

## **IHSA Esports Advisory Committee Meeting**

**July 18, 2022**

**9:00 a.m.**

The IHSA Esports Advisory Committee met on July 18, 2022, in an online setting from various communities across Illinois, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Committee members present were: James Keathley, Elgin (H.S.); Jarrod Rackauskas, Normal (Community West); and Brock Frazier, Metropolis (Massac Co.). Also in attendance was Kurt Gibson, IHSA Associate Executive Director, and Dan Le, IHSA Assistant Executive Director. Committee members unable to attend were: Patrick Davey, Chicago (Lane); Amy Whitlock, Oswego (East); Jeff Pitner, Rockford (Guilford); and Tom Hawkins, Galesburg (H.S.). Jeff Pitner sent an email prior to the meeting to contribute to the discussion.

### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS**

None.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS**

None.

### **ITEMS OF DISCUSSION:**

1. The committee was introduced to new IHSA Assistant Executive Director, Dan Le, who will serve as the IHSA administrator for esports.
2. The committee discussed ideas on possible expansion of IHSA esports competition in addition to the games played in the state series last year.
  - a. The committee discussed the challenges associated with adding more PC games, including costs, differences in PCs between schools, and school spaces for PC gaming.
  - b. The committee also discussed adding one or two more console games. Suggestions included Mario Kart, Mario sports games, Madden, Smite (similar to League of Legends), and Splatoon.
  - c. The committee discussed that additional titles should mirror what colleges are doing and to consider games that can be played on a console and a PC.
  - d. The committee also discussed expansion by increasing the number of entries per school in the sectional and state qualifiers for individual games.
3. The committee discussed the pros and cons on rotating games in a 4-year cycle.
4. The committee discussed having more in-person competitions and creating an email list of coaches to help schools connect with other schools and schedule competitions.
5. An advisory committee meeting will be scheduled for the first week of August to finalize any recommendations of additional titles and/or changes to the state series format, which will be brought to the IHSA Board of Directors at their August meeting.