

2009-10 Amendment Proposals with Pros and Cons

2009-10 -- Proposal No. 1

Amend By-law 2.030 (b) – Cooperative Team Sponsorship

Submitted by Vinay Mullick, Official Representative, Chicago (Perspectives-Calumet Technology and Perspectives-Calumet), Traci Wright, Principal, Chicago (Perspectives-Joslin); Mary Cummane, Principal, Chicago (Perspectives-IIT Math and Science Academy)

Amend By-law 2.030 (b) – Cooperative Team Sponsorship

By-law 2.030 (b) currently reads:

- (b) All schools participating in the cooperative are Class A schools according to the IHSA Classification System; or, in the event one or more of the cooperating schools is a Class AA public school, the cooperative team is for a sport other than Boys Football or Boys or Girls Basketball;

Revise By-law 2.030 (b) to read:

- (b) All schools participating in the cooperative are Class A schools according to the IHSA Classification System; or, in the event one or more of the cooperating schools is a Class AA public school, the cooperative team is for a sport other than Boys Football or Boys or Girls Basketball. ***In the event one or more of the schools involved in the cooperative is a public non-boundary school, that school's actual enrollment, not multiplied enrollment is used to determine the eligibility of the cooperative team request.***

Rationale

Many existing non-boundary schools and non-boundary schools yet to open are/will be housed in non-traditional schools buildings which do not have adequate athletic facilities (fields, gyms, locker rooms, etc...) to support athletic programs. Thus, students are denied the opportunity to participate in certain sports. In our situation we are a network of public non-boundary schools in which some of our schools do not have proper athletic facilities. Allowing our schools to form cooperative teams based on our actual enrollment will enable more of our students to participate in athletics. Using actual enrollment in lieu of the multiplied enrollment is also a better reflection of the proposed coop team's functioning ability. Thus, the need or ability to form a cooperative team should not be based on a school's multiplied enrollment, but its actual enrollment. The basis of this amendment is a direct result of the education reform initiatives across our state. More and more public non-boundary schools are becoming part of the state's educational landscape, and the athletic needs of these new schools must be addressed. If this amendment is approved, only a very small number of schools will be impacted.

Pros

Provides more opportunities for students in buildings that don't have sports facilities available. Schools participating in the coop would be subject to the multiplier for the state series.

Cons

None.

2009-10 -- Proposal No. 2

Amend By-law 2.050 – Schools with which Contests May be Held

Submitted by Jim Raabe, Official Representative, Jacksonville (Illinois School for the Visually Impaired)

By-law 2.050 currently reads:

2.050 SCHOOLS WITH WHICH CONTESTS MAY BE HELD

Member schools may permit eligible students to participate in competitive activities as school representatives only with the following:

- (a) schools which are members of this Association;
- (b) schools which are members of an athletic or activities association in another state which is recognized by the Board of Directors of this Association;
- (c) schools which are not members of this Association but are approved for interscholastic participation by the Board of Directors of this Association;
- (d) schools which are not members of an athletic or activities association in another state but are approved for interscholastic participation by such an association;
- (e) junior high schools, provided that in any event other than a dual contest, only eligible ninth grade students represent the junior high school; and
- (f) cooperative athletic teams approved by the Board of Directors under the provisions of these By-laws.

Member schools may not permit students to participate as school representatives in activities with non-school groups.

Revise By-law 2.050 to read:

2.050 SCHOOLS WITH WHICH CONTESTS MAY BE HELD

Member schools may permit eligible students to participate in competitive activities as school representatives only with the following:

- (a) schools which are members of this Association;
- (b) schools which are members of an athletic or activities association in another state which is recognized by the Board of Directors of this Association;
- (c) schools which are not members of this Association but are approved for interscholastic participation by the Board of Directors of this Association;
- (d) schools which are not members of an athletic or activities association in another state but are approved for interscholastic participation by such an association;
- (e) junior high schools, provided that in any event other than a dual contest, only eligible ninth grade students represent the junior high school; and
- (f) cooperative athletic teams approved by the Board of Directors under the provisions of these By-laws.
- (g) *The Illinois High School Association Executive Director is authorized to waive provisions of this By-law for the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired (ISVI) when the ISVI is in competition only with other schools for the blind provided such competition is governed by the standards adopted by the North Central Association of Schools for the Blind.***

Member schools may not permit students to participate as school representatives in activities with non-school groups.

Rationale

The purpose of the waiver is to accommodate programs of the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired that are otherwise restricted because of the nature of the handicap of the students involved.

