

MINUTES OF THE IHSA BOYS AND GIRLS SOCCER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

May 4, 2017

The IHSA Boys and Girls Soccer Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, in Bloomington, Illinois, on Thursday, May 4, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were; Scott Taylor, Official (Morton); Dr. Kevin Gallick, Chicago (Washington); Rich Grady, Deerfield (H.S.); Matt Blackford, Peoria (Notre Dame); Mark Heiderscheid, Edwardsville (H.S.); Samantha Shores, Monticello (H.S.); Jay Lipe, Chatham (Glenwood) and IHSA Assistant Executive Director Beth Sauser. Not in attendance Brian Papa, Frankfort (Lincoln-Way East).

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Boys and Girls Section VI. C. Starting Times

Recommendation: The committee recommends for contests on Saturdays to begin at 10:00am except on the Fall ACT testing date.

Rationale: The option to begin an hour earlier on Saturday offers more flexibility in scheduling, especially in the spring.

Approved

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **Recommendation:** The committee recommends the continued use of the current Soccer State Association Adoptions as well as any needed editorial changes to be made by Beth Sauser for 2017-18 seasons.

Rationale: The state association adoptions are in accordance with provisions set forth in the NFHS Soccer Rules Book. The adoptions have been in place in Illinois for years, and the committee favors their continued use since the rules have been accepted and successfully administered over the years.

Approved

2. **Recommendation:** The committee recommends increasing the team yellow card count to 30 per team.

Rationale: This change is in response to the new 25 game season limitation and allows officials to officiate game as intended.

Failed

3. **Recommendation:** The committee recommends that a "Host Facility Review" is created and made available for all coaches and administrators to complete after a state series game.

Rationale: Host sites that do not comply with the rules or the IHSA host expectations need to be brought to the attention of the IHSA office. This review will help ensure that an environment of fair play and consistent site quality is upheld throughout the state.

Approved

ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION and GENERAL DISCUSSION:

1. The committee reviewed minutes from the 2016 meeting.
2. The committee reviewed the Sub-Sectional tournament format and seeding process. The concept of the higher-seeded team hosting the Regional site was discussed. The history of the IHSA tournament structure was explained.
 - a. There are coaches who wish for the whole state to use either Sectional or Sub-Sectional model.
 - b. The committee discussed the correspondence sent in by Coach Bergstrom. The submitted proposal was for the lower seeded host team forfeiting their pre-determined host opportunity to a higher seeded team to ensure true seeding. The committee appreciated all the time she put in to developing the proposal but did not take any action.
 - c. Schools need to update their Host Availability and Facility Survey before July 1 of each year. This will help in determining host sites.
3. The committee discussed the seeding process and how to encourage coaches to be better informed for accurate seeds. The committee thought every coach needs to be more accountable when seeding for the tournament. One suggestion was to notify all schools in a Sectional or Sub-Sectional if a ballot is thrown out and who submitted it online.
4. The committee discussed pushing the seed meeting back another week and thought this was not necessary especially since it will not be logistically realistic and more likely to cause different issues with hosts, teams and officials. The committee did like the idea of a 2-year classification rotation so teams know the tournament they will compete in, have more ease of scheduling games and can prepare their facility to host
5. The new IHSA By-laws and NFHS rules for the 2017 -18 school year were reviewed.
 - a. Boys and Girls soccer season limitation will be 25 total games beginning in the Fall.
6. The committee reviewed the current Terms and Conditions and needed editorial changes to be made by Beth Sauser.
7. . The committee discussed the need for all NFHS and IHSA rules or state association adoptions to be consistently applied and followed by officials, coaches and players. Officials cannot disregard some rules and obey others during the regular and post season games. When that occurs, confusion and needless issues arise.
8. The committee discussed playing all state series games to completion if the game cannot be continued after the first half is complete, or if the game is stopped anytime in the second half. The committee would like the IHSA to track the number of state series games during the 2017 Girls and Boys state series that are ended after the first half has been completed and a winner is declared.
9. The committee discussed the concerns regarding the accurate dimensions of the field that state series contests are played. Upon request, host sites should let the competing teams know which field the game will be held, the type of field (turf or grass) and the dimensions of the playing field.

10. The committee reviewed the yellow and red card reports from the boys and girl's seasons. The following highlight the discussion items:
 - a. There is a concern the officials do not report all cautions awarded. The committee stresses that if an official does not report a caution or ejection in the Officials Center, the school is responsible for contacting the IHSA, report the card and ensure all IHSA rules are followed.
 - b. It is not the official's responsibility to "bury" cards during the regular season and post season games because there is a card count. The committee felt that officials must award the appropriate card anytime during any game when warranted.
 - c. Coaches are not to "update" officials regarding the team or individual yellow card count. Coaches need to control the behavior of the players and adults representing their school during the games.
 - d. Officials need to officiate the game as intended and do not worry about the caution count.
 - e. Officials are asked to submit a special report under "other" to inform that school's administrator of a situation(s) that did not warrant a card but does need to be addressed.
11. The committee thanked Matt Blackford, Jay Lipe and Brian Papa for their service.
12. Next meeting: Thursday, May 3, 2018.