

By-Laws 1.460 and 6.010 (Penalties for Violation of IHSA Rules)

Whenever there are violations of IHSA Constitution, By-Laws, Terms and Conditions, or Policies and Guidelines, consequences are meted out in accordance with provisions established in the IHSA Constitution. [Section 1.460](#) of the constitution establishes the authority of the IHSA Executive Director to investigate and decide all matters concerning eligibility, protests, by-laws, or rules. The section also establishes the parameters under which the Executive Director can modify the effect of a penalty for a violation of IHSA By-Laws or rules, and it spells out the appeals process for schools or individuals who wish to exercise that identified right. All appeals are heard by either the IHSA Board of Directors or a board-approved hearing officer. After hearing the appeal, the Board has the

final authority to sustain, modify, or overturn the Executive Director's decision, or sustain, increase, decrease, or otherwise modify the penalty for the violation.

However, the section does not define the parameters for consequences for non-compliance with association rules. [By-Law 6.010](#), though, does. There, the Executive Director is given the authority to investigate any alleged violation, and, should a determination be made that non-compliance with an association rule is to have occurred, invoke penalties against school or persons found to have committed violations. Penalties are determined on a case by case basis and could include anything from a written reprimand to expulsion from the association. The section also

addresses penalties for those involved with using undue influence to secure or retain the attendance of a student at a member school.

In any type of investigative situation, involved member schools are given the opportunity to share whatever information they feel is necessary to help the Executive Director reach his decision on any matter. Each investigation is unique, and schools and individuals are provided with appropriate due process during the entire investigation. Doing so allows the association to follow widely-accepted and legally supported processes in fulfilling the authority granted to the Executive Director.

From the Staff

Spring can be a very busy time for many of our IHSA member schools. From sports to activities, school administrators can be seen balancing track meets, rain dates, proms, and graduations. It is easy during this busy time to overlook some of the IHSA activity deadlines. Here are a few reminders to assist in your spring planning.

April 9: Cheerleading Advisory Committee Meeting @ IHSA office

April 11th and 12th: Music Organizational Contest @ various sites

April 19th: Journalism Sectionals @ various sites

April 26th: Journalism State Final @ EIU

May 1st: Music Advisory Committee Meeting @ IHSA office

Encourage your activity directors, coaches, and advisers to submit agenda items for the various advisory committees' discussions. Many times these folks do not always feel they have a voice in the change process and we want to hear from them as we continue to improve our state series in activities. Additionally, if a representative from your school would like to become more involved in an IHSA activity by serving on the advisory committee, please have him/her submit a letter of interest to our office. And finally, we are always looking for host sites for next year. If your campus would be willing to open your doors and step up and host an IHSA activity, please contact our office. Many schools are willing to host an IHSA regional in basketball or a sectional in volleyball, however, often times the activities get overlooked. What a great way to showcase your school by hosting a music contest or speech series! Feel free to contact Susie Knoblauch at the IHSA office with any activity questions and have a great spring season.

IHSA Drug Testing Policy

At their January 14, 2008, meeting, the IHSA Board of Directors approved a recommendation from the association's Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) to implement a performance enhancing drug testing program beginning with the 2008-09 school term. In taking this action, Illinois became the fourth state in the country to announce its intentions to drug test student athletes, and the first state to do so without any legislative mandate. In an attempt to help prepare the membership for the program's implementation, this article will be one of a number of resources on the program's procedures that will be made available prior to start of the program.

Before getting into the details and procedures of the testing program, it's important to note the purpose or intention of the program itself. The program is part of a larger effort made by the association's SMAC to raise awareness on performance-enhancing drugs (PED's) and their associated dangers for student-athletes. Over the past three years, the SMAC has undertaken a number of initiatives aimed at raising awareness on the topic. These initiatives can be accessed on the [SMAC's Special Topics Page](#) on the IHSA website. Testing, then, becomes a natural fit for earlier initiatives and makes the committee's efforts more comprehensive.

