

# **IHSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

# **Meet the IHSA Board of Directors**



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





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



TIM McCONNELL Division 4 Term Expires 2014



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

DR. CHUCK NAGEL East Peoria Division 6 Term Expires 2014



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

Vacant At-Large Term Expires 2015



Chicago (DePaul

College Prep) At-Large

DR. JEANETTE **DR. JAMES QUAID** NUCKOLLS Urbana (University) At-Large Term Expires 2016 Term Expires 2014



GREG BRADLEY Forsyth (Decatur Christian) Treasurer Appointed By Board



# Members of the Illinois High School Association

The 2013-14 school year was my fifth serving on the IHSA Board of Directors and my second acting as the Board's President. I remain humbled to have the opportunity to serve as the Board President and assure you that I take the responsibility of representing the over 800 high schools that make up the IHSA very seriously.

The past school year offered its fair share of challenges, as the Board, and IHSA as a whole, faced several difficult decisions. As Board members, we understand that this responsibility comes with its fair share of scrutiny. It is our job to represent the member schools in our respective divisions, and whether discussing football acclimatization, the success factor, ball partners, eligibility rulings or repercussions for rule violations, we try to act in the best interest of the membership. The diversity of our schools and state will likely prevent any decision from ever being unanimously praised, but we do our best to look at the big picture, and not just what is happening in our school or conference.

Perhaps no situation was more daunting, but also invigorating, as the IHSA hearing in May with the Illinois General Assembly's Elementary & Secondary Education Committee in Springfield. Executive Director Marty Hickman represented the Association and its mission with the utmost integrity, and the amount of support that poured in before, during and after that process reassured what I have known all along: That despite our differences, we remain a unified association that can work together to address its issues, just as our predecessors have done for over 100 years.

Perhaps Hinsdale Central Athletic Director Dan Jones said it best responding to the General Assembly's involvement in the IHSA: "This is a membership-led organization. If there are issues or changes that need to be made, our membership will do this. The IHSA is our organization."

Sincerely,



Dan Klett Wauconda High School Principal

# Susie Knoblauch Moves On To NFHS, Shaunda Brown Joins IHSA Staff

IHSA Assistant Executive Director Susie Knoblauch announced in May she would be leaving the IHSA to take an administrator position with the NFHS in Indianapolis, Indiana. During her decade at the IHSA, Knoblauch was the administrator for cheerleading, speech, drama, debate, music, tennis and journalism. A high school teacher and coach prior to joining the IHSA, Knoblauch was critical in beginning the IHSA cheerleading, journalism and dance state tournaments.

### IHSA Executive Director Marty Hickman on Susie...

"She has made an indelible impact on all of us and we are going to miss her. The silver lining is that we get to continue to work with her and know that the entire country will benefit from her involvement with the programs she will oversee for the NFHS."

In June, the IHSA announced that IHSA official Shaunda Brown would step into Knoblauch's Assistant Executive Director position. An IHSA state final track & field qualifier as a student-athlete at Du Quoin High School, Shaunda was a cheerleader while attending Southern Illinois University and went on to earn Master's Degrees from St. Louis University and Lindenwood University. She recently concluded her eighth year as a Speech Language Pathologist at the Special School District of St. Louis County in Town and Country, Missouri. Shaunda has been an influential figure in IHSA cheer officiating, serving as a clinician and being selected to judge all nine state final tournaments conducted thus far.

#### Shauda Brown on joining the IHSA staff...

"My time as a high school student-athlete competing in IHSA sports had a huge impact on my life. It taught me to be a team player, as well as to value the efforts and abilities of others. I am excited about the opportunity to impact even more students as they become productive citizens through their IHSA experiences."



