

2018-19 Proposal #1

Amend By-law 1.240 – Districts Supporting Ten or More High Schools

Submitted by: Peter Groom, Principal – Oak Park (Fenwick) and Robert Nolting, Principal – Tinley Park (Andrew)

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Modifies some of the special provisions for school districts supporting ten or more high schools.
- Requires that the IHSA Executive Director make all eligibility decisions involving students transferring into the district from a school outside the district's jurisdiction.
- Removes a membership fee and application requirement that is now obsolete.

Rationale of Submitter

With respect to the bylaw, the ability for large districts, specifically CPS, to handle issues of transfer, residency, and eligibility is valued. As an exceptionally large district, to shift the responsibilities of oversight to the IHSA is challenging to manage without significant increase in staffing levels and other costs to the membership. However, with interactions, specifically transfers, that involve CPS school and non-CPS schools deserve the oversight of the IHSA office - particularly in light of potential discrepancies that may arise from time to time.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Amend By-Law 1.240:

Public high schools in districts supporting ten or more high schools all under the supervision of a single Board of Education may become members of this Association provided:

- (a) the district has a separate and efficient local interscholastic organization for the adequate supervision of its interscholastic activities;
- (b) the school is Recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education;
- (c) the eligibility rules and conditions of competition for the district have been approved by the Board of Directors of this Association prior to September 1 each year; **and**
- ~~(d) the local organization pays, as a membership fee, an amount equal to a sum of \$10 per school for all schools in the district, payment to be made on or before June 1 preceding the year for which payment is due; and~~
- (e) (d) application for membership is signed by the official representative of the individual high schools.**

Schools admitted under this Section, in their interscholastic relationships with each other, shall be governed by the eligibility rules and conditions of competition approved by the Board of Directors of this Association. However, in all interscholastic relationships with any school ~~located~~ outside of its jurisdiction, they must conform to all ~~of~~ the rules and regulations of the Illinois High School Association.

Notwithstanding other provisions of this by-law, the Executive Director of the IHSA shall make all eligibility determinations on students transferring into the district from schools outside the jurisdiction of the district.

2018-19 Proposal #2**Eliminate By-law 1.240 – Districts Supporting Ten or More High Schools****Submitted by: Jon Baffico, Principal – Chicago (St. Patrick)****Summary of Proposed Changes**

- Removes from the IHSA Constitution all special provisions for school districts supporting ten or more high schools.
- As a consequence, requires that the IHSA Executive Director make all eligibility decisions involving students transferring to or from schools in the district's jurisdiction, including all transfers between district schools.

Rationale of Submitter:

As stated, the current by-law was instituted to support schools with ten or more high schools. In short, this by-law supports high schools within the Chicago Public School system. It gives the autonomy to the Chicago Public Schools to oversee and implement eligibility rules as approved and appropriate per their elected Board of Directors. This by-law does not support the governance of these schools by the IHSA and thus the ability to govern their own eligibility rulings. The by-law should be eliminated to support the universal governance and specifically filter the eligibility rulings through one governing body that which is the IHSA.

Pros:

- Support the universal governance and specifically filters eligibility rulings through one governing body that which is the IHSA.

Cons:

- Increases the number of eligibility rulings for the IHSA to oversee and rule on.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes**Eliminate By-Law 1.240:**~~**1.240—DISTRICTS SUPPORTING TEN OR MORE HIGH SCHOOLS**~~

~~Public high schools in districts supporting ten or more high schools all under the supervision of a single Board of Education may become members of this Association provided:~~

- ~~(a) the district has a separate and efficient local interscholastic organization for the adequate supervision of its interscholastic activities;~~
- ~~(b) the school is Recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education;~~
- ~~(c) the eligibility rules and conditions of competition for the district have been approved by the Board of Directors of this Association prior to September 1 each year;~~
- ~~(d) the local organization pays, as a membership fee, an amount equal to a sum of \$10 per school for all schools in the district, payment to be made on or before June 1 preceding the year for which payment is due; and~~
- ~~(e) application for membership is signed by the official representative of the individual high schools.~~

~~Schools admitted under this Section, in their interscholastic relationships with each other, shall be governed by the eligibility rules and conditions of competition approved by the Board of Directors of this Association. However, in all interscholastic relationships with any school located outside of the district, they must conform to all of the rules and regulations of the Illinois High School Association.~~

2018-19 Proposal #3**Amend By-law 2.030 Cooperative Team Sponsorship****Submitted by: Larry Daly, Principal – Decatur (St. Teresa)****Summary of Proposed Changes**

- Allows more private schools to participate in cooperative teams by increasing the enrollment limitation from 200 students to 500 students.

