



Oregon School Activities Association

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December 28, 2022

TO: Superintendents, Principals, Athletic Directors, and Football Coaches
FROM: Kris Welch, Assistant Executive Director
SUBJECT: OSAA Football Ad Hoc Advisory Committee Update – December 19 Meeting

The Football Ad Hoc Advisory conducted its first meeting of this school year. It was a closed work session in a hybrid format with most Committee members in-person, with some attending via Zoom. The goal of this group is to review the school's data and determine if there needs to be shifts made, then make those recommendations to the Executive Board for their February 6th meeting.

The first order of business was to select a new Chair for the Committee. Nominations were made and the Committee unanimously selected Scott Gragg, Athletic Director at McNary High School, to Chair for the 2022-23 school year.

The second order of business was to nominate two new members to the Committee as two football coaches who were part of the group are no longer coaching. The group discussed its classification and geographic needs and settled on Brian Crum, Head Football Coach at Mountain View High School, and Kevin Moffatt, Athletic Director and Assistant Football coach at Kennedy High School.

The third order of business involved putting together term limits and a set rotation of committee members for the group. This directive came from the OSAA Executive Board. It was agreed that there would be a 3-year term limit for committee members. The group is cognizant of the need for continuity and put a rotation into place where roughly one third of the committee rotates off each year. The Committee's roster is being updated with that rotation.

OSAA staff provided a summary of three pieces of correspondence received this Fall. The Committee then focused on a review of the 2022 season, along with other pertinent topics. After reviewing this Fall's data and comparing it with data from the 2021 season, the group looked over the criteria to determine those schools who were identified and allowed to remain playing down a classification.

Schools who are playing down and identified as meeting the criteria to move back to their original classification:

▶ Ontario, Taft, Umatilla, Woodburn

Schools who are playing down and identified as NOT meeting the criteria to move back to their original classification:

▶ Ashland, Enterprise, Forest Grove, Glide, La Salle Prep, Milwaukie, Neah-Kah-Nie, Newport, North Marion, Parkrose, Phoenix, Rogue River, Sheridan, South Eugene, Southridge, Willamette

The Committee also looked at schools who do meet the criteria of less than a 22% winning percentage over the past two years and have them on notice. Being that this is the first year of the new time-block, the Committee wanted to make minimum changes, but encourage those schools, who meet the criteria and who desire to play down a classification to attend a meeting and state their case.

The Committee discussed creating a policy to allow a school to play down a classification from their original classification for a 2-year period. During that original two-year period, those schools will be required to put together a Plan of Action as to how they will implement changes and move back into their original classification. Items in a Plan of Action should

include youth/middle school program information, roster sizes, coaching continuity, weight room facilities, and scheduling.

The Committee is also discussing creation of a policy stating that a school who does not meet the criteria to move back to its original classification would be allowed to continue playing down a classification beyond the original two years but would only be eligible for playoffs during the first two years in that classification; after those years, if the school remains playing down a classification, they would become ineligible for playoffs.

There was discussion at 1A Classification about the enrollment zone, and it was determined that 60 remains a good cutoff point between 8-player and 6-player schools. There was some initial conversation about 6-player and 8-player football schools, and the potential desire by schools to change levels. Schools considering a change in level should contact Kris Welch (krisw@osaa.org) directly.

The OSAA staff will provide a committee update, like this one, to all superintendents, principals, athletic directors, and football coaches following each meeting. The Committee roster, charge, and any additional committee information is available at <http://www.osaa.org/governance/committees>.

Written suggestions and proposals should be emailed to the OSAA at kris@osaa.org. Any communication received by the OSAA will be shared with all committee members for review and discussion.

The next two public meetings of the Football Ad Hoc Advisory Committee are Wednesday, January 11th, 2023, and Wednesday, January 25th, 2023, at 9:00am. The meetings will be conducted at the OSAA Offices in Wilsonville. The general format for the meetings will be for the Committee to receive public testimony followed by a closed work session. The goal is to have a recommendation ready for the February 6th Executive Board Meeting. The Committee appreciates your support and encourages your participation in this process.

Please contact Kris Welch (krisw@osaa.org) at the OSAA if you have any questions.