



2020-21 IHSA Badminton Case Book

The IHSA badminton advisory committee has reviewed the USAB rules and made the following changes to the USAB rule book.

Current IHSA Badminton Terms and Conditions, Code of Conduct and the IHSA adopted USA Badminton rules, govern the IHSA state series. The illustrations of this casebook are designed to assist in the interpretations of those rules. Any interpretation that is deemed inconsistent shall be controlled by the Terms and Conditions. Note that some USAB rules regarding serving and coaching have been interpreted for high school play. Throughout the season, any additional interpretations will be posted on the IHSA Girls' Badminton website and/or the school center.

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I. EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING

Rule: The IHSA prescribes that an athlete's dress will not be disruptive to the educational competitive setting. Garments with profanity, lewd references, or slogans that berate or slur other teams or athletes are also inappropriate and forbidden. All uniforms should have an identifying school mark on them. It is required that doubles partners wear uniform tops and bottoms of like color.

The badminton uniform, comparable to NFHS uniform rules, must be worn as the manufacturer intended and have the following regulations:

1. Tops - Bare midriff tops are not allowed. The uniform top must hang below or be tucked into the waistband of the uniform bottom when the player is standing erect and upright. Spaghetti strap tops and or racerback tops are not allowed.
2. Bottoms - Loose fitting boxer type bottoms or compressions style bottoms are permitted. French cut or high cut apparel shall not be worn in lieu of uniform bottoms. The waistband of a competitor's bottom shall be worn above the hips. Shorts that leave visible any part of an undergarment or an area that an undergarment would normally cover are not allowed. While the uniform rule cannot cover all the latest trends, "booty shorts" do not meet the uniform rule and are unacceptable.

The games committee has the right to determine appropriateness of all uniforms.

Unless a case of changing uniforms, all uniform inquiries must be made prior to the start of the 2nd round of play each day at the state tournament.

Penalty: In order for a player(s) to represent their school in competition, they must be in compliance with the rule. If a school is not in compliance with the uniform rule, the IHSA should be notified through the special report process.

Situations:

- 1Q. What do articles of clothing include?
1A. Articles of clothing shall be defined as anything worn or carried by the player during play with the exception of the racket. This includes but is not limited to wristbands, headbands, badges, medical supports, socks and towels.
- 2Q. Who has the final decision on appropriateness of the uniform?
2A. If there is a meet referee; it is his/her decision. If there is no meet referee, it is the manager's decision. It is recommended that a special report be submitted to the IHSA reporting the uniform infraction.

- 3Q. Are there any regulations on the wearing of jewelry including piercings, glitter, and beads in hair or on shoes?
3A. No. The safety of players is a priority and if a situation occurs that breaches that concern, a player will be required to remove the items.
- 4Q. Are tank tops considered acceptable team attire?
4A. No. Tank tops or tops with spaghetti straps are not acceptable. Sleeveless T's, long or short sleeve T's, and polo shirts are all examples of appropriate attire.
- 5Q. Does the school name need to be identifiable?
5A. Yes. Not only is it part of a team philosophy, but it is important for players to be able to be identified when tournament directors are calling matches.
- 6Q. Does a school name have to be on both the top and bottom pieces of the uniform?
6A. No. The recommendation is that the school name or nickname should be on one piece of the uniform.
- 7Q. What is the penalty for not having a school name on the uniform?
7A. There is no penalty, but the committee is moving in the direction of requiring it in the future.
- 8Q. Can players wear caps, visors, bandanas, hats or head adornments?
8A. No. Caps and other adornments are not necessary for play. Headbands are acceptable.

II. CODE OF CONDUCT/SPORTSMANSHIP AND ETIQUETTE

Rule: Unlike many sports, with few exceptions, badminton is played without the supervision of a referee or umpire. The game relies on the integrity of the individual to show consideration for other players and to abide by the rules. All players should conduct themselves in a disciplined manner, demonstrating courtesy and sportsmanship at all times irrespective of how competitive a participant may be. This is the spirit of the game of badminton.

