

**2020-21 Proposal 1 – 1.300 Board of Directors**  
**Modify By-law 1.310 – Administration and By-law 1.320 Election Divisions**  
**Submitted By: Filberto Torres, Official Representative – Aurora (East)**

**Summary of Proposed Changes:**

- 1.310 and 1.320 Adds an additional at-large Board of Directors' position to be designated as an equity position for an underrepresented school.

**Rationale of Submitter:**

The IHSA needs to update their board of directors in order to help ensure all schools have a voice and seat at the table. While understanding the intent and purpose of having the three at-large positions, two of those positions focus on the person in the seat, as opposed to the school they come from and represent. For too long, the IHSA has not considered equity, as there is no mention of it anywhere in their mission, vision or beliefs. Adding this position could go a long way to begin the discussion for equity within the IHSA. In a state as diverse as Illinois, it is important that all voices are heard and have representation on the board of directors.

Pros:

- Gives underrepresented schools a seat at the table
- 11 members, which could potentially help avoid any ties in rulings or voting

Cons:

- None for member schools

**Text of By-laws with Proposed Changes**

**Modify By-law 1.310 - Administration**

The administrative authority of this Association shall be vested in a Board of Directors of ~~ten (10)~~ **eleven (11)** members elected, each for a term of three years, as hereinafter provided. The office of the Association shall be the office of the Board of Directors.

**Modify By-law 1.320 - Election Divisions**

For the purpose of electing the members of the Board of Directors and providing equal representation for all parts of the state, the state shall be divided into seven (7) Divisions. Each of these Divisions shall be formed by combining three of the twenty-one (21) Districts of the state established for the purpose of electing the members of the Legislative Commission, these Districts being defined in Section 1.330 of this Constitution. In addition, ~~three (3)~~ **four (4)** members shall be elected from the membership at-large. One at-large member must be a racial minority, one must be a member of the underrepresented gender, ~~and~~ one must be a member of a private/non-public school, **and one must be from an underrepresented school/Equity Position at the time of the election (50% or more student population being Black or Latinx or low-income per Illinois State Report Card data)**. All must be principals or administrators designated as official representatives of member schools. At-large members elected to the Board of Directors may not be from the same Board Division.

**2020-21 Proposal 2 – 1.400 Powers and Duties of Board  
Modify By-law 1.441 – Dues and Assessments  
Submitted By: Filberto Torres, Official Representative – Aurora (East)**

**Summary of Proposed Changes:**

- With the IHSA operating in the red and reinstating dues, entry fees and assessments, they must inform schools by May 1st if they are going to charge dues, entry fees or assessments for the following year; so member schools to be able plan and prepare for the cost of dues well in advance and get them in their school budgets. The IHSA must provide a yearly financial statement itemized with specifics to provide transparency to its member schools so member schools can understand the financial situation of the IHSA better.

**Rationale of Submitter:**

If member schools are going to bear the brunt of having to pay fees or assessments, there should be more accountability and transparency from the IHSA. Now that the IHSA needs public taxpayer dollars from member schools to help fund their association, it is only fair that if schools are asked to disrupt their budgets by adding a cost of entry fees, the IHSA “opens their books” and shows us their financials in a more specific way to see what we are up against moving forward. If the IHSA cannot manage their funding and budgets, regardless of the reason, schools should be allowed to hold them more accountable when they are forced to bail out the IHSA with their money in the form of dues. The Board of Directors needs to hold IHSA employees accountable and provide more transparency to its member schools just as schools have to do with their funding and financials to taxpayers within their respective districts. We understand that this financial impact will be felt through next year and potentially a couple years down the road as well, so we need more transparency from the IHSA.

