

## BOYS/GIRLS SWIMMING/DIVING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

April 15, 2015

The IHSA Swimming/Diving Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, Bloomington, Illinois on Wednesday, April 15, 2015, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee Members present were: Joe Plack, Official, Deerfield; Rob Rooney, Coach, St. Charles (North) H.S.; Jim Caliendo, Coach, Orland Park (Sandburg); Dave Stephens, Coach, Chicago (St. Ignatius College Prep); Lynn Thompson, Coach, Peoria (Richwoods) H.S.; Brad Bevis, Athletic Director, Edwardsville H.S.; Will Barker, Coach, Champaign (Central); Mary Beth Stephens, Coach, Springfield (H.S.); Others in attendance, Ron McGraw, IHSA Asst. Executive Director; Kayode Adegoke, IHSA, Coordinator of Special Programs; Randy Oberembt, Athletic Director, Winnetka (New Trier); Chris Livatino, Athletic Director, Evanston Twp. H.S.; Mike Hutton, Coordinator of Officials, Lake In The Hills.

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

#### **1. Item VII-B – State Swim Qualifying Standards**

**Recommendation:** To adopt the following qualifying standards. Sectional Qualifying Standards for the Boy's and Girls State Finals will be determined in the following manner. The Qualifying Standards for each individual swimming event will be calculated by determining the 30<sup>th</sup> place time from all sectionals. Then that time will be used to obtain an average of the last FIVE years average times in each event. In relay events the same process will be implemented but the 24<sup>th</sup> sectional place time will be used to make the calculations. Any time calculated to be slower than the existing qualifying time would not be used in that event. The existing time would remain. Using this process, the proposed qualifying standards for the 15-16 seasons are:

#### **BOYS STANDARDS 2016**

200 Medley Relay	1:37.60
200 Free	1:44.63
200 IM	1:58.14
50 Free	21.87
100 Butterfly	52.59
100 Free	47.78
500 Free	4:45.95
200 Free Relay	1:27.88
100 Back	53.63
100 Breast	1:00.30
400 Free Relay	3:13.84

#### **GIRLS STANDARDS 2015**

200 Medley Relay	1:49.19
200 Free	1:55.16
200 IM	2:10.22
50 Free	24.50
100 Butterfly	58.42
100 Free	53.25
500 Free	5:09.87
200 Free Relay	1:38.75
100 Back	59.08
100 Breast	1:07.31
400 Free Relay	3:36.26

**Rationale:** The advisory committee feels that we are on the right track by using this system. We will use a five year average. Other associations and swim organizations use a method similar to the objective method proposed in this system. Using an objective system should be easier to use, easier to defend and provides fair standards for competitors. If necessary in the future, the system is adjustable by using a different average sectional time or a different average (i.e. 4 years). The Assistant Executive Director working with the swimming and diving advisory committee has reserved the right to make changes if it is obvious that this would be necessary in order to protect the integrity of the meet. Any time calculated to be slower than the existing qualifying time would not be used in that event. The existing time would remain.

**Motion passed 8-0**

**Approved**

**2. Terms and Conditions Item X-B, VIII-L and M, VII-C and E (Awards, Tournament Rules, and Advancement of Winners)**

**Currently:**

The state meet advances 12 qualifiers from the preliminaries to the finals in swimming and diving. Furthermore all 12 qualifiers will medal and score towards team points.

**Recommendation:**

A recommendation was brought forward which will allow 18 finalists to advance to Saturday's finals in all events (diving included), 18 places will be scored, and 18 individual and relay awards will be issued by the IHSA.

**Rationale:**

In an attempt to align Illinois with other state associations, the committee determined that scoring and medaling 18 finalists will help recognize more student-athletes who are deserving of the opportunity to swim on the final day of the state final, allow for more growth within the sport, and allow for Illinois Swimming and Diving to be recognized nationally. Further logistics that are anticipated to impact the current format will be brought forward by the committee at a later date (such as a realistic estimate concerning the additional time it will require to conduct the extra heats and make award presentations).

