

**MINUTES OF THE IHSA BOYS/GIRLS GOLF ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**December 3, 2014**

The IHSA Boys/Girls Golf Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, Bloomington, Illinois, on Wednesday, December 3, 2014, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were: Jim Barker, Girls Coach at Chicago (Marist); Tom Martindale, Boys Coach at Mt. Prospect (Prospect); Bridget O'Connor, Girls Coach at Tinley Park (Andrew); Bradley Nichols, Boys Coach at Henry (H.-Senachwine); James Bunting, Principal at Watseka; Jake Stapleton, Girls Coach at Springfield (H.S.);, and Doug Spear, Athletic Director at Mt. Carmel. IHSA Associate Executive Director Kurt Gibson and Assistant Executive Director Stacey Lambert; Kurt Rogers and Andy Potts girls state finals managers; and Julie Cochran, IESA; were also in attendance.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**1. New. VIII Tournament Rules -- C. -- Carts:**

**Recommendation:** Coaches from each competing school with a team or individual in the state finals will be allowed to rent one cart per school during the practice round. Coaches from each competing school with a team in the state final will be allowed to rent one golf cart during the championship rounds. Only two (2) IHSA certified coaches from the competing school may ride in the cart. The cart is rented at the expense of the school.

**Rationale:** The Committee believes this limited use of golf carts will better enable coaches to work with their players during the state finals. Allowing only 12 carts, to coaches of teams, will limit the number of golf carts on the course. While the committee recognizes that some schools may qualify multiple individual, their belief is that cart use should be limited in order to avoid interference with play, and this recommendation allows for that.

\*If approved, all other sections of the Terms and Conditions will be adjusted.

Died for Lack of Motion

**2. Revise. VII Advancement of Winners -- E. -- Regional and Sectional Individual Ties:**

**Recommendation:** Players who tie for the 10<sup>th</sup> individual position in the Regional or Sectional will advance also to next round of the tournament.

**Rationale:** There is enough daylight to fit more players on the course at the sectional and state tournament. Players who shoot the same score should all have the opportunity to advance as they've earned. Playoffs can last a long time, potentially into the next day.

Died for Lack of Motion

3. **Revise. VIII. Tournament Rules -- M. -- Circle 10 Scoring:**

**Recommendation:** The Circle 10 rule may be invoked by a coach during Regional play only. If the Circle 10 rule is invoked, a player picks up their ball after 10 shots or more on any applicable hole. Once the Circle 10 is invoked by a player, that player's score will not be used for advancing team scores, and that player is no longer eligible to advance in the state series as an individual. However, should the player's team advance that player could continue in the state series but only have his/her score count towards the team's score at the next level tournament(s).

**Rationale:** The current language could be improved to better reflect the intention of the rule.

Approved

**Administrative Recommendations:**

1. III. Policy -- E. State Final Practice Round and Championship Rounds:

**Recommendation:**

2. State Tournament Practice Round and Championship Rounds - Golf Cart Policy  
Student-athletes and spectators may not rent a golf cart for the Thursday practice round at the state tournament. Coaches from each competing school with a team or individual in the state finals will be allowed to rent one cart per school during the practice round. Coaches from each competing school with a team in the state final will be allowed to rent one golf cart during the championship rounds. Only two (2) people may ride in the cart at one time. The cart is rented at the expense of the school. Golf carts may be requested in advance on the first-come, first-serve basis. Once the golf carts are rented out, no additional carts will be available.
3. School Team Request for a Practice Round and Championship Round Golf Cart - Procedure
  - g. School personnel from state final qualifying teams must submit the name of the adult school representative that will be responsible for a cart. Requests should be submitted in advance of the tournament, for approval by the IHSA.
  - h. Once approved, the golf cart will be issued to the person designated by the school.
  - i. The school designee shall check in at the pro shop to rent the cart.
  - j. The school is responsible for the rental fee at that time.
  - k. The carts will be issued on a first-come, first-serve basis. Once the fleet of golf carts are rented, no additional carts will be brought in.
  - l. Personal carts are not allowed.

**Rational:** When a coach has six golfers spread out over five holes, it is impossible to provide quality coaching to all six golfers if the coach has to walk the course like any other spectator. At each state tournament site, it would require 12 additional golf

carts to be available, one for each competing team - which should not be an issue for any of the quality golf courses that would be selected to host the events. Schools with one or two individuals qualifying for the state finals would still have access to a cart for the practice round, but would not require one for the Championship rounds. Head and assistant coaches can use golf carts at every other tournament during the season, including the Regional and Sectional tournaments. At the most important tournament of the year, coaches should be able to connect with their players in the same ways they did during the season.

