

MINUTES OF THE IHSA FOOTBALL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
December 6, 2017

The IHSA Football Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office in Bloomington, Illinois, on December 6, 2017 beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were Troy McAllister, Chicago (Phillips); Bob Pieper, Northbrook (Glenbrook North); Andy Lutzenkirchen, Naperville (Central); Travis Heinz, Forreston; Josh Jostes, Maroa (M.-Forsyth); Jeremy Adolphson, Monmouth (M.-Roseville); Brian Short, Breese (Central); Dennis Doyle, Official-Joliet; and Sam Knox, IHSA. Greg Gaa, Sports Medicine Advisory Committee member, Kurt Gibson, IHSA; and Scott Johnson, IHSA also attended the meeting.

The Minutes of the December 7, 2016 meeting were accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. VIII. C. Team Sideline Passes

Recommendation: Increase the number of sideline passes at the State Finals from 16 to 20 for all 1A-4A games and from 25 to 30 for all 5A-8A games. The new number of sideline passes will include passes for team video personnel.

Rationale: The committee recommends this change to allow the IHSA to send passes for video personnel to schools in advance of the State Finals. The current practice requires schools to contact the IHSA office the week of the State Finals to request specific video personnel passes. With the growth of video technology that includes sideline cameras and end zone cameras along with iPads and video screens on the sidelines, the committee feels that four additional passes in the 1A-4A games and five additional passes in the 5A-8A games will be a sufficient number of passes for each team's video personnel.

Approved by Consent

2. X. D. Awards Presentation

Recommendation: At the State Finals, present the awards to the teams on the field at the 50-yard line, with each team near its own sideline facing its fans, as opposed to presenting the awards on a stage behind the end zone.

Rationale: The committee recommends this change in order to allow the teams and their fans to stay better connected as they share a special moment at the State Finals.

Approved by Consent

3. XI. C-E Officials

Recommendation: The IHSA will assign a sixth official to serve as an alternate official in each Quarterfinal, Semifinal, and State Final game. The alternate official will fill in for an official in case of an injury during the game and will also carry a rule book for reference if the officials need assistance with a rule clarification. Alternate officials will not receive a game fee but will be reimbursed mileage at the IHSA rate. If an alternate official has to fill in for an injured official at any time during the game, the alternate official will receive a full game fee.

Rationale: The committee understands the importance of playoff games and the responsibility of officials to correctly apply the rules. The committee also understands that officials' injuries occasionally happen and finishing a game with four officials is not a good situation for the teams or the officiating crew. An alternate official can assist in both areas by carrying a rule book and being prepared to fill in for an injured official.

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ITEMS OF DISCUSSION:

1. The committee discussed options related to quarter limits per week and mandatory rest time for football players between games and between full-contact practices. The committee shared thoughts that Greg Gaa can take back to the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee for consideration.
2. The committee discussed the concept of developing a more uniform state-wide pregame itinerary for host schools to use in playoff games regarding the timing of the coin toss and the national anthem.
3. The committee discussed the between-games timeline at the State Finals and ways to create a smoother flow from on-field warmups to introductions to kickoff.
4. The committee discussed the current practice of exchanging game films with opponents in the playoffs.
5. The committee discussed this year's by-law proposal to expand the playoffs.
6. The committee discussed the creation of a survey to share with member schools to help the committee seek guidance on schools' preferences for potential playoff expansion.

7. The committee recognized outgoing members Troy McAllister, Chicago (Phillips), Bob Pieper, Northbrook (Glenbrook North); and Brian Short, Breese (Central).
8. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.