



## Oregon School Activities Association

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January 22, 2018

TO: Superintendents, Principals, and Athletic Directors

FROM: Peter Weber, Executive Director  
Kyle Stanfield, Assistant Executive Director

SUBJECT: Inclusion Committee – January 11 Meeting Minutes

The OSAA Inclusion Committee met for the first time this school year in a closed work session on Thursday, January 11 at the OSAA Offices in Wilsonville. In person attendees included Ken Bell (Sherwood HS), Ted Yates (Gladstone HS), Heidi Hermansen (Cascade HS), Kacey McCallister (World Wheelchair Sports) along with OSAA Staff members Peter Weber, Brad Garrett, Kris Welch and Kelly Foster. Committee members Ian Jaquiss (OHSU) and Carly Schmidt (City of Eugene) were able to join via teleconference.

The meeting began with introductions and a recap of the June 2017 meeting. The primary focus was to review the recommendations that were forwarded to the OSAA Executive Board and how those were received and will be implemented in the 2018 championships.

The OSAA Executive Board approved adding the shot put and the 1500-meter race to the offerings at the 2018 Track and Field State Championships with the note that para-athletes are allowed to participate in two of the four events offered (100-meter, 400-meter, 1500-meter, shot put). The OSAA staff is working with the Hytek software to investigate the options of creating events for the program but also placing students under their school information. Currently used scoring systems to say in place.

The Committee is cognizant that including shot put into the offerings brings in additional equipment and knowledge to administer the event. The Committee agrees that those students who wish to participate in the para-athlete shot put will have to organize all necessary equipment needed to throw through supportive entities or their school. Responsibility to have said equipment will not be with local schools hosting local or district meets. The OSAA staff is reviewing with Hayward Field what would be appropriate for the state track meet; some equipment may be supplied by the OSAA.

The 2018 Swimming State Championship will see limited change except for the review of the Hytek software and its ability to be modified to accommodate the different races, classifications and scoring for the events. Scoring systems will be modified based on the number of competitors.

The OSAA staff will continue to review the championships and placement of para-athlete events within the event. With the events being across classifications, the staff will try to put the events in the best place possible for visibility and event dynamics. At Track and Field, due to the structure of the event, all para-athlete events will need to take place prior to the trophy ceremony for the 3A, 2A and 1A schools.

The Inclusion Committee's focus has now turned to coach education and getting more students to participate in these events throughout the year. The OSAA staff will work closely with World Wheelchair Sports, Adaptive Sports Northwest and the NFHS to obtain, post and promote information that pertains to recruiting and coaching student athletes in their Swimming and/or Track and Field programs. The Committee feels that communicating information to schools will be



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the best way to increase the number of students in the events. The Inclusion Committee will reach out to outside organizations (Oregon Athletic Coaches, Oregon Athletic Directors, and large outside events) to promote para-athlete inclusion.

The OSAA received a request from a school requesting the opportunity for a student-athletes to qualify for the state meet at a national event taking place on the same weekend as their district meet. The Committee discussed at length but came to the conclusion that each para athletes at the state meet would have to qualify in the same manner as all other students. The Committee is reviewing what other states do in regard to these limited national events but at this time all students must participate and qualify through their district meet.

The Committee continues to support that the para-athletes need to be academically eligible and participate with their team throughout the year.

The Committee will schedule their next meeting for the week of May 28, 2018 with that meeting being open to the public.

All written communication received will be forwarded to all members of the Inclusion Committee for their review. Contact Peter Weber ([peterw@osaa.org](mailto:peterw@osaa.org)) or Kyle Stanfield ([kyles@osaa.org](mailto:kyles@osaa.org)) at the OSAA if you have any questions.