

**MINUTES OF THE IHSA BOYS/GIRLS BOWLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**May 20, 2020**

The IHSA Boys/Girls Bowling Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, Bloomington, Illinois, on Wednesday, May 20, 2020, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were: Devon Radford, Boys Coach from Chicago (Julian), Jeana Lietz, Principal, Oak Lawn (Community), Miguel Sanchez, Boys Coach from Niles (Notre Dame), Shane Tucker, Athletic Director from Biggsville (West Central); Jim Braet, Girls Coach, Rock Island (H.S.) and Doug Wagoner, Boys/Girls Coach from Hoopston (H. Area). Also present at the meeting were Boys' and Girls' Tournament Managers: Ann Buja from Rockford, Todd Moeller, Athletic Director from O'Fallon, and Mike Imes, Boys Head Coach at O'Fallon (H.S.). Absent from the meeting was Brad Goewey, Athletic Director from Centralia. IHSA Assistant Executive Director Stacey Lambert was also in attendance.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**None**

**Administrative Recommendations:**

**None**

**ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

1. The committee reviewed 2019 Minutes.
2. The committee discussed the boys and girls state finals.
  - a. The Committee appreciated all of the support Storm was able to provide to the IHSA bowling community during the 2020 post season.
  - b. The Committee discussed when the same house has to be used for multiple levels of the post season, it was discussed that sometimes this happens because of center availability and size. The Committee asked that when it does occur, centers and hosts do all they can to use different lanes and a different house shot than previous rounds.
3. The committee discussed a Baker Proposal for the IHSA State Finals:

**Baker Proposal**

Start with the 2021-22 Championship

Friday will remain the same, we will advance 12 teams and 30 individuals to Saturday's morning round.

Saturday

- Wheelchair class will continue to bowl 6 games, on Saturday, with their awards at the conclusion
- Individuals will bowl their last 3 games on Saturday morning, with their awards after 9 games taking place over the lunch break

- Teams will bowl 3 games in the morning, the top 8 teams will advance to the Baker round for Saturday afternoon.
- To accommodate for the individual awards, the lunch break for the boys championship will be extended by 15 minutes.

### Baker Round

- Teams will be seeded based on their total pin fall from the 9 previously played games  
1v8  
2v7  
3v6  
4v5  
The higher seeded team will get their choice of starting lane.
- Warm-ups for the 8 advancing teams will be 10 minutes total after the lunch break. Teams will get 5 minutes on each lanes in their pair for the start of round 1. Starting with Round 2 and all subsequent rounds, each player will get 1 ball per lane.
- Teams will play a best of 5 series, the winning team advances to the next round
- Coaches are allowed to change their lineup after each game
- Rules allows all 8 players on your roster to bowl in a Baker Game by substituting players in 3 of the last 5 frames (frames 6 – 10). Once a bowler is subbed out they will not be permitted to return in a different position. This gives every player the opportunity to bowl. Only 1 sub will be allowed to start the 10<sup>th</sup> frame, open frame subbing will not be allowed.
- Third place will be between the 2 losing teams in round 2 and will be determined by the seed a team received after the 9 game series.

If any round results in a tie between competing teams, a 1 game time breaker will be played between those 2 teams. If the teams are tied at the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> game a 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> frame roll off will take place.

**The Committee would like to collect feedback on this plan before formalizing a proposal.**

4. The committee discussed players using iWatches to receive information during the round. The Committee felt that coaches should be the ones to enforce the current Terms and Conditions rule with player, meaning no information/advice should be coming to a player outside of what is coming from the coach. Managers are encouraged to remind coaches of the current rule for all post season events.
5. The committee discussed the class system outlined in Policy 19 of the IHSA Handbook and how many schools we would need to create 2 classes in bowling:

#### **Criteria for Increasing the Number of Classes in IHSA Sports and Activities**

The following criteria shall be followed when considering proposals to increase or decrease the number of classes in IHSA sports and activities:

1. The Board of Directors shall determine the number of classes based on the criteria set forth in this policy.

2. The classification systems used by Boys Football, Music, Competitive Cheerleading and Competitive Dance are unique and are determined by the Terms & Conditions of the respective sport or activity.

