

2011-2012 SCHOLASTIC BOWL RULES MEETING INFORMATION/BULLETIN

INTRODUCTORY NOTE: This bulletin has been prepared to give you a quick study guide for the upcoming Scholastic Bowl Season. Complete information will be included in the Terms & Conditions and the Manual for Schools on the IHSA Scholastic Bowl Website. **The Following Information** deserves your special attention. If you have questions about official interpretations or recommendations for rule changes for next year, please email IHSA Assistant Executive Director Ron McGraw (rmcgraw@ihsa.org).

NOTICE:

• NEW for 2011-2012: PROCESS FOR REVIEWING THE ONLINE RULES MEETING

Coaches are encouraged to view the Scholastic Bowl Online Rules Meeting. This informational presentation was created to make coaches aware of the Rules and Regulations governing Scholastic Bowl. Coaches **must** login to the IHSA Schools Center by using their School ID and Winter Coaches Password (obtain from Athletic Director or Official Representative-new passwords were mailed from the IHSA Office the week of July 18, 2011). It is our hope that **all** Scholastic Bowl coaches will take the few minutes necessary to refresh themselves with the current IHSA Scholastic Bowl rules and procedures.

I. Important Dates

<u>Week #</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Event Date</u>
8	Contests Begin (Wed.)	8/22/2011
9	Online Rules Meeting Presentation begins (Fri.)	9/2/2011
9	Rules Meeting Bulletin Posted (Fri.)	9/2/2011
9	Rule Book Posted (Fri.)	9/2/2011
9	Case Book Posted (Fri.)	9/2/2011
9	Terms and Conditions Posted (Fri.)	9/2/2011
18	Team Entries Due at IHSA Office through Schools Center (Tues.)	11/1/2011
23	Online Rules Meeting Presentation ends (Mon.)	12/5/2011
31	Team Record Report Form (Fri.) - Noon	2/3/2012
32	Sectional Seeding Mtg. (Wed.)	2/8/2012
33	Schools Assignments Posted (Fri.)	2/17/2012
36	Regionals (Mon.)	3/5/2012
36	Sectionals (Sat.)	3/10/2012
37	State Final (Fri.)	3/16/2012
37	Season Ends (Fri.)	3/16/2012
44	Advisory Committee Mtg. (Wed.)	5/2/2012

II. Steps for Participating Schools To Enter and Remain Eligible to Compete In IHSA Regional, Sectionals and the State Final

This list of steps can be used as a guide for coaches and administrators. This guideline is an attempt to help keep schools and/or its participants eligible to compete in the Scholastic Bowl State Series. It is not intended to replace the Terms and Conditions or the Manual. To be fully informed, you must **read the Online Manual for Schools posted on the IHSA Website. PLEASE DO SO!**

A. What: Enter school into the Scholastic Bowl State Series

Who: Principal or Official Representative

When: By November 1

Where: IHSA.org – click on “Schools and Officials Center login” – School Information – Submit School Entries – Activities – Scholastic Bowl.

Important: There is no qualifying tournament to become eligible to compete in the first level of any IHSA State Series Tournament.

Why: This is how the IHSA knows the school wishes to participate in the Scholastic Bowl State Series.

B. What: Review the Online Manual for Schools

Who: Coach and/or Athletic Director

When: September 2

Where: On September 2, the Scholastic Bowl manual will be posted online at www.ihsa.org; click on Scholastic Bowl; under Sports & Activities.

Why: This is how the coaches and athletic directors learn what is necessary in order for their students to participate in the Scholastic Bowl State Series. Failure of coaches and athletic directors to become familiar with these details often results in the student athletes and/or coaches from their schools being denied the opportunity to participate in the IHSA State Series for Scholastic Bowl.

C. What: Online Rules Meetings for Scholastic Bowl

Who: The Scholastic Bowl coach is encouraged to view this presentation.

When: Available September 2, 2011 through December 5, 2011.

