



Oregon School Activities Association
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January 23, 2018

TO: Superintendents, Principals, and Athletic Directors

FROM: Kyle Stanfield, Assistant Executive Director
 Kris Welch, Assistant Executive Director

SUBJECT: OSAA Rankings Committee Update – January 17, 2018

The OSAA Rankings Committee met on January 17 at the OSAA Office for the first time this school year to continue its review of the rankings, and in particular the Fall 2017 season.

The Committee has set dates for two upcoming public meetings. Both meetings will have public testimony where written correspondence will also be reviewed. Following its June meeting, the Committee will forward its final recommendations to the OSAA Executive Board for a vote at the Board’s Summer Workshop, July 23-25, 2018.

OSAA Rankings Committee Future Meeting Schedule

- Tuesday, April 3, 2018 @ OSAA Office, Wilsonville, 9:30am
- Thursday, June 7, 2018 @ OSAA Office, Wilsonville, 9:30am

New members of the Committee were introduced and welcomed:

- Bob Bennett, Sheridan HS Athletic Director (3A)
- Rhonda McKenzie, Westview HS Head Softball Coach (6A)
- Josh Grotting, Sutherlin HS Athletic Director, Head Girls Basketball Coach (4A)

The Committee began by going over the history of the rankings process then started reviewing Fall 2017 brackets, rankings, and final 8, along with written correspondence received since their last meeting. Following this review, the Committee examined rankings scenarios and correlation studies of former and current systems, along with several different percentage breakdowns, 2-column vs. 3-column approaches, etc.

Correlation Studies: Correlation studies are produced by OSAA staff and serve as one way to gauge the “accuracy” of the system. What counts as “accurate” regarding a rankings system is certainly open to interpretation but Committee members believe there is value associated with this information, especially when looking at making possible changes.

<u>School Year</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Regular Season</u>	
17-18	Football	92.14%	<i>Using the final frozen rankings, correlation studies analyze the % of contests where the better ranked team in a classification won, going backwards through the regular season. A contest where that happens is considered “accurate”. In 2017-18 Volleyball, the current system was 90.26% “accurate” going back through the regular season. NOTE: For Soccer, ties between teams that have an RPI within 10% of each other are considered “accurate”.</i>
17-18	Boys Soccer	84.46%	
17-18	Girls Soccer	88.94%	
17-18	Volleyball	90.26%	



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Changing the Colley Rank to Include Contests One Classification Away: Committee members believe that changing the Colley to include out of classification contests one classification away may help with the perception of teams not wanting to hurt their ranking by scheduling other classifications. Working with Dan Smith of OregonPrep Sports, the OSAA is running simulations using data from previous seasons to see what type of impact may result. The group will review these simulations at their April meeting. ***The Committee is interested in receiving feedback on this concept prior to its April 3 meeting***

League Playoffs / District Tournaments

The Committee discussed the real, and perceived, advantages for leagues that conduct league playoffs and having those contests included in the rankings. The group asked the OSAA staff to run simulations to determine how much of an impact it would have on the overall rankings if these games were not counted in the rankings. The group will review these simulations at their April meeting. ***The Committee is interested in receiving feedback on this concept prior to its April 3 meeting***

Home/Away/Neutral Weighting of Contests

The Committee discussed the weighting of home/away/neutral sites and asked the OSAA staff to run simulations on different weighting to determine the potential impact. This was specifically brought up in reference to baseball/softball games where that weighting is determined by who bats first, rather than by location. The group will review these simulations at their April meeting. ***The Committee is interested in receiving feedback on this concept prior to its April 3 meeting***

Ties in Soccer

The Committee received correspondence concerning the discrepancy in the number of ties in soccer and its impact on the rankings. The correspondence referenced the number of upsets in the first round of the state playoffs and believes that this could be an effect of an inflated value for ties. The group asked the staff to run simulations with differing values to determine its impact on the rankings. The group will review these simulations at their April meeting. ***The Committee is interested in receiving feedback on this concept prior to its April 3 meeting***

Requiring a Minimum Number of Rankable Contests in Football

An issue that came up this past Fall in Football was discussed concerning teams playing a limited number of rankable games and the significant impact that has on their ranking, and the ranking of those teams they've played. This becomes more pronounced when teams play mixed 11-man and 8-man schedules where not all games are rankable. The OSAA staff will review data to bring back to the group at their April meeting looking at what makes logical sense as a minimum number. ***The Committee is interested in receiving feedback on this concept prior to its April 3 meeting***

All written communication received will be forwarded to all members of the Rankings Committee for their review. Please send emails to kyles@osaa.org. Contact Kris Welch (krisw@osaa.org) at the OSAA if you have any questions.