2010-11 -- Proposal No. 1

Amend By-law 2.030 – Cooperative Team Sponsorship

Submitted by Jim Woodward, Official Representative, Anna (A.-Jonesboro), on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors and the Governance Action Team

By-law 2.030 currently reads:

- **2.030** The Board of Directors shall have the authority to approve the formation of cooperative athletic teams or activity programs by two or more public high schools under the following conditions:
 - (a) The schools are located in the same geographical area;
 - (b) All schools participating in the cooperative are Class A schools according to the IHSA Classification System; or, in the event one or more of the cooperating schools is a Class AA public school, the cooperative team is for a sport other than Boys Football or Boys or Girls Basketball. In the event one or more of the schools involved in the cooperative is a public non-boundary school, that school's actual enrollment, not the multiplied enrollment is used to determine the eligibility of the cooperative team request;
 - (c) The combined enrollments of all schools involved in the cooperative team, calculated according to the IHSA Classification System, is utilized to determine the classification for the cooperative team;
 - (d) The cooperative sponsorship agreement is established for a period of two consecutive school years;
 - (e) The governing boards of all schools participating in the cooperative team agreement jointly make the application to the IHSA Board of Directors for approval of the cooperative team agreement;
 - (f) The joint application includes:

(1) Written approval from the conference(s) of which the cooperating schools are members, and/or in which the cooperative team will participate, or, in the event the cooperative team will not be affiliated with a conference, written approval from a minimum of seven schools included in the cooperative team's schedule of competition;

(2) A statement signed by the principals of all cooperating schools designating the name under which the cooperative team will compete;

(3) A report of the number of students from each of the cooperative schools expected to participate on the cooperative team;

(4) A report of the number of students, if any, from each of the cooperating schools who have been participating in the sport involved, in programs offered on a non-cooperative basis by their own schools;

- (5) A statement expressing the reasons for the formation of a cooperative team;
- (6) Written assurance that the cooperative team will not limit participation opportunities for students in any of the cooperating schools.

When a cooperative team completes two years of approved operation and the boards of education involved wish to renew the agreement for another two-year period, the IHSA shall be notified no later than the deadline for approval of cooperative teams for the season in which the team intends to participate. The cooperative team shall then be allowed to participate without any other documentation, provided the cooperative team continues in its original format for an additional two-year period. In the event there are any alterations to the original cooperative agreement, complete reapplication, accompanied by all documentation required in items (a)-(f) of this section, shall be required.

NOTE: For the purpose of implementing this by-law, Class A refers to all eligible schools with an enrollment equal to or less than the enrollment cutoff in a two class system and Class AA refers to all eligible schools with an enrollment greater than the Class A enrollment cutoff in a two class system.

Revise By-law 2.030 to read:

- **2.030** The Board of Directors shall have the authority to approve the formation of cooperative athletic teams or activity programs by two or more public high schools under the following conditions:
 - (a) The schools are located in the same geographical area;
 - (b) All schools participating in the cooperative are Class A (*in a 2-class system*) or Class 1A or 2A (*in a 3 or 4-class system*) schools according to the IHSA Classification System; or, in the event one or more of the cooperating schools is a Class 3A or 4A public school, the cooperative team is for a sport other than Boys Football or Boys or Girls Basketball; In the event one or more of the schools involved in the cooperative is a public non-boundary school, that school's actual enrollment, not multiplied enrollment is used to determine the eligibility of the cooperative team request.
 - (c) The combined enrollments of all schools involved in the cooperative team, calculated according to the IHSA Classification System, is utilized to determine the classification for the cooperative team;
 - (d) The cooperative sponsorship agreement is established for a period of two consecutive school years;
 - (e) The governing boards of all schools participating in the cooperative team agreement jointly make the application to the IHSA Board of Directors for approval of the cooperative team agreement;
 - (f) The joint application includes:
 - (1) Written approval from the conference(s) of which the cooperating schools are members, and/or in which the cooperative team will participate, or, in the event the cooperative team will not be affiliated with a conference, written approval from a minimum of seven schools included in the cooperative team's schedule of competition;
 - (2) A statement signed by the principals of all cooperating schools designating the name under which the cooperative team will compete;
 - (3) A report of the number of students from each of the cooperative schools expected to participate on the cooperative team;
 - (4) A report of the number of students, if any, from each of the cooperating schools who have been participating in the sport involved, in programs offered on a noncooperative basis by their own schools;
 - (5) A statement expressing the reasons for the formation of a cooperative team;
 - (6) Written assurance that the cooperative team will not limit participation opportunities for students in any of the cooperating schools.

When a cooperative team completes two years of approved operation and the boards of education involved wish to renew the agreement for another two-year period, the IHSA shall be notified no later than the deadline for approval of cooperative teams for the season in which the team intends to participate. The cooperative team shall then be allowed to participate without any other documentation, provided the cooperative team continues in its original format for an additional two-year period. In the event there are any alterations to the original cooperative agreement, complete reapplication, accompanied by all documentation required in items (a) (f) of this section, shall be required. the involved schools shall submit to the IHSA, by the established date, an application that addresses the items listed in sub-section (f) from above.

NOTE: For the purpose of implementing this by-law, Class A refers to all eligible schools with an enrollment equal to or less than the enrollment cutoff in a two class system and Class AA refers to all eligible schools with an enrollment greater than the Class A enrollment cutoff in a two class system.

Rationale of Submitter

The Governance Action Team believes that to ensure that schools are forming cooperative teams to provide appropriate opportunities to students, schools should go through the full application process when beginning and renewing such teams. The current by-law doesn't require schools to provide any additional information to the IHSA when they wish to renew cooperative teams, and the Governance Action Team believes some additional over-view at both the conference and state level is necessary.

Pros

None.

Cons None.

