

**Site Proposal Specifications for IHSA Water Polo State Final  
Boys & Girls**

Each proposal to host an Illinois High School Association state final event must address and include information relating specifically to the following items:

**ESSENTIAL CRITERIA**

1) **Site Availability:** The site must guarantee the availability of its facilities for all dates of the event(s) sought. The IHSA seeks proposals for the following dates and events.

<b>Boys and Girls Water Polo State Finals</b>
Thursday – Friday 3:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m. Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
May 22-24, 2025 May 21-23, 2026 May 20-22, 2027 May 18-20, 2028 May 17-19, 2029

The listed dates are fixed under current tournament structures. In the event changes in structure which may change these dates are considered during the term of the agreement, the venue will have the right of first refusal to continue hosting the event.

2) **Minimum Seating Requirements:**

Boys and Girls Water Polo: 751-1,000+

Proposals must include seating diagrams, showing designated seating areas (including the number of seats in each area) for the following spectators, participants, handicapped and media.

3) **Term and Form of Contract:** Proposal must be for a 5-year term. Proposal must include provision for annual review.

4) **Facility Considerations:**

**Competition Area:** Describe in detail the dimension, design, and surface of the competition area. List and describe all competition equipment that will be provided on behalf of venue, i.e. scoreboards, etc. Minimum requirements include:

- **Competition Pool**

- For pools with floating goals, the length of the course from goal line to goal line must not exceed 25 meters (82 feet) nor be less than 22.9 meters (75 feet). For pool with wall goals, the length of the pool from wall to wall shall not exceed 25 meters (82 feet) nor be less than 22.9 meters (75 feet).

- In both types of pools, the maximum pool width must not exceed 20 meters (66 feet) nor be less than 13 meters (43 feet). It is recommended that the minimum pool depth be 2.0 meters (6 feet 5 inches). The boundary of the field of play at the end of a pool with floating goals is 0.30 meters behind the goal line.
- Distinctive marks shall be provided on both sides of the field of play to denote the following:
  - White marks - goal line and half-distance line
  - Red marks – 2 meters from goal line
  - Yellow marks – 6 meters from goal line
  - Red marks – shall be placed 5 meters from goal lines to indicate the point from which a penalty shot must be taken
  - A continuous red marking must be placed on the goal line, 2 meters from the outside of both goalposts.
- Water clarity shall be such that the bottom can be clearly seen while standing at midpoint on either side of the pool deck.
- The physical condition of the water shall meet standards of chemical balance and treatment as prescribed by local or state health code.
- The level of the water shall be at the overflow rim of the pool.
- The water temperature shall be no less than 78 degrees F and no more than 82 degrees F.
- **Equipment**
  - All necessary competition equipment shall be provided by the host or institution and maintained in proper working condition throughout the competition.
  - 2 shot clocks
  - Score Table in the center of the competition pool with seating for a minimum of 8. (PA Announcer, Shot Clock Timer, Game Secretary (2), Exclusion Secretary (2), Coordinator of Officials (2))
  - Officials video area near the score table
  - Microphone with PA system
  - 2 Team Benches
  - Space for referees and goal judges to work
  - Exclusion Flags: Red, White, and Blue
  - Goal Dimensions must meet NFHS Water Polo Rules
  - Electronic starting system is required, and it shall be loud enough to ensure a fair start. The starting system shall be equipped with a strobe light visible to all starting platforms to signal the start to manual timers and hearing-impaired swimmers.
  - An automatic electric timing system is required.
  - A large electronic scoreboard visible to all participants and spectators shall be provided in the competition area.
- **Other Facility Requirements:**
  - It is recommended that the facility have a separate auxiliary pool for participants to warm up/down throughout the competition.
  - The deck around the competition pool must be large enough to accommodate seating for additional game personnel, school administrators, working media and coaches.
  - The deck must be able to accommodate athletes with disabilities by providing them reasonable access to starting platforms and reasonable access to handicapped-accessible locker rooms.
  - There must be available space in the venue to accommodate a meeting space for IHSA Officials and meet personnel.

- Hospitality room near the competition facility
- Staff member for IHSA Scorzeone updates and game stat updates
- **Medical Requirements:**
  - The facility must be equipped with easily accessible AED(s).
  - The facility must be equipped with all lifesaving equipment/personnel near each swimming pool as required by law.

**Insurance:** Describe in detail any and all insurance coverage that the venue currently has as well as any insurance coverage that would be required of the association or lessee.

**Security:** Submit the venue's security plan. The plan must include, but is not limited to: routine crowd control, emergency control, i.e., fire, tornado, terrorist, etc.

**Handicap Accessibility:** Submit verification that the venue complies with all federal and state laws pertaining to disabled persons.

