

2025-26 Competitive Dance Series Terms & Conditions

In accordance with Section 1.450 of the IHSA Constitution, the IHSA Board of Directors has approved the Terms and Conditions governing the 2025-26 IHSA Competitive Dance Tournament Series.

I. SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION

- A) Classifications in the IHSA Competitive Dance State Series will be determined according to IHSA Policy 17 (Classification System).
- B) 1A, 2A, and 3A teams can have up to 28 rostered participants with no more than 28 allowed on the competition floor and no less than 5. If you have a manager, they must be listed as one of your available 28.

II. DATES AND SITES

- A) **Sectional Tournaments:** The Sectional tournaments will be held on week 29 of the IHSA Standardized Calendar (Saturday, January 24, 2026) at five proportional sites per division which will be announced in November and posted on the IHSA website at www.ihsa.org.
- B) **State Final Tournament:** The State Final tournament will be held on week 30 of the Standardized IHSA Calendar (Friday and Saturday, January 30 and January 31, 2026). The Bloomington Arena in Bloomington will host the state final.

III. ONLINE ENTRIES, WITHDRAWALS, PROCEDURE, ELIGIBILITY, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, AND ONLINE LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The policy for Original Entry Deadlines, Late Entries and Late Withdrawals shall be the policies and procedures regarding entry for all IHSA sponsored sports included in the 2025-26 Entry Policies and Procedures which can be found in the Schools Center on the IHSA website

- A) **Online Entries:** All member schools must enter their school into the state series competition through the IHSA Schools Center on the IHSA Website at www.ihsa.org. The deadline for entry is November 1, 2025. The 2025-26 Entry Policies and Procedures outlining the online entry procedures for all IHSA sponsored tournaments can be found in the Schools Center on the IHSA website.
- B) **Late Entries:** Any attempt to enter a sport online after the established deadlines will be denied. Schools that wish to enter after the deadline will be considered late. To be considered for late entry, the Principal/Official Representative must contact the IHSA administrator in charge of that sport or activity to request late entry. The penalty for late entry shall be a payment of \$100.00 for that sport/activity by the school.
- C) **Breach of Contract By-law 6.041 (Withdrawal Procedures):**
 - 1) To withdraw without penalty, the principal must notify the IHSA Office, in writing, of the school's withdrawal

from the respective sport prior to the date the List of Participants is due for that sport (December 9, 2025).

- 2) If a school withdraws after the List of Participants due date the school will be charged a \$100 penalty and if applicable, the school may be charged for any additional financial loss sustained by the offended school(s) or the Association as a result of such breach. **If a school does not withdraw and does not show up for competition, the school will be charged a \$500 penalty and if applicable, the school may be charged for any additional financial loss sustained by the offended school(s) or the Association as a result of such breach.**

- D) **Eligibility:** All member schools in good standing may enter one team under the provisions of IHSA By-law 3.000.
- E) **Affirmative Action:** Boys and girls shall be permitted to participate in the state series as provided in the IHSA Affirmative Action Policy.
- F) **Online List of Participants:** Each school must complete the Online List of Participants by the deadline date of December 9, 2025.

If a school does not submit the Online List of Participants by the deadline, coaches and/or participants are subject to penalties, which could include but not limited to being ruled ineligible to compete in the State Series and/or charged \$100.00. Confirmation of receipt of Online List of Participants: Schools should login to their Schools Center site on the IHSA website and go to the Sport and Activity Tracker. The Sport and Activity Tracker will show "Completed", if you have checked the button indicating you have finished with your report. If it doesn't indicate "Completed", then you must go back into your school's List of Participants and check the button on the Online List of Participants indicating you are finished with your report.

