

Minutes of the Athletes with Disabilities Advisory Committee
February 6, 2019

The IHSA Athletes with Disabilities Advisory Committee met in the IHSA Office in Bloomington, Illinois, on Wednesday, February 6, 2019. The meeting began at 10:00 a.m. and concluded at approximately 12:00p.m. Voting Committee members present were: Ken Mansell, A.D., Jacksonville (I.S.V.I); Brian Hofman, A.D., Chicago (Lane); Robert Ruiz, A.D., Deerfield; Jill Jung, Principal, Freeburg, and Bruce Weiman (via conference call). Other guests and non-voting members were: Leslie Alappattu, IESA Asst. Director; Kraig Garber; IHSA Asst. Executive Director.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

Girls/Boys Swimming & Diving – I. School Classification

Recommendation: The committee recommends the following changes to provisional classifications:

- b. If a student athlete with a physical/visual disability is not classified as detailed above by the time of the Sectional meet, the athlete ~~will~~ **may** still be allowed to swim in the athletes with physical/visual disabilities division **on a provisional status**, but will automatically be classified to swim under Classification B. **A student athlete with a physical/visual disability may not swim under a provisional status in more than one IHSA State Series in his/her high school career.**

Rationale: There currently aren't any restrictions on the number of provisional classifications that a physically/visually disabled swimmer may be provided in his/her high school career. Limiting the number of provisional classifications for swimmers with physical/visual disabilities to once per high school career will ensure that swimmers have a first-time opportunity to swim in the state series if they were unable to achieve a formal Paralympic classification in advance of the state series. At the same time, it will require that physical/visually disabled swimmers who receive a provisional classification establish a formal Paralympic classification in the future so that they can be placed in the appropriate IHSA Classification.

Approved by Consent

ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION:

The committee had the opportunity to view all items submitted to Kraig Garber. Listed below are the topics that received discussion from members of the committee.

1. The committee reviewed the minutes of their September 2018 meeting.
2. IHSA administrator, Kraig Garber, provided a summary of the participation in the disabled division for Girls/Boys swimming and Boys/Girls Bowling.
3. IHSA Assistant Executive Director, Tracie Henry, provided a summary and answered questions regarding the Unified Dance Teams that performed in exhibition at this year's IHSA Dance State Finals. Tracie shared video of a couple of teams that performed.
4. The committee discussed the idea of incorporating a Unified Swimming event(s) at future IHSA Swimming and Diving State Finals. Assistant Executive Director, Kraig Garber, expressed that he would explore this by following up with Special Olympics, the State Final hosts for swimming and diving, and the Swimming and Diving Advisory Committee.

5. The committee discussed a past proposal of incorporating a separate swimming classification in the IHSA State Series for swimmers with intellectual disabilities. The committee felt that exploring and pursuing Unified Swimming (as described in #4) would provide potential opportunities for intellectually disabled swimmers.
6. The committee discussed the IHSA Road Race. The main concern mentioned was the time of year that the road race was held. Members of the committee expressed that conducting the race at a different time of year might generate more interest and participation in the race. Late fall and early spring were discussed.