



Oregon School Activities Association

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2025-26 BASKETBALL PLAN BOOK

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SEASON DATES

First Practice Date	November 17
First Contest / Jamboree Date	December 3
Rankings Cutoff – Contests vs. teams more than one classification away.....	December 17
Rankings Cutoff – Contests added after a certain date (Tournaments excluded)	January 7
3A, 2A, 1A Cutoff Date	February 21
3A, 2A, 1A Rankings Freeze Date	10pm, February 21
3A, 1A Boys First Round	February 24
3A, 1A Girls First Round	February 25
6A Boys Rankings Freeze Date	10pm, February 27
6A Girls Rankings Freeze Date	10pm, February 28
3A, 1A Boys Second Round	February 27
3A, 1A Girls Second Round.....	February 28
2A Boys First Round	February 27
2A Girls First Round	February 28
6A Boys Cutoff Date	February 27
6A Girls Cutoff Date	February 28
5A, 4A Boys Rankings Freeze Date	10pm, March 3
5A, 4A Girls Rankings Freeze Date	10pm, March 4
5A, 4A Boys Cutoff Date	March 3
5A, 4A Girls Cutoff Date	March 4
6A Boys First Round	March 3
6A Girls First Round	March 4
1A Boys Quarterfinals-Finals	March 4-March 7
1A Girls Quarterfinals-Finals ; 2A Quarterfinals-Finals; 3A Quarterfinals-Finals.....	March 5-March 7
6A Boys Second Round; 5A, 4A Boys First Round	March 6
6A Girls Second Round; 5A, 4A Girls First Round	March 7
6A Boys Quarterfinals-Finals; 5A Boys Quarterfinals-Finals	March 11-14
6A Girls Quarterfinals-Finals; 5A Girls Quarterfinals-Finals; 4A Quarterfinals-Finals	March 12-14

Reporting Schedules and Scores – Find Account Instructions on our Help Page at <http://www.osaa.org/help>

NFHS 2025-26 BASKETBALL RULES

Order the current NFHS Basketball Rules Book from the [OSAA Corner Store](#) or contact the OSAA (503.682.6722) for information.

For more information about NFHS Basketball Rules, visit <http://www.nfhs.org/activities-sports/basketball/>

2025-26 RULES CHANGES

4-22-1 & 2

This change removes the offensive team from goaltending violations, simplifying enforcement for officials and reducing ambiguity over whether a ball was a shot or a pass. It also encourages more scoring opportunities and minimizes confusion for players and coaches.

