

**MINUTES OF THE IHSA OFFICIALS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
September 8, 2022**

The IHSA Officials Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, Bloomington, Illinois, on Thursday, September 8, 2022, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were Doug Elledge, New Canton; Lance Emery, Mokena; Patricia Flesher, Waukegan; Chris Frasco, IESA; Michael Hurckes, Ringwood; Kelly Lucas, Mt. Zion; Scott Maupin, Wilmington; Jerry (Jay) Miller, Centralia; Michael Mitchell, Palatine; Benny Phillips, Decatur; Summer Riordan, Palatine; Noreen P. Rodriguez, Arlington Heights; Connie Scott, Winnebago. Committee members Mark DiMarzio, Springfield; Scott Hagel, Wauconda; Rick Karhliker, NFOA; Doug Neufeldt, Roselle; Donna Mobley, Maywood; were unable to attend.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The committee approved the following grant requests

| Association | Requested Amount | Purpose | Approved Amount |
|---|------------------|--|-----------------|
| Blackhawk Officials Association | \$500 | Education & Equipment | \$500 |
| Central Illinois Football Officials Association | \$500 | Education & Equipment | \$500 |
| Decatur Area Officials Association | \$500 | Recruiting, Mentoring, Education & Equipment | \$500 |
| Illinois Dance Officials Association | \$350 | Education | \$350 |
| Rock River Officials Association | \$500 | Recruiting | \$500 |

Rationale: The IHSA and IESA have provided grant money for a recognized association to apply for up to \$500. The committee has reviewed the grants and made the above recommendations.

Approved by Consent

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS:

2. **Recommendation:** The committee recommends the following be included as acceptable attire for volleyball officials
 - a. black shorts with a minimum of 7" inseam

Rationale: The committee recognizes that there are times – often during the first part of the girls’ season and the end of the boys’ season – when officials may work volleyball contests in extremely hot, unairconditioned gyms. In those environments, officials are more susceptible to heat illness, and the committee believes allowing officials another uniform option is appropriate. In making this recommendation, the committee realizes that the IHSA Volleyball Advisory Committee and IHSA Administration will also need to review and weigh in on this recommendation.

Died for Lack of Motion

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION:

1. The committee reviewed the minutes from its April 2022 meeting.
2. The committee reviewed the grant proposals made by officials' associations. Those supported by the committee are listed above.
3. The committee emphasized the importance and necessity of school administrators requiring coaches in all sports to submit ratings on officials. Officials in all sports continue to be bothered by the fact that the number of ratings received each year do not match the number of contests they work. This lack of ratings frustrates officials tremendously.
4. In an open discussion on any topics related to officiating, the committee brought forward the following topics:
 - a. The committee suggested conducting a survey of officials from a cross section of all sports to get a general sense of challenges they face along with preferred supports that could be offered by either associations or the state office. IHSA staff agreed to work with the committee on preparing something that could be distributed to officials later this school year.
 - b. To help with recruiting of new officials, the committee discussed a variety of ideas, including:
 - i. Creating some kind of program that would allow 16-year-olds to get involved in officiating in an 'apprenticeship type' program that could include assigning a mentor to program participants.
 - ii. Examining ways to reduce licensing costs for officials, particularly first-time licensees, who also have start up equipment costs to begin their officiating careers.
 - c. Discussing inconsistencies and other concerns relative to the post-season assigning process. The committee reviewed a proposal concerning the football assigning process but took no action on it.