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January 20, 2022

TO: Superintendents, Principals, and Athletic Directors

FROM: Kyle Stanfield, Assistant Executive Director; Kris Welch, Assistant Executive Director Gibby Reynolds, IT Admin

SUBJECT: OSAA Rankings Committee Update – January 14, 2022

The OSAA Rankings Committee met on a Zoom meeting on January 14 for the first time this school year to begin its review of the rankings, and in particular the Fall 2021 season and to familiarize the Committee on their charge as it had been two years since the Committee met last.

The Committee has set dates for two upcoming public meetings. Both meetings will have public testimony where written correspondence will also be reviewed. Following the final meeting in June, the Committee will forward its final recommendations to the OSAA Executive Board for a vote at the Board's Summer Workshop, July 20-22, 2020.

## **OSAA Rankings Committee Future Meeting Schedule**

- Friday, April 1, 2022, via Zoom Meeting, 11am
- Tuesday, June 14, 2022, via Zoom Meeting 11am

The Committee began by discussing the topics that had been brought up to the OSAA staff, then delved into the Fall 2021 brackets and rankings. Following this review, the Committee examined rankings scenarios and correlation studies of former and current systems.

**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> 21-22 21-22 21-22 21-22 21-22	<u>Activity</u> Football Boys Soccer Girls Soccer Volleyball	<u>Regular Season</u> 93.46% 89.64% 87.78% 89.28%	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 2021-22 Girls Soccer, the current system was 87.78% 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.

## League Champions hosting 1<sup>st</sup> Round Playoffs

Current OSAA policy states that in all classifications, league champions shall be guaranteed a home game in their first state playoff contest, provided that the league champion finished in the top 16 of the frozen rankings. This policy applies to all classifications. Example, a league champion who finished at #17 in the frozen rankings does not get to move up and host a 1<sup>st</sup> round playoff contest. Another topic discussed was that finishing in the top 16 may be too low and it should be changed to top 12 instead of top 16. This issue has been a concern from some schools, particularly those at the 1A classification. *The Committee is interested in receiving feedback prior to its April 1 meeting on whether the policy that allows league champions in the top 16 to host 1<sup>st</sup> round games should be modified.* 

## **Forfeits in Football**

There has been a concern brought to the OSAA regarding how contests are counted in the rankings when a school accepts a forfeit and then schedules another contest for the same day/week in football. This is a football only concern because of the limited amount of data available with a 9-game season. The discussion centered on whether a schools should be allowed to reschedule another contest during the same week they receive a forfeit and if the result of that added contest should be counted in the rankings. After reviewing Fall 2021 simulations it was determined that the results of these contests had very little impact overall on that team's rankings. The conversation turned to the "optics" and perception that teams gain an advantage by counting two football games in the same week. *The Committee is interested in receiving feedback prior to its April 1 meeting on whether football teams should be able to receive a forfeit and schedule another game during the same week that counts in the rankings.* 

All written communication received will be forwarded to all members of the Rankings Committee for their review. Please send emails to <u>kyles@osaa.org</u> or Kris Welch (<u>krisw@osaa.org</u>) at the OSAA if you have any questions.