



2024-2025 IHSA Boys Volleyball Series Terms and Conditions

In accordance with Section 1.450 of the IHSA Constitution, the Board of Directors has approved the Terms and Conditions governing the 2024-25 IHSA Boys Volleyball Tournament Series.

I. School Classification

- Competition in the IHSA Boys State Volleyball Tournament Series will be held for all member schools without classification.

II. Dates and Sites

A) Regional matches shall begin on Monday, May 26, 2025, with the championship taking place on Thursday, May 29, 2025 with the host school determining the nights to be played on with IHSA determining the pairings. **In years when the regional preliminary matches fall on Memorial Day Monday, hosts have the option to play their preliminary matches on Saturday prior to Memorial Day Monday and continue with matches on Tuesday as scheduled.**

B) The sectional semifinal matches shall be held on Saturday, May 31, 2025. The Sectional Final match shall be held on Tuesday, June 3, 2025.

C) The State Final Tournament shall be held on Friday June 6, 2025, and Saturday, June 7, 2025, at Hoffman Estates High School, 1100 W. Higgins Road, Hoffman Estates. Mr. Steve Lacni, Athletic Director, will serve as the State Final Manager.

III. On-Line Entries, Withdrawal Procedures, Eligibility, Affirmative Actions, and On-Line List of Participants

A) On-Line Entries: All member schools must enter their school into the state series competition through the IHSA Schools Center on the IHSA Website at (www.ihsa.org). The deadline for entry is February 1, 2025. The 2024-25 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 the 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 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 \$500 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 boys shall be permitted to participate in the state series except as provided in the IHSA Affirmative Action Policy.

F) On-Line List of Participants: On-line List of Participants does not apply to team sports.

IV. Host Financial Arrangements

A) Regional Host: Each host school shall receive \$300.00 per night for hosting the regional and shall be reimbursed the cost of line judges no more than \$35.00 per line judge per match. R1 and R2 officials will be paid by the IHSA via Arbiter Pay. The host shall retain 20% of net income and submit the remainder to the IHSA. In the event of a negative balance, the host shall receive some reimbursement. If admission is not charged, the host shall forfeit the guarantee.

B) Sectional Host: Each host school shall receive a flat guarantee of \$700.00 for hosting the sectional and shall be reimbursed the cost of line judges no more than \$50.00 per line judge per match. R1 and R2 officials will be paid by the IHSA via Arbiter Pay. The host shall receive 20% of net income. If admission is not charged, the host shall forfeit the guarantee.

C) Digital Tickets: Per IHSA Board Policy 22, GoFan Digital Tickets will be the exclusive ticket option available for this sport at the Sectional and State Final rounds of the State Series. Any exceptions must be approved by the IHSA office.

D) 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**

Ticket: \$7

*If GoFan is used:

Digital Ticket: \$6

Cash Ticket: \$7

SECTIONAL

Digital Ticket: \$8

Cash Ticket: \$9

STATE FINAL

Digital Ticket: \$10

Cash Ticket: \$11

E) Rights Fees for TV and Radio: See the IHSA web site (www.ihsa.org) for the fees to be charged by Local Managers and/or the IHSA for television and cable broadcasts and radio originations.

V. Tournament Assignments and Seeding Meetings

A) Sectional Complex Assignments for Schools: 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 be gin with 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 #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) Regional Assignment for Schools: The sectional(s) with teams assigned from outside the suburban area will have all the teams assigned directly to one of four regionals.

C) Tournament Series: The successive tournament series shall be designated respectively as regional, sectional, and state final. The IHSA Office will select all regional and sectional host sites. All schools, including the Chicago Public Schools, entered in the state series will be assigned to either a regional or sectional complex based on geography.

D) Seed Meetings: All seeding meetings shall be conducted on-line through the IHSA School Center. Schools competing in the state series whose teams are assigned to a sectional complex shall seed the teams in their sectional. All schools assigned to a regional shall seed all schools assigned to their regional. Information regarding the on-line seeding process will be made available to participating schools in the *IHSA Boys Volleyball Manual for Schools*.

