

# IHSA INFORMATION

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# OFFICIALS DEPARTMENT

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CALL (309) 663-6377 FAX (309) 663-7479

Dear Applicant,

I would personally like to thank you for expressing an interest in becoming a licensed sport official in Illinois. It is very rewarding to give back something to a sport that you are attached to and to help our high schools educate our youth.

I will outline what you need to do to stay active as a sport official in Illinois.

1. Fill out both sides of the application, sign it and enclose a photocopy of your driver's license.
2. Enclose a check or money order for your application fee.
3. Once the application is returned to the IHSA, we will send you a sport specific mailing with the rules book and a copy of the test. Fall sports will be mailed in July, winter sports will be mailed in September and spring sports will be mailed in January.
4. Once you receive your sport specific mailing, you will need to read the rules book and take the Part One exam. Return the exam to the IHSA office for grading. An official must score at least an 80 on the Part One test.
5. Once you have passed the test, you will receive a letter from the IHSA that will include two patches. The patches must be sewn on your official's uniform. The uniform for each sport is detailed in the on-line Official's Handbook.

Each official must attend or view a rules interpretation meeting online every year.

The IHSA believes in official's education and has a requirement that all officials must attend a certified clinic once every three years. As a new official, you will need to attend a clinic this year in the sport(s) for which you are licensed. The clinics are listed online on the IHSA website ([www.ihsa.org](http://www.ihsa.org)). The last date for you to get a clinic credit for this year will be at the Summer IHSA Officials Conference.

All officials are independent contractors. You must set your own schedule. The IHSA only assigns for post-season tournaments in all sports. Most schools either have the Athletic Director hire officials or they have contracted with an assignor to contract officials for the school. It would be a benefit to you to ask the local high schools how they contract officials so that you can get your name to the right source.

Local officials' associations are a great way to help a young official learn the ropes of officiating. I would highly encourage all officials to join an officials' association. A list of all IHSA recognized officials' associations and association contacts is on-line on the IHSA website.

Again, thank you very much. I hope your experience as a sport official will be long lasting and fulfilling.

Sincerely,

Dave Gannaway  
Assistant Executive Director  
IHSA