3. For all other sports and activities, entries may be divided into classes according to the criteria in the following tables:

**Bracketed team sports/activities**

Number of schools entering teams	Number of classes allowed
600 or more	4
300 to 599	2
all others	1

**Individual sports/activities**

Number of schools entering teams or individuals allowed	Number of classes
450 to more	3
350 to 449	2
all others	1

4. Boys and girls sports with comparable entries shall have an equal number of classes.
6. The committee discussed when centers in Illinois can reopen after the COVID stay at home order. It be believed that most centers will try to reopen on June 26<sup>th</sup> as part of the Governor’s plan.
7. The committee discussed Policy 18 of the IHSA Handbook, how regional groupings are made, why schools sometimes move and how maps are redrawn every 3 years. The bowling maps will be redrawn for the 3 year period starting with the 2020-21 school year.

**18. Grouping and Seeding State Tournament Series**

**Developing a Rationale for Grouping and Seeding State Tournament Series**

The cornerstone of IHSA state tournaments has long been geographic assignments to the state series leading to geographic representation at State Final tournaments. The geographical concept was developed to insure that interscholastic participation was compatible with a school’s educational objectives. The geographic concept helped maintain a “reasonableness” to competition and safeguarded key resources such as time and money, while, at the same time, providing for a structure that was equitable to all member schools. Since 1991, when sectional complexes were first adopted in Class AA basketball, IHSA administrators struggled with how to group and seed the lower level tournaments in other sports and activities. Without an official policy regarding seeding, the current system has developed into a hodgepodge that lacks consistency and an overarching rationale.

It is important to note that the interscholastic programs of a school are designed to enrich the educational process (\* Note Article 1.140 of the Constitution). The establishment of sound standards and procedures for the regulation and control of interscholastic programs not only provide for fairness and equity, but they also keep the programs in an educational context. The geographic principle is essential to regulating the character of interscholastic competition. This document strips away the conflicting arguments and returns to the IHSA’s fundamental principles to establish a framework for organizing a state tournament series.

**The Geographic Principle of IHSA State Tournament Series**

1. The State Series is designed to determine a State Champion. The State Series is not intended to necessarily advance the best teams in the state to the State Final.

2. Representation in an IHSA State Final Tournament is determined on a geographic basis — that is, schools advancing to the State Final Tournament (or in Boys Football, the State Final Game) qualify from given geographical areas of the state. Pairings for the State Final Tournament are determined every year in a drawing that is open to the media/public.

3. The number of schools in a State Final Tournament, and levels of competition in the State Series, are determined by the number of schools entered in the series.

4. Schools are assigned to first level tournaments/meets on a geographical basis so that there is a reasonable balance in the number of schools assigned at each first level site.

A. Factors considered in assigning schools to first level tournaments include:

1. Schools willing/eligible/selected to host and their location;

2. Number of schools entered in state series and their locations; and,

3. Classification of schools in the state series.

4. In individual state series tournaments/meets, the number of schools with full teams assigned to the beginning competition is balanced as much as possible. Travel distance to the tournament/meet site could justify an imbalance in the number of schools assigned to a site.

B. Factors considered in assigning schools to first level tournaments do not include:

1. Won-lost records of the schools;

2. Strengths or weaknesses of the schools in a geographic area;

3. Anticipated or potential revenue; and

4. Individual, private requests of schools and/or coaches.

5. Assignments to first level tournaments are reviewed and rearranged every 3 years (though the host of each first level tournament may change from year to year). Sometimes, changes in schools willing to host or schools entered may necessitate intermediate adjustments to the assignments.

8. The committee thanked Devon Radford and Jeana Lietz for their years of service.