Penalty: A Badminton Code of Conduct is designed to protect the interest of the majority of participants who wish to support the spirit of the game. If individuals consistently disregard the spirit of the game during a match, a coach, the tournament manager or the games committee are responsible to take appropriate action against the offending participant and apply the IHSA Badminton Code of Conduct penalties.

- 1Q. Can a coach address misconduct during play?
1A. Yes. Sportsmanship is a core value and coaches not only can but should address unsportsmanlike conduct at any time.
- 2Q. If play is stopped to address unsportsmanlike conduct, how should that be handled?
2A. When play is stopped by a coach, all competitors should be involved in the conference.
- 3Q. Players are assigned to a court with their opponents and both teams begin their warm-ups. The coach of one team realizes she/he has forgotten to give the player(s) one more strategy tip and walks over to the court to talk to her/them. What is the ruling?
3A. **Ruling:** Unsportsmanlike Conduct - Illegal coaching (verbal) - 1 points team deduction, written up and reported to the Games Committee.
- 4Q. During a singles match, one player begins losing more and more points and becomes very frustrated. She returns the shuttle to her opponent by driving it across the net directing it at her opponent. On one return, her opponent isn't watching and the shuttle hits her in the back. What is the ruling?
4A. **Ruling:** Unsportsmanlike Conduct- Hitting Shuttle at Opponent - 1 penalty point assessed; incident is written up and reported to the Games Committee.
- 5Q. During a doubles match, the team from one school starts taking time between serves to strategize for so long that their opponents have to wait more than 10 seconds. The team that is stalling has already been penalized one point for their 1st offense in delaying the match. What is the correct procedure?
5A. **Ruling:** Unsportsmanlike Conduct - Delay of Match - 3 penalty points assessed for 2nd offense - incident is written up and reported to the Games Committee.
- 6Q. After the first game of a match the players take their 2 minutes break before starting the second game. The player who lost the first game talks with her teammate and uses the full 2-minute period. As she changes sides of the court and both players prepare to start the second game, her coach quickly runs onto the court and talks with her for another minute. What is the ruling?
6A. **Ruling:** In accordance with the Badminton Code of Conduct it is a Misconduct violation - Abuse of Continuous Play - 1 penalty point assessed for the 1st offense. 4 game point penalty for the 2nd offense and team and coach ejection for the 3rd offense.
- 7Q. Two opposing players cannot agree on the speed of the shuttle, but finally agree to begin play. Between serves, the player who wanted the shuttle slowed down bends several of the feathers back without her opponent knowing.
- 7A. **Ruling:** In accordance with the Badminton Code of Conduct it is an Unsportsmanlike Acts-- Tampering with Shuttle -- 1 penalty point assessed for the 1st offense, 3 penalty points for the 2nd offense and DQ and ejection for the 3rd offense. The violation is written up and reported to the Games Committee. The IHSA and Athletic Director are informed via a "Special Report" for the ejection (3rd offense). The player may not compete in the next meet of that level or any level in between.
- 8Q. After losing a match that cost the team a state trophy, a singles player walks off the court and throws her racket against the wall. What is the ruling?
8A. **Ruling:** In accordance with the Badminton Code of Conduct the ruling is Gross Misconduct and a 1 point team deduction is assessed. The incident is written up and reported to the Games Committee
- 9Q. A coach is walking by a match that doesn't involve her/his team. She/he overhears one of the players use profanity after a shot was missed. What is the correct procedure?
9A. **Ruling:** In accordance with the Badminton Code of Conduct, Profanity/Obscene Language or Gestures -- 1 penalty point is assessed when it is not directed at anyone. For a 2nd offense, 4 penalty points is assessed and for the 3rd offense the player is disqualified. The coach who observed the offense should report the incident to the player's coach, in addition write up the incident and report it to the Games Committee.
- 10Q. How many coaches/designated player coaches can be on a court between the first, second and third game?
10A. Multiple coaches may coach between each game.
- 11Q. How many coaches/designated player coaches may coach between the 11 point break.
11A. No more than 2 coaches may be on the court coaching.
- 12Q. Is there a defined area of the court a coach can or cannot be in while coaching?
12A. No. Due to the time constraints, the committee does not think it necessary to specifically define the court.
- 13Q. If a coach is not available to coach between the first and second game, can a teammate(s) be designated to be on the court acting as a coach?
13A. Yes. A coach can designate a player(s) from the same team to act as a player/ coach between games. Coaches listed on the LOP, with a coaches' pass, or players listed on the school's LOP, with a participant pass are allowed to sit in the coaching chairs on the court. There is a maximum of two coaches that can be coaching during this time.