SUSAN KNOBLAUCH Asst. Exec. Director



SHAUNDA BROWN Asst. Exec. Director

### **IHSA ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION



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

#### THE **FUTURE PLAYS HERE!**"



**MARTY HICKMAN Executive Director** 



KURT GIBSON Associate Exec. Director



**BETH SAUSER** Asst. Exec. Director



SCOTT JOHNSON Asst. Exec. Director

**RON McGRAW** Asst. Exec. Director





TRACIE HENRY Asst. Exec. Director

SHAUNDA BROWN Asst. Exec. Director **KAYODE ADEGOKE** Coordinator of Special Programs

- Matt Troha on the committee that develops content for the NFHS magazine High School Today
- Leyden Athletic Director Randy Conrad on the Wrestling Advisory Committee
- Retired teacher/coach and IHSA state final manager Jan Heiteen on the on the Speech, Drama & Debate Committee
- IHSA official Kathy Krebs is the Chair of the Girls Gymnastics **Rules** Committee
- IHSA Official Karen McNaught on the Volleyball Rules Committee



MATT TROHA Asst. Exec. Director STACEY LAMBERT Asst. Exec. Director CRAIG ANDERSON Asst. Exec. Director

**IHSA representation on NFHS Committees:** 

- Craig Anderson is the Chair of the Football Game Officials Manual Committee & a member of the Football Rules Committee
- Scott Johnson on the Technology Committee
- Susie Knoblauch on the National High School Hall of Fame **Screening Committee**
- Stacey Lambert on the Coaches Association Advisory Committee
- Kayode Adegoke on the Track & Field Rules Committee
- Beth Sauser on the Soccer Rules Committee and the Water Polo **Rules** Committee
- Shaunda Brown on the Spirit Rules Committee







# COACHES & IHSA OFFICIALS OF THE YEAR

#### 2013-14 IHSA Officials of the Year

Football	Octavio Herrera, Jr., Melrose Park
Boys Swimming	Louis Estes Gantz, Northbrook
Girls Swimming	Janice L. Plack, Des Plaines
Boys Soccer	Randy S. Brickman, Deerfield
Girls Soccer	Gregory R. Shierling, Quincy
Girls Volleyball	David A. Sands, Salem
Boys Volleyball	Mark D. Trapp, Villa Park
Cross Country	David A. Mitchell, Peoria
Cheerleading	Becky L. Weslow, Orland Park
Dance	Candace M. Gadomski, Decatur
Girls Gymnastics	Barbara Oczkowicz, Carol Stream
	Gregg B. Didech, Barrington
Boys Basketball	Samuel K. Moran, Lewistown
	homas E. Daugherty, Bloomington
Wrestling	Jeff A. Sorensen, Bloomington
Boys Track & Field	Jamero J. Rainey, Edwards
Girls Track & Field	Robert A. Rice, Danville
Baseball	Bob Copas, Elmhurt
Softball	Christopher J. Schaefer, Chicago
Water Polo	Michael A. Mitchell, Palatine

# CONGRATULATIONS!

#### 2013 NFHS Coaches of the Year

SpiritRobin Gwinn, Antioch Boys Swimming & DivingCorky King, Hinsdale Central Girls Swimming & DivingJames Bart, Barrington Boys TennisPeter W. Freischlag, Downers Grove South Boys Track & FieldPeter W. Freischlag, Downers Grove South Boys VolleyballPeter W. Freischlag, Downers Grove South Girls VolleyballPeter W. Freischlag, Downers Grove South Girls Volleyball	Boys Basketball Girls Basketball Baseball Boys Bowling Girls Bowling Girls Cross Country Girls Cross Country Football Boys Golf Girls Golf Girls Gymnastics Girls Gymnastics Boys Soccer Girls Soccer	Elizabeth Karales, Lincoln-Way Central Robert Smith, Simeon Wayne Harre, Nashville Pete Meyer, Lisle Jeff Wyatt, Lockport Matthew Woods, Moline Jon Burnett, O'Fallon Jon Burnett, O'Fallon Derek Leonard, Rochester Mark Meyer, Kaneland ry Jo Bell, Bloomington Central Catholic Mike Opsal, Conant 
Wrestling	Boys Swimming & Diving. Girls Swimming & Diving. Boys TennisPer Boys Track & Field Girls Track & Field Boys Volleyball Girls Volleyball Boys Water Polo Girls Water Polo	Corky King, Hinsdale Central James Bart, Barrington Michael Terry, Quincy ter W. Freischlag, Downers Grove South Derek DeBarr, Pleasant Plains Roland Brent II, Bloomington Matthew Lawrence, Lincoln-Way North Drew Robertson, Kansas Tri-County Kyle Perry, Fenwick Wanessa Carroll, Mother McAuley