2010-11 -- Proposal No. 2 Amend By-law 2.140 -- Participation Limitations During Strike Submitted by Ron Conner, Principal, Clinton

By-law 2.140 currently reads:

- 2.140 No team or other entity representing a member school may participate in an interscholastic contest or activity during the time the member school is not in session due to a strike by teachers or other school personnel. A member school shall not be considered to be in legal session on any school day if it does not have fifty-one (51%) of the students in the district in attendance and cannot offer the minimum program required by state law and ISBE Circular Series A160 on a daily basis.
 - **2.140.1** This limitation shall not pertain to time designated by the member school's governing board as school holidays or vacation, including the days designated by the Illinois School Code as emergency days, provided school is in full operation on the school day preceding the school holiday, vacation or emergency day.
 - **2.140.2** Practice sessions of normal length and frequency may be held during the period when school is not fully operating, provided the following conditions are met:
 - (1) They must be approved by the school's governing board and administration;
 - (2) They must be conducted by personnel who meet the provisions of By-law 2.070;
 - (3) They must be conducted in a manner which assures the health and safety of the participants; and
 - (4) Students from a school on strike may not participate with a team from a school which is not on strike.
 - **2.140.3** A school which has a football game scheduled with a school which is on strike on the Monday preceding the scheduled game shall have the option to cancel the game with the striking school and schedule a game with another school provided it has a pending alternative contract. If this option is exercised, the striking school shall forfeit the scheduled contest and receive a forfeit loss. The non-striking school shall receive a forfeit win and may play the alternate contest, which shall not count as a win or loss for the non-striking school.

Revise By-law 2.140 to read:

- 2.140 No team or other entity representing a member school may participate in an interscholastic contest or activity during the time the member school is not in session due to a strike by teachers or other school personnel. A member school shall not be considered to be in legal session on any school day if it does not have fifty-one (51%) of the students in the district in attendance and cannot offer the minimum program required by state law and ISBE Circular Series A160 on a daily basis. The local school board of a school on strike will make the determination whether or not a team or other entity from the school may participate in an interscholastic contest or activity during the time the member school is not in session due to a strike by teachers or other school personnel.
 - **2.140.1** This limitation shall not pertain to time designated by the member school's governing board as school holidays or vacation, including the days designated by the Illinois School Code as emergency days, provided school is in full operation on the school day preceding the school holiday, vacation or emergency day.
 - **2.140.2** Practice sessions of normal length and frequency may be held during the period when school is not fully operating, provided the following conditions are met:

- (1) They must be approved by the school's governing board and administration;
- (2) They must be conducted by personnel who meet the provisions of By-law 2.070;
- (3) They must be conducted in a manner which assures the health and safety of the participants; and
- (4) Students from a school on strike may not participate with a team from a school which is not on strike.
- **2.140.3** A school which has a football game scheduled with a school which is on strike on the Monday preceding the scheduled game shall have the option to cancel the game with the striking school and schedule a game with another school provided it has a pending alternative contract. If this option is exercised, the striking school shall forfeit the scheduled contest and receive a forfeit loss. The non-striking school shall receive a forfeit win and may play the alternate contest, which shall not count as a win or loss for the non-striking school.

Rationale

It should be the decision of the local school board whether or not they will participate during a strike.

Pros

Gives the local school board the opportunity to make the decision. Kids should not be caught in the middle.

Cons

Could put teachers/coaches in a difficult spot.

If another school would choose not to play a striking school, it could be a breach of contract. Sends a mixed message. Puts activities ahead of education.

Could create safety issues for the kids.

2010-11 -- Proposal No. 3 – As Amended by Submitter on November 3, 2010 Amend By-law 2.150 – Physical Examination Submitted by John Stelzer, Official Representative, Oak Park (O.P.-River Forest)

By-law 2.150 currently reads:

2.150 A school shall have on file for each student who participates (including practice) in interscholastic athletics a certificate of physical fitness issued by a licensed physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner as set forth in the Illinois State Statutes not more than 365 days preceding any date of participation in any such practice, contest or activity.

Revise By-law 2.150 to read:

2.150 A school shall have on file for each student who participates (including practice) in interscholastic athletics a certificate of physical fitness issued by a licensed physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner as set forth in the Illinois State Statutes not more than 365 days preceding any date of participation in any such practice, contest or activity.

The state required grade 9 year physical may be used for the entire grade 9 school year provided it was not issued more than 545 days preceding any date of participation in any such practice, contest or activity. prior to January 1 of the year that the student enters school as a 9th grader.

For each subsequent year, grade 10, 11 and 12, of competition, a physical issued not more than 365 days preceding any date of participation in any such practice, contest or activity must be on file.

Rationale of Submitter

Current state statute allows that a freshman (grade 9) physical must have occurred within 365 days of the first day of school freshman year. Many schools require enrollment forms, including the physical, to be turned into the school before July 1 which makes it difficult for parents to have a physical which will cover the entire school year, particularly the spring sports season. This change would allow a freshman physical to be good for 18 months.

Pros

None.

Cons

Sports Medicine Committee does not support this proposal. Too big of a window for the physical.

2010-11 -- Proposal No. 4 Add By-law 3.034.6 – Residence Submitted by Jim Woodward, Official Representative, Anna (A.-Jonesboro), on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors and the Governance Action Team

Add By-law 3.034.6 to read:

3.034.6 Students affected by homelessness shall be eligible. Students may be 'homeless' defined by ISBE as such term is defined under Federal (the McKinney-Vento Act, 42 U.S.C. 11431) and Illinois (the Illinois Education for Homeless Children Act, 105 ILCS 45/1-1, or "IEHCA") laws.

Rationale of Submitter

The Governance Action Team recommends this change to reflect not only current legislation but also the current practice of the Association.

Pros

IHSA rules homeless children eligible regarding their residence.