IV. HOST FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- A) **Sectional Host School Expenses:** Sectional host schools shall receive a guarantee of \$650. Officials will be paid by IHSA via ArbiterPay. The host school shall pay for all local expenses. After these guaranteed expenses are deducted from the gross income, including gate receipts, the host school shall receive 20% of the net income. In the event of a negative balance, the host shall be reimbursed the entire deficit.
- B) **Sites Other Than Member Schools:** When a Sectional tournament is held at a site other than an IHSA member school, the IHSA administration will determine the financial arrangements with the host using current financial arrangements as guidelines.
- C) **Contestant Expenses:** Neither the State Association nor the local tournament management will assume responsibility for any contestant expenses of any kind.
- D) **Digital Tickets:** Per IHSA Board Policy 22, GoFan Digital Tickets will be the exclusive ticket option available



For this sport at the Sectional round of the State Series. Any exceptions must be approved by the IHSA office.

- E) **Admission Prices:** The following State Series ticket prices have been set by the IHSA Board of Directors.

A baby in arms is free at all rounds of the State Series. Pricing for all other individuals is as follows:

SECTIONAL

Digital Ticket: \$8.00

Cash Ticket: \$9.00

STATE FINALS

Ticket: \$12.00 per session

GoFan digital ticketing is not available at the State Final. Bloomington Arena may make digital tickets for sale. The IHSA has no control over any convenience fees charged for these digital tickets.

- F) **Refunds:** Under no circumstances shall there be a refund of ticket money for tickets sold.

V. TOURNAMENT ASSIGNMENTS

- A) **Sectional Assignments:** All IHSA member schools entered in the Competitive Dance State Series will be assigned by the IHSA to one of the five (5) proportional divisions for Sectionals. These assignments will appear online at www.ihsa.org after the Nov. 1 entry deadline. Assignments are made according to the IHSA Grouping Policy # 18. The number of competing schools, travel distance, geographical location and the number of entries shall be primary factors in the determination of number and boundary lines for these Sectionals. Sectional competition order will be randomly determined at the IHSA office and be posted online and provided to the sectional managers. No local manager shall be permitted to change the order in which the schools compete unless given permission by the IHSA office. The top six qualifying teams in each division from each sectional will advance to the state competition

VI. TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE

- A) **Tournament Structure:** The successive series shall be designated respectively, Sectional and State Final. The Sectional contest will be held on Saturday, January 24, 2026. Sectional competition times will be posted online at www.ihsa.org on the IHSA dance menu page. All schools entered in the IHSA Competitive Dance State Series will be assigned to compete in proportional divisions of Sectional competition on a geographical basis. There will be a site manager at each sectional site. The top six (6) qualifiers in each division from the Sectional competition will advance to compete in the State Final.
- B) **Coaches State Final Meeting:** A State Final coaches' meeting will be prerecorded and emailed to coaches prior to the State Final. A coach (or their school representative) from each school qualifying a team for the State Final is responsible for the information of that meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to review policies, procedures

and local rules governing the conduct of the state final. Coaches will be responsible for the information reviewed at that meeting.

- C) **State Final Time Schedule:** On Friday, January 30, 2026, preliminary rounds of competition will begin at 10:15 a.m. Below is the preliminary State Final time schedule. The State Final time schedule shall be as follows:

Friday, January 30, 2026

SESSION 1

1A & 2A Preliminaries

9:15 am Doors open to the State Final venue site 10:00 am Welcome
10:10 am Announcements & National Anthem
10:15 am First Performance (1A & 2A Alternate Performances)
12:15 pm —Officials Break—
2:21 pm Last Performance
2:40 pm Announcement of 1A Finalists
2:50 pm Announcement of 2A Finalists

SESSION 2

3A Preliminaries

4:00 pm Welcome
4:10 pm Announcements & National Anthem
4:15 pm First Performance (3A)
6:15 pm —Officials Break—
7:19 pm Last Performance
7:40 pm Announcement of 3A Finalists

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 2026

SESSION 3

1A, 2A, & 3A Team Finals

10:00 am Doors open to the State Final venue site 10:55 am Announcements & National Anthem
11:00 am Team Finals (1A & 2A Alternate Performances)
12:45 pm 1A Team Awards
1:00 pm 2A Team Awards
1:55 pm Announcements & National Anthem
2:00 pm Team Finals 3A
3:32 pm 3A Team Awards

