

MINUTES OF THE IHSA BOYS AND GIRLS SOCCER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

May 8, 2014

The IHSA Boys and Girls Soccer Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, in Bloomington, Illinois, on Thursday, May 8, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were; John Anderson, Official (Vernon Hills); Jeff Niemiec, Chicago (Eric Solorio Academy); Kevin Kullby, Lake Villa (Lakes); Chris Griffin, Danville (H.S.); Joe Moreau, Naperville (Neuqua Valley); Scott Burney, Jerseyville (Jersey) and IHSA Assistant Executive Director Beth Sauser. Not in attendance: Mike Ward, Pleasant Plains.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Boys and Girls Section VI. B. 1) and 2). Time Schedules

Recommendation: The committee recommends that during regular season games the home team determines the introductory procedure.

During all IHSA state series games, teams will walk out using the World Cup Formation. After the officials' meeting, teams will walk to midfield, shake hands with their opponents and officials, and wish each other good luck before flaring out. Introductions will then be made followed by the playing of the National Anthem. If a sound system is not available, bench personnel will leave the field and the game will begin immediately. The committee recommends that this occurs during all regular season games and the state series games.

Rationale: This modification allows home teams to continue to experience their pre-game introduction tradition as a part of the high school experience.

During the state series, all teams and officials will walk out in World Cup formation, and shake hands to wish each other good luck as a display of respect for the game.

Approved

2. Boys and Girls Section VIII. A. 3) Rules of Play

Recommendation: The committee recommends adding the following wording to current 3): If the game is interrupted prior to the end of the first half, the NFHS resumption of play rules will be followed.

Rationale: Clarifies current practice

Approved

3. Boys and Girls Section VIII. D. Team Roster and F. Players in Team Uniform

Recommendation: The committee recommends increasing the number of players in team uniform to 25 for all state series games.

Rationale: Many teams play more than 22 players during the regular season. Increasing the roster limitation creates an opportunity for more kids to be brought up to varsity or allows a coach to dress the full squad instead of rotating players on a per game basis during the state series. The overall team limitation of 30 does not increase.

Approved

4. Boys and Girls Section XI. A. 3) Officials

Recommendation: The committee recommends appointing a Fourth Official to the current Super Section crew.

Rationale: This addition will increase the quality of the game by expanding the total number of working officials by 12 each for the boys and girls state series. The 4th official has responsibilities in the game and is a working official. If an injury occurs to one of the three field officials then there is an official ready to work at this high level game and teams can play with a full crew. The additional position will expose and educate more officials in preparation for the state final 4th official position. The committee recommends paying the 4th official at the Super Section level \$30.00 (total of \$720 per year) which correlates to the current percentage the State Final 4th Officials are paid in comparison to the field officials

Died for lack of motion

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **Recommendation:** Coaches rate officials according to position officiated during the game worked. The committee recommends this concept extend beyond soccer to other sports

Rationale: Officials in soccer (as well as other sports) use different skill sets and have different responsibilities based on the position they work during a contest (i.e. Middle vs AR in soccer) per the NFHS rules book. The officials should be rated according to their performance in the specific position thus creating more accurate ratings for post season assignments.

2. **Recommendation:** Modify State Association Adoption #2: If anything (i.e. tape or velcro) is worn on the outside of the sock it must be clear or ~~match the~~ **similar in** color of the socks.

Rationale: Clarifies the current practice and NFHS rule.

3. **Recommendation:** The committee recommends to add the following as State Association Adoption #8 Note: 3 Any team whose players, during the regular season, collectively receive a total of 25 or more yellow cards (including all second yellow/red cards) will be prohibited from participating in the IHSA State Tournament series.