Rationale of Submitter:

The conference and the IHSA Board of Directors must approve all cooperative teams. These safeguards should prevent any schools from creating “super teams” that may dominate a given sport. The Cooperative Team By-law currently gives public school kids the opportunity to participate in sports they may not normally be able to participate in because of facility or enrollment restrictions. This by-law proposal gives that same opportunity to private school kids. As private schools, we are confident that the Board of Directors will prevent any situation in which the integrity of a sport is at risk due to teams forming coops. Currently, there are a lot of private schools that do not have the opportunity for kids to play certain sports due to enrollment or facility restrictions. These sports are Tennis, Golf, Cross Country, Soccer, Volleyball, Wrestling, Softball, and Baseball. These sports pertain to class 1A and 2A in a 3 or 4 Class system. The six criterion listed in letter (g) are the safeguards that public schools count on concerning the need of any Cooperative Team Sponsorship whether public or private. These Cooperative Teams must re-submit their approved operation every two years. The growing enrollment declines that affect both public and private schools prevent our schools from participating in Team sports. It is fair and appropriate to treat private school students as the IHSA treats public school students. This Cooperative Team Sponsorship By-Law is designed for the benefit of all students as stated in the IHSA Mission Statement.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes**Revise By-law 2.030 to Read:**

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to approve the formation of cooperative athletic teams or activity programs by two or more member schools under the following conditions:

- (a) The schools are located in the same geographical area;
- (b) All schools participating in the cooperative are Class A (in a 2-class system) or Class 1A or 2A (in a 3 or 4-class system) schools according to the IHSA Classification System; or, in the event one or more of the cooperating schools is a Class 3A or 4A public school, the cooperative team is for a sport other than Boys Football or Boys or Girls Basketball; In the event one or more of the schools involved in the cooperative is a public non-boundary school, that school’s actual enrollment, not the multiplied enrollment is used to determine the eligibility of the cooperative team request.
- (c) Only private schools with non-multiplied enrollments of ~~200~~ **500** or less are eligible to form cooperative teams.
- (d) The combined enrollments of all schools involved in the cooperative team, calculated according to the IHSA Classification System, is utilized to determine the classification for the cooperative team;
- (e) The cooperative sponsorship agreement is established for a period of two consecutive school years;
- (f) The governing boards of all schools participating in the cooperative team agreement jointly make the application to the IHSA Board of Directors for approval of the cooperative team agreement;
- (g) The joint application includes:
 - (1) Written approval from the conference(s) of which the cooperating schools are members, and/or in which the cooperative team will participate, or, in the event the cooperative team will not be

- affiliated with a conference, written approval from a minimum of seven schools included in the cooperative team's schedule of competition;
- (2) A statement signed by the principals of all cooperating schools designating the name under which the cooperative team will compete;
 - (3) A report of the number of students from each of the cooperative schools expected to participate on the cooperative team;
 - (4) A report of the number of students, if any, from each of the cooperating schools who have been participating in the sport involved, in programs offered on a non-cooperative basis by their own schools;
 - (5) A statement expressing the reasons for the formation of a cooperative team;
 - (6) Written assurance that the cooperative team will not limit participation opportunities for students in any of the cooperating schools.

When a cooperative team completes two years of approved operation and the boards of education involved wish to renew the agreement for another two-year period, the involved school(s) shall submit to the IHSA, by the established date, notification that they wish to continue the cooperative with no changes and written approval from the conference.

2018-19 Proposal #4**Amend By-law 3.115 Coaching School Participation****Submitted by: Mike Zunica, Principal – Chicago (St. Rita)****Summary of Proposed Changes**

- Allowing coaches to work individually with their players earlier than the current by-law in their particular sport.
- Workouts would begin on July 1 (fall sports), October 1 (winter sports), and January 1 (spring sports).
- Workouts would be limited to two hours per week in groups no larger than 60% of what is required to field a team.

Rationale of Submitter:

- To put our kids in a better environment and eliminate undue influence from personal trainers or agents who have no training or background check and have ulterior motives (financial compensation).
- High school coaches would have more time to work out kids, similar to the 25 days in the summer. This training would be optional.
- Starting the workouts later in the year after the preceding sports season was in full swing would discourage specialization and single sport athletes.
- Workouts would be limited to individual skills development.
- Lower level coaches would benefit and grow as they work with varsity players and share in their development.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes**Add By-law 3.115**

A person who is a coach at any member school may give skill instruction to currently enrolled students provided that:

- During any session, the coach provides instruction to no more than 60 percent of the number of players needed to field a team in IHSA state series competition.
- Such instruction begins no earlier than June 1 for fall sports, October 1 for winter sports, or January 1 for spring sports.

2018-19 Proposal #5

Amend By-law 3.012 - Attendance

Submitted by: Robert Nolting, Principal - Tinley Park (Andrew)

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Specifies that a student may not be enrolled at two schools at one time, and prescribes a penalty of up to 365 days of ineligibility in such a case.

Rationale of Submitter:

If a student who is actively enrolled at one member school, they should remain at that member school or transfer. Having active enrollment at more than one member school at the same time, as a student-athlete, without extenuating circumstances, constitutes an undue influence issue.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Revise By-law 3.012 to Read:

[Students in member school shall be eligible to participate on athletic teams in interscholastic contests as representatives of their schools, provided: ...]

