

March youth rodeo postponed for a time

The spring Junior Rodeo season was to buck this month at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds arena in Madras. This has now been delayed into April, at the earliest, due to the virus pandemic.

Events will include bareback, ranch and saddle bronc, mini- and junior bulls, barrels, poles, team roping and breakaway. All events will be 18 and under. Riders will be able to enter each event twice unless the event fills up. This is going to be an International Miniature Rodeo Association (IRMA) rodeo. As the event day approaches, call or text entries to 541-280-1342; or see 'kokelsoutlawponies' on Facebook. Entries will be \$45 for rough stock; \$50 a run for breakaway; and \$60 a team.

Heart of Oregon cancellation

Dear Partners,

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, all Heart of Oregon Corps youth programs and events have been canceled and or postponed. This cancellation includes the YouthBuild information session on March 31, and our Home Completion Ceremony for our Prineville House on April 3.

Please let the youth and

families that you work with know that they have been canceled, and that they can attend an information session in April. We will continue to monitor the situation and as soon as we get a go ahead we will be adding new dates, possibly in April.

Thank you so much!

Warm regards, **Kara Johnson**, program director.

OSAA spring suspension through April

The Oregon School Activities Association—the OSAA—has extended the suspension of inter-scholastic practices and contests for sports and activities for all member schools at least through April 28.

The action of the OSAA follows the March directive from Gov. Kate Brown.

The OSAA executive board has clarified the language regarding usage of high school facilities and communication between coaches and participants during the moratorium-like suspension period.

The OSAA Executive Board had general discussion around each spring activity and sport, and issues with following Center for Disease Control, state and local protocols for gatherings—especially given event formats, and that some events are indoor and some outdoor.

The board made the following determinations regarding the 'Speech' and 'Solo Music State Championships':

Speech State Championships, were scheduled for April 23-25: Only four of the 14 special districts were able to complete qualifying events prior to the school closures.

The event's cutoff date for entries of April 11, and the event itself fall within the school closure window.

Western Oregon University remains open but delaying the event does not fit within the school's current schedule of events.

Due to these factors, along with no clear option for technology solutions to be implemented, the OSAA executive board voted to cancel the Speech State Championships for 2020.

Solo Music State Championships, scheduled for May 2: All 15 Oregon Music Education Association districts were able

The following are frequently asked questions relating to OSAA's policies regarding the COVID-19 outbreak. If you have a question, please contact Peter Weber at peterw@osaa.org or contact the OSAA office at 503-682-6722.

Question: May schools participate in out-of-state practices or contests and events during this suspension period?

Answer: No, the suspension period for practices, contests and events applies to all OSAA member schools, regardless of where the practice, contest or event occurs.

Question: May coaches hold 'voluntary' or 'optional' practices during this suspension period?

No, coaches are not able to work directly with students during this suspension period. Coaches may not be involved in circumventing this policy.

May coaches communicate with students and

athletes?

Coaches can communicate with students in accordance with local school district policy, but not organize or participate in workouts. We encourage coaches to provide support to students during this stressful time.

Does this suspension period apply to public schools only?

The suspension period applies to all OSAA member schools, public and private, in all OSAA-sanctioned activities.

How should schools correctly mark baseball and softball games during the suspension period on the OSAA website?

Games should be marked as cancelled, not deleted. This keeps the game on a team's schedule in case it's able to be made up at a later date.

May students or coaches access school facilities during this suspension period?

During this moratorium-like period, there shall be no high school facility usage by activity or athletic staff and

students or teams. Field maintenance is allowed.

May groups of students gather to workout?

A. While the OSAA encourages students to stay active, we discourage groups of students from getting together in alignment with local and federal social distancing guidelines.

Will OSAA State Championships that have been cancelled be rescheduled?

No, due to the numerous issues regarding rescheduling including, but not limited to, site availability, staffing, scheduling conflicts, etc., cancelled OSAA State Championships will not be rescheduled.

Does the suspension period apply to off-season fall and winter activities?

All OSAA sports and activities fall under this guidance. There will be no practice or gatherings for any OSAA sports or activities. This includes Rule of Two, 6A/5A Pilot, and individual sports.

Coronavirus layoffs: What to do if you've lost your job

Until recently more than 155,000 people in Oregon were working in restaurants and bars. There are a number of examples on the reservation: At the Cottonwood Restaurant and Juniper Grill, Eagle Crossing, Re-Use It, and the food carts, for example.