Pros:

- All parties (member schools and IHSA) share the brunt of costs to keep the IHSA afloat
- Accountability and transparency for the IHSA
- If schools are going to be charged money, frivolous expenses need to be removed from the IHSA

Cons:

- None for member schools

**Text of By-law with Proposed Changes**

**Modify By-law 1.441 – Dues and Assessments**

The Board of Directors shall be authorized to collect annual dues as provided in this Constitution and levy entry fees and such other assessments on all schools participating in any interscholastic activity as shall be adequate to meet the total expenses involved in the conduct of such activity and such proportionate share of overhead as is deemed necessary. Such dues and assessments shall be considered current funds of the Association and shall be used by the Board of Directors in financing the various activities of the Association.

The determination and collection of all activity fees and the collection and final distribution of receipts from all contests sponsored by the Association shall be left to the discretion of the Board of Directors.

***Beginning January 1, 2021, the Board must inform schools of any dues, fees, or assessments by May 1<sup>st</sup> each school year if they plan to institute them the following school year. Failure to notify schools by May 1<sup>st</sup> will prohibit the Board from imposing dues, fees, or assessments for the following year.***

***Beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, and annually moving forward, the Board must provide member schools with an itemized financial report yearly by September 15<sup>th</sup> for the preceding school year, including, but not limited to:***

- ***All individually itemized IHSA employee salaries, benefits, and expense accounts/reports;***
- ***Expense reports from all IHSA hosted events or meetings;***

- *Operating expenses;*
- *Any and all revenues brought in from state series events – itemized by event;*
- *All expenses of all committees, including the Board of Directors;*
- *All individually itemized pension payments and benefits to retired IHSA employees; and,*
- *All sponsorship deals and/or agreements – itemized by company/business/agreement and amount.*

**2020-21 Proposal 3 – Legislative Commission**

**Modify By-law 1.721 – Election Districts and By-law 1.722 Membership**

**Submitted By: Jason Dillon, Official Representative – Chicago (Cristo Rey Jesuit); Greg Fearday, Principal – Effingham (St. Anthony); Larry Daly, Principal – Decatur (St. Teresa); Angie Lyons, Principal – Peoria (P. Christian); Tom Schergen, Principal – Chicago (De La Salle)**

**Summary of Proposed Changes:**

- Designates seven (7) additional positions on the legislative commission to represent private schools in an at-large position.
- One representative would be from each IHSA Division.
- Positions could be represented by principals, official representatives, athletic directors or activity directors.

**Rationale of Submitters:**

This change will broaden the concept of Community within the IHSA which is one of the goals of the IHSA Strategic Plan. This expansion of representation to Private schools will permit a greater emphasis and extension of communication between Public and Private schools within the structure of the Legislative Commission. This expansion is just a 16% increase and will encourage sincere discussion concerning the issues and problems that exist or may exist between Public and Private schools. This type of broadening will strengthen the unity and community within the IHSA.

**Text of By-law with Proposed Changes**

**Modify By-law 1.721 - Legislative Commission**

For the purpose of providing a geographic and equal representation on the Legislative Commission, the Board of Directors shall divide the State of Illinois into twenty-one Districts. Three of these Districts shall be in the City of Chicago. The other eighteen Districts shall consist of compact and contiguous territory containing approximately equal numbers of member schools. In 1978 and each three years thereafter, the Board of Directors shall review the compositions of the Districts then existent and if deemed necessary or advisable, shall redistrict the state. ***One member school principal shall be elected from each of these twenty-one Districts to serve on the Legislative Commission. In addition, the following at-large members shall be elected to serve on the Legislative Commission:***

- (a) Seven (7) at-large members who are either a racial minority or a member of an underrepresented gender. These at-large members must be principals, official representatives, athletic or activity administrators. Each Board Division shall elect one of these at-large members.
- (b) Seven (7) at-large members who are an athletic administrator at a member school. Each Board Division shall elect one of these at-large members.
- (c) ***Seven (7) at-large members who are from private schools. These at-large members must be principals, official representatives, athletic or activity administrators. Each Board Division shall elect one of these at-large members.***

