

BYLAWS

OF THE



**OAKLAND ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
ATHLETIC DIVISION**

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**OAKLAND ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
ATHLETIC DIVISION
BYLAWS**

I. Name, purpose and membership

- A. The name of the interscholastic association shall be the OAKLAND ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION.
- B. The purpose is to promote the inter school relations among the membership of the association and to secure such other advantages as may be gained by union of effort.
- C. The members of the association shall be:

| | | |
|------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Adams | Harrison | Oxford |
| Andover | Hazel Park | Pontiac |
| Athens | Lahser | Rochester |
| Avondale | Lake Orion | Royal Oak |
| Berkley | Lathrup | Seaholm |
| Clarkston | North Farmington | Southfield |
| Farmington | Oak Park | Stoney Creek |
| Ferndale | | Troy |
| Groves | | West Bloomfield |
- D. New members may be admitted by a 3/4 vote of all member schools.
- E. Any member school wishing to withdraw must notify the association's secretary of such intention at least one full school year prior to the termination of membership. A school may be dropped from this association for cause by a 3/4 vote of all other member schools.

II. Conference and Division Names

- A. The name of this organization, as stated in the constitution, is the Oakland Activities Association (OAA).
- B. When the number of divisions in a sport are determined, they will be named as follows: Division Red, White, Blue, Gold

III. Athletic Division

The Athletic Division will consist of the athletic directors of all member schools.

IV. Officers

- A. There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of four members.
- B. The officers of the Executive Committee will include a chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary and historian. (See Appendix A)
- C. The Executive Committee shall follow a rotational order of succession. (Alphabetically by name of school as listed in Article I, Section C.) The term shall be for two years with two Athletic Directors leaving and two joining each year.

V. Appeals and Protests

- A. The Oakland Activities Association will not accept, review or act on any protest involving the interpretation, and/or application of a rule by an official in any athletic contest involving member schools.
- B. Coaches may appeal, as provided for in the official rule book for their sport at the time the dispute arises. The official in charge will decide on the appeal according to the procedures outlined in the official rule book. The decision will be final, and the game or meet result at its conclusion will stand.

VI. Standing Committees

A. Assignment Committee

1. The Assignment Committee will be responsible for establishing sub-committee memberships every two years. Committee memberships will be reviewed and new assignments made on the odd years of the schedule rotations. No more than two members of a committee will be changed at any given time. (See Appendix K)
2. Each committee will have a minimum of two (2) members and will not exceed five (5).

B. Sub Committees

1. Annually shall select a chairperson for the committee. It is recommended the position of the chairperson rotate among committee members.
2. Will review and assess division alignments and scheduling based on the established criteria and process.
3. Will conduct pre season as needed, and post season coaches meetings (See Section XV).
4. Will review and recommend modification of sport guidelines to the Athletic Division after the post season meeting.

C. Ethics/Sportsmanship Committee (See Appendix J)

1. Will receive and review written concerns regarding sportsmanship of member schools.
2. Will receive and review all appeals and protests relating to ethics/sportsmanship.
3. Will advise involved school(s) of possible solutions.
4. Will report the results of sportsmanship issues to the Athletic Division.

VII. Recognized Association Sports

At least ten (10) schools must sponsor a varsity team in a sport before it may be recognized as an Oakland Activities Association program. An established sport may cease to be recognized as an association activity when less than ten (10) member schools sponsor a varsity team in that sport.

Sub varsity events involving multiple member schools are not considered OAA events (i.e. invitationals, league meets).

