

2013-14 – Proposal No. 1

Amend By-law 2.030 – Cooperative Team Sponsorship

Submitted by Randy Oberembt, Official Representative, Winnetka (New Trier)

By-law 2.030 Currently Reads:

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to approve the formation of cooperative athletic teams or activity programs by two or more member 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) Only private schools with non multiplied enrollments of 200 or less are eligible to form cooperative teams.
- (d) 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;
- (e) The cooperative sponsorship agreement is established for a period of two consecutive school years;
- (f) 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;
- (g) 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 involved school(s) shall submit to the IHSA, by the established date, notification that they wish to continue the cooperative with no changes.

Revise By-law 2.030 to Read:

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to approve the formation of cooperative athletic teams or activity programs by two or more member 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) Only private schools with non multiplied enrollments of 200 or less are eligible to form cooperative teams.
- (d) 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;
- (e) The cooperative sponsorship agreement is established for a period of two consecutive school years;
- (f) 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;
- (g) 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 involved school(s) shall submit to the IHSA, by the established date, notification that they wish to continue the cooperative with no changes **and written approval from the conferences.**

Rationale of Submitter:

The current renewal process for cooperative teams prevents conferences from having any voice in the process. Given their local connection to the cooperating schools, conferences should maintain a voice in the renewal process, and stripping that voice from them prevents a certain sense of 'checks and balances' that that voice would allow. Conferences would know participation levels for cooperative teams in their respective leagues and should be able weigh in on whether or not the cooperative teams should be renewed or not.

2013-14 – Proposal No. 2

Amend By-law 2.120 – Coaches’ Attendance at Rules Interpretation Meetings

Submitted by Tim McConnell, Principal, Erie

By-law 2.120 Currently Reads:

Each member school shall be represented by a member of its coaching staff for the sport/activity at an annual rules interpretation meeting sponsored by the Association in each sport or activity it offers, provided rules interpretation meetings are conducted in that sport or activity. Failure to comply with this requirement may be penalized by the Board of Directors. This shall include all individual as well as team entries.

Revise By-law 2.120 to Read:

In every sport and activity, each member school shall be represented by its **head coach** at an annual rules interpretation meeting or online rules presentation sponsored by the Association, provided rules interpretation meetings or online rules presentations are conducted in that sport and activity. Failure to comply with this requirement may be penalized by the Board of Directors. This shall include all individual as well as team entries.

Rationale of Submitter:

Rules Interpretation meetings are important meetings and often contain critical information for head coaches beyond just rule changes for an up-coming season. Now that the IHSA holds on-line meetings, head coaches have no reason to not represent their school at these meetings by viewing the presentations. The presentations are available for an extended period each season, and having head coaches be required to view them will improve the head coach’s knowledge of rules changes and IHSA updates for their season.

2013-14 – Proposal No. 3

Eliminate Policy 10 – Travel Policy

Add By-law 2.180 – Travel Policy

Submitted by Steve Rockrohr, Official Representative, Glenview (Glenbrook South)

Policy 10 Currently Reads:

Schools may travel any distance provided the participating students miss no more than one school day, including travel to and from the competition.

Add By-law 2.180 to Read:

School teams may travel out of state any distance provided the participating students miss no more than **two** school days, including travel to and from the competition. The number of instances that any single school team can use this provision is limited to two occasions per school year.

Rationale of Submitter:

With teams competing over weekends, often early Saturday and/or late Sunday, this policy would allow for travel days on Friday and Monday surrounding the competition. This is a modest increase from one day to two days. It would also limit the number of times any one school team could use the policy to a reasonable number.

Note: This proposal would take effect 30 days after passage.

2013-14 – Proposal No. 7

Amend By-law 3.043.3 – Transfer

Submitted by Robert Nolting, Principal, Tinley Park (Andrew)

By-law 3.043.3 Currently Reads:

In the event the student transfers attendance from any high school to any other high school, and the transfer is not 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 outside the boundaries of the public school district attendance area the family originally resided in, the Executive Director then grants eligibility based on documentation that the transfer was necessitated by one or more of the following:

- Change in family's financial position
- Extenuating circumstances documented by the sending school's principal or official representative

Revise By-law 3.043.3 to Read:

In the event the student transfers attendance from any high school to any other high school, and the transfer is not 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 outside the boundaries of the public school district attendance area the family originally resided in, the Executive Director ~~then grants~~ **may grant** eligibility based on documentation that the transfer **met one of the following conditions:**

- **The student is enrolling for the first time in the student's home public member high school with boundaries;**
- Change in family's financial position;
- Extenuating circumstances documented by the sending school's principal or official representative.

