



Oregon School Activities Association  
25200 SW Parkway Avenue, Suite 1  
Wilsonville, OR 97070  
503.682.6722 fax: 503.682.0960 <http://www.osaa.org>



August 1, 2019

TO: Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Directors  
FROM: Peter Weber, Executive Director  
SUBJECT: Summary of Executive Board Action at the Summer Workshop Meeting

At the OSAA Executive Board Summer Workshop in Redmond, the OSAA Executive Board took the following actions:

- Adopted the Athletic Officials Handbook (AOH) for the 2019-20 school year. For more information, click <http://www.osaa.org/docs/officials/AOH.pdf>.
- Adopted changes to Rule 3 – Contests – Sportsmanship – Crowd Control aligning OSAA policy with recently passed legislation. **(Attached)**
- Adopted changes to Rule 4 – Violations of Regulations clarifying the procedure when a school files a protest vs. another school. **(Attached)**
- Adopted changes to Board Policy – Non-Discrimination clarifying where complaints should be brought in alignment with recently passed legislation. **(Attached)**
- Deleted Board Policy – Spectator Conduct at OSAA Sanctioned Events moving that language into the amended Rule 3.
- Adopted changes to Board Policy – State Championships – Rankings updating seasonal dates after which contests won't be counted in the rankings.
- Adopted changes to Board Policy – State Championships – Broadcasting/Streaming updating the process and procedure for those wanting to broadcast/stream state championship events. **(Attached)**
- Adopted changes to Board Policy – State Championships – Videotaping clarifying that an official school video recorder will be allowed in a designated area established by the OSAA. **(Attached)**
- Adopted the 2019-20 Eligibility Appeals Board roster and calendar of hearing dates.
- Adopted a change to the weigh-in procedures for wrestling requiring male wrestlers to remove their straps and/or compression tops only when the skin check is imminent beginning with the 2019-20 season.
- Approved a request from the Oregon Athletic Coaches Association (OACA) to expand the number of qualifiers in the girls division at the Wrestling State Championships from four in each weight class to eight in each weight class for the 2019-20 school year.

A summary of Executive Board actions is posted on the OSAA website following each Executive Board Meeting. Detailed official minutes of the Executive Board Summer Meeting are available from the OSAA upon request.



## Oregon School Activities Association

25200 SW Parkway Avenue, Suite 1  
Wilsonville, OR 97070

503.682.6722 fax: 503.682.0960 <http://www.osaa.org>



### 3. Rule 3 – Contests – Sportsmanship – Crowd Control.

- 3.1. The arrangement of all festivals, meets, contests or championships is the responsibility of the superintendent, assistant superintendent or high school principal, subject to the Regulations of the Association.
- 3.2. When a festival, meet, contest or championship is in progress, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) rules governing such activities shall apply, except for specific deviations as approved by the Executive Board.
- 3.3. **Sportsmanship Responsibility.** The high school *administration*, coach and other responsible officials of each member school shall take all reasonable measures to ensure that the school's coaches, players, students and *spectators* maintain a sportsmanlike attitude *during* all events so that events may be conducted without unreasonable danger or disorder. All cheers, comments and actions shall be in direct support of one's team. ***Discriminatory harassment and bullying behavior will not be tolerated. Discrimination is defined as (OAR 581-021-0045(1)(a) "any act that unreasonably differentiates treatment, intended or unintended, or any act that is fair in form but discriminatory in operation, either of which is based on age, disability, national origin, race, color, marital status, religion, sex, and sexual orientation." Harassing conduct may take many forms, including verbal acts and name-calling; graphic and written statements, which include use of cell phones or the Internet; or other conduct that may be physically threatening, harmful, or humiliating. Examples include but are not limited to hazing, intimidation, bullying, cyberbullying or menacing another, or engaging in behavior deemed by the member school to endanger the safety or well-being of students, employees, self or others. Harassment does not have to include intent to harm, be directed at a specific target, or involve repeated incidents. Harassment creates a hostile environment when the conduct is sufficiently severe, pervasive or persistent, so as to interfere with or limit the ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or opportunities offered by a school. This includes the use of, or engagement in, abusive verbal expression or physical conduct, especially if that conduct interferes with the performance of students, staff, event officials or sponsors of interscholastic activities.***

