

MINUTES OF THE IHSA BOYS AND GIRLS GOLF ADVISORY COMMITTEE

December 4, 2013

The IHSA Boys and Girls Golf Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, Bloomington, Illinois, on Wednesday, December 4, 2013, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were: Tom Martindale, Boys Coach, Mt. Prospect (Prospect); Tom Noonan, Boys/Girls Coach, Decatur (St. Teresa); Bradley Nichols, Boys Coach, Henry (H.-Senachwine); Doug Spear, Athletic Director, Mt. Carmel; and Janice Wilson, Girls Coach, Chicago (Latin). IHSA Associate Executive Director Kurt Gibson and Assistant Executive Director Stacey Lambert; and invited guests, Kurt Rogers, Andy Potts and Ben Irwin, Girls State Final Managers; Laura Provost, Boys' Class 2A State Final Manager; and Julie Cochran, IESA were also in attendance. Robert Smith, Jr., Principal, Plainfield (Central) and Jake Stapleton, Girls Coach, Springfield (H.S.) were absent from the meeting.

Terms and Conditions Recommendations:

1. V. Tournament Assignments - new B through D

Recommendation:

B. Team Seeding: All member schools entered in the golf state series will be assigned directly to one of four sectional complexes. The sectional complex will utilize true seeds unless conflicts arise from the seeds of the pre-determined hosts. The regionals will utilize true seeds for the determining their regional assignments.

C. Seed Meetings: All seeding meetings shall be conducted on-line through the IHSA School Center. Schools competing in the state series whose teams are assigned to a sectional complex shall seed the teams in their sectional. Information regarding the on-line seeding process will be made available to participating schools in the IHSA Golf Manual for Schools.

D. Season Summary Sheet: Schools entered into the state series will be required to submit a Season Summary Sheet on-line in the IHSA School Center. Failure to do so by the required date and time will result in a school forfeiting its opportunity to participate in the seeding process. The Season Summary Sheet can be found in the IHSA School center. Season Summary Sheet is open to coaches by Monday of week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar and will close by 10:00 am on Wednesday of week 11 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar. All Season Summary Sheets will be available to coaches to view and seed teams in their sectional complex by 11:00 am on Wednesday of week 11 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar to 12:01 pm on Thursday of week 11 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

(NOTE: In 2014, Monday of week 8 is August 25, 2014; Wednesday of week 11 is September 17, 2014; and Thursday of week 11 is September 18, 2014.)

Rationale: The IHSA currently holds 26 state series (13 for the boys and 13 for the girls). At present time, 21 of those events are seeded or have a state qualifier time or score. Here is a list of those 21: football, volleyball, soccer, tennis, swimming, basketball, wrestling, gymnastics, baseball, softball, badminton, water polo (some of these are both genders). In 11 of these sports we have coaches seeding the IHSA state series. This clearly shows the IHSA believes coaches are professional and responsible in the seeding process. In order to participate, all teams must enter an average score. At the present time, the IHSA does gather data from each school participating of each player's average score. This data can be used to seed the event. Currently in boys' and girls' golf there are a variety of tournaments held each weekend where coaches are seeing numerous teams playing the same golf course where this would allow coaches to gather more data to fairly seed every team. Seeding the tournament would provide a balance to the tournaments. Currently, there is not a balance of teams assigned in certain areas of the state. The current structure does not provide an even playing field. There are

clearly areas in the boys' two 3A North regionals and sectionals and in the 2A North girls' regionals and sectionals overloaded with top teams. There have been a number of complaints from coaches in past years about the IHSA and the geographical regionals and sectionals in the boys' 3A north areas and girls' 2A north areas. We currently have 21 of the 26 sports seeded or a qualifying time for kids to advance to the state series. If this is seeded, 23 of 26 events will then be seeded or a qualifying time. (Rationale provided by submitter.)

Died for lack of motion

2. VIII. Tournament Rules B. Coaching

Recommendation: For the entire state series, the head coach and one assistant coach will be allowed to coach anywhere on the course except the putting green. Coaches must, however, wait until the last player on the green putts out before communication takes place on the next hole. Coaches must not delay teeing off on the next hole. Both the head coach and the assistant coach must meet the IHSA coaching by-laws and be listed on the school's *List of Participants*.

Rationale: The committee believes this will help improve pace of play, as coaches can encourage players to speed up their play. The committee also believes this is continuation in the evolution of letting coaches coach in golf. The NCAA utilizes a similar approach, and the committee's feeling is that by allowing coaches to be more involved during the state series, players will end up having a better experience.

Approved

3. VIII. Tournament Rules O. Measuring Devices

Recommendation: Players or coaches may use USGA-approved measuring devices during state series competition. Players or coaches may share distance information with competitors if they wish to do so.

Rationale: This allows for a natural progression to let coaches who can coach at any time to share this information with his/her players and/or others. It's likely that coaches will have a device they will carry around with them, and it makes sense to allow them to use such devices just like players.

Approved

4. VIII. Tournament Rules E. Observers

Recommendation: Eliminate this section

Rationale: The committee believes that the requirement to find these volunteers has become too burdensome for managers and costly for schools that have been forced to send another staff member to a state series event who may or may not know anything about golf. Additionally, given the recommendation that coaches may now coach at virtually any point and time during an interscholastic event, the need for observers is no longer necessary. The committee does not believe this will hamper the integrity of these events.

Approved

Items of General Discussion:

1. The committee reviewed the minutes from the 2012 meeting.
2. The committee heard reports from the girls' state finals managers and the boys' class 2A state final manager Laura Provost on the recently-completed state finals. It was discussed that it may be helpful to post a message on the boys' and girls' golf pages to let people know that carts are not available at the state finals and to directly email the qualifying schools the policy as well so they can relay that information to fans.
3. The committee discussed the need to include language in the manager's manual to remind starters to check measuring devices to make sure they are legal.
4. The committee discussed a proposal to add a separate team component to the boys' and girls' state series the weekend after the current state finals. Some concern was expressed about the proposal concerning the additional missed school time for players and the added costs to competing schools. No recommendation was made at this time.
5. The committee discussed a proposal to advance all individuals to the next level of competition in the state series who tie for the last qualifying spot at both the regional and sectional tournaments. No recommendation was made at this time.
6. The committee discussed the use of and need for observers at regional and sectional tournaments. The committee made a recommendation to eliminate their use.
7. The committee discussed having state series managers set up checkpoints during regional and sectional tournaments to help monitor scoring during play.
8. The committee discussed the dates on which sectional tournaments can be held, and the challenges schools sometimes face when these events are not held on Saturday.
9. The committee discussed the process for assigning schools to state series sites. It was discussed that if the assignment maps could be posted on the IHSA website, it might help individuals better understand the process.
10. The committee discussed the possibility of developing a post-tournament survey for coaches to provide feedback for regional and sectional sites. Committee member Tom Martindale agreed to provide a list of questions that can be used to develop said survey that will be distributed next year. The feedback provided will only be used internally by the IHSA in reviewing host sites.
11. The committee discussed clarifying the number of players that teams can bring to the state final practice round. The sense of the committee was that it seems reasonable to allow qualifying teams to bring up to two alternates.
12. The committee discussed the possibility of using multiple tees for the state final practice round. No recommendation was made at this time.
13. The committee heard a report from IESA Assistant Executive Director Julie Cochran about the growing golf program in IESA member schools. 72 schools participated this year. This year, IESA will be conducting qualifying events prior to the state finals.
14. The committee thanked out-going members Tom Noonan and Janice Wilson for their service to the committee.