



Oregon School Activities Association
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OSAA Football Ad Hoc Committee
Monday, Dec 21 – Zoom – 5pm
Minutes

Considering that there has been considerable time between meetings of the group Brad provided a brief update on a variety of topics as follows –

- Current Governor’s Model – now level by county metric on two week cycles. Football remains prohibited as a full contact sport.
- Ongoing efforts by OSAA staff to work with the Governor, ODE, OHA, OSBA, OADA, OAOA, and others were outlined.
- Football Contingency Group – provided a summary of the groups progress and thoughts to this point.
- Calendar Implications – outlined potential options if we fail to start by Feb 8. Extending the season beyond May 1 potentially impacts the Fall 2021 season per OSAA SMAC.

If the “Contact Sports Restriction” is not lifted by Feb 8 which option would you support?

- Postpone the start of the season – play fewer than 6 games
- Postpone the start date later into the calendar
 - Use May 1 as a marker
- Cancel and create an alternative of some type administered by the OSAA on an “opt-in” basis
- Cancel and leave alternatives up to local control

Summary of option discussion:

- In general, the group supported keeping the Fall 2021 season normal – there was some support for playing fewer games but not extending the season beyond current end date. Playing fewer than 4 games seems to be the minimum.
- There is mixed support for playing some type of “alternative” game – possible that some teams may choose to not participate. Questions regarding local control vs OSAA sponsored would have to be resolved by the Board.
- Brad will survey the group after the meeting and ask them to rank the options.

Group Discussion/Concerns:

- Coach Younger outlined an upcoming effort by the OACA and other affiliate groups to start a campaign to allow athletes back on the field, court, and mat. Rob emphasized that the intention is to be positive and advocate with numbers.
- The group is frustrated that the Governor nor the OHA have provided any concrete metric that could be used as a target to allow contact sports to begin. The question has been posed several times with no direct answer from either.
- Several coaches indicated that they were under the assumption that the DIII and NAIA had received the waiver to begin practicing in Feb/March – what metrics were used to allow this? We did follow-up with Bobby Heiken (Associate AD at SOU) and received the following reply ‘No movement from the Governor’s office for any of those high contact sports. Kinda frustrating - to get nothing from them.’. They are considering moving the start

date to late March and allowing Frontier League schools in Idaho and Montana to begin early if allowed. NAIA conferences have moved Football start date to March 20 (Willamette and Lewis and Clark have already cancelled their seasons)

- The group indicated that would like to get back on a regular meeting schedule.