



The IHSA governs the equitable participation in interscholastic athletics and activities that enrich the educational experience.

2021 Eastern Illinois University/IHSA State Track & Field Meet Policies

Meet Dates: Girls – June 10-12 Boys – June 17-19

This information was put together to allow schools to familiarize themselves of meet protocols prior to the state meets. There are many changes due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Please review carefully!

Head Coach wristbands, Assistant Coach Passes and Team Bib Numbers will only allow access for the date of your meet. If you decide to attend the meet after your state final, you must purchase a ticket. This is to help EIU to monitor spectator capacity limits.

All coaches names will be compared to the IHSA Database of Certified Coaches. If you have a coach who isn't certified to coach, they will not be given access to a coaches pass or listed in the State Final program. They must purchase a ticket. The number of passes issued to each State Final Qualifying school will be posted on the respective track & field activity page no later than Tuesday, prior to the meet.

Head Coach Wristband: All head coaches will receive a wristband that will get them access to the spectator seating areas in O'Brien Field and the throws competition area. Additionally, their wristband will get them access to the high jump viewing area for coaches.

Assistant Coaches' Passes: We **will not** be selling wristbands to assistant coaches this year due to capacity limits. Therefore, in addition to providing the head coaches a wristband, we will provide assistant coaches' passes using the following criteria:

- 1-5 Qualifiers (not including relay alternates) = 1 assistant coach's pass
- 6-10 Qualifiers (not including relay alternates) = 2 assistant coaches' passes
- 11 or more Qualifiers (not including relay alternates) = 3 assistant coaches' passes

Assistant Coaches' passes will grant assistant coaches access to the spectator seating areas in O'Brien Field and the throws competition area. Additionally, their pass will get them access to the high jump viewing area for coaches.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Assistant Coaches' Passes will be printed on card stock and available in each coach's packet. Lost or damaged passes will NOT be replaced. Additionally, coaches must confirm the appropriate number of assistant coaches passes in their packet at packet pick-up. Coaches who were mistakenly provided an inadequate number of coaches' passes will not be provided an additional assistant coach's pass after they have picked up their packet and left the packet pick-up area.

Protection of Property: Competitors and schools are responsible for their own property and valuables at all times during the state final meets. NEITHER THE IHSA NOR EIU WILL ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOST, BROKEN OR STOLEN PERSONAL ITEMS AT ANY TIME, REGARDLESS OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES. No locker rooms are provided.

Cell phones are not allowed in the Clerk's Tent.

TWO-CALL SYSTEM – BE READY TO COMPETE

Tentative Time Schedule Dates (tentative start time of Noon to accommodate lengthy travel and avoid overnight stays):

Girls State Finals

1A – June 10
2A – June 11
3A – June 12

Boys State Finals

1A – June 17
2A – June 18
3A – June 19

Meet Format: The state final for each class would begin and end on the same day to avoid overnight stays. There will not be any preliminary or semi-final track events as they will be conducted as timed finals. Horizontal jumping and throwing events will be permitted four (4) attempts. Flights in the high jump and pole vault will be conducted to completion. There will not be preliminaries in any of the field events. The state final meet format would be very similar to that of the sectional meets.

Sample Meet Schedule: The following link provides a sample of what the state final schedule could look like based on how the schedule played out at the 2019 State Finals. Please note that this is not the 2021 State Final schedule as it is only a representation of



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what the state final COULD look like. The 2021 schedule will be dictated by the number of qualifiers and the number of heats that will be conducted for each event.

<https://www.ihsa.org/documents/tr/2020-21/Sample%20SF%20Schedule.pdf>

Meet Delays: In case of delays, the time intervals between events will be **approximately** the same unless weather conditions dictate otherwise. If weather related delays occur, every effort will be made to complete the meet on the scheduled day as there will NOT be state final rain dates. **All delays will be posted on @IHSAAWeather**

Facial Coverings: We will adhere to the facial covering guidelines as deemed necessary by the IDPH and EIU. Athletes do not need to wear a facial covering when competing, warming up/down.

