



Oregon School Activities Association

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September 17, 2024

TO: Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Directors

FROM: Kelly Foster, Assistant Executive Director
Kyle Stanfield, Chief Operating Officer

SUBJECT: Update on the Proceedings of the Championship Thresholds Task Force

The Championship Thresholds Task Force held its second meeting via Zoom on September 10, 2024. The Task Force will be utilizing a virtual format for all meetings that allows both Task Force members and those seeking to provide input the option of participating via webinar.

After Task Force introductions, the group received a review of the charge, a review of the timeline, and an explanation of the meeting procedure. The reviews were conducted by Peter Weber (OSAA Executive Director), Kelly Foster, and Kyle Stanfield.

The Championship Thresholds Task Force was created at the request of the Executive Board after receiving feedback from the previous State Championship Committee. The State Championship Committee felt that their condensed timeframe made it difficult to delve into the intricacies of the qualifying percentages of each sport and activity.

The OSAA Assistant Executive Directors (Kris Welch, Lauren Brownrigg, Missy Smith and Kelly Foster) presented an extensive amount of information related to how each activity in the Association qualifies for their respective championship. From that information, the Task Force was able to view how each activity (team sport, individual sport, and activity programs) compared to one another when qualifying for the championships. There were some stark differences when reviewing the information where some activities were qualifying 70% of their district participants to state while others were as low as 12%.

The staff reviewed the championships and their structure to explain why some qualifications are the way they are. Some activities have restrictions on the number of matches a participant can participate in a day (i.e. tennis, wrestling) while others are restricted to facilities where the facility plays a role in how we structure championships.

Overall, the Task Force's philosophy is that getting to a state championship bracket or event is an honor and needs potentially be more difficult to achieve than it currently is in many instances. Additionally, the expense to travel is increasing for schools and some are questioning if some early round travel is necessary when the matchups are often lopsided.

The Task Force requested that the staff develop questions for the October 7 Delegate Assembly meeting to ask the constituents their thoughts pertaining to general qualification percentages. Additionally, the task force would like some general information from neighboring states on how they qualify for championship events.

The Task Force will continue meeting throughout the 2024-25 school year. The next meeting will take place in mid-October.

Written suggestions and proposals on these issues should be emailed to Kelly Foster (kellyf@osaa.org) **Any communication received by the OSAA will be shared with all task force members for review and discussion.** The Task Force will keep the OSAA Executive Board up to date on their work during the process.

A future list of meeting dates, Task Force Roster, charge to the Task Force, and information are available at the OSAA website: <https://www.osaa.org/governance/task-forces#thresholds>.

The Task Force appreciates your support and encourages your participation in this process. Please do not hesitate to contact Kyle Stanfield (kyles@osaa.org) or Kelly Foster (kellyf@osaa.org) at the OSAA if you have any questions.