

2023-24 Girls Softball Series Terms and Condition

In accordance with Section 1.450 of the IHSA Constitution, the Board of Directors has approved the Terms and Conditions governing the 2023-24 IHSA Class 1A, 2A, 3A, and 4A Girls Softball Tournament Series.

SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION

Classifications in the IHSA Girls Softball State Series will be determined according to IHSA Policy 17 (Classification System).

II. DATES AND SITES

A. Class 1A/ 2A: Regional play shall begin on Monday, May 13, 2024. All play will follow the schedule below, as determined by the number of teams in a respective bracket.

*Regional Quarterfinals: Monday, May 13, 2024

*These games will be played at the site of the highest seed.

Regional Semifinals: Tuesday, May 14, and Wednesday, May 15, 2024

*Regional Semifinal and Final will be played at the Regional host site.

*Regional Finals: Friday, May 17 or Saturday, May 18, 2024. Class 1A/2A Regionals will be played Week 46

The Sectional semifinal games may be played on Tuesday, May 21, and Wednesday, May 22. The Sectional Final (Championship) shall be played on Friday, May 24 or Saturday, May 25. The Super-Sectional games shall be played on Monday, May 27. Class 1A/2A Sectionals will be played Week 47. Regional and Sectional games cannot be played before 3:00 p.m. on weekdays.

Sites for Regional, Sectional, and Super-Sectional games shall be announced on the IHSA web site.

The Class 1A/2A Girls Softball State Final tournament will be held on Friday, May 31, and Saturday, June 1, 2024, at the Louisville Slugger Sports Complex, Peoria, Illinois.

B. Class 3A/4A - Regional play shall begin on Monday, May 20, 2024. All play will follow the schedule below, as determined by the number of teams in a respective bracket.

Regional Quarterfinals*: Monday, May 20, 2024

*These games will be played at the site of the highest seed.

Regional Semifinals: Tuesday, May 21, and Wednesday May 22, 2024.

Regional Semifinal and Final will be played at the Regional host site

Regional Finals: Friday, May 24 or Saturday, May 25, 2024 Class 3A/4A Regionals will be played Week 47.

The Sectional semifinal games may be played on Tuesday, May 28, and Wednesday, May 29. The Sectional Final (Championship) shall be played on Friday, May 31 or Saturday, June 1. The Super-Sectional games shall be played on Monday, June 3. Class 3A/4A Sectionals will be played Week 48. Regional and Sectional games cannot be played before 3:00 p.m. on weekdays.

Sites for Regional, Sectional, and Super-Sectional games shall be announced on the IHSA web site.

The Class 3A/4A Girls Softball State Final tournament will be held on Friday, June 7, and Saturday, June 8 at the Louisville Slugger Sports Complex, Peoria, Illinois.

III. ON-LINE ENTRIES, WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURES, ELIGIBILITY, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

The policy for Original Entry Deadlines, Late Entries, and Late Withdrawals shall be the policies and procedures regarding entry for all IHSA-sponsored sport/activities included in the **2023-24 Entry Policies and Procedures**.

A. On-line Entries

All member schools must enter their school into the state series competition through the IHSA School Center on the IHSA Website at www.ihsa.org. The deadline for entry is February 1, 2024. The 2023-24 Entry Policies and Procedures outlining the online entry procedures for all IHSA-sponsored tournaments can be found in the Schools Center on the IHSA website.

B. Late Entries:

Any attempt to enter a sport or activity on-line after the established deadlines will be denied. Schools that wish to enter after the deadline will be considered late. To be considered for late entry, the Principal/Official Representative must contact the IHSA administrative officer in charge of that sport or activity. The penalty for late entry shall be a payment of \$100.00 for that sport/activity by the school.

C. Breach of Contract By-Law 6.041 (Withdrawal Procedure)

To withdraw without penalty, the Principal must notify the IHSA Office, in writing, of the school's withdrawal from the respective sport prior to the seeding meeting date and/or the date the List of Participants is due for that sport.

If a school withdraws after the seeding meeting date/List of Participants due date but before the first competition, the school will be charged a \$100 penalty and, if applicable, the cost of game officials and the host school guarantee provided for in the Terms & Conditions.

If a school does not officially withdraw prior to the first competition and/or does not show up for competition, the school will be charged a \$100 penalty, the cost of game officials and the host school guarantee according to the Terms & Conditions for the respective sport.

