

**MINUTES OF THE IHSA BOYS/GIRLS VOLLEYBALL ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**December 2, 2021**

The IHSA Boys/Girls Volleyball Advisory Committee met virtually, on Thursday, December 2, 2021, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were: Tonya Grayson, Girls Coach at Newark; Lisa Miller, Girls Coach at Chicago (University); Michele Keenan, Boys/Girls Coach at Fox Lake (Grant); Jim Kann, Coach/Athletic Director, Byron; Jane Stillman, Athletic Director, Champaign (Central); Tim Kerr, Girls Coach, Augusta (Southeastern); Josh Lane, Principal, Belleville (East); and Tarah Dickerson, Official from Chicago. IHSA Assistant Executive Director Stacey Lambert.

**Terms and Conditions Recommendations:**

**1. Revise: Girls VI. TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE AND TIME SCHEDULES**

**Recommendation:**

**B. Time Schedules:**

- 1. Regional Time:** In a regional tournament that is held on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, the matches shall start no earlier than 6:00 pm. The Thursday Regional Championship will be played no sooner than 6:00 pm.
- 2. Sectional Time:** In a sectional with 2 matches shall be played no earlier than 6:00 pm. A sectional with 1 match shall be played no earlier than 6:00 pm

**Rationale:** This recommendation brings consistency to the start times for the post season from regionals to super sectionals, with all of the start times being at 6pm. This slight adjustment will also give additional travel time to parents, fans, officials, and teams trying to get to matches.

Approved by Consent

**2. Revise: Girls: VIII. TOURNAMENT RULES D. Team Roster and Personnel:  
Boys: VIII. TOURNAMENT RULES C. Players in Team Uniform:**

**Recommendation:** In each of the tournaments, a participating school shall not have more than twenty two (22) eligible personnel on the bench. This includes players in team uniform, coaches, and/or support personnel. There is no limit to the number of players in uniform, provided that the number of individuals does not exceed the 22 person limit.

**Rationale:** After much review, the Volleyball Advisory Committee felt the wording found in the basketball Terms and Conditions gave the schools the most autonomy to determine how to use their passes between coaches, players, and managers. This can be done without going over the current limit of 22 total personnel.

Approved by Consent

**3. Revise: Girls: VIII. Tournament Rules F. Warm-up Time:  
Boys: VIII. Tournament Rules D. Warm-up Time:**

**Recommendation:** Warm-up Time: If a team arrives early, ball handling is permitted on the court prior to the timed warmups. Teams can take the court no sooner than 45 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the match. If both teams are present, each team shall be restricted to their side of the playing court. The warm-up time for each match will be 2-6-6 with both teams sharing the first 2 minutes, the first 6 minutes will be the home team on the entire court, and the second 6 minutes will be the visiting team on the entire court. When teams are off the court, ball handling is allowed if space allows. If space is limited teams shall be restricted to ball handling behind the end line.

All warm-up tops (jackets or shirts) must be removed by both teams by the conclusion of the 2 minute warm-up period. Warm-up apparel is not required to be worn by a team.

The team listed on the top of the bracket shall be the home team. Teams listed on the bottom of the bracket shall be the visiting team.

**Rationale:** This recommendation cleans up a lot of language in this section. The removal of all warm-up tops allows officials to do their jobs checking the roster as required by the NFHS Rule Books. It also adds language to bring this section inline with the Gym Set Up section so that it is clear when teams can take the court.

Approved by Consent

**4. Revise: Girls VIII. TOURNAMENT RULES C. Official Wilson Volleyballs:  
Boys VIII. TOURNAMENT RULES E. Official Wilson Volleyballs:**

**Recommendation:** Official Wilson Volleyballs: The Orange/White/Blue Wilson K1 Gold volleyball with the NFHS logo shall be used in the state tournament series. Wilson shall provide volleyballs for each level of the state series and only Wilson volleyballs may be used. The host school will choose the ball for regular season match (white is still an option).

