



September 2023 Board Report

Random Drug Testing

Random drug testing commenced for both HS and JH athletes on Thursday, September 5.

Fall Participation

The following are the participation numbers for our fall high school athletic teams:

	Sept 2023	Sept 2022	Sept 2021	Sept 2020	Sept 2019	Sept 2018	Sept 2017	Sept 2016	Sept 2015	Sept 2014
Football	63	77	66	None	48	48	51	49	52	51
B. Soccer	31	31	24	None	32	24	24	24	30	36
Cross Cty	9	16	19	30	33	23	26	23	18	19
Volleyball	34	39	38	None	31	29	31	29	35	32
B&G Golf	16	15	17	33	25	23	17	15	19	19

Fall athletic participation at the high school is steady. The biggest change is the low cross country numbers. Participation throughout the entire Big Northern Conference in cross country appears to be at an all-time low.

Communications/Social Media

We currently have 1,270 followers on the Athletic Department Twitter account. The athletic department is also using the OCUSD Facebook page on a regular basis.

Red-White Night

We had a very successful Red-White Spirit Night on Friday, August 18. This year, we had a parent group assist in securing sponsors so that children's activities such as an inflatable bouncy house, face painting, etc. could be available. All high school teams were introduced at the stadium.

Weekend of Sept. 1 & 2

The weekend of Friday & Saturday, September 1 & 2 was once again one of the busiest of the year for OHS activities as we hosted four major athletic events. Included were:

- Oregon Open Cross Country meet – This year we had over 800 runners registered for the meet including nearly 30 high schools and over 20 junior highs.
- 16 team varsity volleyball invitational in the Blackhawk Center and OHS Gym Friday night and Saturday
- Eight team JV soccer invitational at Park West Friday night and Saturday.
- Home varsity football vs Dixon on Friday night, September 1.

A big thanks to all the people (both paid and volunteer) who helped work at these events to pull it all off.

Coaches meetings

As part of our updated Athletic Action planning, instead of just holding pre-season meetings for head coaches, this year all coaches (both head and assistant) are invited to the traditional pre-season meeting with the Athletic Director. Current IHSA and or BNC updates as well as a thorough review

of our OCUSD Coaches Handbook were the topics of those meetings. This will occur again prior to the start of the winter and spring seasons.

Athletic Leadership Council

As part of the Leader In Me initiative, we have started Year 2 of our high school Athletic Leadership Council. The first meeting was after school on September 6 and approximately 20 student-athletes participated. This group will meet once per month. Adult staff leading this effort are Mr. Dave Boyer, Mr. Bothe, Mr. Kundert, Mr. Larson, Mr. Schneiderman, and Mr. Lawton.

Fall Sports

Volleyball – As of Sept. 11, the varsity volleyball team has a record of 4-6. JV is 2-3 while fr-soph is 6-4.

Golf – Through September 11, the girls' golf team has a 4-2 dual meet record in conference play (and overall) while the boys mark stands at 7-3 overall and 4-3 in BNC matches. Both teams will play in the BNC Tournament at Timber Points coming up on Sept 20 (boys) and Sept. 21 (girls).

Football – Through Week 3, the varsity has a 1-2 mark having played in two overtime games the first three weeks of the season. The fr-soph squad is 2-1.

Soccer – As of Sept 11, the varsity boys have a 5-7-1 overall record and are 2-3 in Big Northern Conference games.

Cross Country – Junior Ella Danhorn and sophomore Daniel Gonzalez have been the two top runners for the cross country teams. Due to not having five runners, Oregon is not able to accumulate a team score in meets – only individual results.

Coming Up

Oregon will host several major events later this fall. Those confirmed as of now are:

- Rt 72 Conference Jr. High volleyball tournament at the Blackhawk Center on Saturday, September 30
- Class 1A boys & girls cross country sectional on Saturday, October 28

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Lawton