~~No cheers, comments or actions shall be directed at one's opponent or at contest officials. Derogatory and/or unsportsmanlike language is not allowed. No player may be singled out by number, name or position with negative comments of any kind.~~

~~When a petition is filed alleging violation of this rule, the Executive Director may, at his/her discretion and with concurrence of any two Executive Board members, postpone any pending event which the Executive Director has reason to believe cannot be conducted without an unreasonable danger of disorder. All such protests shall be referred to the Executive Board, which shall proceed as provided in Rule 4. In addition to any other action the Executive Board may take regarding a protest alleging a violation of this rule, the Executive Board shall have the power to cancel or re-schedule the event involved, or to impose conditions on conducting it.~~

- 3.4 ***Spectator Conduct.*** *The following expectations regarding spectator conduct at all OSAA sanctioned events, including regular and post season competition, are provided. Those violating or threatening to violate the following Association rules or site management spectator conduct expectations, may be ejected from the premises, issued a trespass citation, excluded from sanctioned activities temporarily or permanently and/or referred to law enforcement officials.*

- (1) ***All cheers, comments and actions shall be in direct support of one's team. No cheers, comments or actions shall be directed at one's opponent or at contest officials. Some examples of unacceptable conduct include but are not limited to: disrespecting players by name, number or position; negative cheers or chants; throwing objects on the playing surface; use of derogatory or racially explicit language; discriminatory harassment or conduct that creates a hostile environment that is disruptive to the educational environment.***
- (2) ***Spectators shall not be permitted to use vulgar/offensive or racially/culturally insensitive language or engage in any racially / culturally insensitive action.***

- 3.5 ***Complaint Process:*** *The OSAA will sanction schools whom it has found negligent in the duties of reasonably protecting those involved in interscholastic activities from derogatory or inappropriate names, insults, verbal*

*assaults, profanity, ridicule or engaging in behavior deemed by the member school to endanger the safety or well-being of students, employees, self or others.*

- 1) *OSAA will acknowledge receipt of the complaint within 48 hours.*
- 2) *OSAA may prioritize the investigation of complaints based on information received.*
- 3) *Complaints deemed to be employee or student discipline matters only shall be returned to the complainant. Matters of employment and/or employee discipline which can best be resolved through the school district's complaint process include but are not limited to: playing time, team level assignments (Varsity/JV), assignment of a student to a specific coach, equipment use, or dissatisfaction with a contract or payment term. Matters of student discipline which can best be resolved through the school district's complaint process include but are not limited to: academic eligibility, drug/alcohol use, playing time or playing position, specific workout requirements, or dissatisfaction with a calendar, schedule or event location.*
- 4) *Complaints must include the complainant's name and contact information (phone and email or mailing address). Anonymous complaints shall not be considered.*
- 5) *Every effort will be made to complete the investigative process within 30 days; however, should the investigation require more time, a 30-day status update shall be provided.*

*To assist in investigation of the complaint, complainants are asked to note the following:*

- 1) *Complaints are only accepted on the official online form and each section of the complaint form must be completed.*
- 2) *Complaints which are determined to be outside the scope of OSAA (see 3.5.3. above for guidance) will be returned to the complainant via the contact address provided.*
- 3) *Whenever possible, provide first-hand accounts, with names and contact information of witnesses.*