III. THE GAME

Rule Comment: When an umpire is not present during a match, players and coaches are expected to act in the spirit in which an umpire would rule.

- 1Q. Is there a method that is used in the state series to speed up filling the courts after play?
1A. Yes. An "on deck" area will be used to speed up the process of keeping the courts filled, so when a player hears her match number called, she can immediately report to tournament central desk. The player(s) should check in and stay in the "on deck" area until her/their match is given a definite court assignment.
- 2Q. Where can spectators sit during play?
2A. Spectators will be required to sit in the bleachers or stands. They are not allowed to be on the court or between the courts.
- 3Q. A player breaks a string on her racket during a match. What is the procedure for replacing the racket?
3A. In the event of equipment breakage or equipment difficulty, a player must be able to play within 5 minutes, or her/their opponent(s) will win by default.
- 4Q. Can the receiver of a serve bounce (feet are stationary but their body is bouncing) when the service is being delivered?
4A. Yes, as long as a player's feet are stationary and they are not using it as a distraction.
- 5Q. How is continuous play defined?
5A. Continuous play is defined as not exceeding 2 minutes between games in a match or taking more than 60 seconds at the 11 point break.
- 6Q. Who can call for a lines judge? (player, coach or official)
6A. Only players, coaches or officials may call for a lines judge.
- 7Q. Who can call for a ruling on the court? (player, coach or official)
7A. Players only. Players can request a ruling on the court by sitting down on the court during their match. Coaches cannot call for a ruling.
- 8Q. Can an official step in to officiate without being called?
8A. Yes. The state final tournament has roving officials who are instructed to do just that.
- 9Q. If one player wants to continue to play with a shuttle and another player wants to change the shuttle, how is that decision made?
9A. The official/coach steps in and checks the bird. The official/coach then makes a decision on whether the shuttle is still suitable. If the shuttle is not suitable, then the official/coach tests a new shuttle and play continues.
- 10Q. What is the penalty for a player not getting back to the court ready to play after the 60-seconds break at 11 or after the two-minute break between games?
10A. In accordance with the Badminton Code of Conduct, Lateness in Being Ready, 1 point per minute or fractions thereof is assessed.
- 11Q. How should the return time for breaks be determined when a clock is in the gym?
11A. Players should look at the clock after their game and determine the time the match restarts.
- 12Q. How should the return time be determined without a clock in the gym?
12A. The manager should have a clock at the scorer's table. The host coach should designate a timer and inform the player of the return time.
- 13Q. Once a player takes the court for warm-up can the player leave the court for any reason? (i.e. bathroom)
13A. Under normal circumstances a player should not leave the court or gymnasium during the match. If a player does leave the court it must be with the permission of the umpire and both coaches.
- 14Q. Can a coach talk to a player after the warm-up begins but before the match begins?
14A. Coaches are allowed to coach during the warm-up period. Coaching shall not hold up the start of the match. If a singles player is being coached her opponent is allowed to call a coach or a female teammate on to the court to continue the warm-up.
- 15Q. What does a player do if she gets injured?
15A. Players should sit on the court and wait for a trainer. In the case of severe injuries, any player can leave the court looking for help.
- 16Q. When does time begin for an injury time out?
16A. Time begins when qualified medical help arrives or when it is determined by the player/coach that medical attention is not needed.
- 17Q. When there is an injury time out, what can the non-injured player do?
17A. A non-injured player may not leave the court and she can hit with another player or coach to stay warm.
- 18Q. What is the definition of a court in the above example?
18A. In this situation, it is inside the boundaries of the court.
- 19Q. When the injury time out has ended and players return to competition, may the competitors have a warm up period?
19A. Yes. If one or both players ask for a warm up, they are allowed a one-minute warm up period.

