

2018-19 Proposal #1

Amend By-law 1.240 – Districts Supporting Ten or More High Schools

Submitted by: Peter Groom, Principal – Oak Park (Fenwick) and Robert Nolting, Principal – Tinley Park (Andrew)

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Modifies some of the special provisions for school districts supporting ten or more high schools.
- Requires that the IHSA Executive Director make all eligibility decisions involving students transferring into the district from a school outside the district's jurisdiction.
- Removes a membership fee and application requirement that is now obsolete.

Rationale of Submitter

With respect to the bylaw, the ability for large districts, specifically CPS, to handle issues of transfer, residency, and eligibility is valued. As an exceptionally large district, to shift the responsibilities of oversight to the IHSA is challenging to manage without significant increase in staffing levels and other costs to the membership. However, with interactions, specifically transfers, that involve CPS school and non-CPS schools deserve the oversight of the IHSA office - particularly in light of potential discrepancies that may arise from time to time.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Amend By-Law 1.240:

Public high schools in districts supporting ten or more high schools all under the supervision of a single Board of Education may become members of this Association provided:

- (a) the district has a separate and efficient local interscholastic organization for the adequate supervision of its interscholastic activities;
- (b) the school is Recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education;
- (c) the eligibility rules and conditions of competition for the district have been approved by the Board of Directors of this Association prior to September 1 each year; and
- ~~(d) the local organization pays, as a membership fee, an amount equal to a sum of \$10 per school for all schools in the district, payment to be made on or before June 1 preceding the year for which payment is due; and~~
- ~~(e) (d) application for membership is signed by the official representative of the individual high schools.~~

Schools admitted under this Section, in their interscholastic relationships with each other, shall be governed by the eligibility rules and conditions of competition approved by the Board of Directors of this Association. However, in all interscholastic relationships with any school ~~located~~ outside of its jurisdiction, they must conform to all ~~of~~ the rules and regulations of the Illinois High School Association.

Notwithstanding other provisions of this by-law, the Executive Director of the IHSA shall make all eligibility determinations on students transferring into the district from schools outside the jurisdiction of the district.

2018-19 Proposal #6**Amend By-law 3.034.3 – Residence****Submitted by: Tim McConnell, Principal Erie on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors****Summary of Proposed Changes**

- Allows the Executive Director to grant international students who are not part of a qualified foreign exchange program the opportunity to participate in interscholastic competition, except for the IHSA state series.

Rationale of Submitter

The addition of limited eligibility allows students the reward of participation without influencing the success of the varsity team.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes**Revise By-Law 3.034.3 to Read:**

International and Foreign Exchange Students: Students attending school in Illinois under the auspices of approved student exchange programs shall be considered eligible regarding residence and transfer for a maximum period of one calendar year, commencing with the date of their enrollment and beginning attendance at an IHSA member school. To be considered for approval, a foreign exchange program must be approved by the IHSA and the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET). It must also assign students to schools by a method which insures that no student, school, or other interested party may influence the assignment for athletic or other purposes. The Board of Directors shall establish additional criteria by which it shall approve foreign exchange student programs. International students attending school in Illinois who are not participating in an approved student exchange program will not be eligible **for state series competition** with respect to residence or transfer for the duration of their high school attendance unless they meet the requirements of the applicable provisions of the residency and transfer By-Laws as determined in an official ruling from the Executive Director or they are in a program which has been approved by the IHSA Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall establish the criteria by which it shall approve such programs. **An international student or foreign exchange student who does not meet the eligibility requirements of this by-law may be granted limited eligibility by the Executive Director.** For purposes of this By-Law, the residential school exception set forth in By-Law 3.034.1 shall not apply to establish a student's residency.

2018-19 Proposal #9

Amend By-law 3.043.3 – Transfer

Submitted by: Tim McConnell, Principal – Erie on behalf of the IHSA Board of Directors

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Allows the Executive Director to grant limited eligibility to students who transfer between schools and who would otherwise be ineligible, if the transfer occurs before the start of the student's sophomore year.