Pros

ISVI is a member of the North Central Association of Schools for the Blind. This would allow participation in their conference with out of state schools that no longer are members of their state association.

Cons

None.

2009-10 -- Proposal No. 3

Amend By-law 2.060 – Multiple School Interscholastic Activities

Submitted by Jim Woodward, Principal, Anna (A.-Jonesboro)

By-law 2.060 currently reads:

2.060 MULTIPLE SCHOOL INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES

Member schools must adhere to the following conditions when participating in any interscholastic multiple school (four or more schools) contest or other activity:

- (a) athletic activities, not sponsored by this Association, must be hosted by a school which is a member of this Association or a school which is a member of another state activities or athletic association which is recognized by the Board of Directors of this Association.
- (b) multiple school activities may not begin before 1:00 p.m. on a school day;
- (c) multiple school conference activities may begin as early as 8:00 a.m. on a school day;
- (d) awards presented to schools and individuals are within the limitations established by these By-laws;
- (e) lodging arrangements for student participants are exclusively the prerogative of the member school;
- (f) student participants must be eligible under all the provisions of these By-laws;
- (g) no participating school may exceed participation limits established in these By-laws;
- (h) inter-state activities are approved through the established procedures of the National Federation of State High School Associations; and
- (i) except for the State Final meet or tournament, practice rounds or other practice or workout sessions at the site of an interscholastic contest do not begin sooner than fifteen (15) minutes after the end of the school day.

Revise By-law 2.060 to read:

Member schools must adhere to the following conditions when participating in any interscholastic multiple school (four or more schools) contest or other activity:

- (a) athletic activities, not sponsored by this Association, must be hosted by a school which is a member of this Association or a school which is a member of another state activities or athletic association which is recognized by the Board of Directors of this Association.
- (b) multiple school activities may not begin before 1:00 p.m. on a school day;
- (c) multiple school conference activities may begin as early as 8:00 a.m. on a school day;
- (d) multiple school activities sponsored by a statewide organization such as the Illinois Coordinating Council for Career and Technical Student Organizations, the Illinois Association of Student Councils, etc. may begin as early as 8:00 a.m. on a school day;**
- ~~(e)~~ (e) awards presented to schools and individuals are within the limitations established by these By-laws;
- ~~(f)~~ (f) lodging arrangements for student participants are exclusively the prerogative of the member school;
- ~~(g)~~ (g) student participants must be eligible under all the provisions of these By-laws;
- ~~(h)~~ (h) no participating school may exceed participation limits established in these By-laws;
- ~~(i)~~ (i) inter-state activities are approved through the established procedures of the National Federation of State High School Associations; and
- ~~(j)~~ (j) except for the State Final meet or tournament, practice rounds or other practice or workout sessions at the site of an interscholastic contest do not begin sooner than fifteen (15) minutes after the end of the school day.

This by-law would take effect on February 7, 2010.

Rationale

In an effort to simplify this by-law two years ago, the by-law was rewritten and part of the change included the deletion of language similar to what has been added above amendment. The 2007 amendment was not intended to further restrict FFA competitions or student council programs and this amendment remedies the unintended consequence of the previous change.

Pros

Allows FFA, Student Council, etc. to begin their competitions at 8:00 a.m.

Cons

None.

2009-10 -- Proposal No. 4

Amend By-law 2.160 – Classification

Submitted by Ralph Henning, Official Representative, Galesburg

By-law 2.160 currently reads:

- 2.160 Guidelines and regulations for classification of non-boundaried schools are applied to all non-boundaried schools. A non-boundaried school is defined as any private school, charter school, lab school, magnet school, residential school, and any public school in multi-high school district that does not accept students from a fixed portion of the district.

Revise By-law 2.160 to read:

- 2.160 Guidelines and regulations for classification of non-boundaried schools are applied to all non-boundaried schools. A non-boundaried school is defined as any private school, charter school, lab school, magnet school, residential school, and any public school in multi-high school district that does not accept students from a fixed portion of the district. ***In addition, any public high school in a multi-high school district that has fixed boundaries, but allows individual students to move from another high school in that district for any purpose shall be considered a “semi” non-boundary school. Such student movements can include special academies or programs at other district high schools or adjustments for No Child Left Behind. If the multi-high school district has residence boundaries, but allows a student living in one boundary area to go to a high school in another residence area, the entire multi-school district shall be considered to be a “semi” non-boundary school and classified in the same way as non-boundary schools.***

Rationale

1. The purpose of the by-law is to attempt to make competition equal between schools with boundaries and school which have the advantage of being non-boundaried. Once a multi-school district allows movement of students from one school to another school with changing residence, that district becomes a non-boundary school in practice.
2. Large school districts that have multiple high schools within a district have a competitive advantage if students are allowed to move from one high school to another without changing residence.
3. While many students may be choosing to go to a school outside of their residence boundary for academic purposes, such practice opens the door for students to enroll at school with a superior athletic program in that given area.
4. If a student's residence location shows that the student should attend school A, but they are allowed to attend school B without changing residence, then both school A and school B have to be considered schools without boundaries in the same multi-high school district.

