# INSPIRING INVESTING IMPACTING CREATING CONNECTING INSPIRING INVESTING IMPACTING







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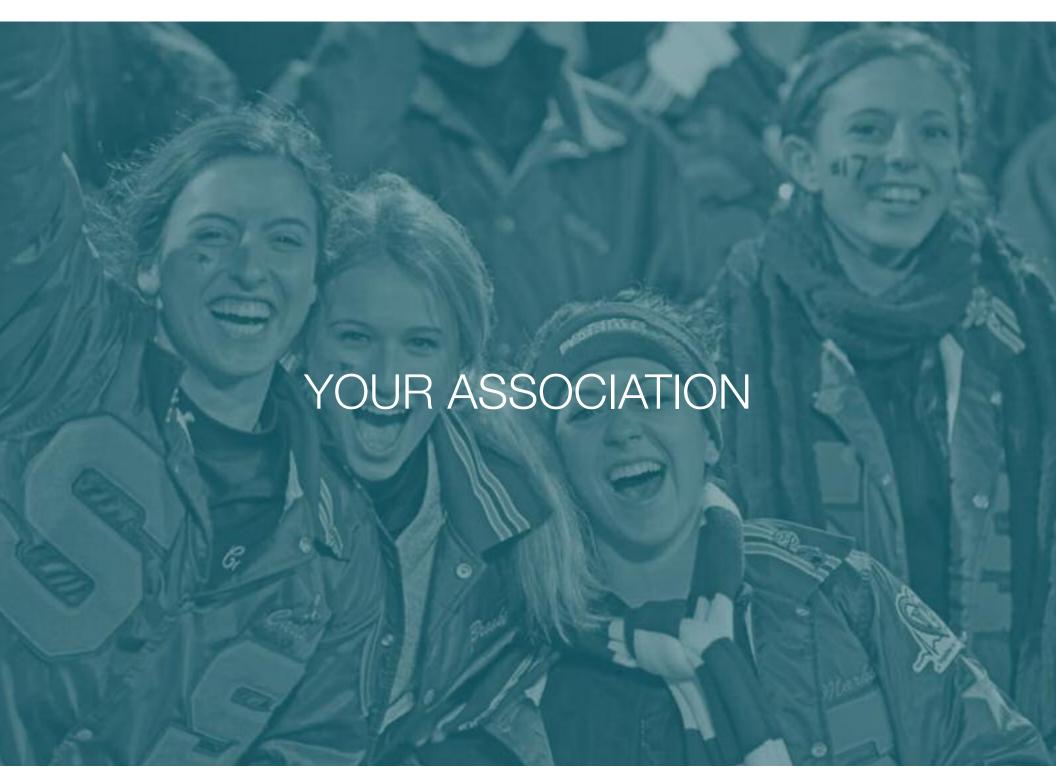
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2014
TWO THOUSAND
FIFTEEN





The individuals who oversee & implement the Association & its rules



After 25 years at the IHSA, Marty Hickman will retire on January 15, 2016.

# A Letter from the Executive Director

Writing this letter is bittersweet, as it is one of my many duties that I will complete for the final time as a member of the Illinois High School Association staff.

I will officially retire on January 15, 2016, so this address is a reflection on my last 25 years, as much as it is a reflection of the 2014-15 school year.

I remain incredibly proud of the direction the Association has moved in during my time here and the challenges we have overcome. The Association has experienced expansion across the board: from new sports and programs like water polo and bass fishing that have put us in and on the water, to additional classes that have produced first-time State Series successes for schools of all sizes; to even more opportunities for athletes with disabilities; to new steps that further safeguard our student-athletes; to recognition and leadership programs like All-State Academic Team and the Student Leadership Conference.

As I have said multiple times since announcing my retirement, there are many things I will not miss about my job come January. However, the things I will miss are getting to meet and work with tremendous people from all over the state. Whether it be principals, athletic directors, coaches, officials, student-athletes, fans or the staff here at the IHSA, I have had memorable interactions and made lifelong friends along the way

At a time when a lack of funding and debates on testing have led to a cloudy outlook on the educational system in our state, I remain highly confident in the future of our schools and students. That confidence is derived from knowing that there are countless individuals inside your buildings who are committed and motivated to putting students first.

Simply put, participating in the interscholastic program at New Berlin High School enhanced and enriched my education and my life. Next to my family, the most influential people in my life have been my high school teachers and coaches. I know firsthand how important the interscholastic experience can be in the life of a young person.

Thank you and good luck. Know that you always have an advocate in myself and the Illinois High School Association.



Marty Hickman
Executive Director

# Meet the IHSA Administrative Staff



MARTY HICKMAN **Executive Director** 



CRAIG ANDERSON **Executive Director-Elect** 



**KURT GIBSON** Assoc. Exec. Director



SHAUNDA BROWN Asst. Exec. Director



TRACIE HENRY Asst. Exec. Director



SCOTT JOHNSON Asst. Exec. Director



STACEY LAMBERT Asst. Exec. Director



**RON McGRAW** Asst. Exec. Director



BETH SAUSER Asst. Exec. Director



MATT TROHA Asst. Exec. Director



KAYODE ADEGOKE Coordinator of Special Programs

# **National Committee Involvement**

The following individuals serve on NFHS committees:

- (a) Kayode Adegoke on the Track & Field Rules Committee
- Craig Anderson on the Football Rules Committee
- Shaunda Brown on the Spirit Rules Committee
- Wrestling Official Anthony Clarke from Zion on the Wrestling Advisory Committee
- Leyden Twp. Athletic Director Randy Conrad on the Wrestling Advisory Committee
- Retired teacher/coach and IHSA state final manager Jan Heiteen on the Speech, Drama & Debate Committee
- Scott Johnson on the Technology Committee
- the Girls Gymnastics Rules Committee
- Stacey Lambert on the Coaches Association Advisory Committee
- Beth Sauser on the Water Polo Rules Committee
- Matt Troha on the NFHS Network Leadership Circle and on the committee that develops content for the NFHS magazine High School Today



Dan Klett just completed his sixth year as the IHSA Board President

# A Letter from the Board President

The 2014-15 school year was my sixth serving on the IHSA Board of Directors and fourth serving as the Board President. It remains an honor and privilege to not only represent my fellow high school principals in this role, but also to travel the state and see the incredible accomplishments high school students achieve in IHSA sports and activities.

I would be remiss if I didn't start my reflection on the past year with the announcement that 2014-15 was Dr. Hickman's last full year as the IHSA Executive Director. Marty will conclude his 25th year at the IHSA, and 14th as Executive Director, in January, 2016. Marty has guided the Association through unprecedented change and growth. Under his leadership, the IHSA has experienced impactful expansion (adding multiple sports and activities) and contraction (elimination of membership fees) that have benefitted the membership. He tackled many controversial issues within and outside of the membership, and always did so with tact, dignity, and integrity. For that, I simply say "thank you" and know that many of you echo my sentiments.

As a Board we dealt with many prominent issues last year, including further contact restrictions in football, a revised multiplier waiver system, and the implementation of the success formula in 2015-16. The membership spoke volumes with their vote against a potential "public-private state tournament split" during the legislative process last January, and we remain committed to continuing to explore and listen to ideas on how to maintain competitive balance in an equitable fashion. We understand the emotion and passion issues like this evoke, and are proud that we have a system that allows membership to address issues that exist.

I enjoy a truly unique IHSA experience from where I sit. Not only am I a principal at a member high school and a member of the Board of Directors, but I am also the parent of a current high school student-athlete and the husband of an IHSA official. I get to see firsthand the best attributes and life lessons the Association has to offer, along with the challenges that lie ahead. The IHSA is our Association, and I have no doubt that we will overcome those challenges together as a membership in the months and years to come.