- 20Q. What can the non-injured player's coach or the injured player's coach do?
- 20A. During an injury timeout verbal or non-verbal instruction is permitted from the coach.
- 21Q. A doubles match is assigned to a court and all four competitors report promptly. After warm-ups, it is determined that one doubles team has shirts on that are deemed inappropriate and in violation of the Terms and Conditions rule on competitor apparel. The two players leave the court for 5-minutes to change their shirts. What is the penalty?
- 21A. **Ruling:** In accordance with the Badminton Code of Conduct Lateness in Being Ready – a 3-point penalty is assessed after the 5-minute delay. The incident is written up and reported to the Games Committee.
- 22Q. During play, a spectator is applauding the mistakes of a player.
- 22A. In teaching good sportsmanship, it is important for adults and competitors to model good sportsmanship by applauding good play. Therefore, if you are there supporting team A and during the rally team B smashes into the net giving your team the point or serve, the cheering should not be directed toward team B's mistake. If there is any cheering at that point, it should be directed toward team A's ability to use that serve. If team A were to have smashed into the floor in that situation, acknowledgement of a great shot can and should be cheered for.
- 23Q. During play the opponent retrieves the shuttle that has fallen on her side of the net and returns it promptly to her opponent.
- 23A. **Proper Etiquette.** If player A hits a shot into the net, that player should be the one to get it and return it to her opponent. It is not proper etiquette for the opponent to reach under the net to retrieve the shuttle for her.
- 24Q. During play the server calls out the score before each serve.
- 24A. **Proper Etiquette.** It seems simple, but there are many preventable service errors caused by lack of doing this. Team A should say the score. If team B doesn't hear it, they should not receive the serve before knowing what their opponents believe the score to be. Asking the server to repeat the score is acceptable and proper.
- 25Q. During play a spectator walks behind a court when the shuttle is in play.
- 25A. **Improper Etiquette.** This is also a safety issue. Non-players should not walk on or behind a court when the shuttle is in play.
- 26Q. Players complete their match and walk past some matches that are still being played.
- 26A. **Improper Etiquette.** Every possible effort should be made not to distract the play that is still going on. Players should wait until the shuttle hits the floor before moving behind the court. When doing so the players should stay as far from the court as the facility will allow.
- 27Q. In rally scoring, when the leading score reaches 11 points, a time out may be called. Who can call that 60 second timeout?
- 27A. In accordance with the Terms and Conditions, either player(s) or a coach may call the time out including when a match is officiated.
- 28Q. Once a player has called for a timeout at 11 points, may a coach then coach the player?
- 28A. Yes. This 60 second interval provides the opportunity for two coaches or player designated coach may talk to player(s).
- 29Q. Is video review allowed to make a final ruling on the court?
- 29A. Video review is not allowed. If a situation arises where players cannot agree on a call, they should call for an official or rules committee member to come to the court and make a determination.

IV. THE SERVE

The rule: USAB service rules will be used

- 1Q. How long does a player have to deliver a serve?
- 1A. The serve must be delivered within 5 seconds from the time both the server and receiver take up their serving receiving positions.
- 2Q. At what point should the shuttle be contacted by the server to make the serve legal?
- 2A. A legal serve must be contacted below the lowest rib (which is below an imaginary line from crest to crest of serving players). The intent of the service rule is that the server does not gain an unfair advantage.
- 3Q. How is the waist (belly button) found if the players are wearing baggy tops?
- 3A. When the serve is questionable, the server must either tuck in her shirt enabling the waistline to be seen and/or adjust her serve.
- 4Q. What do you look for in an illegal serve?
- 4A. You look at the angle of the racket, the ready stance, the hand movement, and the point of contact.
- 5Q. May a player(s) move at the start of the service and delivery?
- 5A. No. However, slight bouncing that readies a player to play is acceptable. Movement cannot be a jerky waving motion or movement that is distracting to the other players until the serve is delivered. The receiver cannot twirl or spin the racquet.
- 6Q. If you serve or receive from the wrong court and you win the rally, how is that scored?
- 6A. In accordance with the USAB rules, if a service court error is discovered after the service has been delivered the error shall not be corrected and the play in that game shall proceed

without changing the players' new service courts (nor, when relevant, the new order of serving)

