

# Minutes of the IHSA Wrestling Advisory Committee Meeting

March 9, 2022

The IHSA Wrestling Advisory Committee met virtually on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Committee members present: Andrew Johnson, Chicago (C. Military Academy-Bronzeville); Chris Testone, Burlington (Central); Josh Oster, Lockport (Twp.); Rich Montgomery, Rock Falls; Phil Sexton, Urbana (H.S.); Nick Miller, Washington; Eric Roberson, Alton (Sr.), and Sam Knox, IHSA.

Nate Kessen, Official from Sugar Grove, was absent.

Guests Tony Clarke, Mike Manahan, and Liz Short were also present.

The committee discussed and approved the minutes from the April 14, 2021 meeting.

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:**

### **1. V. Tournament Assignments & Seeding Meetings: B. 2) Individual Sectional Pairings**

**Recommendation:** Seed the Boys Individual Sectional using similar criteria that is used to seed the Individual State Finals, with adjusted win totals as noted below.

Returning Sectional Champion at any weight class = 30 points  
Returning Sectional 2<sup>nd</sup> place at any weight class = 25 points  
Returning Sectional 3<sup>rd</sup> place at any weight class = 20 points  
Returning Sectional 4<sup>th</sup> place at any weight class = 15 points  
Returning Sectional Qualifier at any Weight Class = 10 points  
34 or more wins = 15 points  
29-33 wins = 10 points  
24-28 wins = 7 points  
19-23 wins = 5 points

**Rationale:** This recommendation is intended to bring consistency to all levels of the state series tournament. The Individual Wrestling state series seeds the Regional and the State Finals brackets but not the Sectional brackets. Currently, the Sectional brackets are created by pre-determined schematics that place wrestlers randomly in the bracket based on their finish at the Regional. Sometimes, the top two wrestlers in the Sectional are randomly placed on the same side of the bracket. Seeding the Individual Sectional will ensure that the #1 and #4 wrestlers are on the same side of the bracket and the #2 and #3 wrestlers are on the same side of the bracket, just like in Regional and State Finals brackets.

**Died for Lack of Motion**

### **2. V. Tournament Assignments and Seeding Meetings: B. 4) Dual Team Sectional Pairings**

**Recommendation:** Seeds and pairings for the Dual Team Sectional matches will be determined by a vote of the four coaches whose teams are participating in that Sectional. Coaches will submit their season summaries in the IHSA Schools Center. Voting for seeds will take place in the Schools Center.

Coaches will submit their season summaries by 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday of IHSA Week 32.

The link to seed the teams will open at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday of IHSA Week 32.

The deadline to complete seeding is 12:00 p.m. on Thursday of IHSA Week 32.

The #1 seed will wrestle the #4 seed. The #2 seed will wrestle the #3 seed. The two teams that win their Sectional semifinal duals will advance to the Dual Team State Finals.

**Rationale:** Dual Team Sectional pairings are currently determined through a blind draw. Since the Dual Team Sectional is the first round of team competition, coaches would like to be able to vote for seeds in a method similar to what coaches do in other team sports.

Died for Lack of Motion

### 3. V. Tournament Assignments and Seeding Meetings: C. Dual Team Roster

**Recommendation:** Add a reference to NFHS rule 11-1-4 that requires wrestlers to weigh in at the same weight on both days of a dual team tournament.

**Rationale:** Now that the Dual Team State Finals is a two-day event, wrestlers must meet this rule in order to participate on both days of the tournament.

Approved by Consent

### 4. V. Tournament Assignments & Seeding Meetings: E. 3) Seeding the Girls Individual State Finals

**Recommendation:** Adjust the seeding chart for each Girls Individual Sectional champion to award points for the following number of regular season victories.

20 or more wins = 15 points  
15-19 wins = 10 points  
10-14 wins = 7 points

**Rationale:** This adjustment reflects a more realistic win total for girls based on the number of matches they wrestle during the regular season.

Approved by Consent

### 5. VI. Tournament Structure and Time Schedules: A. Boys Individual Tournaments

**Recommendation:** The first day of the Boys Individual State Finals will feature only 1A and 2A schools. After the preliminary rounds, each class will also wrestle winner's bracket quarterfinals and first round wrestlebacks on Thursday.

3A schools will begin their tournament on Friday with preliminaries followed by winner's bracket quarterfinals and first round wrestlebacks.

