



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 - Player Safety Coach Clinic Schedule

All member schools are required to have a certified and trained Player Safety Coach (PSC) in place prior to the 2016-17 first practice date. These individuals are responsible for ensuring their school's compliance with core Heads Up Football program health and safety protocols and conducting safety clinics for coaches, parents and players.

Player Safety Coach Clinics will be conducted at various sites and dates around the state. A complete schedule of these four hour clinics is located on the OSAA website at www.osaa.org/headsup. Coaches selected by their school to serve as the PSC should review the schedule and complete the registration process to reserve a spot at a local Player Safety Coach Clinic. The first PSC Clinic is quickly approaching and will be held on February 13th in Nyssa, OR.

OSAA Executive Board Policy (Certification – Athletic Directors and Coaches) also requires that member schools enroll in the Heads Up Football program online through USA Football and sign the required Heads Up Football Coach Training Agreement annually. This agreement has been reviewed and approved by Property and Casualty Coverage for Education (PACE). USA Football is working to simplify this process for schools and anticipates that final details will be completed by early March.

All football coaches (paid and volunteer) must complete the Heads Up Football Certification process annually by completing a series of four courses (Concussion, Heat Acclimation, Sudden Cardiac, and Blocking/Tackling/Equipment Fitting) prior to assuming their coaching duties next fall. The courses will be available on www.nfhslearn.com in the next few weeks. The cost of Heads Up Football Certification will be \$10 per coach annually.

The NFHS has indicated that they are finalizing details related to the implementation of a new filtering system on NFHSLearn that, when in place, will allow administrators to search the course database by state, school, and certification. The addition of the new filter system will simplify the process to verify coaches have met the requirement.

All schools will be notified when the Heads Up Football membership online enrollment and coach certification components are completed. Thank you for your patience as USA Football and the NFHS both take steps to improve their systems.

Question related to implementation of the Heads Up Football program should be directed to Brad Garrett at bradg@osaa.org or 503-682-6722 ext. 229.