Rationale of Submitter

The addition of limited eligibility allows students the reward of participation without influencing the success of the varsity team.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Revise By-law 3.043.3 to Read:

In the event the student transfers attendance from any high school to any other high school, and the transfer is not in conjunction with a change in residence by both the student and his or her parents, custodial parent, surviving parent, or guardian to a residence outside the boundaries of the public school district attendance area the family originally resided in, the Executive Director may grant eligibility based on documentation that the transfer met one of the following conditions:

- The student is enrolling for the first time in the student's home public member high school with boundaries;
- Change in family's financial position;
- Extenuating circumstances documented by the sending school's principal or official representative;
- **Limited eligibility may be granted when the student transfers schools prior to the beginning of the student's sophomore year.**

Upon approval of this by-law amendment proposal, the IHSA Board of Directors will adopt this definition:

Limited Eligibility – A level of eligibility in which a student, following a school transfer, may not participate in interscholastic competition as a member of the varsity team. Additionally, under this eligibility determination a student may not compete in IHSA State Series competition.

2018-19 Proposal #10 - MODIFIED

Amend By-law 3.109 – Independent Team Participation

Submitted by: Michael Boraz, Principal – Chicago (Lincoln Park)

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Allows a diver to **practice** on an independent team during the sport season if his or her school lacks diving facilities.

Rationale of Submitter:

Under current IHSA rules if experienced divers enter a high school without the proper diving facilities, but has a swimming and diving team, that student is unable to participate on that high school team. While the current rules stipulate that an athlete could take private lessons during the high school season or a team could use find and use off-site diving appropriate facilities, many families and school teams do not have the funds or resources to pay for private lessons, gain access to appropriate facilities, or hire a diving coach. For a diver and his/her family to pay for private lessons for the entirety of a season is prohibitive and unrealistic, just as it is unrealistic for a school to have extra funds to pay to rent a diving facility for practices for an entire season.

Additionally, in large school districts most families cannot control where their athlete attends school or the facilities at these schools. There are some school districts who can supply the equipment that is needed for each sport and others are bound by the limitations of the facility, location, or district budget. The current rule unfairly discriminates against athletes at schools that have swimming and diving teams but do not have the ability to get access to diving appropriate facilities.

This proposed change is in line with the beliefs of the IHSA in that each individual is important and that participation in interscholastic athletics enhances secondary education and students' well-being. The current rule is a discriminatory policy that inhibits students who attend underfunded, older, or smaller schools from participating equally. To maintain consistent adherence with, and safeguard IHSA's beliefs of equality and fairness, the current rule must be changed.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Add By-Law 3.109

A diver enrolled at a school that lacks diving facilities may, with the permission of the Executive Director, **practice** with an independent team during the sport season.

2018-19 Proposal #11

Amend By-law 3.101 – Independent Team Participation

Submitted by: David Ribbens, Official Representative – Chicago (University)

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Allows the Executive Director to approve participation in events conducted by the junior affiliate of a National Governing Body.
- Specifically, will allow the Executive Director to approve participation in events conducted by the American Junior Golf Association (AJGA).

Rationale of Submitter:

The American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) sponsors 120 Junior golf tournaments in a year compared to the United States Golf Association (USGA) that sponsors 2 Junior tournaments.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Revise By-law 3.101 to Read:

During the season for a given sport, in a school which maintains a school team in that sport, a student shall not participate on any non-school team, nor as an individual unattached in a non-school competition in that given sport or in any competition that involves the skill of the sport in question. Violation shall cause ineligibility for a period not to exceed 365 days. An exception may be made by the Executive Director under the guidelines adopted by the Board of Directors for competitions sanction directly by the National Governing Body **or its junior** or official Illinois affiliate for the sport.

2018-19 Proposal #13

Add By-law 4.019 – Attendance

Submitted by: Scott Dewar, Principal – Harrisburg

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Allows grade school and junior high school students to participate with high school students in interscholastic agricultural events, such as those conducted by the Future Farmers Association (FFA).