**Rationale:** The current State Finals tournament is a three-day event. The proposed format allows one class to have a two-day tournament. The initial proposal has 3A schools in a two-day tournament, but the classes could rotate annually to give wrestlers a State Finals experience where their matches aren't spread out over a three-day tournament.

Died for Lack of Motion

## 6. VI. Tournament Structure and Time Schedules: B. 1) Dual Team Tournaments

**Recommendation:** Dual Team Sectional semifinals will begin at 6:00 p.m.

**Rationale:** Current language says Dual Team Sectional semifinals will begin no later than 5:30 p.m. Starting at 6:00 will give host schools more time to allow other teams to practice after school before the hosts need to set up the gym for wrestling.

Approved by Consent

## 7. VI. Tournament Structure and Time Schedules: Girls Individual State Finals Tournament

**Recommendation:** Begin Round 1 wrestling on Friday morning at 9:00 a.m. with weigh-ins at 7:30 a.m.

**Rationale:** We estimated times for the inaugural Girls Individual State Finals Tournament. We learned that we can start at 9:00 instead of 8:30 and will still have plenty of time to wrestle the portion of the Girls Tournament we need to complete on Friday.

Approved by Consent

## 8. VI. Tournament Structure and Time Schedules: Dual Team State Finals Tournament

**Recommendation:** Begin weigh-ins on Friday afternoon at 3:30 p.m.

**Rationale:** With the new rule that requires wrestlers to weigh in while wearing their competition uniforms, weigh-ins are completed much more quickly. Moving weigh-ins to 3:30 creates less down time between the start of weigh-ins and the start of competition at 5:00.

Approved by Consent

## 9. VI. Tournament Structure and Time Schedules: Dual Team State Finals Tournament

**Recommendation:** Begin Championship and 3<sup>rd</sup> place duals at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday.

**Rationale:** We estimated times for the inaugural Girls Individual and Dual Team State Finals Tournament. We had a significant amount of down time between the end of the girls tournament and the beginning of the championship and 3<sup>rd</sup> place duals. Moving the championship and 3<sup>rd</sup> place duals to 6:00 will allow the tournament to run more efficiently.

Approved by Consent

## 10. VIII. Tournament Rules: H. Team Tiebreaker

**Recommendation:** Edit this section to state: In the event that a tie score exists in a dual meet at the Sectional or State Finals, refer to NFHS rule 9-2-2.

**Rationale:** Our current Terms and Conditions lists all the rule language from rule 9-2-2 (letters a.-p.). The NFHS rule added a letter in a recent year. Now the rule is letters a.-q. Our Terms and Conditions don't need to repeat the entire rule verbatim. If we state we will follow NFHS rule 9-2-2, that simplifies our Terms and Conditions.

Approved by Consent

## 11. X. Awards: B.

**Recommendation:** Award team trophies to the top three teams in the Girls Individual State Finals based on tournament scoring from the NFHS rule book. Award 16 medallions to each of the top three teams for wrestlers, coaches, superintendent, principal, athletic director, and athletic trainer.

**Rationale:** Girls wrestling does not have a dual team competition. This recommendation allows schools to earn State Finals team awards based on their individual wrestlers' performances, similar to other sports where individuals participate with a team component.

Died for Lack of Motion

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

1. The committee discussed options to potentially alter the overall postseason schedule to allow the Boys and Girls Individual Sectionals to be on separate weekends.
2. The committee discussed the potential of seeding teams at the Dual Team State Finals.
3. The committee discussed wrestling another round at the Dual Team Sectional to determine a Sectional champion. In this format, only four teams from each class would qualify for the Dual Team State Finals.
4. The committee discussed using team scores at the Individual Sectional to seed the Dual Team Sectional and using team scores from the Individual State Finals to seed the Dual Team State Finals.
5. The committee discussed conducting the Girls Individual State Finals and the Dual Team State Finals as separate one-day tournaments.
6. The committee discussed the possibility of cooperating with Champaign and Urbana high schools to allow wrestlers to practice and warm up during the Boys Individual State Finals.
7. The committee recognized outgoing members Andrew Johnson, Chicago (C. Military Academy-Bronzeville); Josh Oster, Lockport (Twp.); Phil Sexton, Urbana (H.S.).
8. The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.