E) Season Summary Sheet: Schools entered the state series will be required to submit a *Season Summary Sheet* on-line in the IHSA School Center. Failure to do so by the required date and time will result in a school forfeiting its opportunity to participate in the seeding process. The *Season Summary Sheet* can be found in the IHSA School Center.

F) Pairings: Schools assigned to the regional tournaments will utilize true seeds within their regional for determining the regional bracket. The sectional pairings for this group shall have the two regional winners from the south playing each other and the two regional winners from the suburban area playing each other. Teams assigned to a sectional complex will utilize true seeds for determining the regional and sectional brackets unless conflicts arise from the seeds of the pre-determined host.

VI. Tournament Structure and Time Schedules

A) Playing Order: No local manager is authorized to change the order matches are to be played as determined by the system adopted and announced by the IHSA Office. Matches must be played as listed from top to bottom on the official schedule unless otherwise specifically approved by the IHSA office. Any request for changes must be based on mutual agreement of the participating schools and officials. All such requests must be made through the Sectional Manager to the IHSA.

B) Time Schedule:

1. Regional matches shall start no earlier than 5:30 pm with the regional championship starting no earlier than 6:00pm.
2. Sectionals with 2 matches in one night shall start no earlier than 5:30 pm; sectionals with 1 match shall start no earlier than 6:00 pm.

3. State Final Time:**Friday, June 6**

Session 1 (Quarterfinals)

Match 1 10:30 a.m.

Match 2 11:30 a.m.

Session 2 (Quarterfinals)

Match 3 1:00 p.m.

Match 4 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 7

Session 3 (Semifinals)

Match 5 10:00 a.m.

Match 6 11:00 a.m.

Session 4 (Consolation and Championship Matches)

Match 7 4:00 p.m.

Match 8 5:30 p.m.

VII. Advancement of Winners

- The winners of 32 regional tournaments shall advance to 8 sectional tournaments consisting of 4 teams each. The winners of the 8 sectionals shall advance to the state final tournament.

VIII. Tournament Rules

A) Rules of Play: The current NFHS Volleyball Rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations are the official rule for all tournament matches except as state in these Terms and Condition or in printed instructions from the IHSA Office.

B) Rally Scoring: By state association adoption, matches will consist of the best 2 out of 3 games (no cap). Each game including the deciding game will be played to 25 points (no cap).



C) Players in Team Uniform: In each of the tournament matches, a participating school shall not have more than twenty-two (22) eligible personnel on the bench. This includes players in team uniform, coaches, and/or support personnel. There is no limit to the number of players in uniform, provided that the number of individuals does not exceed the 22-person limit.

D) Warm-up Time: When taking the floor for a contest, teams should take the shortest path to their own side of the court and not run through the area occupied by the opposing team, where their opponents are warming up, or split into two lines and circle their opponents. Where possible, teams should only enter, jog, or warm-up on their own half of the court.

If a team arrives early, ball handling is permitted on the court prior to the timed warmups. If both teams are present, each team shall be restricted to their side of the playing court. The warm-up time for each match will be 2-6-6 with both teams sharing the first 2 minutes, the first 6 minutes will be the home team on the entire court, the second 6 minutes will be the visiting team on the entire court. When teams are off the court ball handling is allowed if space allows. If space is limited teams shall be restricted to ball handling behind the end line.

All warm-up apparel (Jackets, pants, shirts, shorts, etc.) must be removed by both teams by the conclusion of the 2-minute warm-up period. Warm-up apparel is not required to be worn by a team or to have a number on it.

The team listed on the top of the bracket shall be the home team. Teams listed on the bottom of the bracket shall be the visiting team. Teams shall occupy the bench adjacent to their playing court.

E) Official Wilson Volleyballs: In the state series a Red/White/Blue Wilson I-Cor WTH7700/XRWB volleyball with the NFHS logo. The host school will choose the ball for regular season match (white is still an option).

F) Team Roster: At least one-half hour before the match a roster of the eligible boys must be submitted to the official scorer. After having designated these players, a school will be limited in that tournament match to the use of the boys thus named. Rosters may change at each level of state series and each day.