	<p>Rationale: The change eliminates the possibility of an offensive goaltending violation, which simplifies the rule for officials and players. It removes the need to judge whether a ball in flight is a try or a pass, resulting in clearer enforcement, greater consistency, and more opportunities for scoring plays near the basket.</p>
4-22-3 (NEW)	<p>This rule change establishes that once the ball contacts the backboard, it is automatically considered to be on its downward flight. Therefore, if a player touches the ball after it hits the backboard, and the ball has a possibility of entering the basket, it is ruled as goaltending.</p> <p>This clarification helps protect legitimate shot attempts, reduces rough rebounding situations, and addresses a common rules misconception among coaches and players. It provides officials with a clearer standard for enforcing goaltending in backboard-related plays.</p> <p>Rationale: This change enhances officiating clarity and protects legitimate shot attempts. It also addresses a common misconception among coaches and players by explicitly defining goaltending, leading to more consistent enforcement.</p>
4-34-1	<p>This rule change updates the definition of a player to clarify that a player is one of the five team members legally on the court at any given time, except during time-outs or intermissions.</p> <p>The change ensures consistency in rule enforcement by recognizing that it is difficult to distinguish between players, substitutes, and bench personnel during time-outs and intermissions. This clarification also supports the accountability of coaches for all team conduct during these periods and helps avoid misapplication of penalties such as technical fouls.</p> <p>Rationale: This change ensures consistent enforcement of penalties for unsporting conduct by bench personnel. It allows officials to issue technical fouls to bench personnel during time-outs, aligning with the current rules for intermissions. It eliminates confusion and potential misapplication of rules and ensures fair and consistent enforcement of penalties for unsporting behavior, regardless of the individual's role.</p>
7-5-4	<p>This rule change updates the procedure for determining the designated throw-in spot following a stoppage of play (not due to the ball going out of bounds) in the frontcourt. Instead of relying on an imaginary line, officials now use existing court markings, specifically the three-point line, to determine the location. This change improves accuracy, consistency, and clarity for officials by using visible floor markings rather than imaginary lines, which were often misjudged.</p> <p>Rationale: By using the visible three-point line as the line of demarcation, officials will have a clearer and more consistent method for determining throw-in locations. This improves accuracy and reduces confusion, resulting in more reliable throw-ins.</p>
9-2-12 & 9-3-4 (NEW)	<p>This rule change addresses situations where a thrower purposely and/or deceitfully delays returning inbounds after legally stepping out of bounds and then becomes the first player to touch the ball upon re-entering the court. Previously penalized as a technical foul, this action is now treated as a violation, aligning it with similar out-of-bounds scenarios. The change reduces the severity of the penalty to encourage more consistent enforcement by officials and prevents players from gaining an unfair advantage through deceptive re-entry tactics.</p> <p>Rationale: This change lessens the penalty for players who delay their return after being out of bounds, shifting the penalty from a technical foul to a less severe violation. This rule aligns with the penalty structure of similar violations, such as Rule 9-3-3 (where a player steps out of bounds on their own volition). The change is intended to make it easier for officials to recognize and penalize these actions consistently while reducing the severity of the penalty, encouraging more accurate enforcement.</p>
10-4-4b	<p>This rule prohibits players from illegally contacting the backboard or ring in ways that create an unfair advantage or interfere with a scoring attempt. This rule is designed to maintain fair play and protect the integrity of scoring opportunities by penalizing actions affecting the outcome of a shot, with a technical foul.</p> <p>Rationale: The rule change aims to standardize and clarify the enforcement of basket interference, leading to fairer outcomes and more consistent officiating. The removal of subjective judgments around intent allows for clearer rulings and better alignment with current game dynamics.</p>
4-6-1a & b (NEW)	<p>This rule change clarifies and expands the definition of basket interference to include additional actions that unfairly affect the ball while it is in a scoring position. Basket interference now occurs when a player slaps or strikes the backboard, causing the backboard or basket to vibrate, while the ball is on or within the basket, touching the backboard, or within the cylinder.</p> <p>Rationale: This clarification helps officials consistently identify interference that affects scoring plays and ensures the integrity of the basket area during shot attempts.</p>

2025-26 POINTS OF EMPHASIS**Contact on the Ball Handler**

Continued emphasis is placed on the consistent enforcement of illegal contact involving the ball handler. While hand-checking remains a known concern, other forms of illegal contact must also be recognized and penalized. Defenders often use their hips, torsos, or other parts of the body to displace, redirect, or impede a ball handler's freedom of movement. These tactics must be identified and addressed in accordance with the rules.

Particular attention is required during late-game scenarios. Not all fouls committed in the closing moments of a contest are necessarily intentional. Determinations regarding intentional fouls must be based on the act itself, rather than on the intent or verbal instructions from coaching staff. The presence of directives such as "foul," "red," or "scramble" does not automatically classify the resulting contact as intentional.

If the contact constitutes a legitimate attempt to play the ball or to defend an opponent — either on the ball or away from it — it should be adjudicated as a common foul. Standards for evaluating contact must remain consistent throughout the game, including in its final moments. The strategic intent of one team to stop the clock must be weighed against the opposing team's interest in allowing the clock to run.

Conversely, contact that is excessive, clearly removes an opponent's apparent advantage, or does not constitute a legitimate basketball play should be classified as an intentional foul. Instructional emphasis must be placed on teaching players how to commit fouls within the parameters of the rules.

Bench Decorum, Communication, and Player Altercations

Ongoing concerns have been noted regarding bench decorum, improper communication with officials, and incidents involving player altercations. All team personnel, including coaching staff and bench players, are expected to uphold a standard of sportsmanship through disciplined behavior, clear expectations and structured preparation.