Dan Klett
IHSA Board President
Wauconda Hlgh School Principal

# Meet the IHSA Board of Directors



JOHN STIMLER Chicago (Mt. Carmel) Division 1 Term Expires 2016



DANIEL KLETT Wauconda Division 2 Term Expires 2017



ROBERT NOLTING Tinley Park (Andrew) Division 3 Term Expires 2016



TIM McCONNELL Erie Division 4 Term Expires 2017



SCOTT ADREON Maroa (M.-Forsyth) Division 5 Term Expires 2015



DR. CHUCK NAGEL
East Peoria
Division 6
Term Expires 2017



B. KENT JONES Breese (Central) Division 7 Term Expires 2015



GERALD MORROW Chicago (Dunbar) At-Large Term Expires 2015



DR. JEANETTE NUCKOLLS Urbana (University) At-Large Term Expires 2016



PETER GROOM Oak Park (Fenwick) At-Large Term Expires 2017



GREG BRADLEY
Forsyth (Decatur Christian)
Treasurer
Appointed By Board

# **2014-15 Legislative Commissioners**

Legislative Commissioners are elected regionally to run the annual IHSA Town Hall Meetings in their area.

Brett Detering, Anna (A.-Jonesboro)

Darren Loschen, Armstrong

Dave Harris, Belleville (Althoff)

Ryan Miller, Benton

Tim Moore, Bloomington (H.S.)

Brian Wright, Bradley (B.-Bourbonnais

Jim Muting, Jr., Burbank (St. Laurence)

Pat Drew, Carlinville

Reid Shipley, Centralia

Marcey Sorenson, Chicago (Clemente)

Jim Krygier, Chicago (De La Salle)

Reginald Evans, Chicago (Harlan)

Vinay Mullick, Chicago (Perspectives Charter)

Teresa Cullen, Chicago (Providence-St. Mel)

Crystal Housman, Cobden

Steve Olson, Crystal Lake (Central)

Pam Levar, Elmhurst (IC Catholic)

Rich Wherley, Eureka

John Grundke, LaGrange (Lyons)

Rolly Vazquez, Lake Zurich

Mark Kuehl, Lena (L.-Winslow)

Sam Knox, Lincoln

Kurt Weigt, Machesney Park (Harlem)

John Rumley, Macomb

Jim Craven, Melrose Park (Walther Christian Academy)

Denise Aughenbaugh, Mendota

Dan Tully, Niles (Notre Dame)

Stan Lewis, Normal (Community West)

Darren Hartry, Petersburg (PORTA)

Troy Hickey, Robinson

Sr. Margaret Grueter, Springfield (Sacred Heart-Griffin)

Deb Derby, Streator (Woodland)

Tim Carlson, Sycamore

Katy Hasson, Taylor Ridge (Rockridge)

Steve May, Wheeling

Drew Potthoff, Woodstock (Marian Central)

A total of 613 of 810 member schools (75.7%) participated in the amendment balloting, an 18.4% increase from 2013-2014 and the second-highest percentage since 1997.

# **Schools on IHSA Committees**

Aledo (Mercer County) Arlington Heights (Hersey) Ashland (A-C Central) Aurora (Central Catholic) Beecher

Belleville (East) Belleville (West)

Berwyn-Cicero (Morton)

Bloomington Buffalo Grove Burbank (Reavis) Camp Point (Central) Cary (C.-Grove)

Centralia (H.S.) Champaign (Centennial)

(St. Thomas More)

Charleston

Chatham (Glenwood)

(Agricultural Science)

(CICS/Longwood) Chicago (Curie)

Chicago (De La Salle)

Chicago (Gordon Tech)

Chicago (Hope)

(Jones College Prep) Chicago (Lake View)

Chicago (Latin)

Chicago (Marist)

(Mother McAuley)

Chicago (Mt. Carmel)

Chicago (Orr)

Chicago (Perspective

Chicago (Phillips)

Chicago

(Solorio Academy)

Chicago (St. Ignatius) Chicago (St. Patrick)

Chicago (Taft)

Chicago (W. Payton

College Prep)

Chicago (Whitney Young) Cissna Park

Columbia

Country Club Hills

Dakota

Danville (H.S.) Darien (Hinsdale South) Decatur (MacArthur)

Des Plaines (Maine West)

Downers Grove (North)

Dwight East Peoria

East St. Louis Edwardsville (H.S.)

Elk Grove Village (E.G.)

Elmwood Evanston (Twp.)

Fairfield Farmington

Fieldcrest

Fithian (Oakwood) Flora (H.S.)

Flossmoor (Homewood-F.) Frankfort (Lincoln-Way

North) Freeburg

Freeport (H.S.)

Galena

Geneva

(Melvin-Sibley) Glasford (Illini Bluffs)

Glenview

(Glenbrook South) Gravslake (North)

Gurnee (Warren)

Henry (H.-Senachwine)

Herrin Highland

Hinsdale (Central)

Hoffman Estates (H.S.) Hudson

Huntley Jacksonville

(Illinois School for the Visually Impaired)

Jerseyville (Jersey)

Knoxville

LaGrange (Lyons) LaGrange Park

(Nazareth Academy)

Lake Villa (Lakes)

Lanark (Eastland)

continued on page 9





# Leadership

Executive Director Marty Hickman announced that he would retire in January, 2016 after 25 years at the IHSA, including serving as the Executive Director since 2001. Hickman's tenure as Executive Director included unprecedented growth in participation opportunities for students, as the IHSA added State Series in several sports and activities, including Boys Bowling, Competitive Cheerleading, Competitive Dance, Journalism and Boys & Girls Water Polo. In addition, the IHSA became the first state association in the country to offer Bass Fishing in 2011, while also adding programs for Athletes with Disabilities in several sports under Hickman's leadership in 2012. To honor Hickman's service, the Board voted in June to rename the IHSA Foundation golf outing in his honor.



# **Coming Full Circle**

In September, then Chicago (Robeson) Principal Gerald Morrow, currently the principal at Chicago (Dunbar), was appointed to the IHSA Board of Directors. Morrow won an IHSA Boys Basketball state title as a student-athlete at Chicago (King) and then later officiated the state tournament. He is the first Chicago Public Schools representative to serve on the Board since 2010.



#### Commitment

IHSA Assistant Executive Director Ron McGraw announced his impending retirement in June, as 2015-16 will be his final year on the IHSA staff. A teacher, coach, Athletic Director, Principal and IHSA Board member before joining the IHSA staff, Ron oversaw Boys and Girls Cross Country, Boys and Girls Swimming & Diving, Boys and Girls Track & Field and Scholastic Bowl during his 12 years at the IHSA.

# **Opportunities**

The Board of Directors announced in June that after interviewing internal and external candidates, current Assistant Executive **Director Craig Anderson** will assume the Executive Director post in January 2016. Anderson currently serves as the IHSA Administrator for Football, Wrestling and Baseball. In addition, he oversees the IHSA Officials Department, where he is charged with the oversight of the licensing and the education programs for the 15,000-plus officials who annually regulate IHSA sports competition. He is also a current member of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Football Rules Committee and the Chair of the NFHS Football Manual Committee.



# Schools on IHSA Committees cont.

Libertyville Lincolnshire (Stevenson) Lockport (Twp.) Macon (Meridian) Mahomet (M.-Seymour)

Marengo Maryville

(Fr. McGivney Catholic)

Mattoon Mendota

Minonk (Fieldcrest)

Minooka Moline Morrison Morton Moweaqua (Central A & M) Mt. Carmel Mt. Vernon

Mt. Zion Mundelein (H.S.) Naperville (Central)

Naperville

(Neuqua Valley) Naperville (North)

New Berlin New Lenox

(Lincoln-Way Central)

New Lenox

(Lincoln-Way West)

New Lenox

Northbrook

(Providence Catholic) Normal (Community West) Normal (Community) Normal (University)

(Glenbard North)

Northbrook (Glenbrook North)

Oak Forest Oak Park (Fenwick) O'Fallon (H.S.)