Cons

Threatens the residence and transfer rules. Wide open for abuse. Some ROE offices do not have anyone to investigate the homeless situations. 2010-11 -- Proposal No. 5 – As Amended by Submitter on November 1, 2010; Amended Nov. 19, 2010 Add New By-law 3.043.3 and Renumber – Transfer Submitted by Vinay Mullick, Official Representative, Chicago (Perspectives Charter)

Add By-law 3.043.3 to read:

By-law 3.043.3 The student transfers attendance from one <u>a</u> public high school in <u>a</u> school district which supports two (2) or more public schools to a non-boundaried public school operated by the local district public school with no boundaries in that school district, and the transfer is in conjunction with a change in residence by both the student and his or her parents, custodial parent, surviving parent or guardian to a residence from one public school attendance area to another. The student resides full time with his or her parents, custodial parent, surviving parent, or guardian; the student is changing high school attendance for the first time and the principals of both high schools involved accept the transfer, concurring that there is no evidence of a) any violation of, noncompliance with, any by-law, or b) any recruiting in connection with the transfer.

Rationale of Submitter

There are students each year who move residences and then enroll with charter (non-boundaried) schools. Per the rules, they are ineligible for athletic participation. In our opinion, if a student changes residence, they should be allowed to attend a new school without having to sit out 365 days.

Pros

In a large district such as Chicago, it would help allow students who move within the district to have eligibility at a charter school.

Would provide a choice for students who move within a district.

Creates another option for the CPS students to attend.

Cons

Could create issues for when they transfer to another public school and they don't have eligibility because they don't reside in that attendance area.

Students have an option to apply at a charter school as a freshman.

Would also apply to other non-boundaried schools.

Would be unfair to the private schools.

There are principal selections in the CPS schools.

2010-11 -- Proposal No. 6 Amend By-law 3.101 – Independent Team Participation Submitted by Ray Epperson, Official Representative, Plainfield (North)

By-law 3.101 currently reads:

3.101 During the school season for a given sport, in a school which maintains a school team in that sport, a student shall not participate on any non-school team, nor as an individual unattached in non-school competition, in that given sport or in any competition that involves the skill of the sport in question. Violation shall cause ineligibility for a period not to exceed 365 days. An exception may be made by the Executive Director under the guidelines adopted by the Board of Directors for competitions sponsored and conducted directly by the National Governing Body or its official Illinois affiliate for the sport.

Revise By-law 3.101 to read:

3.101 During the school season for a given sport, in a school which maintains a school team in that sport, a student shall not participate on any non-school team, nor as an individual unattached in non-school competition, in that given sport or in any competition that involves the skill of the sport in question. Violation shall cause ineligibility for a period not to exceed 365 days. An exception may be made by the Executive Director under the guidelines adopted by the Board of Directors for competitions sponsored *and conducted* directly by the National Governing Body or its official Illinois affiliate for the sport.

Rationale of Submitter

At times, there are events that are sponsored by a National Governing Body, but not conducted by that body. At times, they are conducted by a designee of the National Governing Body.

Pros

Allows elite athletes to participate in more outside events during the year. Would provide more incentive for student-athletes to remain on the high school team rather than a non-school team.

Cons

Would open the door to more athletes who would want to participate. Would need a definition for "sponsored" by the governing body. Could create additional problems for interscholastic athletics. Could create additional conflicts for students participating at the high school.

2010-11 -- Proposal No. 7 Amend By-law 3.106 – Independent Team Participation Submitted by Jim Woodward, Official Representative, Anna (A.-Jonesboro), on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors and the Governance Action Team

By-law 3.106 currently reads:

3.106 To be eligible for a school team in a given sport, students must cease non-school practice and competition in that sport no later than five days after the date on which the school team engages in its first practice or tryout in that sport.

Revise By-law 3.106 to read:

3.106 To be eligible for a school team in a given sport, students must cease non-school practice and competition in that sport no later than five **seven (7)** days after the date on which the school team engages in its first practice or tryout in that sport.

Rationale of Submitter

The Governance Action Team believes this modest change will not severely impact high school teams and allow high school athletes the opportunity to participate in a non-school event through the first weekend of a sport season.

Pros

Would provide additional opportunities for participation – especially in the fall.

Cons

None.

2010-11 -- Proposal No. 8 Amend By-law 3.107 – Independent Team Participation Submitted by Jim Woodward, Official Representative, Anna (A.-Jonesboro), on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors and the Governance Action Team

By-law 3.107 currently reads:

3.107 During the school year, a person who is a coach in any sport at a member school, may be involved in any respect with any non-school team, only if the number of squad members from his/her school which are on the non-school team roster does not exceed one-half the number of players needed to field a team in actual IHSA state series competition in that sport.

Revise By-law 3.107 to read:

3.107 During the school year, a person who is a coach in any sport at a member school, may be involved in any respect with any non-school team, only if the number of squad members from his/her school which are on the non-school team roster does not exceed one-half the number of players needed to field a team in actual IHSA state series competition in that sport. The number of non-school team squad members that are counted only include those that are eligible to play in the next season of that sport.

Rationale of Submitter

The Governance Action Team believes this recommendation better reflects the intent of the by-law, which is to limit a coach's ability to work with an excessive number of returning players. In those few cases where a high school coach may work with a non-school team consisting of athletes who have exhausted their eligibility in a particular sport, the Governance Action Team can see where no advantage is being gained by the school/coach.

Pros

Seniors would not be counted since they have exhausted their participation in that sport.

Cons

None.

2010-11 -- Proposal No. 9 Amend By-law 3.107 – Independent Team Participation Submitted by Carolyn Palmer, Principal, Elgin (Westminster Christian)

By-law 3.107 currently reads:

3.107 During the school year, a person who is a coach in any sport at a member school, may be involved in any respect with any non-school team, only if the number of squad members from his/her school which are on the non-school team roster does not exceed one-half the number of players needed to field a team in actual IHSA state series competition in that sport.

Revise By-law 3.107 to read:

3.107 During the school year, a person who is a coach may not coach a non-school team that includes students from his/her high school.

Rationale of Submitter

The thinking behind this is that we need to level the playing field for all IHSA schools. Only some coaches have the time or opportunity to coach non-school teams. This gives an unfair advantage to those who do as they have unlimited contact time with their players. This certainly violates the spirit of the IHSA philosophy and by-laws.

Pros

None.

