

## 2024-25 PA Announcements

### **1. GENERAL VENUE/SAFETY/GAME MANAGEMENT PA'S**

**(ANNOUNCE BEFORE THE START OF THE GAME/SESSION)**

To help insure the safest and most comfortable atmosphere the host event staff will diligently maintain established security procedures and activities. This will require complete cooperation by all competing teams, contest officials, and fans. Security will always have priority over convenience; therefore, if you are requested to cooperate with event personnel in any manner, please do so promptly. Your assistance will enable event staff to fulfill its responsibilities efficiently.

**(ANNOUNCE BEFORE EACH GAME/SESSION)**

The possession, distribution, and consumption of alcoholic beverages and other illegal substances are prohibited at the site and on any affiliated property of the IHSA State Series Contest. 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, alcohol free zones on the date or dates of any IHSA event being held at the site. Event staff will enforce this policy rigorously.

**(ANNOUNCE SEVERAL TIMES BEFORE THE START OF EACH SESSION AND DURING THE FIRST FEW MINUTES OF EACH GAME EACH DAY)**

A digital version of the official state final tournament program is available online and accessible from your phone at [IHSA.org/StatePrograms](http://IHSA.org/StatePrograms). From this site, you can also choose to purchase a hard copy souvenir program from PIP Printing to be delivered directly to your home. The state final program features rosters, stats, history, and more!

## 2. IHSA MISSION PA'S

**(ANNOUNCE ONCE EACH DAY AND AS NEEDED)**

Participation in interscholastic activities generates values that make student-athletes better citizens. Parents, coaches, and officials can reinforce the development of these students by expressing, supporting and displaying those positive values gained by participating and competing. Challenge our young people not just to go to school, but to go beyond. . . with the IHSA. The Future Plays Here!

**(ANNOUNCE ONCE EACH DAY AND AS NEEDED)**

For more than 100 years the I-H-S-A has provided the vehicle for recognition of students, their schools and their communities through competition in I-H-S-A sports and activities. But participation in sports and activities is a lot more than just winning and losing. Students who participate in school programs are taught valuable life lessons that will help make them better citizens. Thank you for your attendance here today, and for helping encourage and support high school participation. The Future Plays Here!

**(ANNOUNCE ONCE EACH DAY AND AS NEEDED)**

IHSA State Final events are celebrated by schools, competitors, coaches, communities and fans alike each year, and rightly so. But it is also important to remember that only a small percentage of IHSA participants reach this level of competition. The IHSA exists to foster participation opportunities that will develop and instill positive characteristics that will stay with students long after high school. The Future Plays Here!

**(ANNOUNCE ONCE EACH DAY AND AS NEEDED)**

The Illinois High School Association isn't just about sports. The IHSA is proud to be one of the few state high school associations in the country to also offer activities, including Bass Fishing, Chess, Debate, Drama, Speech, Music and Scholastic Bowl. The IHSA wants to create participation opportunities for ALL high school students, so contact them to learn more about how you can participate. The Future Plays Here!

**(ANNOUNCE ONCE EACH DAY AND AS NEEDED)**

The IHSA believes in inclusion and is proud to partner with Special Olympics Illinois to promote unified sports at all IHSA member schools. Contact the IHSA to find out how your school can become a Unified Champion School!

**(ANNOUNCE ONCE EACH DAY AND AS NEEDED)**

The IHSA is proud to offer participation opportunities for ALL high school students in Illinois. In addition to offering a State Series in nearly 40 sports and activities, the IHSA also conducts state tournaments for athletes with disabilities in basketball, bowling, swimming, and track. Contact the IHSA to learn more about how you can participate.

□ **(ANNOUNCE BEFORE THE START OF EACH GAME OR SESSION)**

The IHSA celebrated the 50th anniversary of Title IX (9) throughout the 2021-22 school year. This landmark law has led to a movement here in Illinois, where more than 140,000 female athletes now compete annually in 18 IHSA sports. Despite all the strides we have made, we still lack of female coaches and officials in the high school ranks. Consider getting involved as a coach or official by visiting [IHSA.org](http://IHSA.org)

□ **(IHSA 5050)**

Fans visit [www.ihsa5050.com](http://www.ihsa5050.com) for your chance to win and support the IHSA Foundation.