Permissible Meet Attendees: Coaches will be allowed entrance into any spectator viewing area or the high jump coaches' viewing area only if wearing a head coaches' wristband or carrying an assistant coaches' pass. Athletes who are in uniform and wearing their assigned bib number will be granted access to the spectator viewing areas, the clerk's tent and the field event check-in areas. Media personnel must have appropriate credentials to enter spectator seating areas, the press box or designated media areas around the track and field facilities. Spectators must have a ticket purchased from the ticket office or EIU's virtual ticket platform to gain access to the spectator viewing areas.

Officials: Meet Referee, Starter, Asst. Starter, Clerk for each state final day.

Spectators: Spectator capacity limits are restricted to what is deemed allowable per IDPH & EIU.

Practice: There will practice the day of each respective meet prior from 8:00-10:45 am. Thursday-Class 1A only; Friday-Class 2A only; Class 3A Saturday only.

First Aid/Injuries: Athletic Training Facilities will be in the EIU training room at O'Brien Field. If any competitor(s) are sent to the training room for aid, they are to be accompanied by their coach. Training room hours: 8:00 a.m. -conclusion of meet each day.

Hydration: Water and Gatorade are the only permitted drink allowed on the track facility.

Meet Clerking Information: All track competitors in a running event must report to the staging area/clerks tent at south end of track when their track event is called, unless the athlete made prior arrangements with the Meet Referee-Conflicts. No coaches are allowed in the staging area. Field event competitors must report directly to the field event competition area when their field event is called.

For long jump, high jump, triple jump, and pole vault contestants will access these events through the southeast gate. Contestants must be wearing their bib number, uniform and facial covering to enter.

Clerk's Tent Access: Only competitors dressed in their uniform wearing their bib number will be given access to the Clerk's tent/staging area on the South End of the Track. Contestant numbers must be pinned at all four corners on the FRONT of the track uniform shirt/jersey, unless instructed to do otherwise by the Clerk of Course. Athletes are required to wear a facial covering in the clerk's tent.

Hip Numbers: Contestants will wear lane numbers on both sides of their hips for the F.A.T. timing device. The Clerk of Course will distribute the numbers.

Relay Alternates: Teams qualifying any number of relay teams will be allowed four relay alternates per qualifying relay.

Relay Batons: In the relay events, relay teams must use the batons furnished by the IHSAA. Please make sure these IHSAA batons are returned to the Relay Clerks at the finish line immediately following the relay.

Uniform: Contestants wearing caps, hats, beads in braids, body appliques or other adornments will not be permitted to compete. Narrow headbands to keep the hair from interfering with a contestant's vision will be permitted. Competitors must follow the instructions of the officials.

- **The jersey shall not be knotted.** The National Federation and Illinois High School Association interpretation is simply, "Anything other than smooth (no knots) alterations of the uniform are illegal." The straps may be taped no more than two (2) layers of tape. It is not legal for shorts to be rolled at the waistband.

- **Tights/Leotards/Visible Undergarments:** If a competitor wears any visible undergarments, they must be worn underneath the track shorts and/or track jersey. Undergarments are not subject to the uniform rule as the rules only apply to the outer school issued/approved garments. Therefore, undergarments worn by relay team members do not have to be similar in color in style (no matter the length).
- **Spikes:** All spikes must be presented and will be checked in the Clerks tent (Running Events)/venue (Field Events). Athletes will not be allowed to compete without having their spikes checked. Any athletes competing with illegal spikes will be disqualified. $\frac{1}{4}$ " Pyramid Spikes on contestant shoes are the only acceptable spikes allowed in All venues of O'Brien Field/Lantz Fieldhouse. Competitors will not be permitted to wear spikes in the hallways of Lantz building. Spikes may be worn only in the field house track area.