D. Eligibility

All member schools in good standing may enter one team under the provisions of IHSA By-law 3.054.

E. Affirmative Action

Only girls shall be permitted to participate in the state series except as provided in the IHSA Affirmative Action Policy.



/. HOST FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

A. All Quarterfinal Regional games (1A/2A and 3A/4A) are financially independent from the IHSA. All local expenses will be paid by the host school. If admission is charged, the host school will receive 100 percent of the gate receipts. The IHSA will reimburse the school for the cost of the game officials. In the Semifinal and Final Regional games, the host school shall pay for all local expenses. The host school shall receive a guarantee of \$575.00. The IHSA will pay the officials through ArtiborPay. The host school shall retain 20% of net income and submit remainder to the IHSA. In the event of a negative balance, the host school shall be reimbursed for the entire deficit. If admission is not charged, the host school shall forfeit the guarantee.

- **B.** In the Sectional tournament, the host school shall pay for all local expenses and issue checks to game officials from money generated by gate receipts. Each host school shall receive a host guarantee of \$575.00. The IHSA will pay the officials through ArbitorPay. The host school shall retain 20% of net income and submit remainder to the IHSA. In the event of a negative balance, the host school shall be reimbursed for the entire deficit. If admission is not charged, the host school shall forfeit the guarantee.
- **C.** In the Super-Sectional tournament, the host school shall pay for all local expenses and issue checks to game officials from money generated by gate receipts. Each host school shall receive a guarantee of \$250.00. The IHSA will pay the officials through ArbitorPay. The host school shall retain 20% of net income and submit remainder to the IHSA. In the event of a negative balance, the host school shall be reimbursed for the entire deficit. If admission is not charged, the host school shall forfeit the guarantee.
- **D. Digital Tickets**: Per IHSA Board Policy 22, GoFan Digital Tickets will be the exclusive ticket option available for this sport at the Sectional and Super-Sectional rounds of the State Series. Any exceptions must be approved by the IHSA office.
- **E. Admission Prices**: The following State Series ticket prices have been set by the IHSA Board of Directors. A baby in arms is free at all rounds of the State Series. Pricing for all other individuals is as follows:

REGIONAL

Quarterfinals: \$5 per game Semifinals and Finals: \$5 per day

*If GoFan is used:

Digital Ticket: \$5 per day Cash Ticket: \$6 per day

SECTIONAL

Digital Ticket: \$7 Cash Ticket: \$8

SUPER-SECTIONAL

Digital Ticket: \$8 Cash Ticket: \$9

STATE FINAL

Digital Ticket: \$10 per day Cash Ticket: \$11 per day

F. Rights Fees for TV and Radio:

- 1. Television Rights Fees to be charged by Local Managers and/or the IHSA are contained in the IHSA Television Policy section of the current IHSA Handbook with Illustrations
- 2. Radio Rights Fees to be charged by Local Managers and/or the IHSA are contained in the IHSA Broadcast Policy section of the current IHSA Handbook with Illustrations.
- 3. Policy regarding the softball state series media requirements for each Local Manager is contained in these Terms and Conditions.

V. TOURNAMENT ASSIGNMENTS AND SEEDING MEETINGS

- **A. Class 1A and Class 2A**: In class 1A and 2A, all state tournament series will begin in Regionals with initial seeding done by sub-sectionals. Each sub-sectional will contain 2 regional sites. Seeding for the tournament series will be done by sub-sectionals. Each sub-sectional will be seeded with the #1 and #4 assigned to one regional and #2 and #3 assigned to the other regional. The remaining teams will be assigned by geography.
- **B.** All state tournament series will begin with a sectional complex except where excessive travel is a factor. This is determined by the IHSA administration. Where this occurs the tournament series will begin with sub-sectionals. Each subsectional will contain 2 regional sites. Seeding for the tournament series will be done by sub-sectionals. Each subsectional will be seeded with the #1 and #4 assigned to one regional and #2 and #3 assigned to the other regional. The remaining teams will be assigned by geography.
- **C.** The successive tournament series shall be designated respectively as regional, sectional, super-sectional and state final. The IHSA Office will select all regional, sectional and super-sectional host sites. All schools including the Chicago Public Schools entered in the state series will be assigned to a sub-sectional or sectional complex based upon geography.
- D. Seeding and Pairings: The seeding shall be done on Tuesday, April 30, 2024, for Class 1A & 2A and on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, for Class 3A & 4A. The seeding will be done online in the Schools Center by all coaches. All coaches will be required to fill out the online data form which contains information about their team. Information on all schools in your tournament will be available for each coach to review prior to making their seeds online. Pairings will be released on the IHSA website. Pairings for the first round of games of the State Final Tournament(s) will be made by chance drawings at the Spring Sports Drawing. It is the responsibility of each competing school entered in the state series to complete the IHSA Season Summary Sheet prior to the seeding of schools. The school must complete their school form online in their Schools Center no later than 12:00 p.m. on the day that the online seeding is conducted. Non-compliance may result in IHSA review and possible sanctions imposed upon the school.