The IHSA Foundation supports student-athletes pursuing higher education with the intent to serve as teachers, coaches and/or officials as well the student leadership conference and IHSA All-State Academic team. The IHSA Foundation will award \$40,000 in scholarships this year. Check out [www.ihsa5050.com](http://www.ihsa5050.com) and buy a ticket for your chance to win and to support the IHSA Foundation

### 3. SPORTSMANSHIP/SAFETY

**(READ PRIOR TO START OF EACH CONTEST)**

The IHSA reminds you of the importance of good sportsmanship at all athletic events. Competing in a safe environment is a tenet of all IHSA events and a right owed to every student. Hate speech or harassment of any kind will not be permitted at this event. Any competitors and spectators identified as using hate speech will be removed from this event and suspended from future events.

**(ANNOUNCE AS NEEDED)**

All spectators, players, coaches and officials are expected to promote the ideals of good sportsmanship. Adults are reminded that their behavior is a reflection of their school community and has an impact on the youngest fans in attendance. Let's all be active participants in creating a positive atmosphere and a memorable high school experience for all of our players at today/tonight's contest by cheering for your team and being a good neighbor to your opponent. Thank you!

**(READ PRIOR TO START OF EACH CONTEST)**

Fans, please take note of the location of available AEDs at the venue. It would be a life-saving tool in the event of cardiac arrest. (If known) You can find AEDs located at \_\_\_\_\_

**(ANNOUNCE ONCE EACH DAY AND AS NEEDED)**

Over 30 sports. Over 350,000 competing student-athletes. And one goal...Player safety.

From athlete acclimatization plans to pitch limits to concussion legislation, the IHSA and its Sports Medicine Advisory Committee have been, and will remain, on the forefront of student-athlete safety.

**(ANNOUNCE ONCE EACH DAY AND AS NEEDED)**

Thank you for joining us for today's state final contest. The IHSA believes that high school athletics bring tremendous value to student-athletes, their schools and their communities. The IHSA is committed to ensuring that all those involved in high school athletics are educated on and equipped to address player safety concerns.

**(ANNOUNCE ONCE EACH DAY AND AS NEEDED)**

Interscholastic athletics are an extension of the educational process, and the athletic field is the coach's classroom. Remember Do What's Right! Add A. Tude is for everyone.

□ **(Announce once per sessions or twice per day)**

“The IHSA would like to recognize the Illinois Athletic Trainers Association for their dedication and commitment to IHSA sports. Athletic Trainers are Certified and Licensed Healthcare professionals that provide the utmost compassion and care for Illinois High School athletes. There are over 1600 Certified Athletic Trainers throughout Illinois, and they are devoted in keeping student athletes safe from injuries. For more information about Athletic Training, please visit [Illinoisathletictrainers.org](http://Illinoisathletictrainers.org) . Certified Athletic Trainers are HealthCare!”

**(ANNOUNCE TWO OF READS BELOW PER DAY – PICK ATHLETE/SPORT SPECIFIC TO EVENT IF APPLICABLE)**

- Did you know that before Andre Iguodala (e-gu-doll-a) was an NBA Finals MVP and world champion with the Golden State Warriors, he was an all-state track & field athlete at Lanphier (lan-fear) High school in Springfield? With overuse injuries on the rise, it’s a good reminder that special athletes don’t always have to specialize in one sport. The IHSA encourages student-athletes to represent their school in as many sports or activities as their schedule allows. Make your four years count by getting involved in IHSA sports and activities!
- Did you know that before Allie Quigley starred for the WNBA’s Chicago Sky, she led Joliet Catholic Academy to an IHSA Volleyball State Championship and played on the school softball team? Overuse injuries are on the rise and many medical professionals believe that specialization can be more risk than reward. The IHSA encourages student-athletes to represent their school in as many sports or activities as their schedule allows. Make your four years count by getting involved in IHSA sports and activities!
- Did you know that before Conor Dwyer teamed with Michael Phelps to win a gold medal at the Olympic games in Rio, the Loyola Academy alum participated in four sports for the Ramblers? Overuse injuries are on the rise and many medical professionals believe that specialization can be more risk than reward. The IHSA encourages student-athletes to represent their school in as many sports or activities as their schedule allows. Make your four years count by getting involved in IHSA sports and activities!
- Did you know that before LaQuon Treadwell was a first round NFL draft pick, he was a two-sport star at Crete-Monee High School in basketball and football? Overuse injuries are on the rise and many medical professionals believe that specialization can be more risk than reward. The IHSA encourages student-athletes to represent their school in as many sports or activities as their schedule allows. Make your four years count by getting involved in IHSA sports and activities!