Cons

Could create problems for swimming and diving. May need to add specific sports that this would not apply to.

2010-11 -- Proposal No. 10 Amend By-law 3.111 – Coaching School Participation Submitted by Jim Woodward, Official Representative, Anna (A.-Jonesboro), on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors and the Governance Action Team

By-law 3.111 currently reads:

3.111 During the school year, students shall not participate in any coaching school, camp or clinic for any interscholastic sport or which provides instruction in any skill of an interscholastic sport. A coaching school, camp or clinic is defined as any program, sponsored by an organization or individual, which provides instruction in sports theory and/or skills; which does not culminate in competition, and which is attended by more than two (2) persons from the school which the student attends. Programs that involve only demonstration of skills and sports theory without providing instruction and requiring active participation by attendees are not considered coaching schools. Violation shall cause ineligibility for a period not to exceed 365 days.

Revise By-law 3.111 to read:

3.111 During the school year, a person who is a coach at any member school may not be involved in any respect with any coaching school, camp, or clinic for any interscholastic sport or which provides instruction in any skill of an interscholastic sport and is attended by more than two (2) persons from the coach's school. Violation shall cause ineligibility for a period not to exceed 365 days. students shall not participate in any coaching school, camp or clinic for any interscholastic sport or which provides instruction in any skill of an interscholastic sport. A coaching school, camp or clinic is defined as any program, sponsored by an organization or individual, which provides instruction in sports theory and/or skills; which does not culminate in competition, and which is attended by more than two (2) persons from the school which the student attends. Programs that involve only demonstration of skills and sports theory without providing instruction and requiring active participation by attendees are not considered coaching schools. Violation shall cause ineligibility for a period not to exceed 365 days.

Rationale of Submitter

With the increase in the number of coaching schools available to student-athletes during the school year, the Governance Action Team is concerned with the challenge confronting schools in always ensuring that no more than two (2) of its students attend any such coaching school during the school year. Due to this increasing challenge, the Governance Action Team believes this recommendation will better address the issue and be something that schools can monitor.

Pros

Would be easier to monitor. Would provide more opportunities for student-athletes to attend camps/clinics.

Cons

Need to clarify the period of ineligibility and how it would be applied. There would need to be a consequence for the coach.

2010-11 -- Proposal No. 11 Amend By-law 3.157 – Special Provisions for Summer Participation Submitted by Jim Woodward, Official Representative, Anna (A.-Jonesboro), on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors and the Governance Action Team

By-law 3.157 currently reads:

3.157 Schools may not organize or participate against other schools in a football scrimmage or game with the exception of 7-7 (touch only) passing leagues.

Revise By-law 3.157 to read:

- 3.157 Schools may not organize or participate against other schools in a football scrimmage or game with the exception of 7-7 (touch only) passing leagues. Schools may organize or participate against other schools in football during the summer under the following conditions:
 - a) A high school team may <u>not</u> wear full pads (as defined below) when participating in drill work or scrimmaging against another high school football team.
 - b) A high school team may wear full pads for their school's summer football camp. Before wearing full pads, student-athletes must build up to full pads in the following manner:
 - 1. 1st two (2) days of camp: helmets only
 - 2. Days three (3) and four (4): helmets and shoulder pads
 - 3. Day five (5): full pads
 - c) 7 on 7 pass skeleton (touch only) games are allowed in the summer, and helmets, mouth pieces, and appropriate footwear may be worn during these 7 on 7 contests.
 - d) Schools <u>are</u> allowed to participate in controlled 11 on 11 drill work against other schools in the summer, but each school's student-athletes may only wear "shells" (helmet and shoulder pads). Live tackling or blocking below the waist is prohibited. There will be a limit of 5 different dates for controlled drill work, and only 2 opponents per date for a maximum of 10 sessions of drill work per program.

Rationale of Submitter

The Governance Action Team believes this proposal provides greater clarity to what schools can do in football during the summer. This proposal also creates an acclimatization period during summer contact that the current rule lacks. This proposal would enable schools to work against other schools in the summer in a controlled setting, something other sports, but not football, have been able to do since the inception of the summer contact rule.

Pros

Adds more clarity regarding what can be done during the summer. Adds an acclimatization period.

Cons

Who will monitor that they aren't tackling or blocking?

Add By-law 3.171 to read:

3.171 Any member public member school charging less than the full tuition rate authorized by the Illinois School Code will be considered a non-boundaried school for classification purposes.

Rationale of Submitter

Reducing tuition below the amount authorized in the school code creates a competitive advantage for schools by making transfers from neighboring school districts financially feasible. Once tuition is lowered by a school district, the school district will be more likely to attract students from outside its boundary, and for all practical purposes, it will function as a non-boundaried public school. As a result, the school should be subject to the 1.65 multiplier.

Pros

Levels the playing field.

Cons None. 2010-11 -- Proposal No. 13 Revise By-law 4.011 -- Attendance Submitted by Joyce Kenner, Official Representative, Chicago (Whitney Young)

IHSA By-law 4.011 currently reads:

4.011 A student must attend a member school and may only represent in interscholastic competition the member school the student attends. For purposes of this by-law, the term "attend" shall mean that the student is enrolled at the member school and is taking at, or under arrangements approved by, the member school, a minimum of twenty (20) credit hours of work for which credit toward high school graduation will be granted by the member school upon the student's completing and passing the courses. The school which enrolls the student shall be exclusively responsible to verify the student's compliance with all of the eligibility requirements of the by-laws

The Board of Directors shall have discretion to waive this requirement of this by-law for the Illinois schools for the deaf or blind. In unit systems having a 6-3-3 or 6-4-2 type of organization, ninth grade students may participate on senior high school teams at the member high school in the district designated by the Board of Education, provided:

- (a) such participation is approved by the district's superintendent of schools;
- (b) the senior high school principal shall certify that the ninth grade students:
 - (1) are eligible under the requirements of these By-laws;

(2) are students at a junior high school located in the district which supports the senior high school; and

- (3) are not members of a grade or junior high school team in the same activity; and
- (c) the senior high school principal assumes full responsibility for the conduct of these students during all contests in which they represent the senior high school.