# Sacred Heart-Griffin Earns Spirit of Sport Award for Washington Relief Efforts

The Sacred Heart-Griffin High School football team, led by head coach Ken Leonard, was crowned IHSA Class 6A state champions on Thanksgiving weekend in 2013, but proved themselves to be champions one week earlier. Six days before their semifinal game against Washington High School, the town of Washington was decimated by an EF-4 tornado that leveled more than 1,200 homes. Leonard immediately reached out to Washington head coach Darrell Crouch and offered to help in any way possible. "Ken did all in his power to help us out spiritually, emotionally and financially," said Crouch. During the week, the SHG community raised nearly \$100,000 in relief funds, sent a tractor trailer of fresh water to the town, organized and funded buses to bring the Washington fans to and from the game, and put together pre- and post-game meals to feed 2,000 people. For its efforts, SHG was nominated by the IHSA for the NFHS Spirit of Sport Award and was named the winner of the Midwest Section. "The media made a big deal about what we were doing, but we didn't think it was a story," said Leonard. "In the Midwest, in Illinois, in central Illinois, this is how we were brought up. When someone needs help, everyone does what they can to help."

# Meridian's Brewer is Inaugural Heart of the Arts Nominee

The NFHS added to its awards program in 2013-14 with the Heart of the Arts Award, which seeks to honor individuals who exemplify the positive ideals of performing arts. The IHSA's inaugural nominee was Meridian (Macon) High School senior Jordan Brewer. Jordan overcame learning disabilities in reading, writing and math to excel as a member of her high school newspaper. She also toppled her fear of public speaking, as she served as an anchor on the school's video news program. Her journalism experience increased her confidence and she became a leader in the school's yearbook and drama programs as a senior. "She has built so much confidence," said Meridian Special Education teacher Jody Clayton. "The confidence she has gained from the journalism class carried over. The way that she carries and expresses herself now is just different than she did before." Jordan cited Clayton and journalism/drama teacher Sheila Moore as her inspirations to attend college and become a teacher.



Jordan Brewer

# **IHSA Conducts Third-Ever Leadership Conference**

The IHSA conducted its third-ever Leadership Conference on September 30, 2013 at the Civic Center in Peoria. Nearly 800 high school students from around the state attended the event, which centered around three key themes: Leadership, Sportsmanship and Communication.

The Conference was developed and facilitated by members of the IHSA Student Advisory Committee (page 9), who led interactive breakout sessions with their peers. Sessions were also conducted for the adult chaperones in attendance.

Nationally renowned motivational speaker Harvey Alston served as the conference's keynote speaker, opening and closing the event with his trademark energetic message promoting positivity, inclusion and achievement.

Morton High School student attendee Noel Ibarra

"It was a really fun experience. I got to meet a lot of new people and experience different activities related to communication, sportsmanship and leadership."

Niles West SAC member & conference moderator Valerie Fung

"We got some great interaction and feedback from our groups. Everyone was really interested and the sessions were effective."



### **Membership Approve Changes To Summer Football**

A special session of the IHSA Legislative Commission was called in April, where a by-law proposal to amend allowable summer football activities was brought forward. The by-law was moved to a ballot by the Legislative Commission and approved in a vote by member schools. The by-law prevents schools from any full-pad practice or full tackling during its summer contact days and also builds in an acclimatization schedule that better mirrors the start of the football season in August. IHSA Executive Director Marty Hickman believes the change is important for the safety of student-athletes: "We believe this revision minimizes risk to football student-athletes, while allowing for the teaching of appropriate fundamentals. This is another important step in making high school football as safe as possible, while putting all of our schools on an even playing field regarding football activities during the summer."