- D) **State Final School Packets:** At the State Final, school packets which include state final passes may be picked up Thursday evening, January 29, 2026, from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the VIP entrance and Friday, January 30, 2026, at the Pepsi Ice Rink Main Entrance located on the south entrance of the Bloomington Arena. (Note: performance schedules will be posted online). A coach/school official is the only person permitted to pick up the schools' packet. The Bloomington Arena in downtown Bloomington is Tournament Central.
- E) **Time Schedules:** Sectional and State Competition time schedules shall be posted online at www.ihsa.org. Time schedules are determined by a random sort for sectionals and the state finals including prelims and final performances.



F) **Warm-up Time:** Warm-up time at the Sectional and the State Final tournaments shall be posted online at www.ihsa.org prior to competition. Teams will report to warm-up forty (40) minutes prior to their performance with twenty (20) minutes designated in the warm-up area and four (4) minutes of warm-up on the designated full warm-up floor.

- 1) At Sectional and State competition the host shall not make its performance area available earlier to the teams for practice sessions. When a part of the state series is played at a facility other than a member school's facility, none of the teams entered, including a hosting member school shall be permitted to practice at the facility.
- 2) Schools entered in the competition will be allowed warm-up/practice time as scheduled by the IHSA.
- 3) In the Sectional and State series uninterrupted clock minutes shall be provided for warm-up prior to competition. Teams may not be on the official warm up floor prior to the designated time.
- 4) Only competitors and coaches will be allowed in the warm-up area.

G) **Competition Disruption:** Tournament management reserves the right to cease competition under the following conditions:

- 1) At the Sectional and State prelims the IHSA Official reserves the right to stop a routine due to an obvious injury. The competition officials will determine if the team will be allowed to perform at a later time. If the competition officials allow a routine to be performed at a later time, the spot in the schedule where the re-performance is to take place is at the sole discretion of competition officials. The team may perform the routine again in its entirety but will be evaluated only from the point where the interruption occurred.
- 2) If, in the opinion of the tournament officials, a team's routine is interrupted because of failure of the tournament equipment, facilities, or other factors attributable to the tournament rather than the team the Head Official should stop the routine. The tournament officials will determine the degree and effect of the interruption. The team will be allowed to present its routine from the place in the routine where the interruption occurred.
- 3) In the event a team's routine is interrupted because of failure of the team's own equipment the team must either continue the routine or take the score earned to that point.

H) **Sectional Management:** In all cases in which a member school is selected as a competition site, the IHSA Official Representative of the high school shall automatically assume entire responsibility for the competition. The Official Representative may delegate the authority to manage the competition to another staff member. In case the site is not located at a member school, then the IHSA Board of Directors shall appoint a local manager with like responsibilities.

I) **Sectional Manager:** The local manager shall have authority to take proper and appropriate action in any case of unusual situations arising during the competitions. However, no part of the terms and conditions may be set aside. In all cases involving an interpretation not specifically covered by the rules, the competition manager shall consult with the Head Official before the announcement of results or the presentation of awards.

The Sectional Manager or appointed manager shall conduct a meeting for coaches virtually or prior to each division at the sectional tournament on the Saturday morning of sectionals. The Sectional manager will introduce the Head Official and any other personnel that they deem necessary to introduce to the coaches. The Sectional manager will discuss items on the sectional agenda (tournament logistics) and answer any questions regarding the competition.

VII. ADVANCEMENT OF WINNERS

- A) The first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth place teams in each dance competition division from the Sectional shall advance to the state final and compete in the division in which they qualified. The top twelve teams in each division will advance to Saturday's Final Competition.
- B) Should a qualifying team withdraw or be disqualified before the state final tournament, the remaining qualifier from the same Sectional in that division shall be moved up.
- C) A team moving up due to withdrawal or disqualification may be entered into the State Final up to the competition time. It is the responsibility of the principal or coach to notify the IHSA office at the earliest possible time that another advancing team may be necessary. The IHSA office is responsible for informing the school's administration/coach that they will replace a regular qualifier.
- D) The school winner will be determined in accordance with the scoring system described in Article VIII.
- E) A random sort at the IHSA office will determine the performance order for sectionals and state. A random sort will also be used to determine the finals order for Saturday's State Final competition. This order will be posted online on the dance link at www.ihsa.org.

