



## Oregon School Activities Association

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TO: Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Directors

FROM: Kyle Stanfield, Assistant Executive Director  
Kelly Foster, Assistant Executive Director

SUBJECT: Update on the Proceedings of the State Championship Committee

The State Championship Committee for the 2022-26 four-year time block held its third public meeting at the Holiday Inn, Wilsonville on February 14, 2022, to receive testimony and review written correspondence received thus far. The Committee is utilizing a hybrid format for all meetings that allows both committee members and those seeking to provide input the option of participating in-person or via webinar. The public portion of all meetings are streamed live to the OSAA YouTube channel.

After Committee introductions and an explanation of the meeting and testimony procedure, the Committee received testimony from six individuals online and two in person with other individuals able to watch the meeting live stream via the OSAA's YouTube channel. The Committee then adjourned to a closed work session to review and discuss the testimony, written correspondence, and documents prepared by the OSAA staff prior to the meeting.

The State Championship Committee has reviewed the 2022-26 Classification and Districts that were adopted by the OSAA Executive Board and Delegate Assembly on December 13. With the lack of major changes to the classification structure and the current ecosystem in which schools are operating, the Committee feels that there should be an emphasis on limiting the number of changes to what is currently in practice. The Committee feels that tweaks, not significant changes, is what the membership desires as we come out of the pandemic and return to a sense of normalcy over the next four years.

The following topics were discussed by the group with points of emphasis **underlined and bolded**. With this being the halfway point of the Committee process, the Committee is looking for any and all feedback before narrowing down recommendations to the Executive Board over their next two meetings.

**Cross Country State Championships**: The Committee reviewed the information presented by the Cross Country coaches. There is a desire by the coaches to split out the 2A/1A and 3A Girls Cross Country races, adding a 10<sup>th</sup> race to the championship day. Initially the Committee was supportive of the concept but in looking at the data and the number of full teams participating in 2A/1A and 3A Girls Cross Country in 2019 and 2021, the number of full teams does not meet the threshold set forth by policy. **The Committee is not supportive of splitting the 3A/2A/1A Girls into two races**, but they want to encourage 3A, 2A, and 1A schools to get more students participating, increase the number of full teams and get to the threshold sometime in the next four years. The Committee would be supportive of adding the championship mid-time block if the numbers warranted it.

The Committee is supportive of the following qualification structure for Cross Country (Boys and Girls).

6A – 18 qualifying teams (Top 2 per league + 4 at-large qualifiers) plus top 14 individuals across the line.

5A – 13 qualifying teams (Top 2 per league + 5 at-large qualifiers) plus top 7 individuals across the line.

4A – 13 qualifying teams (Top 2 per league + 1 at large qualifier) plus top 7 individuals across the line.

The Committee will hold recommendations on 3A, 2A/1A Boys and 3A/2A/1A Girls as they review potential 3A/2A/1A Girls qualification recommendations from the Cross Country coaches.

**1A Wheel / 1A Large-Small Split (Volleyball, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball)**: The Committee heard feedback from two separate 1A groups. The first to remove the wheel in Volleyball and Basketball and move to the bracket being seeded by the rankings. The second wants to split the 1A brackets in Volleyball and Basketball into two separate 16 team brackets, one representing the largest schools in the classification and the other representing the smallest schools in the classification. **The Committee is supportive of a change to the brackets at the 1A level** and have heard compelling arguments for both. The Committee is asking for a unified answer from the 1A on their desires by the March 14 meeting.

**Wrestling State Championships:** The Committee heard testimony from the wrestling coaches regarding several topics related to the championships. The Committee wants to provide feedback on each proposal.

- Bracket size: the Committee wants to wait until all district events are completed before making recommendations on bracket size for the 2022-26 time block. That information will be vital in making equitable decisions moving forward.
- The Committee is **not in favor of adding a Dual Meet State Championship** during this time block. The Committee feels that an additional state championship is not warranted and if a classification wanted to pilot the event through their regular season, they could do so over the next four years and provide that feedback to the Executive Board.
- The Committee felt it was important to condense the number of state championship sites moving into the future. Going from a single site at the Veterans Memorial Coliseum to six separate venues is not sustainable moving into the future. The Committee also understands that any expansion to bracket size no longer allows an all classification event to be held at the Coliseum over two days, likely forcing multiple sites.