***Private school principals, official representatives, athletic or activity administrators are prohibited from holding any position on the Legislative Commission other than the at-large positions described in this section letter “C”.***

**Text of By-law with Proposed Changes**

**Modify By-law 1.722 - Membership**

The Legislative Commission shall consist of ~~thirty-five (35)~~ ***forty-two (42)*** member schools. One principal shall be elected from each of the twenty-one (21) Districts. One athletic administrator shall be elected from each of the seven (7) Divisions. ~~One~~ ***Two*** at-large Commission members will be elected from each of the seven (7) Divisions. ~~All~~ ***One*** at-large Commission members ~~s~~ must be members of the underrepresented gender and/or minorities ***while the second at-large commission member must represent a private school.*** At-large Commission members must be principals, official representatives, athletic administrators or activity directors. Elections shall be conducted for principals of the various Districts according to the following schedule:

- (a) In 1982 and each third year thereafter, Districts 1, 4, 10, 15, 16, 17 and 21;
- (b) In 1983 and each third year thereafter, Districts 2, 5, 8, 12, 14, 18 and 20;
- (c) In 1984 and each third year thereafter, Districts 3, 6, 7, 9, 11, 13 and 19.

Elections shall be conducted for representative athletic administrators of the various Divisions according to the following schedule:

- (a) In 1992 and each third year thereafter, Divisions 1, 4 and 7;
- (b) In 1993 and each third year thereafter, Divisions 2 and 5;
- (c) In 1994 and each third year thereafter, Divisions 3 and 6.

Elections shall be conducted for at-large Commission members of the various Divisions according to the following schedule:

- (a) In 2000 and each third year thereafter, Divisions 1, 4 and 7;
- (b) In 2001 and each third year thereafter, Divisions 2 and 5;
- (c) In 2002 and each third year thereafter, Divisions 3 and 6.

~~Note: Elections shall be conducted in 1992 for representative athletic administrators of Divisions 2, 3, 5 and 6. Division 2 and 5 athletic administrator representatives' terms from that election shall expire in one year with the regularly scheduled 1992 elections. Division 3 and 6 athletic administrator representatives' terms from that election shall expire in two years with the regularly scheduled 1993 elections.~~

**2020-21 Proposal 4 – 2.030 Cooperative Team Sponsorship**

**Modify By-law 2.030**

**Submitted By: Jason Dillon, Official Representative – Chicago (Cristo Rey Jesuit); Greg Fearday, Principal – Effingham (St. Anthony); Larry Daly, Principal – Decatur (St. Teresa); Angie Lyons, Principal – Peoria (P. Christian); Tom Schergen, Principal – Chicago (De La Salle)**

**Summary of Proposed Changes:**

- Allows more private schools to participate in cooperative teams by increasing the enrollment limitation from 200 students to 350 students in all sports except for Football, Boys and Girls Basketball and Girls Volleyball.

**Rationale of Submitters:**

This amendment seeks to increase access to sports to more student athletes in Illinois through cooperative teams, and, in doing so, potentially increase the number of schools participating in emerging or declining sports within the IHSA.

The spirit behind cooperative teams is that it enables high schools to offer more sports opportunities to students, sports that one school alone may not have the interest level or the resources to field. Currently, this By-law has enrollment restrictions in place that are specific to Private schools while Public schools have no such enrollment restrictions at all. With the current enrollment cap of 200, only 53 Private schools have permission to form cooperative teams. Raising the enrollment cap on Private schools to 350, we hope to expand sports access to more students in 29 additional Private schools. There are a number of sports/activities on the decline within the IHSA. The hope is that more cooperative partnerships between Private schools and between Public and Private schools will enable the continuation as well as increase the number of student-athletes participating in Illinois high school sports and activities. We would also like to encourage the growth of emerging sports, helping those programs to be granted inclusion in state series. We feel this would be a benefit to both private and public schools and their student-athletes.