VIII. TOURNAMENT RULES

The current National Federation Spirit Rules published by the NFHS are the official rules governing the competition in all state series competitions. The National Federation of State High School Association's Official High School Spirit Rules Book is the minimum safety standard for the state series.

A) **Competition Guidelines**

Each team will present one competitive routine in their assigned division.

- 1) **Timing**
 - a. Competition will consist of a one minute forty-five second (1:45) minimum time limit and three



- b. (3) minute maximum time limit. The timing begins with the team's first movement or note of music, whichever comes first on the competition floor. Timing ends with the last movement or beat of music. There will be an official timer at each level of competition. All participants must start in the competition area.
 - 2) Competition Area
 - a. The competitive dance surface shall be a standard high school basketball court area of 84ft. x 50ft. (wide). At the state final, the competition dance surface shall be an 80ft. x 50ft. (wide) Marley floor.
 - b. Members of your competitive team must fulfill all spotting requirements as governed by the NFHS Spirit Rules.
 - 3) Music can be on a CD or a MP3 player and all teams must have a back-up. In addition, it is the coach's responsibility to start and stop the music. Coaches will be allowed to check their music directly before the performance. Music should not contain any suggestive lyrics. The association assumes no responsibility for the payment of copyright, royalty, or any other fees connected to the performances of any material in the dance competitive state series.
 - 4) Only appropriate poms used in a safe manner are allowed. (No flags, streamers, etc. will be allowed.) No props will be allowed.
 - 5) Masks, hats, sunglasses, or other head/face coverings are allowed. Hats, masks, sunglasses, or other head/face coverings are not allowed for any stunting or tumbling. Masks must be totally removed or discarded for any dancer (base or top person) involved in stunting or tumbling.
 - 6) Apparel can be manipulated as long as it is attached. Apparel can be removed and discarded.
 - 7) When standing at attention, apparel must cover the midriff. The midriff is defined as the three inches from the belly button up around the front and sides of the body.
- B) **Scoring:** Refer to the score sheet and rubric in the competition manual.
- 1) **Sectional:** The official IHSA score sheet will be used for the scoring of all competitive dance routines. The total accumulative point value of the officials score sheets will be averaged. There shall be five (5) hired officials for each Sectional site competition. There shall be two (2) IHSA penalty officials, and three (3) IHSA panel officials with one being the head official assigned by the IHSA for each Sectional site.
 - 2) **State:** The official IHSA score sheet will be used for the scoring of all competitive dance routines. The total accumulative point value of the officials score sheets will be averaged. There shall be eight (8) hired officials for the State competition. There shall be five (5) IHSA hired panel officials for the State competition. There shall be one (1) head official for State. There shall be two (2) technical officials for State. Each routine will be judged by (2) penalty officials and five (5) panel officials.
- 3) Deductions/Penalties shall be subtracted from the total accumulative point value average.
- C) **Team Ties:** Ties affecting advancement from preliminaries to finals: At all competitions, teams tied for a position which qualifies for advancement from preliminaries to finals shall be advanced without the tie being broken.
- D) **Coaching:** At the Sectional and State Series, eligible high school coaches shall follow this procedure:
- 1) A maximum of four (4) competitive dance coaches shall be allowed to coach on the competition floor. Only coaches whose names appear on the List of Participants will be allowed to coach unless written notification from the school's Principal verifies the eligibility of a coach. Schools may only submit the names of those coaches who are in compliance with IHSA By-law 2.070.
 - 2) Eligible coaches shall receive four (4) coaching passes in their team packet for the State Final.
 - 3) The eligible coaches shall wear the coaching pass on the outside of his/her clothes while coaching.
 - 4) Only coaches wearing this pass will be allowed into designated areas to coach.
 - 5) Violation of ineligible coaching or being inappropriately involved with a competing high school athlete during a Sectional or State competition may be considered gross misconduct and could result in penalty deductions to dismissal from coaching at the event.
 - 6) Coaches should remain in the designated areas at all times during warm-ups and competition and not disrupt the competition. Coaching should be limited to words of help and encouragement, and the ethics of good sportsmanship must be observed.
- E) **Unsportsmanlike Conduct:** Managers and officials have the strictest instructions to disqualify any competitor, coach and/or person guilty of profane or indecent language or of gross unsportsmanlike conduct. The IHSA By-laws give the Board of Directors complete authority to penalize a school for any unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of the principal, the coach, the athletes, the faculty, the board of education or any other official representative of any participating school. The Board of Directors will definitely exercise this authority.
- F) **Videotaping:** The IHSA prohibits any taping for the purpose of video reviewing during the tournament. Spectators are allowed to videotape in the stands, provided they remain in their seat and do not obstruct the view of participants and spectators.
- G) **Substitutions:** After the List of Participants have been entered, competing schools may use any student whose name appears on the List of Participants as competitors. No