Okawville Olympia Fields

Orland Park Orland Park (Sandburg)

Ottawa (Marquette) Palatine (H.S.)

Park Ridge (Maine South) Paxton (P.-Buckley-Loda)

Pekin

Peoria (Notre Dame)

Peotone

Piasa (Southwestern) Pinckneyville

Port Byron (Riverdale) Quincy (Notre Dame)

Raymond (Lincolnwood)

Red Bud

Roanoke (R. Benson)

Rockford (East) Rockford (Guilford)

Rockford

(Keith Country Day) Rolling Meadows Romeoville (H.S.) Roselle (Lake Park) Rushville (R.-Industry)

Seneca

St. Charles (East)

St. Joseph (S.J.-Ogden)

Sterling Svcamore

Taylor Ridge (Rockridge)

Taylorville Tolono (Unity) Troy (Triad) Urbana

Vernon Hills Warrensburg-Latham

Warsaw Watseka Waukegan (H.S.) West Chicago (H.S.) West Frankfort (Frankfort)

Wheaton (North) Wheaton (St. Francis)

Williamsville

Winnetka (New Trier) Wolf Lake (Shawnee) Woodstock (Marian)

Thanks to all the coaches & administrators who provided their time and expertise to shape IHSA sports and activities via these committees.



**NFHS** Heart of the Arts Award

of seven Section winners for the award, which seeks to recognize high school students who excel in the arts while overcoming significant adversity, and then was voted the national winner among that group. Ethan is an outstanding actor and artist at St. Rita, who also makes incredible contributions to the school's music programs. Ethan was home-schooled through eighth grade to aid his immune system in his fight against sickle cell thalassemia, a genetically inherited disease that contributed to Ethan suffering a stroke during his junior year. Ethan was honored by the NFHS at its Summer Meeting in New Orleans in late June. Several of Ethan's classmates and St. Rita staff members made the trip, allowing the St. Rita band to play live as a part of the Summer Meeting's Opening Session under the direction of Cindy Gradek.



The biggest & brightest moments from 2014-15



The IHSA conducted its first-ever **Student Section Showdown** to determine the student-section with the best spirit and sportsmanship in Illinois. The contest, which was divided into small school and large school classes, had over 40 entries in the inaugural year. Schools submitted videos of their student sections in action, as well as reflecting on the role they play in school spirit, and were judged by the IHSA Student Advisory Committee, who spearheaded the contest. Moweaqua (Central A & M) was the Class 1A/2A winner, while Mt. Prospect (Prospect) was voted the Class 3A/4A champion. Prospect's winning section, known as The Underground, not only made in impact in the stands, the group also raised over \$11,000 dollars for charity.



The IHSA Boys' Basketball Tournament marked its 20th year of Playing in Peoria in 2015, an anniversary that culminated with Chicago Blackhawks anthem singer Jim Cornelison bringing down the house with a rousing rendition prior to the Class 4A title game. Earlier that day, the IHSA Board of Directors voted on the future of the IHSA Boys & Girls Basketball State Final tournaments, ultimately deciding that both tournaments would stay in their current host venues in Peoria and at Illinois State University's Redbird Arena in Normal, respectively.



Downs (Tri-Valley) senior Austin Spencer and head basketball coach Jon Nelson were the IHSA nominees for the NFHS Spirit of Award. Austin discovered that he was one of approximately 50 people in the world living with a rare immune deficiency disease just weeks before the start of his junior year. He spent his entire junior year in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he underwent a bone marrow transplant and recovery. Despite the distance, Coach Nelson's support and friendship played a key role in Austin's recovery. Austin completed his miraculous recovery by returning to Tri-Valley exactly one year from the date of his transplant. He started in the team's season-opening basketball game that night, scoring a game-high 15 points.



The IHSA's second class of Distinguished Media Service Award winners included editor/writer Fred Kroner of Champaign-Urbana News-Gazette, writer/editor John Radtke of the Daily Herald in suburban Chicago, and the voice of WRMJ in Aledo, Jim Taylor. Winners were nominated by member schools and voted on by the IHSA Media Advisory Committee, before being recognized at a high school sporting event of their choosing.

- Chicago (DePaul College Prep) Principal Jim Quaid completed a term-limit of nine years of service on the IHSA Board of Directors. During Jim's nine years he was also the principal at Oak Park (Fenwick) and Aurora (Marmion).
- O'Fallon kicker **Tucker McCann** set a new IHSA state record during a 16-13 loss to Belleville East when he booted a 60-yard field goal.
- Wilmington junior kicker Jordan Sarr stepped onto the field with four seconds remaining in the Class 3A state championship game against Williamsville with the scored tied 17-17. Sarr booted a 31-yard field goal as time expired, lifting the Wildcats to their first state title in school history.
- The Chicago Bears once again honored the IHSA Football State Champions at a home game at Solider Field.
- Legendary Chicago (Marshall) Girls' Basketball Coach Dorothy Gaters, who owns eight IHSA state titles, won her 1000th career game in November, making her the eighth coach in the nation to reach that milestone.
- Wheeling Athletic Director **Stephen May** was a recipient of a Distinguished Service Award from the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA).
- Algonquin (Jacobs) Lauren Van Vlierbergen, a cross country and track & field standout, won the national Wendy's High School Heisman award.
- Highland Park senior **Sam Brief** won the Best Student Broadcaster Award in the nation at the inaugural NFHS Network Broadcast Academy event in Atlanta, Georgia. Additionally, 23 IHSA schools were recognized as being among the top student broadcast programs in the country.
- Glenview (Glenbrook South) Athletic Director Steven Rockrohr was honored with the NIAAA State Award of Merit.
- LaGrange (Lyons) senior Stephanie Lin won her third consecutive IHSA Badminton Individual State Championship.
- Plainfield (Central) senior Kahmari Montgomery was the star of the Class 3A Boys Track & Field State Finals, winning the 100m, 200m & 400m races.
- Machesney Park (Harlem) sophomore **Jacob Nimtz** made history at the 2015 IHSA Boys Bowling State when he became the first bowler in state final history to bowl two perfect games in one state final tournament. Nimtz used the two perfect games to propel himself to a new individual state final championship record pinfall of 3,011.



Chess State, a documentary film on IHSA Chess was released with a premiere in Naperville.







Former IHSA Administrator Susie Knoblauch, who left for a position with the NFHS in 2014, was honored by the Illinois Journalism Education Association (IJEA) as its Friend of Scholastic Journalism honoree.



The IHSA celebrated 100 years of IHSA Tennis

Chicago (Phillips) became the first CPS school to reach an **IHSA Football State** Championship game since Chicago (Robeson) in 1982. The Wildcats came up short in the Class 4A game, as Rochester extended its record-setting run with a fifth straight state title.





# In May, 2015 the Illinois High School Association introduced its new player safety education initiative Play Smart. Play Hard.®

Working collaboratively with its Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (page 17), top medical experts, invested sports medicine organizations, high school coaches, the state legislature and the NFHS, the IHSA has become recognized as a national leader in the area of sports safety. **The Play Smart. Play Hard.** campaign was initiated to spotlight the many efforts that have been taken throughout the past decade and beyond without fanfare.

Play Smart. Play Hard.

The creation of Play Smart. Play Hard.® coincided with the IHSA developing the Illinois Advisory Council on Player Safety (page 16) whose purpose is to facilitate transparent dialogue about head injuries and other player safety issues, review the IHSA's current programs, and offer new recommendations to ensure the IHSA remains a leader in student-athlete safety standards and protocols.

The IHSA encourages student-athletes, parents, coaches and fans to visit **www.PlaySmartPlayHard.org** to empower their education on some of the top safety issues facing high school sports today. While there, we hope they take *The Pledge* to Play Smart. Play Hard., and also follow PSPH on Facebook (facebook.com/PlaySmartPlayHard) and Twitter (@PlaySmartHard).