As we currently see in these COVID-times, students are starved for access to sports, yet there is no perfect solution that will satisfy everyone. The Cooperative Team By-law has great merit and was written with the intent of expanding sports opportunities, yet it is flawed in its current state. Allowing for more students from private schools to participate is simply the right thing to do. While increasing the enrollment to 350 does not yet give students in private schools the same access to sports that public school students currently have, it is a measurable increase and one that would allow for a study of its impact of cooperative teams within the IHSA landscape of sports.

We are confident that between the coop process and the Board of Directors the integrity of a sport is not at risk due to teams forming coops. Said measures are already written into the language of the by-law, preventing schools with ill-intent from creating “super teams”. Currently, there are a lot of Private schools that do not have the opportunity for kids to play certain sports due to enrollment or facility restrictions. This amendment change could very well lead to Public and Private schools creating Cooperative Teams together that would not only benefit their students but also bring community cooperation. A likely example of a coop situation would be a small school with no swimming pool creating a cooperative team with a larger local school that has a pool, but is lacking in student participation in the sport. A specific example that took place this school year is the attempt by Effingham St. Anthony to create a coop Soccer team with Mid-America Prep in Cowden. This failed due to St. Anthony’s enrollment being 204.

This revision of the Coop Teams by-law will allow moderate size Private schools to be treated like moderate size Public schools. Some examples are Erie and Prophetstown who coop in 11 sports or Kewanee Wethersfield and Annawan who coop in 6 sports.

The concept of Public and Private school forming coop teams currently exists with 7 examples of 17 Public and Private schools cooping in 14 sports.

Please consider this change to the Cooperative Team by-law, that the possible positive results from this change will benefit Illinois student athletes as is stated in the goals of the IHSA. Thank you for your time and consideration!

## Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

### Modify By-law 2.030 - Cooperative Team Sponsorship

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to approve the formation of cooperative athletic teams or activity programs by two or more member schools under the following conditions:

- (a) The schools are located in the same geographical area;
- (b) All schools participating in the cooperative are Class A (in a 2-class system) or Class 1A or 2A (in a 3 or 4-class system) schools according to the IHSA Classification System; or, in the event one or more of the cooperating schools is a Class 3A or 4A public school, the cooperative team is for a sport other than Boys Football or Boys or Girls Basketball; In the event one or more of the schools involved in the cooperative is a public non-boundaried school, that school's actual enrollment, not the multiplied enrollment is used to determine the eligibility of the cooperative team request.
- (c) Only private schools with non-multiplied enrollments of 200 are eligible to form cooperative teams.
- (c) Private schools with non-multiplied enrollments of 200 or less are eligible to form cooperative teams in all sports and activities. Private schools with the non-multiplied enrollments of more than 200 and up to 350 are eligible to form cooperative teams in all sports and activities with the exception of Football, Boys and Girls Basketball, and Girls Volleyball.***
- (d) The combined enrollments of all schools involved in the cooperative team, calculated according to the IHSA Classification System, is utilized to determine the classification for the cooperative team;
- (e) The cooperative sponsorship agreement is established for a period of two consecutive school years;
- (f) The governing boards of all schools participating in the cooperative team agreement jointly make the application to the IHSA Board of Directors for approval of the cooperative team agreement;
- (g) The joint application includes:
  - (1) Written approval from the conference(s) of which the cooperating schools are members, and/or in which the cooperative team will participate, or, in the event the cooperative team will not be affiliated with a conference, written approval from a minimum of seven schools included in the cooperative team's schedule of competition;
  - (2) A statement signed by the principals of all cooperating schools designating the name under which the cooperative team will compete;
  - (3) A report of the number of students from each of the cooperative schools expected to participate on the cooperative team;
  - (4) A report of the number of students, if any, from each of the cooperating schools who have been participating in the sport involved, in programs offered on a non-cooperative basis by their own schools;
  - (5) A statement expressing the reasons for the formation of a cooperative team;
  - (6) Written assurance that the cooperative team will not limit participation opportunities for students in any of the cooperating schools.