- The Games Committee has determined that athletes may not remove any portion of the team uniform inside the fence surrounding the track and at the site of the shot and discus. (Rule: 3-2-2)

O'Brien Field Facility Information

Track: The meet will be held on a 9-lane royal blue Rekortan Full-Pour Polyurethane running surface. The High Jump areas and the runways for the Long Jump, Triple Jump and Pole Vault consist of royal blue track surface - Martin Surfacing Full-Pour Polyurethane surface.

Tape: Tape for any marking (jumpers'/throwers' markings) must be white athletic tape. NO other tape will be allowed.

High Jump Marks: Marks on the High Jump runway are to be made with chalk only. A maximum of two marks per competitor will be permitted on the High Jump runway and neither mark is permitted to be closer than 2 meters to the bar.

Common Finish line: All running events will end at the SW corner of the track on the main grandstand side: Wind direction may cause the hurdles and the 100-meter dash to be run in the opposite direction. Wind direction may also cause the 200-meter dash to be run in the opposite direction if the timing operator has the capability and ample time to make such a switch.

Lane Information: Relay markers will be available at the zones, on a limited basis, from Inspectors. A reminder: the marker may be used only in the competitor's own lane including the outside lane line to the right of the competitor.

Starting Blocks: Competitors may use their own starting blocks provided they are adaptable to the track surface without causing damage to the track. However, blocks will be available for use.

Food or beverage: No food or beverage is permitted in any area of the Lantz Building Complex or Lantz Fieldhouse indoor track facility. No containers, cans, bottles or ice chests will be permitted in the stadium seating area at O'Brien Field or Lantz Fieldhouse. Schools are asked to please inform their fans that they will not be permitted to bring these items into the stadium.

Participant Access: Track Competitors who are checking into track events are required to do so through the Clerks Tent/Staging area. Participants will only be allowed entry into the spectator seating areas if they are wearing their team uniform and numbered bib.

Warning: The synthetic turf inside the track will retain heat. Be sure to protect your athletes' feet by requiring them to wear shoes if permitted on the infield for any reason.

Team Tent Set-Up Area: School team tents may only be set up in the grassy area southwest of the grandstand. NO TEAM TENTS WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE AREA CONTAINING THE CLERKS TENT AND THROWS COMPETITION/SPECTATOR AREA IMMEDIATELY



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SOUTH OF THE STADIUM. TENTS PLACED IN RESTRICTED AREAS WILL BE REMOVED (neither the IHSA nor EIU are responsible for the condition of tents removed from the restricted areas).

Ticket prices: \$10.00 daily. To purchase online digital tickets, there will be a small service fee. **Fans who will be watching the Field Events outside of the Stadium must purchase a ticket to watch the events.**

Ticket Distribution: **Tickets will be sold on a first come first served basis and based upon what capacity limits are permissible per IDPH Guidelines.** Tickets may be purchased at the O'Brien Field Ticket Office on the day of the State Final Meets.

New in 2021 Online Ticket Purchasing: Tickets can be **pre-purchased using EIU's digital ticketing platform.** To order digital tickets to secure your admission and/or avoid the lines at the ticket office, please purchase your ticket at this link:

https://gf1.glitnirticketing.com/gfticket/web/ev_list.php.

Wireless Communication Devices are Prohibited: Competitors are prohibited from having and/or using wireless communication devices (headphones, cell phones, audio players, etc.) in the restricted competition or warm up area of the track and field complex. Any athlete in possession of or using a wireless communication device in the restricted area is subject to disqualification. The restricted area is the area inside of the stadium perimeter fences as well as the clerk's tent.

Jury of Appeals/Protests: A Jury of Appeals will be designated by the IHSA and will be utilized as described in National Federation Rule 3-5. All Appeals of officials' decisions must be submitted in writing to the Jury of Appeals by the head coach within 30 minutes of the posting of the results for an event. In ruling on appeals, the Jury of Appeals shall not set aside or waive the provisions of any NFHS Track and Field rule or Terms and Conditions for the series. The decision of the Jury of Appeals in ruling on any such final appeals shall be final. THERE IS NO VIDEO REVIEW DURING THIS PROCESS.