The Committee also heard the following testimony:

- Tennis adding a Team State Championship. The Committee is requesting additional data from tennis coaches.
- 6A Team Bracket Size: The Committee received testimony from the 6A classification about playoff bracket size and structure. The Committee is looking for a proposal to review from the 6A at their March 14 meeting.
- Track and Field Qualifications: The Committee received a proposal from the Track and Field coaches on qualifications for the next four years. The Committee has asked the staff to review the proposal and compare to current structures prior to their March 14 meeting.

**2022-23 Calendar:** To allow athletic directors to start planning for the Fall of 2022, the Committee is releasing a **DRAFT** calendar that aligns with their current support. The full DRAFT 2022-23 Calendar is subject to change and will not be formally adopted until the May Executive Board Meeting. The calendar can be found at: <https://www.osaa.org/docs/calendar/22-23ActivityCalendar.pdf>. Important dates are August 15, 2022, for the first practice and August 25, 2022, for the first contest/jamboree, and September 1 for the first football contest.

The Committee currently supports the following:

**Band/Orchestra/Choir/Solo Music/Speech:** Due to limited feedback over the last four years to the staff, the Committee is proposing status quo for qualifications into the Band, Orchestra, Choir, Solo Music, and Speech State Championships. These qualifications have seemed to work well for the groups and the structures set within.

#### **Reimbursement Formula**

The Committee is in favor of modifying the OSAA reimbursement formula to allow more experiences for students at state championships where structure would be similar. To enable those experiences, the Committee is exploring the elimination of mileage from the two lowest tiers of the reimbursement formula (0-200, 201-300 round trip mileage) and potentially the elimination of per diem from 201-300 round trip mileage.

**Dance/Drill State Championship** moving to a category structure.

#### **Team Sports Bracketed Event Structures**

The Committee has created a template for bracketed team events (excluding special districts and football). The following are the Committee's initial thoughts on proposed allocations for volleyball, soccer (B&G), basketball (B&G), baseball, and softball.

**6A:** 32 team brackets; three automatic qualifiers per league (21), plus 11 at large via the rankings

**5A:** 16 team brackets; 5A-1 & 5A-3 receive four automatic qualifiers, 5A-2 & 5A-4 receive three automatic qualifiers (14), plus two at large via the rankings

**4A:** 16 team brackets; eight automatic qualifiers (league champion plus top two #2 teams via rankings), plus eight additional qualifiers via play-in

**3A:** 16 team brackets; three automatic qualifiers for 3A-5, two automatic qualifiers for all other leagues (13), plus three at large via the rankings.

**2A:** 16 team brackets; 2A-1 receive three automatic qualifiers, 2A-4 receives two automatics qualifiers, 2A-2 and 2A-3 receive four automatic qualifiers (13), plus three at large via rankings

**1A:** 24 team brackets; three automatic qualifiers per league.

Football is not included at this time as the State Championship Committee will be working jointly with the Football Ad Hoc Committee on the structure of the Football State Championships. Bracketed team events for special districts are not included as the OSAA Staff is collecting information from this past Fall and upcoming Spring on the number of teams participating in 3A/2A/1A Boys and Girls Soccer, 2A/1A Baseball and 2A/1A Softball.

**The next public meeting of the State Championship Committee will be at 9am on Monday, March 14, 2022, at the Holiday Inn, Wilsonville.** The general format for the meeting will be for the committee to receive public testimony followed by a closed work session.

Written suggestions and proposals on these issues, as well as other classification related subjects should be emailed to the OSAA ([kellyf@osaa.org](mailto:kellyf@osaa.org)) **Any communication received by the OSAA will be shared with all committee members for review and discussion. Public testimony in person or online will be welcome at the next Committee meeting.**

**Specific proposals submitted to the Committee may be posted to the State Championship Committee page on the OSAA website at <https://www.osaa.org/governance/committees#state-championship-committee>.**

A full list of meeting dates, Committee Roster, charge to the Committee and information are available at the OSAA website: <https://www.osaa.org/governance/committees#state-championship-committee>.

**The Committee appreciates your support and encourages your participation in this process. Please do not hesitate to contact Kyle Stanfield ([kyles@osaa.org](mailto:kyles@osaa.org)) or Kelly Foster ([kellyf@osaa.org](mailto:kellyf@osaa.org)) at the OSAA if you have any questions.**

#### Future State Championship Committee Meeting Dates

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Monday, March 14, 2022	9am	Holiday Inn, Wilsonville
Monday, April 18, 2022	9am	Holiday Inn, Wilsonville