Student Safety Changes from 2014-15



The IHSA worked with the state legislature to develop and mandate all high school coaches in Illinois complete mandatory online concussion training. Over 30,000 coaches have now completed the course.

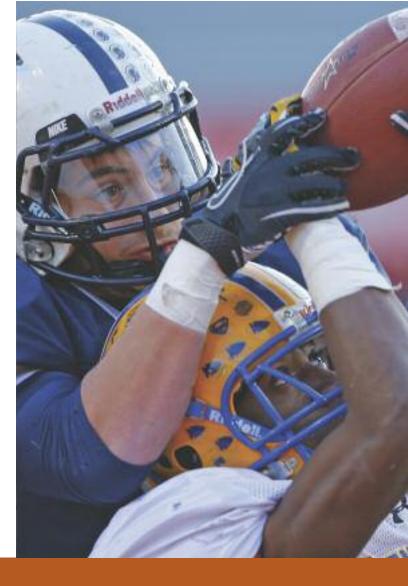


After reviewing the recommendations of the NFHS Concussion Task Force, IHSA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, and IHSA Football Advisory Committee, the IHSA Board voted to restrict full contact football in two areas. The Board limited full live contact to one practice per day during the first two weeks of the season when four total two-a-day practices are allowed. Once the regular-season begins, teams are limited to 90 total minutes of full live contact at practice over the course of three days.



The IHSA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee continued to utilize NFHS partner High School Rio, which is the largest and most accurate high school sports injury surveillance database in the country, to help shape its policies. RIO is operated by renowned Dr. Dawn Comstock at the University of Colorado.





# Meet the Illinois Advisory Council on Player Safety





**NAPOLEON HARRIS** 







SARA FLANIGAN



DENNIS PIRON IHSA Coach







The Board **strengthened the appeal rules** for wrestling weight certification. A final appeal can now only occur if the athlete has not exceeded 1.5% weight loss per week each week from the date of the first certification. The wrestler can drop no more than one weight class from the original test.



The IHSA co-hosted a free **Practice Like Pros football clinic** for high school coaches. The clinic featured current and former collegiate and NFL coaches who provided real-world resources to coaches on how to practice effectively while reducing contact.



**IHSA leadership** appeared in Springfield in April to help support legislation from Senator Jim Durkin and State Senator Kwame Raoul to expand and strengthen concussion & safety, which includes a "return to learn" classroom component for the first time. The bill was signed as a law in August.



# FURTHERING OUR COMMITMENT TO ENHANCING THE SAFETY OF ILLINOIS' STUDENT-ATHLETES AND COLLABORATING WITH OTHERS WHO SHARE THAT MISSION

# Meet the IHSA Sports Medicine Committee



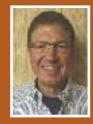
DR. CYNTHIA LABELLA Doctor Chicago (Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago Novision 1



DR. PRESTON WOLIN
Doctor
Chicago (Seton Medical
Center)
Division 1



LIZ SHORT
Certified Athletic Trainer
Joliet (Central)
Term Expires 2016
Division 3



DR. RICHARD EVERE Doctor Princeton Division 4



GREGORY GAA Athletic Trainer Peoria Division 4



DAVID VIETH
Athletic Director
Mattoon
Term Expires 2016
Division 5



DR. JAMES GREEN Doctor Jacksonville Division 6



RICK VICENZI
Athletic Trainer
Anna-Jonesboro
Term Expires 2015
Division 7



The IHSA governs the equitable participation in interscholastic athletics and activities that enrich the educational experience.

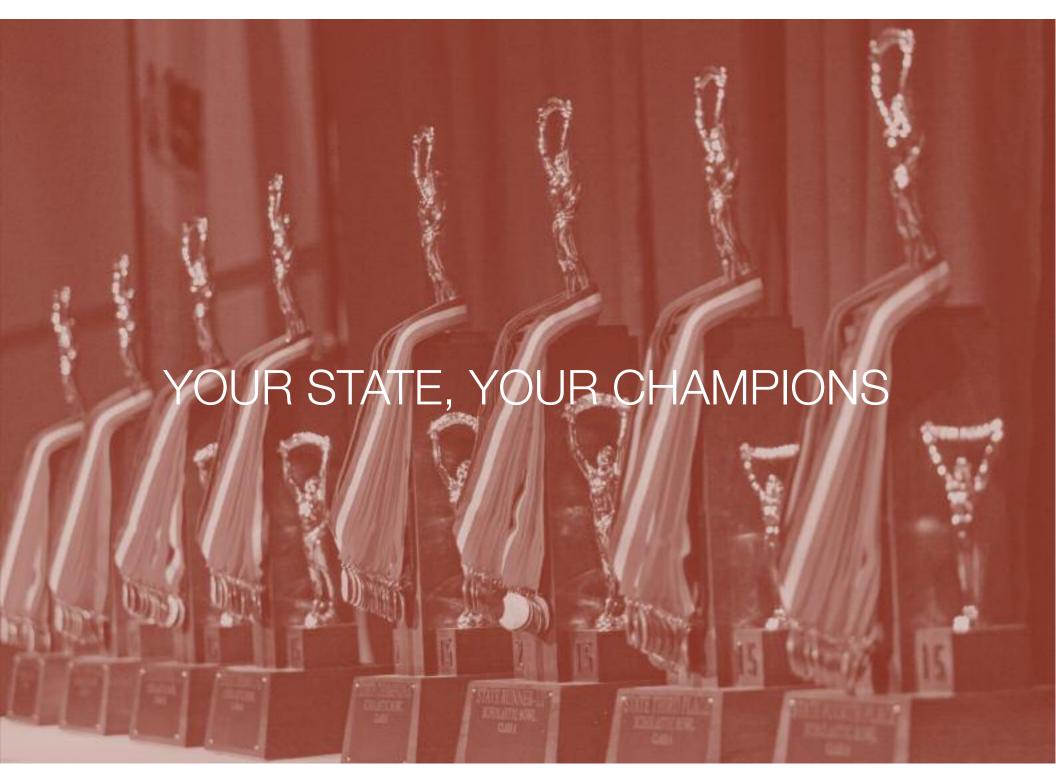






History Made.

Effingham (St. Anthony) sophomore Anna Sophia Keller (right) won the IHSA State Cross Country Class 1A race for the second consecutive season, giving her a chance to become the fifth runner in state history to win three or more titles in her career. Later that afternoon, Peoria (Notre Dame) junior Maryjeanne Gilbert (left) ran the fastest time in the history of the Class 2A race, finishing in 16:12.