**Special Seating:** List and describe any special seating that is available such as corporate or VIP boxes.

**Special Technological Features:** Describe any technological capabilities the venue can provide to enhance tournament administration. Such items might include, but are not limited to, message boards, special lighting and sound capabilities, giant screen television monitors, etc.

5) **Locker/Training Facilities:** Describe the locker room and training room facilities available. All dressing and locker areas need to provide security to ensure privacy and lock-up. Minimum requirements for each sport are:

**Boys Water Polo:** 2 team locker/dressing rooms, 2 officials locker/dressing rooms, 1 training room.

**Girls Water Polo:** 2 team locker/dressing rooms, 2 officials locker/dressing rooms, 1 training room.

6) **Parking:** The following minimum numbers of parking spaces must be available on a complimentary basis for IHSA use:

- 20 IHSA/VIP spaces
- Ability to accommodate up to 20 school vehicles
- Ability to accommodate fan parking

Describe parking arrangements which would be provided to accommodate a sell-out crowd. Specify the total numbers of parking spaces and parking areas available, indicating the numbers of spaces in each parking area, special accommodations for handicapped parking, locations of the spaces required for IHSA use (as noted above), school vehicle use (as noted above) and the proximity of each proposed parking area to the venue. Furnish a map or chart showing all prospective parking locations. Describe all financial terms and arrangements associated with parking.

7) **Financial Considerations:** Describe in detail the costs which the Association would incur by holding its event in the venue. Provide a sample proposed budget for the event.

8) **Settlement:** Settlement of all financial matters must occur not later than thirty (30) days after the conclusion of the event.

9) **Hotel Accommodations:** The following minimum numbers of hotel/motel rooms must be available for IHSA use:

20 IHSA/VIPs

List all hotels/motels in the area that have made commitments to provide accommodations during the event(s) sought. Include the number of rooms at each hotel/motel along with the rates at each facility for the duration of the proposed term. Include a map of the community showing all hotel/motel locations in proximity to the venue.

10) **Press and Media Accommodations:** The following minimum requirements for working press must be available on a complimentary basis for IHSA use:

A separate press work area.

Accommodations must also be provided at each event for the following:

**Media Hospitality Room:** Fitted with television monitors with access to the deck area and accommodations for computers, phones and workspace.

**Television Camera Locations:** Venue must cooperate with producers of IHSA event telecasts to provide television camera locations as producers determine.

11) **Meal and Hospitality Accommodations:** The venue must be able to provide meals and/or hospitality service for the following minimum numbers of persons: 125 Thursday, 125 Friday, and 150 Saturday.

12) **Merchandise:** The IHSA shall provide and have exclusive rights to sell merchandise with no royalty or fees to venue. The IHSA shall have exclusive control over all merchandise sold in the host venue.

13) **Concessions:** Food and beverage concessions shall be provided by the venue or its contracted concessionaire. Alcohol and tobacco products must be prohibited. Describe any financial terms associated with concessions.

14) **Tickets:** Describe in detail the ticketing services the venue provides. Describe any financial terms association with ticketing.

15) **Programs:** The IHSA shall provide and have exclusive rights to sell event programs with no royalty or fees to the venue. The IHSA shall have exclusive control over all programs sold in the host venue.

16) **Signage:** The IHSA shall have exclusive authority over event signage. No royalty or fee will be paid to the venue for IHSA's signage commitments. Please identify all existing signage and contractual commitments for its display which the venue currently maintains. Describe any negotiability for such contracted space. Also describe venue's ability to work with IHSA and sponsors if product category conflicts or other signage issues should materialize. Describe what steps the venue will take to eliminate alcohol signage.

**ADDITIONAL CRITERIA**

17) **Sponsorship:** Describe how venue and host community will advertise and promote tournament events.

18) **Special Events:** (If applicable) Please describe any plans the host community will implement to accommodate, help underwrite or develop special events to be associated with the swimming & diving state final tournament(s).

Close the proposal with an explanation as to how and why the mentioned facility should be selected to host an IHSA state final event. Specifically address how the facility and surrounding community are qualified to uniquely fulfill the aforementioned specifications.

After examining all proposals thoroughly, the IHSA staff will prepare recommendations regarding site assignments for consideration by the IHSA Board of Directors. Primary consideration will be given to the fulfillment of essential criteria.

Proposals should be sent to the attention of Craig Anderson, Executive Director, IHSA, 2715 McGraw Dr., Bloomington, IL 61704.

Deadlines for submitting proposals and the anticipated date of action by the Board of Directors to accept proposals for each sport are:

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Deadline for Submission</b>	<b>Scheduled Board Action</b>
Boys and Girls Water Polo	November 15, 2024	January 15, 2025