- 7Q. A player has an asthma attack during play? She stops play and takes an injury time out.
- 7A. Proper procedure. The player is allowed one injury time out for the match.
- 8Q. Is coaching allowed during injury time-out?
- 8A. Yes, coaching is allowed for either side.
- Rally Scoring Situations**
- 9Q. What happens if neither player can remember the score?
- 9A. Players go back to the score they can remember and the person who was serving continues to serve.
- 10Q. When are the results of a match and a tournament official?
- 10A. Results are official when scores in a tournament are reported and the score card is signed by the players. In the case of dual meets, the results are official once the players leave the court.
- Official's Responsibilities**
- 11Q. A roving official is called over to a match to address a rules question. The roving official makes the decision and one of the coaches argues the decision.
- 11A. **Ruling:** In accordance with the Badminton Code of Conduct, Misconduct, prolonging an argument over a decision after being directed to play shall be assessed 1 game point for the first offense, 3 game points for the second offense and DQ/ejection for the third offense. In the case of an ejection, the school Athletic Director and the IHSA must be notified via a "Special Report". Any ejection requires the individual to sit out the next match. The roving officials and the umpires shall be the sole judges of the rules. The official's decision is final on all points of facts.
- 12Q. A player requests an umpire for a match that has continual rules issues.
- 12A. Proper procedure.
- 13Q. During a semifinal match, a line judge calls an illegal serve.
- 13A. Incorrect. A line judge shall indicate whether a shuttle has landed in or out of the line they are assigned.
- 14Q. What happens if a report is filed after the tournament is over?
- 14A. A tournament ends once the awards ceremony or medals are presented. The results are official and errors are not correctible after that.
- 15Q. What is the suggested procedure if a player is called on an illegal serve.
- 15A. 1) Player(s) notify opponent that serve is illegal – this is the servers warning.
2) If illegal serve continues, player(s) sit down and coaches come over to evaluate the serve. Coaches and players determine if a neutral service judge is needed for the remainder of

the game/match. The service judges will then determine if the serve is illegal and if points need to be awarded to the opponent.

V. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Roster and Line Up Changes for Terms and Conditions Illustrations

- 1Q. A singles player qualifies for the state final but is injured. The school substitutes another singles player for her.
- 1A. Illegal. Singles players may not be substituted for.
- 2Q. A seeded player is ruled ineligible after the sectional draw has been made. What if anything should be done with the draw?
- 2A. The draw must be re-done because of a seeded player(s) substitution. If the player(s) were not seeded, then the draw would stand.
- 3Q. After the sectional doubles draw is made; a coach wants to substitute one of the players as a strategic move.
- 3A. Illegal. A substitution can only be made in the case of injury, illness or ineligibility and must be certified by the school principal in writing. The substitute may be someone who appears on the LOP's and shall be a non-state qualifier. Moving a player from doubles to singles or singles to doubles would not be allowed, as no other positions may be modified.

Breach of Contract

- 4Q. A school enters the IHSA state series but does not show up for the contest.
- 4A. The school is in breach of contract and is subject to financial penalties. The sectional manager should report the no show to the IHSA via the financial report and on the Score Zone results page. Schools enter the state series agreeing to complete all matches they are eligible to play.
- 5Q. A school does not play the sectional championship for 1st and 2nd place because both players are from the same school.
- 5A. Players must play all matches. Failure to do so will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct and a breach of contract. Any matches not played should be reported to the IHSA.
- 6Q. A player refuses to play at the state final after qualifying to state because she wants to attend prom instead.
- 6A. When a school enters the state series, it contracts to complete the tournament series, therefore this school is in breach of contract and is subject to financial penalties. Coaches should talk to their players prior to the state series and determine if player's intention in these end of the year matters.