When a cooperative team completes two years of approved operation and the boards of education involved wish to renew the agreement for another two-year period, the involved school(s) shall submit to the IHSA, by the established date, notification that they wish to continue the cooperative with no changes and written approval from the conference.

**2020-21 Proposal 5 – 3.010 Attendance**  
**Modify By-law 3.011**  
**Submitted By: Paul Karafiol, Principal – Chicago (Lake View)**

**Summary of Proposed Changes:**

- Provides a unique exception for students placed in a modified educational setting that would require their disenrollment from their high school to be granted an enrollment exception for eligibility.

**Rationale of Submitter:**

Illinois public schools rely on a multi-tiered system for supporting students with disabilities; while most students with disabilities attend school and even classes alongside nondisabled peers, some students' disabilities are so severe that they require instruction in a separate setting ("separate day"). In some school districts, that separate setting is simply a building next to the "regular" school building; in others, students are disenrolled from the "regular" school and enrolled in a separate day school. Typically, these placements are made after all other interventions have been tried; they are not what the student, or their family, would have first preferred.

Currently, students whose disabilities require they be educated in a separate day setting who live in districts where those settings are distinct schools (as opposed to separate buildings that are organizationally part of the same school) are effectively banned from all IHSA activities. While nothing prevents these separate day schools from organizing their own teams and athletics, as a practical matter, the same issues that make it difficult for these students to succeed in "regular" schools also interfere with their ability to participate in organized athletics. In fact very few, if any, of these schools offer interscholastic athletics, and students who are placed--even temporarily--in such settings cannot compete with their home schools.

This situation presents two problems: first, it denies students with these kinds of disabilities the ability to learn (and be motivated by) participation in athletics--which for some of them is the only area in school where they have found success. Second, it's capricious: a student fortunate enough to live in a district with different organizational structures can compete in athletics (because their separate setting is technically the same school as the district high school) while a student living a few miles away cannot, simply because their district subcontracts or re-enrolls students into organizationally distinct school units. Both of these problems run counter to the letter and spirit of the laws around educating students with disabilities, which require an individualized approach based on the student's own needs and capacities, not a one-size-fits-all approach that distinguishes based on the student's zip code.

IHSA has long recognized that students in schools for the visually impaired should not be pre-emptively denied the ability to compete with nondisabled peers; it allows the IHSA board to waive the requirement that students only compete with the school in which they are enrolled, and allow them to compete with their "home school" instead. The proposed amendment follows the logic of the existing rule and would extend that flexibility to students with other disabilities that require they be educated in a separate setting.

Students would not be automatically granted an exemption to the "enrolled school only" rule; waivers would be granted by IHSA on a case-by-case basis. Very few students are placed in separate day settings and only a fraction of those would be appropriately engaged in interscholastic athletics, so the review burden would not be tremendous. Additionally, students would have to meet the eligibility requirements of both schools--particularly the home school--to ensure the integrity of both schools' athletics programs. All this amendment would do is give students who meet those criteria the opportunity to ask for a waiver to be allowed to participate in interscholastic athletics.

**Text of By-law with Proposed Changes**

**Modify By-law 3.011**

A student must attend a member school and may only represent in interscholastic competition the member school the student attends. For purposes of this by-law, the term "attend" shall mean that the student is enrolled at the member school, and is taking at, or under arrangements approved by the member school, a minimum of twenty five (25) credit hours of work for which credit toward high school graduation will be granted by the member school upon the student's completing and passing the courses. The school which enrolls the student shall be exclusively responsible to verify the student's compliance with all of the eligibility requirements of all IHSA by-laws.