Revise By-law 4.011 to read:

4.011 A student must attend a member school and may only represent in interscholastic competition the member school the student attends. For purposes of this by-law, the term "attend" shall mean that the student is enrolled at the member school and is taking at, or under arrangements approved by, the member school, a minimum of twenty (20) credit hours of work for which credit toward high school graduation will be granted by the member school upon the student's completing and passing the courses. The school which enrolls the student shall be exclusively responsible to verify the student's compliance with all of the eligibility requirements of the by-laws

The Board of Directors shall have discretion to waive this requirement of this by-law for the Illinois schools for the deaf or blind. In unit systems having a 6-3-3 or 6-4-2 type of organization, ninth grade students may participate on senior high school teams at the member high school in the district designated by the Board of Education, provided:

- (a) such participation is approved by the district's superintendent of schools;
- (b) the senior high school principal shall certify that the ninth grade students:
 - (1) are eligible under the requirements of these By-laws;

(2) are students at a junior high school located in the district which supports the senior high school; and

(3) are not members of a grade or junior high school team in the same activity; and

(c) the senior high school principal assumes full responsibility for the conduct of these students during all contests in which they represent the senior high school.

An exception to this rule will allow Illinois chess teams to compete in non-IHSA events in which the rules allow schools to use K-8 participants along with high school students from the same school.

Rationale of Submitter

This will allow schools to compete on a level playing field. Schools from other states with grade levels more than 9-12 at the school (i.e., 7-12, K-12, etc.) are able to use all of their players on the same team at national chess events. This by-law exception would allow Illinois schools with more than just 9-12 grade levels to follow the same rules. This change would affect only non-IHSA chess competitions such as the United States Chess Federation national events.

Pros

None.

Cons

Students from elementary or junior high should not be allowed to participate with high school students.

2010-11 -- Proposal No. 14 Add By-law 5.004 – Regular Season Tournaments Submitted by Jim Woodward, Official Representative, Anna (A.-Jonesboro), on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors and the Governance Action Team

Add By-law 5.004 to read:

5.004 No athletic team, representing a member school, shall play in more than five (5) different games/contests/matches during any given interscholastic tournament.

Note: if the proposal is approved, the Team Limitations for Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Boys Volleyball and Girls Volleyball would be revised to eliminate the statement that a team representing a member school shall play in no more than five (5) different games/matches/contests in a tournament.

This By-law would go into effect for the 2011-12 school term.

Rationale of Submitter

The Governance Action Team recommends inserting the five (5) game/match/contest tournament restriction into a by-law to strengthen the definition previously approved by the IHSA Board of Directors.

Pros

Would stop tournaments from carrying on over three or four weeks or more.

Cons None 2010-11 -- Proposal No. 15 Amend By-law 5.011 – Boys Fall Baseball – Season Limitation Submitted by Jim Woodward, Official Representative, Anna (A.-Jonesboro), on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors and the Governance Action Team

By-law 5.011 currently reads:

5.011 Season Limitation

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Fall Baseball teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 7 or later than Saturday of Week 16 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Fall Baseball no earlier than Monday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Revise By-law 5.011 to read:

5.011 Season Limitation

- a. Only those member schools that don't offer football may participate in boys fall baseball. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Fall Baseball teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 7 or later than Saturday of Week 16 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. No school belonging to this Association who is eligible to do so under the provisions stipulated in By-law 5.011 (a) shall organize its Boys Fall Baseball teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 7 or later than Saturday of Week 16 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- **c.** A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Fall Baseball no earlier than Monday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Rationale of Submitter

The Governance Action Team believes this season is not used on an extensive basis and has outlived its time with the Association. This season is not the season in which the IHSA state series is offered. By eliminating this season, students will be able to participate in other programs offered at their school, and it may allow schools to form new programs for their students. In 'a', only those schools that don't offer football may participate in fall baseball.

Pros

There is already a season established for baseball.

Cons

Gives an advantage to the schools that don't play football. Deprives kids who aren't playing a fall sport from participating.

2010-11 -- Proposal No. 16 Amend By-law 5.063 – Boys Football Contest Limitation Submitted by Sr. Kathleen Anne Tait, OP, Principal, Chicago Heights (Marian) on behalf of the Board of Control of the East Suburban Catholic Conference

By-law 5.063 currently reads:

5.063 Contest Limitation

No Boys Football team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than nine (9) games exclusive of the IHSA series and exclusive of the City of Chicago Prep Bowl series, participated in by the Chicago Public League and the Chicago Catholic League.

Revise By-law 5.063 to read:

5.063 Contest Limitation

No Boys Football team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than nine (9) *eight (8)* games exclusive of the IHSA series and exclusive of the City of Chicago Prep Bowl series, participated in by the Chicago Public League and the Chicago Catholic League.

Rationale of Submitter

The change in By-law 5.063 would allow for the expansion of the state football playoffs from two hundred fifty-six (256) schools to five hundred twelve (512) schools – doubling the number of participants and keeping the calendar in tact.

- The qualifying of nearly all football playing schools in Illinois for the state series would bring football into the same qualifying standards as used for all other sports supported by the membership of the Illinois High School Association.
- Almost every school would play a nine game schedule as currently defined with the preliminary round of the playoffs replacing the ninth date.
- The expansion of the playoff system could allow for the renewal of local rivalries and other creative scheduling as it would eliminate the pressure of needing to schedule "wins" so that the number of five is met.
- The expansion of the playoff system could allow for schools that cannot find a local opponent to not be pressured into travelling great distances to fill open dates as created by an imbalance in some conference structures.
- The current climate for boys football places a heavy emphasis on qualifying for the state playoffs. It appears that conference alignments, scheduling and local rivalries have been adversely affected by the prevailing and current process. The guarantee of competing in the state's highest football series will allow the majority of Illinois schools to participate in the excitement of the state football series and might also invigorate the three areas identified in a positive way.
- The new format might allow for a more prudent use of players throughout the season. The 512 team format would allow for a more prudent approach to protecting the marginally injured player as the pressure to have to win can be compromised. Reserve players might also be engaged in

game competition in a more educational experience rather than in contests decided by a large score.