#### 4. SPONSORS

**(ANNOUNCE ONCE PER DAY)**

COUNTRY Financial wishes the best of luck to all the athletes here today. The passion and dedication these athletes show for their sport is the same as the passion and dedication our financial representatives provide for their clients.

**(ANNOUNCE ONCE PER DAY)**

At COUNTRY Financial®, we provide our clients with the same passion and dedication these outstanding athletes put into their sport. Visit [COUNTRYFinancial.com](http://COUNTRYFinancial.com) to see how we can help with your insurance and financial needs.

**(ANNOUNCE ONCE PER DAY)**

At COUNTRY Financial® we're proud to support the exceptional athletes here today. To solve the big challenges of tomorrow, start with simple steps today. So whether you're protecting your first home, saving for your child's future or preparing for retirement – don't get overwhelmed, get started. Contact your local COUNTRY Financial representative today to find out how we can help you protect what matters most.

**(ANNOUNCE SEVERAL TIMES PER SESSION)**

The official I-H-S-A State Final merchandise is on sale here at (     *facility name*     ). Fans may choose from T-shirts, sweatshirts, shorts, hats, and a variety of State Final Apparel. Stop by the Minerva Promotions Official IHSA State Final Souvenir booth to shop for your favorite items, or skip the line and buy online at [www.ihsastate.com](http://www.ihsastate.com).

**(ANNOUNCE NEAR END OF GAME/EVENT ON FRIDAY IN SPORTS BELOW)**

Your phone is your ticket for most IHSA postseason events on GoFan, the official digital ticketing partner of the IHSA. Be sure to download the GoFan app or visit **GoFan.co** (.co not .com) to get tickets to IHSA action!

**(ANNOUNCE AT START AND END OF GAME/SESSION) - LONGER VERSION BELOW, PICK ONE**

The Illinois High School association is proud to use products from Wilson Sporting Goods. For athletes to perform their best, they require the best, and that's what Wilson has delivered for over one-hundred years. Learn more at [Wilson.com](http://Wilson.com)

☐ **(ANNOUNCE BEFORE THE START OF EACH GAME/MATCH/CONTEST) - SHORTER VERSION ABOVE, PICK ONE**

The Illinois High School Association is proud to use Wilson. For athletes to perform their best, they require their best. For over 100 years, that's what Wilson has delivered. Wilson is the official ball of the NFL, NBA, NCAA AND AVP. From cutting-edge innovations, to the latest advancements in material and design, Wilson helps youth, high school, college, and professional athletes win more games than any other brand. Learn more at [Wilson.com](http://Wilson.com)

☐ **(ANNOUNCE BEFORE GAME/MATCH/CONTEST/RACE)**

Visual Image Photography is the official photography service authorized to provide fans attending IHSA state finals with action and award photographs of the participants. You can view all the great photos from this weekends' tournament by visiting their web site. Just go to [www.V-I-P-I-S.com](http://www.V-I-P-I-S.com).

**(ANNOUNCE ONE PER DAY)**

- ☐ Gatorade is Fueling today. Fueling the future. Fueling the student-athletes and teams competing in all IHSA State Final events. Gatorade...win from within.
  
- ☐ Gatorade. For athletes who move the game forward, we're creating the fuel to do the same. Fueling today. Fueling the future. Fueling the student-athletes and teams competing in all IHSA State Final events. Gatorade...win from within.
  
- ☐ Gatorade. For athletes who move the game forward, we're creating the fuel to do the same. Innovating beyond hydration to create the future of sports fuel. Fueling today. Fueling the future. Fueling the student-athletes and teams competing in all IHSA State Final events. Gatorade...win from within.

## 5. IHSA INITIATIVES

### (ANNOUNCE THROUGHOUT THE DAY)

[www.ihsa.org](http://www.ihsa.org) is the address for the IHSA. Check it out anytime you want to find out immediately what's happening with high school sports & activities throughout Illinois. IHSA.org is your home for schedules, scores and more!

### (ANNOUNCE ONCE PER DAY)

Did you know that the IHSA annually honors 26 of the best and brightest students in the state with its All-State Academic Team? The event not only provides recognition through a celebratory banquet, but it is also a great accolade for students when applying for college scholarships and jobs. Contact the IHSA for more information on how to nominate a current high school senior.