Rationale of Submitter:

The spirit of the by-law proposal from 2012 was to provide clear guidelines and reduce the amount of transfers. The new by-law did create greater scrutiny for families who transferred schools. However, the provision creates an undue burden on families and schools based on the need to justify the transfer beyond parent/student preference. This had a disproportionate impact on younger students who wanted to return to public schools. Many of these families were restricted to participate in athletics due to his language. The change in the by-law reflects a single transfer to the student's home school. Any transfers beyond that would have to be vetted through financial hardship or extenuating circumstances.

2013-14 – Proposal No. 8 - Revised

Amend By-law 3.153 – Special Provisions for Summer Participation

Submitted by Dan Klett, Principal, Wauconda

By-law 3.153 currently reads:

Persons who coach a sport at a member school may have a maximum of 25 days of contact in that sport with students from that school during the period between the last day of classes or Monday of Week 49 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar (whichever date is earlier) in the spring each year and Sunday of Week 5 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar. Students may have a maximum of 25 days of contact per sport with persons who coach that sport at the school they attend during the same time period. A day of contact is defined as any date on which any coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques of any sport takes place. These limitations apply to all sports except Baseball and Softball. 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 for the sport.

Revise By-law 3.153 to read:

Persons who coach a sport at a member school may have a maximum of 25 days of contact in that sport with students from that school during the period between the last day of classes or Monday of Week 49 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar (whichever date is earlier) in the spring each year and Sunday of Week 5 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar. **Additionally, there may be no contact during the mandatory “Dead Week” for either Week 52 or Week 1 (whichever week encompasses the July 4th holiday) of the IHSA Standardized Calendar. This “Dead Week” would be determined annually by the IHSA.** Students may have a maximum of 25 days of contact per sport with persons who coach that sport at the school they attend during the same time period. A day of contact is defined as any date on which any coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques of any sport takes place. These limitations apply to all sports except Baseball and Softball. 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 for the sport.

Rationale of Submitter:

This proposal would shorten the amount of time programs at a school could utilize their 25 summer contact days by only one week. Coaches would still have a minimum of seven weeks in which they could utilize their 25 days. The gain from having one uninterrupted week in the summer for coaches, athletes, and the athlete’s family, far outweighs the benefit of having an extra week provides. Athletes are having more and more demands placed on them at younger and younger ages, so having one week in the summer that would be devoid of any contact (including weightlifting, conditioning, open gyms, summer leagues, etc.) would provide a welcome break for all involved. At least four other state association’s have a “dead week” during this time in the summer.

2013-14 – Proposal No. 10

Amend By-law 4.021 – Activity Eligibility - Scholastic Standing
Submitted by James Bryan, Principal, Kewanee (H.S.)

By-law 4.021 Currently Reads:

They shall be doing passing work in at least twenty (20) credit hours of high school work per week.

Revise By-law 4.021 to Read:

They shall be doing passing work in at least **twenty-five (25)** credit hours of high school work per week.

Rationale of Submitter:

Currently IHSA Activities are required to pass 20 credit hours per week and IHSA Athletics are required to pass 25 credit hours per week. Thus having two different standards for participation. By adopting the proposed change, IHSA Activities will be held to the same standards as IHSA Athletics By-law 3.021 for Scholastic Standing, passing 25 credit hours per week.

2013-14 – Proposal No. 13

Amend By-law 5.071 – Boys Football Season Limitation
Submitted by Phil Morrison, Jr., Principal, Tolono (Unity)

By-law 5.071 currently reads:

5.071 Season Limitation

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Football teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Wednesday of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 21 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Football no earlier than Friday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Revise By-law 5.071 to read:

5.071 Season Limitation

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Football teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than **Monday** of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 21 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Football no earlier than Friday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Rationale of Submitter:

This proposal would shrink the time for football programs between summer contact and the beginning of the football season. Doing so would allow for football programs to better transition from summer contact into the season and help players maintain the acclimatization they build up during the summer. The IHSA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee has discussed this issue a number of times over the past few years and has supported this concept from the standpoint of acclimatization.

2013-14 – Proposal No. 14 (Proposal 14 & 17 Combined)

Amend By-law 5.341 and 5.351 – Competitive Cheerleading and Competitive Dance Season Limitation
Submitted by Robert Nolting, Principal, Tinley Park (Andrew)

By-law 5.341 Currently Reads:

5.341 Season Limitation – Competitive Cheer

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall conduct its Competitive Cheer team practice earlier than Monday of Week 18 or later than Week 31 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 31 in the Standardized Calendar.

Revise By-law 5.341 to Read:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall conduct its Competitive Cheer team practice earlier than Monday of **Week 17** or later than Week 31 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 **Monday** of Week 18 or later than Saturday of Week 31 in the Standardized Calendar.