3.6 **Sportsmanship Violations/Penalties.** When the coaches, players, students, staff or *spectators* of any member school engage in unsportsmanlike conduct, ***discriminatory harassing behaviors, act in a manner disruptive to the school environment, or cause*** disorder or infliction of damage to persons or property in connection with any festival, meet, contest or championship sponsored by this Association, the Executive Board may treat such acts as a violation by the school of the Rules of the Association ***and the school shall be subject to penalty. Penalties may vary depending on the actions taken by the school and/or school district during and after the event as it relates to trespassing spectators involved, removing players/coaches from the team for a period of time, requiring additional education/training, etc. Upon a ruling by the Executive Director or by the Executive Board the member school may be subject to probation, mandatory appearance before the Executive Board, required plan of action, forfeitures, fines, lack of institutional control penalties, suspension of membership or expulsion from the Association as determined by the Board. The Board may determine that no penalties are necessary when an incident has been handled appropriately and in a timely fashion by the school and/or district.***

~~3.7 — A member school shall not participate in any festival, meet, contest or championship with a school that has been suspended or expelled from the Association.~~

~~3.8 — The Association shall conduct state championships as directed by the Delegate Assembly.~~

~~3.9 — A school shall not be allowed to participate in more than one state championship in a given sport.~~

1. Q. Is the host school exclusively responsible for crowd control?

A. No. While the host school for any activity must assume a primary responsibility for the physical management of the activity, including providing for crowd control, this is a mutual responsibility. The visiting school also must take such measures as are necessary to insure proper behavior on the part of its own students and fans.

2. Q. May home team schools display signs and/or banners at their home venues?

- A. Yes, home team schools may display “permanent” signs and/or banners that are positive / supportive at their home venues. Examples are welcome signs, in-season rosters, league banners, league / state championship banners and sportsmanship banners.
3. Q. Are “run through” signs allowed?
- A. Yes, so long as the message is positive/supportive.
4. Q. May visiting schools bring signs and/or banners to hang at the host school’s venue?
- A. No.
5. Q. *May spectators have signs at events?*
- A. *Spectators are not permitted to have signs or banners larger than 8 ½ by 11 inches. “Fathead” type items are considered signs and shall not be larger than 8 ½ by 11 inches. Spectators are required to wear shirts.*
6. Q. *May a spectator have an artificial noisemaker?*
- A. *No, spectators are not permitted to have artificial noisemakers. Some examples of artificial noisemakers are Thunder Stix, cowbells, clappers and air horns.*
7. Q. May a school use an artificial noisemaker at specific times during athletic events?
- A. In limited cases, yes. An example of an allowable use of artificial noisemakers by a school would be the firing of a cannon or the ringing of a bell after a touchdown is scored.
8. Q. May spectators use small, handheld megaphones?
- A. Yes, **provided they are not electric**. Only cheerleaders are allowed to use large megaphones. Neither cheerleaders nor spectators may use megaphones for banging on the floor or bleachers.
9. Q. What are some examples of cheers that do not encourage a positive atmosphere?
- A. Any yell that is intended to antagonize an opponent detracts from a positive atmosphere. “Air Ball! Air Ball!” booing, “You! You! You!”, or “You Got Swatted!” are examples of yells that will not encourage a positive atmosphere. Conversely, a positive atmosphere is created when fans focus on positive yells in support of their team, rather than on negative yells attacking their team’s opponents. **Spectators shall not turn their backs or hold up newspapers during team introductions, or jeer at cheerleaders during opposing team introductions.**
10. Q. May students stand on the bottom row of the bleachers?
- A. Yes, but when they sit down, they must be seated on the second row.
11. Q. May students cheer during serves in volleyball and free throws in basketball?
- A. Yes, so long as they are just “making noise” and not specifically addressing a contest official or an individual player from the opposing team.
12. Q. May a school use balloons at an athletic event?
- A. Yes, a host school may use balloons for decoration. However, fans may not have balloons, and balloons may not be placed by the school in any manner that would block spectator viewing.
13. Q. May a school use balloons or confetti at a state championship final site?
- A. No.
14. Q. May spectators have oversized foam fingers at athletic events?
- A. A. Yes, they are allowed so long as they are not blocking spectator viewing.



