

## **Minutes of the 2011-12 Journalism Advisory Committee**

### **Thursday May 10, 2012**

The IHSA Journalism Advisory Committee was held at the IHSA Office in Bloomington on Thursday, May 10, 2012 beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were: State final managers - Sally Turner and James Tidwell - EIU; Advisory committee members, Division 3 – Matt Thomas, Minooka; Division 4 – Linda Howard, Galena; Division 5 – Tim Lee, Activities Director, Fithian (Oakwood); and Division 7 – Laurie Bielong, Belleville (West). Division 1 - Frances Tenbroeck, Chicago (Maria); Division 2 – Dr. Tina Cantrell, Principal, Arlington Heights (Hersey); and Division 6 – Stephen Steele, Taylorville were unable to attend. IHSA Asst. Executive Director Susie Knoblauch conducted the meeting.

#### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS**

##### **1. Item VIII-A – 2 – Broadcast News Writing**

**Recommendation:** Students will provide their own equipment to create an audio MP3 clip of a 75 second news broadcast with a minimum of two sound bites using live and written information received at a press conference. Students shall be judged on news value, news judgment and convergence.

**Rationale:** Advisers and judges concurred that the 90 second news clip was too long and not reflective of the industry standard. Changing the time to 75 seconds would mirror what they would encounter if they were working in the field. Also, this time adjustment would expedite the judging process.

**Approved By Consent**

#### **ITEMS OF DISCUSSION:**

1. The committee reviewed the sectional adviser meeting notes and heard updates regarding the sectional contests.
2. The committee reviewed and updated current competition categories, prompts and ranking sheets.
3. Discussed the process to increase participation in the IHSA Journalism State Series.
4. Discussed what the different sites provided for proctors and judges. The manual for managers will include specific supply information.
5. Reviewed concerns regarding judging. Discussed having the sectional managers send the judges the critique sheets before the contest so that they will know what to expect. Reviewed the types & amounts of feedback judges are providing students.
6. Discussed updating the sample prompts.
7. Discussed putting Advertising in the computer lab. The committee decided to leave this category as is and work on placing as many writing categories as possible in a word processing lab.
8. Discussed concerns regarding the number of computers needed at contest if all applicable categories were to utilize the computer labs.

9. Discussed providing students with an MP3 recording of the press conference for the Broadcasting Category after the press conference concludes. The committee felt that the burden on the sectional managers would not be justified. Students should still continue to bring their own equipment for the Broadcasting category.
10. Discussed adding numbers to the rubric and having judges quantify their scores. This format was used in the first year of the state series and was not recommended.
11. Discussed having the students who compete in the Sports Writing contest to have both live/video and written interview information and then write a story based on the materials. It was decided that this format will be piloted at state.
12. Discussed piloting Yearbook Caption Writing at state in the future.
13. Reviewed the use of recorders. The only category that allows recording devices is Broadcasting.
14. Reviewed the use of electric devices for AP style books & dictionary's. It was recommended to not allow e-readers, iPhones, etc... Students can use hardcopies of AP style books and dictionaries for those categories that allow their uses.
15. The committee reviewed the substitution process for participants in sectional and state.
16. The advisory committee confirmed that in the Photography category that students will use block A to take photos and block B to edit. Role will be taken at the start of Block B. If students arrive late to block B they need to be sent to tournament management.
17. It was recommended to have a sectional managers meeting at the IHSA office to review the protocol and procedures for the IHSA journalism sectional.
18. Discussed working with yearbook companies regarding sessions, ads & reaching out to their customers that are not entered into IHSA contest.
19. Discussed the use of Illustrator in the Info graphics category and revised the prompt to reflect the three programs that may be used pending availability.
20. Updated the committee that the IHSA will recognize Sally Turner and James Tidwell as IHSA Distinguished Service Award Winners for 2012.
21. Advisory Committee agreed to allow Yearbook Design to incorporate color. Students will have the option of using color as well as black and white photos. Photos would be provided in color and students could change them to B & W if they chose. The committee's rationale is that students do not design for B & W yearbooks anymore and a number of design skills are enhanced by use of color. If the sectional/state final venue does not have a color printer, the designs could be judged on screen and saved to a flash drive.
22. The committee acknowledged the service of outgoing advisory committee member Linda Howard and Frances Tenbroeck. New committee members will be Patrick Levin, Chicago (Taft) and Brittany Glidden, Rockford (East).
23. The next meeting will be held on May 9, 2013.