VI. TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE AND TIME SCHEDULES

A. Time Schedule:

- 1. Local managers will not be permitted to change the order in which games are played unless given permission by the IHSA Office. Regional or Sectional managers, upon consultation with the IHSA Office, may alter the playing schedule to accommodate the regularly scheduled graduation ceremonies of a competing school.
- 2. Starting times for regional quarterfinal games will be 4:30 p.m., unless the contest host has requested, and been approved for, a different start time from the IHSA Office. Starting times for all games will be announced by the local manager, but in the Regional, Sectional and Supersectional tournaments, games should not be played during school hours. The following starting times are recommended to the host schools: 4:30 p.m. for afternoon games, 6:30 p.m. for night games, and 11:00 a.m. for Saturday games.
- 3. If a Regional or Sectional host has the facilities, they may request to host the Regional or Sectional semifinals in a single session. The request must be made in advance of the start of the state series to the IHSA. If approved, the double-header must be played on the first scheduled day of semifinal play in the respective tournament.
- 4. Starting times for any State Series contests that fall on Memorial Day will be 11 a.m., unless the contest host has requested, and been approved for, a different start time from the IHSA Office.
- 5. All state final contests will be played on Stadium #1 at Louisville Slugger Sports Complex, unless conditions dictate moving a contest(s) to a different field, using the following time schedule:

Friday

Friday		
Session 1	Game 1	10:00 a.m.
	Game 2	12:30 p.m. (approx.)
Session 2	Game 3	3:00 p.m.
	Game 4	5:30 p.m. (approx.)
Saturday		
Session 3	Game 5	9:00 a.m.
		(3rd place game)
	Game 6	11:30 a.m. (approx.)
		(Championship)
Session 4		. , , , , ,
	Game 7	2:00 p.m.
		(3rd place game)
	Game 8	4:30 p.m. (approx.)
		(Championship)

NOTE: At the discretion of the Tournament Manager and IHSA Softball Administrator, games on either day may be played simultaneously in an effort to ensure that the tournament is completed. The teams from the top bracket will play on Stadium #1 and the teams from the bottom bracket will play on Stadium #2. Please remind your fans to check the IHSA web site for upto-date game information if inclement weather exists.

VII. ADVANCEMENT OF WINNERS

A. The thirty-two (32) Regional champions shall advance to one of eight (8) Sectional tournaments.

- **B.** The winners of the eight (8) Sectional tournaments shall be assigned to four (4) Super-Sectional games.
- **C.** The winners of the four (4) Super-sectional games shall be entered in the State Final Tournament.

VIII. TOURNAMENT RULES

- **A. Determining Home Team:** The home team in tournament games shall be determined according to the following procedure:
- 1. In all Regional games, the highest seeded team is the home team. The Regional host school local management shall determine the team benches (dugout).
- 2. In Sectionals that feed from Regionals, the home team in each Sectional semifinal contest and the Sectional final game will be determined by a coin flip, which will be called by the team from the bottom of the bracket. The Sectional host school/local management shall determine the team benches (dugout).
- 3. In Sectional complexes, the home team in each Sectional semifinal contest and the Sectional final game will be determined by the highest seed. In the southernmost sectional in Class 4A, the home team in each sectional semi-final game will be determined by the highest seed. A coin flip will be used to determine the home team in the sectional championship. The Sectional host school/local management shall determine the team benches (dugout).
- 4. In Super-Sectional games, the home team in each contest will be determined by a coin flip, which will be called by the team from the bottom of the bracket. The host school/local management shall determine the team benches (dugout).
- 5. In the State Final tournament, at a meeting of the coaches of the teams participating in the State Final tournament, home team privileges shall be determined by a coin flip. Home team privileges for all State Final tournament games shall be determined at this meeting. The visiting team shall occupy the first base team bench (dugout) and the home team shall occupy the third base team bench (dugout). In the event the coach of the participating team(s) is not in attendance at this meeting, the State Final manager shall conduct the appropriate coin flip(s) to determine home team for all State Final tournament games. The team from the bottom of the bracket shall call the coin toss.