## Oregon School Activities Association

25200 SW Parkway Avenue, Suite 1

Wilsonville, OR 97070

503.682.6722 fax: 503.682.0960 <http://www.osaa.org>



#### **4. Rule 4 – Violations of Regulations (Articles, Rules, Executive Board Policies, Participation Limitations, Sports Seasons Limitations and Executive Board Interpretations) – Protests and Self-Reported Violations.**

- 4.1. A high school wishing to have another high school penalized for violation of the Association's Regulations, or to have an official penalized for violations of the Association's Regulations or the Prohibited Conduct, shall file a written notice of protest signed by its superintendent, assistant superintendent or principal and specifying the grounds of protest with the Executive Director. The notice shall be filed without delay after the alleged violation has occurred, and the Executive Director and Executive Board may consider unreasonable delay a factor in ruling on any protest. Protests also may be initiated by the Executive Director or by the Executive Board.

***When a petition is filed alleging violation of Rule 3, the Executive Director may, at his/her discretion and with concurrence of any two Executive Board members, postpone any pending event which the Executive Director has reason to believe cannot be conducted without an unreasonable danger of disorder. All such protests shall be referred to the Executive Board, which shall proceed as provided in Rule 4. In addition to any other action the Executive Board may take regarding a protest alleging a violation of Rule 3, the Executive Board shall have the power to cancel or re-schedule the event involved, or to impose conditions on conducting it.***

- 4.2. The Executive Director shall notify the accused school of the protest, and after such further investigation as the Executive Director deems necessary, shall either make a ruling on the protest or refer it to the Executive Board.

In the case of a protest filed against an official, the Executive Director shall refer the protest to the proper local Association of OSAA Officials for determination of a penalty. **EXCEPTION:** Where it is alleged that unwarranted physical contact has been initiated by an official toward a coach/player, the official shall be required to appear before the Executive Board at the next scheduled meeting.

- 4.3. Any parent, student or school may appeal to the Executive Board from a ruling of the Executive Director on a protest by giving the Executive Director written notice of such appeal within 10 working days of the Executive Director's ruling. Any interested official, parent, student or school may appeal to the Executive Board from a ruling of a local Association of the OSAA Officials on a protest against an official by giving the local association written notice of such an appeal within 10 working days of the local association's ruling. Failure to give such notice shall be a waiver of the right of appeal. Where an appeal is taken from the Executive Director's ruling of ineligibility, the ineligible student(s) shall remain ineligible until the Executive Board decides the appeal.
- 4.4. If any member of the Executive Board is an interested party in a protest, the Executive Board member shall recuse themselves from participation in the decision of the case.
- 4.5. The Executive Director may determine that a school has violated a rule of the Association based upon facts reported to the Executive Director by the member school affected. Such a determination may be appealed to the Executive Board in the manner set forth in **Rule 4.6**.
- 4.6. When a ruling has been appealed or when a protest has been initiated by or referred to the Executive Board, the Executive Board shall schedule a hearing at the earliest practicable opportunity. The hearing shall be conducted by the Executive Board, pursuant to such procedures as it may direct, provided that interested schools have an opportunity to present evidence on their behalf. Pending decision of any appeal from a ruling of the Executive Director, that ruling shall stand and be given full force and effect for all purposes. If the ruling is modified or overruled on appeal, the Executive Board, at its discretion, may take such corrective action as it deems feasible and fair to all concerned.