How:

- 1) Go to www.ihsa.org
- 2) Click on "Schools and Officials Center login"
- 3) Enter "School ID" and the Winter Coaches password
- 4) Click on "Rules Video" next to Scholastic Bowl under the Sport & Activity Tracker
- 5) View the online Rules Meeting to receive credit.

Why: To make coaches fully aware of important dates, rules and procedures required for Scholastic Bowl.

D. What: Entering Team Record Report Form

Who: Coach

When: Deadline is Noon, Friday February 3, 2012

Where: www.ihsa.org; click on "Schools & Officials Center login"; enter your school's ID and password; scroll down under Sport and Activity Tracker, click on Team Record Report Form and type in your teams won-lost record

Why: This document provides the sectional host your win/loss record for the purpose of seeding the top 8 teams in each sectional at the seeding meetings. The Team Record Report Form will only indicate any team's win/loss record. Coaches are encouraged to bring the seeding meeting their season score book to document their record, who they competed against and match scores. Again, please note that all participating schools are **required** to submit their Team Record Report Form on-line to the IHSA. If a school does not submit the On-Line Team Record Report Form by the deadline, coaches and participants from that school are subject to sanctions, which could include but not be limited to being ruled ineligible to compete in the State Series. Schools which do not submit their school's On-Line Team Record Report Form and are consequently ruled ineligible for the State Final Series **must formally withdraw** (see E. below for Withdrawal Procedures/Breach of Contract).

NOTE: Each coach will provide a team roster to the manager at each Regional and Sectional Tournament in which they compete. A typed list is preferred by tournament managers.

Confirmation of receipt of Team Record Report Form: Schools should login to their School Center site on the IHSA website and go to the Activity Tracker. The Activity Tracker will show "Completed", if you have checked the button indicating you have finished with your report. If it doesn't indicate "Completed", then you must go back into your schools List of Participants and check the button on the Team Record Report Form indicating you are finished.

E. What: Withdrawal from the State Series after being entered by the Principal

Who: Principal or Official Representative

When: Prior to Noon, February 3, 2012

Where: Fax/email a indicating the desire to officially withdraw on school letterhead to Tammy Craig at IHSA (309-663-7479/tcraig@ihsa.org).

Why: Schools that fail to participate after entering and who fail to formally withdraw will be fined \$100.00 (additional penalties may apply, refer to Terms and Conditions). The fine is necessary to encourage schools to make us aware of their intent not to participate. When schools do not show up it adversely affects the balance in the numbers of teams assigned to each Regional and/or Sectional. This can create situations that are unfair to others. When you become aware that your school will not participate in the State Series, please withdraw immediately!

III. SCHOLASTIC BOWL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES May 4, 2011

The IHSA Scholastic Bowl Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, Bloomington, Illinois on Wednesday, May 4, 2011, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee Members present were: Ken Dentino, coach, Maple Park (Kaneland); Cynthia Wierzba, coach & Tournament Manager, Farmington; Brendan Ayd, coach, Toledo (Cumberland); Matthew Bardoe, coach The Latin School; Joe Iorio, Athletic Director, Columbia; Others in attendance, Ron McGraw, IHSA Assistant Executive Director; Rob Grierson, Moderator Coordinator, Winnetka (New Trier), *Mark Grant, Coach, Petersburg (Porta) – Coach Grant presented several proposals to the committee for their consideration.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Item VIII-P Questions per match

Recommendation: The state series question sets will consist of ~~Sixty (60)~~ forty eight (48) questions, ~~thirty (30),~~ twenty four (24) toss-up and ~~thirty (30)~~ twenty four (24) bonus questions, for each match throughout the state series.

Rationale:

A concern for many coaches and teams is the long running nature of the State Series. Particularly at Regional sites, with the distances traveled by many and the prospect of 3-4 matches of 30 questions, it can leave many teams getting back to their home schools late into the evening on what for many is a school night. In addition longer matches mean greater time gaps between rounds finishing. This leads to a lot of wasted time for some teams. While we all have experienced the last minute win on the 30th question, rarely do we see such rounds in which the lead had been decisive and a huge comeback occurred to such a result. Close matches in any contest will lead to teams winning at the “buzzer”. But that can just as easily occur on the 24th question as it does on the 30th.