List of Participants (LOP)

- 7Q. Where do I complete the LOP's?
- 7A. The LOP's are completed online through the IHSA School Center. Go to your Schools Center, put in your school ID and password,

click on *List of Participants*, and complete the player(s) information asked for on the form.

* Please enter match records in chronological order.

- 8Q. How many participants can a coach list on the participant & match history?
8A. A coach may enter 2 singles girls and 2 doubles teams on the LOP.
- 9Q. Do I have to complete the online seeding information if I am not asking for my players to be seeded?
9A. Yes. The LOP completes the entry process. If you do not think any player(s) are realistically going to be seeded, then just complete the names of the participants and indicate on the form NR for not ranked. There is no need to complete the season records since the seeding committees will not review unseeded players. Unseeded players are placed in the brackets by the luck of the draw.
- 10Q. Can a coach print a hard copy of the form?
10A. Yes.
- 11Q. Can a coach update the information as the season progresses?
11A. Yes. Information can be saved and updated through the due date.
- 12Q. Can a coach put all the information in at the end of the season?
12A. Yes. Provided it is entered by the deadline.
- 13Q. What happens if you do not get the LOP in by the deadline?
13A. Your school has not completed the entry process and therefore is not entered. A late entry fee of \$100.00 will allow a school to enter and complete the entry process provided the draw has not been made.
- 14Q. Do I have to do anything else once I complete the LOP's online?
14A. No. The IHSA will electronically send the information to your manager via his/her school center. Coaches should make a copy of their LOP's before the deadline. LOP's will not be available after the deadline for schools to view or print.
- 15Q. If I am a manager, how will I receive the List of Participants (LOP) information?
15A. An announcement will appear in your school center along with a link to the schools entered into your sectional.
- 16Q. If my player(s) qualify for state, do I have to submit player information?
16A. No, the IHSA will send the player information to the State Final Seeding Committee and the State Final Manager.
- 17Q. Can a coach fax additional information to the State Final Seeding Committee if some information needs to be added?
17A. Yes. A coach can fax the additional information to both to the IHSA, attention

Stacey Lambert. If it reaches the seeding committee in time, it will be considered.

Sectional Complex Seeding Committee

- 18Q. During the sectional complex seeding meeting, are teams or individuals seeded?
18A. Teams are seeded using only the players who will be participating in the sectional as the standard.
- 19Q. What about the seeding standard once the teams are assigned to their sectionals?
19A. Once teams are assigned to a sectional, then players are seeded in order for the draw to be completed.
- 20Q. Our school is interested in hosting a sectional. How do we make that happen?
20A. The coach must bring a signed *Willing to Host Form* to the coaches' sectional complex and sectional seeding meeting. (both now held on one day) The highest seeds coming out of the meeting will have the first opportunity to host provided they have the signed host form.
- 21Q. Where do I find the form?
21A. The *Willing to Host* forms are included in the School Badminton Manual and the Managers Badminton Manual found on the badminton page of the IHSA website.

Hosting a Sectional

Games Committee and Officials

- 22Q. Who makes up Games Committee at the state finals?
22A. Coaches delegates are elected from the sectional complex meeting and the seeding committee. Additionally USAB officials also make up the games committee.
- 23Q. Should all codes of conduct violations be written up and sent to the Games Committee?
23A. No. Anytime a **team** point is deducted during a game it must be written up and reported to the Games Committee or manager if there is no Games Committee. In the case of a game point no report is needed.
- 24Q. How are the reports filed with the Games Committee?
24A. IHSA has created a form that should be used for reporting code violations. This form can be found in the School badminton manual. This form must be completed and submitted **immediately** after addressing the team point deduction.
- 25Q. A player throughout a tournament continues to make "out" calls that are clearly in.
25A. If the committee sees a pattern of abuse such as each opponent calls for an official, a coach or game officials can assess an unsportsmanlike penalty. While the Code of Conduct does not cover all unsportsmanlike acts, it does have the authority to oversee the spirit of the rules.

