

Minutes of the 2015 IHSA Boys/Girls Water Polo Advisory Committee Meeting
May 29, 2015

The IHSA Boys/Girls Water Polo Advisory Committee met in Naperville, on Friday, May 30, 2015, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Committee Members present were: Jim Cortez, Chicago (Walter Payton College Prep); Karen Desruisseaux, New Lenox (Lincoln-Way Central); Marty Gibson, Chicago (St. Patrick); Edward Prystalski, (Official) Chicago; Gordon Sisson, Arlington Heights (Hersey); Mitch Tucker, (Official) Naperville and Assistant Executive Director Beth Sauser. Not in attendance: Kim Maloney, Darien (Hinsdale South).

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Item VI. A. Note 1 Tournament Structure and Time Schedule: (boys and girls)

Recommendation: Modify the Sectional Quarterfinal and Semifinal start times to 5:00, 6:00, 7:00 and 8:00pm on school days. Sites with three (3) games to play in a night must play at 5:00, 6:00 and 7:00.

Rationale: Many times games are completed in 45 minutes and the next game may begin earlier. This may shorten the night for competing teams and the host schools on a week night.

Approved by Consent

2. Item VIII. A. 3) Rules of Play: Mercy Rule (boys and girls)

Recommendation: Eliminate the Mercy Rule at the state tournament.

Rationale: The mercy rule is not used during the regular season. Discontinue using the mercy rule during the state series allows teams to continue playing the game in a consistent manner throughout the season. Shortening a state series game eliminates the opportunity for players to get into a game to experience post season play.

Approved by Consent

Items of General Discussion and Administrative Recommendations:

1. The committee recommended the IHSA staff continue to update the Water Polo manuals, State Qualifiers packet and Official's information for the 2016 Boys and Girls seasons.
2. The committee prefers Sectional games be played in an all-deep, 8-lane pool vs. a 6-lane pool.
3. The committee discussed the need to have more experienced officials on varsity regular season games. They questioned the possibility to pair a veteran official and a new official as often as possible.
4. The committee believes that advancing the top two teams from each Boys and Girls Sectional to the State Finals will provide an opportunity for ranked teams in strong Sectionals to advance to the State Finals. Teams winning a Sectional will earn a 1-8 seed at the State Finals.
5. The committee inquired if officials are able to start a mentoring program to entice people to become new officials.
6. The committee discussed the possibility of changing the shot clock to 35 seconds from 30 seconds. High school water polo players are still developing and learning the game so giving them more time on the shot clock will enable better skill development of young players.
7. The committee thanked Jim Cortez, Karen Desruisseaux, and Gordon Sisson for their service.
8. Next Meeting: May 27, 2016 in Naperville.