Pros

Levels the playing field for all schools participating.
Attempts to provide a more equitable classification system.

Cons

Affects districts with schools that have special education centers, etc.
Would not allow exceptions for special circumstances.
Adversely affects schools not meeting the No Child Left Behind requirements.

2009-10 -- Proposal No. 5

Amend By-law 3.031.1 – Residence

Submitted by Jim Cozzolino, Official Representative, Springfield (Lanphier)

By-law 3.031.1 currently reads:

3.031.1 They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, or they currently and for at least the last two years prior to the student's enrolling in high school, have lived with another family member or relative who has provided full support and adult supervision for the student, as though they were the guardian, within the boundaries of the public school district in which the high school they attend is located; or

Revise By-law 3.031.1 to read:

3.031.1 They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, or they currently and for at least the last two years prior to the student's enrolling in high school, have lived with another family member or relative who has provided full support and adult supervision for the student, as though they were the guardian, within the boundaries of the ~~public school district in which the~~ **attendance area of the** high school they attend is located; or

Rationale

At the moment, eighth grade graduates entering a multiple high school district can attend any high school they want.

- a. This amendment will keep students from multiple high school districts from attending high schools in their public school district but outside their high school's attendance boundaries. This amendment would not allow a student to attend a different high school in the same public school district without the risk of a possible penalty.
- b. Will restrict coaches in multiple public high school districts from recruiting student athletes because they will have to attend the public school in the attendance area where their address is.
- c. Levels the playing field for single high school districts whose students do not have a choice as where to attend high school.
- d. This amendment takes the transfer issue out of the hands of multiple school district officials and into the hands of the IHSA.

Pros

Addresses the issue of students not residing in the attendance area of the school where they attend.
Allows the Executive Director to make rulings based on circumstances necessitating the transfer.

Cons

None.

2009-10 -- Proposal No. 6

Amend By-law 3.031.3 – Residence

Submitted by Phil Morrison, Principal, Tolono (Unity)

By-law 3.031.3 currently reads:

3.031.3 They reside full time with one birth or adoptive parent without assignment of custody or legal guardianship by the court, provided:

- (1) their residence is in the district in which the member school they attend is located; and
- (2) they attended that member school the previous school term.

Revise By-law 3.031.3 to read:

3.031.3 They reside full time with one birth or adoptive parent **or other relative** without assignment of custody or legal guardianship by the court, provided:

- (1) their residence is in the district in which the member school they attend is located; and
- (2) they attended that member school the previous school term.

Rationale

Families are facing increasing economic and other hardships. This would allow students to remain in the district and have eligibility when they are residing in the district with a relative.

Pros

Only affects students who are currently residing in the district.

Takes care of students who are left in difficult situations who have been residing in the district.

Cons

Need to define “or other relative” more clearly.

Doesn't address incoming freshmen.

2009-10 -- Proposal No. 7

Add a New By-law 3.031.4 and Renumber – Residence

Submitted by Jim Woodward, Principal, Anna (A.-Jonesboro)

By-law 3.031.4 currently reads:

3.031.4 In all other cases, students shall not participate until a ruling on their eligibility is made by the Executive Director.

Revise By-law 3.031.4 to read:

3.031.4 *In the cases where ISBE has granted a waiver for students of faculty members to attend the school tuition-free, the students shall have eligibility at the school where the parent teaches.*

Note: Current By-law 3.031.4 will be renumbered to By-law 3.031.5.

Rationale

This new by-law would enable students in such circumstances to have eligibility without a ruling being required.

Pros

Several districts have had waivers approved by ISBE. This would give automatic eligibility to students attending school in those districts.

Cons

None.

2009-10 -- Proposal No. 8

Amend By-law 3.170 -- Classification

Submitted by William Hook, Principal, Chicago (Agricultural Science); Dan Kostenencki, Principal, Edwardsville (Metro-East Lutheran); Mike Laneve, Principal, Chicago (C. Hope Academy); and Ronald Hoover, Principal (St. Scholastica).