### (ANNOUNCE ONCE PER DAY)

Doctor, Scientist, Hollywood Producer and Foreign Affairs Officer for the State Department's European Bureau are just few of the awesome careers that recent IHSA All-State Academic Team members have gone on to become. Nominate the best and brightest seniors from your high school for this amazing award by contacting the IHSA.

### (ANNOUNCE ONCE EACH GAME, UNLESS THERE IS A LACK OF STUDENT SECTIONS)

Attention student sections...it's time for you to get recognized for being loud and proud. The IHSA Student Advisory Committee is holding its annual Student Section Showdown right now to crown the two best student sections in the state based on sportsmanship and spirit. To compete, all you need to do is submit a video of your student section in action. Click the Student Section Showdown button on the front page of IHSA.org for more information.

### (ANNOUNCE THROUGHOUT THE DAY)

Attention fans, it's time for you to make the call!...No, this isn't an in-game promotion, it's time for you to get involved as an IHSA official, and literally start making the calls. Contact the IHSA today so we can walk you through the steps for becoming an official and you can begin enjoying the camaraderie and extra income that goes along with working the sports you already love.



□ **(ANNOUNCE THROUGHOUT THE DAY)**

Think you know the game as well as the officials on the \_\_\_\_\_ (field, court, deck, etc.). Prove it to yourself by becoming an IHSA official. Contact the IHSA today so we can walk you through the process for becoming an official and you can begin enjoying the camaraderie and extra income that goes along with working the sports you already love.

□ **(ANNOUNCE THROUGHOUT THE DAY)**

The 2024-25 school year is a milestone year for the IHSA, as we celebrate 50 years of the IHSA Girls Volleyball and Football State Finals. To help celebrate the rich history and tradition of high school volleyball and football in Illinois, the IHSA is releasing the Top 50 programs in each sport from the first 50 years throughout the fall. Visit [IHSA.org](http://IHSA.org) and click the special 50-year logos on the homepage to learn more.

## 6. BROADCAST

### (ANNOUNCE AT START OF GAME & HALFTIME)

Attention, fans! Today's game is streaming live on the NFHS Network. With the NFHS Network, you can watch live and on-demand high school sports on any device, wherever you are. Text your friends and family who aren't here and invite them to watch live now at N F H S NETWORK (DOT) COM or with the NFHS Network app for Apple and Android.

### (ANNOUNCE SEVERAL TIMES EACH SESSION)

Looking to watch this event on-demand? Visit [NFHSNetwork.com](https://NFHSNetwork.com) to order and download a digital copy any time. The IHSA.TV broadcast of every (game/match/event/contest) from the 2022-23 IHSA \_\_\_\_\_(insert sport) State Finals is available at [NFHSNetwork.com](https://NFHSNetwork.com).

### (ANNOUNCE THROUGHOUT THE DAY)

Do you love reliving great moments in IHSA history? Then the IHSA Archives YouTube page is for you. Visit [YouTube.com Backslash IHSA Archives](https://YouTube.com/BackslashIHSA/Archives) to see a growing library of nearly 1,000 classic IHSA contests in multiple sports, including some of the oldest high school basketball footage in the world.

## 7. Emergency Preparedness For PA Announcers

In response to a changing world around us, schools are implementing emergency action plans – not just for the school day – but for after-school activities where large groups of people can gather and which present a variety of different security challenges – especially for outdoor events.

For the Public Address Announcer, this means having and knowing when to utilize scripts that go beyond telling spectators to stay off the floor and how to address injuries which delay the action on the playing surface (We have included examples for such situations here). The PA Announcer can be the key vehicle in delivering critical messaging as part of an entire team of team of game management personnel.

It should **not** be the responsibility of the PA Announcer to develop scripts, or for that matter, make the final decision of when a script is read in an emergency. Those should be the responsibility of the school administration.

There can be preset protocols for things like a lost child or paging someone to a specific location. But some emergency situations that affect the entire crowd, possibly prompting the evacuation of the venue, must be triggered at the top of the game management chain and should be included in the school's emergency action plan. Those situations include: Weather, Bomb or Terrorist Threat, Fire, Medical Incidents, Gas Leaks, Drive-By Shooter or Active Shooter in Vicinity, Power Outage.