B. Rules of Play:

- 1. The current edition of Official Softball Rules of the National Federation for 12- inch Fast Pitch are adopted as the official rules of play for the state series tournaments unless otherwise specifically indicated in these Terms and Conditions or in printed instructions.
- 2. The host school for all tournament games shall provide the official scorekeeper.
- 3. The decisions of the game umpires are final. The IHSA Board of Directors will not review decisions of umpires whether alleged errors are due to faulty judgment or misinterpretation of rules.

C. Playing Regulations:

- 1. All Tournaments will be conducted on a single elimination basis.
- 2 Tournament games will be seven innings except games in which one team has a lead of ten or more runs at the end of the fifth inning (at the end of 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ innings if the team in the lead is at bat in the last half of the inning) or at the end of any inning thereafter shall be terminated by the umpire. If a team is



winning by 15 runs at the end of 4 innings (3½ if home team is winning) the game should be considered complete.

D. Postponement of Games:

- 1 If a game in any tournament must be postponed because of rain or wet grounds, or if a game is called by the umpires because of rain, darkness, or other reasons that are in accordance with the National Federation Softball Rules, it is ruled a "suspended game and shall be continued from the point of suspension at a later time" unless provisions of Rule 4-2-3 have been met making it a regulation game. Any game that is not an official game will be considered a suspended game.
- 2. Postponed or called game(s) in opening round game(s) must be rescheduled for the next day, excluding Sundays.
- 3. If a coin toss has been made and the game does not begin and is rescheduled, the original coin toss shall stay in effect.
- 4. In all cases where postponements are necessary, tournament games must take precedence over all games.
- 5. It is recommended that no start or continuation of a suspended game will begin later than 10:00 p.m.
- 6. The local manager will be in charge of all site assignments for the tournament, including postponed or called games.
- 7. The local manager shall keep the IHSA informed during bad weather situations.

E. Suspended Game:

- 1. If a game is called with the score tied after enough innings have been played to make it a regulation game as provided in Rule 4-2-3, it shall be considered a "suspended game and shall be continued from the point of suspension at a later time." Play shall be resumed the following day at the exact point where the game was terminated.
- 2. Suspended games(s) in opening round game(s) must be rescheduled for the next day, excluding Sundays.
- 3. If a coin toss has been made and the game does not begin and is rescheduled, the original coin toss shall stay in effect.
- 4. Suspended tournament games will take precedence over all other games.
- 5. It is recommended that no start or continuation of a suspended game shall begin later than 10:00 p.m.
- 6. The local manager will be in charge of all site assignments for the tournament, including suspended games.

F. Bad Weather Guidelines for Regional Play:

Should bad weather force a postponement or suspension of a game(s) the following guidelines shall control:

- 1. Games shall be played in bracket order.
- 2. Double-headers may be played if both coaches agree.
- 3. If both coaches do not agree then the game must be scheduled the following day, excluding Sundays.
- 4. All regional games must be completed before the Sectional games can begin.
- 5. It is recommended that no start or continuation of a suspended game will begin later than 10:00 p.m.
- 6. The local manager shall keep the IHSA informed during the bad weather.
- 7. In the event that the games cannot be completed then the highest seeded team remaining shall advance to the Sectional. The local manager should contact the IHSA prior to this determination.

G. Bad Weather Guidelines for Sectional Play:

- 1. Games shall be played in bracket order.
- 2. Double headers may be played if both coaches agree.
- 3. It is recommended that no start or continuation of a suspended game will begin no later than 10:00 p.m.
 - 4. The local manager shall keep the IHSA informed.
- 5. In the event that the Sectional game(s) cannot be completed, the highest seeded team remaining shall advance to the Super-Sectional.