They shall have been enrolled and in attendance not later than the beginning of the eleventh school day of the semester, **and not enrolled at any other member school, either actively or because of failure to withdraw. A student that is enrolled at more than one member school at the same time shall be ineligible at the receiving school for a period not to exceed 365 days.** Exception may be considered only if written verification that delay in enrollment or attendance is caused by illness of the students or their immediate family or by other circumstances deemed acceptable by the Board of Directors which are submitted to the Executive Director for presentation to the Board of Directors.

2018-19 Proposal #6**Amend By-law 3.034.3 – Residence****Submitted by: Tim McConnell, Principal Erie on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors****Summary of Proposed Changes**

- Allows the Executive Director to grant international students who are not part of a qualified foreign exchange program the opportunity to participate in interscholastic competition, except for the IHSA state series.

Rationale of Submitter

The addition of limited eligibility allows students the reward of participation without influencing the success of the varsity team.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes**Revise By-Law 3.034.3 to Read:**

International and Foreign Exchange Students: Students attending school in Illinois under the auspices of approved student exchange programs shall be considered eligible regarding residence and transfer for a maximum period of one calendar year, commencing with the date of their enrollment and beginning attendance at an IHSA member school. To be considered for approval, a foreign exchange program must be approved by the IHSA and the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET). It must also assign students to schools by a method which insures that no student, school, or other interested party may influence the assignment for athletic or other purposes. The Board of Directors shall establish additional criteria by which it shall approve foreign exchange student programs. International students attending school in Illinois who are not participating in an approved student exchange program will not be eligible **for state series competition** with respect to residence or transfer for the duration of their high school attendance unless they meet the requirements of the applicable provisions of the residency and transfer By-Laws as determined in an official ruling from the Executive Director or they are in a program which has been approved by the IHSA Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall establish the criteria by which it shall approve such programs. **An international student or foreign exchange student who does not meet the eligibility requirements of this by-law may be granted limited eligibility by the Executive Director.** For purposes of this By-Law, the residential school exception set forth in By-Law 3.034.1 shall not apply to establish a student's residency.

2018-19 Proposal #7**Amend By-law 3.034.4 – Residence****Submitted by: Ronald Dwyer, Official Representative – Peoria (Richwoods)****Summary of Proposed Changes**

- Grants eligibility to a student enrolled in a Gifted Education Special Program, such as an International Baccalaureate Diploma Program, that lies outside the student's home school district.

Rationale of Submitter:

Richwoods High School holds the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program. This is a recognized IB World School. IB Diploma Candidates enrolled in the IB school, take a completely different curriculum from Richwoods High School Students. This can easily be shown with a student transcript. These students must go through an interview process for enrollment to the program and have to meet very strict academic criteria to be accepted and to remain in the program. IB Diploma programs are very rare in Illinois, but are growing nationwide. Richwoods is the only high school within a 200 mile radius of Peoria with this gifted academic program. If students choose to come to Richwoods for this program from outside our district boundaries they must pay tuition. In the past they have been deemed ineligible for 365 days by the IHSA. We believe this to be discriminatory to students who have ability to attend a “special center”. IB diploma programs are not simply like AP classes. We believe that there is language already in place in the IHSA by-laws to allow students who attend “special centers” to participate in IHSA activities and sports (in by-law 3.034.42 (Which defines students taking all of their work at “special centers”)) We feel that the IB Diploma students who would like to participate in many different IHSA activities including sports should be allowed the same rights. Please consider adding the language proposed to allow for any student in an IB World School to be eligible under the by law 3.034.42 and thus allowing the school that holds an IB World school to be defined as a “special center” for education. Schools must hold the title of IB World School for this to apply and only students enrolled in the full diploma program (which requires them to take all their academic classes at that particular school should be allowed this right under the definition of “special centers”.)

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes**Revise By-law 3.034.4 to Read:**

Special Education, **Gifted Education**, and Special Vocational Education Students: Students attending a Special Education, **a Gifted Education Special Program**, or Special Vocational Educational Cooperative Center shall be eligible under the following conditions

[3.034.41 Students taking part of their work at the Special Center and part at their home high school shall be eligible at their home high school only;

3.034.42 Students taking all of their work at the Special Center shall be eligible at either their home high school or the school housing the Special Center. However, once the students elect the school at which they will participate, they may not change their decision without the loss of a period of eligibility not to exceed 365 days.]

2018-19 Proposal #8

Amend By-law 3.043.2 - Transfer

Submitted by: Robert Nolting, Principal - Tinley Park (Andrew)

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Allows students who transfer between schools in a multi-high school district to be eligible with regard to transfer under a policy set by the school district.

Rationale of Submitter:

Several multi-school districts have board policies and procedures that allow, under specific approval guidelines, families to transfer without move should be allowed to do so under local control. Student eligibility, in these situations, should be maintained.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Revise By-law 3.043.2 to Read:

The student transfers attendance from one public high school in a school district which supports two (2) or more public high schools to another public high school in that school district, and the transfer is in conjunction with a change in residence by both the student and his or her parents, custodial parent, surviving parent, or guardian to a residence within the boundaries established by the governing board of the school district for the high school to which the student transfers. **However, if the school district has established its own policy for intra-district transfers, determination of eligibility with regard to transfer will be made according to that policy; or**

2018-19 Proposal #9

Amend By-law 3.043.3 – Transfer

Submitted by: Tim McConnell, Principal – Erie on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Allows the Executive Director to grant limited eligibility to students who transfer between schools and who would otherwise be ineligible, if the transfer occurs before the start of the student's sophomore year.