By-law 3.170 currently reads:

The IHSA Board of Directors has the complete authority to establish and implement policies to determine the number of classes of competition in IHSA sports and activities and to classify schools participating in such sports/activities except as follows:

An enrollment multiplier of 1.65 will be added to all non-boundaried schools.

The definition of a non-boundaried school is: Any private school, charter school, lab school, magnet school, residential school, and any public school in a multi-high school district that does not accept students from a fixed portion of the district.

Classifications shall be determined on an annual basis.

Revise By-law 3.170 to read:

The IHSA Board of Directors has the complete authority to establish and implement policies to determine the number of classes of competition in IHSA sports and activities and to classify schools participating in such sports/activities except as follows:

An enrollment multiplier of 1.65 will be added to all non-boundaried schools ***unless application of this multiplier is waived under a policy of waiver which would be established by the Board of Directors.***

The definition of a non-boundaried school is: Any private school, charter school, lab school, magnet school, residential school, and any public school in a multi-high school district that does not accept students from a fixed portion of the district.

Classifications shall be determined on an annual basis.

There will be a sub-committee comprised of IHSA staff and Legislative Commission members to develop the waiver policy for submission to the Board.

Rationale

On June 15, 2005, the principals of non-boundaried schools received a memo explaining an appeals process for those schools impacted by the multiplier. Ten schools were granted waivers as a result of the waiver policy developed by the IHSA staff and approved by the Board of Directors. This system should be brought back because it considered the unique missions and situations of some non-boundaried schools. Under the current system, some of the schools are not competitive at a higher classification and have provided little competition for their opponents.

A sample of the waiver application from 2005 is included below.

*Non-boundaried schools with an enrollment of 450 to 735 may appeal the application of the multiplier to their school. The appeal must be filed with the Executive Director who is charged with ruling on all such appeals. As provided in Section 1.460 of the IHSA Constitution, appeals of the Executive Director's ruling may be made to the IHSA Board of Directors. Schools who wish to appeal the application of the multiplier for their school, in all sports except football, for the 2005-06 school term, must provide the following information by **August 1, 2005**:*

- 1. List all schools in each of the conferences of which you are a member.*
- 2. Provide a list of **all** regional, sectional, super sectional and state final championships (excluding football) your school has won during the last five years.*
- 3. Provide a list of **all** athletic schedules and results (excluding football) for your school's teams for the last five years.*

4. *List the percentage of students enrolled in your school during the 2004-05 school term who reside in the public school attendance area in which your school is located. If your school is located in a multiple high school district, identify the specific high school attendance area in which your school is located.*
5. *List the number of public school districts from which your school had students enrolled during the 2004-05 school term.*
6. *List the unduplicated number of students in your school who participated in any interscholastic activity.*
7. *Provide copies of all promotional materials used by your school along with printouts of any web pages promoting your school and its sport or activity programs.*
8. *Provide any additional information you wish to be considered.*

Pros

Brings back the waiver process for smaller schools.

Helps the smaller schools to be more competitive.

Only a small number of schools would be eligible for the waiver.

A committee of the Commission and IHSA staff will develop the waiver application.

Cons

None.

2009-10 -- Proposal No. 9

Amend By-law 5.042 (b) and 5.182 (b) – Boys Basketball and Girls Basketball Team Limitations

Submitted by Ron Conner, Principal, Clinton

By-law 5.042 (b) currently reads:

5.042 (b) Boys Basketball Team Limitations

- b. No Boys Basketball team representing a member school shall participate in any interscholastic tournament during the week (Monday through Friday) of the Boys Regional Basketball Tournament.

By-law 5.182 (b) currently reads:

5.182 (b) Girls Basketball Team Limitations

- b. No Girls Basketball team representing a member school shall participate in any interscholastic tournament during the week (Monday through Friday) of the Girls Regional Basketball Tournament.

Revise By-law 5.042 (b) to read:

5.042 (b) Boys Basketball Team Limitations

- ~~b. No Boys Basketball team representing a member school shall participate in any interscholastic tournament during the week (Monday through Friday) of the Boys Regional Basketball Tournament.~~

Revise By-law 5.182 (b) to read:

5.182 (b) Girls Basketball Team Limitations

- ~~b. No Girls Basketball team representing a member school shall participate in any interscholastic tournament during the week (Monday through Friday) of the Girls Regional Basketball Tournament.~~

Rationale of Submitter

No other IHSA By-law has a restriction regarding tournament play during the IHSA state series. It would enable underclassmen to still play basketball during their season.

Pros

Allows schools to play at other levels during the Regional tournaments.

