

**MINUTES OF THE IHSA BOYS/GIRLS GYMNASTICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**March 21, 2012**

The IHSA Boys and Girls Gymnastics Advisory Committee met at Palatine High School, Palatine, Illinois, on Wednesday, March 21, 2012, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members participating were: Ryan Dul, Northbrook (Glenbrook North); John Kane, Hoffman Estates (Conant); Kathy Krebs, Crete; Kari Karubas-Powell, LaGrange (Lyons), and Lynn Widerstrom, Lisle. IHSA Associate Executive Director Kurt Gibson and Jerry Dobbs, Girls' Gymnastics State Finals Meet Director were also in attendance.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS**

**1. (BOYS) III. On-Line Entries, Withdrawal Procedures, Eligibility, Affirmative Action And On-Line List Of Participants G. Online List of Participants**

**Recommendation:** Add the following highlighted sentence to the current language:

The online *List of Participants* on which each school will list the names of not more than twenty-five (25) individual boys shall serve as a team roster. This list shall indicate which contestants are entered in the various events. Contestants entered by a school that has entered a team in the state series are considered entered as a part of both the team competition and individual event competition. Only those competitors whose names are included on the online *List of Participants* for the specific meet may be in uniform. The online *List of Participants* must be completed on-line **no later than 4:00 p.m. Monday of Week 42**. If a school does not submit the On-line List of Participants by the deadline, coaches and/or participants from the school are subject to sanctions which could include, but not be limited to, being ruled ineligible to coach or compete in the State Series. A school may enter up to five (5) contestants in each individual event. As many as all five (5) entries may be All Around contestants. Any of these contestants may qualify for individual advancement.

Changes may be made in the names included on the *List of Participants* at any time through the completion of the scratch meeting held prior to the sectional or state final meets. The original online *List of Participants* and the order of performance shall apply to each level of the state series.

**Rationale:** This recommendation is simply for clarification of current practice. The committee believes this recommendation will better illustrate that athletes entered as a part of a school team are entered in both the team and individual events competitions.

**Approved By Consent**

**2. (GIRLS) III. On-Line Entries, Withdrawal Procedures, Eligibility, Affirmative Action And On-Line List Of Participants G. Online List of Participants**

**Recommendation:** Add the following highlighted sentence to the current language:

The *List of Participants* shall be due by 4:00 p.m. Monday, January 23, 2012. Regional Managers will be able to access the *List of Participants* for all entries in their regional through the Schools Center on the IHSA website following this deadline. The *List of Participants* shall include the names of contestants entered in the various events. Contestants entered by a school that has entered a team in the state series are considered entered as a part of both the team competition and individual event competition. The order in which the names are submitted and entered on-line is the order in which the gymnast will compete. Names of the substitutes must appear on the *List of Participants*. The *List of Participants* is a final entry. No additions, substitutions or changes will be permitted unless team substitutions are made in accordance with these Terms and Conditions. The original *List of Participants* and order of performance shall apply to each level of the series. Any substitutions made are applicable only to that meet.

**Alternates:** A school, which qualifies to compete for team honors in the State Series, may enter a maximum of eight alternates on the *List of Participants*. These alternates may be used for team substitutions.

**Rationale:** This recommendation is simply for clarification of current practice. The committee believes this recommendation will better illustrate that athletes entered as a part of a school team are entered in both the team and individual events competitions.

Approved By Consent

3. **(BOYS) VII. Advancement of Winners A. Individual Advancement: 1. Event Qualifiers**

**Recommendation:** At the state meet, allow for one (1) alternate (replacement athlete), per event, including all-around.

The winners of the first five (5) places in each individual event shall advance from each sectional. They shall be called “ranked qualifiers.” In addition, the results of the sectional meets shall be surveyed to determine the top twenty five (25) individuals with the highest scores among those who were not “ranked qualifiers.” These competitors also shall advance to the state final individual meet and shall be called “At Large Qualifiers.” A maximum of fifty (50) ranked and at-large qualifiers shall advance to the state finals in the individual competition held on Saturday. At the State Meet, there shall be one (1) alternate (replacement athlete), per event, including all-around, determined from the next highest at-large qualifying score from all the sectionals. In the event of a tie for the alternate score, all athletes shall advance as alternates.

**Rationale:** The committee believes that in boys' gymnastics an additional athlete should be able to go to the state meet in the event that a previously qualified athlete drops out for any reason.

No Action Taken

## ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **Recommendation:** The committee recommends having the IHSA Officials Advisory Committee review and act on a pay increase for officials working the state finals in both boys and girls gymnastics.

**Rationale:** The committee believes that given the amount of time state final officials put into each session (approx. 6 hrs. for prelims and approx. 5 hrs. for finals for girls and 2 sessions of approx. 5 hours and one session of approx. 4 hours for boys), the current pay is not commensurate with the amount of work and time they put in, thereby warranting an increase.

## ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION

1. The committee reviewed the minutes of the 2011 advisory committee meeting.
2. The committee heard a report from Girls' State Finals Manager Jerry Dobbs about the recently-completed state finals. Beginning in 2013, qualifiers in the floor exercise will be asked to submit their music electronically to Palatine High School in advance of the state meet so it can be placed on a computer. Athletes should bring a CD or iPod as a back-up copy, but the hope is those won't have to be used. Schools/athletes should also be prepared to bring necessary adapters if their back-up music file is on some type of iPod. The committee also discussed the make-up of the warm-up gym and its use by athletes during the meet. The consensus of the committee was that a full warm-up gym would be preferred, but that in lieu of a full floor, a boys' floor strip would be adequate for competitors to work on short passes and turns. The committee also discussed the use of a possible new space for official's meeting on Friday, a space that would better allow for judges to break up into small groups to discuss their specific events.
3. The committee had some open discussion on the 2011 boys' state finals. Consensus was the event was well-run by Lincoln Way (East) staff, especially in the first year that the all-around competition was held on Friday during the team competition. The committee discussed the possibility of distributing the all-around awards at this session, and Coach Dul indicated he would reach out to the boys' coaches association for an informal opinion on the matter.
4. The committee discussed a proposal submitted by Glenbard (West) girls' coach Carlos Fuentes to increase the number of competitors at the girls' state finals. No action, however, was taken on the proposal.
5. The committee heard a report on the assigning process for officials during the state series by IHSA staff. The report offered an over-view of process and the approach used this year to incorporate more judges at the regional level. The committee shared concerns of the coaching and judging communities in relation to the need for consistency throughout the regional meets. IHSA staff has had contact with the girls' coaches association regarding this matter and offered to speak with the association next fall.
6. The committee discussed a situation that occurred during regionals where a school had a coach that, while in compliance with IHSA By-laws, may not have had any gymnastics background. That lack of background created a situation that could have put the athletes at a greater risk of injury. The committee discussed how officials should handle such a

situation in the future, and IHSA staff encouraged the officials who worked this event to complete a special report on the matter, even at this late date.

7. The committee discussed a possible rules adoption for boys' gymnastics in Illinois that would allow student-athletes to compete in events while wearing a cast, splint, etc. A motion to create such an adoption was made but no action was taken due to the lack of a second to the motion.