The Board of Directors shall have the discretion to waive the requirements of this by-law for the Illinois schools for the deaf or blind, *or in a situation where a student is removed from a member school to a therapeutic or alternative school without an interscholastic program pursuant to an IEP or 504.*

- (a) The high school principal shall certify that the student meets all IHSA and local criteria for eligibility.*
- (b) The senior high school principal shall assume all responsibility for the conduct of the student.*

In unit systems having a 6-3-3 or 6-4-2 type of organization, ninth grade students may participate on senior high school athletic teams at the member high school in the district designated by the Board of Education, provided:

- (a) such participation is approved by the district's superintendent of schools;
- (b) the senior high school principal shall certify that the ninth grade students:
  - (1) are eligible under the requirements of these By-laws,
  - (2) are students at a junior high school located in the district which supports the senior high school, and
  - (3) are not members of a grade or junior high school team in the same sport; and
- (c) the senior high school principal assumes full responsibility for the conduct of these students during all athletic contests in which they represent the senior high school.

<b>2020-21 Proposal 6 – 3.030 Residence</b> <b>Modify By-law 3.031.4</b> <b>Submitted By: Nicole Henson, Principal – Bluford (Webber)</b>
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**Summary of Proposed Changes:**

- Allows a non-resident student of a public school district to meet the requirements of the residence by-law using the Legislative Waiver when a parent teaches on a full time or part time basis.

**Rationale of Submitter:**

In today's society and economy, it is essential for parents to be gainfully employed and to ensure the education and well-being of their children are being met. With budgeting issues, it is increasingly difficult for school districts to hire all the needed staff and maintain full time status for some positions. In several cases, an employee could be working a full day, shared by two different districts, yet not be considered full time in either of those districts. With the existing bylaw, parents and potential student athletes are being denied the opportunity to participate in school-sponsored athletics. We feel this is a disservice to the parent, who is trying to make a living and ensure their children's best interests, as well as to the student athlete. By amending this bylaw, we hope to keep school employees and student athletes from being deprived of opportunities that should exist for all. Further, a school our size sometimes needs every student-athlete available to merely field a team.

**Text of By-law with Proposed Changes**

**Modify By-law 3.031.4**

In the cases where a legislative waiver has been granted for children of faculty members to attend the school tuition free, the student(s) shall have eligibility at the school where the parent teaches *on a full time or part time basis*.

In cases where a legislative waiver has been granted for children of faculty members in unit districts with one high school to attend tuition free, the student(s) shall have eligibility in the district where the parent teaches *on a full time or part time basis*.

**2020-21 Proposal 7 – 3.040 Transfer**

**Add By-law 3.043.5**

**Submitted By: Brendan Bedell, Principal – Chicago (Noble/Rauner)**

**Summary of Proposed Changes:**

- Permits transfer eligibility when a student returns to a previous school to reside with a birth parent even though the parent may not be the custodial parent.

**Rationale of Submitter:**

There are circumstances where birth parents choose not to live together, and instead of utilizing the court system, choose to amicably delegate custody of their child.

This by-law addition would allow for a movement of residence for a student during high school, without the penalty of lost eligibility. While we believe that students should not be able to move-freely between birth parents without having to lose eligibility, we believe that an exception for students who are returning to a previously established residence with a birth parent supports reasonable movement between parents that is often outside of the student's control.

**Text of New By-law**

**Add By-law 3.043.5**

The student transfers attendance in conjunction with a change in residence by the student from one birth parent to the other, without assignment of custody or legal guardianship by the court provided that:

- (1) the student's residence is in a district in which the student has previously lived while a high school student; and
- (2) the student returns to the parent whom they have previously lived with while attending high school; and
- (3) both birth parents agree in writing to the student's return to the previous district and residency.

<b>2020-21 Proposal 8 – By-law 3.170 - Classification</b> <b>Modify By-law 3.170</b> <b>Submitted By: Luke Brooks, Principal – Pleasant Plains</b>
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**Summary of Proposed Changes:**

- Eliminates the multiplier waiver. All non-boundaried school programs would be subject to the 1.65 multiplier. If passed, submitter recommends the IHSA Board of Directors eliminate the success factor.