Bench Decorum and Communication

Bench decorum remains a significant point of emphasis. Officials are expected to take a proactive role in managing coach and bench behavior, particularly regarding the conduct of head and assistant coaches. Rule 4-48 (Warning for Coach/Team Conduct) should be applied early and consistently to prevent escalation and maintain game control.

Effective communication between coaches and officials should be established prior to the contest and maintained throughout. A professional and respectful tone is expected. When reasonable rules-based inquiries are made by coaches (e.g., "Can you watch the screening?"), a simple verbal acknowledgment or nonverbal gesture such as a nod is generally sufficient.

Rules-based questions—such as, "What did my player do wrong on that illegal screen?"—are appropriate and should receive a clear and informative response. These interactions support the educational purpose of the game. In contrast, rhetorical questions or comments not seeking clarification (e.g., "What's it going to take to get a foul called?" or "It's getting rough out there") do not require a response.

Coach on the Floor

Rule 10-5 delineates the privileges and restrictions for head coaches and bench personnel. Only the head coach is permitted to stand and provide instructions to players during live ball play. This communication must be carried out in a professional and sportsmanlike manner. All other personnel, including assistant coaches and team members not actively participating in play, must remain seated except during rule-allowed situations (e.g., during time-outs or spontaneous reactions to exceptional play).

This emphasis seeks not to restrict enthusiasm but to preserve order and promote respect for the game. Adherence to coaching box boundaries is essential to maintaining safety and fairness. An increasing number of incidents have been observed involving coaches stepping onto the court during live play. Such behavior introduces potential safety concerns and must be addressed through rule enforcement.

Coach Responsibilities Before and During a Fight

The head coach holds primary responsibility for the prevention and de-escalation of potential altercations. Proactive planning is expected, including the designation of specific duties for assistant coaches in the event of a fight. One assistant coach may be tasked with managing on-court players, while others may be assigned to control bench personnel. Such role assignments serve to prevent mass disqualifications and maintain order during disruptive incidents.

Faking Being Fouled

In the previous season, the NFHS Basketball Rules Committee adopted Rule 4-49, Warning for Faking Being Fouled, to address unsporting acts where players simulate illegal contact in an attempt to deceive officials and gain a competitive advantage. These actions include embellishing contact on block/charge plays, simulating impact during shooting attempts, or using movements such as a 'head bob' to draw a foul. Such conduct compromises the integrity of the game and places undue influence on officiating decisions. A corresponding signal (#15) was also introduced to assist with enforcement.

For the 2025–26 season, this point of emphasis is reaffirmed, with renewed focus on consistent adjudication across all levels of play. Faking being fouled may occur by offensive or defensive players, and must be addressed in accordance with approved procedures and NFHS guidelines.

Types of Faking Being Fouled

Three primary categories of Faking Being Fouled have been identified:

Head Bob

This infraction occurs when a player in control of the ball simulates contact by quickly snapping the head backward. In this case, the faking signal (#15) should be displayed immediately, and the whistle should be sounded concurrently. If this is the first offense for the team, a team warning is reported. Since the infraction occurs while in player control, the offending team retains possession and is awarded a throw-in at one of the four designated spots in either the frontcourt or backcourt, depending on the location of the warning.

In the Act of Shooting

If a shooter simulates being fouled—typically by falling to the floor without contact—after releasing the ball, the faking signal (#15) should be displayed immediately; however, the whistle should be withheld. Play should be stopped upon the occurrence of any of the following:

- The try is successful;
- The defensive team gains control of the ball;
- The offensive team secures a rebound but does not immediately attempt to score;
- A dead ball situation occurs for any other reason.

While on Defense

If a defensive player simulates being fouled (e.g., by falling to the floor without contact), the faking signal (#15) should be displayed immediately, with no whistle sounded. Play should be stopped under the same conditions listed above for shooters.

Conclusion

When correctly and consistently applied, Rule 4-49 serves as an effective deterrent. Proper adjudication ensures that players, coaches, and spectators clearly understand how violations will be addressed and reinforces the importance of integrity in game play.

