

**MINUTES OF THE IHSA FOOTBALL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**December 10, 2014**

The IHSA Football Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, Bloomington, Illinois, on Wednesday, December 10, 2014, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were Matt Walsh, Chicago (Taft); Mike Noll, Glenview (Glenbrook South); Matt Fisher, Wheaton (North); Nat Zunkel, Aledo (Mercer County); Dick Duval, St. Joseph (S.J.-Ogden); Dennis Canny, Rochester; Scott Battas, Mascoutah; Robert Ybarra, Official-Montgomery; Kayode Adegoke, IHSA Coordinator of Special Programs; and Assistant Executive Director Craig Anderson.

The Minutes of the December 4, 2013 meeting were accepted.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**1. IX. Tournament Policies i. Bands:**

**Recommendation:** No extra-curricular music including bands should be played after the ready for play whistle by the game official.

**Rational:** The committee believes that a more specific indication by a game official as to the stoppage of music/band playing will help establish strict parameters for all involved.

Approved

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION:**

- Recommendation:** The committee recommends the allowance of up to five (5) sideline personnel from each team to the press box as spotters at the IHSA State Final Contest.

**Rational:** The committee believes that the state final boxes allow for this many spotters and current practice of football teams is to have more than the current limitation of three (3) spotters to the press box.

- Recommendation:** The committee recommends the IHSA allow schools to indicate which Wilson football they will be using during a given season and to receive that ball as their complimentary football from the IHSA each round of the football play-offs.

**Rational:** The committee understood this to be a practice that was done in the past and benefits those schools that are not using the current model provided to all schools.

## **ITEMS OF DISCUSSION:**

1. The committee discussed the current by-law proposal regarding football. The following discussion points were noted regarding the current proposal: There is a great deal of difficulty of implementing a system like the regional assignments in the CPS. There is concern with the Southwest Conference Schools and their regular season travel. There is concern with the underclass games and travel to play those games. The committee sees the benefits of regional assignment of regular season games helping those schools that are finding it difficult to maintain conference membership and locating non-conference games within a reasonable travel distance. The committee has mixed opinions regarding the proposal.
2. The committee discussed the implementation of new playing rules such as targeting and adjustments to the free kick alignments. The committee discussed elimination of the free blocking zone as a rules change for high school football.
3. The committee reviewed the length of games increasing and different factors that might decrease the length of games including a possible rules change with winding the clock on the ready for play when a ball is run out of bounds.
4. The committee discussed the current sideline passes limitation provided to schools at the state finals. The committee determined the current allowances are sufficient for teams qualifying for the state finals.
5. The committee discussed the host school of a play-off contest establishing a play-off game location and changing that site for unforeseen circumstances.
6. The committee discussed the NFHS July 2014 Concussion Summit Task Force paper. The committee understands the need to address quarter limitations for high school players. The committee at this time recommends an 8 quarter per week limitation for high school players. The committee recommends the following definition for playing in a quarter: Participating in any live ball play during a specific quarter constitutes playing in that quarter.
7. The committee discussed the full contact practice limitations and would like the opportunity to visit with the sports medicine advisory committee on this topic.
8. The committee was updated on the progress of the ad-hoc committee reviewing Policy 18. Currently the ad-hoc committee has an agreement to recommend seeding each football bracket into two halves (1 – 16) and not forming quadrants dependent upon travel. The committee heard about possible revision of this recommendation to allow for seeding (1 – 32) in classes 7A and 8A.
9. The committee recognized outgoing committee members Scott Battas, Mascoutah; Mike Noll, Glenview (Glenbrook South); and Matt Walsh, Chicago (Taft).

**10.** Meeting was adjourned at 11:56pm.