Rationale of Submitter

The addition of limited eligibility allows students the reward of participation without influencing the success of the varsity team.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Revise By-law 3.043.3 to Read:

In the event the student transfers attendance from any high school to any other high school, and the transfer is not in conjunction with a change in residence by both the student and his or her parents, custodial parent, surviving parent, or guardian to a residence outside the boundaries of the public school district attendance area the family originally resided in, the Executive Director may grant eligibility based on documentation that the transfer met one of the following conditions:

- The student is enrolling for the first time in the student's home public member high school with boundaries;
- Change in family's financial position;
- Extenuating circumstances documented by the sending school's principal or official representative;
- **Limited eligibility may be granted when the student transfers schools prior to the beginning of the student's sophomore year.**

Upon approval of this by-law amendment proposal, the IHSA Board of Directors will adopt this definition:

Limited Eligibility – A level of eligibility in which a student, following a school transfer, may not participate in interscholastic competition as a member of the varsity team. Additionally, under this eligibility determination a student may not compete in IHSA State Series competition.

2018-19 Proposal #10**Amend By-law 3.109 – Independent Team Participation****Submitted by: Michael Boraz, Principal – Chicago (Lincoln Park)****Summary of Proposed Changes**

- Allows a diver to participate on an independent team during the sport season if his or her school lacks diving facilities.

Rationale of Submitter:

Under current IHSA rules if experienced divers enter a high school without the proper diving facilities, but has a swimming and diving team, that student is unable to participate on that high school team. While the current rules stipulate that an athlete could take private lessons during the high school season or a team could use find and use off-site diving appropriate facilities, many families and school teams do not have the funds or resources to pay for private lessons, gain access to appropriate facilities, or hire a diving coach. For a diver and his/her family to pay for private lessons for the entirety of a season is prohibitive and unrealistic, just as it is unrealistic for a school to have extra funds to pay to rent a diving facility for practices for an entire season.

Additionally, in large school districts most families cannot control where their athlete attends school or the facilities at these schools. There are some school districts who can supply the equipment that is needed for each sport and others are bound by the limitations of the facility, location, or district budget. The current rule unfairly discriminates against athletes at schools that have swimming and diving teams but do not have the ability to get access to diving appropriate facilities.

This proposed change is in line with the beliefs of the IHSA in that each individual is important and that participation in interscholastic athletics enhances secondary education and students' well-being. The current rule is a discriminatory policy that inhibits students who attend underfunded, older, or smaller schools from participating equally. To maintain consistent adherence with, and safeguard IHSA's beliefs of equality and fairness, the current rule must be changed.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes**Add By-Law 3.109**

A diver enrolled at a school that lacks diving facilities may, with the permission of the Executive Director, participate with an independent team during the sport season.

2018-19 Proposal #11

Amend By-law 3.101 – Independent Team Participation

Submitted by: David Ribbens, Official Representative – Chicago (University)

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Allows the Executive Director to approve participation in events conducted by the junior affiliate of a National Governing Body.
- Specifically, will allow the Executive Director to approve participation in events conducted by the American Junior Golf Association (AJGA).

Rationale of Submitter:

The American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) sponsors 120 Junior golf tournaments in a year compared to the United States Golf Association (USGA) that sponsors 2 Junior tournaments.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Revise By-law 3.101 to Read:

During the season for a given sport, in a school which maintains a school team in that sport, a student shall not participate on any non-school team, nor as an individual unattached in a non-school competition in that given sport or in any competition that involves the skill of the sport in question. Violation shall cause ineligibility for a period not to exceed 365 days. An exception may be made by the Executive Director under the guidelines adopted by the Board of Directors for competitions sanction directly by the National Governing Body **or its junior** or official Illinois affiliate for the sport.

2018-19 Proposal #12

Amend By-law 3.157 – Special Provisions for Summer Participation

Submitted by: Alex Fox, Official Representative – Edwardsville (H.S.)

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Allows the use of shoulder pads during the 7-on-7 skeleton (touch only) games during the summer contact period.

Rationale of Submitter:

We have had an increased number of collarbone and shoulder injuries due to athletes falling on routes and also inadvertently colliding with other player. The addition of shoulder pads will provide an additional layer of safety to players. No contact or rule changes will occur.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Revise By-law 3.157 to Read:

During the summer contact period, 7 on 7 pass skeleton (touch only) games are allowed against other schools, and helmets, mouth pieces, **shoulder pads** and appropriate footwear are the only equipment that may be worn during these 7 on 7 contests.

