

MINUTES OF THE IHSA BOYS/GIRLS GOLF ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING
December 7, 2017

The IHSA Boys/Girls Golf Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, Bloomington, Illinois, on Thursday, December 7, 2017, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were: Brian Glorioso, Athletic Director at Chicago (St. Patrick); Ann Christiansen, Girls Coach at Huntley; Melissa Mason, Girls Coach at Palos Hills (Stagg); Brad Sweet, Girls Coach at Machesney Park (Harlem); Brent Rademacher, Principal at Bismarck (B-Henning); Mark Longo, Boys Coach Quincy (Notre Dame); and Laurie Glass, Girls coach Metropolis (Massac County) IHSA Assistant Executive Director Stacey Lambert, and IHSA Assistant Executive Director Kurt Gibson, were also in attendance.

Terms and Conditions Recommendations:

1. Section VIII, N. Measuring Devices

Recommendation: Players or coaches may use USGA-approved measuring devices during state series competition. *A multi-functional device, such as a smartphone, smartwatch, or PDA, may be used as a distance measuring device, but the device must not be used to gauge or measure other conditions where doing so would be a breach of USGA Rule 14-3.* Players or coaches may share distance information with competitors if they wish to do so. Players found using measuring devices utilizing functions considered illegal will be penalized in accordance with USGA rules.

Rationale: The addition of this language is consistent with USGA rules and recognizes the growing number of players who have apps on devices on their cell phones to aid in measuring distance.

Approved by Consent

2. Section VII, L. Artificial Devices

Recommendation: Players are prohibited from playing music with/without headphones, *making or receiving calls or texts on a cell phone*, using artificial devices or any other unusual equipment that might assist a player in making a stroke. *Players found using any of the afore-mentioned devices or equipment will be penalized in accordance with USGA rules.*

Rationale: This language offers guidance on how cell phones can be used during competition. The committee believes the up-date is necessary in light of the recommendation above.

Approved by Consent

3. **IX. Tournament Policies B. School Representative/Coach**

Recommendation: Add the following to the section: *At the state finals, schools who qualify a team or multiple individuals may rent one cart at the school's expense for use by the school's head coach, provided enough carts are available and ground conditions allow for such use.*

Rationale: The committee believes this modest inclusion of carts for coaches will not unduly impact play and allow greater opportunity for coaches to coach players at the state finals.

Approved by Consent

Administrative Recommendations:

1. III. Online Entries, Withdrawal Procedures, Eligibility, Affirmative Action and On-line List of Participants C. Breach of Contract By-law 6.041 (Withdrawal Procedure)

Recommendation: The committee recommends that Terms and Conditions Section III. C. Breach of Contract, apply not only to teams but to individual entries as well.

Rationale: The current wording for the section is appropriate, it have just not applied to individual entries in the past, the Committee feels that late withdrawals by individuals are just as troublesome for a host as a late withdrawal for a team would be and that the penalty should apply the same.

Approved by Consent

General Items of Discussion:

1. The committee reviewed the minutes of their 2016 meeting.
2. The committee discussed the 2017 state series. The committee expressed their thanks to all the communities, management teams, and staffs that put on a quality experience for the participants. As a part of that discussion, the committee agreed to survey schools that participated in the state series on a variety of topics. The survey will be sent electronically to all head coaches, and it is hoped the survey will be sent out prior to December 15th.
3. The committee discussed the location of sectional sites in Girls' Class 2A golf. IHSA staff acknowledged their efforts to keep the site of the 'southernmost' sectional as central as possible due to the large amount of area that sectional encompasses. A similar question was asked about a Boys' Golf Class 3A regional that also encompassed a large amount of area. One school in that grouping expressed their concern that they

had to spend a considerable amount of money to cover hotels, practice round fees, etc., and that they couldn't begin their practice round until later in the day until after the regional host had dismissed for the day. IHSA staff reminded the committee that association by-laws offer guidance on when practice rounds can begin at state series locations and would encourage any school to consider making a proposal to modify the by-law.

4. The committee discussed a proposal to eliminate language from the Terms and Conditions that would require an on-course play-off to break any ties for individual advancement to the sectional or state finals and allow for additional players to advance to those succeeding levels.
5. The committee discussed a proposal that would require all state series courses to have a driving range on site. The committee did not move this proposal forward, recognizing the challenges that exist to find state series sites in some parts of the state. IHSA staff said they would continue to make every effort to find state series sites that do have driving ranges and will report back to the committee next year.
6. The committee discussed allowances for coaching anywhere on the course, including the putting green. The committee discussed whether or not coaches should be allowed to notify players on the green if they have concerns about the possibility of a rules infraction. After thoughtful review, the committee did not advance any recommendation, believing the current coaching rule is appropriate.
7. The committee discussed whether or not a qualifying score should be required of all competitors entered in the state series. The committee did not advance a recommendation regarding this given there is already the Circle 10 provision available to players.
8. The committee discussed the importance of monitoring the 9th and 18th greens at state series sites for noise, particularly at the end of the round as players finish their last hole. The committee shared their belief that managers can best monitor this without the need for a specific rule. The committee suggested managers could possibly place signage around the green complexes to assist with this, or even find volunteers to help keep the noise level appropriate.
9. The committee discussed how to best clarify for spectators what they can/can't do at a state series event. The committee suggested IHSA staff develop a short video and a pamphlet to explain behaviors that are acceptable, thereby increasing the enjoyment of the experience for patrons.
10. The committee discussed whether or not coaches should be present at the Regional and Sectional rules meetings prior to the start of the round, and what, if any, consequence should be assessed to any coach who doesn't attend these important meetings. The committee suggested that IHSA staff make attendance at these meetings a point of emphasis for the 2018 season.

11. The committee discussed adding licensed golf officials to the IHSA list of officials. At this time, the committee doesn't believe adding this position is necessary. Between local professionals and golf coaches, the committee believes there is the necessary support in place to ensure USGA rules are followed.
12. The committee discussed who can be involved with a team during the practice round for the state finals. In particular, questions have arisen about whether or not someone other than a school-approved coach (likely a parent) can carry a player's bags. The committee was reminded that the practice round is considered an official school practice so only those coaches who meet all applicable IHSA requirements could be involved in the practice round, including carrying another player's bag.
13. The committee discussed whether or not coaches should be able to keep a set line-up of players throughout the state series, irrespective of how the players score during each level of play. The committee took no action on this matter.
14. The committee discussed some general issues regarding rule enforcement at the recently-completed boys' state finals.
15. The committee discussed whether or not schools with individual qualifiers should be limited to having only one coach advise/coach a player during a round. Consensus of the committee was the current Terms and Conditions allowance of two coaches is still appropriate, and that coaches have done a good job of not slowing down pace of play by being able to coach during a round.
16. The committee reviewed a presentation from IHSA staff that discussed trends over the past 10 years regarding player scoring at the state finals and examined one concept aimed at improving the player experience for day 2. The presentation examined a concept that would reduce the state finals field by approximately 1/3 from Day 1 to Day 2 of the state finals. The committee believed the concept made sense and directed IHSA staff to further explore the idea and report back to the committee next year.

The committee thanked Ann Christiansen and Mark Longo for their years of service.