2025-26 RULES INTERPRETATIONS

OSAA ADOPTS SHOT CLOCK BEGINNING WITH 2023-24 SEASON

In accordance with NFHS Rule 2-14, the OSAA has adopted a 35-second shot clock effective in the 2023-24 season at the varsity level for both boys' and girls' basketball. Find shot clock operator resources by visiting <https://www.osaa.org/activities/bbx>.

Requests for rule interpretations or explanations should be directed to the OSAA. The NFHS will assist in answering rules questions from the state associations whenever called upon.

OSAA ADOPTED BASKETBALL RULES AND INTERPRETATIONS

The 2025-26 NFHS Basketball Rules Book will be used.

OSAA is not adopting this rule:

9-10-1a NOTE (NEW), 4-10: *Allows state associations to adopt a modification to the closely guarded rule if they have adopted the 35-second shot clock, allowing players to dribble the ball for more than five seconds while closely guarded and maintain that a player may not hold the ball for five or more seconds.*

Rationale: *Permits states utilizing the 35-second shot clock to allow players to dribble without enforcing the closely guarded rule since they have a 35-second time limit to attempt a try for goal, maintaining an appropriate pace of play.*

PARTICIPATION LIMITATIONS

*A student shall not participate in more than five quarters (**six quarters for 1A only**) per day and in not more than 24 games per season, exclusive of varsity district playoffs and state championships. Overtime periods shall be considered an extension of the previous quarter, and participation for any length of time in a quarter shall constitute a quarter. For the purposes of this rule, participation during the same day in five quarters (**six quarters for 1A only**) shall be considered participation in one game. A student may participate in more than one jamboree in a day but is limited to not more than 24 minutes total.*

OSAA BASKETBALL POLICIES**Effective outside Association Year.****1. SUMMER POLICY**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "SUMMER POLICY" in the OSAA Handbook, revised Fall 2017.

Effective during Association Year, outside the designated OSAA sport season.**2. PRACTICE LIMITATION RULE (6A, 5A, 4A)**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "PRACTICE LIMITATION RULE (6A, 5A, 4A)" in the OSAA Handbook, revised July 2022.

3. PRACTICE LIMITATION RULE (3A, 2A, 1A)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "PRACTICE LIMITATION RULE (3A, 2A, 1A)" in the OSAA Handbook, revised July 2022.

Effective First Practice Date through End of HS Season.**1. PRACTICE MODEL**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "PRACTICE MODEL" in the OSAA Handbook, revised July 2021.

2. PARTICIPATION LIMITATIONS

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "PARTICIPATION LIMITATIONS" in the OSAA Handbook, revised October 2025.

3. OFFICIALS – CERTIFIED REQUIREMENT

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "OFFICIALS – CERTIFIED REQUIREMENTS" in the OSAA Handbook, revised Summer 2023.

4. INTERRUPTED CONTESTS

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "INTERRUPTED CONTESTS" in the OSAA Handbook, revised Fall 2015.

5. SCORE DIFFERENTIAL PROCEDURES

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "SCORE DIFFERENTIAL PROCEDURES" in the OSAA Handbook, revised Summer 2020.

6. ENDOWMENT GAMES

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "ENDOWMENT GAMES" in the OSAA Handbook, revised September 2022.

[\(Endowment Game Application\)](#)

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS INFORMATION**1. STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS POSTING TIMELINES**

- A. **Athletic Directors, Coaches and Spectators**: Detailed information regarding the Basketball State Championships will be posted on the OSAA website (<http://www.osaa.org/activities/gbx>) on Wednesday, February 11. It is essential that participating teams and individuals access this information prior to the state championships. Included will be information regarding ticket prices, parking, maps, how to submit souvenir program information, souvenir merchandise, etc.
- B. **Event Management Information (EMI)**: Beginning Wednesday, February 11, schools that host state championship games must download Event Management Information from the OSAA website (<http://www.osaa.org/activities/gbx>). Event Management & Ticket Report form – School administrators can access the online form from their "My Account" page on the OSAA website. Included will be information regarding expenses, event management and ticket report, admission policies, ticket booth signs, PA script, etc.

2. STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS LOCATIONS, DATES AND TIMES

- A. **First and Second Round Sites and Times**: Refer to brackets for locations and home team designation. Game times are by mutual agreement of both schools participating. If schools cannot mutually agree, the OSAA will make the final decision.
- B. **First and Second Round Dates**:

- 1) Round 1 games for 6A, 3A and 1A that are scheduled during the week (Tuesday, Wednesday) are to take place on the date scheduled on the OSAA calendar. EXCEPTION: If a school is hosting both a boys and a girls game and all three schools agree, a doubleheader may be played on either play date, Tuesday or Wednesday.
- 2) Round 2 games (6A, 3A, 1A) and 5A, 4A, 2A Round 1 games that are scheduled on the weekend (Friday, Saturday) may take place on either date provided both schools agree. If both schools do not mutually agree to change the date, the contest shall take place on the date scheduled on the OSAA calendar.

C. **Finals:**

- 1) **6A** – University of Portland, 5000 N Willamette Blvd, Portland, OR 97203
- 2) **5A** – Linfield University, 48 SE Linfield Ave, McMinnville, OR 97128
- 3) **4A** – Forest Grove HS, 1401 Nichols Lane, Forest Grove, OR 97116
- 4) **3A** – Marshfield HS, 10th & Ingersoll, Coos Bay, OR 97420 / North Bend HS, 2323 Pacific St, North Bend, OR 97459
- 5) **2A** – Pendleton HS, 1800 Carden Ave, Pendleton, OR 97801 / Pendleton Convention Center, 1601 Westgate, Pendleton, OR 97801
- 6) **1A** – Baker HS, 2500 E Street, Baker City, OR 97814

3. **PLAYOFF QUALIFICATIONS**

A. **6A** – 32-team OSAA bracket

- 1) **Automatic Qualifiers** – 21 teams automatically qualify for the OSAA's 32-team bracket based on regular season and/or district tournament play on or before **Friday, February 27 (Boys)**; on or before **Saturday, February 28 (Girls)**. Each league determines how they will select their three allotted playoff spots.
- 2) **Rankings Freeze Date** – The rankings will freeze at **the conclusion of all contests** on **Friday, February 27 (Boys)** and **Saturday, February 28 (Girls)**.
- 3) **At-Large Qualifiers** – Eleven additional teams qualify for the OSAA's 32-team bracket based on the OSAA rankings. Once the rankings are frozen, the eleven highest ranked teams not already an automatic league qualifier will qualify as At-Large teams.
- 4) **Rankings** – Once the 32 qualifying teams are determined, they will be placed on the OSAA bracket according to OSAA Executive Board Policy "[State Championships – Rankings](#)."

B. **5A** – 16-team OSAA bracket

- 1) **Automatic Qualifiers** – 14 teams automatically qualify for the OSAA's 16-team bracket based on regular season and/or district tournament play on or before **Tuesday, March 3 (Boys)**; on or before **Wednesday, March 4 (Girls)**. Each league determines how they will select their allotted playoff spots.

Northwest Oregon – 4; Midwestern – 3; Mid-Willamette – 4; Intermountain – 3
- 2) **Rankings Freeze Date** – The rankings will freeze at **the conclusion of all contests** on **Tuesday, March 3 (Boys)** and **Wednesday, March 4 (Girls)**.
- 3) **At-Large Qualifiers** – Two additional teams will qualify for the OSAA's 16-team bracket based on the OSAA rankings. Once the rankings are frozen, the two highest ranked teams not already an automatic league qualifier will qualify as At-Large teams.
- 4) **Rankings**: Once the 16 qualifying teams are determined, they will be placed on the OSAA bracket according to OSAA Executive Board Policy "[State Championships – Rankings](#)."

C. **4A** – 16-team OSAA bracket

- 1) **Automatic Qualifiers** – 12 teams automatically qualify for the OSAA's 16-team bracket based on regular season and/or district tournament play on or before **Tuesday, March 3**. Each league determines how they will select their allotted playoff spots.

