

Volleyball Contingency Group Meeting: October 22, 2020 6:30-8pm

We began as a whole group of Season 3 sports with Football, Volleyball, and Soccer Contingency Groups together as the OSAA staff went over the current status as of October 22 for the 2020-21 Association year. This included a summary of our Delegate Assembly meeting caucus discussions, the Executive Board decisions during their work session, and updates on status of OSAA work in advocating for reclassification of sports and matrices. The Executive Board made the decision to have schools prioritize their schedules by local/regional as opposed to League schedules. In some cases, it would make sense to stay in leagues as that would be locally, but for some leagues it just does not make sense playing only league opponents with the transportation restrictions as difficult as they are. The Board also made the decision to suspend the use of Rankings for the 2020-21 school year in the hopes that would help schools determine schedules. Peter reiterated the OHA and ODE's stance on schools ability to compete indoors or not being based on schools' educational system in place; comprehensive distance learning (no indoor competitions, but can compete in outdoor activities and competitions), in-person or hybrid learning (indoor competitions could take place along with all outdoor activities and athletics). We continue to request the reclassification of the sports and potential loosening on the restrictions but have not heard back yet as their main focus is getting kids back in schools. After the completion of information and questions and answer session, the contingency groups broke off into their own break-out sessions

The Volleyball Contingency Group meeting started with a review of what schools are engaging in during Season 1:

There is a mix of engagement as well as not yet able to engage in person amongst the schools represented on the contingency group. All schools seem to be making plans for future practices and hope to get students back into in person practices before the end of Season 1.

KT Emerson reviewed the educational models and how that relates to their ability to participate in volleyball and the updated plan book information provided. 6A-5A scheduling are looking at really no tournneys focus. There are currently 14 playing dates 6 multi match 3 that can be tournaments with current participation limitations. Coaches were discussing how double duals are probably better than tournaments for both maximizing travel and play as well as limiting risk. Also, there are students partaking in both club and high school volleyball as well as several other athletics and activities opportunities because they are desperate to find ways to connect.

KT went over recommendation options that have been discussed in past meetings. There continues to be questions regarding travel during culminating event weeks. If we are playing in regional models, then traveling across the state to compete during the culminating week events seems counter intuitive to directed model by the OSAA Executive Board. Going to a culminating event is a four way stop sign, can schools go and does the facility want us to come, community want us to come, are we able financially --- come everything needs to work together.

Volleyball Contingency Group Possible Recommendation Options: (What questions do we still need to answer?)

- 1) Regional play, with selection committee who determines brackets for classification brackets and possibly state championship competition:
 - a. What is the number of teams needed to compete to justify a state championship event?
 - b. After playing regionally, should we have teams traveling across the state for these final events?

- 2) Regional play and cross regional bracket play for Culminating Event Week. Attempt to align two local/regional leagues with one another to compete in competitions, bracketed or not, for the culminating week events.
 - a. Does this need to remain classification specific, or could it be combined classifications?
 - b. What determining factors go in to aligning the two regional "leagues"?

- 3) Regional play with final bracketed competition for regional play of the established "league". (Similar to a league tournament)

Some questions and notes:

- Number of matches- If one team gets to play 5 matches and one team plays all 14, how is that calculated?
 - o Does there need to be a minimum amount of play dates in order to accurately calculate?
- 3 matches could be played safely in a culminating week, which leads itself to 8 teams.
- How do you choose those 8 teams? What factors to sort them? League champion was what was used before.
- If you play regionally, would that "league/region" get together to determine who plays
- Representatives from the committee also need to discuss the parameters and the data that would need to be present in order to determine who plays in which brackets.
- Make sure the "definition" of the Culminating Week Events is clear to parents and students.

Next Meeting: TBD