

Minutes of the 2020-2021

IHSA Chess Advisory Committee Meeting

March 26, 2021

The IHSA Chess Advisory Committee meeting was held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Friday, March 26, 2021, beginning at 10:00am. Committee members present were Tournament Director Chris Merli; Michael Campbell, Northbrook (Glenbrook North); James Hasty, (Bismarck (B. – Henning); Scott Liechty, Glen Ellyn (Glenbard West); Joseph Guth, Rockford (Auburn); and Ted Goergen, Lincolnshire (Stevenson). Raye McDonald, IHSA Chess Administrator and Coordinator of Special Programs, chaired the meeting.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommended the following changes to the Terms and Conditions:

1. Changes to Submitted Strength Order (VI-A-3&4)

Recommendation: States that the LOPs and Strength Order for Sectionals will lock at midnight on the Wednesday before Sectionals. The LOP will then be reopened after Sectionals and the Strength Order for State can be edited until midnight on the Wednesday before the Seeding Meeting. No changes to the Strength Order or LOP will be allowed after that date. As a reminder, Chesscalate will not be used until State.

Rationale: We want the Seeding Committee to have the most accurate lineup when seeding for State so coaches will need to be able to make edits after Sectionals.

Approved by Consent

RULES RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Drawn Game (Rule 12 Section 8)

Recommendation: Remove entire section

Rationale: This rule creates exceptions to normal procedures when offering a draw and contradicts rules from previous sections.

Approved by Consent

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Virtual Matches

Recommendation: For the 2021-2022 school year, allow virtual matches to count towards the six-contest requirement. However, the tournament requirement would still need to be completed in-person and cannot be virtual. This allowance will be reevaluated at the end of the 2021-2022 school year.

Rationale: With the unknowns of the upcoming school year, this will allow schools to be flexible in how they choose to fulfill their six-match requirement. However, in order to give players and coaches live tournament experience, the tournament requirement cannot be virtual.

Approved by Consent

2. Ad-Hoc Committee to Establish Rules and Requirements for Virtual Play

Recommendation: Establish an ad-hoc committee to build recommendations and guidelines for regular season matches that are virtual.

Rationale: This committee will be made up of coaches who have worked closely with developing the virtual chess landscape and will allow any teams choosing to participate virtually to have the same set of rules to follow.

Died for Lack of Motion

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- The committee discussed this year's virtual season.
- The Committee discussed an individual player participant requirement in addition to the current team participation requirement. It was ultimately decided that the responsibility falls on coaches to monitor individual players' participation.
- The Committee discussed and rejected the proposal of making one Sectional virtual.
- The Committee discussed if any conferences had already discussed going virtual next year.
- Committee acknowledged and thanked the following outgoing committee members for their service on the advisory committee and for their support of the IHSA:
 - Michael Campbell – IHSA Division II - Chess Coach, Northbrook (Glenbrook North)
 - James Hasty - IHSA Divisions 5 & 7 - Chess Coach, Bismarck (B. – Henning)