**Motion passed 7-0-1**

**Died for Lack of Motion**

**3. Terms and Conditions Item III E- Rules Meeting Presentation**

**Recommendation:**

Require any diving coach, who wishes to be considered to officiate in the state series, to view an additional diving rules presentation which will be specific to diving rules and protocols. The Assistant Executive Director in charge of Swimming and Diving will have the ability to appoint a coach to a site when circumstances would require doing so.

**Rationale:**

The members of the committee would like to see more consistent practice in the scoring of diving events. The belief from the committee is that this online educational tool will assist in reducing the disparity among scored divers in the state series, with primary focus on improving the sectional events.

**Motion Passed 8-0**

**Approved**

**4. Item VI- State Meet Schedule**

**Recommendation:** Adjust the start time of Saturday's state finals as follows:

**SWIM STATE FINAL SCHEDULE FOR 2015-16**

**Saturday, Swimming and Diving Finals:**

8:30 a.m.: Outside Entrance opens to coaches/participants

8:30-9:30 a.m.: Pool doors open to divers/coaches only for diving warm-ups

9:15 a.m.: All participants and coaches scheduled for arrival

9:30 a.m.: Doors open to public

10:15 a.m.: Pool doors open to participants and coaches (by Entrance Order number) for Warm-ups.

10:30 a.m.: Pool opens for warm-ups

10:30 a.m.: Officials Meeting See online state final instructions for complete details.

11:00 a.m.: Spectators allowed in pool seating area  
11:15 a.m.: One Sprint Lanes open  
11:30 a.m.: Two Sprint Lanes open  
12:00 p.m.: Swimming and Diving Finals begin

**Rationale:**

It is generally agreed upon by the advisory committee, officials and meet management that this proposed change to the Saturday finals schedule could be moved back and have no adverse effect on the day's events.

**Motion Passed 8-0**

**Approved**

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

None

**ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION**

1. Ticket Distribution: Review the ticket allocations for the 15-16 seasons. Each qualifier receives 2 tickets. Continue to allow two tickets for the single relay alternate. Do not count divers in the number used to calculate available tickets (they already have access to tickets for the diving event). Allow 3 to 4 extra tickets per qualifying school (if available).

Proposal: For the extra 4 tickets per team allowed this year, develop a formula that gives teams that qualify more relays more tickets.

Example: A team with one qualifier gets 6 tickets, which is 4 more than they used to receive. That is a 6:1 ratio on tickets. A team that has 10 qualifiers, gets 24 tickets. This is a 2.4/1 ratio.

It becomes a PR game of which coach spends the most time negotiating with other coaches. Example: You will notice certain teams with far more than 24 fans in the stadium on Friday--as many as 100. My guess is they contact every team with one qualifier and buy up those tickets. This means those teams don't really need 6 tickets.

If you went 3 tickets per qualifier this year, total ticket would have been about exact same as now with a fair distribution to all teams. A backup plan is that to a system something similar to a 3:1 ratio.

1 qualifiers=1 extra ticket  
2,3 qualifiers= 2 extra tickets  
4-5 qualifiers=4 extra tickets  
6-7 qualifiers=5 extra tickets  
8 and above=7 extra tickets

Total distribution would actually be less.

Discussion: The committee discussed this item and concluded that the current format for ticket distribution is more favorable and effective for coaches and spectators. Coaches have adapted to this format of soliciting additional tickets through various forms of networking.

No action taken.

2. Require all schools to attend the sectional seed meeting.

Discussion: The committee discussed this item. No action taken

3. Allowing additional entries into the State Finals, on an “as needed” basis to fill the first heat of each event. For example, if there are only 3 entries in the first event, after all State Finals entries are determined through first place at the Sectional meet or swimming the State qualifying time, additional entries would be added to fill the first heat, using the next fastest times in order from all Sectional meets, much as how the diving field is filled, and how the NCAA’s fill the meet using ranked B cuts. These students would not be allowed spectator tickets, to alleviate deck and spectator crowding. The same could be done with relays.

