

MINUTES OF THE IHSA OFFICIALS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
April 20, 2017

The IHSA Officials Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, Bloomington, Illinois, on Thursday, April 20, 2017, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were: Greg Nelson, Chicago; Lora Boehne, Pingree Grove; Nancy Myer, Geneva; Perry Korbakis, Crestwood; Dion Wiley, Ford Heights; Steve Garbaciak, Mokena; Jamero Rainey, Edwards; Cyndi Kraemer, Decatur, John Overstreet, Paxton (P.-Buckley-Loda); Richard Cacciatori, Hudson; Christina Thomas, Abingdon; Betty Moore, Taylorville; Larry Mueller, Belleville; Ed Schell, McHenry; Nicole Schaeffbauer, IESA; Sam Knox, IHSA. Absent were: Rick Karhliker, Springfield; Eric Rankin, Dakota

The committee discussed and approved the minutes of the September 8, 2016 meeting.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. **Recommendation:** The committee recommends the following change to the Officials Power Rating score.

An official who attends more than one clinic each year will receive one additional Power Rating point for each additional clinic he/she attends, up to a maximum of two additional clinics.

For example: An official attends three different soccer clinics this school year. She receives five Power Rating points for the first clinic she attends. She receives two additional Power Rating points for the two additional clinics she attends, for a total of seven Power Rating points.

**Rationale:** Officials who are investing their time and effort to attend multiple clinics and learn from different clinicians should be rewarded with additional Power Rating points.

**Died for Lack of Motion**

2. **Recommendation:** The committee recommends bringing back previous Power Rating language that awards five extra Power Rating points to officials who attend a Level 2 clinic in their sport. Level 2 clinics in Baseball and Softball teach three-person mechanics. Therefore, Baseball and Softball officials at the Registered level will be highly encouraged to attend a Level 1 clinic. In Baseball and Softball, only Recognized and Certified officials will earn the five extra Power Rating points for attending a Level 2 clinic.

**Rationale:** Officials who attend Level 2 clinics to learn advanced officiating skills should be rewarded with additional Power Rating points. Since Level 2 clinics in Baseball and Softball teach three-person officiating mechanics, Registered officials should focus their educational efforts and clinic attendance on Level 1 clinics to learn the basics of two-person mechanics. When Baseball and Softball officials reach the Recognized or Certified level, they will gain more practical understanding of three-person mechanics at a Level 2 clinic.

**Died for Lack of Motion**

3. **Recommendation:** The committee recommends implementing a mentoring program for new officials on an individual basis. See the separate sheet that explains the details of the mentoring program.

**Rationale:** The committee believes that officials who are interested in learning and becoming a better official will benefit from individualized attention from a mentor official. The committee believes this individual connection with a mentor will not only help an official learn but will help with retention rates for our inexperienced officials.

### **Failed**

4. **Recommendation:** The committee recommends a \$5 increase in officials registration fees for the 2018-2019 school year. The fee increase will allow all officials to have access to Zoom, a video-based officials education website.

**Rationale:** The committee understands the benefits of using video to educate officials in every sport. Zoom technology was created by officials for officials education. With Zoom, IHSA officials would have access to game videos and training videos, created by clinicians, designed to increase officiating knowledge and skills.

### **Tabled**

5. **Recommendation:** The committee recommends that the IHSA requests all member schools to pay officials within 30 days of the contest.

**Rationale:** The committee understands that many schools face financial challenges, and the reality is that not all schools pay officials on the same day of the contest. However, the committee feels that payment within 30 days is a reasonable request.

### **Died for Lack of Motion**

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

1. The committee discussed the summer Officials Conference on July 21 & 22 in East Peoria.
2. The committee discussed the potential addition of an award at the summer conference that would recognize an official(s) who has had a significant career as both a certified educator (teacher/administrator) and as an official.
3. The committee discussed adding language to the Officials Handbook that indicates a paper contract for a game and an electronic contract or electronic communication for a game are both considered to be contracts for an official to officiate a contest.
4. The committee discussed the concept of implementing an increased number of new questions on the rules exam every year.
5. The committee discussed the possibility for officials to view their individual ratings for their contests at the end of the season as opposed to just viewing a ratings percentile.

6. The committee discussed the concept of requiring officials who have earned promotion to R or C status to take the Part 2 exam every three years; similar to the requirement to attend a clinic every three years.
7. The committee discussed the concept of term limits for head clinicians.
8. The committee discussed the idea of Power Rating points for officials who have officiated multiple State Finals tournaments and whether or not those points earned for officiating a State Finals tournament should eventually be reduced after a certain number of years following an official's final trip to the State Finals.
9. The committee discussed the concept of erasing all Top 15 lists at the end of the 2016-2017 school year and requiring coaches and assignors to resubmit new Top 15 lists. The intent of the Top 15 lists is to keep the lists current and up-to-date. The committee feels that requiring coaches and assignors to create new lists would ensure more accurate and valid lists.
10. The committee discussed the potential implementation of the Arbiter officials scheduling program on a statewide basis.
11. The committee discussed options for recruiting new officials.
12. The meeting concluded at 2:00 p.m.