

By-Law 2.070 (Qualifications of Coaches)

All coaches used by IHSA member schools are required to be "Certified." [By-Law 2.070](#) its sub-parts, and illustrations are provided to define who must be certified and how coaches can become certified to coach at IHSA Member Schools.

It is important for everyone to understand several points relative to the IHSA coaching requirements. First, any individual that any member school uses to provide instruction to any of its athletes must meet the IHSA certification requirements. This is true whether the coach is full time, part time, paid or a volunteer. Secondly, any individual that any member school uses to provide instruction to any of its athletes must be completely certified prior to beginning to coach. In other words, it is not enough to have started a coaching certification program. It is necessary that the courses be completed and the results of the required examinations returned to the coach prior to any individual interacting with IHSA athletes. Thirdly, only individuals that are certified and have been officially employed by the local Board of Education/Governing Body may coach at member schools. If the local school board/governing body has not taken action documenting their permission for an individual to be working with students from that school, then the individual is not allowed to coach student athletes at that school.

Therefore, it is not enough to be certified and to have been invited by the head coach at a school to "help out."

It is possible to become IHSA certified in a variety of ways. The most common method of becoming certified is to hold a valid Illinois Teaching Certificate. A valid Illinois Teaching Certificate will allow a school board to employ any individual to become a coach at any level at any member school. The second most common method of coaching certification in Illinois is to complete the American Sport Education Program (ASEP). It is highly recommended that individuals with questions about becoming certified to coach at IHSA Member Schools visit [IHSA Coaching Requirements \(ASEP\)](#). It is also possible to be certified in Illinois by completing any of the other programs currently adopted by the IHSA Board of Directors. A list of these programs can be found under [Policy 9](#) in the current IHSA Handbook. By completing the programs listed above an individual can be employed as a head coach at Illinois Member Schools. It is also possible to be employed as an assistant coach (only) by possessing a bachelors degree and using it to obtain an Illinois Substitute Teaching Certificate (Type 39). One final requirement to coach in Illinois is that an individual must be at least 19 years of age.

Did you know?

Since the All-State Academic Team was first selected in 1994, 208 different member schools have had at least one student selected to the All-State Academic First Team.

Don't Forget

April 23

IHSA All-State Academic Team Banquet
Class A Baseball and Softball Season Summary Form due to Sectional Managers

April 24

IHSA Board of Directors Meeting

April 25

Class A Baseball and Softball Sectional Seeding Meetings

April 30

Girls' Badminton List of Participants Form due on-line
Girls' Badminton Sectional Complex and Sectional Seeding Meetings
Class AA Baseball and Softball Season Summary Form due to Sectional Managers
Boys' Volleyball Season Summary Form due to Sectional Managers

May 2

Class AA Baseball and Softball Sectional Seeding Meetings
Boys' Volleyball Sectional Seeding Meetings

May 8

Girls' Badminton State Final Seeding Meeting
Girls' Track and Field (Class A and AA) List of Participants Form due on-line (noon deadline)

May 9

Girls' Track and Field (Class A and AA) Sectional Entry Meeting

May 15

Boys' Tennis List of Participants Form due on-line (midnight deadline)
Boys' Track and Field (Class A and AA) List of Participants Form (noon deadline)

May 16

Boys' Tennis Sectional Seeding Meetings
Boys' Track and Field (Class A and AA) Sectional Entry Meeting



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Porter's Pen ...

Athletic Values

Athletic sports have physical values but these values pale almost into insignificance when compared with those greater values which come from athletic sports at their best- values not only of higher significance to the individual than physical prowess or a healthy body but values which mould the character and determine the strength of our national civilization- self-control, self-reliance, perspective, persistence, ability to cooperate, courage, fortitude, honor.

In the playgrounds and athletic fields of America lies the surest hope for conserving and perpetuating the virility of this virile race-increasingly surrounded and menaced by the seductive allurements of luxury and softness.

The athletic field is a crucible where the youth of the land is tested and tempered under the intense heat of fierce competition and physical conflict. A crucible where the poisonous elements are driven off, and where other elements are changed into pure gold, and where entirely new values are fused into the boy's character- provided always that in the crucible there is present in abundant quantity the purifying re-agent of sportsmanship.

A good motto for a coach on the bench is: "Keep your neck in and your fist over your mouth-or in it."

Coming in May

Enacting Change within the IHSA

From the Staff

Each year the IHSA calls for volunteers to help conduct the Boys' and Girls' State Finals Track and Field Meets at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston. Traditionally, we will have approximately 160 to 170 volunteers working the girls' meet and 200 to 210 volunteers working the boys' meet. Many of the volunteers are licensed IHSA Track & Field Officials, but many are not. We have individuals that have worked our track & field meets for as long as 50 years, and we will have others that will be volunteering for the first time this spring. The individuals that volunteer to help work these important track & field meets are vital to the success of each meet. Whether you are an experienced veteran or a rookie, your service and contributions are important to the success of the IHSA Track and Field State Finals. The IHSA, officials, coaches and participating athletes would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the hundreds of individuals that give their time to make the state meets the annual success that they are.

We have begun contacting all of the individuals that have volunteered in the past asking if they will be available to help again this year. This is the only method for all individuals to let us know that they are interested. The forms for volunteering this year were due March 26, 2007. However, it is not too late to volunteer for this spring. If you are interested in volunteering and have not been contacted or have not returned your form, please contact Cheryl Mitchell at the IHSA Office. She will send you a form so that we can collect the information we require to get you involved. On the form you will be asked to let us know how you would like to volunteer. We make every effort to assign you to your area of interest.

There will be approximately 2300 - 2400 young men and women qualify for each of the weekends again this spring. You are encouraged to contact the IHSA if you have an interest in becoming a part of the IHSA Spring Spectacular. We hope to see you in Charleston!

One-Minute Manager

Classification Breakdown for 2007-08: The IHSA Board of Directors will determine the enrollment cutoffs to be used in 2007-08 for 2, 3, and 4 class state series competitions at their April 24, 2007, meeting.

Archived issues of The Interpreter: Previous editions of The Interpreter can be accessed through the [IHSA Schools Center](#). The link to these archived editions can be found at the bottom of the left hand column in the Schools Center under the heading "Document Index."

