



Oregon School Activities Association
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SPORTS MEDICINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

MINUTES

1. Present: Dr. Michael Koester (chairperson); Jeremy Ainsworth, (OATS); Dr. Murtaza Batla; Mark Boren; Dr. Preston Chadwick; Dr. James Chesnutt; Dr. Robert Fan; Sam Johnson (OATS); Shelly Jones, (OATS); Marc Norcross; Dr. Sean Rash; Dr. David Sarmiento; Clint Forste (OADA); Brad Garrett, Peter Weber (OSAA).
2. Review minutes of September 24, 2019 meeting – The committee approved the minutes.
3. Old Business
 - a) Air Quality Policy Review – Dr. Koester reviewed current policy and concerns expressed by some regarding current guidelines, including air stagnation vs. smoke issues. Some committee members feel that the policy should be adjusted to allow practice/competition if the level is above 100 but less than 150. There is some suggestion that 125 is a better number – but current scales would not be applicable because color charts stop at 100 (orange) and 150 (red). More information on how other states are handling air quality restrictions will be provided at a future meeting before any recommendations are considered.
 - b) Softball Facial Protection Survey – Kelly Foster of OSAA is working with Dr. Koester to send out a survey to member school softball coaches regarding how many players are currently using facial protection and which positions those players are at on the field.
4. New Business
 - a) Return to Learn Legislation – The committee voiced general concerns about small schools' ability to form review teams and turnover in staffing, also infrequency of concussion situations because of smaller populations. Very few ATC's or medical specialists available to help provide support in many communities. Oregon School Boards Association (OSBA) has concerns that schools may not be able to follow the proposed changes to the law. There is also concern regarding how any new program would be funded, specifically at the small school level. No statewide TBI registry leads to concerns related to identifying – are all schools following the state law. Peter Weber will follow up with OSBA and legislative contacts to let them know which schools have effective RTL programs in place. OSAA staff will monitor potential legislation in this area and report back.
 - b) Concussion and CTE Risk – The committee discussed the new campaign by the Concussion Legacy Foundation. The Foundation has produced a commercial that equates smoking with playing football. There is a lot of misinformation surrounding what causes CTE, but general consensus is that limiting contact for as long as possible will reduce the risk.
 - c) HS RIO – The NFHS SMAC is considering some changes to the RIO moving forward. The program has been in place for 13 years. It may not be collecting data on some sports and diving deeper on others. Example: fill rates on turf fields. Dr. Koester is interested in identifying barriers that ATCs might have to reporting data.
 - d) Fall Sports Season Review – Fall State Championships are progressing. SMAC is interested in participation figures and any fluctuations year over year.
 - e) Future SMAC Initiatives – The SMAC has worked diligently the past few years on Heat Index, Air Quality, Football Practice guidelines, Football participation limitations, etc. Looking ahead there is interest in discussions around minimum roster sizes and the Oregon Body Project as well as ways to continue to highlight the benefits of participation.
5. Future Meeting Dates – April 14, 2020