#### Wilson Returns as Official Ball of the IHSA

The IHSA will renew its partnership with long-time ball provider Wilson Sporting Goods Co. beginning in the 2014-15 school year. The IHSA Board approved the change to return to Chicago-based Wilson at its January meeting, recommending a contract that will make Wilson the Official Ball of the IHSA State Series in 14 sports. The new agreement with Wilson, which was the IHSA ball provider from 1994-2009, runs through the 2023-24 school year. "We are excited about the opportunity to be reunited with the IHSA," said Bill Kirchner, Vice President Wilson US Sales. "The Wilson team looks forward to building a strong partnership and are committed to supporting the needs of Illinois' high schools, coaches and student-athletes by providing high quality products that perform at a championship level. Wilson is proud to be the ball of choice in Illinois."

#### Athletes With Disabilities Program Completes Second Year

The IHSA Athletes with Disabilities program marked its second year of competition during the 2013-14 school year. The program, which offers separate divisions for athletes with disabilities in conjunction with the IHSA State Series in each sport, debuted during the 2012-13 school year. For the second straight year, the IHSA offered these participation opportunities in boys and girls cross country, boys and girls bowling, boys and girls swimming and boys and girls track & field. Fifteen student-athletes competed in five sports last year, as there were no entries for cross country or girls bowling in 2013-14.

#### **IHSA Becomes Member of NFHS Network**

The IHSA became one of 36 state associations to join the NFHS Network, a web broadcasting partnership between the NFHS and PlayOn! Sports, during the 2013-14 school year. PlayOn! has streamed IHSA State Final events on www.IHSA.tv for the previous four years and also works with over 100 Illinois high schools as a part of its School Streaming Program. IHSA Executive Director Marty Hickman explained that the NFHS Network offers the same great coverage with a new business model:

"Throughout the past decade we have found there is a great demand for streaming high school events, however, we also struggled to find consistency among our broadcast partners. Most states faced the same issues, so the NFHS Network allowed us to unify our resources and get the backing of a mutual partner in the NHFS, while also creating revenue opportunities for the Network and schools. We believe the NFHS Network provides the sustainable long-term streaming option we have been looking for."

Most NFHS Network broadcasts require a subscription, with subscription revenue being split between the schools and the NFHS Network. In addition, Illinois residents who receive their cable television via Comcast/Xfinity were provided free access to all events on www.IHSA.tv.

#### **IHSA State Website Debuts**

The IHSA launched a new original content page within its website in 2013 entitled IHSA State (www.IHSA.org/IHSAState). The goal of IHSA State is to chronicle the individuals, both past and present, who are so vital to IHSA sports and activities, while recognizing the rich high school pageantry, history and tradition that Illinois is steeped in through stories, pictures and video. Some of the most popular stories from the first year include:

- 177-0 Dakota Wrestler Josh Alber Defined By Medal He Doesn't Have
- Joliet Central Volleyball Finds "Faith" In Pink
- Nashville Golfer Honors Dad's Wish On Golf Course
- #MCstrong: Michael Collins Leaves Lasting Legacy
- Stories behind unique nicknames "Cornjerkers" & "Railsplitters"



DR for these stories and more.

#### 2013-14 IHSA Academic All-State Team Presented by Caterpillar

Ryan Perkins, Barrington Michael Billington, Bloomington (Central Catholic) Hailey Pieruccini, Chicago (Lane) Daniel O'Keefe, Chicago (Mt. Carmel) Claire Dalman, Crystal Lake (Central) Brigid Walsh, Des Plaines (The Willows Academy) Zachary Smith, Downers Grove (North) Stephanie Urbancik, Downers Grove (North) Olivia Heffernan, Fisher Madeline Perez, Glen Ellyn (Glenbard West) Kevin Huang, Hinsdale (Central) Nicholas Bushelle, Naperville (Neugua Valley) Shawn Rennegarbe, Nashville Jana Mudrock, New Lenox (Lincoln-Way Central) Teresa Trinka, Oak Park (O.P.-River Forest) Patrick Perrier, O'Fallon (H.S.) Connor Doak, Rock Island (Alleman) Sam Collins, Rockton (Hononegah) Devin Hasson, Taylor Ridge (Rockridge) George Gunter, Urbana (University) Katherine Koczwara, Vernon Hills Mitchel Meyer, Waterloo (Gibault Catholic) Marty Pesch, Williamsville Rachel Rhodes, Williamsville Matthew McCaffrey, Winnetka (New Trier) Abigail Boyd, Winnetka (New Trier)