Rationale of Submitter:

In recent years there has been an increase in junior high/middle school ag programs. With this increase there are more 7th and 8th grade students wanting to participate in the opportunities available to them through FFA. Due to the lack of physical contact in competitive FFA events, junior high/middle school students should be able to compete with high school students.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Add By-law 4.019:

Bona fide pupils enrolled in agricultural education courses in grade schools or junior high schools in the district of a member school may participate with the high school agricultural education department in interscholastic agricultural events.

2018-19 Proposal #15-#19 - MODIFIED

Amend By-laws 5.061, 5.111, 5.211, 5.291, 5.301 and 5.321 – Season Limitation

Submitted by: Ben Davis, Official Representative – Mt. Zion and David Snider, Principal – Collinsville on behalf of the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Move the start of practice for Boys and Girls Cross Country, Boys Soccer, Girls Swimming, Girls Tennis and Girls Volleyball to Monday of Week 6 (golf and football area already at this date).

Rationale of Submitters:

The Sports Medicine Advisory Committee is making this recommendation in order to move forward with a recommendation for a fall acclimatization policy for all sports. The recommended acclimatization period is 7-14 days of practice prior to competition which will have similar structure to the IHSA Football Acclimatization Policy. The SMAC felt it would be easier to gain extra practice days by moving the first day of practice up to Monday rather than adjust the first day of competition back for each sport.

This recommendation will also create a consistent start date for all fall practices making the application of an acclimatization period much smoother.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

By-law 5.061 - Boys Cross Country Season Limitation

Revise By-law 5.061 to Read:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Cross Country teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than ~~Wednesday~~ **Monday** of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 18 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Cross Country no earlier than Monday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

By-law 5.211 – Girls Cross Country Season Limitation

Revise By-law 5.211 to Read:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Cross Country teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than ~~Wednesday~~ **Monday** of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 18 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Cross Country no earlier than Monday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

By-law 5.111 – Boys Soccer Season Limitation

Revise By-law 5.111 to Read:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Soccer teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than ~~Wednesday~~ **Monday** of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 18 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Soccer no earlier than Monday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

By-law 5.291 – Girls Swimming Season Limitation

Revise By-law 5.291 to Read:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Swimming teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than ~~Wednesday~~ **Monday** of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 18 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Swimming no earlier than Monday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

By-law 5.301 – Girls Fall Tennis Season Limitation

Revise By-law 5.301 to Read:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Fall Tennis teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than ~~Wednesday~~ **Monday** of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 18 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Fall Tennis no earlier than Monday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

By-law 5.321 – Girls Volleyball Season Limitation

Revise By-law 5.321 to Read:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Volleyball teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than ~~Wednesday~~ **Monday** of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 18 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Volleyball no earlier than Monday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

<p>2018-19 Proposal #20 MODIFIED Amend By-law 5.071 – Boys Football Season Limitation Submitted by: Ryan Miller, Official Representative – Benton</p>
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Summary of Proposed Changes

- Allows a **non-varsity** football game to be played on Thursday of Week 8, one day before all other football contests may begin.

Rationale of Submitter:

Schools that play non-varsity games and/or jamborees on the first Saturday of the season may be forced to cancel a lower level football game due to the new individual player limitations. By allowing a **non-varsity** game to be played on Thursday of Week 8, schools will be able to stay within the new two games per week parameter.

The majority of schools throughout the country are struggling with numbers in football. As any season progresses, available athletes always decline due to injuries, academic eligibility, etc. Being forced to cancel an underclass game due to the new limitations at the start of the year isn't necessary with this change.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Revise By-law 5.071 to Read:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Football teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 21 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Football no earlier than **Thursday of Week 8 (for non-varsity contests only) or Friday of Week 8 (for all other contests)** in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

2018-19 Proposal #22

Amend By-law 5.073 – Boys Football Contest Limitation

Submitted by: Tim Hayunga, Principal – Hebron (Alden-H.)

