

BOYS/GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

April 12, 2017

The IHSA Swimming/Diving Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, Bloomington, Illinois on Wednesday, April 12, 2017, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee Members present were: Joe Plack, Official, Deerfield; Nick Parry, Coach, West Chicago H.S.; Pat Shaughnessy, Coach, Frankfort (Lincoln-Way Central); Andy Parro, Coach, Chicago (Whitney Young); Will Barker, Coach, Champaign (Central); Ray Vanhootehem, Coach, Galesburg (H.S.); Brad Bevis, Athletic Director, Edwardsville (H.S.); Others in attendance, Kraig Garber, IHSA Asst. Executive Director; Augie Fontanetta, Athletic Director, Winnetka (New Trier); Chris Livatino, Athletic Director, Evanston Twp. H.S.; Mike Hutton, Coordinator of Officials, Lake In The Hills.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Item VII-B – State Swim Qualifying Standards

Recommendation: To adopt the following qualifying standards. Sectional Qualifying Standards for the Boys' and Girls' State Finals will be determined in the following manner. The Qualifying Standards for each individual swimming event will be calculated by determining the 30th place time from all sectionals. That time will then be used to obtain an average of the last FIVE years' average times in each event. In relay events the same process will be implemented but the 24th sectional place time will be used to make the calculations. Any time calculated to be slower than the existing qualifying time would not be used in that event. The existing time would remain. Using this process, the proposed qualifying standards for the 17-18 seasons are:

BOYS STANDARDS 2018

200 Medley Relay	1:37.29
200 Free	1:44.32
200 IM	1:57.77
50 Free	:21.86 (Existing Time)
100 Butterfly	:52.33
100 Free	:47.72 (Existing Time)
500 Free	4:44.73
200 Free Relay	1:27.71
100 Back	:53.32
100 Breast	:59.80
400 Free Relay	3:12.86

GIRLS STANDARDS 2017

200 Medley Relay	1:48.58
200 Free	1:55.10 (Existing Time)
200 IM	2:09.59
50 Free	:24.39
100 Butterfly	:58.18
100 Free	:53.03
500 Free	5:09.63
200 Free Relay	1:38.23
100 Back	:58.69
100 Breast	1:06.76
400 Free Relay	3:35.52

Rationale: The advisory committee feels that we are on the right track by using this system. We will use the five-year average. Other associations and swim organizations use a method similar to the objective method proposed in this system. Using an objective system should be easier to use, easier to defend and provides fair standards for competitors. If necessary in the future, the system is adjustable by using a different average sectional time or a different average (i.e. 4 years). The Assistant Executive Director working with the swimming and diving advisory committee has reserved the right to make changes if it is obvious that this would be necessary in order to protect the integrity of the meet. Any time calculated to be slower than the existing qualifying time would not be used in that event. The existing time would remain.

Motion passed 7-0

Approved by Board

2. **Item VI-B – State Time Schedule**

Recommendation: To move up the start time of the State Finals on Saturday from 12:00p.m. to 11:00a.m. As a result, warm-ups for divers and swimmers will also be adjusted up one hour to provide participants with the same amount of warm-up time. Meet management will review the current spectator and public access times and adjust those times as necessary.

Rationale: The advisory committee feels that there is enough flexibility in the schedule to move Saturday's finals up. Although 11:00a.m. is not considered an early start, it was commented that swimmers and divers are accustomed to early starts due to regular season competition and practice routines, therefore, this will not be a detriment to swimmers and divers. Moving Friday's preliminary times up was also discussed, but there are some limitations that would make this more difficult.

Motion passed 7-0

Approved by Board

ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION

1. Expansion of Athletes with Disabilities

Discussed with no action. Currently in the Athletes with Disabilities Division, it is broken into two Classifications (A & B). Swimmers who are formally classified as S1-S7 per WASUSA standards participate in Classification A, and swimmers who are formally classified as S8-S13 participate in Classification B. Both Classifications are limited to athletes with physical disabilities. The Advisory Committee discussed the possibility of offering a Classification C for those athletes who have intellectual disabilities. This would pertain to those athletes who are classified as S14. The committee determined that more research needed to be done before moving this idea forward.