H. Bad Weather Guidelines for Sites at the Regionals and Sectionals:

1. If play cannot continue at the predetermined site any playable site can be used to complete play with IHSA approval.

I. Bad Weather Guidelines for Super-Sectional Play:

- 1. Super-sectional games can be played up to the start of the first game at the state tournament.
- 2. It is recommended that no start or continuation of a suspended game will begin no later than 10:00 p.m.
 - 3. The local manager shall keep the IHSA informed.
- 4. In the event that the Super-sectional game cannot be completed, one coin toss will determine which team advances to the state tournament.

J. Guidelines for Play at the State Final in Case of Bad Weather

- 1. The first priority is to crown a champion.
- 2. If the consolation game cannot be played, a tie will be awarded to both teams.
- 3. If the tournament can only be played on one day due to bad weather, then five inning games will be played and warm up time will be determined by the state final manager and the IHSA.
- 4. In the event of delays, the Championship game and the Consolation games may be reversed.

IX. TOURNAMENT POLICIES

A. State Final Passes:

For the State Final Tournament games, each Super-Sectional winner will receive:

- 1. thirty-one (31) passes for its players and other team personnel $\$
- 2. one (1) state final event pass to properly licensed medical personnel for each team participating in the state final. The pass would be available for either a licensed (i.e., certified) athletic trainer or team physician. This individual must be listed on the school's Team Data Form.

B. Signs and Banners:

www.ihsa.org

The display of signs, banners, placards, or similar items at IHSA state series events is permitted, provided:

- 1. they are in good taste and reflect good sportsmanship in their message and use;
- 2. they reflect identification and encouragement to participants and their school/community;
- 3. they are not displayed on the field of play or in a manner which interferes with play;
- 4. they do not obstruct the view of participants or spectators; and $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right)$
 - 5. they are not safety hazards.



C. Damage to Property and Equipment:

If contestants or people from any school entered in a state series are found guilty of carelessness or maliciously breaking, damaging, or destroying property or equipment belonging to the host school, such school shall be held responsible for costs incurred in replacing or repairing such property or equipment.

D. Practice Facilities:

In the Regional, Sectional, Super-Sectional and State Final Tournament, the hosting schools shall not make the facilities available to the incoming teams for practice, other than customary scheduled batting practice and infield prior to the start of the game.

E. Media Requirements:

1. Provide Space:

Space shall be set aside to provide for news media representatives covering the state series whether they are from newspapers, radio stations, commercial television stations and/or cable television stations.

2. Radio and TV Originators:

It is the responsibility of the Local Manager to accept applications, approve requests to originate radio broadcasts, which will be processed according to the IHSA Broadcast Policy. It is the responsibility of the Local Manager to direct requests to televise play-by-play of a game to the IHSA Office, which will be processed according to the IHSA Television Policy.

- a. Television Rights Fees for all levels of competition below the State Final level shall be paid to the host school and shall become part of the revenue to be shared by the member school(s) and the Association according to the financial terms stipulated in these Terms and Conditions.
- b. Radio Broadcast Rights Fees are not required for any level of competition in this series (except State Final). Local Managers shall permit radio play-by-play originations of the competition.
- c. Television and/or Radio Stations which do not apply in advance, or which do not pay required rights fees prior to the start of competition in each respective level in this state series, shall not be given credentials nor allowed access to the facility to originate. Sponsors of the originations for television and radio shall be only those so stipulated in the respective IHSA Television and Broadcast policies.

3. Required Reports:

Reporting information to the news media and/or the IHSA Office, as stipulated in instructions to Local Managers, shall be the responsibility of each Local Manager and is required.

F. Videotaping:

Videotaping will be allowed provided the local manager has a comparable area for both competing schools to videotape. When one school requests the video space, then the local manager shall provide similar space to both competing schools. Noncompeting schools and spectators will be allowed to videotape games in the stands, provided they do not obstruct the view of participants and spectators.

G. Tobacco/Liquid Nicotine Products:

The use of tobacco or liquid nicotine products in any competition area, either during a practice or while a contest is in progress, or affiliated property of any IHSA state series contest by any coach, player, any other person connected with a team, or fan shall be prohibited. State series hosts are required to make all state series contest sites and any affiliated property, including parking lots, fan accommodation areas, and other school or event venue property, tobacco/liquid nicotine free

zones on the date or dates of any IHSA event being held at the site.

