

MINUTES OF THE IHSA BOYS/GIRLS GYMNASTICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
March 23, 2011

The IHSA Boys and Girls Gymnastics Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, Bloomington, Illinois, on Wednesday, March 23, 2011, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members participating were: Skip Adamson, Frankfort (Lincoln-Way East); Kathy Krebs, Crete; Lynn Widerstrom, Lisle; and Perry Wilhelm, Mundelein. IHSA Associate Executive Director Kurt Gibson and David Brost, Boys' Gymnastics State Finals Meet Director were also in attendance. Not in attendance were Scott Helton, Addison (A. Trail) and Michael Kosta, Rolling Meadows.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

1. (GIRLS) VI. Tournament Structure and Time Schedules A. Regional and Sectional Assignments

Recommendation: The IHSA Office will assign all schools entering the state series to one of four (4) Sectional complexes. For seeding purposes, sectionals 1 and 2 will be paired together, and sectionals 3 and 4 will be paired together. Schools assigned to sectionals 1 and 2 will be seeded and assigned to either sectional 1 or sectional 2. After a review of those seeds, schools will be assigned to a regional, and regional sites will be determined following the seeding results. The seed number and the school's ability to host at their school will determine the first choice of hosting in a regional rather than the highest seeded team in a regional. When the first seed team in a regional declines to host the regional at their school, then the next seeded team in a regional has the opportunity to host. The regional team assignments will be based on the seeds determined by the coaches, with the assignments to be as follows:

- a. Regional A 1, 16, 17, 32, 33
- b. Regional B 2, 15, 18, 31, 34
- c. Regional C 3, 14, 19, 30, 35
- d. Regional D 4, 13, 20, 29, 36
- e. Regional E 5, 12, 21, 28, 37
- f. Regional F 6, 11, 22, 27, 38
- g. Regional G 7, 10, 23, 26, 39
- h. Regional H 8, 9, 24, 25, 40

At the sectional level of competition, the regionals with the number 1, 4, 5, and 8 seeds will be assigned to one sectional, and the regionals with the number 2,3, 6, and 7 seeds will be assigned to the other sectional. Adjustments to those sectional assignments will only be made if hosting conflicts occur.

Schools assigned to sectionals 3 and 4 will follow this same process for assigning teams to regionals and sectionals.

Rationale: The committee believes this process will evenly distribute the top 8 seeded teams across the two sectionals. The committee also believes this process may reduce the challenges currently faced in finding regional hosts.

Rejected

2. **(BOYS) IX. B. 2. Tournament Policies – B. State Final Passes: 2) Individual Qualifiers**
(GIRLS) IX. B. 2. Tournament Policies – B. State Final Passes: 2) Individual Qualifiers

Recommendation: Maximum of four (4) passes for coaches provided they are listed on the *List of Participants* form.

Rationale: The committee believes that there is sufficient space at both the boys' and girls' state finals to accommodate those situations when schools with individual qualifiers have more than two coaches. In many of those cases, coaches are event specialists and have worked with an athlete for the entire season. Currently, those coaches are prevented from getting on the floor so increasing the number of passes will enable those coaches to assist their athletes at the state meet.

Approved by consent

ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION

1. The committee discussed the recently completed girls' gymnastics state meet and the 2010 boys' state meet. Given the new format for girls, some discussion centered on the attendance at this year's meet and the starting time for the preliminary session on Friday. Associate Director Gibson discussed that, from a financial perspective, while attendance was down a bit this year, there could be areas where costs could be reduced to help with both state finals' bottom line. The committee also discussed how the set up of the girls' state meet floor allowed for appropriate movement of coaches and athletes and didn't create congestion. The committee discussed and wondered about the possibility of using mechanical scoring devices in the future. On the boys' side, the feedback continues to be positive. The committee felt the use of student runners to get athletes to the press during competition was a good addition to the boys' meet last year.
2. The committee discussed ways to generate more student attendance at both the boys' and girls' state meet. The committee discussed ways schools could make attending the state meet an event beyond just attending the state meet.
3. The committee discussed the starting time for the preliminary session at the girls' state finals, although no recommendation was made to adjust the starting time for next year. The committee discussed the possibility of drafting a survey that could be administered to students or coaches at member schools.
4. The committee reviewed a proposal to adjust the seeding structure of the girls' state meet. Ultimately, a recommendation (see above) was passed by the committee.
5. The committee discussed the pre-determined dates on which girls' gymnastics regionals are held. Given the new format of the girls' state series and the increased number of

judges used at the regional level, Associate Director Gibson indicated that beginning next year, regional hosts will no longer be held to specific dates on which regionals must be held. Rather, the regionals within a sectional complex will be able to choose from any date during the defined regional week on which they could hold their regional meet. The IHSA will work with regional managers within each sectional complex to ensure that no group chooses to hold more than one meet on the same day.

6. The committee discussed the warm up time for the state meet. The committee reviewed the Manager's Manual, which allows for each individual to have two minutes of warm up on each event. As stipulated in the manual, this time includes time to set up mats and equipment. At the state meet, athletes are being provided with at least that much time for warm up on each event.
7. The committee discussed the possibility of having an alternate qualifier for each event. The alternate would replace an injured qualifier who couldn't participate at the state finals after qualifying. No action was taken by the committee.
8. The committee discussed the possibility of adding four (4) teams to both the boys' and girls' state finals, increasing the number of teams at each to 12. No action was taken by the committee on this topic.
9. The committee discussed the importance of rating judges during the season. Providing ratings is a way for schools to have a voice in the post season assigning process and to not participate only weakens the current system.