The 2014-15 IHSA State Champions in nearly 40 sports & activities

# IHSA STATE CHAMPIONS

# FALL STATE CHAMPIONS

Boys Golf—1A	El Paso (E.PGridley)
Boys Golf—2A	Morton
Boys Golf—3A	Hinsdale (Central)
Girls Golf—A	Belleville (Althoff Catholic)
Girls Golf—AA	Hinsdale (Central)
Girls Tennis	Hinsdale (Central)
Boys Soccer—1A	Columbia
Boys Soccer—2A	West Chicago (Wheaton Academy)
Boys Soccer—3A	Hinsdale (Central)
Boys Cross Country—1A	Monticello
Boys Cross Country—2A	Yorkville
Boys Cross Country—3A	Hinsdale (Central)
Girls Cross Country—1A	St. Joseph (S.JOgden)
Girls Cross Country—2A	Yorkville
Girls Cross Country—3A	Naperville (North)
Girls Volleyball—1A	Rockford (Keith Country Day School)
	( ) /
Girls Volleyball—2A	Mackinaw (Deer Creek-M.)
Girls Volleyball—2A	Mackinaw (Deer Creek-M.)
Girls Volleyball—2A Girls Volleyball—3A	Mackinaw (Deer Creek-M.) Wheaton (St. Francis)
Girls Volleyball—2A Girls Volleyball—3A Girls Volleyball—4A	Mackinaw (Deer Creek-M.) Wheaton (St. Francis) Lisle (Benet Academy)
Girls Volleyball—2A Girls Volleyball—3A Girls Volleyball—4A Girls Swimming & Diving	Mackinaw (Deer Creek-M.) Wheaton (St. Francis) Lisle (Benet Academy) Wilmette (Loyola Academy)
Girls Volleyball—2A Girls Volleyball—3A Girls Volleyball—4A Girls Swimming & Diving Football—1A	Mackinaw (Deer Creek-M.) Wheaton (St. Francis) Lisle (Benet Academy) Wilmette (Loyola Academy) Forreston
Girls Volleyball—2A Girls Volleyball—3A Girls Volleyball—4A Girls Swimming & Diving Football—1A Football—2A	Mackinaw (Deer Creek-M.) Wheaton (St. Francis) Lisle (Benet Academy) Wilmette (Loyola Academy) Forreston Pearl City
Girls Volleyball—2A Girls Volleyball—3A Girls Volleyball—4A Girls Swimming & Diving Football—1A Football—2A Football—3A	Mackinaw (Deer Creek-M.) Wheaton (St. Francis) Lisle (Benet Academy) Wilmette (Loyola Academy) Forreston Pearl City Wilmington
Girls Volleyball—2A Girls Volleyball—3A Girls Volleyball—4A Girls Swimming & Diving Football—1A Football—2A Football—3A Football—4A	Mackinaw (Deer Creek-M.) Wheaton (St. Francis) Lisle (Benet Academy) Wilmette (Loyola Academy) Forreston Pearl City Wilmington Rochester
Girls Volleyball—2A Girls Volleyball—3A Girls Volleyball—4A Girls Swimming & Diving Football—1A Football—2A Football—3A Football—4A Football—5A	Mackinaw (Deer Creek-M.) Wheaton (St. Francis) Lisle (Benet Academy) Wilmette (Loyola Academy) Forreston Pearl City Wilmington Rochester Springfield (Sacred Heart-Griffin)
Girls Volleyball—2A Girls Volleyball—3A Girls Volleyball—4A Girls Swimming & Diving Football—1A Football—2A Football—3A Football—4A Football—5A Football—6A	Mackinaw (Deer Creek-M.) Wheaton (St. Francis) Lisle (Benet Academy) Wilmette (Loyola Academy) Forreston Pearl City Wilmington Rochester Springfield (Sacred Heart-Griffin) LaGrange Park (Nazareth Academy)

# WINTER STATE CHAMPIONS

Dance—1A	Mahomet (MSeymour)
Dance—2A	Geneva
Dance—3A	Naperville (Neuqua Valley)
Boys Bowling	Rockton (Hononegah)
Cheerleading—Small	Breese (Central)
Cheerleading—Medium	Hampshire
Cheerleading—Large	Frankfort (Lincoln-Way East)
Cheerleading—Coed	Buffalo Grove
Chess	Naperville (North)
Girls Bowling	Lockport (Twp.)
Speech Individual Events	Hinsdale (Central)
Girls Gymnastics	Crystal Lake (Prairie Ridge)
Wresting—1A	Dakota
Wrestling—2A	Lombard (Montini)
Wrestling—3A	Oak Park (O.PRiver Forest)
Boys Swimming & Diving	Hinsdale (Central)
Girls Basketball—1A	Moweaqua (Central A & M)
Girls Basketball—2A	Kankakee (McNamara)
Girls Basketball—3A	Morton
Girls Basketball—4A	Lisle (Benet Academy)
Music—A	Washington
Music—AA	Ottawa (Twp.)
Music—B	Taylor Ridge (Rockridge)
Music—C	Gilman (Iroquois West)
Music—D	Stockton
Boys Basketball—1A	Brimfield
Boys Basketball—2A	Chicago (Uplift)
Boys Basketball—3A	Westchester (St. Joseph)
Boys Basketball—4A	Lincolnshire (Stevenson)
Scholastic Bowl—A	Urbana (University)
Scholastic Bowl—AA	Rockford (Auburn)
Policy Debate	Northbrook (Glenbrook North)
Lincoln-Douglas Debate	Evanston (Twp.)
Congressional Debate	Schaumburg
Public Forum Debate	Evanston (Twp.)
Drama	Oak Lawn (Community)
Group Interpretation	Palatine (Fremd)

# SPRING STATE CHAMPIONS

Journalism	Evanston (Twp.)
Girls Badminton	Naperville (Neuqua Valley)
Boys Gymnastics	Lincolnshire (Stevenson)
Bass Fishing	Maryville (Father McGivney)
Girls Track & Field—1A	Carthage (Illini West)
Girls Track & Field—2A	Cahokia (H.S.)
Girls Track & Field—3A	Frankfort (Lincoln-Way East)
Boys Water Polo	LaGrange (Lyons)
Girls Water Polo	Lincolnshire (Stevenson)
Girls Soccer—1A	Rochester
Girls Soccer—2A	Mundelein (Carmel)
Girls Soccer—3A	Winnetka (New Trier)
Boys Track & Field—1A	Tolono (Unity)
Boys Track & Field—2A	Cahokia (H.S.)
Boys Track & Field—3A	Edwardsville (H.S.)
Boys Tennis	Hinsdale (Central)
Boys Volleyball	Glen Ellyn (Glenbard West)
Baseball—1A	Cobden
Baseball—2A	Rockford (R. Christian)
Baseball—3A	Highland
Baseball—4A	New Lenox (Providence Catholic)
Softball—1A	Hardin (Calhoun)
Softball—2A	Nashville
Softball—3A	Washington
Softball—4A	Chicago (Marist)

twenty-fourteen twenty-fifteen



Hinsdale Central State Champions

Hinsdale Central enjoyed a record-breaking year in 2014-15, as the school won a state-record eight state titles, besting the previous mark of six state championships set by St. Charles (now St. Charles East) in 1998-99. The Red Devils hoisted first-place sport trophies in Boys Golf, Girls Golf, Girls Tennis, Boys Cross Country, Boys Soccer, Boys Swimming & Diving and Boys Tennis. The eighth title came in an IHSA activity, as the Central Speech team won the IHSA Speech-Individual Events competition.



# **Opportunities**

The IHSA conducted its third season of its Athletes With Disabilities programs in the sports of boys and girls bowling, boys and girls swimming, and boys and girls track & field. The following individuals participated in 2014-15:

#### **BOYS BOWLING**

Fletcher Hopkins, Mascoutah

#### **BOYS SWIMMING**

Anthony Alonzi, Des Plaines (Maine West)
Alan Brint, Highland Park
Chaz Centore, West Frankfort (Frankfort)
Jack Falejczyk, Elk Grove Village (E.G.)
Charlie Gentzkow, Winnetka (New Trier)
Aaron Holzmueller, Evanston (Twp.)
Cameron Lee, Skokie (Niles West)
Daniel Suero, Palatine (Fremd)
Trevor Tucci, Normal (Community)
Brandon View, New Lenox
(Lincoln-Way Central)

#### **GIRLS SWIMMING**

Rachael Apter, Orland Park (Sandburg)
Aimee Dragas, Downers Grove (South)
Francesca Figlioli, Park Ridge (Maine South)
Ana Kohout, Lake Forest (H.S.)
Samantha Peters (Sr.), Peoria (Richwoods)
Sophia Vilim, Chicago (Jones) [Coop]

#### **BOYS TRACK & FIELD**

Nathan Rainge, O'Fallon (H.S.) Nathan Schertz, El Paso (E.P.-Gridley)