Results: Event results will be available on the IHSA website (www.ihsa.com) or through Athletic.net immediately after they are verified by meet officials. Complete State Final results will be available immediately after the meet on both the IHSA Web Site and Athletic.net. Hard copies of results will not be posted this year.

Viewing Videos: A competitor can view video between trials or races. Viewing of such video must not delay competition and could only be done in an area approved by a meet official.

Scratch Form: Coaches will be issued scratch form in their team packet (they are also available online). The form is to be completed and presented to the Head Clerk by the head coach. Completing and submitting the form will result in the Head Coach NOT being called to the clerk's tent during the meet when his/her athlete fails to report at the appropriate time for competition in the clerk's tent.

For this year, there will not be preliminaries in field events. Athletes competing in all horizontal jumping and throwing events will be provided with four (4) attempts. Those with the best seed marks will be placed in the last flight. In the vertical jumping events each flight will compete to completion before the next flight begins. Those vertical jumpers with the best seed marks will be placed in the final flight.

High Jump and Pole Vault: For the High Jump and Pole Vault, the starting height and the bar moves will be announced by the Games Committee. The Qualifying Height for the Class 1A/2A/3A Finals in the High Jump and Pole Vault will be approved by the Games Committee and will be based on the performances in the first flight in each Class. The Games Committee will approve the starting height and the bar height adjustments for the Finals on Thursday and Friday after the preliminaries are concluded.

IHSA Pole Vault Weigh Verification Card: Each pole vault competitor must submit an IHSA Pole Vault Weight Verification Card to the Head Pole Vault Event Judge. The Head Event Judge will have cards to be completed. The weigh-in will be conducted in the official's tent in the southeast corner of O'Brien Field.

Storage of Pole Vault Poles: Vaulting poles can be stored in the hospitality tent located in the southeast corner of O'Brien Field. This area is not secure. Competitors who leave their poles in the tent do so at their own risk.

Impounded Shots and Discuses: Legal implements will be provided at the competition areas to be used by competitor(s) whose shot, or discus is impounded (or for competitor(s) that fail to meet the inspection deadline). Impounded implements may be picked



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up after competition at the site of the competition in each event. The implement inspection tent will serve both the shot and discus events and will be in the area containing the throws events south of the stadium.

Throwing Rings: Discus Throw and Shot Put will be from concrete surfaced rings. Competitors should wear rubber-soled shoes.

Adhesive Sprays in Shot Put and Discus: Adhesive sprays are permitted in the Shot Put and Discus when the competitor is using their own implement. If a competitor is using an implement provided by Meet Management because their implement has been impounded, no adhesive spray may be used since the implement is provided for the "common use" of competitors.

Towels for Implements: In case of rain, competitors will be responsible for furnishing their own towels for drying off their shots and discuses.

Throwing Sector: The throwing sector for both the shot and discus will be 34.92 degrees

Time Limits When Contestants Leave a Field Event to Compete in Another Event: The Games Committee has authorized the Head Judge of each field event to set the time limit for competitors excused to compete in another event. The Head Judge will record on the field event card the event for which the competitor is being excused with the time leaving and the time the competitor must return.

Awards Presentations: Due to multiple limiting factors for this year, there will not be formal awards presentations for individual recipients at the State Finals. Medals for individual events will be available at the State Final Meets. Awards marshals will organize individual awards throughout the meets. After the meets or after a school's athletes have finished competing, awards may be picked up at the awards pickup area (same location as packet pick-up). Only school administrators or head coaches can pick up awards, and they must provide their signature and the time of pick up on an awards sign out sheet.

Team awards and/or Combined Team Champion awards will be distributed to only the receiving teams' head coach, administration, and team on the track in front of the main grandstand after the meet has concluded.

Awards will remain the same as in past years (Individual events = top 9 places in all events; Team = trophies and team medals for top 3 teams; Combined Team (If criteria is met) = trophies and team medals for top 3 teams).