

# OSAA announces decision on Season 3 Culminating week events

The OSAA Executive Board met in a work session held March 31 to finalize decisions on Season 3 Culminating Week events.

The board recognized and gave its appreciation for all the hard work member schools and officials are doing on a daily basis to make activities happen for the students throughout Oregon.

The condensed, overlapping seasons, along with the variations in educational models, has tested the collective resolve of member schools this year but the commitment to provide opportunities for students is to be commended.

After lengthy conversation, discussion of feedback from schools and consideration of several different options, the OSAA Executive Board

made the decision to return the sixth and final week of Season 3 (spring) to the schools to coordinate and execute local/regional Culminating Week events at their discretion, similar to Season 2 (fall).

The board said it believes that providing local discretion for Culminating Week events allows schools to make the best decisions for their school and community.

During the meeting, the board discussed the current realities impacting schools and activities during the pandemic. While some schools have been in session for all or most of the year, the majority of schools have recently or will soon begin in-person or hybrid schedules.

Just as educational models vary throughout

the state, the same is true for high school activities. Some schools and districts have set limitations on travel and transportation in playing a very localized schedule while others are competing in a more traditional league schedule which may involve more travel.

Season 2 has seen teams with full schedules and others only competing in a few contests. School teams around the state have had to pause programs due to COVID-19 exposures while others have participated without issues.

The disparities outlined above impact the ability to establish fair and equitable qualifying procedures in order to crown a true state champion.

OSAA-sponsored state championship events

would require travel across the state for many schools and potentially include overnight stays depending on the sport, thus creating the type of large-scale public events that the OHA and Governor continue to advise against at this time.

Additionally, returning this week to schools lengthens the already shortened season and provides additional participation opportunities for all students at all levels in a program.

The board directed staff to support schools in organizing these events

at the local/regional level and help provide meaningful experiences for students.

OSAA staff will work with member schools to highlight and promote these events, student-athletes, coaches and stories. Participation limitations for Season 3 sports have been increased to allow for additional contests in each activity through the culminating weeks.

Baseball and softball will receive four (4) additional games, tennis will receive three (3) additional multi-match play-

ing dates, track & field will receive two (2) additional meets and golf will receive four (4) additional nine-hole rounds.

The board also confirmed its support for virtual events for cheerleading, dance/drill, solo music, band, orchestra, choir and speech.

Potential Culminating Week events for Season 4 (winter) were discussed but no decisions have been made at this time.

The board plans to continue reviewing potential options as that season draws near.

## KindTree-Autism Rocks hosts 2021 art festival

The popular community event, Festival of Art for All, hosted annually by KindTree-Autism Rocks is postponed yet another year. However the organization has planned several artistic online events in celebration of Autism Acceptance month in April.

In partnership with Mindworks, KindTree is hosting online, themed auctions featuring pieces created by participants of the Art Program, each Saturday in the month of April, concluding with a special online live auc-

tion on May 1.

Each week will feature new art. Attendees will be able to bid on the dozens of amazing, quirky and beautiful pieces, many of them already framed.

To see a preview visit KindTree Art Auction 2021.

KindTree established its Art Program in 2001 to support artists with autism and hosts online Artist Guild meetings the third Saturday of every month from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

This is an opportunity

for members to discuss various topics of interest and visit with guest artists.

Visit KindTree Artist Guild to get involved.

KindTree and Autism Rocks thanks community members for their support of artists with Autism, making dreams come true while helping build confidence, providing financial reward for hard work and talent and, in the process, feeling the power of a new and different perspective on the world.



Zolezzi Insurance Agency is pleased to introduce our new Personal Lines Agent, Jill Kallinger. Jill joined our Drain agency February 2021 and has over 6 years insurance experience.

Jill enjoys meeting new people and finds working with customers extremely rewarding. She takes the time to understand the needs

of her clients and to match them with the coverage they need. If you are shopping rates or just looking for a friendly, local agent, give Jill a call today at 541-804-2581!



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# DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

*Are you ready?*

## Post-flood safety tips

Natural disasters can strike at any time, and no disaster is more likely to strike than a flood.

According to the World Health Organization, floods are the most frequent type of natural disaster, affecting more than two billion people worldwide between 1998 and 2017. And the WHO reports that floods are increasing in frequency and intensity.

The Insurance Information Institute notes that flood damage is excluded under standard homeowners and renters insurance policies. However, flood insurance can be purchased from the Federal Emergency Management Agency via the National Flood Insurance Program.

Purchasing flood insurance prior to flooding can be a wise move for renters and homeowners who live in areas vulnerable to flooding. And should flooding occur, victims can take these steps to be safe as they try to get back to normal.

- Dress the part. When returning to your property to assess any damage, wear appropriate safety gear. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends homeowners and renters wear a hard hat, goggles, respirator mask (with an N95 rating or higher), thick work gloves, and waterproof, steel-toed boots when returning to their homes after a flood. If there's been a sewage leak, wear rubber gloves and rubber boots during the inspection.
- Conduct a self-inspection of your home. Local authorities often dictate when people can reenter their homes after flooding has occurred. Once they get the go-ahead to go back home, residents should first inspect the property to see if it's safe to reenter. A walk-around of the property may reveal downed power lines, wildlife and leaky utility lines that can make it dangerous to reenter a home. In addition, the Red Cross recommends checking the home exterior for structural damage like cracks in the foundation, roof damage or missing beams.

Any such damage should be inspected by a professional before anyone moves back into the home.

- Assess utilities and appliances. If the home is safe to enter, Allstate Insurance recommends checking the utilities and appliances inside the home. The CDC advises against turning on any light switches, as doing so could spark a fire if there are any gas leaks or electrical problems. Leave the property immediately if you smell gas and call the fire department to report the leak. If there is no standing water around the electrical box and your clothes are dry, turn off the electrical system if you did not do so prior to evacuating. Do not use any damaged appliances until they have been deemed safe by a professional.

Homeowners and renters victimized by flooding must make safety a priority when returning to their homes to assess the damage.



# PUT TOGETHER A PLAN

Make sure all the pieces are in place to render you and your family prepared in the event of a natural disaster.

- Listen to radio or television newscasts for the latest weather information, and follow all evacuation directions and suggestions.
- Keep a stock of non-perishable food items as well as bottled water on hand inside your home.
- Keep a 72 Hour Kit on hand inside your home that is easy to get to in the event of a disaster.

For more information and tips on disaster response and preparedness, contact your local emergency services center.

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