

ODFW REGIONAL FISHING REPORT

www.dfw.state.or.us/RR

LAKE, PONDS, RESERVOIRS:

Mid-coast lakes scheduled to receive stockings the week of Feb. 8 include **Cleawox, Munsel, Lost, Carter, Dune, Alder** and Thissel. Tis' the season for mid-coast trout. This week (Feb. 15), the Big Creek Reservoirs near Newport will be stocked.

SIUSLAW RIVER: Winter steelhead

Winter steelhead fishing continues to be slow on the Siuslaw like all the other coastal rivers this season. The river has dropped into shape and will have good conditions through the upcoming weekend. Expect the fishing to improve as February is typically the peak month on the Siuslaw. The Whitaker Creek area is the best place to target returning hatchery fish.

ALSEA RIVER:

Winter steelhead fishing continues to be slow on the Alsea. Even with the ideal conditions over the weekend, the fishing was slow. Anglers are still catching some fish everyday throughout the system from the NF Alsea bank fishery all the way down to the plunking shacks on the lowest portions of the river, but it's been tough. The later returning wild broodstock fish are providing the majority of the catch now and typically peak in February and early March

Reminder: The popular winter steelhead bank fishery around the Alsea Hatchery remains open but the hatchery grounds are closed to the public. Anglers

See FISHING 3B

Tide Tables

Entrance Siuslaw River

High Tide **Low Tide**

Feb. 20
5:32am / 6.6
7:41pm / 4.8

1:04pm / 1.6

Feb. 21
6:32am / 6.6
9:01pm / 5.1

12:15am / 3.9
2:10pm / 1.2

Feb. 22
7:35am / 6.8
9:55pm / 5.4

1:36am / 4.1
3:07pm / 0.8

Feb. 23
8:34am / 7.1
10:36pm / 5.8

2:45am / 3.9
3:55pm / 0.3

Feb. 24
9:27am / 7.5
11:11pm / 6.1

3:40am / 3.6
4:37pm / -0.2

Feb. 25
10:16am / 7.8
11:44pm / 6.5

4:28am / 3.1
5:16pm / -0.6

Feb. 26
11:02am / 8.1

5:12am / 2.5
5:53pm / -0.8



PHOTOS BY NED HICKSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

Members of the Siuslaw soccer team participate in an optional practice Wednesday.

Siuslaw soccer kicks off

The program is thriving as it heads into its first varsity season

By ZEAHNA YOUNG
Siuslaw News

After being given the go-ahead by the Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) board, Siuslaw High School will begin official soccer practices this Monday (Feb. 22), with Season Two matches beginning the week of March 1. Fortunately, the Vikings have been able to run optional practices since Season One began. Coach Londi Tomaro had much to say about the upcoming season.

"Well, it's definitely a different year with all of the COVID considerations," said Tomaro. "But it was going to be a different year for us anyway, because this is the first year we've had a varsity team, [and] the first year we've had enough kids for more than one team [JV]."

The soccer program at Siuslaw High School has grown quickly since its recent induction, with this year being their third year competing. According to Tomaro, "Our first year, we formed in August, [and] basically our athletic director was getting us games wherever he could fit us in. We were scrambling that whole first year. Last year, we had an actual schedule, all JV, and then this year, we're varsity and JV. So, things are changing every year, and nobody's had a chance

See SOCCER 2B

Siuslaw soccer coach Londi Tomaro (above right) works with a player during drills; This year's team will include boys and girls on both teams.



OSAA Executive Board addresses Culminating Week options

The OSAA Executive Board met in a work session Wednesday (Feb. 17) to receive updates from the OSAA staff on recently updated guidance from the Governor's Office and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and to finalize decisions on Season 2 Culminating Week sports events.

During the meeting, the board discussed the current realities associated with conducting large-scale events during a pandemic.

Differences between team and individual sports, anticipated issues with establishing equitable qualifying procedures, district adopted travel restrictions, gathering size restrictions based on county risk level capacity limits,

and impacts associated with schools forming regional pods were just a few of the topics discussed.

Ultimately, the board reached consensus that the best course of action to take for Season 2 is to return that week to the schools to coordinate and execute local/regional culminating events at their discretion.

This lengthens the already truncated season and provides additional participation opportunities for all students at all levels in a program.

The board directed staff to support schools as they organize these events at the local/regional level.

"The OSAA Executive Board does not want to put

any undue pressure on schools to participate in a statewide event that could potentially place their students and school community at risk," said OSAA Executive Director Peter Weber. "Recommendations from the OHA advise restricting unnecessary travel between counties, especially when they are at different risk levels.

"The group felt that requiring schools to travel across the state with the potential for overnight stays for events is not prudent at this time."

The board acknowledge that the decision means some schools will not be able to start participating on time,

Time Out

By Lloyd Little

Retired teacher, coach and game official

With more than 55 years as an athlete, coach, parent and spectator, Lloyd Little has gained some insights and perspectives regarding athletics. Each week, he shares what he's learned about sports from his multiple points of view.

Vicarious Participation

Those who can play, will play. Those who cannot play, will play in their minds. Whether you are sitting in the stands or watching your favorite team or individual on television, many fans imagine themselves on the field.

There is little harm for people to see themselves making the plays of their favorite sports star. There should, however, be a limit to this vicarious enthusiasm.

Turning to a friend and commenting that you could have caught that pass, hit that pitch or made that putt is far different than yelling and screaming about a missed opportunity by a player on the field.

Individuals and teams love loud vocal support at their home competitions when they play. The Seattle Seahawks have dubbed their home fans their 12th man.

Their noise is so loud it disrupts the visiting teams' offense.

Whenever they cause a mistake because of their noise I am sure they feel they have contributed to the victory. It makes it uncomfortable for a family attending the game. The game should not be decided because the visiting team gets flagged for a false start because they could not hear.

Throughout my playing and coaching career, I have witnessed parents, usually the Dad, verbally confront their son or daughter shortly after the ending of a contest.

The most common negatives are "You should have..." in regards to a physical or mental mistake their athlete has made.

It seems to me the expectations of a parent vicariously participating through their athlete are set too high. Professional athletes being paid millions of dollars can and do make mistakes.

It is unrealistic to expect your athlete to be perfect.

I played one sport or another for over 25 years. I have experienced the highs and lows of competition. I did not need to vicariously play through the multiple games I attended for my four children. This does not mean that I sat quietly and observed their team as they played.

As I matured, I found myself appreciating good plays from each athlete on the field. I cheered good plays and groaned with the crowd on disappointing plays.

One day, a long time ago, my brother and I were in a store in Warrenton, Ore. An adult friend of our dad came up to us and told us our dad was really bragging about our play in the previous night's game. It seems whenever our dad went to morning coffee at the local café, he would talk about how well his sons played the previous night.

It was a surprise to us both. We remember getting home after games and hearing about all the things we could

See OSAA 3B

See LITTLE 3B