

**Advisory Committee Recommendations
February, 2013, Board Meeting
Consent Items**

Boys/Girls Cross Country

1. VII. A – Advancement of Winners

Recommendation: Advancement from regional to sectional:

In class 1A shall be the first seven (7) teams and five (5) individuals not members of the first seven 7 placing teams will advance to the sectional competition at the site to which they were assigned.

In classes 2A and 3A shall be the first six (6) teams and five (5) individuals not members of the first six (6) placing teams will advance to the sectional competition at the site to which they were assigned.

Rationale: There is an opinion by some that since the implementation of three classes in cross country that the regional level of competition has not been competitive. With some regional sites having only 8 or 9 schools assigned and in several instances only 5 actual teams competing, it takes very little to qualify on to the sectional level of the state series. However, this is not the situation across all classes nor is it true across the entire State. It is not logistically practical to eliminate the regional level of competition due to the lack of appropriate facilities required to conduct meets the size of IHSA sectional meets. One option could be to reduce the number of teams allowed to qualify from any regional meet from 7 teams to 6 teams. This option was seriously considered last year but no action was taken at that time as the committee preferred to wait and collect more data and consider the question again at this year's advisory meeting.

Boys/Girls Golf

1. Revise Section VIII. Tournament Rules B. Coaching

Recommendation: For the entire state series the head coach and the assistant coach will be allowed to coach between the green and tee. Coaches must however wait until the last player on the green putts out before the communication takes place. Coaches may not delay teeing off on the next hole. Verbal or non-verbal communication at any other time of the round is prohibited. Both the head coach and the assistant coach must meet the IHSA coaching by-laws and be listed on the schools list of participants.

Rationale: This will allow coaches more opportunity to be involved with their players. Also give coaches more authority to help with situations that occur on the course, such as requesting a ruling.

2. Revise VIII. Tournament Rules E. Observers 1

Recommendation: Schools are required to provide an observer at regional and sectional tournaments. Preference shall be given to assigning observers from among the representatives from schools with individual competitors for the Regional and Sectional tournaments. If a sufficient number of golf coaches are not available to serve as observers, the local manager may appoint adult spectators as observers.

Rationale: Allowing any adult to observe helps to continue to use observers at the regional and sectional levels. Committee asks that the IHSA provide further clarification in the manual for managers and in the rules video.

1. Revise: Girls- Section VIII. F. Warm-Up Time / Boys- Section VIII. D. Warm-Up Time

Recommendation: If a team arrives early, ball handling is permitted on the court prior to the timed warm ups. If both teams are present, each team shall be restricted to their side of the playing court. The warm-up time for each match shall be 2-6-6 with both teams sharing the first 2 minutes, the first 6 minutes will be the home team on the entire court, the second 6 minutes will be the visiting team on the entire court. When teams are off the court ball handling is allowed if space allows. If space is limited teams shall be restricted to ball handling behind the end line.

The team listed on the top of the bracket shall be the home team. The team listed on the bottom of the bracket shall be the visiting team.

Rationale: The committee heard feedback from the coaches that there was too much switching with last year's 2-3-3-3. By changing to the 2-6-6 this keeps the time the same but cuts down the number of switches and clock resets through the warm-up period.

2. Revise: Girls: VIII. Tournament Rules G. Assignment of Officials and Line Judges/ Boys: XI. Officials C. Line Judges

Recommendation: The R1 and R2 for all tournament series matches including the preliminary match will be assigned by the IHSA Office. Local Tournament Managers will provide two (2) line judges, scorer, libero tracker, and timer for each regional, sectional and super-sectional match. Line judges must be at least 18 years of age and may not be a member of a school's varsity girls' volleyball team. It is recommended that line judges are adults and wear white short sleeve polo shirts, dark slacks and black or white shoes and socks. Line judges **MAY** use flags.

Rationale: The committee heard feedback across the state asking for the opportunity to use flags. Flags will not be required for the school to purchase; officials can bring their own when working a state series match.

3. Add. Girls: VIII. H Add. Boys: VIII. F.

Recommendation: Teams shall stay on the same bench for the entire match and will play on the same side of the court for the entire match if you have a mirror image gym. If the gym is not mirror image teams shall continue to switch benches. (Mirror image meaning no advantage is gained by playing on one side or the other, to be determined by the host school prior to the match.)

Rationale: This will be a great benefit for host schools in terms of crowd control as well as avoiding rival teams passing each other in tight quarters after each game. If the playable area and overhead obstructions are essentially the same on either side of the net, no purpose is served in switching sides. Volleyball is one of the few sports where the team is not running up and down a court or field in front of both crowds, but is rather stationary in front of (at times rowdy) opposing fan sections. The Committee recommends an additional area on the facility survey for schools to predetermine if their gym is mirror image or not.

*If this does not pass for the terms and conditions, conferences would like the opportunity to test this on their own for the season.