Motion-Matt Bardoe Second-Ken Dentino Motion Passed 5-0

2. Item VIII-O Question Distribution

Recommendation: Modify the current question distribution list. Categories and Subcategories for Toss-up and Bonus Questions (X/Y = # of Tossups/Number of Bonuses)

SCIENCE 5/5

A. 4/4 Drawn from a mix of:

Biology, Chemistry, Physics

B. 1/1 Drawn from other sciences such as but not limited to: Astronomy, Earth Science, Environmental Science, Health Science, Archaeology/Paleontology and not requiring all subcategories to be represented equally or at all.

MATH 5/5

A. 4/4 Drawn from a mix of: Algebra, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, Trigonometry, Analytic Geometry, Calculus

B. 1/1 Drawn from other mathematics such as but not limited to: Number Theory, Probability, Statistics, Combinations, Topology, Set Theory and not requiring all subcategories to be represented equally or at all.

SOCIAL STUDIES 5/5

A. 3/3 History, Drawn from a mix of: US History, European History, World History from a variety of cultures, Ancient History

B. 2/2 Drawn from a mix of: Geography, Current Events – within the past year, US Government, Comparative Government, Psychology, Sociology, Religion, Economics, Philosophy, Political Science and not requiring all subcategories to be represented equally or at all.

LITERATURE & LANGUAGE ARTS 5/5

A. 4/4 Literature, Drawn from a mix of: US Literature, British Literature, World Literature from a variety of cultures, Mythology

B. 1/1 Language Arts, Drawn from a mix of: Grammar/Usage, Spelling, Speech, Vocabulary and not requiring all subcategories to be represented equally or at all.

FINE ARTS 3/3

A. 1/1 Visual Arts, composed of:

a. At least 1/1 History of Art

b. No more than 1/1 Theory and Technique

B. 1/1 Music, composed of:

a. At least 1/1 Classical Music and Opera

b. No more than 1/1 drawn from other Music including but not limited to : Jazz, Musical Theatre, Theory, Composers of the Modern Era, Performers in the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and not requiring all subcategories to be represented equally or at all.

C. 1/1 Other: chosen from any of the categories in A or B.

MISCELLANEOUS 1/1

Drawn from the different categories: Interdisciplinary, Journalism, Sports, Technology, Agriculture, Family Consumer Science, Drivers Education, Industrial Arts, Pop Culture, Consumer Education and not requiring all subcategories to be represented equally or at all. P. Breakdown of questions at all levels of the IHSA State Final Series: The sixty (60) forty eight (48) questions, thirty (30) twenty four (24) toss-up and thirty (30) twenty four (24) bonus questions, for each match throughout the state series will consist of the following specific number of questions in each category:

1. Science: five (5) toss-up and five (5) bonus questions per match.

2. Mathematics: five (5) toss-up and five (5) bonus questions per match.

3. Social Studies: five (5) toss-up and five (5) bonus questions per match.

4. Literature/Language Arts: five (5) toss-up and five (5) bonus questions per match.

5. Fine Arts: Three (3) toss-up and three (3) bonus questions per match.

6. Miscellaneous: one (1) toss-up and one (1) bonus questions per match.

7. All toss-up questions involving calculation must be labeled.

Note: There was a great deal of discussion that took place in order to arrive at the distribution list presented here. All of the categories were reviewed independently by the committee to determine if they should continue to remain as categories. The proposed revisions are balanced and maintain the Miscellaneous Category.

Rationale: By reducing the number of questions per round it became necessary to revise the distribution of those questions as well.

