

## **MINUTES OF THE IHSA DANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Wednesday, February 28, 2024- Virtual Meeting

The IHSA Dance Advisory Committee meeting was held virtually. Committee members present were: Tonay Tucker, Chicago (Whitney Young); Savannah Stanaszek, Deerfield (H.S.) ; Rebecca Hack, Eureka (H.S.); Tarah Haskenherm, Effingham (St. Anthony); Mark McDowell, Quincy (Notre Dame); Clint Hamilton, Highland; Christina Erickson, (IHSA Official) and Lynn Gelatka (IHSA Head Clinician). Eugenia Scavone was unable to attend the meeting. IHSA Assistant Executive Director Tracie Henry conducted the meeting.

### **Administrative Recommendations**

1. **Competitive Dance Deductions/Legalities** – A deduction of 4.0 **-0.25** will be taken for dancing outside or violating the competition boundary.

**Rationale:** Reducing the point value for out of bounds is less punitive for dancers.

2. **Competitive Dance Deductions/Legalities-** Technical Officiating: Add **Performance Based Legality** to the technical score sheet for dance: **Performance Based Legality = 2.5 deduction**

**Rationale:** Less punitive for dancers. Example: a log roll in which the top person over/under rotates and land in a face down position, or when a top person does not pass through but unintentionally stops in an extended inverted position. The NFHS rule book was developed to ensure student-athlete safety. Intentional legalities will still receive a -5.0 (major) deduction (i.e. tosses, extended stunts where the feet are in the hands of the bases, releases to new catchers, etc.) Skills in which are choreographed illegally per NFHS Rules will still result in a -5.0 deduction.

3. **Recommendation: Increase the range for judges scoring to fall within different rubric sub-captions.** The current point value spread between judges is 0.8. The change will allow for crossover between ranges (ex. Excelling and Applying), while still maintaining the point value (0.8) spread between judge scores for consistency.

**Rationale:** The change allows for judges to have more autonomy. Allowing judges to be in different ranges will give teams and coaches a broader scope and understanding when there are range changes at subsequent competitions.

### **ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

1. Tracie Henry reviewed the proposal process. **IHSA Advisory Committees** communicate information about their area of interest to the [Board of Directors](#) and staff. She clarified which committees make recommendations for changes in policy, administration, and terms and conditions. The Terms and Conditions recommendations are reviewed by the [IHSA staff](#), [Athletic Administrators](#) and then either approved or rejected by the Board of Directors. The committee reviewed the minutes of the 2023 Competitive Dance Advisory Committee Meeting.
2. The committee provided general feedback on the IHSA Dance season including Sectionals and the State Final. The committee discussed the process for schools to express interest in hosting a Sectional competition. Tracie Henry communicated that every school entered in the IHSA Dance

State Series was asked in August of 2023 if their school had interest in hosting a sectional and if they would be willing to be a part of a host rotation. All five (5) sectional host sites for 2025 are confirmed.

3. The committee discussed a proposal to increase the number of contests allowed per IHSA By-law 5.352. Tracie Henry communicated the process for an amendment to the IHSA By-laws as well as the [Legislative Commission](#). In October of 2023 a proposal was submitted to the Legislative Commission to increase the contest limitations to eight (8) contests effective within 30 days of passing. The Advisory Committee supports the increase from six (6) to eight (8) contests but encourages the author to strike the 30-day provision before submission for October of 2024.
4. The committee reviewed a proposal to adjust the tournament time schedule to allow for equal team celebration times on the State Final floor, the committee prefers the current time schedule.
5. The committee reviewed a proposal to revise NFHS major deductions from - 5 pts. to -0.25.
6. The committee discussed the scoresheet and rubric at length. The committee reviewed a proposal to amend the current scoresheet and reviewed two proposals for new scoresheets options. After reviewing all options, the committee favored the current scoresheet.
7. The committee considered a proposal to remove the minimum number of dancers on the floor. The committee was concerned that without the minimum, teams could enter a solo or ensemble instead of a team. Teams can dance with less than five (5) dancers on the floor but receive a one-point deduction. The committee believes the minimum actually increases participation on dance teams amongst most school to encourage schools to floor five (5) dancers.
8. Tracie Henry recognized out-going committee members Tonay Tucker, Chicago (Whitney Young); and Savannah Stanaszek, Deerfield for their service to the committee.