Perhaps the best and easiest way to describe the testing program is to give an overview of what will happen next year during all the IHSA's athletic state tournaments. Any student who represents his/her school in any IHSA athletic state tournament will be subject to testing for any item on the [IHSA's Banned Substance List](#), which can be accessed on the SMAC's Special Topics Page. Tests will be administered in all IHSA state series tournaments, with more emphasis and tests being conducted in those sports determined to have a higher risk of

PED use. Prior to competing in an IHSA state series event, the student and his/her parent/guardian will be required to complete a Consent Form, which can be found in the [Forms and Documents Index](#) of the IHSA website. Students who fail to consent to testing will be ineligible for post-season competition. Schools will be required to keep the consent form on file for each student and, just like physical exam forms, will need to be completed yearly for each student. The IHSA will use the third party administrator Drug Free Sport (DFS) to conduct all tests, which consist of selected students providing a post-competition urine sample. The third party administrator will be responsible for the selection of all schools and students for testing, and schools and students could be selected more than once during a tournament for testing.

During an IHSA state series tournament, then, the IHSA Office will work with the DFS to determine the number of schools and athletes to be tested during an entire tournament. The IHSA Office will provide the DFS with a list of tournament sites and competing schools, and the DFS will then randomly select those schools that will have athletes tested. The IHSA Office will contact those schools in advance of the selected tournament and inform the school's administration that they will have athletes tested after a particular competition. This contact is to be considered confidential and not shared with coaches or players. It is intended to provide schools with advance notice of the test so the school can determine if it needs to make additional arrangements to transport those students selected for testing home after the test since it's possible it may take some students a while to provide the necessary sample after a contest. During that initial contact, the IHSA and the school will determine who the school's administrative point person will be on game day to assist in getting those selected students to the testing site,

which in most cases, will be at the school where a contest is being held. And in those cases, the host school will need to determine the appropriate location that will serve as test site on game day. In the event a contest or tournament is being held at a non-school site, the host, the IHSA Office, and the DFS will work together to determine the test site.

If necessary, on game day, the school administrator will provide the IHSA representative and DFS with their school's game day roster. The DFS will then randomly select those students who will be tested, and prior to the end of the contest, those names will be shared with the school administration. Following the contest, the administration will need to assist in getting those students to the test site. At this time, parents will be allowed to accompany their student if they wish. Once at the test site, the DFS will work with each selected student to ensure that Chain of Custody is maintained and that the testing process is valid. At this time, selected students will also be notified for what substance(s) they are being tested. Once finished with testing, the student will be released from the test site.

After approximately 10-14 days, results will be made available to the IHSA Office. At this time, the IHSA Board of Directors is reviewing how schools will be notified once their testing cycle is complete and no positive results have occurred. Schools, though, will be contacted if a positive test result occurs. In those cases, the IHSA Medical Review Officer (MRO) will review all positive test results to determine if there is a valid medical reason for the positive result. In the event of a possible positive test result, schools may be asked to assist in providing contact information for the MRO so he/she can speak with the student and/or his/her family. At that time, a student may be asked to provide a written prescription from a licensed physician

IHSA Drug Testing Policy, Continued

or some other documentation that may verify or substantiate the positive result. Ultimately, though, the MRO will determine whether the positive test result stands or not, and then the IHSA Executive Director will decide whether or not a violation of the Drug Testing Policy has occurred. If it is determined that a violation has occurred, the necessary and appropriate consequences will be enforced.

For a student who is found to be in violation of the IHSA's Drug Testing Policy, students will be ineligible for 365 days from the date the test results were reported to the student and the school. The student may apply for reinstatement of athletic eligibility after 90 calendar days, following the successful completion of an approved educational program and a negative

test for performance-enhancing drugs, the cost for which will be paid by the student. Additionally, the Board determined that any team penalties for a student's violation would be determined by the Executive Director on a case-by-case basis under the provisions of Article 1.460 of the IHSA Constitution.

Later this year, the IHSA member schools will be able to access some materials intended to prepare their athletes, coaches, and community for the program's implementation. Two of those new resources will be in written format and available to IHSA member schools for their distribution. The first, entitled The Journey, will offer insight for students on the need and importance of competing clean and with integrity. The second, The Athlete's Handbook, will provide a

detailed explanation of the testing program. Schools will be encouraged to reproduce these booklets as necessary and share them with students, coaches, parents, and other stakeholders. These resources will be tailored to high school athletes and have been made available to IHSA member schools through a partnership the association has made with the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA). The IHSA appreciates their assistance and support of this project. Additionally, the IHSA Office will produce a video that will explain in detail all aspects of the drug testing program. Schools will be able to use the presentation with any number of audiences to again prepare students and coaches for the 2008-09 school term.