VIII. Administration of Athletic Contests

- A. Member schools shall send an administrator/designee to Varsity Football and Varsity Boys Basketball. This individual is to report to the host school's game manager upon arrival.
- B. A team must compete in the conference dual meet schedule to compete in the division meet in that sport.
- C. Recommended starting times for events will be determined by the Athletic Division.
- D. Seniors will participate on varsity teams only unless specifically permitted in the policy statement governing a sport or approved by vote of the Athletic Division.
- E. Cancellations and/or postponements are to be made by the athletic director of the host school. When possible, notify the opponent's school by one o'clock (1:00 pm), and speak directly to the athletic director or designee.
- F. If a varsity contest between two or more member schools is to be permanently canceled it must have the approval of the ethics/sportsmanship committee. All make-ups must be held prior to state tournament play, with the exception of softball, baseball and soccer.
- G. If a team is unable to play a scheduled conference contest because of financial or strike-related problems, that team will forfeit the contest to its opponent(s) for the purpose of determining conference or division standings.
- H. The recommended admission price for all OAA contests will be five dollars (\$5.00) for adults and students for varsity contests and four dollars (\$4.00) for sub varsity contests. The admission fee for all association tournaments shall be \$5.00/person.
- I. Admission prices for a school's own student season passes and adult season passes for home games may be established by that school. A school may choose not to charge admission fees for selected sports.
- J. One hundred (100) non-transferable Oakland Activities Association passes are to be issued to each member school for distribution to adults. Distribution shall be limited to school employees, their spouses, Board of Education and Athletic Booster Club Officers. Passes shall not be distributed to high school students or children.
- J1. Retired athletic administrators employed by OAA member school(s) for a period of ten (10) or more years shall receive a complimentary league pass good for admission for the retiree and a guest each year from the league president, or home school athletic administrator or principal.
- K. Maximum rate of pay for officials will be established by the Athletic Division, and reviewed annually. (See Appendix B)
- L. Oakland Activities Association pay rates for personnel hosting conference meets will be determined by the Athletic Division. (See Appendix C)
- M. Severe weather policy (See Appendix D).
- N. Pep bands will be allowed from visiting teams only at varsity football games if prearranged by the athletic directors. A faculty sponsor must be present with all pep bands. Pep bands may not exceed 20 members. Bands may perform during dead ball situations only.

- O. Noisemakers of any kind are prohibited from indoor association contests or activities, excluding home pep bands. Confetti is also prohibited. The throwing of objects is prohibited. Megaphones are to be used by cheerleading squads only.
- P. Posters, signs and banners of a positive nature may be displayed at an event or activity per approval of the host athletic director. All materials are to be approved prior to their use and/or display.
- Q. Containers are not permitted at OAA athletic events.
- R. In an effort to promote positive interschool relations the OAA has developed a policy on prejudice. (See Appendix G)
- S. Commissioner Responsibilities/Assessment (See Appendix H)

IX. OAA Association Meetings

- A. The OAA athletic directors will meet the first Wednesday of each month during the regular school year. Site and time will be determined by the chairperson.
- B. An annual Athletic Division workshop will be held in August. The site and agenda will be determined by the incoming chairperson.
- C. A simple majority of the member schools must be present to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
- D. The Athletic Director must be present to vote on motions raised at the business meetings unless represented by a district athletic director or principal's designee.

X. Conference Dues

Dues will be determined annually by the principal's executive committee.

XI. Division Alignment

- A. The responsibility for structuring division alignments will reside with the Athletic Directors and is subject to principals' approval.
- B. The alignment of divisions will be determined by the "Sport Committee" (Athletic Directors and Coaches)
 - 1. This committee will determine "criteria" to be used in determining the division alignments.
 - 2. The committee will determine the number of divisions in each sport.
- C. The alignment will be approved by the membership of the Athletic Division.
- D. Sport committees consisting of only athletic directors are responsible for preparing and updating sport operating guidelines.
- E. The divisions may be reviewed annually by the sport committee.
- F. Realignment of divisions may occur in the event that additional schools sponsor a sport, or if previously sponsoring schools drop the sport or if the number of schools in the league changes. The sport committee may divide or consolidate divisions with a simple majority vote of the athletic division.