**Rationale of Submitter:**

There are numerous advantages to being a non-boundaried school, and I feel that the 1.65 multiplier works to balance out most of those advantages. However, when non-boundaried schools come down a class for short periods of time, it creates a lack of consistency for programs and significantly highlights the disparities between boundaried and non-boundaried schools. The major advantage of non-boundaried schools is their ability to pull students from a large area. That advantage is still there even if a non-boundaried school has a couple “down years” and the main reason I believe we should eliminate the waiver.

**Pros:**

- This change is equitable, transparent, and consistent.
- It helps to eliminate the scenario of talented classes that periodically come through with tremendous success and bump future classes up for years.
- It eliminates the trend of non-boundaried schools dropping down a class and seeing extreme success for a short period of time.
- It doesn't penalize non-boundaried schools for success within their multiplied enrollment.
- In addition, coaching changes and expectations are easier to navigate when programs stay in the same class, and the IHSA has an easier time with management and organization when programs stay in the same class.

**Text of By-law with Proposed Changes**

**Modify By-law 3.170**

The IHSA Board of Directors has the complete authority to establish and implement policies to determine the number of classes of competition in IHSA sports and activities and to classify schools participating in such sports/activities except as follows:

An enrollment multiplier of 1.65 will be added to all non-boundaried schools. ~~unless application of this multiplier is waived under a policy of waiver which would be established by the Board of Directors.~~

The definition of a non-boundaried school is: Any private school, charter school, lab school, magnet school, residential school, and any public school in a multi-high school district that does not accept students from a fixed portion of the district.

~~There will be a sub-committee comprised of IHSA staff and Legislative Commission members to develop the waiver policy for submission to the Board.~~

**2020-21 Proposal 9 – By-law 5.020 – Boys Spring Baseball and By-law 5.270 – Girls Spring Softball  
Modify By-laws 5.021 Boys Spring Baseball Season Limitation and By-law 5.271 Girls Spring Softball Season  
Limitation  
Submitted By: Nathan Wright, Official Representative – Marengo**

**Summary of Proposed Changes:**

- Moves the start and ending dates for the IHSA Spring Baseball and Softball seasons (practices and contests) a week earlier. (Amends the approved season adjustment from last year.)

**Rationale of Submitter:**

- School dismissal dates are as early as mid-May, therefore, many student-athletes will be out of school potentially a month prior to the state series tournament
- Softball and Baseball players will potentially miss several week(s) of their travel ball seasons
- Family summer vacations are planned and would decrease their summer by one week
- Other athletic camps begin in June and this would cause student-athletes to be pulled in different directions along with some coaches missing out on camps for other sports they coach
- Early graduation dates and seniors released early causes issues for teams and players; How do you control an athlete that no longer goes to school - this creates big conflict between students.
- Teachers/Coaches summer days will be shortened by one week
- Summer school conflicts
- All spring sports should start on the same date to provide each sport the equitable recruitment of athletes. For instance, if we are one week later, that means women soccer and LAX will have tryouts one week before us. They already have high numbers of participants across the state. Now, I foresee many girls trying out for those sports, and seeing if they make it before choosing softball. Freshman and JV baseball/softball teams have been dissolving tremendously over the past couple years.
- It is going to make it tough to travel out of state for competition. Many times teams go down south during our spring break to prepare us for the competition in Illinois. Some spring breaks will be during the “non-playing” time during the first two weeks of season.
- It is already tough to get 35 games in some years. Having an extra week definitely helps, and now that is taken away from us. As an advocate for the game of softball, we should be proposing legislation that would increase opportunities for student-athletes not diminish them.

Moving the start date by a week and not moving the state series dates, would not benefit student-athletes nor enhance their experiences in high school baseball or softball. One of the main objectives of moving the start date was to allow student-athletes to participate in baseball and softball in an environment that is conducive to the sport. Weather is uncontrollable and every baseball/softball season is different. We are all very passionate about baseball and softball, and only want what will continue to make our sport grow.

