

# **Oregon School Activities Association**

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June 11, 2024

TO: Superintendents, Principals, and Athletic Directors

FROM: Kris Welch, Assistant Executive Director;

Gibby Reynolds, IT Systems Administrator.

SUBJECT: OSAA Rankings Committee Update – June 11, 2024

The OSAA Rankings Committee met on June 11 via Zoom meeting for the second and final time this school year to continue its review of the rankings from the Spring 2023-24 season.

The Committee will forward its final recommendations to the OSAA Executive Board for consideration at the Board's Summer Workshop, July 22-24, 2024.

The Committee had two individuals come testify on the human element, and their beliefs in justifying a need to have a human element in the placement of the teams onto the bracket for 6A football. After the open session, the Committee went into closed session.

The Committee reviewed the Final 8 for each classification, Spring 2023-24 brackets and 2023-24 rankings. Following this review, the Committee examined rankings scenarios, correlation studies of former and current systems, and rankable contest counts.

**Correlation Studies:** Correlation studies are produced by OSAA staff and serve as one way to gauge the "accuracy" of the system. What counts as "accurate" regarding a rankings system is certainly open to interpretation, but Committee members believe there is value associated with this information, especially when looking at making possible changes.

School Year	<u>Activity</u>	Regular Season	Using the final frozen rankings, correlation studies analyze the	
23-24	Football	94.10%	% of contests where the better ranked team in a classification	
23-24	Boys Soccer	88.03%	won, going backwards through the regular season. A contest	
23-24	Girls Soccer	91.48%	where that happens is considered "accurate". In 2023-24	
23-24	Volleyball	91.17 %	Softball, the current system was 86.15% "accurate" going back	
23-24	Girls Basketball	90.34%	,	
23-24	Boys Basketball	87.76%	through the regular season.	
23-24	Softball	86.15%		
23-24	Baseball	83.49%		

Ideas discussed with the Committee after the simulations were:

### Delaying the publicizing of the Rankings

The Committee discussed the possibility of delaying the publishing of rankings for the first few weeks until there was enough data in the system for the rankings to make sense. They determined the necessity to keep the rankings as transparent as possible and to see teams moving fluidly through the season. *After discussion, the Committee does not support a change at this time.* 

#### Should the OSAA consider reseeding the bracket at the final sites for volleyball and basketball

There was some discussion on the match ups in some classifications where there was an "upset" and a lower ranked team made it to the final site. This created lower seed match ups and the higher seeds had higher seed competitions. There was zero correspondence on this idea. *After discussion, the Committee does not support a change at this time.* 

## Should a human element be created for the Rankings

The Committee spent some time on this topic. While the Committee does not necessarily see the rankings as broken, there may be situations where it may be tweaked. The Committee has zero interest in seeing a human element in the rankings itself, but a possibility of after the rankings have determined the teams, to have a subcommittee come together to place the state qualified teams onto the bracket. The Committee is interested in collecting more information on this topic. Would this be just a 6A football creation, or all classifications in football, or all classifications in every sport? Feedback is requested from the OACA in their seasonal meetings for each team sport in their Board meetings and also feedback from the OADA having questions for discussions at their October League Rep meeting. Until the Committee receives more feedback from those groups, they are not willing to support a major change in the process. The *Committee is interested in receiving feedback on this concept for future years.* 

#### **Freeze Dates and Deadlines**

The Committee supports the following proposed deadlines and freeze dates and will recommend them to the Executive Board:

- 1) Contests vs. Teams More Than One Classification Away. In the RPI system, results from contests added to a team's schedule after a certain date each season (Fall Sept. 18; Winter Dec. 18; Spring Apr. 9) vs. a team more than one classification away shall not be included in the rankings. NOTE: bracketed contests at tournaments are not affected by this policy.
- 2) Contests Added After a Certain Date. Results from contests added to a team's schedule after a certain date each season (Fall Oct. 2; Winter Jan. 15; Spring Apr. 16) shall not be included in the rankings. NOTE: Contests not affected by this policy include bracketed contests at tournaments, league tiebreakers, and district/league tournaments. Schools may apply for an exception to OSAA Staff in extenuating circumstances.

<u>Ranking Timelines</u>. The rankings for each team sport shall be available to the public through the OSAA website beginning with the first contest date of each sports season. Rankings shall be frozen on the following dates for each classification in each team sport:

Sport (includes all games played on that day)	<u>6A</u>	<u>5A</u>	<u>4A</u>	<u>3A</u>	<u>2A</u>	<u>1A</u>
Volleyball - Rankings Freeze Date (10pm)	Sat, Oct 26	Tues, Oct 29	Thurs, Oct 24	Sat, Oct 26	Tues, Oct 29	Sat, Oct 26
Soccer - Rankings Freeze Date (10pm)	Tues, Oct 29	Sat, Nov 2	Tues, Oct 29	Tues, Oct 29	Tues, Oct 29	Tues, Oct 29
Football - Rankings Freeze Date (10pm)	Fri, Nov 1	Fri, Nov 1	Sat, Nov 2	Sat, Nov 2	Sat, Nov 2	Fri, Nov 1/Sat, Nov 2
Basketball (Boys) - Rankings Freeze Date (10pm)	Sat., March 1	Wed., March 5	Tues, Feb 25	Sat, Feb 22	Sat, Feb 22	Sat, Feb 22
Basketball (Girls) - Rankings Freeze Date (10pm)	Fri, Feb 28	Tues, March 4	Tues, Feb 25	Sat, Feb 22	Sat, Feb 22	Sat, Feb 22
Baseball/Softball - Rankings Freeze Date (10pm)	Thurs, May 22	Sat, May 24	Mon, May 19	Thurs, May 22	Thurs, May 22	Thurs, May 22

All written communications received will be forwarded to all members of the Rankings Committee for their review. Please send emails to Kris Welch (krisw@osaa.org) at the OSAA if you have any questions.

The Committee supported meeting twice a year and having it be through Zoom. Next year's Ranking's Committee Dates Thursday, April  $10^{th}$ , 1:00pm Tuesday, June  $10^{th}$ , 11:00am