2018-19 Proposal #13
Add By-law 4.019 – Attendance
Submitted by: Scott Dewar, Principal – Harrisburg

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Allows grade school and junior high school students to participate with high school students in interscholastic agricultural events, such as those conducted by the Future Farmers Association (FFA).

Rationale of Submitter:

In recent years there has been an increase in junior high/middle school ag programs. With this increase there are more 7th and 8th grade students wanting to participate in the opportunities available to them through FFA. Due to the lack of physical contact in competitive FFA events, junior high/middle school students should be able to compete with high school students.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Add By-law 4.019:

Bona fide pupils enrolled in agricultural education courses in grade schools or junior high schools in the district of a member school may participate with the high school agricultural education department in interscholastic agricultural events.

2018-19 Proposal #14

Amend By-law 5.041 – Boys Basketball Season Limitation

Submitted by: Mike Zunica, Principal – Chicago (St. Rita)

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Moves the first day of tryouts in boys basketball back two days (from Monday to Saturday) for non-varsity teams only.

Rationale of Submitter:

Having tryouts on non-school day (Saturday and Sunday) would allow more time to properly evaluate players. This is especially important for freshmen and sophomores.

Many schools have one facility to conduct tryouts. Conducting tryouts for 3 teams on a school day is difficult to schedule. When time is limited the tryouts becomes shorter and potentially lead to inaccurate evaluations.

This change would benefit the student-athletes, giving them more opportunity to showcase their skills and leave the tryout feeling that the tryout was fair.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Revise By-law 5.041 to Read:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its teams, practice or participate in Interscholastic Contests beginning earlier than **Saturday of Week 18 (for non-varsity teams only) or Monday of Week 19 (for varsity teams)** or later than Saturday of Week 37 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may not conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Basketball no earlier than Monday of week 21 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

2018-19 Proposal #15**Amend By-laws 5.061, 5.111, 5.211, 5.291, 5.301 and 5.321 – Season Limitation****Submitted by: Ben Davis, Official Representative – Mt. Zion and David Snider, Principal – Collinsville on behalf of the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee****Summary of Proposed Changes**

- Move the start of practice for Boys and Girls Cross Country to Monday of Week 6 (golf and football area already at this date).

Rationale of Submitters:

The Sports Medicine Advisory Committee is making this recommendation in order to move forward with a recommendation for a fall acclimatization policy for all sports. The recommended acclimatization period is 7-14 days of practice prior to competition which will have similar structure to the IHSA Football Acclimatization Policy. The SMAC felt it would be easier to gain extra practice days by moving the first day of practice up to Monday rather than adjust the first day of competition back for each sport.

This recommendation will also create a consistent start date for all fall practices making the application of an acclimatization period much smoother.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes**By-law 5.061 - Boys Cross Country Season Limitation****Revise By-law 5.061 to Read:**

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Cross Country teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than ~~Wednesday~~ **Monday** of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 18 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Cross Country no earlier than Monday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes**By-law 5.211 – Girls Cross Country Season Limitation****Revise By-law 5.211 to Read:**

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Cross Country teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than ~~Wednesday~~ **Monday** of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 18 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Cross Country no earlier than Monday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

2018-19 Proposal #16

Amend By-laws 5.061, 5.111, 5.211, 5.291, 5.301 and 5.321 – Season Limitation

Submitted by: Ben Davis, Official Representative – Mt. Zion and David Snider, Principal – Collinsville on behalf of the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Move the start of practice for Boys Soccer to Monday of Week 6 (golf and football area already at this date).

Rationale of Submitters:

The Sports Medicine Advisory Committee is making this recommendation in order to move forward with a recommendation for a fall acclimatization policy for all sports. The recommended acclimatization period is 7-14 days of practice prior to competition which will have similar structure to the IHSA Football Acclimatization Policy. The SMAC felt it would be easier to gain extra practice days by moving the first day of practice up to Monday rather than adjust the first day of competition back for each sport.

This recommendation will also create a consistent start date for all fall practices making the application of an acclimatization period much smoother.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

By-law 5.111 – Boys Soccer Season Limitation

Revise By-law 5.111 to Read:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Soccer teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than ~~Wednesday~~ **Monday** of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 18 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Soccer no earlier than Monday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

2018-19 Proposal #17

Amend By-laws 5.061, 5.111, 5.211, 5.291, 5.301 and 5.321 – Season Limitation

Submitted by: Ben Davis, Official Representative – Mt. Zion and David Snider, Principal – Collinsville on behalf of the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Move the start of practice for Girls Swimming to Monday of Week 6 (golf and football area already at this date).

Rationale of Submitters:

The Sports Medicine Advisory Committee is making this recommendation in order to move forward with a recommendation for a fall acclimatization policy for all sports. The recommended acclimatization period is 7-14 days of practice prior to competition which will have similar structure to the IHSA Football Acclimatization Policy. The SMAC felt it would be easier to gain extra practice days by moving the first day of practice up to Monday rather than adjust the first day of competition back for each sport.

