

2016-17 – Proposal No. 1
Add By-law 1.380 – Board of Directors Removal
Submitted by Dan Klett, Principal, Wauconda

Add IHSA By-law 1.380 to Read:

Board of Director Removal

The Board may remove any Director under the following conditions:

- (1) The removal of a Director shall be for cause, which may include, but is not limited to, the following examples:
 - (a) Director failing to perform basic responsibilities, or doing so improperly;
 - (b) Director failing to act in accordance with the Board's governing standards;
 - (c) Director failing to comply with the Director's fiduciary obligations;
 - (d) Director's inappropriate and intentional disclosure of confidential information;
 - (e) Director's intentional violation of any IHSA by-law, rule, regulation, standard or policy;
 - (f) Director causing another to intentionally violate any IHSA by-law, rule, regulation, standards or policy;
 - (g) Director intentionally engaging in conduct that is deemed by the Board to be detrimental to the IHSA; and
 - (h) Director engaging in or having engaged in action which could be considered to constitute criminal misconduct.

Before a Director is removed for cause, the Board must be satisfied that the acts of the Director posed for removal are more than mere mistakes, more than negligence.
- (2) Removal shall be by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all Directors then in office, excluding the Director proposed for removal.
- (3) Removal may occur at any regular or special meeting of the Board, provided that a Statement of the Reason(s) shall be mailed by Registered Mail to the Board of Directors, including the Director proposed for removal, at least thirty (30) days before any final action is taken by the Board of Directors.
- (4) The Statement of Reason(s) shall be accompanied by a Notice of the time when and the place where the Board of Directors is to take action on the removal.
- (5) The Director proposed for removal shall first be given an opportunity to be heard at the time and place mentioned in the Notice, after which the Board of Directors, excluding the Director proposed for removal, shall consider the matter and take a vote.

Rationale of Submitter:

Provides the Board a process to remove a Board Member if there are concerns that they are acting in a manner detrimental to the policies of the IHSA or acting unethically. Currently there is not a by-law giving the IHSA Board of Directors procedures to remove another Board member.

2016-17 - Proposal No. 2

Amend By-law 2.030 – Cooperative Team Sponsorship

Submitted by Jerry Dobbs, Official Representative, Palatine (H.S.)

IHSA By-law 2.030 Currently Reads:

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to approve the formation of cooperative athletic teams or activity programs by two or more member schools under the following conditions:

- (a) The schools are located in the same geographical area;
- (b) All schools participating in the cooperative are Class A (in a 2-class system) or Class 1A or 2A (in a 3 or 4-class system) schools according to the IHSA Classification System; or, in the event one or more of the cooperating schools is a Class 3A or 4A public school, the cooperative team is for a sport other than Boys Football or Boys or Girls Basketball; In the event one or more of the schools involved in the cooperative is a public non-boundary school, that school's actual enrollment, not multiplied enrollment is used to determine the eligibility of the cooperative team request.
- (c) Only private schools with non-multiplied enrollments of 200 or less are eligible to form cooperative teams.
- (d) The combined enrollments of all schools involved in the cooperative team, calculated according to the IHSA Classification System, is utilized to determine the classification for the cooperative team;
- (e) The cooperative sponsorship agreement is established for a period of two consecutive school years;
- (f) The governing boards of all schools participating in the cooperative team agreement jointly make the application to the IHSA Board of Directors for approval of the cooperative team agreement;
- (g) The joint application includes:
 - (1) Written approval from the conference(s) of which the cooperating schools are members, and/or in which the cooperative team will participate, or, in the event the cooperative team will not be affiliated with a conference, written approval from a minimum of seven schools included in the cooperative team's schedule of competition;
 - (2) A statement signed by the principals of all cooperating schools designating the name under which the cooperative team will compete;
 - (3) A report of the number of students from each of the cooperative schools expected to participate on the cooperative team;
 - (4) A report of the number of students, if any, from each of the cooperating schools who have been participating in the sport involved, in programs offered on a non-cooperative basis by their own schools;
 - (5) A statement expressing the reasons for the formation of a cooperative team;
 - (6) Written assurance that the cooperative team will not limit participation opportunities for students in any of the cooperating schools.

