



Oregon School Activities Association

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April 9, 2025

TO: Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Directors
FROM: Peter Weber, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Summary of Delegate Assembly Action at the April 7, 2025, Meeting

At the meeting on April 7, 2025, the OSAA Delegate Assembly took the following actions:

- Approved the minutes of the October 7, 2024, Delegate Assembly meeting.
- Received an update from staff on national and sectional recognitions awarded to members of the state throughout the year, including:
 - NFHS State Award for Outstanding Service – Oregon Cheerleading Coaches Association (OCCA)
 - OSAA Distinguished Service Award – Cari Wood, Athletic Trainer, Redmond SD
 - NFHS Spirit of Sport Award – Avery Teed, Jesuit HS (Section 8)
 - NFHS National Coach of the Year – Ernie Brooks, Crook County HS (Boys Track & Field)
 - National High School Hall of Fame Inductees:
 - Anna Maria Lopez, Athlete, St. Mary's Academy
 - Jane Berry-Eddings, Performing/Fine Arts, Sprague HS
- Received a State of the Association report from Executive Director Peter Weber and staff.
- Discussed the following questions in classification caucus groups and received reports back to the full Delegate Assembly.

Emerging Activities

The OSAA has received several inquiries from organizations looking for their activity to become an Emerging Activity. The OSAA recently sent out a survey to member schools looking for feedback. Each school/district has handled emerging activities differently leading to questions about how Emerging Activities fit within OSAA.

In general, is your classification interested in adding more activities to the Association's championship offerings? If Boys Volleyball is approved in which season should they play (currently spring)? If Girls Flag Football is approved in which season should they play (currently spring)? Does your classification have any concerns regarding the OSAA potentially adding additional sports/activities?

Classification and Districting Committee

In the fall of 2025, the OSAA Classification and Districting Committee will begin their work later this summer. It's vitally important to get as much feedback from classifications on what their opinions are for the 2026-2030 time block. The Committee will have their final proposal to the OSAA Delegate Assembly in December 2025.

What input does your classification have for the Committee as they begin their work?

Football Ad Hoc Committee

Currently, the Football Ad Hoc Committee presents changes to the OSAA Executive Board each February with recommended changes to classifications and districts for Football. Feedback during this last series of meetings indicated a preference to limit movement year-to-year to better align with two-year scheduling commitments.

Is your classification in favor of requesting that the Football Ad Hoc Committee stay aligned with two-year scheduling commitments as much as possible when reviewing placement of schools during a time block?

Championship Thresholds Task Force

This task force will make recommendations to the Executive Board regarding general state championship qualifying percentages in team sports, individual sports, and activities. The group believes, in general, that too many students are

qualifying for state championships and currently supports an optimal qualification percentage range between 30%-40%, with a low-end base of 25% and high-end cap of 45%.

Does your classification support the task force's general qualification percentage range outlined above?

Transfer and Eligibility Task Force

The OSAA Executive Board put together the Transfer/Eligibility Task Force to review the Associations' rules and policies in this area. This task force has met several times and gathered information from a survey of schools on transfer data. They are looking for feedback on potential adjustments to current policies.

Does your classification support allowing ineligible transfers to participate at the sub-varsity level during their period of ineligibility without the school having to submit a hardship request to their District Committee? Does your classification believe that reciprocal/interdistrict transfers between school years should continue to allow a student to be immediately eligible to participate in sports/activities at the new school? Does your classification support requiring additional documentation be submitted when schools file a hardship request with their District Committee? (i.e., documentation of mitigating circumstances, school documentation of bullying, health provider documentation of health/mental health concerns, etc.)

- Received an update on results from the Association's recent emerging activities survey of schools.
- Voted to amend Article 6.2.4 (a) – Classification of Schools – Petition to Play Down which amends policy to encompass an entire school and be more responsive per recommendations from the Petition to Play Down Task Force, effective August 1, 2025. (Attached)
- Received a first reading from Boys and Girls Lacrosse to become emerging activities.
- Voted to re-elect the following representatives to the Executive Board:
 - Jennifer Kubista, Superintendent, Central SD, as the 5A representative.
 - Curtiss Scholl, Superintendent, Sisters SD, as the 3A representative.
- Recognized the following member of the Delegate Assembly who is changing positions and won't be representing their league next year: Steve Wallo, C.S. Lewis Academy.
- Elected Jennifer Kubista, Superintendent, Central SD, as the OSAA President for 2025-26.
- Received a reminder of upcoming meetings:
 - Executive Board – Monday, May 12, 2025 / 11am / OSAA Office, Wilsonville
 - Executive Board Summer Workshop – Monday-Wednesday, July 21-23, 2025 / Eagle Crest Resort, Redmond

A summary of actions is posted on the OSAA website following each Board and Delegate Assembly Meeting. Official minutes of the April 7, 2025, Delegate Assembly meeting are available from the OSAA upon request.