4. Revise: Boys: VIII. E. Official Ball

Recommendation: In the state series a Red/ White/ Blue Baden Perfection Elite VX5EM volleyball with the NFHS logo. The host school will choose the ball for regular season match (white is still an option).

Rationale: Coaches around the state have wanted this for years and the committee feels it is time to approve it. Schools have been waiting for the IHSA to take an official stance color wise before using them for the regular season.

5. Revise: Girls: VIII. C. Official Ball

Recommendation: In the state series a Red/ White/ Blue Baden Perfection Elite VX5E volleyball with the NFHS logo. The host school will choose the ball for regular season match (white is still an option).

Rationale: Coaches around the state have wanted this for years and the committee feels it is time to approve it. Schools have been waiting for the IHSA to take an official stance color wise before using them for the regular season.

6. Add Girls- Section VIII. G. Warm-Up Time / Boys- Section VIII. E. Warm-Up Time

Recommendation: When taking the floor for a contest, teams should take the shortest path to their own side of the court and not run through the area occupied by the opposing team, where their opponents are warming up, or split into two lines and circle their opponents. Where possible, teams should only enter, jog, or warm-up on their own half of the court.

Rationale: The committee felt this would help the match start off on the right foot in terms of sportsmanship. This recommendation stems from a NFHS basketball point of emphasis.

**If approved this would require section VIII to be reordered in the Terms and Conditions

Boys/Girls Tennis

2. Recommendation: Article VI-B-1-b- State Final Time Schedule

All singles and doubles entries shall participate in the first round of competition beginning Thursday at 8:00 a.m.

Rationale: To allow more flexibility in scheduling for the tournament state final managers. This earlier time allowance can assist in handling weather and daylight issues. This was piloted this year at the girls state final and was received well by tournament management and coaches.

Boys Football

1. Item IX E. Selection Procedure: To Qualify:

Recommendation: The committee recommends an additional tie breaker prior to the blind draw for the remaining teams. This additional tie breaker would be: Consider the number of playoff teams that the tied teams played – determine the total defensive points allowed for the play-off teams and the team with the fewer total points allowed would receive the play-off bid. This would be letter f) of the tie-breaker and letter g) would become the blind draw for remaining teams.

Rationale: This additional tie-breaker should separate the remaining teams through a quantitative method versus deciding the play-off qualifying teams by a random draw.

Athletes with Disabilities

No recommendations at this time.

Sports Medicine

No recommendations at this time.

Sportsmanship

1. **Recommendation:** The committee recommends sending the DWR! Expectations to Royal Publishing to include in all regular and post season game programs.

Rationale: Royal Publishing has room in the program to include the DWR! Expectations. Including the 5 DWR! Expectations will help the continued effort to promote, communicate and educate fans across the state.

2. **Recommendation:** Rearrange the DWR! information on the IHSA website.

Rationale: In an effort to promote the DWR! Program, the committee would like to reorganize the information to be more prominently displayed and accessible for all users.

3. **Recommendation:** Reorganize the different type of benefits the conferences and individual schools will receive by participating in the DWR! Sportsmanship Program. See the modified attached letter.

Rationale: In an effort to promote the DWR! Program, the committee modified the structure of the program.

4. **Recommendation:** Allow schools or conferences to renew their DWR! Registration online by checking a box to re-register if there are no changes to the contact information or conference membership information.

Rationale: Creates an easy opportunity for school or conference administrators to renew their registration for the following school year.

5. **Recommendation:** Place a link to the DWR! page in the School Center on the Sport and Activity Tracker.

Rationale: Each season the DWR! box remains red until an Administrator from the member school clicks on the link to review the DWR! Expectations. The Administrator will also be able to confirm if their school or conference is registered.

6. **Recommendation:** Create a “logo” for DWR! registered individual schools to use on programs or advertisements during the school year.

Rationale: Increases awareness of the DWR! Program, stresses the importance of the Expectations and acknowledges the schools support of the DWR! Program on the local level.

7. **Recommendation:** Create a “logo” for DWR! registered conferences to use on programs or advertisements during the school year.

Rationale: Increases awareness of the DWR! Program, stresses the importance of the Expectations and acknowledges the conference support of the DWR! Program to their respective communities.

8. **Recommendation:** Create a “pre-printed” template press release for the banner-winning schools to send to their local papers, post on their website, etc.

Rationale: Increases awareness of the DWR! Program, stresses the importance of the Expectations and recognizes a school for a great job during the state finals. For example: The IHSA recognizes ___ High School as a proud participant of the DWR! Program on earning a DWR! Banner during the _____ State Finals. The team, fans and community exemplify the 5 DWR! Expectations.

Student Advisory

2. **Recommendation:** The committee recommends the SAC host another statewide Leadership Conference in September of 2013.

Rationale: Continue to offer member school students the opportunity to attend a statewide leadership conference conducted by the SAC.

Athletic Administrators

No recommendations at this time.

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