



Oregon School Activities Association

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June 22, 2017

TO: Superintendents, Principals, and Athletic Directors

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

SUBJECT: OSAA Rankings Committee Update – June 22, 2017

The OSAA Rankings Committee met on June 22 at the OSAA Office for the third and final time this school year to continue its review of the rankings, and in particular the Spring 2017 season.

Following this final meeting, the Committee will forward its final recommendations to the OSAA Executive Board for a vote at the Board’s Summer Workshop, July 24-26, 2017.

The Committee began by reviewing Spring 2017 brackets and rankings, along with written correspondence received since their last meeting. Following this review, the Committee examined rankings scenarios and correlation studies of current and former systems, along with several different percentage breakdowns, 2-column vs. 3-column approaches, a point system based on the length of trip for away team, etc. There was no public testimony.

At the end of the meeting, the Committee recognized the following members whose terms are expiring:

- Pete Lukich, AD, Sunset HS
- Howard Rub, AD, Astoria HS

Additionally, Rob Pridemore from Riverdale won’t be serving as AD next year and will need to be replaced.

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>	
16-17	Football	90.11%	<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 2016-17 Girls Basketball, the current system was 87.77% “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>
16-17	Boys Soccer	87.38%	
16-17	Girls Soccer	90.38%	
16-17	Volleyball	90.09%	
16-17	Boys Basketball	85.42%	
16-17	Girls Basketball	87.77%	
16-17	Baseball	84.14%	
16-17	Softball	86.76%	

Schedule Manipulation Policies

The Committee believes that adding dates to each season after which contests won’t be counted in the rankings has helped to alleviate, but not eliminate, the issue of schedule manipulation. One suggestion from a few member schools was to change the dates off Mondays and move them to Wednesdays, giving a little more time for schedules to be adjusted. Discussion amongst the Committee was that they were supportive of this change. **The Committee is recommending new deadlines for each 2017-18 season to address schedule manipulation (see below).**

- 1) **Contests vs. Teams More Than One Classification Away.** In the RPI system, results from contests added to a team's schedule after a certain date each season (**Fall – Sept. 13; Winter – Dec. 20; Spring – Apr. 4**) vs. a team more than one classification away shall not be included in the rankings. NOTE: bracketed contests at tournaments are not affected by this policy.
- 2) **Contests Added After a Certain Date.** Results from contests added to a team's schedule after a certain date each season (**Fall – Sept. 27; Winter – Jan. 10; Spring – Apr. 11**) shall not be included in the rankings. NOTE: Contests not affected by this policy include bracketed contests at tournaments, league tiebreakers, and district/league tournaments. Schools may apply for an exception to OSAA Staff in extenuating circumstances.

Not Counting Any Contests More Than One Classification Away For RPI: The Committee received minimal input on this concept and spent little time discussing. ***The Committee is not recommending a change in this area at this time.***

Changing the Colley Rank to Include Contests One Classification Away: Committee members believe that changing the Colley to include out of classification contests could help with the perception of teams not wanting to hurt their ranking by playing other classifications. Working with Dan Smith, the OSAA will run simulations using this past year's data to see what type of impact may result. ***The Committee is not recommending a change in this area at this time, but plans to review simulations next year.***

Not Counting Early Season Games: The Committee received minimal input on this concept and spent little time discussing. ***The Committee is not recommending a change in this area at this time.***

Weighting Contests Differently Based on Travel: The Committee reviewed data on distance and time traveled by visiting teams and how those factors impacted the winning percentage of home teams. Committee members concluded that the current weighting, based solely on home and away, is still a reliable value and that a change is not warranted. ***The Committee is not recommending a change in this area at this time.***

Forfeits: The Committee spent considerable time discussing the current forfeit policy and possible changes. The group is supportive of changing how forfeits are counted when the result doesn't change (e.g. team wins on the field and then the team they beat must forfeit). In those instances, the result would be treated like any other contest and count towards not only their record, but also their opponent's records. If a forfeit changes the result of a contest, the current policy would still be used. ***The Committee is recommending a change in this area at this time.***

Rankings Freeze and Play-In Dates Summary: The Committee briefly discussed and finalized the Rankings Freeze and Play-In Dates for 2017-18, which are included in this update.

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.