



## 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 fifth meeting in a hybrid format on April 30. 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 a draft policy that reflected the Task Force draft recommendations of:

- A school's overall in-class winning percentage over the immediately preceding three-year period in team sports is less than 20% (excluding football).
- A school's individual sports participation numbers are less than the standard deviation compared to the average of the schools in their current classification.

The revisions also included:

- Replacement of the dominant activity portion of the policy with a new definition of school's activity returning or remaining at their originally assigned classification if they see success in a singular activity at the state level.
- An addition to the policy (similar to above) that defines a criteria for a school wishing to continue their play down request.
  - o A school's overall in-class winning percentage over the immediately preceding three-year period in team sports is less than 40% (excluding football).
  - o A school's individual sports participation numbers are less than the standard deviation compared to the average of the schools in their original classification.

After review of the draft policy and information provided by the staff on how many schools it could affect. The Task Force had extensive conversation about how that would apply and what would be necessary for a school to appeal. The group understands that a policy needs to be objective and focused on those most in need of change. The Task Force has tasked the staff to continue building upon the draft policy to reflect the desires of the group.

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 June 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>