

IHSA Golf Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes – 12.8.22

The committee met at the IHSA Office in Bloomington on Thursday, December 8, 2022.

Present: Greg Dennis, Girls coach at Normal (University); Chris Eddy, Girls Coach at O'Fallon (H.S.); Neil Alexander, Athletic Director at Lincoln; Brad Kerkman, Boys Coach at DeKalb; Kara Salmieri-Parks, Girls Coach at Plano; Beth Summers, Principal at Freeport (H.S.); IHSA Associate Executive Director Kurt Gibson and IHSA Assistant Executive Director Stacey Lambert

Terms and Conditions Recommendations

1) Recommendation: VII. Advancement of Winners F. Regional and Sectional Ties 1) new a (reorder)

- a. All playoffs must be overseen by a neutral party, with no player or team member involved in the playoff.

Rationale: This ensure that playoffs are not run by a coach with a player participating in the event. The coaches should be able to coach their player like they have for the rest of the round, instead of trying to run the playoff.

Approved by Consent

Discussion Items

1. The committee discussed the recently completed state series.
 - a. The Committee talked about a situation that occurred in a playoff at a boys' state series event. The Committee talked about how bringing in outside officials or neutral parties to oversee these situations is the only course of action. IHSA staff will work with hosts to remind them that coaches with players involved should not be the ones overseeing any playoffs.
 - b. The Committee talked about in girls golf, players are taking an excessive amount of time to read the greens, making the other players feel like they had to speed up. The Committee talked about starting to read the put before it is your turn so that you're more ready to take your shot when it is your turn.
 - i. Some players may play very fast tee to green and then play slow on the green, not going over their allotted time for the hole, but spending most of their time on the green.
 - c. IHSA Staff will work to communicate to coaches how to teach players to play ready golf to maintain the pace of play in the preseason rules video and update again mid-season to help coaches.
 - i. Can coaches put players on the clock during the season, especially early in the season as a pacing guide. This will help kids get used to playing ready golf as well as prepare them for the post season. Teach players to be good golf citizens.

- d. IHSA Staff can put information in the rules video reminding coaches the length of the state finals courses so that coaches can prepare during the regular season for the longer courses of the state finals.
2. The committee discussed polling the coaches on multiple golf topics. A survey will be sent out to golf coaches shortly after the new year.
3. The committee discussed bringing ties to the state finals. They felt that you run the risk of bringing many more players than the 1 player who lost the tie. Tabled until the results of the poll comes out.
4. The committee discussed iWanamaker:
 - a. The Committee expressed some concern with players having phones out, believing they pay more attention to what opponents are doing than what they need to be doing.
 - i. The Committee asked the IHSA Staff to speak with iWannamaker representatives to see if the app could be adjusted so that it takes more keystrokes to get to the results page or prevent them from seeing it, or if a setting can be developed to allow coaches lock to lock certain leaderboard pages for their team.
 - b. The Committee indicated that, in their view, the app isn't user friendly to make changes. The IHSA Staff shared that the next iteration of the app/website is coming, and the updates will allow changes to be made through phones on the website.
 - c. The Committee talked about adding language in the Terms and Conditions that only allows players to have their phones out a certain times on the course.
5. The committee discussed distance measuring devices, and expressed that their belief is that the current rule/allowance for these devices is appropriate.
6. The committee discussed coaches coaching on the course. They discussed how coaches should not coach a player from the time that player steps on the green until they step off and that delaying the player stepping off the green hurts the pace of play. No further action was taken.
7. The committee discussed the lack of driving ranges at regional/sectional courses. The IHSA will continue to try to find courses with driving ranges and work with those that don't to set up a plan so that players can properly warm up. It is hoped that more schools that regularly play at courses with driving ranges will become willing to host post-season events.
8. The committee heard that the girls golf maps will be redrawn prior to the 2023 season in accordance with the IHSA policy. Please note that redrawing maps, however, does not mean that every school in every class will be in a new sectional and/or regional grouping next year. The geographic proximity of some schools to others makes that impossible.
9. The committee thanked out-going members Kara Salmieri-Parks and Chris Eddy for their years of service to the group and high school golf.