

MINUTES OF THE 2023-24 BOYS/GIRLS BASKETBALL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

April 23, 2024

The IHSA Boys and Girls Basketball Advisory Committee met at the IHSA office on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, beginning at 10 a.m. Committee members present were Jill Pepin, Stockton; Laurie Thompson, Teutopolis; Kyle Weber, Pleasant Plains; Lee Bennett, Centralia (H.S.); Julie Schultz, Burbank (Reavis); and Cabrina Williams-Leneau, Gurnee. Also in attendance were IHSA Associate Executive Director Kurt Gibson and IHSA Assistant Executive Director Beth Sauser. Committee members Marvin Williams, Chicago (Von Steuben); Beth Doetch, Poplar Grove, (North Boone) were unable to attend.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Adopt a revised State Finals schedule beginning with the 2024-25 season that plays six games on the first day of the tournament, five games on the second day of the tournament, and five games on the final day of the tournament. (see appendix A)

RATIONALE: The committee continues to favor a scheduling approach that provides a two-day State Finals experience for the competing teams. The committee believes this approach will be better for the student-athletes and not infringe on the final day of championship games.

Administrative Recommendations

1. The committee recommends the use of the following State Association Adoptions next year:
 - a. Mercy Rule: continue using with previously established parameters
 - b. Coaches Box (28' in length)
 - c. Shot Clock
 - i. May be used in regular season, regular season tournaments, and shoot-out games without prior approval by the IHSA Office. The decision to use the technology is left to conferences and individual schools.
 - ii. For non-conference games, both schools must agree in advance to use the technology.
 - iii. The model rule previously adopted by the IHSA Board of Directors must be used.

RATIONALE: The NFHS Basketball Rules Code allows states the flexibility to adopt specific adjustments to a select number of rules. Over the years, the IHSA had adopted modifications to the rules above. The committee believes the current adoptions remain relevant and should continue to be accepted.

2. Implementation of the 35-second shot clock beginning with the 2026-27 IHSA Girls and Boys Basketball State Series.

RATIONALE: Given the demonstrated success of the two-year pilot/experimental shot clock usage phase, the committee favors establishing a date when the shot clock will be implemented in the state series. By establishing a date for implementation into the 2026-27 state series, member schools will have three full summer periods and three full regular seasons to prepare for its application.

Items of Discussion

1. The committee reviewed the minutes from the 2023 meeting.
2. The committee reviewed the 12 new by-laws approved by the IHSA membership earlier this school year. The committee heard a short report on the new by-laws concerning all-star games and strength and conditioning workouts.
3. The committee heard a short report from IHSA staff concerning basketball rule proposals being considered by the NFHS Board of Directors. The advisory committee did not express any concerns about the new rules that went into effect this year.
4. In reviewing the State Adoptions, there was considerable discussion by the committee about the pros and cons of the shot clock. Conversation regarding styles of play and defensive team strategies were areas of high interest. There was a general belief by the committee that lower-level teams may not be ready for its use. Concerns were brought forward by the committee concerning training for officials and competent table personnel. IHSA staff shared a perspective and belief that, given the success of the two-year experimental phase, moving forward with the use of the shot clock beginning with the 2026-27 state series would allow schools appropriate time to prepare for this transition. The committee also expressed their opinion that shot-clock use should be left to individual schools or conferences to decide in game levels below varsity.
5. The committee discussed the structure of the State Finals, and shared successes and challenges. The committee wondered aloud if more consideration could be given to finding a way to allow competing schools to have a two-day experience at the State Finals. The committee reviewed suggestions from member schools and IHSA staff on how the finals could be restructured. The committee revisited their tabled recommendation from 2023, and reinforced their opinion that this is a preferred approach to be considered and made a recommendation to that effect.
6. The committee discussed the use of GoFan in the state series, sharing successes and challenges. The committee encouraged IHSA staff to consider what, if any, safeguards can be instituted to prevent schools from having difficulties in meeting the ticketing demands of their fans during the state series.
7. The committee heard a report from IHSA staff regarding the number of officiating licenses issued this year. While the number has increased this year compared to last, but there are still challenges in meeting the number of games played around the state, even with a larger officiating pool.
8. The committee reviewed a handful of Terms and Conditions requests submitted by member schools. The committee thoughtfully discussed the requests but did not move any of them forward. During that discussion, the committee expressed their desire to have an identical format (either Sub-Sectionals or Sectional Complexes) used in all classes in both genders of basketball. IHSA staff encouraged the committee to speak within their conferences to gauge the support for this idea across other team sports (baseball, softball, volleyball, etc.).
9. The committee was informed by the IHSA staff that the Wilson EVO NXT will be the official ball used in the Girls and Boys state series beginning with the 2024-25 season.
10. The committee thanked outgoing members Lee Bennett, Beth Doetch, and Cabrina Williams-Leneau for their service to the Association.

Boys

| Day | Session | Start Time | Games |
|------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Thursday | 1 | 9:30 a.m. | 1A semis (2) |
| | 2 | 2:00 p.m. | 2A semis (2) |
| | 3 | 6:00 p.m. | 3A semis (2) |
| Friday | 4 | 9:30 a.m. | 1-3A cons. (3) |
| | 5 | 6:30 p.m. | 4A semis (2) |
| Saturday | 6 | 9:30 a.m. | 4A cons. (1) |
| | 7 | 1:00 p.m. | 1-2A champ. (2) |
| | 8 | 6:00 p.m. | 3-4A champ. (2) |

Girls

| Day | Session | Start Time | Games |
|------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Thursday | 1 | 9:30 a.m. | 1A semis (2) |
| | 2 | 2:00 p.m. | 2A semis (2) |
| | 3 | 6:00 p.m. | 3A semis (2) |
| Friday | 4 | 9:30 a.m. | 1A cons. (1) |
| | | 11:30 a.m. | 4A Semis (2) |
| | 5 | 6:00 p.m. | 2A/3A cons. (2) |
| Saturday | 6 | 9:30 a.m. | 4A cons. (1) |
| | 7 | 1:00 p.m. | 1-2A champ. (2) |
| | 8 | 6:00 p.m. | 3-4A champ. (2) |