2. State Final Site Change Proposals

Discussed with no action. There was discussion about a proposal to change the location of the State Finals to the University of Illinois Chicago beginning with the Boys State Finals in 2018. There was also discussion about the potential for changing the location of the State Finals pending the construction of a new natatorium in Oak Brook. Pros and cons for both were discussed. The Advisory Committee felt that the IHSA should continue to investigate options, but they agreed that next year would be too soon to make such a change.

3. Electronic Sectional Seeding Meetings

Discussed with no action. Member of the Advisory Committee agreed that the Term and Condition VIII-F should be emphasized for the electronic seeding meeting process. VIII-F states that only coaches who are entering divers into the State Series can vote for diving coaches to serve on the Sectional Diving Panel.

4. Why do coaches have to wait until 8:00p.m. for heat sheets to be sent during the electronic seeding meeting?

Discussed with no action. The Advisory Committee felt that this was reasonable and that the managers had the option to release the heat sheets earlier if they are prepared to do so.

5. **Allow swimmers to qualify with a time at a sanctioned IHSA meet at any point during the high school season.**
Discussed with no action. There was some interest with this on the committee because it would provide athletes with multiple opportunities to advance to the state meet. The committee also discussed circumstances that brought concerns with this proposal.
6. **Make the sectional diving competition a regional completion. 5 regions, top 10 in each region qualify.**
Discussed with no action. This would not be in compliance with NFHS Rules 5-1-1 and 5-1-3.
7. **Change the format for the sectional meet for diving. If the sectional meets remain as they are, allow all divers to complete the event. If needed, the start time for sectionals can move up to 8:30 to allow for the additional dives.**
Discussed with no action. This would not be in compliance with NFHS Rules 9-4-4 and 9-4-5.
8. **Change the format of the state diving competition. Currently 48 divers compete 5 dives, 16 compete 8, and we have the finalists. In no other sport does an individual do part of their event to advance to finals. Start the diving competition Thursday evening of the state meet. All 48 divers do 5 dives. Make a cut to 24 divers. Those 24 come back Friday morning to complete their lists. The top 12 divers after the event come back Saturday for finals and compete a 6-dive list with one required not to exceed 1.8 DD and 5 optionals, 1 from each category.**
Discussed with no action. This would not be in compliance with NFHS Rules 9-4-4 and 9-4-5.
9. **The Advisory Committee would like to see the expansion of the finals session to include the Top 18. This would increase the number of student athletes from 12 to 18 contestants for all individual and relay events. The Top 18 format would allow the IHSA to see an expansion of placing and team scoring. We will see an increase in the number of schools and student athletes that will have the opportunity to participate in the IHSA finals.**
Discussed with no action. With our current State Final facilities, this proposal would not be in compliance with NFHS Rule 5-4-2 because it would require a third heat in the finals. Rule 5-4-2 only allows for a consolation championship heat and a championship heat at championship meets. Therefore, in a six-lane pool, twelve place scoring is the maximum. For eighteen place scoring, the rule would require that the pool have a minimum of nine lanes.
10. **Current Rule**
D. In accordance with Rule 3-2-1, an individual contestant shall be permitted to enter a maximum of four events, no more than two of which may be individual events. Being designated as a member of a relay team does not count as an entry unless the competitor actually competes in the event. Note: In regard to contestant limitations, the Sectional and State Final meet.
Proposal
D. In accordance with Rule 3-2-1, an individual contestant shall be permitted to be listed in a maximum of five events, no more than two of which may be individual events. Being designated as a member of a relay team does not count as an entry unless the competitor actually competes in the event. Note: In regard to contestant limitations, the Sectional and State Final meets shall be considered to be separate meets.
Discussed with no action.

11. Proposal 1

I would like to see all coaches removed from the diving panel at the sectional sites. The meet that we were located (as most are) have panels that do not judge diving on a fair and practical manner. I understand we are limited on officials but it is time we make a move to get coaches out of the judging and place this in the hands of officials who are not biased towards athletes.