Across Oregon many employees, and the establishment owners, have lost or soon will lose their livelihoods.

In emergency response to the coronavirus, Gov. Kate Brown last week ordered all eating and drinking establishments shut down, except for takeout and delivery service.

This was done to help control the spread of the coronavirus. The economic fallout is, and will continue to be severe.

Some of the dramatic events throughout the state: Powell's Books laid off hundreds of employees, shutting its five landmark stores in the Portland area. Apple, Nike and many other retailers have also closed their stores.

The NBA is closed down, as are concerts, leading the Moda Center to stop work indefinitely.

Museums—including the Museum at Warm Springs—amusement parks, movie theaters and many other attractions are also closed, with employees at home.

Then last week: The sudden surge in layoffs triggered a massive rise in jobless claims, overwhelming the state's website for filing unemployment insurance claims.

The site was intermittently offline last week.

Before the coronavirus, the Oregon jobless rate was at an all-time low of 3.3 percent.

And an added worry: Expect higher unemployment numbers in the coming weeks.

No one knows for sure how the situation will de-

velop: It all depends on how widespread the outbreak becomes, and how long it lasts.

The Oregon Employment Department website is a good place to start:

oregon.gov/employ/unemployment/

The department offers this initial guidance:

Is anybody hiring?

Amazon, Fred Meyer and Safeway-Albertsons are all struggling to keep up with customer demand, and want nearly as many workers as they can hire. Amazon says it will hire up to 100,000 and is offering a temporary, \$2 hourly raise.

Safeway and other grocery stores want to hire employees immediately. See their site. The jobs include everything from check-out, stocking, and meat cutter to cake decorator.

Where do I file for benefits?

Unemployment insurance is available for most workers who lose their jobs "through no fault of their own."

File online and do it as soon as possible: It takes a week for benefits to kick in, and three weeks before payments start.

Do I need to seek a new job if my layoff is temporary?

The Employment Department says that if an employer expects a layoff will last for four weeks or less, workers do not need to seek a new job to receive unemployment benefits, so long as they're in contact with their employer and available to return to work when called.

What if I'm sick or quarantined, or want to stay away from work so I'm not exposed to the virus?

See **UNEMPLOYMENT** on 7

to complete qualifying events prior to the March 17 district deadline.

The rest of the deadlines for submitting school information, accompanist changes, etc. all fall within the statewide school closure window.

Pacific University has notified the OSAA that all on-campus events are cancelled, and the OSAA Solo Music State Championship cannot be held on their campus.

The OSAA relies heavily on the arts programs at Pacific University, along with staff and student personnel, to facilitate the event.

Due to these factors, along with no clear option for technology solutions to be implemented, the OSAA executive board voted to cancel the Solo Music State

Championships for 2020.

"As parents and former participants, the executive board and staff share in the disappointment of students, schools and communities regarding the cancellation of these state championships," said Peter Weber, OSAA executive director. "We all remain committed to the health and safety of students throughout Oregon during this evolving public health emergency."

The OSAA executive board has committed to meeting on April 1, and again on April 15, to re-evaluate the suspension of spring activities and sports, along with the remaining Spring State Championships. This will allow the board to review any updated guidelines and directives in collaboration with the

Governor's Office, the Oregon Health Authority, the Oregon Department of Education, the OSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee and member school administrators from throughout the state as this situation continues to evolve.

The OSAA Track and Field State Championships, originally scheduled to be held at the University of Oregon, will be split out and moved to different venues due to construction timelines for the completion of Hayward Field.

New arrangements have the 6A, 5A, 4A events being held at Mt. Hood Community College and the 3A, 2A, 1A events at Western Oregon University, both on May 29-30.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTWORK | APRIL 1, 5PM

WARM SPRINGS EXTENSION OFFICE | 1110 WASCO ST | WARM SPRINGS, OREGON

CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

Warm Springs Extension Service seeking an artist for a traditional foods project.

We are searching for artists to do commissioned artwork for a calendar and posters of traditional foods. An advisory committee will select the artists from a pool of submissions.

What to do?

- Submit sample of your drawn or painted work to the OSU Warm Springs Extension Office by April 1st, 2020 or email digital files to warmsprings.extension@oregonstate.edu
- Selected artists will be offered a commission for the work
- After the selection process, submitted works will be returned to the artist.

For more information, contact the OSU Extension office at: (541) 553-3238 or warmsprings.extension@oregonstate.edu



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