Rationale of Submitter:

1. Currently the Competitive Cheer and Girls' Basketball seasons start on the same day. By starting the Cheer season one week earlier it will allow cheer teams to use gym space for tryouts and not overlap with the girls' basketball and dance tryouts. Smaller schools with less gym space are projecting issues with both tryouts on the same day.
2. Currently the first day for a cheer contest is on a Wednesday. This was left unchanged when the by-law was last changed. Making the first contest day on a Monday is uniform to other sports in the winter.

By-law 5.351 Currently Reads:

5.351 Season Limitation – Competitive Dance

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall conduct its Competitive Dance team practice earlier than Monday of Week 18 or later than Saturday of Week 39 in the Standardized Calendar.
- b. No school belonging to this Association shall allow its Competitive Dance team to participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 18 or later than Saturday of Week 39 in the Standardized Calendar.

Revise By-law 5.351 to Read:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall conduct its Competitive Dance team practice earlier than Monday of **Week 17** or later than Saturday of Week 39 in the Standardized Calendar.
- b. No school belonging to this Association shall allow its Competitive Dance team to participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 18 or later than Saturday of Week 39 in the Standardized Calendar.

Rationale of Submitter:

1. Currently the Competitive Dance and Girls' Basketball seasons start on the same day. By starting the Dance season one week earlier it will allow dance teams to use gym space for tryouts and not overlap with the girls' basketball and cheer tryouts. Smaller schools with less gym space are projecting issues with both tryouts on the same day.
2. Currently the first day for a dance contest is the same as the first day of participation. By starting the dance season one week earlier it will give teams time to prepare for any contest at the end of Week 18 without the temptation of illegal practices before the officials starting date.

2013-14 – Proposal No. 15 (Proposal 15 & 19 Combined)

Amend By-law 5.342 and 5.352 – Competitive Cheerleading and Competitive Dance Contest Limitation
Submitted by Robert Nolting, Principal, Tinley Park (Andrew)

By-law 5.342 Currently Reads:

5.342 Contest Limitation – Competitive Cheerleading

No Competitive Cheerleading team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than five (5) meets exclusive of the IHSA state series.

Revise By-law 5.342 to Read:

No Competitive Cheerleading team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than **six (6) dates** exclusive of the IHSA state series.

Rationale of Submitter:

1. The six contest rule is the standard by which all other teams in the state must compete to be permitted to enter the state series as a team.
2. Many conferences have added a conference championship at the end of the season before the state series. The current limitation of five effectively reduces the number to 4 contests over a 13 week season.

By-law 5.352 Currently Reads:

5.352 Contest Limitation – Competitive Dance

No Competitive Dance team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than five (5) meets exclusive of the IHSA state series.

Revise By-law 5.352 to Read:

No Competitive Dance team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than **six (6) dates** exclusive of the IHSA state series.

Rationale of Submitter:

1. The six contest rule is the standard by which all other teams in the state must compete to be permitted to enter the state series as a team.
2. Many conferences have added a conference championship at the end of the season before the state series. The current limitation of five effectively reduces the number to 4 contests over a 21 week season.

2013-14 – Proposal No. 16

Amend By-law – 5.343 Competitive Cheerleading Individual Limitation
Submitted by Dan Klett, Principal, Wauconda

5.340 COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING

By-law 5.343 Individual Limitation Currently Reads:

No individual shall be permitted to participate on a member school's Competitive Cheerleading team unless he/she is a rostered participant on the member school's winter (basketball) sideline cheerleading team.

Revise By-law 5.343 to Read:

- a. No individual shall be permitted to participate on a member school's Competitive Cheerleading team unless he/she is a rostered participant on the member school's winter (basketball) sideline cheerleading team.
- b. No member of a Competitive Cheer Team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate on more than 6 dates, exclusive of the IHSA series.**

Rationale of Submitter:

This clarifies that as a team or as an individual you are only limited to 6 competitive appearances, regardless if it's a JV or Varsity contest. (highlighted section would be consistent with by-law 5.342)

2013-14 – Proposal No. 20

Add By-law – 5.353 Competitive Dance Individual Limitation
Submitted by Dan Klett, Principal, Wauconda

5.350 COMPETITIVE DANCE

By-law 5.353 Individual Limitation

- a. No individual shall be permitted to participate on a member school's Competitive Dance team unless he/she is a rostered participant on the member school's winter (basketball) game day performance team.
- b. No member of a Competitive Dance Team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate on more than 6 dates, exclusive of the IHSA series.

Rationale of Submitter:

This clarifies that competitive dance team members must be rostered on a school sponsored performance team.

This clarifies that as a team or as an individual you are only limited to 6 competitive appearances, regardless if it is an individual, JV, or Varsity contest. (highlighted section would be consistent with by-law 5.352)