

AGENDA FOR THE IHSA BOYS AND GIRLS VOLLEYBALL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING December 10, 2009

The boys and girls volleyball advisory committee met on Thursday, December 10, 2009 at the IHSA Office beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were Brother Paul Ickes, Chicago (Brother Rice); Deborah Ofcky, Winnetka (New Trier); Joann Pyritz, LaGrange (Lyons); Stacy Germann, Fulton (H.S.); Debra Derby, Streator (Woodland); Tony Phelps, Benton; and Melinda Bond, Orangeville. Absent was Barb Crist, Quincy (Sr.). Guests were Julie Cochran, Assistant Executive Director of the IESA; Stacy Lambert, IHSA; and Susan Hinrichsen, Assistant Executive Director of the IHSA and administrator in charge was also in attendance.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Item Girls VII F and Boys VIII D - Warm-up time:

Recommendation: It is recommended that a 2 minute shared warm up time is added before the 4-4-4-4 warm ups. The two minute time shall begin immediately after the coin toss.

Rationale: Between matches in a state series, there is no time to warm up arms and bodies prior to the hitting and receiving drills. This would allow both teams to share the court for 2 minutes of stretching.

Died for lack of a motion

2. Item Girls VIII. D and Boys VIII (New) Team Roster and Personnel:

Recommendation: It is recommended that the 15 players listed on the team's roster are eligible to compete in a match. The roster of players may change from match to match in the state series.

Rationale: In preliminary matches and at the state final, a team can play 2 matches during each level of those tournaments. This would allow a team to change its roster after the first match in a preliminary regional or the state final. The change would allow a school to provide more experiences for players.

Approved

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The Coaches Roundtable held at the boys state finals was cancelled last season due to lack of attendance. The committee recommends that the boys' coaches be invited to attend the coaches roundtable conducted at the girls' tournament. This would provide them an opportunity to have their feedback included in the advisory committee's discussion and offer a better time to participate.
2. It was recommended that a change be made to the practice schedule for girls' volleyball. The committee reviewed the state final practice schedule and supported the current schedule.
3. It was recommended that the committee review several procedures at the state final press conference. The committee reviewed the recommendations and supported the current IHSA Media policy.
4. The committee reviewed the managers and school manuals and made no changes.
5. The committee discussed how to educate the fans on the general rules of the game thus enhancing the sportsmanship in the stands. It was recommended that IHSA produce an online video covering the basics of the game for parents and schools to have access on the IHSA public site.
6. The committee would like to see included on next year's online rules meeting these points of emphasis: an interpretation on what a mechanical noisemaker is, address how to get teams on the courts faster, how officials should handle any concerns with the crowd and what is actionable, how managers can set up their facilities to address where fans can be seated to assist in sportsmanship, how and when to address inappropriate cheering during serves, and finally include new changes to the terms and conditions.
7. The committee clarified the rule interpretation that if teams arrive early to a state series contest, they may warm up in areas designated by the manager and shall provide equal access to both teams. If an auxiliary gym is available and the manager approves the use, then both teams shall have equal access on the day of the state series competition.

ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION:

1. Melinda Bond provided a report on the Northwest Illinois Officials Association regarding training programs, Sportsmanship Awards for schools in the association's area, service awards, state final official's plaques and awards for outstanding new officials. In addition, like other officials association, they participate in the volley for the cure promotions by selling pink whistles and donating the funds to the Susan G. Komen Foundation.
2. The committee recommended that the IHSA not adopt a colored ball for either the regular season or the state series. There were a number of pros and cons discussed over the adopting a colored ball in season and during the state finals. Discussion included if colored volleyballs should be used during the season, if so what colors, who decides at dual match what colors can be used, is there a competitive advantage if the home team uses their school colors, who decides at tournaments what colors are used, is there a cost factor and what impact would colored volleyballs have on officials when they are calling ball handling or not calling ball handling? Ultimately the committee recommended staying with the white ball for the 2010-11 school year and state series.
3. The committee reviewed a recommendation to go back to the face to face seed meetings. The committee supports the online meetings because it saves time and money, provides easy access to the season summary sheets, approves the review process used by the staff, and makes it easier on the manager who in the past conducted the meeting.
4. The committee reviewed a recommendation to go back to the top 4 seeds hosting a regional. IHSA policy controls the tournament structure.
5. The committee discussed adding a serve contest to the state series. It was tabled for future discussion.
6. The committee was informed that two volleyball by-law proposals did not get out of the legislative commission. One proposal recommended an increase to number of matches played in a tournament and the other was to establish a sand volleyball season. It was noted that interest in sand volleyball has increased and NCAA is looking to add it at the intercollegiate level.
7. The committee discussed the pros and cons of splitting the girls' volleyball state finals into two weekends along with doubling the number of teams advancing to the state finals.
8. Based on the viewings and unique viewings from the webcast for girl's volleyball, the response was considered strong.
9. It was reported that 84% of the schools completed the online seeding process.
10. It was reported that officials this year were awarded an IHSA flipping coin for officiating at a state final.
11. It was reported that ISU used online ticketing and used a scanning process for tickets which got fans in quicker and provided a more accurate reporting system.
12. The committee discussed the Volley for the Cure promotion and reaffirmed that a school may only participate in only one volley for the cure event. This year during the scheduling transition some exceptions were made to accommodate the late notice. But for the 2010-11 school year, schools can only be involved in one. The number of girls' teams that participated this year in the promotion was 268.
13. The committee was satisfied with the NFHS volleyball rules changes this year making note that they particularly liked the rule of coaches standing. They were not in favor of switching courts in the last game or playing to 25 points in the 5th game of match which is being proposed to the NFHS Volleyball Rules committee.
14. The committee was encouraged to inform coaches and officials about the NFHS Coaches Education class being conducted online at www.nfhslearn.com. The course was developed in partnership with USA Volleyball and the American Volleyball Coaches Association and provides training to all levels. The cost is \$50.00. A demo of the course is online. The course takes about 2-3 hours.
15. The committee commented that the Baden ball was better than the Wilson ball but still had some areas that could be improved on. The comments from coaches were: 1) the ball wears out faster than other brands, 2) there were some problems with the seals, and 3) the ball was slippery.
16. The committee discussed ways in which to address a lack of participation with online seeding meetings and concerns about no shows at regional matches. The IHSA discussed the preventative measures taken to alert schools of the deadlines. Teams that do not show up for their regionals are in breach of contract and are assessed financial penalties for that breach.
17. The committee specifically noted the following areas of the volleyball program were successful: Video streaming, online rules meeting, the sportsmanship campaign, the volley for the cure promotions, the ongoing hard work and support of the bench officials at the girls' state finals, the well run state finals and the tournament structure that allows the teams to compete on both days and take home a trophy.
18. Julie Cochran, Assistant Executive Director of the Illinois Elementary Association announced that boys' volleyball will be added as a state series for their 7th and 8th grade state tournaments. They are in the process of determining a season.
19. Br. Paul Ickes reported that a volleyball coaches' clinic will take place February 27th, 2010 at Chicago Brother Rice High School. In addition work is being done to organize a volleyball coaches association in conjunction with the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA).

20. Joann Pyritz and Brother Paul Ickes were recognized for their contribution and service on the Advisory Committee.