



## Oregon School Activities Association

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TO: Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Directors

FROM: Kyle Stanfield, Chief Operating Officer  
Gibby Reynolds, IT Systems Administrator

SUBJECT: Update on the Proceedings of the Petition to Play Down Task Force

The Petition to Play Down Task Force held its fourth meeting in a hybrid format on February 13. The Task Force will be utilizing a hybrid format for all meetings which allows both Task Force members, and those seeking to provide input, the option of participating via webinar or in person. This Task Force was re-established by the OSAA Executive Board following the conclusion of the Classification and Districting process.

After introductions, the group received a review of the charges from the OSAA Executive Board and a review of the timeline. The reviews were conducted by OSAA Executive Director Peter Weber and Chief Operating Officer Kyle Stanfield.

The Task Force began by reviewing the prepared materials provided by the OSAA staff. The staff provided an extensive spreadsheet listing each member school and their overall in-class winning percentage over a two year period of time in all team sports. The spreadsheet was able to give the Task Force a sense of schools' success rates as their focus is to create a policy involving winning percentage in team sports. The group understands that a policy needs to be objective and focused on those most in need of change.

The Task Force is currently supporting the following concepts as they work to amend the current policy:

- A school may apply to play down if their overall in-class winning percentage over a two year period of time in team sports is < 25% (excluding football). In looking at the data, this would affect roughly 15 schools within the Association.
- And a school's participation data in individual sports is less than the standard deviation compared to the rest of their current classification.

These two criteria would provide a greater view of a school and its athletic programs in totality.

In addition, the Task Force believes a revision to the Dominant Activity Policy is required for all team and individual activities. The policy needs to be more responsive and flexible as it looks at a school's success. As an example in team sports, if a program makes it to the playoffs and wins a game, the subsequent year they would return to their original classification. As an example for individual sports, if a program trophies in an individual sport state championship, the subsequent year they would return to their original classification.

A separate policy for schools who were granted a Petition to Play Down, and requesting to stay down, would be constructed off of the same premise of the original criteria listed above.

The group believes that with a more defined application criteria and the requirement for schools to return to their original classification if they have success will help a school rebuild programs (as originally intended) but also have a lesser impact on the classification receiving schools playing down.

The Task Force is looking for feedback from the membership on these issues. The Task Force will keep the Executive Board regularly updated on their progress. The group will next meet in April at the OSAA Office in Wilsonville.

The Task Force 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)) at the OSAA if you have any questions or to provide feedback.

The Task Force Roster, charge to the Task Force, and updated information are available at the OSAA website: <https://www.osaa.org/governance/task-forces/play-down-petition>