When a cooperative team completes two years of approved operation and the boards of education involved wish to renew the agreement for another two-year period, the involved school(s) shall submit to the IHSA, by the established date, notification that they wish to continue the cooperative with no changes and written approval from the conference

Revise IHSA By-law 2.030 to Read:

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to approve the formation of cooperative athletic teams or activity programs by two or more member schools under the following conditions:

- (a) The schools are located in the same geographical area;
- (b) All schools participating in the cooperative are Class A (in a 2-class system) or Class 1A or 2A (in a 3 or 4-class system) schools according to the IHSA Classification System; or, in the event one or more of the cooperating schools is a Class 3A or 4A public school, the cooperative team is for a sport other than Boys Football, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, *Boys Gymnastics or Girls Gymnastics*; In the event one or more of the schools involved in the cooperative is a public non-boundary school, that school's actual enrollment, not multiplied enrollment is used to determine the eligibility of the cooperative team request.
- (c) Only private schools with non-multiplied enrollments of 200 or less are eligible to form cooperative teams.
- (d) The combined enrollments of all schools involved in the cooperative team, calculated according to the IHSA Classification System, is utilized to determine the classification for the cooperative team;

- (e) The cooperative sponsorship agreement is established for a period of two consecutive school years;
- (f) The governing boards of all schools participating in the cooperative team agreement jointly make the application to the IHSA Board of Directors for approval of the cooperative team agreement;
- (g) The joint application includes:
 - (1) Written approval from the conference(s) of which the cooperating schools are members, and/or in which the cooperative team will participate, or, in the event the cooperative team will not be affiliated with a conference, written approval from a minimum of seven schools included in the cooperative team's schedule of competition;
 - (2) A statement signed by the principals of all cooperating schools designating the name under which the cooperative team will compete;
 - (3) A report of the number of students from each of the cooperative schools expected to participate on the cooperative team;
 - (4) A report of the number of students, if any, from each of the cooperating schools who have been participating in the sport involved, in programs offered on a non-cooperative basis by their own schools;
 - (5) A statement expressing the reasons for the formation of a cooperative team;
 - (6) Written assurance that the cooperative team will not limit participation opportunities for students in any of the cooperating schools.

When a cooperative team completes two years of approved operation and the boards of education involved wish to renew the agreement for another two-year period, the involved school(s) shall submit to the IHSA, by the established date, notification that they wish to continue the cooperative with no changes and written approval from the conference

Rationale of Submitter:

Coop teams have formed in gymnastics in large suburban schools creating all-star teams that have dominated in the state series.

These teams still could compete as separate schools, using the same coach and facility under current IHSA provisions. This practice is already in use by the Highland Park and Deerfield High School boy's gymnastics teams.

In the event there were not enough athletes from a school to form a team (4/Girls, 3/Boys) those athletes would still be allowed to participate in the state series as an individual.

2016-17 - Proposal No. 3

Amend By-law 2.030 – Cooperative Team Sponsorship

Submitted by Peter Groom, Principal, Oak Park (Fenwick)

IHSA By-law 2.030 Currently Reads:

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to approve the formation of cooperative athletic teams or activity programs by two or more member schools under the following conditions:

