

Minutes of the IHSA Music Advisory Committee Meeting May 4, 2011

The Illinois High School Association Music Advisory Committee met at the IHSA office in Bloomington on Wednesday May 4, 2011. Committee members present were: IHSA Division 1 – James Taylor, Music Director, Chicago (Harper); IHSA Division 2 – Mark Ring, Activities Director, Lake Villa (Lakes); IHSA Division 3 – Kelly Hussey, Principal, Morris; IHSA Division 4 - Mary Estell, Music Director, Earlville; IHSA Division 5 – Alison Bowen, Music Director, Tuscola; IHSA Division 6 – Kevin Ferry, Music Director, Monmouth (M.-Roseville); IHSA Division 7 – Kent Ingram, Music Director, Bridgeport (Red Hill). Ben Stewart, MusicWire and Paul Kimpton, IHSA Music Liaison, were also in attendance. Assistant Executive Director Susie Knoblauch conducted the meeting.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

SOLO/ENSEMBLE

1. Item VIII-A –1 –Note 1 - Solo Events

Recommendation: Schools will gain sweepstakes points by the best scores from their maximum number of entries as defined in Note 2. Schools may still enter “comments only” for solos that do not wish to receive rankings. All “comments only” entries must be marked appropriately in *Musicwire*. Sweepstakes entries do not need to be designated prior to the contest date.

Rationale: There are many instances at the Solo & Ensemble contest where a school loses the opportunity for sweepstakes points because the designated student(s) becomes ineligible due to academics, illness, etc. This Solo & Ensemble recommended format would mirror the Organizational Contest formula where the top allotted number of entries are awarded sweepstakes points credit. Directors do not have to pre-determine which organization is going to be a sweepstakes entry because they were designated as sweepstakes eligible at registration.

Approved by consent

2. Item VIII-B –1 –Note 1 - Ensemble Events

Recommendation: Schools will gain sweepstakes points by the best scores from their maximum number of entries as defined in Note 2. Schools may still enter “comments only” for ensembles that do not wish to receive rankings. All “comments only” entries must be marked appropriately in *Musicwire*. Sweepstakes entries do not need to be designated prior to the contest date.

Rationale: There are many instances at the Solo & Ensemble contest where a school loses the opportunity for sweepstakes points because the designated student(s) becomes ineligible due to academics, illness, etc. This Solo & Ensemble recommended format would mirror the Organizational Contest formula where the top allotted number of entries are awarded sweepstakes points credit.

Directors do not have to pre-determine which organization is going to be a sweepstakes entry because they were designated as sweepstakes eligible at registration.

Approved by consent

3. **Item VIII-A-2- Entry Information**

Recommendation: Performances must be selected from the IHSA provided required playlist.

Rationale: A required playlist for Solo and Ensemble competition will create consistency and ensure that quality literature is being performed. This list will be compiled by an ad hoc committee of music directors and shall be reviewed annually. This recommendation would be effective in two years (2012-2013) to allow time to compile a quality playlist and provide schools with time to purchase music from the playlists

Approved by consent

4. **Item X-C-3 - Awards**

Recommendation: After the conclusion of the Solo and Ensemble contests, managers will report the point totals of all schools to the IHSA office. The points will then be tallied according to categories (band, choir, orchestra, etc.) and classifications. Team awards will be presented to the top three (3) schools in each category that received the highest scores. The awards will be available for purchase by each qualifying school and shipped directly from the manufacturer to the schools. In case of ties, duplicate awards will be presented.

Rationale: By awarding the top three teams in each musical category, programs can be recognized for outstanding accomplishments in a specific area in addition to the current sweepstakes format. The top 3 schools in each category in each division would have the option of purchasing a plaque. This plaque would be similar to the IHSA sectional plaque design and would be of no cost to the Association but rather an option for purchase by local music programs. It is evident that currently many of the top 3 schools in band, choir and orchestra would be recognized for their achievements when they may not have the opportunity to win the overall sweepstakes points. *(See Final Result on IHSA music menu page via Musicwire)*

Approved by consent

5. **Item VIII-A-4- Scores**

Recommendation: Public domain is allowed provided the director lists the exact internet address for the score. A copy of the score is required and should be made available to the contest manager and judges.

Rationale: This clarifies that the public domain can be utilized and the process that the directors need to follow to provide verification to the contest manager and judges.

Approved by consent

6. Item II- Sites

Recommendation: It is a requirement for a Solo and Ensemble manager to use the online *Musicwire* program to manage their site.

Rationale: This requirement will standardize the management for host sites and ensure an accurate and timely scoring process for member schools.

Approved by consent

ORGANIZATIONAL

1. Item II- Dates and Sites

Recommendation: State Organization will be held on the Friday and Saturday of Week 40 of the Standardized Calendar in 2013-14 (April 11-12, 2014).

Rationale: Week 41 of the IHSA Standardized Calendar falls on Easter weekend in April of 2014. This one year adjustment will make accommodations for the holiday and has been a standard practice.

Approved by consent

2. Item II- Sites

Recommendation: It is a requirement for a Music Organization manager to use the online *Musicwire* program to manage their site.

Rationale: This requirement will standardize the management for host sites and ensure an accurate and timely scoring process for member schools.

Approved by consent

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. The committee discussed creating a facilities survey for Music Solo and Ensemble and Music Organization contests which will be made available in the IHSA Schools Center for schools to express their interest in being a contest host site.
2. The committee heard a presentation from Ben Stewart, the creator and founder of *Musicwire*. The group discussed the online scheduling and adjudicator

certification program and examined how it has changed and improved the IHSA music contests.

3. The committee discussed getting data and statistics from *Musicwire* that shows how many choirs, bands and orchestra participated in the state contest in order to decide if the number of vocal entries should be increased to create equity between vocal and instrumental entries. This will be reviewed at the 2011-12 advisory meeting.
4. The committee discussed instructing the adjudicators to enforce the penalties for violations as well as the interpretation of the adjudication sheet for Solo and Ensemble.
5. The committee discussed correcting the note mistakes on the scales.
6. The committee discussed creating a Solo and Ensemble play list that would be required for Sweepstakes only - timeline of two years. (*See T/C S/E recommendation #3*)
7. The committee discussed instructing the judges on the interpretation of the adjudication sheet for Solo and Ensemble.
8. The committee recommended posting the contest adjudication forms on the music menu page on the IHSA website.
9. The committee discussed moving the entry date for Solo and Ensemble entries. No action was taken.
10. The committee discussed creating an online rules presentation that the music directors would be required to view each year. This annual presentation would cover entry directions, rules clarification and frequently asked questions.
11. The committee suggested clarifying with managers that the IHSA financial report can be located in the IHSA Schools Center or in the Manual for Managers.
12. The IHSA will find out how many years it has been since the event fees have been raised in Solo and Ensemble and Organization. The committee discussed the possibility of raising event fees in the future.
13. The committee discussed the possibility of allowing schools to charge for programs at the contest to generate revenue.
14. The committee discussed the development of an Ad Hoc Sight Reading Group to create a process for sweepstakes sweeps entry for sight reading in the Music Organization contest.
15. Discussed eliminating the requirement for having a solo in the Jazz Choir category for Music Organization. A decision was made to ask the directors who

brought Jazz Choirs to contest if they think that solos should be required. The statistics will be presented to the Advisory Committee next year.

16. The committee reviewed and discussed a proposal to develop an IHSA Renaissance Award.
18. The IHSA acknowledged and thanked music directors Kevin Ferry (Division 6) and Kent Ingram (Division 7) and Activities Director Mark Ring (Division 2) for their service to the IHSA Music Advisory Committee.