**Text of By-law with Proposed Changes**

**Modify By-law 5.021 – Boys Spring Baseball Season Limitation**

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Spring Baseball teams, practice, or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week ~~36~~ **35** or later than Saturday of Week ~~50~~ **49** in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Spring Baseball no earlier than Monday of Week ~~38~~ **37** in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

**Modify By-law 5.271 – Girls Spring Softball Season Limitation**

a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Spring Softball teams, practice, or participate interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week ~~36~~ **35** or later than Saturday of Week ~~50~~ **49** in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Spring Softball no earlier than Monday of Week ~~38~~ **37** in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

**2020-21 Proposal 10 – By-law 5.340 – Competitive Cheerleading  
Modify By-law 5.343 Competitive Cheerleading Individual Limitation  
Submitted By: Robert Alberts, Principal – Chicago (Brother Rice)**

**Summary of Proposed Changes:**

- Permits single gender (female) private school cheerleaders to represent the single gender (male) school in the IHSA State Series when all cheer squad members attend the same female only school.

**Rationale of Submitter:**

There are seven (7) all male enrollment private schools in our state. A few schools have sideline cheer teams whose students attend different schools. The remaining few have sideline cheer teams made up of students who attend the same school. Often, the female only school does not have sideline cheer teams at their events. The sideline cheer teams uniforms for the male only schools have the male school's name on their uniform. The cheerleaders' relationship is with the school they cheer for rather than the one they attend. We are asking for an allowance to be made for a couple of schools that fall into this category of having cheerleaders who attend the same school be able to compete in the IHSA state series and represent the school that they support.

**Cons:**

The students do not attend the school they would be representing. This is currently prohibited in the IHSA By-laws.

**Text of By-law with Proposed Changes**

**Modify By-law 5.343 – Competitive Cheerleading Individual Limitation**

- a. No individual shall be permitted to participate on a member school's Competitive Cheerleading Team unless he/she is a rostered participant on the member school's winter (basketball) sideline cheerleading team.
- b. If a single gender private school (female) cheers the winter sideline season at/for another single gender school (male), and each of the cheerleaders attend the same female only school, they would be eligible to represent the school they cheer for in the IHSA State Series. Only one competitive cheer team may come from the single gender private (female) school.*
- c. No member of a Competitive Cheerleading Team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate on more than six (6) dates, exclusive of the IHSA series.

**2020-21 Proposal 11 – By-law 6.012 – Coaches Ejected for Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

**Modify By-law 6.012**

**Submitted By: Rebecca Moran, Official Representative – Round Lake on behalf of the DWR Advisory Committee**

**Summary of Proposed Changes:**

- Creates a progressive penalty for a coach ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct.

**Rationale of Submitter:**

Adult personnel that represent the school must be held to a higher standard than the student athletes and be accountable for their repeated negative behavior. The current 6.012 by-law does not address or provide specific guidance regarding multiple ejections. This is especially apparent when negative behaviors are continuous during a single season, or over the course of several seasons. The Athletic Administrators Advisory Committee and IHSA staff passed this recommendation. The IHSA Board of Directors discussed the recommendation and agreed that a formal by-law proposal should be submitted.

Infractions would stay with a coach at all IHSA member schools.

**Text of By-law with Proposed Changes**

**Modify By-law 6.012 – Coaches Ejected for Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

Any coach ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for ~~the next interscholastic contest at that level of competition, and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim, in addition to other penalties the IHSA or the school may assess.~~ *future contests in that sport at that level of competition, and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim according to the following progressive penalty, in addition to other penalties the IHSA or the school may assess:*

- First Offense: One game suspension.*
- Second Offense: Two game suspension and completion of sportsmanship education.*
- Third Offense: 25% of the season suspension and additional sportsmanship education.*
- Fourth Offense: Season long suspension.*
- Infractions will accumulate by sport and will be served immediately.*
- Infractions will have a “sunset” of 4 years.*