- There is always a dependency on certain players to make a great team. Often times, these players are injured and contests lost as a result of that absence. This format could eliminate the stress of that situation and allow for flexibility in qualifying.
- The potential exists for new revenue throughout the state and for the IHSA because of the increased volume of contests to be played. With significant revenue per playoff contest, the IHSA would benefit with additional profit because of the added playoff round.
- Smaller schools forced to play in larger school conferences because of travel will not be at as much of a won-loss disadvantage (and pressure to win) during the regular season, which does not match the enrollment balance reflected by the eight class playoff format.

The above recommendation will maintain the date parameters as previously identified for the Boys Football Playoff structure for the length of the season.

The actual contest season would eliminate the current playing date for the newly instituted preliminary round.

Each member school would schedule eight contests starting no earlier than Friday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar and concluding with Week 15 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

The selection of 512 schools would take place on the Saturday of Week 15 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar (544 total football playing schools).

Preliminary round (newly instituted) would take place on Week 16 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar. Higher seeds would be guaranteed the host for the first two contests. A formula for a higher split of the gate for competing schools could be worked out for this round.

The selection of 512 schools and seeding of the eight classes would remain the same as currently formatted. Classes would be broken into four (4) quads of 16 schools, unless dictated otherwise by the IHSA 150-mile travel rule.

The following identifies the date format for the 2011-12 school term, the year the proposal would go into effect, if the format were used.

Football Dates Boys Football (Class 1A-8A)

Season Starts (Wednesday) 1st Contest May Be Held (Friday) Pairings Announced (Saturday) Preliminary Round (Friday-Saturday) First Round (Friday-Saturday) Second Round (Friday-Saturday) Quarterfinals (Friday-Saturday) Semifinals (Friday-Saturday) State Final (Class 1A-4A) (Friday) State Final (Class 5A-8A) (Saturday) Season Ends (Saturday) August 10, 2011 August 26, 2011 October 15, 2011 October 21-22, 2011 October 28-29, 2011 November 4-5, 2011 November 11-12, 2011 November 18-19, 2011 November 25, 2011 November 26, 2010

Pros

Would maximize participation in playoffs. Would help with the realignments of the conferences. Doubles the field. Would reduce travel during the regular season.

Cons

Would create more lopsided games when an 8-0 team plays a 0-8 team. For a 1-7 team, it wouldn't benefit anyone for a first round match-up. Would shorten the frosh/soph season for schools. Could affect income when no longer hosting as many home games during the regular season for the schools. 2010-11 -- Proposal No. 17 Delete By-laws 5.080 and 5.081– Boys Spring Golf Submitted by Jim Woodward, Official Representative, Anna (A.-Jonesboro), on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors and the Governance Action Team

Delete By-laws 5.080 and 5.081 – Boys Spring Golf:

5.080 BOYS SPRING GOLF

5.081 Season Limitation

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Spring Golf teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 36 or later than Saturday of Week 47 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Spring Golf no earlier than Monday of Week 38 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Rationale of Submitter

The Governance Action Team believes this season is not used on an extensive basis and has outlived its time with the Association. This season is not the season in which the IHSA state series is offered. By eliminating this season, students will be able to participate in other programs offered at their school, and it may allow schools to form new programs for their students.

Pros

None.

Cons None.

By-law 5.121 currently reads:

5.121 Season Limitation

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Swimming teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 21 or later than Saturday of Week 34 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Swimming no earlier than Friday of Week 22 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Revise By-law 5.121 to read:

- 5.121 Season Limitation
 - a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Swimming teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 22 21 or later than Saturday of Week 34 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
 - b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Swimming no earlier than Friday of Week 22 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Rationale of Submitter

Many swim coaches coach both the girls and boys swim teams. Coaches of teams that have swimmers in the IHSA state meet must go from that meet to the start of the boys season the following Monday. Those coaches then must coach 28 straight weeks, over two major holidays, without a break. The boys season would be shortened by one week and would start the Monday after Thanksgiving. Moreover, starting a season with a major holiday on Thursday poses many organizational issues especially with new members to the team. Family (missing practice) vs. team commitment can leave a bad taste in both parties which sometimes causes diminished participation numbers in the sport. Schools can schedule meets the first week of the season if they chose.

Pros

None.

Cons Shorter season than the girls. Coach could start the season later if he/she wants.

By-law 5.122 currently reads:

5.122 Contest Limitation – Boys Swimming

Team: No Boys Swimming team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than fourteen (14) dates exclusive of the IHSA series. Individual: No individual shall compete in Boys Swimming in more than seventeen (17) dates exclusive of the IHSA series.

IHSA By-law 5.252 currently reads:

5.252 Contest Limitation – Girls Swimming

Team: No Girls Swimming team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than fourteen (14) dates exclusive of the IHSA series.

Individual: No individual shall compete in Girls Swimming in more than seventeen (17) dates exclusive of the IHSA series.

Revise By-law 5.122 to read:

5.122 Contest Limitation – Boys Swimming

Team: No Boys Swimming team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than fourteen (14) dates exclusive of the IHSA series.

Individual: No individual shall compete in Boys Swimming in more than seventeen (17) dates exclusive of the IHSA series. If both swimming and diving are held at the same meet, it counts as one date. If there are two (2) separate meets where only swimming OR diving occur, the team could participate in both the swimming and diving and only count it as one date.

Revise By-law 5.252 to read:

5.252 Contest Limitation

Team: No Girls Swimming team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than fourteen (14) dates exclusive of the IHSA series. *If both swimming and diving are held at the same meet, it counts as one date. If there are two (2) separate meets where only swimming OR diving occur, the team could participate in both the swimming and diving and only count it as one date.*

Individual: No individual shall compete in Girls Swimming in more than seventeen (17) dates exclusive of the IHSA series.