Rationale: After reviewing the past three years of yellow card reports, the committee believes there needs to be a team accountability component added to the current individual accountability system. Repeated negative behavior needs to be addressed during the season and a consequence is needed to alleviate this problem year after year. In the last three years, there has been an average of 1000 cards given in each of the following categories: Reckless Play, Unsportsmanlike Behavior and Dissent. Statistics show:

- Fewer than 5% of boys teams are affected with the 25 yellow card maximum
- Teams are located throughout the state and not in one geographic area
- Some schools received 25 or more yellow cards during multiple seasons; equating to receiving over 120 cards in 3 seasons
- Coaches and Administrators are able to see total yellow card accumulation on the IHSA Tracker: IHSA staff will send an email reminder in week 4 of the season to Administrators and officials to review their yellow card count.
- In the 2013 season, 31 boys' teams received 25 or more yellow cards: The figures below represent a breakdown of teams receiving an excessive amount of yellow cards:

10 teams received 25 yellow cards;
3 teams received 26 yellow cards;
4 teams received 30 yellow cards;
2 teams received 31 yellow cards;
2 teams received 33 yellow cards;
2 teams received 34 yellow cards;

1 team received 35 yellow cards and
1 team received 53 yellow cards;

Approved

4. Recommendation: The committee recommends the IHSA create an online facility rating form for coaches and officials to complete in all sports.

Rationale: Rating host state series facilities provides additional feedback to the IHSA staff in deciding future sites. Some categories may include: Man power; court/field/diamond conditions; quality of site; parking etc.

5. Recommendation: The committee recommends the continued use of the current Soccer State Association Adoptions, and any needed editorial changes to be made by Beth Sauser for 2014-15 seasons if the above recommendations are not approved.

Rationale: The state association adoptions are in accordance with provisions set forth in the NFHS Soccer Rules Book. The adoptions have been in place in Illinois for years, and the committee favors their continued use since the rules have been accepted and successfully administered over the years.

ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION and GENERAL DISCUSSION:

1. The committee requests the Board of Directors to review Policy #19, Grouping and Seeding, and allow all Sectionals outside of the defined collar counties to be assigned in sub-sectional assignments instead of assigned regionals. Travel will still be limited and the top teams will be divided between two Regionals. This will create more balanced and competitive Regionals, and reward teams for their regular season performance. Also, sub-sectional will prevent 3 team Regionals from occurring.

2. The committee discussed allowing the top 4 seeds to host in all sports. If you're the #1 seed why should you have to go to another site? Where's the reward for regular season? They recognize there is a problem in some areas when the top seed do not have fields or that schools use park districts and need more notification. If the top 4 seeded teams cannot host then keep moving down a level, i.e. go to #5 seed or #6 seed.

3. The committee reviewed minutes from the 2013 meeting.

4. The committee discussed submitting a proposal to change the season limitation by-law to a total number of matches played during the season (individual and tournament games). This change will allow schools more flexibility in scheduling games. A by-law proposal will be submitted to the IHSA office.

5. The committee discussed the current overtime procedure vs golden goal. Officials do not have a strong opinion. Before considering a change, the committee needs to know how many games are decided when a team scores first and how many teams come back to tie the game again. Not having golden goal eliminates the field and weather conditions (strong wind) from deciding the game.

6. The committee reviewed the current Terms and Conditions and needed editorial changes to be made by Beth Sauser

7. The committee discussed if strength of schedule should be used as a determining factor in seeding teams. They felt that this category is too subjective for coaches to use.
8. The committee discussed if seed meetings should be moved back a week? Especially with the boys season. They also discussed if there's a possibility for Coaches to comment on other coaches comments on the Season Summary form. For example: team A went to PKs in a tournament, and lost, but put that game down as a tie when it's a loss. Can another coach send in a correction or challenge the record? Can they post comments for all to see?
9. Reviewed the new IHSA By-laws and NFHS rules for the 2014-15 school year.
10. The committee reviewed the 2013-14 Boys and Girls State Final Tournaments. The committee discussed the need for Administrators and Coaches to follow the Ts & Cs during the state series and especially during the State Finals so there are no issues before, during or after the game.
11. The committee reviewed the college soccer "exposure camps" or "id camps" held during the spring. The committee discussed how colleges run these events during the spring since the college season occurs during the fall. A potential solution is to allow individuals to participate in a maximum of three camps during the spring season. In order for this to occur a new by-law must be proposed and passed. The committee discussed the proposed bylaw that has been submitted to the IHSA office.
12. The committee reviewed the yellow and red card reports from the boys and girls seasons.
13. The committee discussed the possibility of creating a roster form that all teams must use for all games and if that is beneficial for coaches.
14. The committee thanked John Anderson, Joe Moreau and Mike Ward for their service.
15. Next meeting: Thursday, May 7, 2015.