XII. Appeal Process

- A. A school may petition to the sport committee, in writing, to move to another division. A written appeal to the sport committee may be submitted to the Athletic Division to change its division placement within thirty (30) days of the end of season meeting in that sport.
 - 1. The sport committee will use the “original criteria” to realign in the appeal process.
 - 2. A recommendation from the sport committee must be given.
 - 3. A simple majority vote of the Athletic Division is required for passage.
 - 4. The recording secretary will be required to maintain all correspondence for the term of alignment.

- B. Schools may also petition for realignment, in writing, through the sport committee per the following process:

To be given consideration...

 - 1. A minimum of two (2) schools must be willing to exchange divisional affiliations and complete OAA schedules.
 - 2. Representatives from all involved schools must submit, in writing, separate letters of support for this exchange to the sport committee. The letters must agree to comply with divisional and schedule changes and be signed by the respective building principals and athletic directors.
 - 3. A recommendation from the sport committee must be given.
 - 4. A simple majority vote of the Athletic Division is required for passage.
 - 5. The recording secretary will be required to maintain all correspondence for the term of alignment.

XIII. Awards

- A. Medal and certificate allocation. There are no OAA ribbons. (See Appendix E)

- B. Each sport will honor an All-Academic Team. All varsity letter winners with a 3.5 or higher cumulative G.P.A. will receive an All-Academic certificate.

XIV. Scheduling

- A. No other schedule of athletic events may interfere with or supersede regular association schedules.

- B. If conditions warrant, postponement or rescheduling may be done with the mutual consent of the schools involved. Every effort should be made to complete such arrangements before 1:00 pm on the day of the scheduled contest.

- C. When filling non-division dates, a best effort will be made to adhere to the following criteria in the order presented:
 - 1. Required intra district opponents – The scheduling of contests between traditional rivals cannot be guaranteed.
 - 2. Assigned association crossover opponents
 - 3. Other available OAA schools
 - 4. Invitational Tournaments
 - 5. Other non-association schools

- D. Schedules will be altered for religious or ethnic holidays upon request of one of the competing schools. OAA events will not be scheduled on days the schools restrict contests.

- E. All OAA spring sports schedules are (including golf & tennis) are to allow one full week, before the start of the state tournament, for make-up games and rain dates.
- F. It is recommended that all single-day OAA tournament events be conducted on Saturday or during non-instructional days.

XV. Pre and Post Season Coaches Meetings

- A. Pre-season coaches meetings will be conducted as needed. The dates, times, and locations of the pre season meetings will be determined by the sport sub committee. The meeting for each sport will be chaired by the athletic director(s) in charge of that sport.
- B. The agenda for each sport pre-season meeting will include:
 - 1. Review of Association rules pertaining to that sport.
 - 2. To review standards pertaining to the sport (starting heights, number of entries, etc.)
 - 3. Compile and distribute a coaches' directory.
- C. The coaches in each sport are required to attend a post-season meeting. The meeting will be chaired by the athletic director(s) in charge of that sport. At the meeting, coaches will:
 - 1. Select Divisional All-Association teams according to the sport criteria.
 - 2. Complete a season summary sheet and forward it to the Historian.
 - 3. Submit recommendations for the improvement of their sport.
 - 4. Submit end-of-season report to the Historian. (Appendix F)

XVI. Limited Team Membership

The OAA will comply with the policies of the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) that relate to male and female team membership for all Association contests.

XVII. Amendments

Bylaws, rules and regulations may be amended by a simple majority vote of the member schools. The vote is to be taken at the next scheduled meeting following the proposed amendment.

XVIII. Commercial, Promotions, Advertising and Sponsorships (See Appendix I)

The Oakland Activities Association encourages profit and non-profit organizations to contribute to the association for the purpose of sponsoring/funding existing or new programs and events. Such sponsorship/funding shall be consistent with association philosophy, standards and policies.

The Board of Governors or its designee will approve such sponsorships/funding as outlined in the operating guidelines.