VI. KEY PROVISIONS REGARDING IHSA RULES

The IHSA's rules have been adopted by the high schools, which are members of IHSA as part of the Association's constitution and by-laws. They must be followed as minimum standards for all interscholastic athletic competition in any member high school. Your high school may have additional requirements, but they may not be less stringent than these statewide minimums. The principal of your school is responsible to see that only eligible students represent the school in interscholastic competition. Any question concerning your eligibility should be referred to your principal, who has a complete copy of all IHSA eligibility rules, including the Association's due process procedure. Only the IHSA Executive Director is authorized to make formal rulings on eligibility, so if your principal has questions or wishes assistance in answering your

questions, the principal or athletic director should contact the IHSA Office.

Information contained here highlights only the important features of the IHSA by-laws relative to badminton, your sport season and non-school competition. It is designed to make you aware of major requirements you must meet to be eligible to compete in interscholastic competition. The information here is only a general description of major by-law provisions and does not contain the statement of the by-laws in their entirety. You can review the by-laws at www.ihsa.org. You may lose eligibility for interscholastic competition if you are not in compliance with IHSA by-laws. Remember, if you have any questions regarding IHSA rules; please contact your principal, athletic director or the IHSA.



Understanding the High School Season and Club Badminton

These illustrations and situations are for the purpose of assisting in the understanding of several by-laws that pertain to high school badminton programs. In the case of conflict whether perceived or believed, the by-laws shall control. Please consult with your athletic director when additional clarification is needed.

IHSA Season Questions

- 1Q. What is the starting date for the IHSA Badminton Season?
1A. Schools may begin practice on TBD (determined by the IHSA Board of Directors). That date changes each year but practice each year may begin on the Monday of week 35.
- 2Q. When do players have to cease their non-school participation, competition or involvement with badminton leagues, competition or non-school events?
2A. High School players must cease non-school participation and competition 7 days after their school engages in its first practice.
- 3Q. When does the season end?
3A. The season ends on the date of the school's last contest at their level in badminton. At that time, high school players may, on their own and voluntarily resume their participation in leagues and non-school competitions.

Non-school Participation Questions

- 1Q. Can a player take private lessons from a badminton instructor and if so when?
1A. Yes, a player may take a private lesson at any time during the school year, during the season or during summer provided the person giving the lessons gives lessons to the general public.
- 2Q. How is a private lesson defined?
2A. A private lesson may have no more than 2 people from the same school receiving instruction in the skill of the sport or the strategy of the sport.
- 3Q. When can a player begin her involvement with her non-school participation and/or competition?
3A. Once the high school badminton season is over a player may resume or begin her league and non-school participation.

Non-school Team Rosters

- 1Q. How many players from the same school can be on a non-school badminton team when no high school coach or employee from the school is involved?
1A. Unlimited.

- 2Q. How many players from the same school can be on a non-school badminton team when a high school coach or employee is involved?
2A. No more than 3 players from the coach's or employee's school can be on a non-school badminton team.
- 3Q. How is a high school coach defined?
3A. Any person who is employed or volunteers at the school falls under the definition of a high school coach.

Practices and Competition

- 1Q. Can a multiple number of high school or non-school teams practice in the same facility?
1A. Yes, as long as they are on separate courts and they do not interact in any manner with other players from other teams (including drills, conditioning, debriefing, etc) with each other.
- 2Q. Who can a high school compete against during the high school season?
2A. IHSA member schools may only compete against other IHSA member schools. Therefore, IHSA interscholastic teams may not compete against any non-school or club teams.
- 3Q. What is the definition of a competition?
3A. An event in which teams or individuals compete against one another utilizing one or more skills of the sport is a competition. Any athletic competition including a scrimmage in which students representing 2 or more high schools participate with or against each other is considered a contest.
- 4Q. What is the difference between a coaching school and an independent team?
4A. Both a coaching school and a league may provide instruction but a non-school team culminates in competition.
- 5Q. How soon must competition take place for an independent non-school team?
5A. Competition must culminate no later than 30 days after the first practice and every 30 days thereafter.