#### **GIRLS TRACK & FIELD**

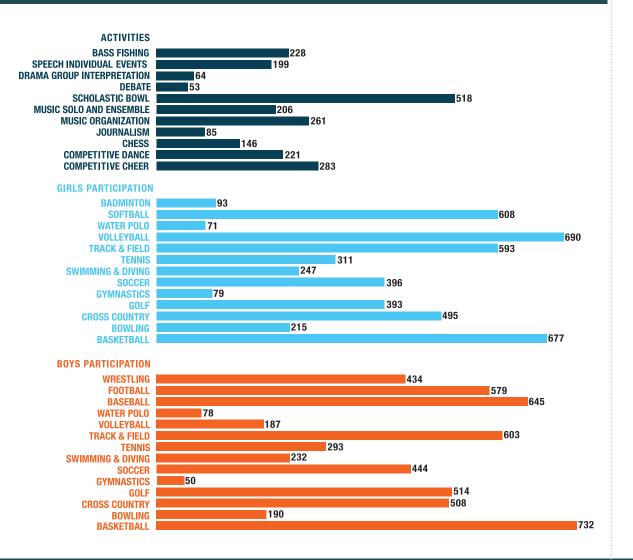
Anastazia Kohout, Lake Forest (H.S.) Savanna Klobnak, Metamora Stella McMillan, Chicago (Kennedy) Daniela Polencheck, Glen Ellyn (Glenbard West) Jennifer Starzec, Grayslake (Central)





No one provides more participation opportunities for high school students in Illinois

# SCHOOLS ENTERING IHSA STATE SERIES 2014-15



Students who are ruled ineligible for not meeting the IHSA by-laws voted into place by member schools often make headlines, but ultimately, an incredibly small percentage of students require a ruling and even fewer are declared ineligible to play in contests (all students remain eligible to practice & be a part of a team).

The graph below represents the 340,972 students who participated in IHSA sports in 2014-15. Teal represents students who participated with no ruling necessary, Cyan represents the 1,830 students who required rulings, and **Orange** is the 0.158% percent (542) who were ineligible per the by-laws.



# **Student Advisory Committee**

Kelsey Bartman, Metamora

Barret Benson, Darien (Hinsdale South)

Alexandra Buckley, Carpentersville (Dundee-Crown)

Rachel Donald, Dupo

Kenny Dumez, Chicago (Northside College Prep)

Avery English, Carterville

Emily Farris, Flanagan-Cornell

Patrick Gustafson, Freeport (Aguin)

Katie Karssen, Knoxville

Crofton Kelly, Chicago (St. Ignatius College Prep)

Kathleen Kelly, Carlinville

Austin Maltbia, Champaign (Centennial)

Marissa Miller, Wauconda

Claire Mueller, Chicago (Mother McCauley)

Abby Ratermann, Breese (Central)

Nicholas Reis, Newton

John Roberts, Oak Lawn Community

Milena Singletary, Joliet (Central)

Koby Stropes, Orion

Blake Suhling, Riverton

Barrington Wade, Skokie (Niles North)



Creating Opportunities

The IHSA exists to create opportunities for high school students.

The IHSA member schools, Board of Directors and IHSA staff work together to increase opportunities in a variety of ways. Some news and notes from 2014-15:



According to the annual NFHS Participation Survey, **Illinois ranked fourth in the nation in sports participation** a year ago with 340,972 high school student-athletes participating in athletics. Illinois ranked fourth in both male (199,595) and female (141,377) participation as well, trailing Texas, California, and New York.



In January, the IHSA membership voted to change the by-law for international student participation beginning in 2015-16. **International students will have the opportunity** for eligibility as long as they enter through a program that is approved by the IHSA Board after a vetting process. Previously, international students only had eligibility if they came through CSIET foreign exchange programs.



**The IHSA and Special Olympics** teamed up to conduct a unified bass fishing tournament in conjunction with the IHSA Bass Fishing State Finals. Three high schools (Huntley, Niles Notre Dame, Pontiac) participated in the event.



**Lacrosse remains an emerging IHSA sport.** The IHSA Board has authorized the start of a state tournament upon 65 schools entering the boys' tournament and 40 entering the girls' tourney.

# **All-State Academic Team**

Jacob Smith, Carrollton
Jacob Stone, Carterville
Christian Badillo, Chicago (Lane)
Daniel Hogan, Chicago (Mt. Carmel)
Brooke Gardner, Chicago (Payton)
William Barth, Chicago (St. Ignatius College Prep)

Kristi Ebbers, Dakota
Breeanna Tschosik, Decatur (St. Teresa)
Corinne O'Connor, Kankakee (McNamara)
Kelly Ryser, LaGrange (Lyons)
Clare Wieland, Lake Forest (H.S.)
Sammy Oh, Lincolnshire (Stevenson)

Cassandra Mundekis, Manito (Midwest Central)
Jairon Ritter, Maroa (M.-Forsyth)
Julia Beccue, Mt. Pulaski
Zachary Espinosa, Naperville (Neuqua Valley)
Madison Frerker, Nashville
Alexander Orr. Nashville

# The Value of IHSA Membership

# \$4,285,415

The amount of money the IHSA returned to member schools via host guarantees, ticket revenue & reimbursements during the 2014-15 school year.

Unlike many state high school associations, the **IHSA does not charge** member schools initial or annual dues to be a member, nor does it charge schools entry fees to compete in State Series.

The **IHSA provides** NFHS Rulebooks to member schools at no cost.

The IHSA is one of the few state high school associations in the country to offer activities, in addition to sports. **We believe in the value of participation** and want every student to have a chance to represent their school.

**Because of that belief**, the IHSA continues to underwrite multiple state tournaments that do not produce revenue. In general, around eight IHSA sport tournaments produce the revenue that helps fund the Association's 37 sports and activities.

The **IHSA provides** catastrophic medical insurance for all studentathletes competing in postseason contests.

The IHSA hosts a statewide biannual Student Leadership Conference that is **free for students** to attend.

The **IHSA offers** free State Series and State Final attendance for all activities and for multiple sports.

For the sports that do require tickets, the average IHSA State Series ticket cost is \$4.90 and the average State Final ticket is \$8.50, making high school sports a **great value for students and families**.

The IHSA has been **progressive and innovative** in its promotion of the positive ideals of participation to its schools. That includes introducing Add A. Tude, the nation's first sportsmanship mascot in 1997.

The **IHSA promotes and highlights** the positive actions by our schools, student-athletes, coaches and fans through its original content page IHSA State, on Social Media, and through various award programs.

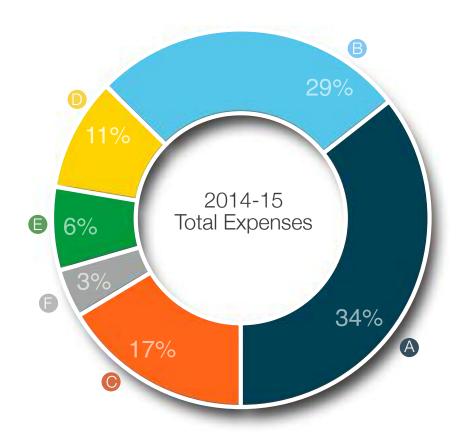
The IHSA Foundation & All-State Academic team programs have awarded **over \$541,000 in scholarship money** since 1994.

The IHSA recruits, trains and maintains an active database of **over 15,000 officials** available to member schools. In the spirit of equity, the IHSA directly assigns officials for postseason contests.