Proposal 2

Judging - all IHSA events (sectionals and state) will be judged by IHSA officials. No coaches judge.

IHSA events - 5 IHSA officials judge each sectional. More (7 or 9) judge the state. If not enough judges are available for the sectionals, then the sectionals are staggered. With 16 sectionals, that means 5 can be judged on Thurs, 5 on Fri. and 6 on Sat. The diving is already separate than the swimming so it's not a big change that a diving sectional can be on a different day than the swimming sectional.

Discussed with no action.

12. There should be two meet referees for the diving event at the state meet, one for each side of the pool.

Discussed with no action.

13. At a minimum, return coaches to the judging chairs at the state meet. Go back to at least 7 coaches and 7 officials. It was deemed that moving to all officials was the way to go, but this has caused a lot of problems with the scoring of the meet.

Discussed with no action.

14. Is there any talk about safety and head neck and back injuries with the starting depth of NT? While I understand we are limited with the facilities that are being used. Would there be any consideration on a requirement of a deep end starting block requirement.

Discussed with no action. Facility is in compliance with NFHS Rule 2-3-1.

15. I think in the respect of equal opportunity to host a sectional meet all sites should have large starting blocks. We have a few facilities that have 18 inch starting blocks. In today's swimming world it is a direct disadvantage to have sites that do not provide swimmers the same starting platforms with depth of the blocks.

Discussed with no action.

16. Add synchronized diving to the state meet.

Discussed with no action. Synchronized diving is not an NFHS Swimming and Diving event.

17. Diving at the state and sectional meets should be run on computer programs made specifically for diving.

Discussed with no action. It was discussed that this will be a likely change down the road, and that meet management will continue to look at options and adopt when ready.

18. Allow diving coaches to rate officials on the basis of diving only. Use these ratings to select the officials that have volunteered to judge the state meet.

Discussed with no action. The possibility of this option will be discussed and explored with IHSA Technology and Officials Administrators.

- 19. Review and revise the educational diving video presented by Mike Hutton for coaches and officials to watch that are interested in judging sectionals or state.**
Discussed with no action. The videos are reviewed and revised by the Swimming and Diving Rules Interpreters every year.
- 20. Make all diving coaches watch video so they will be eligible to judge at sectionals; otherwise they are not watching it, so they can coach and not be a judge. So, if they do not watch the video then their divers can't dive.**
Discussed with no action.
- 21. Make sure meet information and deadlines are the same in print and on PDF as in emails and online.**
Discussed with no action.
- 22. Add the use of the back stroke start bands that go into the water so that the feet do not slip at the sectionals and state meet.**
Discussed with no action. NFHS won't permit the use of the backstroke ledge because there is not enough research to support that it is safe. The NFHS is currently conducting research on its use.
- 23. Use Block Reaction Pads and Video Equipment to Assist with Relay False Starts.**
Discussed with no action. Block reaction pads are permitted per NFHS Rules. State Final Hosts either don't have the equipment or don't have equipment that is currently functioning. The use of video equipment for official review is not permitted per NFHS Rule 4-1-6.
- 24. Allow Coaches to Review Watch Times & Back-up Button Times Upon Request**
Discussed with no action. The committee agreed that the process for a coach to ask the Meet Referee to check and report back a watch or back up button time is sufficient.
- 25. Clarification for Swimming in Club Meets during the High School Season**
Discussed with no action. Craig Garber clarified that IHSA By-law 3.101 does not permit for high school athletes to practice or compete on or with non-school teams in that sport while it is in season. However, up to 3 times per season, an athlete's school can request from the IHSA to allow an athlete to compete in a non-school event as an unattached individual if it is sanctioned by USA Swimming or its Illinois affiliate. The school's request is made through the non-school participation request form that can be found on the IHSA website. In addition, an athlete may compete and practice with a non-school team for up to seven days after his/her school conducts its first swimming and diving tryout or practice (with any number of athletes at any level of their program) of the season. After the seventh day, all practice and competition with the non-school team must cease until the high school swimming and diving season has ended.