This recommendation will also create a consistent start date for all fall practices making the application of an acclimatization period much smoother.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

By-law 5.291 – Girls Swimming Season Limitation

Revise By-law 5.291 to Read:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Swimming teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than ~~Wednesday~~ **Monday** of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 18 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Swimming no earlier than Monday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

2018-19 Proposal #18

Amend By-laws 5.061, 5.111, 5.211, 5.291, 5.301 and 5.321 – Season Limitation

Submitted by: Ben Davis, Official Representative – Mt. Zion and David Snider, Principal – Collinsville on behalf of the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Move the start of practice for Girls Tennis to Monday of Week 6 (golf and football area already at this date).

Rationale of Submitters:

The Sports Medicine Advisory Committee is making this recommendation in order to move forward with a recommendation for a fall acclimatization policy for all sports. The recommended acclimatization period is 7-14 days of practice prior to competition which will have similar structure to the IHSA Football Acclimatization Policy. The SMAC felt it would be easier to gain extra practice days by moving the first day of practice up to Monday rather than adjust the first day of competition back for each sport.

This recommendation will also create a consistent start date for all fall practices making the application of an acclimatization period much smoother.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

By-law 5.301 – Girls Fall Tennis Season Limitation

Revise By-law 5.301 to Read:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Fall Tennis teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than ~~Wednesday~~ **Monday** of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 18 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Fall Tennis no earlier than Monday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

2018-19 Proposal #19

Amend By-laws 5.061, 5.111, 5.211, 5.291, 5.301 and 5.321 – Season Limitation

Submitted by: Ben Davis, Official Representative – Mt. Zion and David Snider, Principal – Collinsville on behalf of the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Move the start of practice for Girls Volleyball to Monday of Week 6 (golf and football area already at this date).

Rationale of Submitters:

The Sports Medicine Advisory Committee is making this recommendation in order to move forward with a recommendation for a fall acclimatization policy for all sports. The recommended acclimatization period is 7-14 days of practice prior to competition which will have similar structure to the IHSA Football Acclimatization Policy. The SMAC felt it would be easier to gain extra practice days by moving the first day of practice up to Monday rather than adjust the first day of competition back for each sport.

This recommendation will also create a consistent start date for all fall practices making the application of an acclimatization period much smoother.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

By-law 5.321 – Girls Volleyball Season Limitation

Revise By-law 5.321 to Read:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Volleyball teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than ~~Wednesday~~ **Monday** of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 18 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Volleyball no earlier than Monday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

2018-19 Proposal #20

Amend By-law 5.071 – Boys Football Season Limitation

Submitted by: Ryan Miller, Official Representative – Benton

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Allows a freshman football game to be played on Thursday of Week 8, one day before all other football contests may begin.

Rationale of Submitter:

Schools that play freshman games and/or jamborees on the first Saturday of the season may be forced to cancel a lower level football game due to the new individual player limitations. By allowing a freshman game to be played on Thursday of Week 8, schools will be able to stay within the new two games per week parameter.

The majority of schools throughout the country are struggling with numbers in football. As any season progresses, available athletes always decline due to injuries, academic eligibility, etc. Being forced to cancel an underclass game due to the new limitations at the start of the year isn't necessary with this change.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Revise By-law 5.071 to Read:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Football teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 21 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Football no earlier than **Thursday of Week 8 (for freshman contests only) or Friday of Week 8 (for all other contests)** in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

2018-19 Proposal #21

Amend By-law 5.073 - Boys Football Contest Limitation

Submitted by: John Catalano, Official Representative – Northbrook (Glenbrook North) and Jon Baffico, Principal – Chicago (St. Patrick)

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Reduces the length of the football regular season to 8 weeks, in anticipation of implementing a 384-team football playoff system.
- Allows schools that do not qualify for the playoffs to schedule a game during the ninth week.

Rationale of Submitters:

The change in By-Law 5.073 would allow for the expansion of the state Football playoffs, from two hundred fifty-six (256) schools to three hundred eighty-four (384) schools – giving 50% more schools an opportunity to make the playoffs and keeping the calendar intact

Pros:

- The qualifying of 50% more Football playing schools in Illinois for the state series would bring Football closer to the qualifying standards as used for all other sports supported by the membership of the Illinois High School Association.
- 384 schools would play a nine-game schedule as is currently defined – with the preliminary round of the playoffs replacing the ninth date.
- The expansion of the playoff system could allow conferences to remain intact. It will lessen the pressure for coaches and administrators to win and lessen the focus on the “drive for 5.”

Cons:

- The potential loss of a non-conference Football contest at the beginning of the season because of the new eight-week schedule.
- The potential loss of revenue from a home contest because of the eight-week schedule.