substitution of names to the List of Participants shall be made after December 9, 2025. Alternates on this list may be used for competition at any time.

- H) **Refusing to Participate:** If an IHSA member team refuses to compete after being assigned to a competition, the tournament manager shall report the incident to the IHSA office. The withdrawing team will be responsible for all applicable fees. (Refer to Article III-C in the terms and conditions regarding Breach of Contract.)

I) **Competitor's Apparel**

1) **Team Apparel:**

All competitors shall wear only school approved apparel for competition during the Sectionals and the State Final. All apparel shall be devoid of commercial advertising except for the manufacturer's logo/trademark which shall not exceed two and one quarter (2 1/4) square inches with no dimension exceeding 2 1/4 inches. It may appear only once on each piece of wearing apparel. All apparel, including footwear must be in compliance with the NFHS Spirit Rules Book.

Participants will not be permitted to compete in illegal attire. Sectional and/or State Final site managers shall have authority to assess penalties for failure to comply with this requirement.

2) **Participant Limitations:**

- The NFHS Spirit Rules Book governs all participant apparel/accessories.
- Fingernails, including artificial nails must be kept at an appropriate length (short, near the end of the fingers) to minimize risk for the participant.
- Hair must be worn in a manner that is appropriate for the activity. Hair devices must be secure.
- Glitter that does not readily adhere on the hair, face, body, or uniform is illegal.
- Wearing "hard" jewelry is illegal, except when such items are securely affixed to the apparel or the hair. Exception: Religious medals may be taped to the body under the apparel without a chain. Medical medals may be taped to the body and may be visible.

- J) **Disqualification:** Any team that does not adhere to these terms and conditions may be subject to disqualification from the tournament and will automatically forfeit any right to awards received at the tournament.

- B) **All-Star Teams:** No officers of the tournament, game official or anyone serving under the supervision of the Illinois High School Association may cooperate in any way in the selection of an All-Star Tournament team.

- C) **Consolation Competition:** There shall be no consolation competition.

- D) **State Final Passes:** State Final passes will be provided to all competing schools and eligible coaches and school officials/administrators. All participants are required to wear their passes at all times. Competitor passes can be kept with the coaching staff while the team is in team apparel and competing. Competitors must have their passes visible to be allowed entry into the state final site. State Final passes allow entry into the State Final at any time during the competition.

- E) **Artificial Noisemakers:** All artificial noise-making devices shall be excluded from the performance area.

- F) **Signs and Banners:** The displaying of signs, banners, placards, or similar items at IHSA state series is permitted, provided:

- They are in good taste and reflect good sportsmanship in their message and use.
- They reflect identification and encouragement to participants and their respective school/community.
- They are not displayed in the area of competition or in a manner which interferes with competition.
- They do not obstruct the view of participants or spectators or cover other signage; and
- They are not safety hazards.

