

**Advisory Committee Recommendations
February 8, 2021, Board Meeting
Consent Items**

Boys/Girls Cross Country

No Terms and Conditions Recommendations.

Boys/Girls Golf

Administrative Recommendation

1. **Recommendation:** During the regional level for both boys and girls golf, the pairings will send off the best teams (higher seed) first off the front and back nine's.

Rationale: Sending the best teams off first will help ensure that players are able to play their most natural rounds of golf at their pace of play. If number require four-somes, the best teams will be put into the four-somes to keep the pace of play moving.

Boys/Girls Tennis

1. Item V. B 2. - Sectional Seeding Meeting

Recommendation: At the Sectional, the #4 and #5 seed will be placed in the top of the draw while the #3 and #6 seed are placed in the bottom of a draw. For a 17 or more entry draw, the lines of the seeds will be as follows: #1 (line 1), #2 (line 32), #3 (line 24), #4 (line 9), #5 (line 13) and #6 (line 20). For a 16 or less entry draw, the lines of the seeds will be as follows: #1 (line 1), #2 (line 16), #3 (line 12), #4 (line 5), #5 (line 7) and #6 (line 10).

Rationale: In some sectionals, the level of a skill between a player(s) is significantly different. With this seeding process system in place, a stronger player has a fairer route to qualify for the state final. Sectional winners will be determined in an equitable manner rather than the luck of the draw (coin flip). This recommendation was submitted and supported on behalf of the IHSTCA.

Note: This seeding process was implemented in the past, however, reverted back because there were concerns regarding the length of seed meetings, strategic manipulation, and creating a placement of a player rather than a draw.

2. Item V. B. - Tournament Rules - Sectional Seeding Meeting

Recommendation: At the discretion of the sectional manager, a virtual option may be used to conduct the sectional seed meeting.

Rationale: With the availability of so many virtual platforms to conduct meetings, this option will assist sectional managers and coaches and provide them a format to have the opportunity to conduct inclusive, efficient, and effective meetings.

Boys/Girls Volleyball

No Consent Items.

Sportsmanship – Do What's Right

October 1, 2020 Meeting:

2. **Recommendation:** The committee recommends that all Administrators, Coaches and Officials view the IHSA Tournament Hate Speech and Harassment Policy & Procedure video every two years before their season begins.

Rationale: The 5-minute presentation must be viewed every two years by Principals, Athletic Administrators, Activity Directors, Coaches and Officials so the Policy & Procedure is handled consistently. The committee agreed that reviewing the information every two years is an appropriate time for the above personnel to keep the process relevant. Each person will log

into the IHSA School Center or IHSA Officials Center to view the video and receive credit. Attendance credit will transfer with the Administrator or Coach if they move to different school with in the 2-year window.

December 10, 2020 Meeting:

1. **Recommendation:** Add the following IHSA Hate Speech and Harassment Policy information to the Athletic Eligibility Rules document for schools to distribute to Coaches, Players and Parents during the preseason meeting.

IHSA Hate Speech and Harassment Policy Overview

To help insure the safest and most comfortable atmosphere, all contests will be conducted under the policies and procedures of the IHSA. Because of this, it is important that all participants; athletes, coaches, officials, and fans be reminded that Hate Speech and Harassment have no place in high school athletics. If you are requested to cooperate with event personnel in any manner, please do so promptly. Your assistance will enable event staff to fulfill its responsibilities efficiently.

Hate Speech or Harassment is defined as behavior aimed at a person's sex, gender identification, race, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or disability that substantially interferes with a student's school performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive school environment.

Please be advised that if this behavior takes place during a contest, our officials and coaches have been instructed to demonstrate that addressing hate speech or harassment is of critical importance and is more important than the contest itself.

- They will address the situation early so that it does not escalate into a worsening incident.
- They will demonstrate to the target and team that their concern is being heard and addressed.
- They will institute more severe consequences for an athlete who persists in using hate speech.

Rationale: Including this information in preseason meetings allows all stakeholders to learn about the IHSA Hate Speech and Harassment Policy prior to the season. Adding this information serves as a reminder that Hate Speech and Harassment have no place in high school athletics and there are consequences if such behavior is exhibited. The full presentation is also available through the IHSA website.

2. **Recommendation:** Make the following IHSA Hate Speech and Harassment Policy PSA available for all schools to use at all contests.

IHSA Hate Speech and Harassment Policy Public Service Announcement

To help insure the safest and most comfortable atmosphere, this contest is being conducted under the policies and procedures of the IHSA. Because of this, it is important that ALL participants; athletes, coaches, officials, and fans be reminded that Hate Speech and Harassment have NO PLACE in high school athletics.

Please be advised that should this behavior take place during this contest; our officials and coaches have been instructed to demonstrate that addressing hate speech or harassment is of critical importance and is MORE important than the contest itself.

Athletes' welfare will always have priority over convenience; therefore, if YOU are requested to cooperate with event personnel in any manner, please do so promptly. Please be aware that time MAY be allowed for emotions to cool down for the benefit of our athletes. Your assistance will enable event staff to fulfill its responsibilities efficiently.

Rationale: Announcing this message prior to each game also serves as a reminder that Hate Speech and Harassment have no place in high school athletics and there are consequences if such behavior is exhibited.

Athletes With Disabilities

No Recommendations.

Athletic Administrators

No Recommendations.

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