Rationale of Submitter

Some of the best swimming invites only offer swimming. If you choose 3 swimming only events, this now only allows your divers to participate in 11 events. There are also many schools with no divers for dual meets and which gives very few opportunities for divers to compete. There are also great diving invites that do not have swimming. This causes your two divers to prevent the rest of the swim team from participating in an entire event.

Pros

Some facilities don't have diving. Would alleviate the divers losing an opportunity to compete.

Cons None.

2010-11 -- Proposal No. 20 Delete By-laws 5.130 and 5.131– Boys Fall Tennis Submitted by Jim Woodward, Official Representative, Anna (A.-Jonesboro), on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors and the Governance Action Team

Delete By-laws 5.130 and 5.131 - Boys Fall Tennis

5.130 BOYS FALL TENNIS

5.131 Season Limitation

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Fall Tennis teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 7 or later than Saturday of Week 17 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Fall Tennis no earlier than Monday of Week 9 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Rationale of Submitter

The Governance Action Team believes this season is not used on an extensive basis and has outlived its time with the Association. This season is not the season in which the IHSA state series is offered. By eliminating this season, students will be able to participate in other programs offered at their school, and it may allow schools to form new programs for their students.

Pros

None.

Cons

2010-11 -- Proposal No. 21 Delete By-laws 5.210 and 5.211– Girls Spring Golf Submitted by Jim Woodward, Official Representative, Anna (A.-Jonesboro), on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors and the Governance Action Team

Delete By- laws 5.210 and 5.211– Girls Spring Golf:

5.210 GIRLS SPRING GOLF

5.211 Season Limitation

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Spring Golf teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 36 or later than Saturday of Week 47 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Spring Golf no earlier than Monday of Week 38 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Rationale of Submitter

The Governance Action Team believes this season is not used on an extensive basis and has outlived its time with the Association. This season is not the season in which the IHSA state series is offered. By eliminating this season, students will be able to participate in other programs offered at their school, and it may allow schools to form new programs for their students.

Pros

None.

Cons None.

By-law 5.221 currently reads:

5.221 Season Limitation

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Gymnastics teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 19 or later than Saturday of Week 33 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Gymnastics no earlier than Monday of Week 21 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Revise By-law 5.221 to read:

- 5.221 Season Limitation
 - a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Gymnastics teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week **18** 19 or later than Saturday of Week **32** 33 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
 - b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Gymnastics no earlier than Monday of Week 21 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Rationale of Submitter

Currently the boys and girls gymnastics seasons overlap. This creates a facility conflict when the team has kids preparing for the girls IHSA State Meet and must concurrently schedule the start of the boys season. Moreover, many gymnastics coaches coach in both the boys and the girls seasons. This proposal will eliminate that conflict and end the girls season a week earlier.

Pros

None.

Cons

Would create conflicts for the Girls Gymnastics State Final host school.

2010-11 -- Proposal No. 23 Amend By-law 5.231– Girls Fall Softball Submitted by Jim Woodward, Official Representative, Anna (A.-Jonesboro), on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors and the Governance Action Team

By-law 5.231 currently reads:

5.231 Season Limitation

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Fall Softball teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 7 or later than Saturday of Week 16 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Fall Softball no earlier than Monday of Week 9 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Revise By-law 5.231 to read:

5.231 Season Limitation

- a. Only those member schools that don't offer girls fall volleyball may participate in girls' fall softball. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Fall Softball teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 7 or later than Saturday of Week 16 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. No school belonging to this Association who is eligible to do so under the provisions stipulated in By-law 5.231 (a) shall organize its Girls Fall Softball teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 7 or later than Saturday of Week 16 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- **c.** A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Fall Softball no earlier than Monday of Week 9 **8** in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Rationale of Submitter

The Governance Action Team believes this season is not used on an extensive basis and has outlived its time with the Association. This season is not the season in which the IHSA state series is offered. By eliminating this season, students will be able to participate in other programs offered at their school, and it may allow schools to form new programs for their students. In 'a', only those schools that don't offer girls' volleyball may participate in fall softball.

Pros

There is already a season established for softball.

Cons

Gives an advantage to the schools that don't play volleyball. Deprives kids who aren't playing a fall sport from participating. 2010-11 -- Proposal No. 24 Delete By-laws 5.270 and 5.271– Girls Spring Tennis Submitted by Jim Woodward, Official Representative, Anna (A.-Jonesboro), on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors and the Governance Action Team

5.270 GIRLS SPRING TENNIS

5.271 Season Limitation

a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Spring Tennis teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 36 or later than Saturday of Week 47 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Spring Tennis no earlier than Monday of Week 38 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Rationale of Submitter

The Governance Action Team believes this season is not used on an extensive basis and has outlived its time with the Association. This season is not the season in which the IHSA state series is offered. By eliminating this season, students will be able to participate in other programs offered at their school, and it may allow schools to form new programs for their students.

Pros

None.

Cons None.

2010-11 -- Proposal No. 25 – as Amended by Submitter on November 1, 2010 Delete By-laws 5.292 and 5.332– Girls Volleyball and Boys Volleyball Submitted by James Antos, Official Representative, Chicago (Brother Rice)

By-law 5.292 currently reads:

5.292 Contest Limitation

No Girls Volleyball team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than:

- (1) twenty-one (21) matches exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (2) nineteen (19) matches plus one (1) tournament, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (3) eighteen (18) matches plus two (2) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (4) sixteen (16) matches plus three (3) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (5) fifteen (15) matches plus four (4) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series.

No Girls Volleyball team representing a member school shall play in more than five (5) different matches during any given volleyball tournament.

By-law 5.332 currently reads:

5.332 Contest Limitation

No Boys Volleyball team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than:

- (1) twenty-one (21) matches exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (2) nineteen (19) matches plus one (1) tournament, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (3) eighteen (18) matches plus two (2) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (4) sixteen (16) matches plus three (3) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (5) fifteen (15) matches plus four (4) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series.

