

SCHOLASTIC BOWL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The IHSA Scholastic Bowl Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, Bloomington, Illinois on Wednesday, May 3, 2017, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee Members present were: David Brendt, Asst. Principal Maine South H.S.; Chad Sloan, Coach, Warrensburg Latham H.S.; David Edwards, coach, Mt. Vernon; Jonathan Legendre, Coach, Chicago (Latin); Brad Fischer, Former Coach, Rockford (Keith Country Day). Others in attendance: Kraig Garber, IHSA Assistant Executive Director; Rob Grierson, Coordinator of Officials, Skokie, IL;

TERMS AND CONDITIONS AND RULE CHANGE RECOMMENDATIONS:

VI. Tournament Structure and Time Schedules

Recommendation: After the recommended time schedule in subsection E, add a sentence that requires regional and sectional managers to scan and email all regional/sectional match scoresheets to kgarber@ihsa.org.

Rationale: The committee felt that given the recommendation for a new head editor for the state series questions, it is important to provide him with as much data as possible for the continued improvement of the questions. In addition, the committee felt that this data could be linked to the IHSA Scholastic Bowl webpage as a way to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of individuals and teams who have competed in the state tournament.

Motion approved by the Advisory Committee 6-0

Approved By Board

Administrative Recommendations:

1. **Question Source:** The committee supports the recommendation to allow Brad Fischer to serve as the new Head Editor for the IHSA State Series Questions. Brad is from Rockford, IL and has been a strong supporter of IHSA Scholastic Bowl dating back to his high school years at Winnebago High School. He has served as a moderator in both IHSA Regionals and Sectionals as well as other large tournaments across the state and country. He served as a coach in Keith Country Day in Rockford where his team made it to state twice taking 3rd place in 2013. He just finished up a 3-year term on the IHSA Scholastic Bowl Advisory Committee. Brad has been involved with question writing since high school. His question writing experience has primarily been in IHSA format. He is currently the Director of Question Production with the National History Bee and Bowl, a history oriented quiz bowl competition that hundreds of schools nationwide play each year. He is also the Co-editor (along with his wife) of the SCOP Novice set, which over 100 Illinois schools annually play each fall. Brad is very excited for the opportunity to serve as the IHSA Head Editor of the State Series questions.

Prior to voting, the committee discussed the potential conflict of interest that arises because Brad's wife is the coach of a team that participates in the State Series. Along with his bid, Brad provided a written assurance that he will keep the questions confidential, and the committee feels that bringing the potential conflict to light serves to further ensure that no infractions occur.

Motion approved by the Advisory Committee 4-1 (Brad Fischer recused himself from the discussion and vote)

Approved By Board

2. **Definition of a “date” in IHSA Scholastic Bowl:** The committee recommends including the following Illustration for Scholastic Bowl in reference to By-law 5.362.

Q. What is a date for Scholastic Bowl?

A. Dual, triangular, and quad multi-team events, and local tournaments, during which all contests are played on the same calendar day, are considered a single Scholastic Bowl date. Statewide, television, and multi-state tournaments, during which teams are eliminated over the course of the tournament and only certain (winning) teams advance to additional days, will count as the number of calendar days on which every team is guaranteed a match. (By-law 5.362)

Rationale: Scholastic Bowl teams have the option to compete in several statewide, television, and multi-state tournaments, including (because the season is year-round) the IHSA State Series. Teams are limited to 27 dates, but there is no way to predict whether they will “advance”. As such, these tournaments are counted differently.

Motion Approved by the Advisory Committee 6-0

Died for Lack of Motion

Other items of discussion:

1. **Securing Hosts and Getting More Involvement in Kickoff and Turnabout Tournaments**
The committee discussed ways that the IHSA and IHSSBCA could partner together to get more people to host and attend Kickoff and Turnabout Tournaments. This would be more for the IHSSBCA to promote, but since teams attend such vastly different weekend tournaments, seeding could be enhanced by increased participation in Kickoff and Turnabouts. Additionally, it could be helpful for Illinois scholastic bowl and seeding for the IHSA series if the coaches association considered sponsoring an additional tournament a few weeks before seeding meetings.