## 2. Practice Round Tee Times

**Recommendation:** The committee recommends the use of split tees for the practice round at the state finals, beginning at 9:00 am and teeing off in subsequent groups every 9 minutes.

**Rational:** This should help ensure that all players finish the practice round before dark.

## **ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

1. The committee reviewed 2013 Advisory Committee Minutes.
2. The committee heard reports on both the recently-completed girls' and boys' state final tournaments. Kurt Rogers and Andy Potts, girls' state final managers, were in attendance to share reports from the state finals.
  - a. The use of shuttle carts for spectators concerned some spectators.
  - b. The committee discussed the weather and how it impacted the play at the regional/sectional level. Possible need for observers to be used if there is a need for a second day to prevent cheating since the scores were already posted and players knew in advance what they needed to shoot.
    - i. No previewing of the course in pre-round meeting was offered at least at one tournament.
    - ii. Manager didn't require all kids in the group to keep all 4 players scores.
    - iii. Spectator carts create a bit of chaos, especially in bad conditions.
    - iv. Committee discussed observers at the regional and sectional level of the state series.
3. The committee reviewed the results of the online survey for coaches and administrators.
4. The committee discussed the non-use of observers during this year's state series. A number of points on both sides of the debate were raised among the committee, including the importance of maintaining the integrity of the state series. In the end, however, the committee did not advance a recommendation to bring back observers to the state series. The committee did emphasize the need for IHSA staff to reiterate to state series manager the necessity for all players in a group to keep score for an

entire group and to encourage managers to have larger games/rules committees to help serve as another buffer for players.

5. During the discussion regarding observers, the committee stressed their belief that coaches must be on the course during the tournaments and not remain back in the clubhouse while their players are out playing.
6. The committee recommended an addition to the Manual for Managers that managers must review the course conditions, markings, etc. with the coaches at the coaches meeting prior to the start of the round.
7. The committee discussed the Circle 10 Scoring during the regular season and state series and ultimately made a recommendation to adjust the Terms and Conditions on this matter.
8. The committee discussed the need to update the Manager's Manual to encourage managers to create a coaches pass or badge to distribute to participating coaches in the regional and sectional tournaments. Upon arrival, coaches should then be prepared to show identification to receive their passes.
9. The committee discussed the make-up of the Rules Committee at Regional and Sectional tournaments. The committee wondered if it would be possible to incorporate local or CDGA professionals to serve on these committees in lieu of using coaches.
10. The committee discussed the possibility of having the IHSA develop minimum guidelines for courses based on yardage and slope for use during regional and sectional tournaments. One possible solution suggested was to use only selected courses for sectional play, which would provide consistency for schools. No action was taken.
11. The committee discussed the need for IHSA staff to ensure that the cost of regional and sectional courses is kept to a reasonable amount. The committee expressed their belief that round costs should not exceed \$40/player. IHSA staff will endeavor to select those courses that are reasonably priced.
12. The committee discussed IHSA By-law 3.101, which outlines the parameters for non-school competition for athletes during their sport season(s). IHSA staff reviewed the non-school competition form that schools can submit to the IHSA Executive Director.
13. The committee discussed the need for education in advance of the 2016 season regarding the USGA rule on anchored putting.
14. The committee discussed the possibility of awarding trophies to the schools of the top 3 individual medalists at each of the boys' and girls' state finals. No action was taken.

15. The committee discussed the possibility of having a pre-tournament banquet/dinner for participants and college coaches. The committee suggested an opportunity for college coaches to interact with high school coaches would be during the ICA Golf Coaches Clinic each spring. No action was taken.
16. The committee discussed the process for altering the start date for competition during the boys' and girls' golf seasons. It was noted to make this change would require a change to Association By-laws.
17. The committee discussed the possibility of rotating the state finals each year. No action was taken.
18. The committee discussed the possibility of continuing the coaching survey in the future. IHSA staff will contact the committee in the early part of the season to see what updates or changes the committee has for next year's survey.
19. The committee discussed the challenge of finding hotel rooms the weekend of the state tournament in Bloomington-Normal for competing schools. Despite efforts by IHSA staff to try and ensure rooms are available, too many schools unnecessarily block rooms well in advance of the state finals, which impacts the competing school's ability to then secure rooms. No action was taken.
20. The committee discussed the challenges faced by schools with a single coach who coaches both the boys and the girls' teams and have to play both sectional tournaments on the same day. This can put a coach in a tough spot in terms of determining where the coach may go on a given day. No action was taken.
21. The committee reviewed other correspondence that had been received by either committee members or IHSA staff.
22. The committee recognized and thanked Jake Stapleton and Tom Martindale for their service to the committee.