



Oregon School Activities Association  
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To: Athletic Directors and Head Football Coaches  
From: Brad Garrett, Assistant Executive Director  
Subject: USA Football - Heads Up Football Certification Requirements

Beginning with the 2016 season the OSAA policy requires that all football coaches (paid or volunteer) complete the USA Football Heads Up Football Certification prior to assuming coaching duties and to recertify annually prior to the beginning of each Association year. Additionally, each member school sponsoring football is required to identify a Player Safety Coach. Each Player Safety Coach is required to attend an in person four hour clinic annually prior to the start of the Association year that is conducted by a USA Football Master Trainer in preparation for implementing and overseeing the primary components of Heads Up Football at their school.

To retain Heads Up Football certification status each OSAA member school will be required to review, and electronically sign and submit the High School Heads Up Football Coach Training Agreement each year. This Agreement has been reviewed and approved by Property and Causality Coverage for Education (PACE) - the group that provides insurance coverage for over 90% of OSAA member school districts.

To aid school administrators in the implementation of the requirements mentioned above, all information related to successful completion of the components mentioned above has been compiled on a single webpage located at [www.osaa.org/headsup](http://www.osaa.org/headsup). It is required that all components be completed prior to the start of Fall practice (Monday, August 15, 2016).

Requirements for all OSAA member schools sponsoring Football:

1. Complete registration for your school and sign USA Football Terms of Service at the following link - [https://www2.usafootball.com/register/commissioner\\_highschool](https://www2.usafootball.com/register/commissioner_highschool)
2. Designate a Player Safety Coach and have them attend one of the clinics offered – a list of current clinics is posted to <http://www.osaa.org/headsup>
3. Verify that all Football coaches (paid or volunteer), including your Player Safety Coach, have completed the online certification program located on NFHSLearn.com - <http://nfhslearn.com/HeadsUpFootball> prior to assuming their coaching duties. Coaches must complete Blocking, Tackling & Equipment Fitting, Concussion in Sports, Heat Illness Prevention, and Sudden Cardiac courses in order to be “Heads Up Certified”. Cost is \$10 per coach.

If you are having difficulty with any component of the requirement please contact one of the individuals below who will be happy to assist you.

**Bassel Faltas** – USA Football High School Regional Manager, Football Operations and Relationships at 317-489-4426 or at [bfaltas@usafootball.com](mailto:bfaltas@usafootball.com)

**Zane Winger** – USA Football Support Coordinator at 317-489-4435 or at [zwininger@usafootball.com](mailto:zwininger@usafootball.com)

An “Athletic Director Checklist” has been posted to [www.osaa.org/headsup](http://www.osaa.org/headsup) to give administrators a step by step instruction guide on completing all components. Please refer to the checklist before calling either Bassel or Zane for support.

It is critical that schools complete the steps outlined above prior to the end of the school year if possible. If you have any specific questions related to the adoption of Heads Up Football please feel free to contact Brad Garrett at [bradg@osaa.org](mailto:bradg@osaa.org) or 503-68-6722 ext. 229.