The first thing the PA Announcer must do is be calm; and present clear information to move people to safety. Providing visual references to direct people as opposed to directions is important (i.e. "Proceed to the gate near the scoreboard," instead of "Go to the gate at the North end of the field.")

The bottom line is to be prepared. Know the action plan. Have scripts for various situations prepared in a binder by your side at all times.

Special thanks as well to the National Association of Sports Public Address Announcers, which also covers emergency readiness in its book, *The Voice Above The Crowd*, a training manual used by PA Announcers across the country.

### PRE-GAME

It is recommended that an announcement encouraging people to be aware of their surroundings and to report things they may think suspicious to the game management. Here's an example of such a script, which should be read once or twice during pre-game and once at halftime:

#### SEE SOMETHING-SAY SOMETHING (YOU MAY WISH TO ADJUST REPORTING LOCATION)

Welcome to \_\_\_\_\_ High School. For your safety and security, the Athletics Department and School Administration encourage you to be aware of unusual activity. Please report any suspicious activity to us here at the announcer's stand **immediately**. Enjoy the game and remember – Report Suspicious Activity – See Something – Say Something!

During pre-game, the announcer may wish to consult with the game manager regarding potential severe weather or other known threats. It may be decided to use one of the following scripts prior to the start of the game to inform spectators of the protective plans in place:

#### **WEATHER THREAT**

May I have your attention please. We have been watching the potential of approaching inclement weather. If it arrives during the game, activity will cease until we have determined it is safe. If we need to evacuate the stadium/gym/arena/field, we will advise you to seek appropriate shelter in the school and follow directions from staff. If you wish, seek shelter in your vehicle. Thank you for your cooperation.

#### **SAFETY PLAN**

May I have your attention please. The (school district name) has an emergency plan to keep our students, staff, parents and visitors as safe as possible. If an emergency should occur during the game/event and we need to stop the event to evacuate or take shelter, we will advise you to seek appropriate actions and follow directions from staff and/or event volunteers. If you wish, seek shelter in your vehicle. Thank you for your cooperation and enjoy the contest.

#### **DURING THE EVENT**

During outdoor competition, once the official signals to suspend activity because of weather, the announcer could announce:

#### **WEATHER DELAY**

May I have your attention please. We have been notified of approaching inclement weather. Activity will cease until we have determined it is safe and the risk of lightning is diminished. We advise you to seek appropriate shelter in the school, follow directions from staff. If you wish, seek shelter in your vehicle. Thank you for your cooperation.

If during an indoor event, host management determines an evacuation is appropriate, the announcer could announce:

#### **BUILDING EVACUATION**

May I have your attention please. Due to an emergency situation in the school, we are evacuating the building. Activity will cease until we have determined it is safe and the risk has been resolved. Please follow directions from staff, exit the school and move away from the building. Responding police/fire personnel will provide further instructions. Thank you for your cooperation.

#### **SHELTER-IN-PLACE**

May I have your attention please. Due to an emergency situation in the school, (approaching inclement weather, hazardous materials incident, etc.) activity will cease until we have determined it is safe and the risk has been resolved. We will be taking shelter inside the school, please follow directions from staff:

- Remain in the building; you are free to move around or,
- Quickly move to shelter areas in the building.

Responding police/fire personnel will provide further instructions. Thank you for your cooperation.

#### **KEEPING SPECTATORS OFF THE FLOOR**

A "Stay Off The Playing Surface" announcement should be a script the PA Announcer always has at the ready. Here's a good example to use when it appears fans may be preparing to rush the playing surface:

#### **STAY OFF THE PLAYING SURFACE**

Ladies and gentlemen, for your safety and the safety of the participants, we ask your cooperation in not going on the playing surface before, during or after the game. Violators will be removed from the premises and risk prosecution. Thank you.

#### **INJURED PLAYERS**

An injured player down on the playing surface during a game should only be identified by the PA Announcer. The Announcer is in no position to speculate about the injury and should not talk while being attended to by medical personnel. Do not fill the time with music or announcements. Here's an example of an appropriate acknowledgement of an injured player if you can positively identify the student:

**INJURED PLAYER**

The injured player on the field is #2, Dylan Lewis.

And when the player is recovered and leaving the field, an announcement encouraging support from the fans is not necessary. This will take place naturally. Again, any announcement speculating about the injury is inappropriate.