

2022 RULE 14 COMMITTEE
Report to OSSAA Board of Directors
December 7, 2022

The Committee's time and focus was dedicated to two general areas of concern: one; how current Rule 14 criteria was impacting the football playoff structure and two; were modifications to the current Rule 14 criteria needed to adjust issues of success in all activities.

Rule 14 and the impact on the current OSSAA playoff structure in Football.

The Committee discussed several modifications to the current playoff structure and is bringing forward two plans that received the most discussion. The Success Adjustment plan is a modification to the current playoff structure. The Playoff Separation plan creates a bracket for Rule 14 schools that fall within a defined ADM range. The Success Adjustment plan could essentially "spread" the Rule 14 schools over the classifications based on their level of success over the next few years. The Playoff Separation plan would have an immediate impact on the concentration of Rule 14 schools.

Success Adjustment Plan: This plan proposes adjustments to the current Rule 14 in football.

- Change the cap from 5A to 6A II.
- Success is defined as finishing in the Top 4 in two of the last three years.
- Only public schools "bump down" after a "bump up" by a private school.
- The least successful public-school team(s) in a classification "bumps down."
- Removes the restriction of only "bumping up" one class from a school's ADM.

Playoff Separation Plan: This plan could create a separate Rule 14 bracket for playoffs.

- Schools that qualify under the current Rule 14 criteria could be moved to a separate bracket if at least eight of the Rule 14 schools fall within the ratio currently used by another classification.
- Private and public schools remain in districts together for regular season play. No bump ups for district assignments.
- At the conclusion of the season, if a private school finishes district play in a playoff qualifying position, (top four) that school moves to a separate bracket; subsequently, the next public-school team in the district standings moves into the playoff qualifying position.

Proposed Rule 14 Adjustments.

- Cap for non-public schools in football to change to 6A-II.
- Teams that bump down should be public schools.
- Teams that bump down should be based on success.
- Remove "one-class bump cap" for tennis, golf, volleyball, track/field, cross country, cheer.
- In basketball, remove the coupling provision and allowing only the gender team with success to bump up in classification without "bumping down" any team in the receiving classification.
- Top 4 Criteria change for golf, cheer, cross country, track/field, soccer, wrestling, swimming.