No Boys Volleyball team representing a member school shall play in more than five (5) different matches during any given volleyball tournament.

Revise By-law 5.292 to read:

5.292 Contest Limitation

No Girls Volleyball team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than:

- (1) twenty-one (21) matches exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (2) nineteen (19) matches plus one (1) tournament, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (3) eighteen (18) matches plus two (2) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (4) sixteen (16) matches plus three (3) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (5) fifteen (15) matches plus four (4) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series.

*In an out of state tournament only, n*o Girls Volleyball team representing a member school shall play in more than *ten (10)* five (5) different matches during any given volleyball tournament, *nor shall any team play in more than 25 games total during any given interscholastic volleyball tournament.*

Revise By-law 5.332 to read:

5.332 Contest Limitation

No Boys Volleyball team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than:

- (1) twenty-one (21) matches exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (2) nineteen (19) matches plus one (1) tournament, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (3) eighteen (18) matches plus two (2) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (4) sixteen (16) matches plus three (3) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (5) fifteen (15) matches plus four (4) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series.

*In an out of state tournament only, n*o Boys Volleyball team representing a member school shall play in more than **ten (10)** five (5) different matches during any given volleyball tournament, *nor shall any team play in more than 25 games total during any given interscholastic volleyball tournament.*

This by-law would go into effect on February 5, 2011.

Rationale of Submitter

First, it is important to highlight that there are <u>no</u> total match **or total game** restrictions **for tournaments** in the Volleyball Rulebook of the NFHS (National Federation of State High School Associations).

Currently, the IHSA allows Illinois volleyball teams traveling out of state to participate in tournaments that conduct play in 3 out of 5 game matches. Why? FYI: The 3 out 5 game volleyball match <u>is</u> a NFHS volleyball rule; however, Illinois follows the NFHS-allowed modification and currently plays 2 out of 3 game volleyball matches. So, for instance, if an Illinois school plays in an out of state tournament in which all matches are the best 3 out of 5 games, and all 5 matches last 5 games each, these schools are allowed to compete in a total number of 25 games in an out of state tournament..., but the same is **not** allowed for our in-state tournaments. By changing and re-writing this by-law, it becomes much more consistent for Illinois schools no matter if they play in-state or out-of-state tournaments. Moreover, **T**his change solves many of the problems that Illinois volleyball schools and Illinois volleyball tournament directors have been facing **for out of state travel** especially since the IHSA travel rule was changed a number of years ago.

This by-law would go into effect on February 5, 2011. The primary reasons for this date request are:

- Specifically, to give Illinois boys volleyball schools that have been invited to a national high school tournament hosted in conjunction with the NCAA Division I Men's Volleyball Championship at Penn State University in May, 2011 the opportunity to participate; and
- Generally, to allow Illinois girls or boys volleyball schools that either host their own tournaments or that are seeking to travel out-of-state during their seasons ample time to investigate options and/or make the appropriate arrangements or adjustments in a timely fashion.

EXAMPLE: Currently NOT legal for Illinois Schools: PROPOSED PENN STATE TOURNAMENT FORMAT:

TOTAL 10 MATCHES, MAX 20 GAMES

<u>Currently legal for Illinois Schools:</u> Any tournament in any other state that plays a 5 match tournament using the Federation 3 out of 5 game format and all 5 matches go 5 games each.

TOTAL 5 MATCHES, MAX 25 GAMES

Pros

Supported by the Illinois Volleyball Coaches Association. Other states allow more matches to be played during a tournament.

Cons

Would increase the number of matches played and could increase costs. Could create an unfair advantage for those schools who have the capability to travel to other states.

2010-11 -- Proposal No. 26

Amend By-law 5.751– Competitive Cheerleading – Season Limitation

Submitted by Jim Woodward, Official Representative, Anna (A.-Jonesboro), on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors and the Governance Action Team

By-law 5.751 currently reads:

5.751 Season Limitation

a. No school belonging to this Association shall allow its Competitive Cheerleading squad to participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Wednesday of Week 18 or later than Saturday of Week 39 in the Standardized Calendar.

Revise By-law 5.571 to read:

5.751 Season Limitation

- a. Schools may use a maximum of four (4) days after Week 40 to select its competitive cheerleading squad for the next school term.
- b. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Competitive Cheerleading team, practice or participate earlier than Wednesday of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 39 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- c. No school belonging to this Association shall allow its Competitive Cheerleading squad to participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Wednesday of Week 18 or later than Saturday of Week 39 in the Standardized Calendar.

Rationale of Submitter

Creates a window in which schools could select their competitive cheerleading teams for the next school year. Once selected, competitive cheerleading teams would be treated in a similar fashion to other athletic teams in regard to summer participation and would have a more defined season in which the team could organize, practice and compete.

Pros

Brings competitive cheer in line with other sports.

Cons

If a school has spring tryouts, it could leave out any student-athlete who transfers in to the school at the beginning of the ensuing school term.

By-law 5.751 currently reads:

5.751 Season Limitation

a. No school belonging to this Association shall allow its Competitive Cheerleading squad to participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Wednesday of Week 18 or later than Saturday of Week 39 in the Standardized Calendar.

Revise By-law 5.751 to read:

5.751 Season Limitation

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall conduct its Competitive Cheer team practice earlier than Monday of Week 16 18 or later than Saturday of Week 37 39 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- **b.** No school belonging to this Association shall allow its Competitive Cheerleading squad to participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Wednesday of Week 18 or later than Saturday of Week 39 in the Standardized Calendar.

Rationale of Submitter

This will align the sport of competitive cheerleading with the other winter sports. By not having a determined season, schools are limiting the opportunity of students to participate in multiple sports. By allowing competitive cheerleading to practice year round, some students are not able to participate in a fall or spring sport. This is having an adverse effect on some programs in the fall and spring. Also, with the ability to practice competitive cheerleading year round, it is taking away from the spirit side of cheerleading.

Pros

None.

Cons

None.