

MINUTES OF THE IHSA BOYS BASEBALL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
September 3, 2008

The IHSA Boys Baseball Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, Bloomington, Illinois, on Wednesday, September 3, 2008, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were: Lee Bennett, Centralia; Jeff Collis, McHenry; Ben Davis, Mt. Zion; Kenny Fullman, Chicago (Harlan); Charles Gandolfi, Mundelein (Carmel); Patrick Hake, Lincoln; John Randich, Joliet (Twp.); and Dan Wieczorek, Minonk (Fieldcrest). IHSA Assistant Executive Director Dave Gannaway was also in attendance.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Item V.-E. Seeding and Pairings:

Recommendation: The seeding meeting for baseball be moved from Wednesday of Week 43 to Wednesday of Week 44 for 1A and 2A schools, and from Wednesday of Week 44 to Wednesday of Week 45 for 3A and 4A schools.

Rationale: This will allow for the schools to get in one more week of contests prior to the selection of seeds for the first round of the IHSA state series. It seems that with all the technology available, and if baseball is able to go to online seed meetings, there would be enough time to do the officials assigning.

No action taken

2. Item VIII.-A. Determining Home Team:

Recommendation: Add the following statement: "If the tournament started at a regional tournament structure instead of a sectional complex, then the home team in the sectional shall be determined by a flip of the coin."

Rationale: This will bring the Terms and Conditions in line with the new grouping and seeding policy.

approved

3. Item VIII.-F. 5) Bad Weather Guidelines for Sectional Play:

Recommendation: Add the following: "Other than the 3A and 4A sectional complexes, the winner will be determined by the flip of a coin."

Rationale: This will bring the Terms and Conditions in line with the new grouping and seeding policy.

approved

4. Item IX.-B. Players in Team Uniform:

Recommendation: In each of the tournaments, no school shall have in uniform more than twenty-five (25) players. Only those eligible player(s) or coach(es) in uniform may serve as coaches at first or third.

Rationale: This will change the limit from 22 to 25 players. There are a large number of schools that have more than 22 players that they would like to dress come state tournament time. This would give a few more players the experience of a post season tournament.

No action taken

5. **Item IX.-C.-Players Bench:**

Recommendation: A maximum of thirty (30) individuals officially connected with the school shall be permitted to occupy the players' bench.

Rationale: This change would move the number from 27 to 30 and allow for a coach to have some extra players on the bench or some of the coaches that normally would not be allowed in the bench area because of the 27 number restrictions.

No action taken

6. **Item X.-4) Awards:**

Recommendation: Team awards and thirty (30) medallions will be presented to the first, second, third and fourth place teams at the state finals.

Rationale: This would match the number of players that would be allowed if the number is increased to 25 instead of 22. The cost for baseball would be less than \$180.00.

No action taken

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION:

1. The Committee would like to recommend that baseball go to online seeding meetings for the first level of the state series. They recommend that a Committee be set up to review what information would be necessary for coaches to share to make this a good process.

ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION:

1. Silver Cross Field conducted a great tournament this past year and the Committee felt it is a very good place for the state finals.
2. The Committee reviewed the new grouping and seeding policy approved by the Board of Directors that will put all 1A and 2A schools in a Regional tournament. All 3A and 4A schools will be in a Regional tournament, except for those in the greater Chicago area where they will still have a Sectional complex.
3. The IHSA experimented with online rule interpretation meetings this fall in football and will be moving forward with online rule interpretation meetings in several other sports this year.
4. A concern was expressed about students having bats rolled and shaved. This is a technique that produces more of a trampoline effect when the bat makes contact with the ball. The IHSA will do more research in this area and provide the schools and officials with the findings.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

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