



## Oregon School Activities Association

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May 8, 2019

TO: Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Directors

FROM: Kris Welch, Assistant Executive Director  
Kelly Foster, Associate Executive Director

SUBJECT: Update from the Petition to Play Down Task Force – May 8, 2019

The Petition to Play Down Task Force met at the OSAA Offices in Wilsonville on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 for the third time to review the Play Down policy, potential changes and the data that had been collected to help in the process. The task force was put together by the OSAA Executive Board after the most recent Classification and Districting Committee concluded. The OSAA Executive Board felt that a discussion and review of the current policy and how it may be improved warranted creation of a task force. The goal of the meeting was to review the progress and report back to the Executive Board for their Summer Retreat to see if the Task Force is focusing on the charge the Executive Board assigned them.

The OSAA staff briefly went over the correspondence since the second meeting, the voting that took place at the State Athletic Directors conference in April, and the discussion points during the Delegate Assembly Caucus items. The Staff refreshed the Task Force on its goals and charge and started diving into the data.

Staff members Kris Welch and Kelly Foster went through the following documents with the task force:

- A) State Athletic Director Conference voting
- B) Caucus Items discussed during the Delegate Assembly meeting
- C) Previous document on helping to determine criteria for a “Dominant Activity”

The Task Force looked into the data, which started discussion on the following topics.

- A) It was clear from both the AD Voting and Caucus Items, that the Task Force needs to try and come up with criteria/definition of what a “Dominant Activity” is and is not.
  - a. Review a potential point system used to determine a “dominant activity” (based on post-season success) and / or with the activity’s winning percentage against opponents within the same classification.
    - i. After an exhausting effort of calculations and trying to determine a point system, the Task Force settled in on if an activity is at a winning percentage of 80% or higher within their Classification in each of the 3 years and reached the semifinals 2 out of the 3 years, that activity would be determined a “Dominant Activity.”
  - b. Should the policy include a one-line addendum that if a school who has qualified to Play Down, has a “Dominant Activity” they would be given the opportunity to move that particular activity back to their unadjusted classification within the time-block.
- B) The current policy states that all four criteria must be met to qualify to play down. The task force would like to review the possibility of introducing additional criteria for schools who only meet three out of the four requirements.
  - a. If a school has a “Dominant Activity,” that activity is removed from the data and recalculated to see if the school can meet the 4 criteria not counting that activity.
- C) If a school that has Petitioned to Play Down, creates a “Dominant Activity”, they could be considered to move back to their original Classification within the time-block.

- D) The Task Force also discussed the process for a school to be re-evaluated at the end of a four-year time block in which they were granted a petition to play down. They would like to look at new criteria to assess a school who would typically move back up a classification in the new time block.

With the end of the school year and the Task Force wanting to help move this process along, they set up an additional meeting set for Monday, June 24 at 9am to finalize some things before the Executive Board Retreat. This meeting is a closed work session, but the Task Force invites feedback from member schools on the Petition to Play Down policy and any areas they should address.

The OSAA staff will provide a Task Force update to all superintendents, principals, and athletic directors following each meeting. The Task Force roster, charge, and any additional information is available at <http://www.osaa.org/governance/task-forces>.

Written suggestions and proposals should be emailed to the OSAA (Kelly Foster [kellyf@osaa.org](mailto:kellyf@osaa.org), or Kris Welch [krisw@osaa.org](mailto:krisw@osaa.org) ). Any communication received by the OSAA staff will be shared with all Task Force members for review and discussion.

The Task Force appreciates your support and encourages your participation in this process. Please do not hesitate to contact Kelly Foster [kellyf@osaa.org](mailto:kellyf@osaa.org) or Kris Welch [krisw@osaa.org](mailto:krisw@osaa.org) at the OSAA if you have any questions.