

MINUTES OF THE ATHLETES WITH DISABILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
September 25, 2013

The IHSA Athletes with Disabilities Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, Bloomington, Illinois, on Wednesday, September 25, 2013, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were: Andy Berlinski, Princeton; Greg Hall, Urbana (H.S.); William Hook, Chicago (Agricultural Science); Jim Raabe, Jacksonville (Illinois School for the Visually Impaired); and Wes Olson, Mt. Vernon (H.S.). Also in attendance were Kurt Gibson, IHSA Associate Executive Director; and Nicole Schaeftbauer, IESA Associate Executive Director. Committee members not in attendance were: Ron Towner, Oak Forest; and Perry Wilhelm, Mundelein (H.S.).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

No recommendations were brought forth at this time.

ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION:

1. The committee reviewed the minutes from its February 6, 2013, meeting.
2. The committee heard a report from IHSA Associate Executive Director Kurt Gibson concerning the programs offered for students with physical disabilities during the 2012-13 school term. The committee heard updates on the track and field meet from last spring and a preview of events to be conducted this year. At this time, no students have been entered in cross country for the upcoming state series, although it is expected that entries will be forthcoming in the remaining events.
3. The committee discussed developing both a FAQ page and a short video to help promote the association's programs for students with disabilities and provide an outlet to address some of the more common questions schools might have regarding these programs. IHSA staff indicated a willingness to work on both projects with completion tentatively scheduled for early November.
4. The committee brainstormed various approaches that could be used to increase participation in the programs being offered by the association. Among the ideas discussed include having a presence at the up-coming IAHPERD Conference in November, soliciting input from other IHSA Advisory Committees, offering short exhibitions of athletes with disabilities in action at selected IHSA state finals, and developing the items outlined in #3 above.
5. The committee heard a brief update on programs for students with disabilities from the July 2013 NFHS Summer Meeting.