

## **MINUTES OF THE IHSA CLASSIFICATION AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING**

**January 23, 2018**

The IHSA Classification Ad Hoc Committee met at the IHSA office in Bloomington, Illinois on Tuesday, January 23, 2018, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were: Nick Browder, Olympia Fields (Rich Central); Tim Chandler, Burbank (St. Laurence); Mike Cooper, Ottawa (Twp.); Alex Fox, Edwardsville (H.S.); Doug Furlow, Williamsville; Dorothy Gaters, Chicago (Marshall); Jennifer Heartling, Steeleville; Victor Iturralde, Chicago (Solorio Academy); Victoria McDonald, Robinson; Becky Moran, Summit (Argo); Eric Orne, Quincy (Notre Dame); Todd Rogers, Carterville; Chris Rozanski, Rockford (Boylan Catholic); Dan Tully, Niles (Notre Dame); Andy Turner, Park Ridge (Maine South); and Todd Vohland, Decatur (St. Teresa). Also present were Executive Director Craig Anderson, Associate Executive Director Kurt Gibson, Assistant Executive Director Scott Johnson, and Assistant Executive Director Sam Knox

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

None.

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

1. The committee was welcomed to the meeting and thanked in advance for their service to the association in regards to the committee's charge by IHSA Executive Director Craig Anderson.
2. The committee reviewed the minutes from their January 9, 2018, online meeting.
3. The committee established February 20 and March 20 as their next meeting dates. The February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting will be an online meeting and focus on the waiver process and success factor, and the March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting will then review all discussions to that point and determine what the committee's "next steps" will be.
4. The committee heard a report from IHSA staff that provided a review of the work from the last Classification Ad-Hoc Committee.
5. The committee discussed classification concepts in and possible models for 4-class sports. During this discussion, the committee reviewed the current classification policy outlined in the IHSA Handbook and examined two other approaches provided by IHSA staff. In one approach, the median IHSA enrollment figure is used to split all schools into one of two groups. Each group is then sub-divided into equal smaller groups. This second separation then establishes cut-off numbers for all 4-class sports, enabling schools to be in the same class in all 4-class sports (unless adjusted due to a waiver or the Success Factor). While not exact, this approach models current policy. In the other model, the largest 128 schools in a given 4-class state series are grouped together into Class 4A, the next largest 128 schools are grouped into Class 3A, and the remaining schools are split evenly into Class 1A and 2A. This approach would be based on the number of schools entered into each state series, so the enrollment cut-

offs would vary by sport in this approach. In general, while discussing classification, the committee seemed to recognize that there is a large gap from the smallest Class 3A school to the largest and that being in the same class in 4-class sports is not necessary.

6. The committee discussed classification concepts in and possible ideas for 3-class sports. The committee shared with IHSA staff a series of correspondences they have received and discussed possible approaches to classification they will consider at future meetings. To assist with that discussion, the committee asked IHSA staff to review wrestling brackets from the past few seasons to see how many brackets were not filled at the regional level.
7. The committee began a discussion on the Waiver Process to the 1.65 multiplier and the Success Factor. In its discussion, the committee learned how the 1.65 multiplier, the Waiver Process, and Success Factor originated and have evolved over the years. The committee shared various viewpoints on each and agreed to address some specific proposals that have been submitted by member schools at their February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. The committee also asked IHSA to put together some data on trophies won and state finals appearances by all school types at state tournaments since the advent of the multiplier.