H. Use of inhalers:

A student with asthma may possess and use his/her medication during an IHSA competition, while under the supervision of school personnel, provided the school meets the outlined procedures of self-administration in the Illinois school code.

I. Alcoholic Beverages and IHSA State Series Events:

The possession, distribution, sale and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages are prohibited at the site and on any affiliated property of any IHSA state series contest. State series hosts are required to make all state series contest sites and any affiliated property, including parking lots, fan accommodation areas, and other school or event venue property, alcohol free zones on the date or dates of any IHSA event being held at the site. Violation of this policy by an event host will subject the host to a penalty for violation of IHSA By-law 2.020. Such penalty may include, but not necessarily be limited to, prohibition against subsequent event hosting assignments. Violation of this policy by a non-hosting member school will subject the school to penalty for violation of IHSA By-law 2.020. Patrons of any IHSA state series contest determined to be in violation of this policy will be removed from the premise, and law enforcement officials will be called as warranted. No ticket refunds will be granted in such cases.

J. Prayer at IHSA State Series Contests: Prayer at an IHSA state series contest that takes place over the public address system is prohibited.

K. State Final Team Reimbursements:

- 1. Each school participating in the tournament series will be responsible to pay any and all expenses related to the team at the regional and sectional levels.
- 2. In the State Final Tournament, the teams participating in the tournament shall be reimbursed in accordance with the following:

Round Trip	_	
Mileage to	Flat Rate	
State Final Site	Reimbursement	Mileage
0-150 miles	\$500.00	\$2.00/mile
151-300 miles	\$1,000.00	\$2.00/mile
301-over miles	\$1,500.00	\$2.00/mile

3. Neither the State Association nor the tournament management will assume responsibility for unusual or extraordinary expenses. Individual schools entering the tournaments must be ready themselves to assume responsibility for unusual expenses due to accident, inclement weather, fire, theft, or any other extraordinary cause.

L. Failure to Appear:

All teams entered in the tournament are expected to participate. The original entry is a final entry. Failure to appear for scheduled games unless satisfactory arrangements are made with the local manager in advance of the game will be regarded as a breach of contract and schools that are guilty of such violation will be subject to penalty under the provisions of By-law 6.041.



M. Players in Team Uniforms:

In each of the tournaments, no school shall have in uniform more than twenty-two (22) players. Only those eligible player(s) or coaches may serve as coaches at first and third base.

N. Softballs:

The Wilson 9011 WTA9011BSST (Poly Core) ball is required to be used in all girls state softball tournament series games. There can be no substitution of a ball manufactured by another company.

- 1. Regional Sites: Each school hosting regional games will be supplied with a dozen balls. Four new balls should be used in each game. Disposition of the balls at the end of the tournament is at the discretion of the host. If additional balls are needed, it is the responsibility of the host school to provide them.
- 2. Sectional Sites: Each school hosting the semifinals and championship game will be supplied with a dozen balls. Four new balls should be used in each game. Disposition of the balls at the end of the tournament is at the discretion of the host. If additional balls are needed, it is the responsibility of the host school to provide them.
- 3. Super-Sectional Sites: Each super-sectional site will be supplied with a half-dozen (6) balls. Disposition of the balls at the end of the tournament is at the discretion of the host.

O. Players Bench:

A maximum of 31 individuals officially connected with the school shall be permitted to occupy the players' bench.

P. Conduct of Coaches and Players:

- 1. No coach, player or other person officially connected with the team shall be permitted to smoke or chew tobacco on the bench or playing field either during practice or while a game is in progress.
- 2. No coach or other school official shall, during the progress of a game, be allowed on the field of play except by permission of the game umpires.
- 3. Except for those coaches or eligible players who may be serving as coaches at first or third base and players legally in the "on deck circle", all other coaches, managers, substitutes, and players awaiting their turn at bat shall remain on the player's bench. Umpires will be instructed to enforce this rule.
- 4. The captain and the head coach shall be the official spokespersons and the sole representatives of their team in all communications with the umpires.
- 5. Abusive remarks to game umpires by coaches or players shall be regarded as unsportsmanlike conduct and shall be punishable under the provisions of By-Law 2.040.

Q. Artificial Noise

Artificial Noisemakers: All artificial noise-making devices are prohibited.