**Rationale:** Due to supply chain issues in the fall of 21, the IHSA received some orange/white/blue volleyballs from Wilson, the balls looked awesome being in the IHSA colors. This recommendation would reflect the colors used in regular IHSA logos and trademarks.

Approved by Consent

**5. Revise: Girls VIII. Tournament Rules. I. Gym Set Up  
Boys VIII. Tournament Rules. H. Host School**

**Recommendation:** Student sections will either be placed directly behind their team bench or across the court from their team bench. Student sections shall not be placed behind or across from opposing teams.

**Rationale:** This recommendation will require hosts to space fans out appropriately so that student sections do not cause uncomfortable situations for opposing teams. In the past this was not as much of an issue with teams switching benches each set, but now that teams have remained on the same side of the court student sections can end up behind or across from opposing teams for the entire match. This could also encourage student sections to cheer for their team, on their side of the court, instead of against their opponent.

Approved by Consent

**State Association Adoptions**

**1. Revise: NFHS Rule 9-1-2**

**Recommendation:** Teams shall remain on the same benches throughout the match. UNLESS when upon arrival of the visiting team and officials, the facility is deemed uneven on one side of the net or the other. The decision to switch benches or remain on the same side through the match will be made at the coaches/captains/official's pre-match conference.

**Rationale:** After not switching benches for 2 years coaches, players, and officials have found it's easier for everyone to stay. It gives coaches more time to talk to their teams, it gives officials more time to work with the bench or address coaches.

Approved by Consent

**General Items of Discussion:**

1. The committee heard reports on both the recently completed girls' and boys' state final tournaments.
  - a. The committee talked about the lack of concession stand availability at ISU
  - b. The committee talked about neutral fan seating at Redbird Arena only being in the endzones
  - c. The committee talked about schools ignoring the IHSA streaming policies and continuing with their Facebook live streams of post season matches.

2. The committee talked about the higher seed hosting the regional quarterfinal matches being held on Monday nights. The committee discussed how this could increase the difficulty in finding officials as now there would be multiple sites instead of one host site. The committee talked about how some school's gyms are not conducive to hosting a volleyball match and these schools will likely have to host a quarterfinal at some point. They also talked about how teams who opt to participate in the state series should do so with the knowledge that at some point they will have to travel and prepare accordingly.

3. The committee discussed the girls state final time schedule:

Thursday:

1A/2A semifinal matches: 3pm, 4:30pm, 6pm, 7:30pm

Friday:

3A/4A semifinal matches: 9am, 10:30am, 12pm, and 1:30pm

1A/2A championship matches: 4pm, 5:30pm, 7pm, 8:30pm

Saturday:

3A/4A championship matches: 12pm, 1:30pm, 3pm, 4:30pm

There would be no practice day with this schedule.

This discussion could also include a change in the 3<sup>rd</sup> place matches, allowing the 3<sup>rd</sup> set in those matches to only go to 15 points. The Committee tabled this proposal for an update meeting in late January or early February in order to give the IHSA time to vet a few things.

4. The committee reviewed a proposal to change the definition of volleyball in the IHSA Handbook to allow players to participate in sand and high school volleyball during the same season. Committee members did not approve of the idea as they wanted to keep the emphasis on high school during the high school season. They did understand that under other rule codes indoor and sand volleyball are classified as separate sports, with this information they still felt it was important for the players on in the high school program to focus on the high school team during that season.

5. The committee talked about the girls short length and if they needed/wanted to institute a length requirement. The committee felt it was up to the schools to determine appropriate coverage of uniform bottoms

6. The committee discussed the digital tickets and how the prices listed in the Terms and Conditions need to reflect the actual ticket price with the fees included.

7. The committee discussed the host guarantee and the revenue split. The point was made that if the association is going to recoup more then the split should be higher

8. The committee discussed adjusting warm-up times to a running clock counting down the time to when the match starts. The committee felt it would take a lot of retraining to get teams and officials on board. They also discussed how much time it takes for teams to exchange the court during the warm-up time now. The proposal was sent to an official's organization for further conversation and will be reviewed again by the committee at a later date.
9. The committee thanked Tonya and Jane for their years of service.