



Oregon School Activities Association

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June 13, 2023

TO: Superintendents, Principals, and Athletic Directors

FROM: Kris Welch, Assistant Executive Director;
Kyle Stanfield, Assistant Executive Director;
Gibby Reynolds, IT Systems Administrator.

SUBJECT: OSAA Rankings Committee Update – June 13, 2023

The OSAA Rankings Committee met on June 13 via Zoom meeting for the second and final time this school year to continue its review of the rankings from the Spring 2022-23 season.

The Committee will forward its final recommendations to the OSAA Executive Board for consideration at the Board's Summer Workshop, July 17-19, 2023.

The Committee reviewed the Final 8 for each classification, Spring 2022-23 brackets and 2022-23 rankings. Following this review, the Committee examined rankings scenarios, correlation studies of former and current systems, and rankable contest counts.

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>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Regular Season</u>	<i>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 2022-23 Softball, the current system was 86.83% "accurate" going back through the regular season.</i>
22-23	Football	91.85%	
22-23	Boys Soccer	86.94%	
22-23	Girls Soccer	89.86%	
22-23	Volleyball	91.22 %	
22-23	Girls Basketball	90.04%	
22-23	Boys Basketball	87.36%	
22-23	Softball	86.83%	
22-23	Baseball	84.79%	

Ideas discussed with the Committee after the simulations were:

*Creating a survey for the schools to get more input; topics that could be on the survey include:

- Should there be a minimum threshold on the number of contests a school plays for their records to be considered in their opponents' OAR?
- Should there be a minimum threshold on the number of contests a team competes in to qualify for the playoffs?

League Champions hosting Playoff game

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. With the expansion of the team brackets in some classifications to a 20-team or 20+ team bracket, discussion ensued regarding whether this policy be adjusted to allow a league champion to advance automatically to the second round to host a contest. Currently a league champion could be a #12 - #16 and host a playoff contest, in the first round.

Should a league champion who falls between the #12 – 16 in the rankings leapfrog to #8 and host a second-round contest? ***After discussion, the Committee does not support a change at this time.***

Should there be a threshold in the number of contests played to qualify for the playoffs?

There has been a concern brought to the OSAA concerning schools who for some reason have not competed in very many contests. In some cases, a school has only been able to compete in three or four soccer games or six or seven basketball games. While this is a rare occurrence, should there be a threshold on the minimum number of contests played for a team to qualify for the playoffs? The committee talked about a 50% threshold of the maximum number of contests in a specific sport (i.e., seven soccer games of the 14 maximum games or 12 basketball games of the maximum 24 games). ***After discussion, the Committee does not support a change at this time.***

Should there be a threshold in the minimum number of contests played for their contests to be counted in their opponents' OAR?

There has been a concern brought to the OSAA concerning schools who for some reason have not competed in very many contests. These have some unforeseen consequences in skewing their opponents Opponents Adjusted Record (OAR). An example would be a school that only participated in six basketball games and their record being 1 win and 5 losses or 5 wins and 1 loss. This would skew their opponents' OAR so the Committee discussed having a threshold of 50% of the maximum number of contests played in a particular sport in order for their records to be considered on the OAR. Should the Committee consider adding this a threshold, and if so, what percentage would be fair? ***After discussion, the Committee does not support a change at this time.***

Is there a way for the public to view which games count in the rankings? Could the OSAA create an icon that is tied to each contest that is not rankable?

The Committee discussed this and thought it was a good addition to the website and asked if it could be added. During the meeting, the OSAA staff created an icon so that the public will be able to see which contests do not count in the rankings. For the future, this icon will be shown on the OSAA website for schools to see if a contest will count in the rankings.

Freeze Dates and Deadlines

The Committee supports the following proposed deadlines and freeze dates and will recommend them to the Executive Board:

- 1) **Contests vs. Teams More Than One Classification Away.** In the RPI system, results from contests added to a team's schedule after a certain date each season (***Fall – Sept. 13; Winter – Dec. 14; Spring – Apr. 3***) vs. a team more than one classification away shall not be included in the rankings. **NOTE:** bracketed contests at tournaments are not affected by this policy.
- 2) **Contests Added After a Certain Date.** Results from contests added to a team's schedule after a certain date each season (***Fall – Sept. 27; Winter – Jan. 10; Spring – Apr. 10***) shall not be included in the rankings. **NOTE:** Contests not affected by this policy include bracketed contests at tournaments, league tiebreakers, and district/league tournaments. Schools may apply for an exception to OSAA Staff in extenuating circumstances.

Ranking Timelines. The rankings for each team sport shall be available to the public through the OSAA website beginning with the first contest date of each sports season. Rankings shall be frozen on the following dates for each classification in each team sport:

Sport (includes all games played on that day)	<u>6A</u>	<u>5A</u>	<u>4A</u>	<u>3A</u>	<u>2A</u>	<u>1A</u>
Volleyball - Rankings Freeze Date (10pm)	Sat, Oct 21	Tues, Oct 24	Thurs, Oct 19	Sat, Oct 21	Tues, Oct 24	Sat, Oct 21
Soccer - Rankings Freeze Date (10pm)	Tues, Oct 24	Sat, Oct 28	Tues, Oct 24	Tues, Oct 24	Tues, Oct 24	Tues, Oct 24
Football - Rankings Freeze Date (10pm)	Sat, Oct 28	Sat, Oct 28	Sat, Oct 28	Sat, Oct 28	Sat, Oct 28	Sat, Oct 28
Basketball (Boys) - Rankings Freeze Date (10pm)	<i>Fri., Feb 23</i>	<i>Tues., Feb 27</i>	Tues, Feb 20	Sat, Feb 17	Sat, Feb 17	Sat, Feb 17
Basketball (Girls) - Rankings Freeze Date (10pm)	<i>Sat, Feb 24</i>	<i>Wed, Feb 28</i>	Tues, Feb 20	Sat, Feb 17	Sat, Feb 17	Sat, Feb 17
Baseball/Softball - Rankings Freeze Date (10pm)	Thurs, May 16	Sat, May 18	Mon, May 13	Thurs, May 16	Thurs, May 16	Thurs, May 16

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