The April 7, 2025, Delegate Assembly meeting was live streamed on the OSAA's YouTube channel and a recording can be accessed at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/@oregonschoolactivitiesasso4025/streams>.

Proposal to Amend Article 6.2.4 – Classification of Schools

(Action Item)

QUESTION: *Should the Delegate Assembly approve the proposed amendments to Article 6.2.4(a) Petition to Play Down as recommended by the Petition to Play Down Task Force?*

RATIONALE: The Petition to Play Down Task Force concluded its work and has suggested an overhaul of the Petition to Play Down policy. These amendments allow the policy to be more responsive to the rapidly changing landscape of schools and the success of their programs. In addition, the amendments consider more programs in a school in which some activities may have to remain or return to their originally assigned classification.

RULE CHANGE SPONSORED BY: OSAA Executive Board, Petition to Play Down Task Force

NEXT STEP IF PASSED: Effective August 1, 2025.

POSSIBLE RULE CHANGES:

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| <p>KEY: Add</p> <p>Delete</p> |
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(a) Petition to Play Down.

[\(Petition to Play Down\)](#)

- (1) **Submission Deadline.** Except as specified in [Article 6.2.2 \(c\)](#), a member school seeking to play in a lower classification than assigned under [Article 6.2.4](#) shall be required to complete and submit a “Petition to Play Down” to the OSAA prior to October 1 preceding the quadrennial December Classification and Districting Meeting.
- (2) **Athletics and Activities Affected.** Any “Petition to Play Down” granted by the Executive Board shall apply to all OSAA athletics and activities in which the member school participates, except as outlined below.
 - a) ~~**Dominant Team Sport Activity.** A point based system based on state championship success shall be used to determine a dominant team sport activity. Teams reaching a quarterfinal shall earn one point; team reaching a semifinal shall earn four points; and teams reaching a final shall earn six points. A team earning a total of eight points in the previous three year period shall be considered a dominant team sport activity and shall continue competing at their original classification while the school’s remaining programs compete at the lower classification.~~

Sport/Activity Returning to or Remaining at Original Classification. Any school sport or activity playing below their classification based upon an approved Petition to Play Down will return to their original classification if the following occurs:

1. ***Team Sports: If a team sport qualifies for the state playoffs and wins a contest while playing down or in the immediately preceding season to the Petition to Play Down being granted, that specific team sport will return to or stay at their original classification for the next school year.***
2. ***Individual Sports and Activities: If an individual sport or activity team receives a trophy at their state championship while playing down or in the immediately preceding season to the Petition to Play Down being granted, that specific***

5.b.

individual sport or activity team will return to or stay at their original classification for the next school year.

- (3) **Duration.** Any “Petition to Play Down” granted by the Executive Board shall apply to the classification placement of the petitioning member school during the entire subsequent four-year time block, except as outlined ~~below~~ **above**.

~~a) **Two-Year Review.** A varsity team earning a total of 10 points during the first two years of a time block would be considered a dominant team sport activity and would be returned to its original classification for the remaining two years of the time block. The school’s other team would remain at the lower classification for the remainder of the time block.~~

- (4) **Required Information.** A member school submitting a “Petition to Play Down” shall provide the following information for consideration by the Executive Board **over the previous three years of the time block**: Petitioning schools that meet all four criteria listed below shall be automatically approved. Schools meeting some but not all criteria will have their petition reviewed by the Executive Board:

a) **A school’s overall in-class winning percentage over the immediately preceding three-year period in team sports that is less than 20% (excluding football).**

Documentation showing the school’s percentage of students on free lunch at 50% or higher.

b) **A school’s individual sports participation numbers that are less than the standard deviation compared to the average of the schools in their current classification.**

Documentation showing that the school’s teams finished in the bottom 50% of the final frozen rankings at their current classification at least 75% of the time for the previous three years.

~~c) Documentation showing that the school’s teams finished in the bottom 20% of the final frozen rankings at their current classification at least 50% of the time for the previous three years.~~

~~d) Documentation showing that the winning percentage for the school’s teams in team sports was 25% or less at least 40% of the time for the previous three years.~~

- (5) **Additional Information.** A member school submitting a “Petition to Play Down” may provide additional information to the Executive Board in support of the petition including, but not limited to, evidence of intervention undertaken by the district to address lack of competitive success and a letter of current league support for the “Petition to Play Down.”

- (6) **Appeal Process.** *A school not meeting the criteria set forth above but wanting to Petition to Play Down may appeal to the OSAA Executive Board at the quadrennial December Board meeting. To be able to appeal, schools must meet one of the criteria above in section 4. In addition, the school must meet both of the following criteria:*

a) **A school’s overall in-class winning percentage over the immediately preceding three-year period in team sports is under 30% (excluding football).**

b) **Have no more than 20% of the activities sponsored by the school that would remain at the original classification per the “Sport/Activity Returning to or Remaining at Original Classification” (above)**