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Allows teams participating in the Illinois 8-Man Football Association to participate in a post-season playoff conducted by the I8FA.

Rationale of Submitter:

We would like to propose our associations playoff system be added to the by-law until 8-man football is recognized as an official IHSA sport. The 8-man Football Association follows all IHSA by-laws for school participation in football. As the by-law is currently written it does not allow schools participating in the I8FA to participate in more than 9 games without penalty from the IHSA. Students participating in 8-man football have worked hard throughout the summer and season and we believe that these students should also get a chance to participate in post-season play to reward their hard work.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes

Revise By-law 5.073 to Read:

No Boys Football team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than nine (9) games exclusive of the IHSA series and exclusive of the City of Chicago Prep Bowl Series, participated in by the Chicago Public League and the Chicago Catholic League, **and I8FA playoff series, participated in by members of the Illinois 8-Man Football Association.**

2018-19 Proposal #23**Add By-law 5.074 – Football Scheduling****Submitted by: Andrew Lutzenkirchen, Official Representative – Naperville (Central); Travis Heinz, Principal – Forrester and on behalf of the Football Advisory Committee.****Summary of Proposed Changes**

Directs the IHSA to implement a football scheduling system for regular-season varsity games that would involve the following:

- A 9-week regular season.
- Playoff classes determined in advance of the season.
- Schools from each class placed into 8 geographic groups by the IHSA office to play a round-robin schedule (probably 8 teams in each group yielding a schedule of 7 games).
- The remaining games on the regular season schedule to be arranged by the individual schools at their discretion.
- The top 4 teams in each of the 8 groups qualify for the playoffs.

Rationale of Submitters:

To avoid scheduling conflicts and the search to win 5 games to be playoff eligible. Non regional wins and losses will have no effect on playoff eligibility.

Pros:

Schools will still be able to schedule natural rivals during non-regional play.
Travel for some regions could be less than what some current conferences are experiencing.
IHSA scheduled games could bring conferences back together for all other sports.

Cons:

Travel for some schools could increase compared to their current schedule.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes**Add By-law 5.074 to Read:****5.074 Football Scheduling and Playoff System**

The IHSA shall implement a scheduling system (for varsity contests only) that provides the following:

1. Playoff classification of every school determined before the season.
2. Placement of schools into geographic groups within each class.
3. A round-robin schedule of regular-season games for the schools within each group, with games during the weeks not scheduled left to the discretion of each school.
4. Qualification and seeding of the playoffs based on the final standing within each group.

IF PASSED, THIS PROPOSAL WOULD BE EFFECTIVE WITH THE 2021 FOOTBALL SEASON.

2018-19 Proposal #25**Add By-law 5.370 – Girls Wrestling**

Submitted by: Dan Jones, Official Representative – Hinsdale (Central); Dan Krause, Official Representative – Villa Park (Willowbrook); John Stelzer, Official Representative – Oak Park (O.P.-River Forest) and John Kane, Official Representative – Hoffman Estates (Conant)

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Sets separate team and individual season limitations for girls wrestling, in anticipation of a separate state series for girls in the future.

Rationale of Submitters:

This would establish season limitation language for member schools who wish to establish a girls wrestling team. There is no need to create a tournament/dual formula at this time, as the belief is that there may only be tournament options for females as compared to dual events. In addition, the season limitation for individuals for the number of matches one can wrestle will address the issue total matches one can wrestle during a season.

This is similar to the process that was followed by Cheerleading and Dance when they were emerging sports with the IHSA.

Text of By-Law(s) with Proposed Changes**Add By-law 5.371 – Season Limitation**

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Wrestling teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 19 or later than Saturday of Week 34 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Wrestling no earlier than Monday of Week 21 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Add By-law 5.372 – Team Limitation

No Girls Wrestling team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than eighteen (18) dates exclusive of the IHSA series.

Add By-law 5.737 – Individual Limitation

Students who participate on a school squad in Girls Wrestling may participate in no more than thirty-five (35) matches in any one season prior to the IHSA series, regardless of competition format.