Additional Data

1. The selection of the 384 schools would take place on the Saturday of Week 15 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar. (523 total Football playing schools). **Preliminary round** (newly instituted) would take place on Week 16 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar. Higher seeds would be guaranteed the host for the first two contests.
2. The selection of 384 schools and seeding of the eight classes would remain the same as currently formatted. We would have 8 classes of 48 teams, broken up into two brackets of 24, thus seeding the 1-24 brackets, the top 8 schools would get a bye week 9, and schools 9-24 would play week 9, with the winners advancing to week 10 against the week 9 bye schools.
3. Selection of playoff teams, and the sorting of the playoff teams will remain the same as in the current by-laws with the addition of more teams qualifying.
4. The above recommendations will maintain the date parameters as previously identified for the Boys Playoff structure for the length of the season.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Revise By-law 5.073 to Read:

No Boys Football team representing a member school, in any one season, participate in more than ~~nine (9)~~ **eight (8)** playoff qualifying games exclusive of the IHSA series and exclusive of the City of Chicago Prep Bowl series, participated in by the Chicago Public League and the Chicago Catholic League. **Football teams not qualifying for the IHSA playoffs will be allowed to play a ninth game against another non-qualifying team in Week 16 of the IHSA Calendar.**

2018-19 Proposal #22

Amend By-law 5.073 – Boys Football Contest Limitation

Submitted by: Tim Hayunga, Principal – Hebron (Alden-H.)

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Allows teams participating in the Illinois 8-Man Football Association to participate in a post-season playoff conducted by the I8FA.

Rationale of Submitter:

We would like to propose our associations playoff system be added to the by-law until 8-man football is recognized as an official IHSA sport. The 8-man Football Association follows all IHSA by-laws for school participation in football. As the by-law is currently written it does not allow schools participating in the I8FA to participate in more than 9 games without penalty from the IHSA. Students participating in 8-man football have worked hard throughout the summer and season and we believe that these students should also get a chance to participate in post-season play to reward their hard work.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Revise By-law 5.073 to Read:

No Boys Football team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than nine (9) games exclusive of the IHSA series and exclusive of the City of Chicago Prep Bowl Series, participated in by the Chicago Public League and the Chicago Catholic League, **and I8FA playoff series, participated in by members of the Illinois 8-Man Football Association.**

2018-19 Proposal #23**Add By-law 5.074 – Football Scheduling****Submitted by: Andrew Lutzenkirchen, Official Representative – Naperville (Central); Travis Heinz, Principal – Forreston and on behalf of the Football Advisory Committee.****Summary of Proposed Changes**

Directs the IHSA to implement a football scheduling system for regular-season varsity games that would involve the following:

- A 9-week regular season.
- Playoff classes determined in advance of the season.
- Schools from each class placed into 8 geographic groups by the IHSA office to play a round-robin schedule (probably 8 teams in each group yielding a schedule of 7 games).
- The remaining games on the regular season schedule to be arranged by the individual schools at their discretion.
- The top 4 teams in each of the 8 groups qualify for the playoffs.

Rationale of Submitters:

To avoid scheduling conflicts and the search to win 5 games to be playoff eligible. Non regional wins and losses will have no effect on playoff eligibility.

Pros:

Schools will still be able to schedule natural rivals during non-regional play.
Travel for some regions could be less than what some current conferences are experiencing.
IHSA scheduled games could bring conferences back together for all other sports.

Cons:

Travel for some schools could increase compared to their current schedule.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes**Add By-law 5.074 to Read:****5.074 Football Scheduling and Playoff System**

The IHSA shall implement a scheduling system (for varsity contests only) that provides the following:

1. Playoff classification of every school determined before the season.
2. Placement of schools into geographic groups within each class.
3. A round-robin schedule of regular-season games for the schools within each group, with games during the weeks not scheduled left to the discretion of each school.
4. Qualification and seeding of the playoffs based on the final standing within each group.

2018-19 Proposal #24

Amend By-law 5.270 and Eliminate By-Law 5.260 – Girls Softball Season Limitation

Submitted by: Darrell Echols, Principal – Aurora (Metea Valley)

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Moves the girls softball season to the fall and eliminates the spring softball season.

Rationale of Submitter:

Pros:

- Avoid weather issues in the spring (cold, snow, frequent rain)
- Tryouts held outside on the field instead of in the gym
- More gym space if needed/ less need to use indoor facilities – frees up space for indoor spring sports
- Less sports for female athletes to choose between which should lead to higher participation numbers
- Athletes are coming off their summer ball seasons and are ready to compete
- Consistency with coaching – athletes would be able to train with their summer ball teams all winter, spring, summer and then continue on to their high school teams in the fall
- Summer travel teams have easier access to indoor facilities for off season/ bad weather training
- No conflict with spring break, graduation, prom, and senior events
- We won't lose as many athletes to club basketball and volleyball
- Less rainouts/reschedules = less games in a row during the week which means athletes get more rest and suffer less injuries from overuse – especially pitchers
- More consistent practice and game schedule – no need for early morning or late night practices because of gym space
- Better field conditions – don't have to wait for the fields to thaw
- Athletes could become 2 sport athletes – softball in the fall and another sport in the spring. We could possibly gain more soccer and lacrosse athletes who also play softball but can't currently play for their high school teams.
- IESA plays in the fall – having the middle school and high school seasons at the same time would help the high school coaches promote their programs to the feeder athletes and get them more involved.
- Maintaining athletic fields would be easier – softball would be opposite baseball, so more grounds crew on hand to help get the fields ready.

