



## OSAA classes may change

**By Kyle McGowen** After many conversations about whether or not to change the classifications in the OSAA from the current six classes to five beginning in the 2018-19 school year, the OSAA released a statement to school athletic directors on May 4th announcing that the committee will continue to move forward with the idea there will be six classifications.

According to the release, the 4A classification, where Cottage Grove High School currently is placed, would have been "most impacted by a possible move to a five classification system as it essentially splits their schools nearly in half. The 4A athletic directors voted 32 to 6 to keep a six classification system similar to how it looks currently for their schools," the release said.

The current six classifications divide 288 Oregon high school's athletic and activity programs based off of a few factors, but is prominently based off of the enrollment size of the schools. Often, the smaller the school the lower the classification that school is placed in.

Many larger schools, mostly in the 6A classification were in favor of a five classification association as opposed to the current six classifications. "They believe that a five classification approach with more schools in the classification provides more flexibility with league placements to address competitive balance concerns among their schools. Many 6A schools believe the current six classification system is broken and that long-term stability is better addressed in a five classification approach. Travel concerns were discussed, including

Please see OSAA PG B2

The men's Lion's track team earned 70 points at the annual Ciochetti Invitational. The score was enough to snag a second place win out of the 17 schools participating in the event.

## CIOCHETTI INVITATIONAL HELD AT CGHS

**By Kyle McGowen**  
*For The Sentinel*

With 12 seniors participating in their final home track meet, Cottage Grove wanted to have a strong performance at the 2017 Ciochetti Invitational. The annual event is one of the great track meets in the 4A that honors former legendary Lions coach Wally "Chick" Ciochetti, who coached Cottage Grove to the 1956 and 1960 Hayward Relays Class-A championships, was part of Mexico's 1964 Olympic team, and was a coach for the 1972-73 Pan American Games.

"Overall it was another successful meet, lots of teams come from a long way to participate in this meet. This is one of our favorite meets of the season, we are lucky to have it at home," Lions Track coach Ricky Knutson said.

Out of the 17 schools participating, the Lions men's team finished with 70 points, good enough for 2nd place behind Newport, who led the way 91 points. The Lions women's team finished 11th with a score of 30 while Scappoose finished 1st with 74 points, just ahead of Sisters who had 73.5.

The Lions men's team preformed particularly well on the track led by Jacob Woods who won the 200 meter final with a PR of 23.07 and also came up big in the 100 meter final, finishing 2nd behind North Valley's Hunter Comyford. Tucker Porter finished 2nd in the 400 meter for the Lions with a PR of 52.69 while later in the evening in the 3000 meter Konrad Raum's time of 9:26.71 was good enough for a second place finish and James Talley finished 4th in the same race. In the field events Erick Giffen had a PR of 6'0 in the high jump finals, finishing 2nd for the Lions men's team, while in the long jump finals Tucker Porter also finished second.

For the Lions women's team Hannah Albrecht had a strong performance in the 200 finishing 6th with a time of 27.35 and shortly after that finished 2nd in the 400 at 1:01.29 for the Lions women's team. Sabrina James also came up big for Cottage Grove when she finished 2nd in the 1500 with a 5:12.80 time. But the Lions women's team struggled in the field events.

How the Lions preform in Sutherlin this Thursday and Saturday in the Sky-Em districts will then determine who advances to the 4A state championships in Eugene that take place May 19 and 20, but first Cottage Grove must focus on repeating as district champions.

"We have a little bit of work to do. Junction City is pretty tough on the boy's side and sisters, as we saw today is going to be pretty strong too. Overall if we have a good couple days the girls and boys have a shot, but everything has to come together," Knutson concluded.



## HALL OF FAME AWARDS HELD

### Athlete of the Week



Danny Dunn helped the boys' track team earn 70 points and take home a second-place win at the Ciochetti Invitational. Congratulations Danny!



Fifteen members, including nine players, of the 2010 Lions' girls state championship team celebrate their induction in the Cottage Grove High School Athletic Hall of Fame held on Saturday, May 6. Look for a complete story on the awards ceremony in the May 17 edition of The Sentinel.

Join us Friday May 12th  
for the Karts first race  
Gates open at 5pm

Saturday May 13th  
Mom's Nights  
Free Admission for Mom  
Gates open at 4pm