- (a) The schools are located in the same geographical area;
- (b) All schools participating in the cooperative are Class A (in a 2-class system) or Class 1A or 2A (in a 3 or 4-class system) schools according to the IHSA Classification System; or, in the event one or more of the cooperating schools is a Class 3A or 4A public school, the cooperative team is for a sport other than Boys Football or Boys or Girls Basketball; In the event one or more of the schools involved in the cooperative is a public non-boundary school, that school's actual enrollment, not multiplied enrollment is used to determine the eligibility of the cooperative team request.
- (c) Only private schools with non multiplied enrollments of 200 or less are eligible to form cooperative teams.
- (d) The combined enrollments of all schools involved in the cooperative team, calculated according to the IHSA Classification System, is utilized to determine the classification for the cooperative team;
- (e) The cooperative sponsorship agreement is established for a period of two consecutive school years;
- (f) The governing boards of all schools participating in the cooperative team agreement jointly make the application to the IHSA Board of Directors for approval of the cooperative team agreement;
- (g) The joint application includes:
 - (1) Written approval from the conference(s) of which the cooperating schools are members, and/or in which the cooperative team will participate, or, in the event the cooperative team will not be affiliated with a conference, written approval from a minimum of seven schools included in the cooperative team's schedule of competition;
 - (2) A statement signed by the principals of all cooperating schools designating the name under which the cooperative team will compete;
 - (3) A report of the number of students from each of the cooperative schools expected to participate on the cooperative team;
 - (4) A report of the number of students, if any, from each of the cooperating schools who have been participating in the sport involved, in programs offered on a non-cooperative basis by their own schools;
 - (5) A statement expressing the reasons for the formation of a cooperative team;
 - (6) Written assurance that the cooperative team will not limit participation opportunities for students in any of the cooperating schools. When a cooperative team completes two years of approved operation and the boards of education involved wish to renew the agreement for another two-year period, the involved school(s) shall submit to the IHSA, by the established date, notification that they wish to continue the cooperative with no changes and written approval from the conference.

Revise IHSA By-law 2.030 to Read:

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to approve the formation of cooperative athletic teams or activity programs by two or more member schools under the following conditions:

- (a) The schools are located in the same geographical area;
- (b) All schools participating in the cooperative are Class A (in a 2-class system) or Class 1A or 2A (in a 3 or 4-class system) schools according to the IHSA Classification System; or, in the event one or more of the cooperating schools is a Class 3A or 4A public school, the cooperative team is for a sport other than Boys Football or Boys or Girls Basketball; In

the event one or more of the schools involved in the cooperative is a public non-boundary, that school's actual enrollment, not multiplied enrollment is used to determine the eligibility of the cooperative team request.

(c) Only private schools with non-multiplied enrollments of ~~200~~ 400 or less are eligible to form cooperative teams.

(d) The combined enrollments of all schools involved in the cooperative team, calculated according to the IHSA Classification System, is utilized to determine the classification for the cooperative team;

(e) The cooperative sponsorship agreement is established for a period of two consecutive school years;

(f) The governing boards of all schools participating in the cooperative team agreement jointly make the application to the IHSA Board of Directors for approval of the cooperative team agreement;

(g) The joint application includes:

(1) Written approval from the conference(s) of which the cooperating schools are members, and/or in which the cooperative team will participate, or, in the event the cooperative team will not be affiliated with a conference, written approval from a minimum of seven schools included in the cooperative team's schedule of competition;

(2) A statement signed by the principals of all cooperating schools designating the name under which the cooperative team will compete;

(3) A report of the number of students from each of the cooperative schools expected to participate on the cooperative team;

(4) A report of the number of students, if any, from each of the cooperating schools who have been participating in the sport involved, in programs offered on a non-cooperative basis by their own schools;

(5) A statement expressing the reasons for the formation of a cooperative team;

(6) Written assurance that the cooperative team will not limit participation opportunities for students in any of the cooperating schools. When a cooperative team completes two years of approved operation and the boards of education involved wish to renew the agreement for another two-year period, the involved school(s) shall submit to the IHSA, by the established date, notification that they wish to continue the cooperative with no changes and written approval from the conference.