A review of the IHSA's 2014-15 fiscal year & recent trends

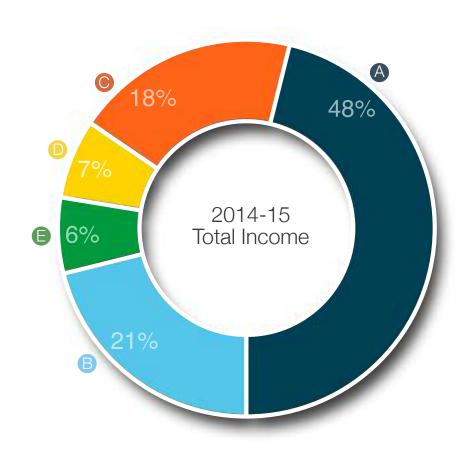


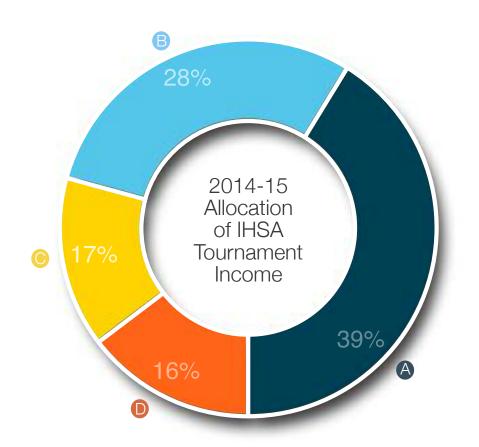
# 2014-15 TOTAL EXPENSES

A	Administration	\$3,702,865
B	Boys Athletics	\$3,114,713
<b>C</b>	Girls Athletics	\$1,861,349
D	Other	\$1,153,815
	Activities	\$637,482
	Officials	\$316,147
******	Total Expenses	\$10,786,371

# 2014-15 TOTAL INCOME

	Total Income	\$11,013,625
	Activities	\$608,346
D	Officials	\$823,042
0	Girls Athletics	\$1,984,825
B	Other	\$2,343,318
A	Boys Athletics	\$5,254,094



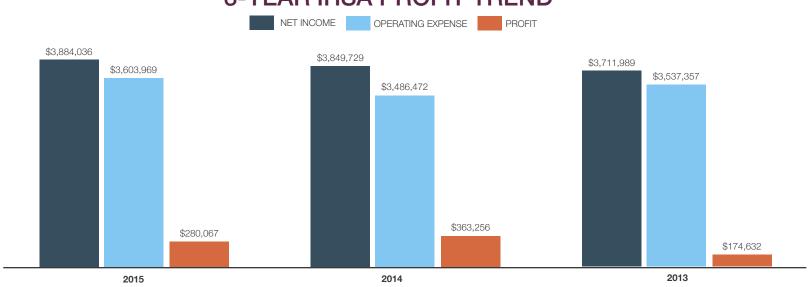


# 2014-15 ALLOCATION OF IHSA TOURNAMENT INCOME

	Tournament Income	\$7,847,265
D	Officials/Judges Fees	\$1,220,006
0	Miscellaneous Expenses	\$1,323,845
B	IHSA Underwriting of State Series	\$2,233,721
A	Member School Distributions	\$3,069,693



# **3-YEAR IHSA PROFIT TREND**







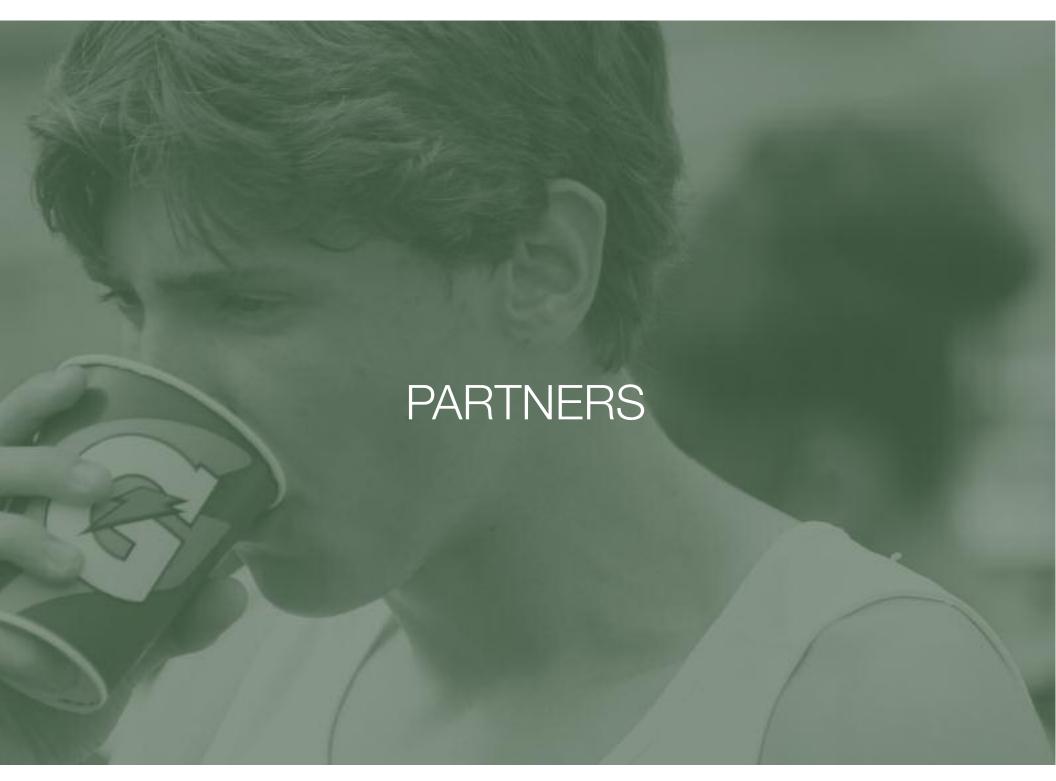
The Illinois High School Association enjoys partnerships with a number of industry leaders who support high school students in Illinois on and off the field. Thanks in part to the support of its partners, the IHSA has been able to implement a financial model that has eliminated all entry fees and dues for member schools, while still being able to return over \$4 million dollars to member schools in 2014-15 (see more on Page 28).





We appreciate their support of high school sports and activities in Illinois!





The individuals & organizations who give back to high school students in Illinois

AAE Athletics Area Convention & Visitors Bureau

Champaign County Convention & Visitors

Bureau Chicago Bears Chicago Bulls

Decatur Park District

Decatur Convention &

Visitors Bureau DeKalb County

Convention & Visitors

Bureau FLW Outdoors

IPICO Sports MaxPreps

Mustang Survival New Balance

Nike Football Plano Molding

PrepFilms.com

Convention & Visitors

Bureau

Ross Athletics

Varsity UCA & UDA

Starcrest Cleaners

The original and still the best of its kind, the March Madness Experience is the IHSA's interactive basketball fueled fan experience that runs concurrently with the Boys Basketball State Finals at the Civic Center in Peoria. The March Madness Experience was made possible by the following sponsors:

A&M Products

Biehl's Cleaners

**Bradley University** 

Cedar Graphics

CEFCU

City of East Peoria

City of Morton

City of Pekin

City of Washington

Country Financial

Daktronics

Ernst & Young

G & D Integrated

Heart of Illinois Special

Illinois American Water

Illinois Central College Journal Star

National Association of

Realtors

National Guard **OSF Saint Francis** 

Medical Center

Peoria Area Convention

& Visitors Bureau

PIP Printing

Peoria Civic Center

Peoria Park District

Porter Athletic

Prairie Farms

Raber Packing

RK Dixon

Sport Court













## **Country Financial**

The IHSA's oldest partner is the presenting sponsor of IHSA State Final broadcasts on the IHSA TV Network and NFHS Network, as well as the IHSA Bass Fishing State Tournament. In addition, County Financial is the presenting sponsor of America's Original March, as the IHSA Boys & Girls Basketball State Final Tournaments also feature the County Three-Point Showdown.

#### Wilson

Wilson is the Official Ball of the IHSA. Wilson provides the balls used in IHSA postseason tournaments for Baseball, Basketball, Football, Soccer, Softball, Tennis, and Volleyball, as well as shuttlecocks for Badminton.

### Caterpillar

Sponsors the IHSA All-State Academic Team, annually presenting \$1,000 scholarships to 26 of the best and brightest student-athletes in the state. Cat is also the presenting sponsor of the March Madness Experience.

#### Minerva

Provides official IHSA gear, from customized sweatshirts to key chains to hats, at all IHSA State Final events and select State Series tournaments.

