

MINUTES OF THE IHSA BASEBALL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
September 3, 2019

The IHSA Baseball Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office in Bloomington, Illinois, on September 3, 2019, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Committee members present: Troy Whalen, Grayslake (Central); Steve Millsaps, Joliet (West); Tom Keegan, Spring Valley (Hall); Charlie Brown, Moweaqua (Central A&M); Jeremy Smith, Gillespie; Tim Funkhouser, Edwardsville (H.S.), Justin Bowling, Official; and Sam Knox, IHSA.

Victor Johnson, Chicago (Agricultural Science) was absent.

The Minutes of the August 28, 2018 meeting were accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Item VI. Tournament Structure and Time Schedules A. 1)

Recommendation: Regional or Sectional managers, upon consultation with the IHSA Office and with approval of the schools involved in the game, may move the championship game from Saturday to Friday if the weather forecast for Saturday is not favorable to play.

Rationale: When Saturday's forecast indicates a high probability of rain, it might make sense to move the game to Friday if Friday's forecast is better. The language says that the Regional or Sectional host must consult with the IHSA Office, and the schools involved in the game must both agree to play on Friday.

Approved by Consent

2. Item XI. Officials E. State Final Assignments

Recommendation: Decrease the number of State Finals umpires from twelve (12) in 1A/2A and twelve (12) in 3A/4A to eight (8) in 1A/2A and eight (8) in 3A/4A. Each umpire will umpire four games (two each day) as a part of a four-person crew at the State Finals instead of the current two games (one each day) as a part of a three-person crew. Each umpire will be paid a flat fee of \$560 plus up to two nights lodging at a hotel designated by the IHSA Administrator.

Rationale: Assigning four (4) umpires to each game at the State Finals will ensure a better experience for the teams since the fourth umpire on each game will provide additional base and field coverage.

Failed by Board Vote

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION /
STATE ASSOCIATION ADOPTION:**

All regular season games at all levels will use the 15-run rule after 4 innings.

Rationale: IHSA schools already use the 15-run rule after 4 innings in the baseball postseason. Using the 15-run rule in the regular season will allow teams to conserve pitches that their pitchers throw.

Approved by Consent

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION:

1. The committee discussed new baseball rules that will be in place for the 2020 season.
2. The committee discussed the Pitch Count Tracker located on the IHSA website in the Schools Center. Coaches on the committee feel like the Pitch Count Tracker is a great use of technology to help them manage their pitching staffs.
3. The committee discussed the method of counting pitches in the postseason, including an independent pitch counter at each postseason site. The committee would like the host school to report the pitchers' names and the number of pitches they threw when they report the final score in the IHSA Schools Center.
4. The committee discussed the possibility of having umpires use a stopwatch in games to track the time between innings, so teams adhere to the rule that limits them to 1 minute between innings.
5. The committee recognized outgoing member Jeremy Smith, Gillespie.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.