- G) **Damage to Property or Equipment:** If contestants or people from any school entered in a state series are found guilty of carelessness or maliciously breaking, damaging, or destroying property or equipment belonging to the host school, such school shall be held responsible for costs incurred in replacing or repairing such property or equipment.

- H) **Media Requirements:** Space shall be set aside to provide for news media representatives (school, local or national) covering the state series whether they are from newspapers, radio stations, commercial television stations, and/or cable television stations.

- 1) **Radio and TV Originators:** It is the responsibility of the Local Manager to accept applications, approve requests to originate, collect proper rights fees payment (where required) and make cancellation refunds for television and/or radio origination, according to the IHSA Television and/or IHSA Radio Broadcast Policy.

- Television Rights Fees for all levels of competition below the State Final level shall be paid to the host school and shall become part of the revenue to be shared by the member school(s) and the Association according to the financial terms stipulated in these Terms and Conditions.

IX. TOURNAMENT POLICIES

- A) **Tickets:** Tickets will be available one hour prior to the competition on the day of the event. Sectional ticket prices shall be \$8.00 per person (Digital) \$9.00 per person (Cash) (Child in arms requires no ticket). Ticket prices shall be \$12.00 per day for general seating at the State series (Child in arms requires no ticket). Presale tickets will be arranged through the State Final host site for the State tournament only. Spectators are not allowed on or near the warm-up or competition areas.



- b. Radio Broadcast Rights Fees are not required for any level of competition in this series. Local Managers shall permit radio originations of the competition.
 - c. Television and/or Radio Stations which do not apply in advance, or which do not pay required rights fees prior to the start of the competition in each respective level in this state series shall not be given credentials nor allowed access to the facility. Sponsors of the originations for television and radio shall be only those so stipulated in the respective IHSA Television and Broadcast policies.
- 2) **Administrative Detail:** Reporting information to the news media shall be the responsibility of each local Manager.
- 3) **Provisions for Media Photographers and/or Television:** Photographers or television personnel with cameras may enter the performance area to take pictures provided that:
- a. The individual is wearing the IHSA media/photographer's pass.
 - b. The individual reports to the site manager and shows the pass.
 - c. The individual stays at least five feet away from the competition floor.
 - d. The individual remains seated when taking pictures.
 - e. The individual only walks when the competitors are exiting.
 - f. The individual refrains from speaking to the competitor(s) during competition.
 - g. Media is not allowed in the warmup area or locker rooms.
- 4) **Rights Fees for TV and Radio:** Television Rights Fees to be charged by Local Managers and/or the IHSA are contained in the IHSA Television Policy.

Radio Fees:

- a. Sectional Contest = No Charge
- b. State Final = No Charge

Policy regarding media requirements for each Local Manager is contained in the current IHSA Handbook. Contact Matt Troha for media passes at the IHSA office at 309-663-6377.

- I) **Videotaping by Schools or Spectators:** The local manager may provide videotaping for purchase. Spectators will be allowed to videotape in the stands, provided they remain in their seat and do not obstruct the view of participants and spectators.
- J) **Flash Photography:** No flash cameras can be used during competition. News media may use non-distracting lighting if the manager has given permission. News media photographers are allowed to use filtered electronic flashes. However, if the manager and contest officials agree that the flashes are causing interference with the conduct

of the contest, then they can require the photographer to cease use of the flash.