Cowapa – 2; Tri-Valley – 2; Oregon West – 2; Sky Em – 2; Skyline – 2; Greater Oregon – 2
- 2) **Rankings Freeze Date** – The rankings will freeze at **the conclusion of all contests** on **Saturday, February 28 (Boys and Girls)**.

- 3) **At-Large Qualifiers** – *Four additional teams will qualify for the OSAA's 16-team bracket based on the OSAA rankings. Once the rankings are frozen, the four highest ranked third place teams from the leagues will qualify as At-Large teams.*
- 4) **Rankings:** Once the 16 qualifying teams are determined, they will be placed on the OSAA bracket according to OSAA Executive Board Policy "[State Championships – Rankings.](#)"

D. **3A** – 20-Team OSAA Bracket

- 1) **Automatic Qualifiers** – 17 teams automatically qualify for the OSAA's 20-team bracket based on regular season and/or district tournament play on or before **Saturday, February 21 (Boys and Girls)**. Each league determines how they will select their allotted playoff spots.

Lewis & Clark – 3; Coastal Range – 3; PacWest – 3; Mountain Valley – 2; Far West – 2; Eastern Oregon – 2; Southern Oregon – 2
- 2) **Rankings Freeze Date** – The rankings will freeze at **the conclusion of all contests on Saturday, February 21 (Boys and Girls)**.
- 3) **At-Large Qualifiers** – Three additional teams will qualify for the OSAA's 20-team bracket based on the OSAA rankings. Once the rankings are frozen, the three highest ranked teams not already an automatic qualifier will qualify as At-Large teams.
- 4) **Rankings** – Once the 20 qualifying teams are determined, they will be placed on the OSAA bracket according to OSAA Executive Board Policy "[State Championships – Rankings.](#)"

E. **2A** – 16-team OSAA bracket

- 1) **Automatic Qualifiers** – 14 teams automatically qualify for the OSAA's 16-team bracket based on regular season and/or district tournament play on or before **Saturday, February 21 (Boys and Girls)**. Each league determines how they will select their allotted playoff spots.

Northwest – 3; Tri-River – 3; Valley Coast – 2; Blue Mountain – 2; Sunset – 2; East Cascades -- 2
- 2) **Rankings Freeze Date** – The rankings will freeze at **the conclusion of all contests on Saturday, February 21 (Boys and Girls)**.
- 3) **At-Large Qualifiers** – Two additional teams will qualify for the OSAA's 16-team bracket based on the OSAA rankings. Once the rankings are frozen, the two highest ranked teams not already an automatic league qualifier will qualify as At-Large teams.
- 4) **Rankings** – Once the 16 qualifying teams are determined, they will be placed on the OSAA bracket according to OSAA Executive Board Policy "[State Championships – Rankings.](#)"

F. **1A** – 32-Team OSAA Bracket

- 1) **Automatic Qualifiers** – 24 teams automatically qualify for the OSAA's 32-team bracket based on regular season and/or district tournament play on or before **Saturday, February 21**. Each league determines how they will select their three allotted playoff spots.
- 2) **Rankings Freeze Date** – The rankings will freeze at **the conclusion of all contests on Saturday, February 21 (Boys and Girls)**.
- 3) **At-Large Qualifiers** – Eight additional teams qualify for the OSAA's 32-team bracket based on the OSAA rankings. Once the rankings are frozen, the eight highest ranked teams not already an automatic league qualifier will qualify as At-Large teams.
- 4) **Rankings** – Once the final 32 teams are determined, they will be placed on the OSAA bracket according to OSAA Executive Board Policy "[State Championships – Rankings.](#)"

4. **[STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS - HOME TEAM DESIGNATION](#)** (OSAA Handbook, Executive Board Policies) (Revised Fall 2018)

During all rounds of each OSAA State Championship bracket, the team with the better Adjusted Playoff Ranking (APR) shall be the designated home team.