Cons

None.

2009-10 -- Proposal No. 10

Amend By-law 5.042 (b) and 5.182 (b) – Boys Basketball and Girls Basketball Team Limitations

Submitted by Joyce Hubbard, Principal, Lincoln

By-law 5.042 (b) currently reads:

5.042 (b) Boys Basketball Team Limitations

- b. No Boys Basketball team representing a member school shall participate in any interscholastic tournament during the week (Monday through Friday) of the Boys Regional Basketball Tournament.

By-law 5.182 (b) currently reads:

5.182 (b) Girls Basketball Team Limitations

- b. No Girls Basketball team representing a member school shall participate in any interscholastic tournament during the week (Monday through Friday) of the Girls Regional Basketball Tournament.

Revise By-law 5.042 (b) to read:

5.042 (b) Boys Basketball Team Limitations

- b. No Boys Basketball team representing a member school shall participate in any interscholastic tournament during the week (Monday through Friday) ***in which its own varsity team participates in*** the Boys Regional Basketball Tournament.

This by-law would take effect on February 7, 2010.

Revise By-law 5.182 (b) to read:

5.182 (b) Girls Basketball Team Limitations

- b. No Girls Basketball team representing a member school shall participate in any interscholastic tournament during the week (Monday through Friday) ***in which its own varsity team participates in*** the Girls Regional Basketball Tournament.

This by-law would take effect on February 7, 2010.

Rationale

This by-law was probably written when there was only one class in basketball in Illinois. In our current multiple-class basketball system, schools don't participate in regular season tournaments and the Regional simultaneously. However, as this by-law is currently written, it prohibits Class 3A and 4A schools from participating in tournaments during the Class 1A and 2A Regionals and vice versa, especially at the underclass level. Many schools like to end their underclass schedules with some type of tournament. Adding this language to the by-law will allow schools to play in tournaments at the end of the season yet not interfere with their own varsity team's participation in the Regional.

Pros

Allows schools to play at other levels during the Regional tournaments.

Cons

None.

2009-10 -- Proposal No. 11
Amend By-law 5.060 -- Boys Football
Submitted by Rich Wherley, Principal, Eureka

By-law 5.060 currently reads:

5.060 BOYS FOOTBALL

5.061 Season Limitation

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Football teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Wednesday of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 21 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Football no earlier than Friday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

5.062 Pre-Season Practice Requirements:

A student shall become eligible to participate in an interscholastic contest or scrimmage in Boys Football after completing a minimum of 1 1/2 hours of actual field practice on twelve (12) different days excluding Sunday and any day on which the student actually plays in an interscholastic football contest. These practices must be conducted in accordance with Association By-laws.

5.063 Contest Limitation

No Boys Football team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than nine (9) games exclusive of the IHSA series and exclusive of the City of Chicago Prep Bowl series, participated in by the Chicago Public League and the Chicago Catholic League.

Revise By-law 5.060 to read:

5.060 BOYS FOOTBALL

5.061 Season Limitation

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Football teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Wednesday of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 21 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Football no earlier than Friday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

5.062 Pre-Season Practice Requirements:

A student shall become eligible to participate in an interscholastic contest or scrimmage in Boys Football after completing a minimum of 1 1/2 hours of actual field practice on twelve (12) different days excluding Sunday and any day on which the student actually plays in an interscholastic football contest. These practices must be conducted in accordance with Association By-laws.

5.063 Contest Limitation

No Boys Football team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than nine (9) games exclusive of the IHSA series and exclusive of the City of Chicago Prep Bowl series, participated in by the Chicago Public League and the Chicago Catholic League.

5.064 Scheduling of Games

The IHSA will have the sole responsibility to schedule all football games for member schools in ten team regional formats. The regional will be based on school/coop size and geography. The regional will be in place for two years in a home and away format. The IHSA has the right at any time to restructure the size of the regional if a member school is not geographically located close to any schools its size, if a member school disbands, if a member school fails to field a team, or if a member school creates a football squad.

