

Minutes of the 2021-22 Journalism Advisory Committee

Tuesday, September 20, 2022

The IHSA Journalism Advisory Committee meeting was held via video conference call on Tuesday, September 20, 2022, beginning at 3:30 p.m. Advisory committee members in attendance: Division 2 Kim Glaser, Palatine (H.S.), Activities Director; Division 3 Patrick DiFilippo, Oak Lawn (Community), Adviser; Division 4 Susan Bookless, Galena, Adviser; Division 5 Felicia Tufano, Urbana (H.S.), Adviser; Division 7 Dana Donovan, Okawville, Adviser. IHSA Asst. Executive Director Matt Troha conducted the meeting.

TERMS & CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

1. II DATES AND SITES - B

Recommendation: Change the IHSA State Series model to a hybrid model in which Sectionals will be conducted virtually and the State Finals in-person.

Rationale: The IHSA State Series was conducted via a hybrid model in 2021-22 (Sectionals virtually, State Finals in-person) because the IHSA was unable to secure enough Sectional hosts. Advisers believe that the hybrid model allows more students to participate.

NOTE: Multiple references will need to be changed throughout the Terms & Conditions if this recommendation passes.

2. VIII. TOURNAMENT RULES – A Categories – #7, #9, #15 (#5/#6/#16 contingent)

Recommendation: Add language to the three events (Newspaper Design, Infographics, Yearbook Layout) to allow students in these three design categories the option of providing their own technology to compete on at the State Final level (and Sectional level if #1 does not pass). Technology will be provided for those who choose not to take advantage. This proposal will also include #5 Advertising, #6 Yearbook Theme Development, and #16 Editorial Cartooning if the third recommendation below passes, which allows technology to be used in those categories.

Rationale: The virtual Sectionals in 2021 and 2022 forced the IHSA to allow more programs and software to be used in design categories. This is beneficial to students, as they are able to compete with hard/software they are trained and comfortable on. In a hybrid format, it will be difficult for our State Final site to provide all the same software and programming used at the Sectional, thus, we believe it is prudent to allow the students to use the same hard and software they used at the Sectional level when competing at the State Finals.

3. VIII. TOURNAMENT RULES – A Categories - #5, #6, #16

Recommendation: Add language to the Advertising, Yearbook Theme Development, and Editorial Cartooning events allowing students the option to submit their work via technology. The option to complete these categories via traditional means (paper and pencil for Advertising and Editorial Cartooning and art for Yearbook Theme Development) remain options.

Rationale: The option to include technology modernizes the contest and is more accurate to what many students are already doing or would do if they pursued professional employment in these areas.

4. VIII. TOURNAMENT RULES – A Categories - #2

Recommendation: Change the name of the event Broadcast News to “Radio News”.

Rationale: Since the advent of Video News, the Broadcast News category is often confused and this name change would help alleviate some of that confusion.

5. VIII. TOURNAMENT RULES – A Categories - #2

Recommendation: Change the name of the event Video News “TV News”.

Rationale: This name change better illustrates the goal of this event and will help alleviate confusion for advisers and competitors.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. The committee heard a report on Matt Troha’s attendance at the Illinois Journalism Educators Association (IJE) Board of Director meeting, where he received feedback from the IJE Board on the potential action items by the IHSA Journalism Advisory Committee.
2. The committee instructed Matt Troha to survey advisers on their preference between Sectionals returning to in-person or remaining virtual.
3. The committee discussed the need to have Sectional judging feedback from judges in the event that Sectionals remain virtual.
4. The committee discussed if Sectionals could be contacted on a Friday if college sites could be secured for all seven sites.