

MINUTES OF THE IHSA DANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at the IHSA Office

The IHSA Dance Advisory Committee meeting was held at the IHSA office in Bloomington. Committee members present were: Megan Fuechsl, Chicago (Walter Payton College Prep); Kristin Piekarski, Lincolnshire (Stevenson); John Engelman, Gardner (G.-South Wilmington); Tina Fortner, Minonk (Fieldcrest); Noreen Acton, Villa Grove; Tiffany Hickox, Jacksonville (H.S.); Keith Johnson, Centralia; Lynn Gelatka (IHSA Official). IHSA Assistant Executive Director Tracie Henry conducted the meeting.

TERMS & CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. VIII. TOURNAMENT RULES D. Coaching

Recommendation: 1. A maximum of ~~three (3)~~ **four (4)** competitive dance coaches shall be allowed to coach on the competition floor.

Rationale: Many schools have either two coaches for two levels for a total of four coaches on staff or three levels with a total of four coaches. Aligns the number of coaching passes allowed with cheer.

Approved by Consent

2. VI. TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE AND TIME SCHEDULES C. State Final Time Schedule:

Recommendation: SESSION 3- 1A, 2A & 3A Team Finals 2:00pm 3A Team Award ~~3:20pm~~ **3:32 pm**

Rationale: The adjustment in the time schedule will allow for 3A teams to perform every 7 minutes, instead of 6, during finals which provides additional time for officials to score.

Approved by Consent

3. VIII. TOURNAMENT RULES A. Competition Guidelines

Recommendation: 7. When standing at attention, apparel must cover the midriff. The midriff is defined as the three inches from the belly button ~~all the way around the body including the back.~~ **up around the front and sides of the body.**

Rationale: Finding dance costumes meeting the current rule is increasingly difficult. Many teams are incurring additional expenses to get costumes into compliance with the current rule. This aligns with other rule codes such as gymnastics and swimming which allow a modest open back.

Approved by Consent

4. VII. ADVANCEMENT OF WINNERS

Recommendation: A. Announce the Top 12 teams in random order and post the Top 12 teams in random order on www.ihsa.org without posting their total prelim score.

Rationale: Prelim scores do not factor into finals competition. This change will create excitement for Saturday's Finals without knowing rankings from Friday.

Died for Lack of Motion

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **State Final Floor Information:** Add the 1.5-foot marking for the top of the key (3pt. line) to the State Final Floor Information document provided on the IHSA website. The diagram will note the top of the key is measured from center court, not the baseline, since the Marley is 4 ft. shorter than a standard high school basketball court. The marking is placed 17 ft. from center court on the Marley floor.

Rationale: The additional marking assists teams with staging and spacing.

Approved by Consent

ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION:

1. Tracie Henry reviewed the proposal process. **IHSA Advisory Committees** communicate information about their area of interest to the [Board of Directors](#) and staff. She clarified which committees make recommendations for changes in policy, administration, and terms and conditions. The Terms and Conditions recommendations are reviewed by the [IHSA staff](#) and then either approved or rejected by the Board of Directors. The committee reviewed the minutes of the 2019 Dance Advisory Committee Meeting. The committee recommendations from last year including: the 1A/2A alternating schedule; moving up the list of participants date; and edit to the scoresheet were all received as positive changes.
2. Tracie Henry shared IHSA Policy 17. Classification System, Policy 18. Grouping and Seeding State and Policy 19. Criteria for Increasing Classes. Tracie explained classification and sectional assignments. The committee discussed releasing assignments later (Week 24), per the 2019 minutes. The Committee believed moving the List of Participants date up was positive.
3. Tracie Henry informed the committee that the current State Final venue contract with Grossinger Motors, which includes the Marley floor, extends through 2021-22.
4. The committee reviewed a proposal to increase the number of officials assigned at sectionals, increasing the panel from three to four officials. The proposal also included increasing the number of officials recommended on the panel at invitationals. Tracie Henry informed the committee that four officials can currently be used on a panel at invitationals without a formal recommendation. Sectional panel officials will be encouraged to provide comments and critiques.

5. The committee discussed having more Special Olympic Unified Teams at the State Finals. The committee liked the placement of Unified Teams performing prior to awards. The committee discussed the need for a qualifying round (at least 6 teams) prior to presenting awards to Unified Teams.
6. The committee discussed submitting video clips for review. The IHSA Office will direct the coach to the appropriate rule reference when a clip is submitted. Clips need to be sent from the Head Coach and clearly identify what school is requesting the interpretation. All clips can be posted publically for educational purposes. All clips that are sent must allow one week for review. Clips will be reviewed during the Competitive season October 26 - January 18. The committee was in support of the IHSA not reviewing clips until after October 28 to deter coaches from working on competitive choreography outside the season limitations. The committee discussed updating the online resource for coaches and officials with the new 2020-2021 NFHS Rules.
7. The committee discussed having a coed division within the competitive dance state series. There seems to be rising male interest in the state. The coed discussion item did not receive support for a formal motion.
8. The committee discussed that dance team managers need to be listed on a teams list of participants to receive a pass at the State Final. Tracie Henry is going to work with the IHSA IT Department to create a drop-down tab in the list of participants to identify which participants are managers. There is not an additional pass allocated for a manager. The manager(s) must be one of the 28 participants allowed on the dance roster.
9. The committee reviewed a 50/50 scoresheet proposal. The scoresheet did not receive majority support from the committee.
10. Tracie Henry informed the committee that conference competitions count as one of a teams allowable six (6) dates per IHSA By-law 5.352. Coaches will need to work through their Principals/Athletic Directors to submit a recommendation to the Legislative Commission to increase By-law 5.352 to seven (7) dates.
11. Oak Forest High School will be hosting a Coaches Conference August 16, 2020. Fieldcrest will host a Coaches Conferences in the fall. Additional information will be posted on the IHSA website as the dates approach.
12. The committee discussed communication between coaches and officials during the dance season. IHSA will make appropriate and professional communication a point of emphasis during officials clinics and encouraged the coaches association to do the same.
13. The committee recognized out-going committee members: Tina Fortner, Minonk (Fieldcrest); Noreen Acton, Villa Grove; and Keith Johnson, Centralia for their service to the committee.