# 2013-14 Do What's Right Student Advisory Committee

District 1	Kenny Dumez, Chicago (Northside College Prep)
District 2	Crofton Kelly, Chicago (St. Ignatius College Prep)
District 3	Claire Mueller, Chicago (Mother McCauley)
District 4	Valerie Fung, Skokie (Niles West)
District 5	Trent Hanselmann, Carpentersville (Dundee-Crown)
District 6	Marissa Miller, Wauconda
District 7	Barret Benson, Darien (Hinsdale South)
District 8	Jacob Platt, Tinley Park (Andrew)
District 9	Milena Singletary, Joliet (Central)
District 12	Kayla Haines, Seneca
District 13	Austin Maltbia, Champaign (Centennial)
District 14	Nicholas Reis, Newton
District 15	Emily Farris, Flanagan-Cornell
District 16	Katie Karssen, Knoxville
District 17	Kathleen Kelly, Carlinville
District 18	Blake Suhling, Riverton
District 19	Rachel Donald, Dupo
District 20	Abby Ratermann, Breese (Central)
District 21	Avery English, Carterville



# **Financial Information**

The attendance at State Series events and revenue for the Association and its member schools was near projections in 2013-14. The IHSA is proud to be able to offer its services without a membership fee or any type of per sport/activity registration fee. This year's financial information provides optimism that the current model will continue to be able to provide these opportunities without cost to member schools, while also allowing a modest amount of reserves to guard against unforeseen events. The graphs on the next two pages detail the distribution of income from State Series events during the 2013-14 school year. The IHSA was able to return over \$2,600,000 million dollars to its member schools from its tournament income last year.

NOTE: Financial information is unaudited. Audited information will be released in December.



# **INCOME FROM IHSA STATE SERIES 2013-14**





## **IHSA Happenings from 2013-14**

- The IHSA helped facilitate "Rocky's Law", which was signed by Governor Quinn in August. The law requires schools districts to provide minimum catastrophic insurance coverage for studentathletes.
- Mt. Carmel's Tyra Buss became the IHSA career scoring leader in girls basketball when she tallied her 4,033rd point. Tyra finished her career with 4,897 points in 129 games (38.0 ppg).
- The IHSA honored its four inaugural Distinguished Media Service Award winners in SouthtownStar writer Tony Baranek, the radio voice of Frankfort High School athletics Bruce Fasol, retired Daily Herald writer Bob Frisk and legendary radio figure Lanny Slevin of LaSalle's WLPO.
- The IHSA Peak Performance Center, a part of Peoria Riverfront Museum, welcomed over 100,000 visitors in 2013-14. The IHSA exhibit is over 4,700 square feet of interactive experiences drawing from IHSA sports and activities.
- Over 600 officials from around the state attended the 15th annual IHSA Officials Conference in Peoria.

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- The Chicago Bears hosted players and coaches from the eight IHSA football state champions at Soldier Field for the team's December showdown against the Green Bay Packers.
- Comcast SportsNet Chicago expanded its IHSA partnership to include tape-delay broadcasts of the IHSA Girls Volleyball, Individual Wrestling, Dance and Cheerleading State Finals.
- Northern Illinois University & the City of DeKalb hosted the IHSA Football State Finals for the first time in 2013 and will continue to rotate annually with the University of Illinois in Champaign.
- The IHSA donated a portion of each ticket sale from the Sacred Heart-Griffin vs. Washington football playoff game to the American Red Cross to aid tornado relief efforts in Illinois. The IHSA and its broadcast partners also worked to air the game live on statewide television to help promote relief efforts.

Connect with the #IHSA on Social Media, including Facebook (/IHSA.IL), multiple Twitter accounts (@IHSA\_IL @IHSAState @IHSAScoreZone) and YouTube (/IHSA).

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