Discussion: The committee discussed this item. No action taken

4. Conduct seeding meetings electronically.

Discussion: The committee discussed this item. No action taken

5. Submit IHSA sectional entry via hitek software to the IHSA and the host site for sectionals versus current entry process. Enter Divers electronically through a program (e-dive)

Discussion: The committee discussed this item. No action taken

6. Extend warm up time on Friday an extra 15 minutes. Allow athletes to start warm up once they are on the deck no waiting until 2 pm.

Discussion: The committee discussed this item. No action taken

7. Examine another site for the state meet. When pressed on solutions I was given the following: UIC, Univ of Chicago, and IUPUI in Indiana or Pleasant Prairie, WI. Stevenson.

Discussion: Ron McGraw informed the committee that he has never received a bid from any other venue but that it is possible that UIC may be planning to so. As always, any venue interested in hosting the IHSA Swimming and Diving State Finals are encouraged to reach out to Ron McGraw.

The committee discussed this item. No action taken

8. Seed Meeting Proposals: Eliminate the seed meeting - no need to meet, the entries can be sent back to the coaches for verification, all can be done electronically.

Proposal Number 2:

Sectional Seed Meetings being completed electronically/online

- a. It is my understanding moving to electronic seed meetings would not cause the IHSA and additional work.
- b. The Sectional Referee would have to be copied on all correspondence to the Sectional Meet Manager from the IHSA.
- c. It will be mandatory that the Meet Referee be included in all correspondence from either the IHSA or the Meet Manager to the Sectional Coaches. This is essential to ensure that all meet managers understand the Seeding rules and when corrections or scratches may occur.
- d. We need to develop “operating procedures” for the Sectional Meet Manager on how to handle an online seeding meeting. We need some specific comments to go out to the Sectional coaches as reminders from Term and Conditions points such as substitutions, scratch meeting, etc.
- e. The Coordinator of Officials will need to change the presentation somewhat for the Meet Referee’s pre-sectional conference call. In addition, I believe the Assistant Executive Director from the IHSA should be in attendance on the call.

**Discussion: The committee discussed this item. No action taken**

9. Two Qualifying dates - in addition to qualifying at Sectionals have an opportunity to qualify earlier in the year. One Sat. in Jan perhaps.

**Discussion: Ron McGraw reaffirmed that Swimming and Diving, like all IHSA sports is conducted as a “State Series.” Consequently, there are no opportunities to qualify for the state finals outside of the “State Series” events.**

**No action taken**

10. Use relay cards - have coaches submit relays on cards before the event. Now the officials check before the races which seems to be a slow process.

**Discussion: The committee was informed that coaches are currently turning in relay cards at the state meet. This aids the computer operators in acquiring the names of each teams relay participants. This act has nothing to do with the fact that IHSA officials are required to check in each relay team at the blocks prior to each heat. This is to confirm that the relay is swimming only eligible athletes and subsequent disqualifications are never necessary due to an illegal relay participant.**

**No action taken.**

11. Continue to use formula for state cuts, but have them always end in a 9. Example: If cut is 59.53, have it be 59.59.

**Discussion: The committee discussed this item. No action taken**

12. State qualifying proposal for Diving Event - Proposal by David Likar

Instead of having 16 different judging panels deciding which divers are qualifying for the state meet based on highest score, a new, fairer, and proven system should be used to qualify divers to the state meet.

The “zone” system is the same system that NCAA Division I diving uses to qualify divers to the national meet. In this system, there is a score that must be obtained during the season by the diver and an optional DD requirement to qualify for the Zone meet. Here are the requirements for divers to qualify for the Zone meet.

- Must score 375.00 points or higher in an 11-dive meet during the season
- Must have a DD of 13.0 or higher for their optional total.
- Schools can only send a maximum of two divers to a Zone meet.

