

MINUTES OF THE IHSA BOYS/GIRLS GOLF ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
December 3, 2008

The IHSA Boys/Girls Golf Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, Bloomington, Illinois, on Wednesday, December 3, 2008, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were: Mary Jo Bell, Bloomington (Central Catholic); Nathan Delany, Sterling (H.S.); Beth French, Petersburg (PORTA); Jack Halpin, Arlington Heights (St. Viator); Mike Karoski, West Frankfort (Frankfort); and Jim Kurotsuchi, Chicago (Payton). IHSA Assistant Directors Susan Hinrichsen and Kurt Gibson; Al Cornish, Class 1A boys state finals manager; Laura Provost, Class 2A boys state finals manager; and Chris Neville, President of the Illinois Coaches Association, were also in attendance. Not in attendance was Steve Carr, Westmont.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **Item VIII. Tournament Rules - N. Pace of Play/Monitoring:**

Recommendation: During the IHSA state series, pace of play will be monitored through the use of atomic clocks that will be placed at strategic locations around each state series course. Players who fail to meet the pre-determined pace of play times for the regional, sectional, and state finals courses will be subject to penalty for slow play. Tournament managers will establish the pace of play times for each tournament, provide them in advance to competitors, and form a Pace of Play Committee, who will be responsible for player warnings and observing groups as needed to determine which players will be penalized. The IHSA Pace of Play Policy, located in the School's and Manager's Manual, shall govern this initiative's implementation.

Rationale: The committee continues to be concerned about the pace of play during the state series. While the committee recognizes that the current language provides a remedy to address this issue, the reality is that not enough coaches and managers are enforcing the status quo. Moving to the use of atomic clocks will provide a more accurate, and therefore harder to dispute, measurement of pace of play.

approved

2. **Item VIII. Tournament Rules - P. Circle 10 Scoring (new section):**

Recommendation: When a player reaches 10 strokes on a hole, the player picks up his/her ball, is finished for the hole, marks a 10 on the scorecard and circles the number 10. That score stands as the player's actual score on that hole. In the event there is a team tie, the team with the fewest number of 'Circle 10' scores for the team's counting scores wins the tie-breaker.

Rationale: This initiative, which should also assist in improving the pace of play during the state series, is aimed at helping student-athletes who may be struggling during a round or on a particular hole. It is expected that the number of 'Circle 10' scores that will end up counting for a school or individual advancement should be negligible.

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3. **Item VII. Advancement of Winners - E. Regional and Sectional Team Tie Breakers - 1. (new):**

Recommendation: In the case of a team tie for the last qualifying spot, the team with the fewest ‘Circle 10’ scores among its counting scores shall advance.

Rationale: This recommendation will clarify team advancement. Since this scoring concept is non-traditional, the committee believes it makes sense to make that the first tie-breaker for team advancement.

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4. **Item VI. Tournament Structure and Time Schedules - C. Pairing Procedures: 1. Traditional Tee Times fro the 1st Hole:**

Recommendation: During the entire state series, ‘wave’ groupings that pair competitors from teams into team groups and individual qualifiers into similar groups will be used. Foursomes will used whenever possible, although threesomes can be used as necessary. No group shall have two or more players from the same school.

a. In regionals, tournament managers will determine the team pairings based on the top 4 scores for each team reported on the *List of Participants Form*. Individual competitors will also be paired with other individuals based on scores reported on the *List of Participants Form*.

b. In sectionals, pairings will be made based on scores shot at regional tournaments.

c. For the first day of the state finals, pairings will be made on scores shot at sectional tournaments.

d. For the final day of the state finals, pairings will be made on scores shot during the first day of the state finals.

Rationale: The committee believes this recommendation will assist the administration on a number of fronts. First, it will aid coaches in coaching their players since they won’t be forced to spread themselves out to get to all players during a round. Secondly, this recommendation should assist in pace of play since coaches will be more available to oversee players since they will be better clustered. And finally, this approach should make tournaments more fan-friendly since teams will be better clustered, thereby finishing in succession and not spread out during the day.

approved

5. **Item VII. Advancement of Winners - C. Regional to Sectional Advancement – Class 1A Boys. (Delete) Revision to VII. Advancement of Winners - B. Regional to Sectional Advancement – Boys’ Class 1A/2A/3A and Girls’ Class A/AA (new heading):**

Recommendation: The committee recommends boys’ Class 1A return to the team and individual advancement it used in 2007-08 and the advancement the other boys’ classes are using from regional to sectional.

Rationale: While using this approach will create sectionals in boys’ Class 1A that are larger than in other classes, the committee believes this minor imbalance is warranted given the significantly larger number of schools entered in boys’ Class 1A golf. This change does not affect the number of team and individual qualifiers from sectional to the state finals.

approved

6. **VIII. Tournament Rules - C. Competitor and Coaches Dress Code:**

Recommendation: (add the following after “slacks”): skirts or skorts designed for golf that are no more than five inches above the knee...

Rationale: The committee believes the addition of this language will allow for a better interpretation of current fashion trends in girls’ golf.

approved

ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION:

1. The committee heard reports on both the recently-completed girls’ and boys’ state final tournaments. Al Cornish, boys’ Class 1A state final manager, and Laura Provost, boys’ Class 2A state final manager, were in attendance to share reports from the state finals. During the discussion, Jack Halpin asked to include the pars for each of the previous state finals locations in the tournament program.
2. The committee discussed at length the challenges faced by both the girls’ and boys’ programs regarding qualifying standards. In girls’ golf, the larger number of competing schools in Class AA and the higher scores in Class A present challenges regarding the competitive balance in each tournament. In boys’ golf, the significantly larger number of competing schools in Class 1A creates challenges in looking at the number of schools advancing from regionals to sectionals. A few different options, including using a qualifying standard in girls’ Class 1A similar to one used in track and field or swimming and adding an additional sectional in Girls’ Class AA and Boys’ Class 3A, for setting up those tournaments were reviewed, but no action was taken.
3. The committee discussed the Dress Code Policy and its proper implementation during the state series. The committee was reminded that coaches have the authority to help monitor dress code situations to prevent those occurrences from wrecking tournaments.
4. The committee discussed the challenges of having sectionals for both boys’ and girls’ golf on the same day, particularly in those cases where schools have only one coach for both programs. In those cases, then, schools are presented with administrative and supervisory challenges.

5. The committee discussed the monitoring of regional and sectional practice rounds. Of concern is the reporting of schools that are practicing at times when they aren't allowed. IHSA staff reviewed by-law 2.060 and its application with the committee.
6. IHSA staff notified the committee that beginning with the 2009-10 school term, rules meetings will be conducted on-line. The IHSA has begun using technology to present rules meetings in the current school term with considerable success, prompting its use is golf. The committee discussed possible topics for next fall's meeting.
7. IHSA Assistant Executive Director Sue Hinrichsen notified the committee that the 2009 Class 1A State Finals will be hosted at Crab Orchard Golf Course by Carterville High School, and Carbondale High School will host the Class AA State Finals at Hickory Ridge Golf Course.
8. The committee heard a report regarding the 2009 Solheim Cup and the opportunities available to high school golf teams to attend the matches.
9. The committee recognized and thanked Jack Halpin, boys' golf coach at St. Viator High School, for his service to the committee.