- K) **Tobacco/Liquid Nicotine Products:** The use of tobacco or liquid nicotine products in any competition area, either during a practice or while a contest is in progress, or affiliated property of any IHSA state series contest by any coach, player, any other person connected with a team, or fan shall be prohibited. State series hosts are required to make all state series contest sites and any affiliated property, including parking lots, fan accommodation areas, and other school or event venue property, tobacco/liquid nicotine free zones on the date or dates of any IHSA event being held at the site.
- L) **Medical Provision (Use of inhalers):** A student with asthma may possess and use his/her medication during an IHSA competition, while under the supervision of school personnel, provided the school meets the outlined procedures of self-administration in the Illinois school code.
- M) **Alcoholic Beverages and IHSA State Series:** The possession, distribution, sale and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages are prohibited at the site and on any affiliated property of any IHSA state series contest. State series hosts are required to make all state series contest sites and any affiliate property, including parking lots, fan accommodation areas, and other school or event venue property, alcohol free zones on the date or dates of any IHSA event being held at the site. Violation of this policy by an event host will subject the host to a penalty for violation of IHSA By-law 2.020. Such penalty may include but not necessarily be limited to prohibition against subsequent event hosting assignments. Violation of this policy by a non-hosting member school will subject the school to penalty for violation of IHSA By-law 2.020. Patrons of any IHSA state series contest determined to be in violation of this policy will be removed from the premise, and law enforcement officials will be called as warranted. No ticket refunds will be granted in such cases.
- N) **Prayer at IHSA State Series Contest:** Prayer at an IHSA state series contest that takes place over the public address system is prohibited.

X. AWARDS

- A) **Sectional:** In all Sectional competitions a plaque will be awarded to the school winner of the competition in each respective division.
- B) **State:** A trophy will be awarded to teams finishing first, second and third in the State Final competition in each respective division.
- C) **Team Awards:** Medallions will be presented to the schools of the first three placing teams in each respective division at the state final tournament. In addition, four (4) Coaches, Superintendent, Principal, Athletic Director and Athletic Trainer will be presented with a medallion. No other trophy or awards of any kind may be presented in the tournament series. Only the team/school representatives, Superintendent, Principal, Athletic Director and Athletic Trainer may participate in the



awards presentation. Competitors participating in the awards presentation shall wear their school's official warm-up or team apparel. If a school fails to comply, they shall not be allowed to participate.

- D) The awards will be furnished by the State Association and are not an expense charged upon the individual tournament.

XI. OFFICIALS

Tournament officials will be assigned through the IHSA office. In all tournaments, the decisions of the official shall be final. The IHSA Board of Directors will not review decisions of officials. whether alleged errors are due to faulty judgment or misinterpretation of the rules.

- A) Head official: and two (2) technical officials shall be provided. State Final: At the State level competition, five (5) panel officials, one (1) head official; and two (2) technical officials shall be provided.
- B) Tournament officials for the respective division must be in the designated official's area when the warm-up period begins.
- C) All other tournament communication must be directed to the host manager. Normal conversation that must take place between the host school/manager, the officials, coaches, team members or school representatives is allowed.
- D) Officials will submit the score sheets electronically to the head official at the competition for each division. It is the head official's responsibility to verify all scores and order of finish. The site manager will include score sheets and order of finish after the completion of each division in the team exit packets.
- E) **Sectional Tournaments:** Each panel and technical official shall receive a flat fee of \$285.50. Each appointed head official shall receive a flat fee of \$334.50. Officials will be paid by IHSA via ArbiterPay.
- F) **Mileage Reimbursement Policy:** In the state series, to assist officials for out-of-pocket expenses, a voucher system will be used to compensate officials when they actually drive in excess of 70 miles round trip per competition. **Payment will be made through the IHSA office, after completion of the tournament series, at a rate of forty-five (45) cents per mile for all mileage in excess of 70 miles round trip. No compensation will be permitted for trips of less than 70 miles round trip.**
- G) **State Final Tournament:** Each appointed panel and technical official shall receive a flat fee of \$510.00 for the entire State Final tournament plus lodging at a hotel designated by the IHSA. Each appointed head official shall receive a flat fee of \$542.00 for the entire State Final tournament plus lodging at a hotel designated by the IHSA. The mileage reimbursement policy shall also be in effect for the state final for an official that travels in excess of 70 miles round trip. State Final Officials will be paid by IHSA via ArbiterPay.