

**Minutes of the Boys / Girls Cross Country Advisory Committee  
December 1, 2009**

The IHSA B/G Cross Country Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, Bloomington, Illinois on Tuesday, December 1, 2009, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee Members present were: Eric Wiegmann Chicago, (Young); Steve Olson, Crystal Lake (Central); Brett Charlton, Eureka; John Overstreet, Paxton (P.-Buckley-Loda); Mike Lynn, Tremont; Richard Skirball, Granite City (H.S.); John Kurtz Bensenville, (Fenton); Owen Fuller, Coordinator of Officials. Others in attendance, Ron McGraw, IHSA Asst. Executive Director; Chris Perry, Peoria (H.S.); Paula Webb, Peoria (H.S.); Don Helburg (ITCCCA); Andy Preuss, (ITCCCA); Jerry Parsons (ICA), and John Polka, Oak Park (Fenwick); Geza Ehrentu, Rockford.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. **There were no Proposed Changes to the Current Terms and Conditions.** However a motion was passed to have Ron McGraw review options to possibly reconfigure the Regional structure. The committee feels that since the implementation of the three class system, the number of teams assigned to each regional results in most teams and individuals automatically advancing on to the sectional meets. It was suggested that the number of regional meets may need to be reduced (increasing the number of teams in each) so that the regional meets actually serve as a qualifying meet as they were originally intended to be. Options will be prepared and submitted to the committee for their review when they reconvene after the 2010 season.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Continue to explore methods of making easier the task of reporting results from regional and sectional hosts to the IHSA. The committee was advised that their help in securing help from anyone proficient in the technology required to make such changes was critical to this process. The IHSA staff is open to changes but such changes will only be possible in the near future with the help of those already proficient in the use of current technology and hy-tek software.

**ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

The committee reviewed and discussed all comments and suggestions sent to Ron McGraw. Many ideas were discussed and considered during the 3 hour meeting. All items that received a motion and a second from our group were voted on by the committee members. This year there were no such recommendations formally proposed by the committee.

**I. Review topics for discussion submitted by sectional hosts and others**

- A. Revise the State Series to increase and/or decrease the number of regionals/sectionals and teams advancing on to sectionals and/or state
- B. Issue Chips/Tags to coaches on Friday and use ankle straps instead of twist ties
- C. Give Regional and sectional hosts the opportunity to download entries to hy-tek, sydex and generate a winners report from their software.
- D. Reduce the congestion at the starting line (both in front and behind) to help schools with their run outs
- E. Provide all results from each sectional, not just the top 12
- F. Marking the course (as it relates to the DQ for running off of the course)
- G. Pad the metal poles at the turns
- H. Require all races in the state series to use the same starting procedures (starter behind runners)
- I. Regional and sectional events should not be conducted at Detweiller because it gives an advantage to those runners
- J. IHSA products (merchandise) cost is too high

- K. Coaches want to evaluate starters for cross country (for the purpose of helping make state series assignments)
- L. Too many events conducted at Detweiller Park during the season
- M. Do not allow regional and sectional hosts to deviate from the starting times posted in the T&C's
- N. Provide the top 3 runners in each race with a smaller version of the team trophy instead of the medallions currently provided
- O. Location of bib numbers on jersey; high or low?
- P. Use of running sleeves-not currently legal-should we allow in the future
- Q. Mandate the use of the wide mouth chute finish line for ALL interscholastic CC meets (not just in the state series)

**IV. Other**

- A. Medical aid to competitors at the State Final Meet.