## Oregon School Activities Association

25200 SW Parkway Avenue, Suite 1

Wilsonville, OR 97070

503.682.6722 fax: 503.682.0960 <http://www.osaa.org>



### 51. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

- A. The Oregon School Activities Association does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, age or disability in the performance of its authorized functions, and encourages its member schools, school personnel, participants and spectators to adopt and follow the same policy.
- B. ***A claim of discrimination against a member school shall be brought directly to the member school of concern.***
- C. Any party that believes he/she has been subjected to an ***incident involving*** discrimination ***or discriminatory harassment at an OSAA sanctioned event*** by the OSAA or its agents, ***may submit*** a written complaint ***through the online complaint process provided on the OSAA website.*** ***When the coaches, players, students, staff or spectators of any member school engage in discriminatory behaviors, or act in a manner disruptive to the school environment, or cause disorder or infliction of damage to persons or property in connection with any festival, meet, contest or championship sanctioned by the Association, the Executive Board may treat such acts as a violation by the school of the Rules of the Association. (See Rule 3)*** ~~may be submitted to the Executive Board, describing the circumstances of the discriminatory acts and the relief requested. The Executive Board shall schedule a date for a hearing as soon as reasonably possible. The hearing shall be conducted in executive session unless the Executive Board determines that there are in its judgment good reasons to conduct the hearing otherwise. The Executive Board shall make a determination as to the validity of the complaint and take such action as it deems appropriate to remedy any discrimination that is found to exist. The decision of the Executive Board may be appealed to a Hearings Officer under Rule 9, "Hearings Officer."~~



Oregon School Activities Association  
25200 SW Parkway Avenue, Suite 1  
Wilsonville, OR 97070  
503.682.6722 fax: 503.682.0960 <http://www.osaa.org>



**78. STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS - RADIO, TELEVISION AND INTERNET BROADCASTS BROADCASTING / STREAMING**

The OSAA owns the **broadcasting / streaming** rights to and coordinates any radio, television and Internet broadcasts for all state championship events, - first round **contests** through the championship final finals. **Radio and television stations, cable companies, websites and social media accounts planning to broadcast / stream games in any round of the OSAA playoffs must register with the OSAA by submitting an online registration form.** Media outlets that wish to broadcast any state championship event must contact the OSAA for permission and/or to negotiate a rights fee well in advance of the event. The OSAA shall contact the host school athletic director if a media outlet has been granted permission to broadcast an early round event. If the OSAA has not contacted the host school athletic director to confirm that permission has been granted, the broadcast shall not be allowed. **Registered and approved broadcasts / streams will be listed on the OSAA State Championships Broadcast Schedule. Those not listed will not be allowed.**

For OSAA playoff contests hosted by member schools, it shall be the responsibility of those registered and approved to contact the host school's athletic director to arrange for space, power and Internet access if available. It shall be the responsibility of the media outlet to make all necessary arrangements with the host school athletic director and to pay for any phone line charges or installation fees for any early round event. The OSAA will coordinate these arrangements with media outlets at all final sites, and semifinal sites for football only.

**NOTE: The NFHS Network is the exclusive video broadcast rights holder of OSAA postseason events. Live and on-demand video of OSAA events (full or condensed versions) is strictly prohibited and in direct violation of the OSAA's agreement with the NFHS Network. Those registered and approved for broadcasting / streaming events declined by the NFHS Network shall pay a rights fee to the OSAA.**

Video highlights are limited to a total of two minutes per game, including broadcasts, streams and social media posts.



## Oregon School Activities Association

25200 SW Parkway Avenue, Suite 1

Wilsonville, OR 97070

503.682.6722 fax: 503.682.0960 <http://www.osaa.org>



### 83. STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS – VIDEOTAPING

**Recording video of Any school or spectator may videotape state championships from the stands seating areas is allowed provided the view of spectators is not obstructed. , providing they do not obstruct the view of others or require extra space. Use of a tripod in the stands seating areas is prohibited for due to safety reasons. When a school films its own team during a state championship, the official school representative will be granted the privilege of filming from the designated area established by the OSAA. An official team video recorder, identified prior to a contest by the head coach or athletic director of a participating school, will be allowed in a designated area established by the OSAA.**

**NOTE: Recording video Videotaping or filming is for private use only. Televising Broadcasting or streaming video – live or delay – , including live or delayed broadcasts and cable, is prohibited unless a contract is signed with the OSAA, an online registration form and has been submitted and approved by the OSAA. Those approved for broadcasting / streaming events declined by the NFHS Network shall pay a rights fee to the OSAA.**