Motion-Cynthia Wierzba Second-Brenden Aydt Passed 5-0

3. Item: Standardize the number of Bonus Parts

Recommendation:

Definition of a Match

3-A-1. Match questions will be a combination of toss-up and bonus. Bonus questions will be comprised of three (3) parts and are subject to be multiple-part (three to five parts) and are rebounding. Rebounding refers to the fact that the team to which the bonus is not awarded has the opportunity to pick up any part(s) unanswered or answered incorrectly by the team to which the bonus was originally awarded.

3-A-3. Toss-Up questions are worth fifteen (15) points. A correct answer to a toss-up question results in control of the respective bonus question.

3-A-4. Bonus questions are worth a maximum of ~~twenty (20)~~ thirty (30) points and consist of three (3) ~~to five~~ parts.

4-E-9. Scoring for all bonus questions is ten (10) points for each part correct. Scoring on bonus questions is as follows:

~~4-E-9a.~~ Scoring for a ~~(5) five-part~~ bonus question: 4 points for each part correct.

~~4-E-9b.~~ Scoring for a ~~(4) four-part~~ bonus question 5 points for each part correct.

~~4-E-9c.~~ Scoring for a ~~(3) three-part~~ bonus question: 6 points for one team answering any one part correct; 13 points for one team answering any two parts correct; and 20 points for one team answering all three parts correct. If one team gets any one part correct and the other team gets any two parts correct, the total for that bonus question will be only 19.

4-D-1c If a player after triggering the lockout system and gaining possession, but before being recognized by the moderator, blurts out the answer; the only penalty is that a correct answer will be worth ~~five (5)~~ ten 10 points instead of ~~ten (10)~~ fifteen 15 points. An incorrect answer will simply be ruled as incorrect with no penalty.

Rationale:

Making this change would increase the speed and tempo of play, improve the quality of questions, and treat all categories of knowledge equitably. Changing all current 4 and 5 part bonus questions to 3 parts would significantly impact speed and tempo, reducing round times by up to 10-15%. Improved question quality would result from two factors. First, with fewer questions to review and edit, greater focus could be placed on the ones remaining. Second, although many writers are skilled in producing three-part questions, quality often suffers when a part is "forced" in order to make a 4 or 5 part bonus. As to equitable treatment of knowledge, under the present system it is implied that some knowledge is worth more points and deserves more time for conferring. By keeping the number of bonus parts consistent, making each bonus part of equal point value, and setting that value equal to a tossup, an equitable treatment of knowledge is established and a standard of fair play exists for all. This system retains the 1:2 ratio between toss-ups and bonus questions that currently exists.

Motion-Cynthia Wierzba Second-Brendan Aydt Passed 5-0

4. Item: Rule 4-C-1 Completeness

Recommendation: Modify Rule 4-C-1 as follows:

4-C-1. Moderators may ask for additional information to be given ("prompt") if the answer given is correct but is ambiguous. The moderator will prompt with the word, "PROMPT." Situations include, but are not limited to, the following: (The sub-parts under 4-C-1 were not modified as a result of this proposed change.)

Rationale:

This language will attempt to help clarify the appropriate response by the moderator in this situation. Also, this language clarifies when prompting is appropriate — the previous wording was far too generous (using the word 'incomplete') and theoretically would have allowed prompting for missing words in titles of books, missing roots of quadratic equations, and so on.)

Motion – Joe Iorio Second – Cynthia Wierzba Passed 5-0

5. Item VIII-M-9

Recommendation: For non-computational toss-ups, the preferred style is multi-clue, starting with a more challenging clue and ending with a clue that most teams should reasonably be expected to answer correctly. Question writers and editors should exercise restraint and use their best judgment to limit the number of, and length of, clues so that toss-ups are of a reasonable length.

Rationale:

To reduce the possibility of run-on toss-ups.

Motion – Matt Bardoe Second – Ken Dentino Passed 5-0

6. Item VIII-P-8

Recommendation: There will be no less than four (4) two (2) and no more than five (5) three (3) computational math toss-ups per round. There will be no more than one (1) computational science toss-up per round. All computational toss-up questions will be from either the math or science categories, and need not be multi-clue.

