IHSA Do What’s Right! Advisory Committee Meeting

August 30, 2023

10:00 a.m.

The IHSA Do What’s Right! Advisory Committee met on Wednesday, August 30, 2023, in an online setting from various communities across Illinois, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were: Carlos Enriquez, Chicago (Prosser); David Rohlman, Maple Park (Kaneland); Chet Lines, Plainfield (South); Raeann Huhn, Wheaton (St. Francis); Erin Smith, Fithian (Oakwood); Matt Koeppel, Clinton; Amy Albers, Delavan; Katie McCulley, Springfield (Lutheran); Jill Jung, Freeburg; Nick Chavarria, Hinsdale (South); and Jennifer Shaw, Glen Carbon. Also in attendance was Dan Le, IHSA Assistant Executive Director. Not in attendance: Alahrie Aziz-Sims, Chicago (Bogan); Thomas Koulentes, Libertyville; Isaiah Johnson, Rockford (R. Christian); Annette Coleman, Peoria (H.S.); and Derek Beard, DuQuoin (H.S.).

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation: Move the Do What’s Right! sportsmanship program registration to an online entry by school via the IHSA Schools Center. The entry would be located in the Sport & Activity Tracker’s Entry Form page where schools enter their teams or individuals into IHSA State Series competitions.

Rationale: The current registration process for the Do What’s Right! program uses a PDF form that is emailed or faxed to the IHSA office. A conference may register all schools in that conference or schools may register independently using the appropriate form. Due to turnover in administrative positions or rotation of conference presidents, the PDF form is sometimes overlooked and not returned to the IHSA, resulting in schools not being registered and not being eligible for the IHSA State Finals Sportsmanship Award.

An online entry form in the Schools Center will place the responsibility of registering for the Do What’s Right! program on each school. By registering, a school acknowledges their commitment to demonstrating the Do What’s Right! sportsmanship expectations, educating their school community on the expectations, and upholding the expectations at all interscholastic contests. From a management perspective, having schools register online through the Schools Center will allow the IHSA to efficiently obtain the list of schools that have registered.
ITEMS OF DISCUSSION:

1. The committee heard a recap of the Do What’s Right! committee discussion topics from the 2022-2023 school year.

2. The committee heard an update on the IHSA Student Advisory Committee’s Student Leadership Conference scheduled for November 13, 2023, in East Peoria; revisions to the Student Section & Spirit Showdown contest criteria; and the establishment of the IHSA Student Advisory Committee Instagram account.

3. Committee members were informed of volunteer opportunities, including chaperoning the Student Leadership Conference and judging the Sportsmanship Award at 2023-2024 IHSA State Finals.

4. The committee heard a report on the number of interscholastic contest ejections and hate speech & harassment reports in the last two full school years and thus far in the 2023 fall season.

5. The committee heard a report from Dan Le’s attendance at the NFHS Behavior in Sports Summit and was informed of the NFHS’s plans to establish a task force to address sportsmanship and behavior in sports.

6. The committee received an update on the IHSA Sportsmanship Toolkit page and was invited to assist with contributions of sportsmanship resources and communications to share with member schools.

7. The committee heard an update on the use of the Add A. Tude Twitter account to promote good sportsmanship and activities by member schools.

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 30, 2023