1. **IHSA Philosophy:** As stated in the rationale on grouping and seeding, the IHSA believes in geographic competitions while adhering to our educational objectives that save time and money: *"The cornerstone of IHSA state tournaments has long been geographic assignments to the state series leading to geographic representation at State Final tournaments. The geographical concept was developed to insure that interscholastic participation was compatible with a school's educational objectives. The geographic concept helped maintain a "reasonableness" to competition and safeguarded key resources such as time and money, while, at the same time, providing for a structure that was equitable to all member schools."*
2. **Football State Playoff format:** Each football season is similar to a tournament based on pool play to ultimately get into the state series. This proposal does not seek to alter criteria for selecting football playoff berths. Rather, the objective of this proposal is to offer a sensible and equitable system of scheduling regular season football games.
3. **Growth of sport:** The number of IHSA schools participating in football has declined by approximately 40 since the peak of participation in SY 1980-1981.
4. **Conference alignment:** Conference alignment throughout Illinois is in a perpetual state of flux. Too frequently, conference affiliations are created and broken based solely upon the criteria of achieving a football playoff berth or simply securing a nine game schedule. Enrollment issues recurrently create difficulties in sustaining conferences.
5. **Playing out of state opponents:** Over 30 Illinois schools currently schedule football opponents out of state due to necessity. As some communities grow and others decline in number, the enrollment differences between schools in a conference may reach a point of unbalance. However, the current conference system obliges small schools to compete with larger schools. Re-scheduling opponents outside of the conference is an arduous task.
6. **Community growth:** Many schools are forced to sever conference affiliations due to declining enrollments or vast population disparities between schools within a conference. Also, there are many schools that are consolidating or closing due to the tough economic times. This creates scheduling problems especially in weeks 3-7. Also, if a community is experiencing major growth, they could easily outgrow a conference but the other schools in the conference cannot afford to drop the school because they would find it too difficult to replace them on the schedule.
7. **Cooperative teams:** Currently, fifty schools host football coops. Most schools maintain these partnerships in order to be competitive within their football conferences. Furthermore, most coop programs are precluded from breaking their partnerships by an inability to secure a full 9-game football schedule with opponents of comparable enrollments.

Stats: There are 64 current football conferences and four schools that are independents. Breakdown of number schools in each conference: 4-1; 5-2; 6-24; 7-10; 8-17; 9-3; 10-6; 11-1.

Pros

Alleviates recruiting by conferences.
Alleviates scheduling difficulties when a school closes.
Retains the current football playoff format.
Two year format.
Provides parity.

Cons

The Football Advisory Committee has not addressed the proposal.
Could affect scheduling of officials.

2009-10 -- Proposal No. 12

Amend By-law 5.262 – Girls Tennis

Submitted by Amy McMahon, Official Representative, Des Plaines (Willows Academy)

Girls Tennis

By-law 5.262 currently reads:

5.262 Contest Limitation

- a. No Girls Fall Tennis team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate on more than twenty (20) dates, exclusive of the IHSA series.
- b. No member of a Girls Fall Tennis team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate on more than twenty (20) dates, exclusive of the IHSA series.

Revise By-law 5.262 to read:

5.262 Contest Limitation

- a. No Girls Fall Tennis team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate on more than twenty (20) dates, exclusive of the IHSA series.
- b. ***In general, no*** member of a Girls Fall Tennis team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate on more than twenty (20) dates, exclusive of the IHSA series. ***There is one exception: a member of a Girls Fall Tennis team representing a school may play up to two additional matches, above the twenty dates, if those matches are against individual entry players.***

Rationale

Today, individual entry players find it nearly impossible to schedule matches against players at nearby schools because teams are unwilling to use one of their twenty dates for a match with an individual entry player. This amendment will make scheduling much easier for individual entry players. For players on teams that already play twenty dates, this amendment also clearly limits extra play to no more than two additional matches and only if those matches are against individual entry players.

Pros

Allows individual entries an opportunity to participate prior to the state series.

Cons

Opens up the opportunity for other individual entry sports to request the same consideration.

2009-10 -- Proposal No. 13

Amend By-laws 5.292 and 5.332 – Girls Volleyball and Boys Volleyball

Submitted by James Antos, Principal, Chicago (Brother Rice)

By-law 5.292 currently reads:

5.292 Contest Limitation

No Girls Volleyball team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than:

- (1) twenty-one (21) matches exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (2) nineteen (19) matches plus one (1) tournament, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (3) eighteen (18) matches plus two (2) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (4) sixteen (16) matches plus three (3) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (5) fifteen (15) matches plus four (4) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series.

No Girls Volleyball team representing a member school shall play in more than five (5) different matches during any given volleyball tournament.

By-law 5.332 currently reads:

5.332 Contest Limitation

No Boys Volleyball team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than:

- (1) twenty-one (21) matches exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (2) nineteen (19) matches plus one (1) tournament, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (3) eighteen (18) matches plus two (2) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (4) sixteen (16) matches plus three (3) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (5) fifteen (15) matches plus four (4) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series.

No Boys Volleyball team representing a member school shall play in more than five (5) different matches during any given volleyball tournament.