The Zone Meets

There will be four Zone meets based on geographical locations. 4 sectionals will feed into each of the zone meets. All divers complete 11 dive list. The top 9 divers from each zone meet will qualify for the state final. In addition, based on the finalist from the previous year, a total of 12 additional spots will be brought back to the Zone where the former finalist or finalist’s school is competing. (Example: Glenbrook North hosts a zone meet. The previous season, Evanston had two divers in the top 12. Evanston is competing at the Glenbrook North Zone so the top 11 (9+2) places at the Zone meet qualify for the state final.) In this format, 48 divers still qualify and compete at the State Finals.

Judging panels will be voted on by the diving coaches 1 hour prior to the meet (3 coaches, 2 officials, 1 referee)

Rationale:

1. In this format, score inflation would not be a factor because the qualifying standard is based on place rather than being based on point totals.
2. There would be evenly distributed geographical representation in the diving event.
3. This system has been used by NCAA Division I diving for many years and is still used today so the system has been proven to be fair and equitable.
4. Team points would still be awarded to count towards sectional swimming. (use attached scoring sheet)

What would be needed to move to this format?

- 4 sites willing to host the meet (Friday afternoon prior to sectionals)
- A total of 12 officials (3 per zone)

Example- (Based on 2015 Sectional Assignments and 2014 State finalists)

Zone #1

Barrington

Vernon Hills

Northbrook (Glenbrook North)

Elmhurst (York)

9+5= **14 qualify**

Zone #2

Oak Park (Fenwick)

Glenview (Glenbrook South)

Chicago (St. Ignatius College Prep)

Frankfort (Lincoln-Way West)

9+3= **12 qualify**

Zone #3

Byron  
St. Charles (East)  
Naperville (Neuqua Valley)  
Lockport (H.S.)  
9+3= **12 qualify**

Zone #4

Normal (Community)  
Urbana (H.S.)  
Springfield (H.S.)  
East Moline (United)  
9+1= **10 qualify**

**Discussion: The committee discussed this item in conjunction with item number 3.**

**No action taken.**

13. Evanston divider curtain: String a curtain to retain as much of the noise as possible. The curtain could be funded by one of the IHSA sponsors with their logo visible for spectators and the IHSA streaming. Before we make this proposal to the Advisory Board, we should determine if Evanston would have any objection. Assuming they have no objection, it would be interesting to hear what the coaches on the Advisory Board think of the proposal.

**Discussion: The committee discussed this item. No action taken**

14. Starting blocks at Evanston must be evaluated to meet the same standards for each lane. There are two blocks that are loose and the settings are not allowing the blocks to be solid fitting for the athletes. Blocks are being held tight by towels and wedges.

**Discussion: The committee discussed this item. The IHSA and Evanston Township High School have previously discussed this concern and are actively exploring a solution to this issue.**

15. Host sites should have reaction pads. These pads should be used as a back up to the officials for takeoff reaction times.

**Discussion: The committee discussed this item. No action taken**

16. Meet Schedule and Days of the competition –  
Friday afternoon - night Diving Prelims  
Saturday Prelims  
Sunday Finals  
Rational for this change:
1. Keep student athletes in school on Friday
  2. Travel for the down state teams – students can remain in the class room for a full day on Thursday and Friday.
  3. Reduce stress on host facility and the school general body can retain a normal school day.
  4. Meet start time on Saturday and Sunday can be similar 10 am or 12 pm
  5. Decrease in number of schools having to fund overnight expenses due to a late conclusion time on Friday night and diving warm up with overnight stay on Thursday.
  6. School budgets are being reduced and funds are being cut. Schools would be able to cut down on travel expenses

7. This time and day change could allow us to explore running expanded finals to meet the needs of our student athletes.
8. Meet officials would not be placed in a situation where they have to take a day away from primary job or leave work early to volunteer for IHSA state meet on Friday.
9. Coaches / Teachers would not have to leave work on Friday. Decrease on sub request for coaches to leave school saving schools sub pay.
10. Spectators high school students who are fans of the sport would not have to skip school to attend meet.

**Discussion: The committee discussed this item. No action taken**