Rationale:

By reducing the number of questions per round it became necessary to revise the number of computational questions.

Motion – Cindy Wierzba Second – Ken Dentino Passed 4-1

7. Item VIII-P Note

Recommendation: Questions in categories other than Miscellaneous should be prefaced by a mention of the major category only, with no specification of sub-category.

Rationale:

Because the sub-categories within the Miscellaneous Category are vastly different from one another, the mention of the subcategory is needed to help focus the thinking of the players.

NO MOTION MADE ON THIS RECOMMENDATION, NO ACTION TAKEN

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

None

ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION

*Quality of IHSA State Series questions – As is common for this committee, a general discussion of the quality of questions was conducted. The committee, like our question writers and editors, feel a commitment to providing the best questions for our state series competitions. The committee members agreed that they all believe that everyone involved in the process of developing questions is doing his/her very best to provide the quality questions we all desire. In a recent Open Letter from the IHSSBCA Steering Committee, they questioned the quality of our questions. There were no suggestions detailing their specific concerns, nor were there any specific suggestions to improve our questions. The committee is always willing and ready to address specific concerns and eager to receive specific suggestions relative to improving the perceived concerns.

IV. SPORTSMANSHIP

1. It is important that everyone involved in the Scholastic Bowl program work together to teach, instill, promote and support GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP among the student-athletes, coaches, officials, athletic administrators, school administrators and spectators.
2. Showing support and cheering for your own team, as well as showing appreciation for the good performance of your opponent(s), does much to promote good sportsmanship.
3. Competing by the rules is important in establishing and maintaining good sportsmanship. Adherence to the "spirit" of the rule as well as the "letter" of the rule gives student-athletes, coaches, officials, athletic directors, school administrators and fans a "winning edge" in achieving good sportsmanship. THE RULES NEED TO BE FOLLOWED AND ENFORCED, REGARDLESS OF THE TIME OF THE SEASON AND THE SKILL LEVEL OF THE COMPETITORS.
4. (4-5-1 & 2) Sportsmanship is a priority with the Illinois High School Association and the National Federation. This rule clearly states that, "No team personnel/competitor shall act in an unsportsmanlike manner..." "Team personnel" is interpreted to include coach(es), competitors, non-competitors, lap counters, managers, etc.

Art. 1: Unsportsmanlike conduct is behavior that is unethical or dishonorable. It includes, but is not limited to, disrespectfully addressing an official, any flagrant behavior, intentional contact, taunting, criticizing or using profanity directed towards someone. This shall apply to all coaches, contestants and other team/school personnel.

Penalty: Disqualification from that event and further competition in the meet. Disqualification of a coach or other school personnel shall be from further involvement in the meet.

Art. 2: Unacceptable conduct by a competitor includes, but is not limited to, willful failure to follow the directions of a meet official, using profanity that is directed at someone or any action which could bring discredit to the individual or his/her school.

Penalty: Disqualification from the event.

a.) If a member of the "team personnel" is ejected from the competitive area for unsportsmanlike conduct, officials should make sure the ejected member of the team personnel is under the direct supervision of authorized school or security personnel. If a coach is ejected from the competitive area (or the premises) and there is no

other authorized school personnel available to coach the team, the meet will be forfeited to the opponent(s). The meet referee should report the ejection of a coach from the competition area to the school principal and the IHSA Office on the **Special Report Form**.

5. **SAWA Reports:** Officials should only send in SAWA Reports in extreme positive cases of Sportsmanship. Sawa Reports should not be sent to the IHSA Office, just because a school ran a good meet, etc. Please use good judgement when sending those reports to the IHSA Office.
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V. State Final Volunteers Welcome

Any school, coach, current or graduated player wishing to be involved in the IHSA Scholastic Bowl State Final as a volunteer should contact Cheryl Lowery (clowery@ihsa.org). Knowledgeable volunteers are always welcome.