Revise By-law 5.292 to read:

5.292 Contest Limitation

No Girls Volleyball team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than:

- (1) twenty-one (21) matches exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (2) nineteen (19) matches plus one (1) tournament, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (3) eighteen (18) matches plus two (2) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (4) sixteen (16) matches plus three (3) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (5) fifteen (15) matches plus four (4) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series.

No Girls Volleyball team representing a member school shall play in more than ~~five (5)~~ **eight (8)** different matches during any given volleyball tournament.

Revise By-law 5.332 to read:

5.332 Contest Limitation

No Boys Volleyball team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than:

- (1) twenty-one (21) matches exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (2) nineteen (19) matches plus one (1) tournament, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (3) eighteen (18) matches plus two (2) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (4) sixteen (16) matches plus three (3) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (5) fifteen (15) matches plus four (4) tournaments, exclusive of the IHSA series.

No Boys Volleyball team representing a member school shall play in more than ~~five (5)~~ **eight (8)** different matches during any given volleyball tournament.

Rationale

When the IHSA membership approved changing the travel restriction several years ago (current IHSA Policy #10), IHSA Member Schools chose to travel were then eligible to compete in many more tournament opportunities throughout the country. A growing number of Illinois schools, however, have encountered several issues in regard to the match limitations for volleyball tournaments in the current by-laws:

- Many other state associations allow a larger number of matches to be played per tournament or have no tournament match restriction at all. For volleyball, it is rather common for schools/teams to play up to 3 or even 4 matches per day in a tournament.
- Because of the above, a large number of out of state tournaments – especially the more competitive tournaments – require more than 5 matches to complete the tournament from start to finish. And, a large number of these tournaments have tournament fields that range from 32 all the way up to 64 teams. Out of state tournament directors, especially for economic feasibility reasons, are maximizing playing opportunities in their tournaments in order to attract teams who want the most “bang for their buck”. Illinois schools, upon learning the above, have either had to preclude participation entirely or shorten their participation in these tournaments in order to comply with the five tournament match restriction.
- IHSA member schools that run national or multi-state tournaments, in light of current economic conditions, are having a more difficult time attracting and keeping teams in their tournaments because of the 5 tournament match restriction. Out of state teams who are not accustomed to a 5 match restriction go to another state for a tournament then because of increased playing opportunities as well as considering the move more cost-sensible.
- A number of tournaments, both in and out of state, occur during school vacation periods where the absence rule within the travel policy does not apply. Again, because of all the above, IHSA member schools are either not receiving or cannot accept invitations to these vents because of the 5 tournament match restriction.

By changing the 5 tournament match restriction to 8 matches per tournament, all of the above issues can be resolved and it puts IHSA member schools on a more equal playing field with many high schools throughout the country. Moreover, the increased match limit allows Illinois tournament directors, if they so choose, to expand their fields and increase playing opportunities. Finally, this proposed change provides Illinois tournament directors some scheduling flexibility when dealing with an odd number of teams in a pool or bracket for a regular season or conference tournament.

Pros

Allows the opportunity to participate in more matches during a tournament.

Cons

Current five match limitation is adequate.

2009-10 -- Proposal No. 14
Add By-law 5.850 – Competitive Dance
Submitted by Ron Conner, Principal, Clinton

Add By-law 5.850 to read:

5.850 *COMPETITIVE DANCE*

5.851 Season Limitation

- a. ***No school belonging to this Association shall allow its Competitive Dance team to participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 18 or later than Saturday of Week 39 in the Standardized Calendar.***

Rationale

Competitive dance is a growing form of interscholastic competition that provides participation opportunities for high school students. Because several of the events conflict with school time and involve inordinate travel and expense, there is a need to regulate competition and standardize the period during which competition may take place. This regulation will conform with the IHSA objective that interscholastic programs "shall not unduly interfere with nor abridge the regular program of teachers and students in the performances of their regular day-to-day school duties."

Pros

Presently, there is no regulation for competitive dance.
Establishes a season for schools participating in competitive dance.
Parallels the current competitive cheerleading season.

Cons

None.

2009-10 -- Proposal No. 15

Add By-laws 5.850 and 5.950 – Boys Fall Sand Volleyball and Girls Fall Sand Volleyball

Submitted by James Antos, Principal, Chicago (Brother Rice)

Add By-law 5.850 -- Boys Fall Sand Volleyball to read:

5.851 Season Limitation

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Fall Sand Volleyball teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Wednesday of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 13 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Fall Sand Volleyball no earlier than Monday of Week 7 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

5.852 Contest Limitation

No Boys Fall Sand Volleyball team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than:

- (1) twenty-one (21) matches exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (2) nineteen (19) matches plus one (1) tournament; or
- (3) eighteen (18) matches plus two (2) tournaments; or
- (4) sixteen (16) matches plus three (3) tournaments; or
- (5) fifteen (15) matches plus four (4) tournaments.