5. **[STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS – TEAM SIZE](#)** (OSAA Handbook, Executive Board Policies) (Revised Fall 2024)

- A. The following limitations shall apply to replacement players and maximum team sizes for team sport State Championship events, first round through championship final. **NOTE:** Only players in uniform are allowed to participate in pre-game warm-ups.

- B. **Penalties for excessive team size:** Suiting up, warming up, or playing too many players shall be considered a gross act of unsportsmanlike conduct and may be punishable by fines, forfeiture and/or other penalties as determined by the OSAA Executive Board.

- 5) **Basketball.** Team: Replacement of players applies to each game. A player replaced on the roster may be reinstated to the roster in subsequent games. Maximum in uniform: 6A – 14; All other classifications – 12.

7. **STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS – ADOPTED BALL** (*OSAA Handbook, Executive Board Policies*) (Fall 2010)

The OSAA shall require that the officially adopted ball for that sport be used in all state championship contests, first round through final sites.

A. **State Championship Contests at Home Sites.**

1) **Team sports (other than football).**

- a) **Procedure.** Officials shall confirm that the game balls provided by the home team are the officially adopted balls (***Wilson Evolution***). If the home team does not have the officially adopted ball, officials shall inquire if the visiting team has the officially adopted ball and use them if they are available. If neither team has the officially adopted ball, the contest shall be played, and officials shall report the violation by the host school to the OSAA.
- b) **Penalty.** If no officially adopted balls are available for use at an OSAA state championship contest, the host school shall be subject to fines, forfeiture and/or other penalties as determined by the OSAA Executive Board.

- B. **State Championship Contests Administered by OSAA Staff.** Officially adopted balls (***Wilson Evolution***) shall be provided by OSAA staff administering the contests.

8. **STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS – SUPPORT GROUP POLICIES** (*OSAA Handbook, Executive Board Policies*) (Revised Fall 2017)

Following are the support group policies as adopted by the Executive Board regarding state championships:

- A. **Admission.** Members of support groups shall be given complimentary admission from game management for contests during which their school is participating. Members shall enter the facility in uniform as a group and must be accompanied by their coach/director for verification.

- 1) **Cheerleading.** The number of cheerleaders permitted is limited to members of the varsity cheer team for that sport season. Venue space, as determined by game management, may limit the number of cheerleaders able to cheer on the sideline. Squad size for routines performed prior to the contest, during timeouts and for halftime entertainment may exceed the venue sideline limit so long as the additional members return to the stands when the contest resumes.

- B. **Pep Band Expectations.** The purpose of performances by pep bands at athletic events is to entertain, promote school spirit and support cheerleaders in providing positive crowd participation activities. All members of the pep band are expected to exhibit the highest standards of good sportsmanship.

- 1) Musical selections including rhythmic percussion cadences in support of cheerleaders may be performed only during the following times:
- Prior to the game.
 - During time outs.
 - Between quarters or at halftime.
 - Following the game.
 - Exceptions:

(1) Rhythmic percussion cadences in support of cheerleaders may be performed during play at outdoor venues only.

(2) No musical selections may be performed during injury time outs.

- 2) Amplified instruments are permitted at basketball contests unless the State Championship Director determines that space availability or distance to an electrical outlet precludes its use. The State Championship Director has the authority to control the volume of any amplified instrument.

- 3) If two pep bands are playing at an athletic contest, the groups shall alternate performances and split the halftime. In football, the performance time after a touchdown or point after goes to the band representing the school that has scored regardless of which band performed last. The directors of the two groups shall meet prior to the contest to confirm how the time will be shared.

- C. **Halftime Entertainment.** The following halftime procedures shall be utilized:

1) Basketball.

- a) Schools participating in the Basketball State Championships will be given first choice to entertain during halftime intermission of all basketball games. Other schools will be considered in order of application received. It shall be understood that schools not participating in the state championships shall not bring a band.
- b) All halftime entertainment must be approved by the State Championship Director.
- c) Individuals or groups shall provide their own equipment for music accompaniment.
- d) Total halftime entertainment shall not exceed eight minutes.
- e) Participating schools are to mutually agree on how the eight-minute halftime is to be shared.
- f) The facilities will not be blacked out nor will fire of any nature be permitted for entertainment.
- g) Individuals or groups must wear appropriate gym floor shoes.
- h) Questions concerning halftime entertainment shall be directed to the State Championship Director.