R. AED: Host schools must have an AED available and on site at all IHSA post season contests.

X. AWARDS

- **A. Regional:** A plaque will be awarded to the winner in each Regional.
- $\mbox{\bf B. Sectional}\colon$ A plaque will be awarded to the winner in each Sectional.

C. Super-Sectional: A plaque will be awarded to the winner in each Super-Sectional.

D. State Final:

- 1. A trophy will be awarded to teams finishing first, second, third and fourth places in the State Final Tournament.
- 2. A total of thirty-one (31) medallions will be presented to the schools of the first four placing teams at the State Final Tournament. In addition, the superintendent, principal, the athletic director and a certified athletic trainer or team physician, provided one is listed on the school's State Final Program Information, will be presented with a medallion. No other trophies or awards of any kind may be presented in the tournament series. Only thirty-one (31) team/school representatives, the superintendent, principal, the athletic director and certified athletic trainer or team physician, may participate in the awards presentation.

These awards will be furnished by the State Association and are not an expense charge upon the individual tournament.

XI. OFFICIALS

A. Appointment and Fees:

Umpires for all tournaments must be licensed by the IHSA. Preference shall be given first to those umpires who have certified ratings, then to those who have recognized ratings.

1. Regional tournaments:

Umpires (two per game) for all Regional games shall be appointed by the IHSA Office. If a regional game is postponed due to inclement weather, every effort will be made to use the same umpiring crew. If an umpire(s) is unavailable on the rescheduled date, the local manager will appoint a replacement in conjunction with the IHSA Office. Coaches of participating schools and certified officials will have an opportunity to assist the IHSA Office in ranking officials who are being considered for this assignment. Each official will receive a fee of \$65.00 per game. The IHSA will pay the officials through ArbitorPay.

2. Sectional tournaments:

Umpires (three per game) for the Sectional games will be assigned by the IHSA Office. If a Sectional game is postponed due to inclement weather, every effort will be made to use the same umpiring crew. If an umpire(s) is unavailable on the rescheduled date, the IHSA Office will appoint the replacement umpire(s) in conjunction with the local manager. Coaches of participating schools and registered officials will have an opportunity to assist the IHSA Office in ranking officials who are being considered for this assignment. Each official will receive a fee of \$81.00 per game. The IHSA will pay the officials through ArbitorPay.

3. Super-Sectional games:

Umpires (three per game) for the Super-Sectional games will be assigned by the IHSA Office. If a Super-sectional game is postponed due to inclement weather, every effort will be made to use the same umpiring crew. If an umpire(s) is unavailable on the rescheduled date, the IHSA Office will appoint the replacement umpire(s) in conjunction with the local manager. Coaches of participating schools and registered officials will have an opportunity to assist the IHSA Office in ranking officials who are being considered for this assignment. Each official will receive a fee of \$110.00. The IHSA will pay the officials through ArbitorPay.

4. State Final Tournaments:

Umpires for the Class 1A/2A and Class 3A/4A State Final Tournaments will be assigned by the IHSA Office. The number of State Finals umpires will be twelve (12) in 1A/2A and





twelve (12) in 3A/4A. Coaches of participating schools and registered officials will have an opportunity to assist the IHSA Office in ranking officials who are being considered for this assignment. Each official will receive a fee of \$144.50 per game and Head Official \$125 per day plus lodging at a hotel as designated by the IHSA Administrator. The IHSA will pay the officials through ArbitorPay.

5. State Series Officials Fee for Suspended or Postponed Contest:

- a. An official is notified before arriving at the site—No compensation.
- b. An official arrives at the site and the contest is suspended/cancelled before it begins—A show up fee is provided to the officials, which is one half of the game fee.
- c. Contest is started, and then is suspended until the next day-Official gets full fee for the started game and then a full fee for the completion of the game the next day.

B. Mileage Reimbursement Policy

23-24 Softball

In the state series, to assist officials for out-of-pocket expenses, a voucher system will be used to compensate officials when they actually drive in excess of 70 miles round trip per contest. Payment will be made through the IHSA Office, after completion of the tournament series, at a rate of thirty cents (\$.30) per mile for all mileage in excess of 70 miles round trip. No compensation will be permitted for trips of less than 70 miles round trip.

C. Smoke and Tobacco Policy

Umpires working tournament games shall not smoke or chew tobacco on the playing field or designated smoke free areas during practice or while a game is in progress.