Cons:

- Some schools use the softball outfields for other events (cross country, football)
- Recruiting of athletes during the fall season – especially with the change in D1 recruitment rules
- Possibly a shorter season/ less games allotted in the schedule
- Travel teams will have to change seasons (from fall to spring)

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Eliminate By-law 5.260 (Girls Fall Softball) and its Subsections

Revise By-law 5.270 and 5.271 (Girls Spring Softball) to Read:

5.270 GIRLS ~~SPRING~~ FALL SOFTBALL

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls ~~Spring~~ **Fall** Softball teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of ~~Week 35~~ **Week 6** or later than Saturday of ~~Week 49~~ **Week 17** in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Spring Softball no earlier than Monday of ~~Week 37~~ **Week 7** in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

2018-19 Proposal #25**Add By-law 5.370 – Girls Wrestling**

Submitted by: Dan Jones, Official Representative – Hinsdale (Central); Dan Krause, Official Representative – Villa Park (Willowbrook); John Stelzer, Official Representative – Oak Park (O.P.-River Forest) and John Kane, Official Representative – Hoffman Estates (Conant)

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Sets separate team and individual season limitations for girls wrestling, in anticipation of a separate state series for girls in the future.

Rationale of Submitters:

This would establish season limitation language for member schools who wish to establish a girls wrestling team. There is no need to create a tournament/dual formula at this time, as the belief is that there may only be tournament options for females as compared to dual events. In addition, the season limitation for individuals for the number of matches one can wrestle will address the issue total matches one can wrestle during a season.

This is similar to the process that was followed by Cheerleading and Dance when they were emerging sports with the IHSA.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes**Add By-law 5.371 – Season Limitation**

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Wrestling teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 19 or later than Saturday of Week 34 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Wrestling no earlier than Monday of Week 21 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Add By-law 5.372 – Team Limitation

No Girls Wrestling team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than eighteen (18) dates exclusive of the IHSA series.

Add By-law 5.737 – Individual Limitation

Students who participate on a school squad in Girls Wrestling may participate in no more than thirty-five (35) matches in any one season prior to the IHSA series, regardless of competition format.

2018-19 Proposal #26**Add By-law 5.370 – Girls Freestyle Wrestling****Submitted by: Dr. Jerry Anderson, Principal – Flossmoor (Homewood-F.)****Summary of Proposed Changes**

- Sets season limitations for girls freestyle wrestling with a season in the winter. (Clarification: The current IHSA wrestling program is "folk-style" wrestling.)

Rationale of Submitter:

Adds Girls Freestyle Wrestling as an individual sport with a designated or dedicated season.

This amendment adds girls freestyle wrestling as an individual sport while also giving girls freestyle wrestling its own season. The Boys Wrestling By-law currently gives boys the opportunity to compete against girls which poses an injury risk to girls and potential lawsuits for inappropriate actions during competition. This by-law proposal gives girls the same opportunity as boys or to compete against the same gender. As a public school, we are confident that the Board of Directors will prevent any situation in which the safety of a sport is at risk due to the physical strength advantage boys have when competing against girls. We are also confident that the Board of Directors will prevent any & all inappropriate touching in wrestling due to the nature of the sport for the opposite gender.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes**Add By-law 5.371 – Season Limitation**

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Freestyle Wrestling teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 19 or later than Saturday of Week 34 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Freestyle Wrestling no earlier than Monday of Week 21 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Add By-law 5.372 – Team Limitation

No girls Freestyle Wrestling team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than:

- a. eighteen (18) dates and no (0) tournaments exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- b. seventeen (17) dates and one (1) tournament exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- c. sixteen (16) dates and two (2) tournaments exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- d. fifteen (15) dates and three (3) tournaments exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- e. fourteen (14) dates and four (4) tournaments exclusive of the IHSA series.

Add By-law 5.373 - Individual Limitation

Students who participate on a school squad in Girls Freestyle Wrestling may participate in no more than twenty-one (21) matches in any one season, exclusive of tournaments. Students may participate in no more than four (4) tournaments exclusive of the IHSA State Tournament Series except that a student who does not participate in the IHSA State Tournament Series may participate in one (1) additional tournament. Participation in a tournament shall mean that a student actually competes (regardless of the length of the time) in a match.

2018-19 Proposal #27

Amend By-law 6.033 – Protest Procedure

Submitted by: Peter Groom, Principal – Oak Park (Fenwick)

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Allows the IHSA Board of Directors to review the decision of game officials if the decision is not a judgment call, is contrary to the rules, and extends the game beyond its conclusion.

Rationale of Submitter

none

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Revise By-law 6.033 to Read:

The decisions of game officials shall be final; protests against the decision of a game official shall not be reviewed by the Board of Directors **unless all three of the following conditions are met:**

- a) The decision of the game official is not a judgment call;**
- b) The decision of the game official is contrary to the rules;**
- c) The decision of the game official extends the game beyond its conclusion.**