

MINUTES OF THE IHSA FOOTBALL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

December 8, 2022

The IHSA Football Advisory Committee met on December 8, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Committee members present: Brian Glashagel, Antioch; Jeff Reents, Wilmington; Jay Mullens, Byron; Tim Turner, Champaign (Central); Zach Zehr, Tremont; Ray Kauling, Trenton (Wesclin); and Sam Knox, IHSA

Dante Culbreath, Chicago (Simeon) and Jim Maddock, Official - Washington were absent.

TERMS & CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

1. V. A. 2) Sites, Rankings, Pairings

Recommendation: After determining the 32 teams in each class, classes 1A-4A will be separated into two brackets of 16. Classes 5A-8A will be seeded 1-32.

Rationale: The committee understands the IHSA's geographic principle of assigning teams to state series tournaments. However, some schools already face long trips in the football playoffs with the current north/south bracketing in 1A-6A. Additionally, some schools travel long distances for football games in the regular season due to conference realignments or to play non-conference opponents.

The committee feels seeding classes 5A-8A in 1-32 brackets will add more excitement and interest to the football playoffs as teams advance through the bracket to determine a state champion, regardless of geography.

Died for Lack of Motion

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION:

1. The committee discussed the playoff brackets for classes 1A-4A and the possibility of changing those classes to a 1-32 format.
2. The committee discussed a proposal to expand the current playoff format to include 48 teams in each class.
3. The committee discussed a proposal from the Mid-Illini Conference regarding a 3rd/4th place game in the IHSA playoffs.
4. The committee discussed the current and future status of 8-player football.
5. The committee discussed data related to public and private schools and their levels of success in the IHSA playoffs.
6. The committee discussed the by-law proposal related to 11 on 11 football in the summer. This proposal is currently on the ballot for IHSA member schools.
7. The committee discussed the by-law proposal that would allow schools to participate in a preseason scrimmage. This proposal did not make the ballot.
8. The committee discussed details regarding Quarterfinal and Semifinal plaques.
9. The committee recognized outgoing members Jay Mullens, Byron and Zach Zehr, Tremont.

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.