No Boys Fall Sand Volleyball team representing a member school shall play in more than five (5) different matches during any given volleyball tournament. **Note: If the proposal for Boys and Girls Volleyball passes this section for Sand Volleyball would also change to state:** No Girls Fall Sand Volleyball team representing a member school shall play in more than ~~five (5)~~ **eight (8)** different matches during any given volleyball tournament.

5.853 Individual Player Limitations

Students who participate on a school squad in Boys Fall Sand Volleyball may participate in:

- (1) seventy-two (72) games and no (0) tournaments; or
- (2) sixty-six (66) games plus one (1) tournament; or
- (3) sixty-three (63) games plus two (2) tournaments; or
- (5) fifty-four (54) games plus four (4) tournaments.

Participation in a game or tournament shall mean that a student actually competes (regardless of the length of time) in the contest.

Add By-law 5.950 -- Girls Fall Sand Volleyball to read:

5.951 Season Limitation

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Fall Sand Volleyball teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Wednesday of Week 7 or later than Saturday of Week 14 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Volleyball no earlier than Monday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

5.952 Contest Limitation

No Girls Fall Sand Volleyball team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than:

- (1) twenty-one (21) matches exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (2) nineteen (19) matches plus one (1) tournament; or
- (3) eighteen (18) matches plus two (2) tournaments; or
- (4) sixteen (16) matches plus three (3) tournaments; or
- (5) fifteen (15) matches plus four (4) tournaments.

No Girls Fall Sand Volleyball team representing a member school shall play in more than five (5) different matches during any given volleyball tournament. **Note: If the proposal for Boys and**

Girls Volleyball passes this section for Sand Volleyball would also change to state: No Girls Fall Sand Volleyball team representing a member school shall play in more than ~~five (5)~~ **eight (8)** different matches during any given volleyball tournament.

5.953 Individual Player Limitations

Students who participate on a school squad in Girls Fall Sand Volleyball may participate in:

- (1) seventy-two (72) games and no (0) tournaments; or
- (2) sixty-six (66) games plus one (1) tournament; or
- (3) sixty-three (63) games plus two (2) tournaments; or
- (4) fifty-seven (57) games plus three (3) tournaments; or
- (5) fifty-four (54) games plus four (4) tournaments.

Participation in a game or tournament shall mean that a student actually competes (regardless of the length of time) in the contest.

Rationale

Sand volleyball has enjoyed tremendous growth since being introduced as an Olympic sport at the 1996 Atlanta Games. Additional governing bodies including USA Volleyball, the NCAA and the AVP (Association of Volleyball Professionals) are sanctioning and offering expanded programs for sand volleyball. This proposal allows schools that are currently ready or potentially ready the opportunity to provide this sport offering and for high school athletes in Illinois the opportunity to compete for their schools in sand volleyball.

This proposal does present some unique challenges as well as opportunities. Important notes on these challenges and opportunities include:

1. A by-law addition is required in order for the sport of sand volleyball to be offered as an interscholastic sport at any level by any IHSA member school during the school year due to current IHSA By-laws and related skill of the sport definitions and rules. The IHSA Administrative Staff has already determined that sand volleyball does not fall under the current IHSA Emerging Sport Policy.
2. Current IHSA By-laws state that a student-athlete must cease non-school participation involving the skill of the sport five days after the schools engages in its first practice. In other words, a student cannot participate in both sand volleyball sanctioned as an IHSA sport and USA club volleyball at the same time. This is why both seasons would occur in the fall – the only USA club volleyball activity that would occur during the IHSA sand seasons for boys or girls typically would be tryouts (permissible under the current IHSA rules.)
3. It is true that the IHSA girls indoor and sand seasons would overlap. The girls sand season would start one week after the indoor season. This way, schools have already conducted indoor tryouts and girls who do not make the indoor squad can play for a sand squad if member schools approve and choose to offer this activity. Moreover, a sizeable number of girls who do not make their school's indoor squad desire to play club volleyball in the off-season to attempt making their school's indoor squad the following year.

Pros

Provides an opportunity for schools to add the sport of sand volleyball.

Cons

Conflicts with the girls volleyball indoor season.