OSAA GENERAL POLICIES**RULES****Rule 3 – Contests – Sportsmanship – Crowd Control**

See RULES - Athletic, Cheerleading and Dance/Drill “Rule 3-Contests-Sportsmanship-Crowd Control” in the OSAA Handbook.

Rule 7 – Out-of-Season and Non-School Activities

See RULES - Athletic, Cheerleading and Dance/Drill “Rule 7-Out of Season and Non-School Activities” in the OSAA Handbook.

EXECUTIVE BOARD POLICIES**1. ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS / AREA-WIDE EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS/AREA-WIDE EMERGENCY PROCEDURES” in the OSAA Handbook, revised May 2020.

2. AIR QUALITY GUIDELINES

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “AIR QUALITY GUIDELINES” in the OSAA Handbook, revised February 2024.

3. ATTACHED AND UNATTACHED COMPETITION / EXHIBITION

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “ATTACHED AND UNATTACHED COMPETITION/EXHIBITION” in the OSAA Handbook, revised August 2012.

4. CERTIFICATION – ATHLETIC DIRECTORS AND COACHES

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “CERTIFICATION-ATHLETIC DIRECTORS AND COACHES” in the OSAA Handbook, **revised May 2024.**

5. CHARITABLE CAUSES

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “CHARITABLE CAUSES” in the OSAA Handbook, revised Fall 2012.

6. CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT” in the OSAA Handbook, revised Summer 2020.

[\(Medical Release – Return to Participation Following a Concussion\)](#)

[\(Medical Release – Return to Learn Following a Concussion\)](#)

7. EJECTION POLICIES – EJECTED PLAYER OR COACH

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “EJECTION POLICIES – EJECTED PLAYER OR COACH” in the OSAA Handbook, revised Summer 2024.

[\(Ejection Report\)](#)

8. EJECTION POLICIES – FINES

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “EJECTION POLICIES -- FINES” in the OSAA Handbook, revised Summer 2024.

9. EJECTION POLICIES – MULTIPLE EJECTIONS OF INDIVIDUAL

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “EJECTION POLICIES – MULTIPLE EJECTIONS OF INDIVIDUAL” in the OSAA Handbook, revised Fall 2012.

10. [HAIR DEVICE / ADORNMENT](#)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "HAIR DEVICE/ADORNMENT" in the OSAA Handbook, revised Summer 2022.

11. [HEAT INDEX](#)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "HEAT INDEX" in the OSAA Handbook, revised Fall 2014.

[\(Heat Index Calculator\)](#) [\(Heat Index Record\)](#)

12. [LIGHTNING SAFETY GUIDELINES](#)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "LIGHTNING SAFETY GUIDELINES" in the OSAA Handbook, revised Fall 2018.

[NFHS Position Statements & Guidelines](#)

13. [MORATORIUM WEEK](#)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "MORATORIUM WEEK" in the OSAA Handbook, revised May 2014.

14. [NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY](#)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY" in the OSAA Handbook, revised July 2019.

[\(Complaint Form\)](#)

15. [OFFICIALS – HOST SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES](#)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "OFFICIALS – HOST SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES" in the OSAA Handbook, revised Winter 2014.

16. [REPORTING SCHEDULES, ROSTERS AND RESULTS](#)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "REPORTING SCHEDULES, ROSTERS AND RESULTS" in the OSAA Handbook, revised Summer 2024.

17. [SHARED FACILITIES](#)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "SHARED FACILITIES" in the OSAA Handbook, revised Fall 2015.

[\(Shared Facility Request\)](#)

18. [STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS – RANKINGS](#)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "STATE CHAMPIONSHIP -- RANKINGS" in the OSAA Handbook, revised Summer 2024.

19. [WITHDRAWAL DURING A COMPETITION](#)

See OSAA Executive Board Policy "WITHDRAWAL DURING A COMPETITION" in the OSAA Handbook.