individual eligibility academic standards?

RATIONALE: Current OSAA individual eligibility academic standards should be strengthened to encourage greater emphasis on and encouragement of academic progress toward graduation.

RULE CHANGE SPONSORED BY: OSAA Executive Board.

POSSIBLE RULE CHANGES:

<p>KEY: Add Delete</p>

Rule 8 Individual Eligibility

8.1. ~~Academic Eligibility.~~ Attendance-Semester-Grades.

Rule: An eligible student must be enrolled full time **and making satisfactory progress toward graduation** as defined in this rule.

Rationale: The objective of the **academic eligibility** ~~minimum semester academic credit~~ rule is to complement member schools’ curriculum programs in recognition of the fact that interscholastic activity programs are an extension of the classroom. Academic standards help ensure a balance between activities and academic performance, promote the objective of graduation from high school, ensure that student participants are truly representing the academic mission of the institution, and allow the use of interscholastic participation as a motivator for academic excellence. It is in the interests of the member schools and the students participating in athletics and interscholastic activities that these objectives be promoted during the entire school year.

8.1.1. **Full Time Enrollment.**

Definition of “full time enrollment”. For purposes of this rule, a full time student is one who is enrolled in high school, attending regularly and passing in subjects **courses offered by a high school, college, work experiences or other school-approved educational activities (including summer school or night school)** equivalent to at least the quantity listed on the appropriate line of the chart below. **In addition**, a full time student shall have been enrolled in school, attended regularly and passed subjects equivalent to at least the quantity listed on the appropriate line of the chart below during the immediate preceding semester. ~~A home school student who transfers to a public or private school may establish initial academic eligibility by achieving a minimum score on the achievement test required annually at the end of the school year of all home school students wishing to participate in activities. NOTE: In a traditional setting, two semester units equals one credit of work, and one half credit is granted each semester.~~

Number of Classes Offered

4

Minimum Number Passed

3

5	4
6	5
7	5 6
8	5 6

EXCEPTION: The requirement for immediate preceding semester credit is inapplicable to a student who has not previously enrolled in any high school offering the 10th, 11th or 12th grades.

(a) ~~Period of Eligibility.~~ If the school enters grades/credits on the official transcript each semester/trimester/quarter, that is the time period of eligibility of students attending that school. **(ADD to Q&A's)**

8.1.2. Satisfactory Progress Toward Graduation. In addition to the specific credit requirement identified in Rule 8.1.1., to be scholastically eligible, a student must **also** be making satisfactory progress towards the school's graduation requirements as determined by the local school administration **by earning a minimum of the quantity of credits indicated on the chart below for the specified year.**

Minimum Satisfactory Progress Requirements

Credits to Graduate	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Credits Per Year	6	6	6.5	6.5	7	7	7.5
(70%) - Prior to Grade 10	4	4	4.5	4.5	4.5	5	5
(80%) - Prior to Grade 11	9.5	10	10	10.5	11	11.5	12
(90%) - Prior to Grade 12	16	16.5	17.5	18	18.5	19.5	20

~~8.1.3. A semester, as used in these Rules, is one-half of the regular school year.~~

~~8.1.4. Where a student is enrolled in a high school and receiving credit at that high school for off-campus college classes, work experiences or other school-approved educational activities (including summer school or night school), the school may count those credits earned off-campus for the purposes of determining individual eligibility.~~

~~8.1.5. Credits earned during the summer or as a result of submitting work to satisfy requirements for classes for which an incomplete grade was assigned shall be deemed to have been completed during the previous semester for the purpose of determining individual eligibility.~~

8.1.3 Home school student academic eligibility.

(a) **Minimum Test Score.** A home school student who transfers to a public or private school may establish initial academic eligibility by achieving a minimum score on **any adopted achievement test pursuant to ORS 339.035. The student shall achieve a minimum composite test score that places the student at or above the 23rd percentile based on national norms.**

(b) **Test Deadline.** **The achievement test must be completed prior to August 15th each year.**

- (c) **Work Sample Alternative.** *In the absence of achievement test results submitted by the deadline of August 15th each year, a school district may adopt alternative requirements including but not limited to a requirement that a student submit a portfolio of work samples to a school district committee for review to determine whether a student is eligible to participate interscholastic activities.*

8.1.4 Hardship exceptions to this Rule. ~~(subject to application and approval by the Executive Director)~~ *The Executive Director, in individual cases may, at his/her discretion and upon terms and conditions he/she may impose, waive or modify this rule when in his/her opinion there are circumstances beyond the control of both the student and the student's parent(s) or other circumstances whereby enforcement of the rule would work an undue hardship upon the student.*

Factors which may be considered by the Executive Director include the following:

- (a) Forced absence due to illness or injury as certified in writing by a licensed physician, shall excuse regular attendance for the period of such forced absence, and where such forced absence entirely prevents completion of the semester, shall excuse completion of the required subjects.
- (b) Any student with an Individualized Educational Program (IEP) who, primarily because of the student's disability,
- (1) did not pass the appropriate number of classes, per Rule 8.1.1., in the immediately preceding semester,
 - (2) is not currently enrolled in and passing the appropriate number of classes, per Rule 8.1.1., and/or
 - (3) has not been attending school regularly, may still be eligible to participate if the student's IEP team determines that the student is making adequate educational progress towards meeting the student's IEP goals and objectives.

A decision of the Executive Director may be appealed to the Executive Board. A decision of the Executive Board may be appealed to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction under OAR 581-021-0035.