## **Sports Authority**

The Official Sporting Goods provider of the IHSA offers a number of benefits to member schools in addition to discounts, including a free ticket program that schools can use for home contests.

#### Gatorade

Gatorade is in the IHSA! You will find Gatorade products for participating student-athletes at all IHSA State Final events.



Did you know the IHSA Peak Performance **Center, located inside the Peoria Riverfront** Museum, is more than 4,700 square feet of interactive IHSA fun?

The IHSA is a founding member of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), the rules writing body for high school sports & activities. The IHSA is also proud to partner with the following groups in Illinois who support high school students and education-based participation:



Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools

Illinois Association of School Administrators

Illinois Association of School Boards

Illinois Association of Student Councils

Illinois Elementary School Association

Illinois Principals Association

Illinois State Board of Education

Southern Illinois Junior High School Athletic Association



# History Made.

40-plus year IHSA wrestling official Don Mekeel (Sterling) and his son Ryan (Chicago) made history at the 2015 IHSA Individual Wrestling State Finals in Champaign, becoming the first father-son tandem to be selected to work the event jointly.



State final basketball officials Jerry Blum (Lake Zurich) and Bob Reczek (Mokena) represented Illinois and the IHSA on a world stage when they were selected to officiate at the Special Olympics World Summer Games In Los Angeles. The pair officiated a number of nationally televised contests, in addition to a celebrity game the featured several former NBA players, including Dikembe Mutombo.



The IHSA Journalism State Finals turned 10 years old in 2015. The Association recognized six judges who have judged all ten state tournaments thus far, including: Troy Taylor, Tony Mancuso, Lola Burnham, Shannon Davis, Beth Heldebrandt and Liz Viall.



Official Sharon Walker made national news when she refereed a girls' volleyball match at Downs (Tri-Valley) that also doubled as a benefit for the ailing brothers of a Tri-Valley player. Walker won the 50/50 drawing mid-match and returned the money to the family. After the match, she approached the player and gave her \$100 to buy a Homecoming dress.

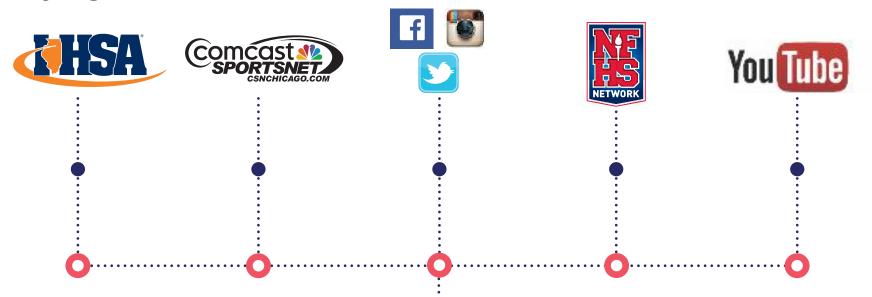
port	Officia
Boys Soccer	Joe B
Girls Soccer	Tony E
Football	John '
Boys Basketball	Leona
Girls Basketball	Keith
Baseball	Jim H
Softball	Larry
Girls Volleyball	Julie 7
Boys Volleyball	Jason
Boys Swimming	Fred (
Girls Swimming	Doug
Water Polo	Andre
Cross Country	Lonne
Boys Track	Geza
Girls Track	Richa
Wrestling	Jack \
Boys Gymnastics	Alan (
Girls Gymnastics	Vicki I
Competitive Cheer	Angie
Competitive Dance	Lynn (

ficial of the Year	Home
oe Bean	Sprir
ony Baines	Virde
ohn Widmayer	Woo
eonard Sanford	Matt
eith Nykiel	Dow
m Hayden	Roso
arry Haywood	Cou
ulie Terstriep	Indu
ason Palmer	Chic
red Gafrick	Bartl
oug Surch	Whe
ndrew Mattson	Mad
onnell Poole	Rich
eza Ehrentreu	Rock
ichard Skirball	Gran
ack Wiesneth	Libe
an Galatte	Pala
cki Munch	Arlin
ngie Wilmington	Chilli

town



# **Staying Connected**



The IHSA is one of 43 states who make-up the NFHS

Network, which annually broadcasts the state finals of
nearly 30 IHSA sports and activities live on the internet
at www.IHSA.tv, totaling over 150 games, matches and
meets per year. The NFHS Network also has over 100

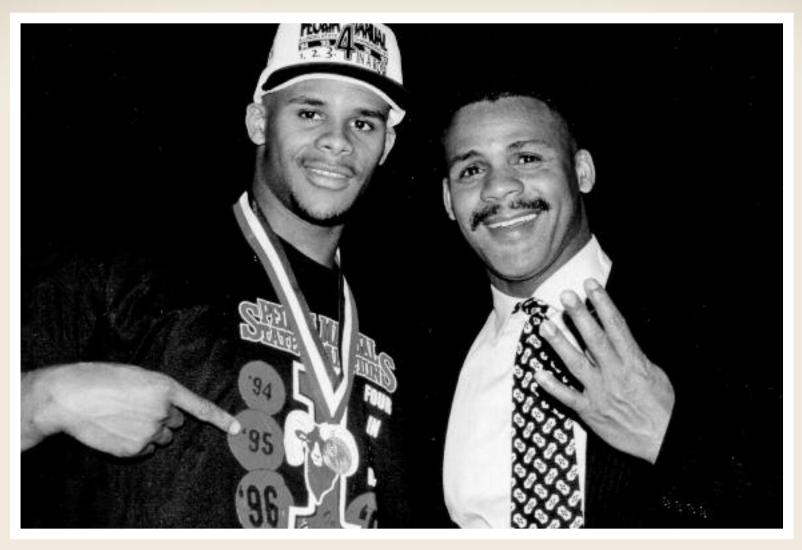
IHSA member high schools in its School Streaming
Broadcast program, allowing those schools to stream
anything from sports contests, to concerts,
to graduations, and more!

Nearly every story in this annual report, and many many more, are available on the IHSA's original content page, IHSA State (www.IHSA.org/IHSAstate).



**Comcast SportsNet Chicago** is your home for live HD broadcasts of the IHSA Football Playoff Pairing Show and four playoff games, the IHSA's eight Football State Championships, and all 32 IHSA Boys & Girls Basketball State Final contests. CSN also rebroadcasts the IHSA state finals in cheerleading, dance, soccer, volleyball, and wrestling.





Basketball fans in Illinois mourned the loss of legendary coach **Wayne McClain** (Peoria Manual, Champaign Central) when he passed last October. McClain wasn't the only legend with high school ties in Illinois who we lost in 2014-15, as that list included Joliet Catholic coach and NFHS Hall of Famer **Gordie Gillespie**, Toluca basketball coach and the engine behind the IBCA **Chuck Rolinski**, long-time IHSA record keeper **Jerry Bretag**, and respected IHSA officials **Marlen "Muggs" McGinnis, Ed Monaghan and Tom Todd.** 

We realize that there are many many others we lost last year and simply want to state in memoriam that we appreciate all those individuals; be it student-athletes, coaches, administrators, officials or others associated with high school sport and activity programs, that saw value in their IHSA experience.



# INSPIRING INVESTING IMPACTING CREATING CONNECTING INSPIRING INVESTING IMPACTING



# ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

2715 MoGraw Drive Bloomington, Illinois 61704

phone: 309/663/6377 fax: 309/663/7479

DOMESTIC STREET

## FACEBOOK

Facebook.com/IHSA.IL Facebook.com/IHSAOtticials Facebook.com/AddATude



INSTAGRAM

#### YOUTUB

YouTube.com/IHSAsrchives YouTube.com/IHSA

#### WILLIAM

elhSA\_L elhSAstare elhSAscorezone elhSAddatude elhSAarchives elhSAweather elhSAottidas