One Minute Manager

All State Academic Team: The IHSA will recognize and honor its 15th All State Academic Team on April 21, 2008, at a banquet in Bloomington, Illinois. 26 students, 13 boys and 13 girls, were named to this year's team. Each of the association's seven board districts are represented on the team, and each team member was selected by a blue ribbon panel of educators from around the state. Each member school of the IHSA can nominate one boy and one girl each year for consideration to the team. For more information on this year's honorees and a complete release on the selection process, please access this [announcement](#).

Advisory Committee Recommendations: The IHSA Board of Directors will consider the next round of advisory committee recommendations at their June meeting. A number of advisory committees from winter sports meet in March and April to make potential changes to the Terms and Conditions in IHSA sports and activities. Administrators and coaches are encouraged to review the [minutes](#) of those meetings and contact IHSA Board members with any feedback concerning each recommendation prior to the board's June 9th meeting.

Summer Contact: With spring now underway, member schools are also beginning to make plans for their athletic teams' summer contact schedule. Member schools are strongly encouraged to have coaches submit summer calendars to their athletic administrator in advance of the summer so administrators can verify programs don't exceed their allowable 25 days. The summer contact period begins on the earlier of the following days for each school: the day AFTER the last day of student attendance (this does include any final exam/report card pick up days) OR June 2nd (Monday of week 49). This year the summer contact period ends on August 3rd (Sunday of week 5).

Additionally, there have been some questions brought to the attention of the IHSA Office regarding any changes to summer camp activities for high school football programs in Illinois. The current summer football rule prohibits member schools from engaging in any kind of practice, scrimmage, or competitive situation with another school during the summer, except for 7 on 7 passing leagues. In February 2007, the Board addressed this issue and offered a clear [interpretation](#) on this topic. It was discussed in greater depth as a part of the February 2007 Interpreter. While there was talk to possibly change that restriction for this summer, no member school submitted a by-law for membership review this year. Schools with additional questions should contact Dave Gannaway at the IHSA Office.



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Porter's Pen ...

This month's look back again reinforces how yesterday's messages still resonate three quarter of a century after being first penned. Enjoy!

Ready for the Kick-Off

*"Don't flinch, don't foul, and hit the line hard."
- Roosevelt*

In many schools there are problems growing out of depressed industrial conditions of the community. Sympathy but not condolence goes to these. Curtailed budgets result in a smaller teaching force, less equipment and decreased income from activities dependent on admission fees. These conditions create problems that will test the mettle of the best of administrators. It is not pleasant to be confronted with these problems, but there are a few compensating factors. When handicaps such as these exist it is essential that the whole school force, including the student body, work together in a common cause. Sometimes it is easier to secure this united action during a period of comparative poverty than during a time when an easy income is assured. There is an innate joy in making an enterprise successful when the group knows it is difficult. There are valuable traits engendered when a group of boys will don working clothes to help level the football field or the tennis court or when they will use care in preserving playing equipment because they know that no new material is available. It is an auspicious sign when a team will give some of its efforts to protect the athletic funds instead of grumbling because of not receiving costly meals and prizes and luxurious playing paraphernalia. It is a hopeful condition when the attention of the athlete is centered on the question "What can I do for the school?" instead of on "What will the school give me if I win?" Lasting friendships are formed by working, succeeding, failing, rejoicing, and sorrowing together. They are all necessary in the scheme of life.

Don't Forget

April 14

- Boys' Gymnastics List of Participants due on-line by 4:00 p.m. in the IHSA Schools Center

April 16

- Boys'/Girls' Water Polo Sectional Seed Meetings
- Girls' Soccer (Class A & AA) Sectional Seed Meetings

April 21

- IHSA All-State Academic Banquet

April 22

- IHSA Board of Directors Meeting

April 23

- Boys' Baseball (Class 1A & 2A) Team Seed Meetings
- Girls' Softball (Class 1A & 2A) Team Seed Meetings

April 28

- Girls' Badminton List of Participants due on-line by 11:00 a.m. in the IHSA Schools Center
- Girls' Badminton Sectional Seed Meetings

April 30

- Boys' Baseball (Class 3A & 4A) Team Seed Meetings
- Boys' Volleyball Sectional Seed Meetings
- Girls' Softball (Class 3A & 4A) Team Seed Meetings

May 6

- Girls' Badminton State Final Seed Meeting
- Girls' Track and Field (Class A & AA) List of Participants due on-line by noon in the IHSA Schools Center

May 7

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