G) Practice: In the Sectional and State Final Tournament matches, the host school shall not make its gymnasium available to the visiting teams for practice sessions prior to day of competition.

H) Host Schools: For regionals and sectionals, only, the gym (and the net system) needs to be available and ready 60 minutes prior to the start of the match. Teams can take the court no sooner than 45 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of said match.

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

B) Bands: A host school may provide a school pep band. Members of the band will be admitted free of charge. Instruments should not be used for cheering purposes. No other band other than the one from the host school shall be admitted as an organization except by special permission of the Executive Director who will act only on a local manager's request.

C) Artificial Noisemakers: All artificial noisemaking devices shall be prohibited. The local manager has the authority to exclude noise making devices that distract from the competition including megaphones and drums. The playing of music/sound effects shall only be permitted prior to start of sets, during warmups, time outs, between sets, and following competition.

D) Signs and Banners: The display of signs, banners, placards or similar items at IHSA state series events is permitted, provided they are in good taste, reflect good sportsmanship in their message, they reflect identification and encouragement to participants and their school/community, they are not displayed on the field of play or in a manner which interferes with play, they do not obstruct the view of participants or spectators, and they are safe.

E) Cheerleaders and Mascots: Participating schools may use their school's cheerleaders. A maximum of twelve cheerleaders in school uniforms may be on the floor.

F) Damage to Property or 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.

G) Media Requirements:

1. Provide Space: Space shall be set aside to provide for news media representatives covering the state series whether they are for 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, collect proper rights fees payments (where required) and make cancellation refunds for television and/or radio play-by-play originations, according to IHSA Television and/or IHSA Radio Broadcast 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. All media requirements for the State Final tournament shall be handled through the IHSA Office.

4. Local tournament managers shall be responsible for reporting tournament information and results to the IHSA Office and the news media as stipulated in printed instructions received from the IHSA Office.

IX. Tournament Policies

A) State Final Passes: In each of the tournaments, a participating school shall not have more than twenty-two (22) eligible personnel on the bench. This includes players in team uniform, coaches, and/or support personnel. There is no limit to the number of players in uniform, provided that the number of individuals does not exceed the 22-person limit. Passes shall be used by a school approved, certified assistant coaches or students from the member high school acting in a team manager role. In addition, a school will be provided 1 athletic training pass for a school that brings a certified athletic trainer. The team bench area shall be restricted to the players and team personnel who have been issued a pass.



H) Videotaping by Schools or Spectators: 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. Non-competing schools and spectators will be allowed to videotape matches in the stands, provided they do not obstruct the view of participants and spectators.

I) Flash Photography: The use of flash cameras is prohibited by fans during the match. News media is allowed the use of strobe lighting or electronic flashes provided the local manager agrees that the flashes are not causing interference with the conduct of the contest. The local manager can require at any time, the photographer to cease use of the flash. The manager's decision is final.

J) 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.

K) 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.

L) 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.

M) Prayer at IHSA State Series Contest: Prayer at an IHSA state series contest that takes place over the public address system is **prohibited**.

N) State Final Team Reimbursements: In the State Final tournament, the participating teams shall be allowed transportation expenses at the rate of \$2.00 per mile per team for one round-trip to and from the center where the State Final tournament is played. In addition, each team that participates in the State Final tournament shall receive a flat team expense allowance. Teams traveling 0-150 miles round trip to the state final site shall receive a \$500.00 reimbursement. Teams traveling 151-300 miles round trip to the state final site shall receive a \$1,000.00 reimbursement. Teams traveling over 300 miles round trip to the state final site shall receive a \$1,500.00 reimbursement.

Neither the State Association nor the local tournament manager will assume responsibility for any other team expenses of any kind except those expenses specified above. Individual schools entering the tournament series must be ready to assume responsibility for unusual expenses due to accident, inclement weather, fire, theft, or any other extraordinary cause.

