

MINUTES OF THE IHSA BASEBALL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
September 3, 2020

The IHSA Baseball Advisory Committee met virtually on September 3, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Committee members present: John Nee, Chicago (St. Rita); Troy Whalen, Grayslake (Central); Steve Millsaps, Joliet (West); Charlie Brown, Moweaqua (Central A&M); Casey Longnecker, Hardin (Calhoun); Tim Funkhouser, Edwardsville (H.S.), Justin Bowling, Official; and Sam Knox, IHSA.

Tom Keegan, Spring Valley (Hall) was absent.

TERMS & CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

NONE

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. IHSA Return to Activities 1.0

Recommendation: The committee reviewed Return to Activities 1.0. The committee made the following recommendations for the IHSA Board of Directors to review in order to make the Summer season (May 3- June 26) more equitable with other IHSA 1.0 seasons.

- Allow baseball practices to begin earlier than the proposed May 3 date.
- The committee feels a better start date for practice is either April 12 or April 19.
- This change would allow games to begin on April 26 or May 3.
- The committee feels by-law 5.022 (35-game limit) is appropriate, even in a shortened season. It allows schools to schedule games appropriately for their team and their specific situation in a unique school year.
- The committee is not in favor of waiving by-law 3.101 during the 2020-21 baseball season. The committee feels that monitoring pitch counts in baseball is vital and that it will become extremely difficult to monitor pitchers who simultaneously play for the high school team and for a non-school team.

Rationale: These revisions to Return to Activities 1.0 will help keep Illinois baseball players committed to the high school game and create a more equitable summer timeline compared to other IHSA seasons.

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION:

1. The committee discussed the possibility that fall sports (football, girls volleyball, and boys soccer) might not happen in March and April. If that becomes a reality, will spring sports move back to their traditional seasons?
2. The committee recognized outgoing members Troy Whalen, Graylake (Central); Steve Milsaps, Joliet (West); and Justin Bowling, Official.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.