



Michael Lopes-Serrao <lopesmic@parkrose.k12.or.us>

OSAA Event Management Reminders

KT Emerson <kte@osaa.org>

Tue, Jan 17, 2023 at 12:53 PM

Superintendents, Principals, and Athletic Directors,

With league play in full swing, we wanted to send a few reminders, expectations, and resources regarding event management and sportsmanship. The OSAA continues to receive reports from schools and officials that positive actions have been taken, and communities and students have been appreciative of those actions. The OSAA is grateful for all your work to provide great experiences for students and communities.

S.T.A.R./Sportsmanship Banner

The OSAA distributed new S.T.A.R./Sportsmanship banners to each school at the Fall Administrator Workshops (see below). If they haven't already, schools are encouraged hang this 4'x10' banner in their gym to promote positive behaviors at events. Schools needing additional banners may order them through the [OSAA Corner Store](#).

Score Differential

During the first six weeks of the basketball season there have been 130 varsity contests with a score differential of 50 points or more. These types of lopsided results can result in sportsmanship incidents between schools and communities. Schools are encouraged to be cognizant of their opponents' skill level and be proactive in making adjustments to keep scores from getting out of hand, including calling off a full court press and playing your entire team.

Discriminatory Acts Witnessed/Reported

If a discriminatory incident is witnessed or reported to an official, coach, or event management it is important to take action to interrupt the contest. Here are the required steps:

- If there is a spectator who is being discriminatory, event management and officials need to work together to ensure that they are interrupting the behaviors so the participants can continue to compete.
- The officials should stop the game and immediately bring both coaches together to discuss what was specifically reported. Explain to both coaches what behaviors were reported and that any such behavior will not be allowed to continue, and consequences will occur if reported again. This could include potential postponement of the game.
- Return coaches to their students to explain what was reported and the consequences that will be applied if the behaviors continue.
- Officials immediately alert event management of what has been reported so event management can follow through with the school administrators present at the game and be prepared for further follow through with schools after the event.
- Officials and event management should be in communication throughout the remainder of the game regarding alleged behaviors.
- Contest officials should not directly engage with spectators who are exhibiting unsporting behavior. School administration is responsible for dealing with unruly spectators.

It is important to be collaborative in our efforts to ensure the environment provided for the athletes competing remains safe and welcoming. We all must remain consistent in our efforts to interrupt discriminatory acts when they occur and take action to eradicate the behaviors.

Student Sections

Student sections are energetic and exciting to have at games, however, it is imperative that they are reminded to cheer **for their team** and not against the other team/officials.

- Discriminatory chants, cheers, or comments can cause a hostile environment during a competition. Acts of this nature may include, but are not limited to, the use of derogatory or demeaning names or phrases or chants towards another person.
- Harassing/Unsportsmanlike conduct can interfere with or limit the ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or opportunities offered by a school. The most common act reported is a student section calling out a player's name or number.

Resources

- [January 2023 OSAA Equity and Diversity Newsletter](#) (*Creating a Positive Parent Spectator Environment in Your School*)
- [Public Address Scripts and Recordings](#)
- [Purposeful Planning for League/District/State Events](#)
- [S.T.A.R. Sportsmanship Expectations](#)
- [S.T.A.R. School Sportsmanship Nomination](#)

Please contact our staff with any questions ([Contact Information](#)).

Thank you for all you do on behalf of the students, schools, and communities in our Association.





OREGON SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

☎ 503.682.6722
INFO@OSAA.ORG



25200 SW PARKWAY AVE. STE. 1, WILSONVILLE, OR 97070