O) Regional and Sectional Pass Gate: Five (5) school administrators, head and assistant coaches will be admitted free to the regional and sectional tournament. In addition, they will also be allowed one guest each. Additionally, the manager, scorekeeper, video/camera operator, bus driver, athletic trainer and all rostered players will be admitted free to the contest on the days their team is playing. They will not be allowed a guest. Rostered players will only be admitted into the regional and sectional tournament if accompanied by the coach. All other representatives from a school must pay to attend a state series tournament. Participating schools must complete the IHSA Pass Gate Form and return it to the Tournament Manager prior to the start of the regional and/or sectional event.

X. Awards

A) Regional and Sectional: The Illinois High School Association will furnish a team plaque for the winners of the regional and sectional tournaments.

B) State Finals:

1. Team: Trophies will be presented to the first, second, third and fourth place teams at the state finals.

2. Individual: A total of 26 medallions will be presented to the schools of that first four placing teams at the State Final Tournament. This includes the superintendent, principal, athletic director, and athletic trainer (if working at state final) will be presented with a medallion

C) No other trophies or awards of any kind may be presented in the tournament series. Only 15 players, coaches, managers, trainer plus if present a Superintendent, Principal and/or the Athletic Director may participate in the awards presentation. These awards will be furnished the State Association and are not an expense charged upon the individual tournament.

XI. Officials

A) Appointment and Fees

1. Tournament Officials: The R1 and R2 for all tournament series matches including the preliminary match will be assigned by the IHSA Office. In all tournaments, the decision of the officials shall be final. The Board of Directors will not review decisions of officials, whether alleged error is due to faulty judgment or misinterpretation of the rules.

Detailed information regarding assignment of officials will be posted on the IHSA Schools Center to all schools that are hosting a tournament one week prior to the start of the level hosted.

a. Regional Fee: In the preliminary, quarterfinal, semifinal and final regional tournaments, each Referee and Umpire shall receive a fee of \$76.50 per match. Officials will be paid by IHSA via Arbiter Pay. Line judges shall receive a minimum of \$35.00 per match worked, to be paid by the host school.

b. Sectional Fee: In the sectional tournaments, each R1 and R2 appointed by the IHSA shall receive a fee of \$95.00 per match. Officials will be paid by IHSA via Arbiter Pay. Line judges



shall receive a minimum of \$50.00 per match worked, to be paid by the host school.

c. State Final Fee: In the state final tournament each appointed Referee and Umpire should receive a flat fee of \$680.00. Each Line Judge shall receive \$130.00 per day. In addition, each Official and Line Judge who incurs an overnight lodging expense, shall receive a \$60.00 lodging allowance for each of the three (3) nights lodging upon receipt and approval from the IHSA Administrator. Officials will be paid by the IHSA via Arbiter Pay.

d. State Final Officials Coordinator: The Coordinator shall receive \$170.00 a day. In addition, the coordinator shall receive an overnight lodging expense of \$60.00 per night for a maximum of three (3) nights upon receipt and approval from the IHSA Administrator.

B) Scorers and Timers: The local manager will hire scorers and timers. Experienced adults are recommended as scorers and times. The host school shall pay all local workers including the scorers and times from the host school allowance.

C) Line Judges: Regional managers will provide (2) two-line judges, a scorer, a libero tracker, and a timer. It is recommended that the regional manager hire a licensed official for the line judge positions. Local officials' associations or assignors can be used to help find officials to fill these roles. If a licensed official is not available, line judges must be at least 18 years of age and may not be a member of a competing boys' volleyball team. It is recommended that the line judges be adults and wear a white, short-sleeve polo shirt, dark slacks and black or white shoes and socks. Line judges **may** use flags.

The IHSA will assign line judges for the sectional contests.

D) Mileage Fee: In the state series, to assist officials for out-of-pocket expenses, a voucher system will be used to compensate officials when they drive more than 70 miles round trip per contest. Payment will be made through the IHSA Office, after completion of the tournament series, at a rate of forty-five cents (\$.45) per mile for all mileage more than 70 miles round trip. No compensation will be permitted for trips of less than 70 miles round trip per contest.