Rationale of Submitter:

As the participation numbers for certain sports declines, it will be more difficult for schools to maintain programs on their own. Additionally, this would encourage the growth of other sports that some schools have difficulty sponsoring alone due to the number of students participating, like Lacrosse.

Both the conferences and the IHSA Board of Directors must approve a cooperative team before it becomes official. It is the responsibility of the IHSA Board to ensure that no schools are forming cooperative teams to try to dominate a certain sport.

2016-17 -- Proposal No. 4

Add IHSA By-law 2.130.1 – Principals' Attendance at Meetings

Submitted by B. Kent Jones, Principal, Breese (Central)

Add IHSA By-law 2.130.1 to Read:

Each new member school principal shall, within the first two (2) years of becoming a principal, attend a workshop or view an online presentation developed for new administrators by the IHSA. Failure to comply with this requirement may be penalized by the Board of Directors.

Rationale of Submitter:

It's important for new principals to be made aware of the expectations with the IHSA in their role as principal.

The ultimate responsibility of a school's compliance with the IHSA constitution and its by-laws falls with the principal. It is much better to be proactive and gain an understanding of the IHSA than to be reactive if/when a violation occurs.

2016-17 -- Proposal No. 5

Amend IHSA By-law 3.034.3 – Residence

Submitted by Eric Brauer, Official Representative, Palos Heights (Chicago Christian)

IHSA By-law 3.034.3 Currently Reads:

International and Foreign Exchange Students: Students attending school in Illinois under the auspices of approved student exchange programs shall be considered eligible regarding residence and transfer for a maximum period of one calendar year, commencing with the date of their enrollment and beginning attendance at an IHSA member school. To be considered for approval, a foreign exchange program must be approved by the IHSA and the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET). It must also assign students to schools by a method which insures that no student, school, or other interested party may influence the assignment for athletic or other purposes. The Board of Directors shall establish additional criteria by which it shall approve foreign exchange student programs. International students attending school in Illinois who are not participating in an approved student exchange program will not be eligible with respect to residence or transfer for the duration of their high school attendance unless they meet the requirements of the applicable provisions of the residency and transfer By-Laws as determined in an official ruling from the Executive Director or they are in a program which has been approved by the IHSA Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall establish the criteria by which it shall approve such programs. For purposes of this By-Law, the residential school exception set forth in By-Law 3.034.1 shall not apply to establish a student's residency.

Revise By-law 3.034.3 to Read:

International and Foreign Exchange Students: Students attending school in Illinois under the auspices of approved student exchange programs shall be considered eligible regarding residence and transfer for a maximum period of one calendar year, commencing with the date of their enrollment and beginning attendance at an IHSA member school. To be considered for approval, a foreign exchange program must be approved by the IHSA and the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET). It must also assign students to schools by a method which insures that no student, school, or other interested party may influence the assignment for athletic or other purposes. The Board of Directors shall establish additional criteria by which it shall approve foreign exchange student programs.

International students attending school in Illinois who are not participating in an approved student exchange program will not be eligible *for varsity competition* with respect to residence or transfer for the duration of their high school attendance unless they meet the requirements of the applicable provisions of the residency and transfer By-Laws as determined in an official ruling from the Executive Director or they are in a program which has been approved by the IHSA Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall establish the criteria by which it shall approve such programs. For purposes of this By-Law, the residential school exception set forth in By-Law 3.034.1 shall not apply to establish a student's residency. *International students who are permanently ineligible for varsity competition shall be immediately and permanently eligible for non-varsity competition. Such students shall be subtracted from the school's classification enrollment upon application for a enrollment variance by the school.*

Rationale of Submitter:

This change would allow and promote international students to get more involved at our schools and enrich their educational experience here in America.

Pros:

- Enrich the international student's experience here in America
- 99% of these students are not athletes, but they want to get an American high school education experience, which we can provide to them at a level below that of a varsity athlete
- Immediate and permanent suggests the desire for our schools to be able to provide this experience to them without the threat of them impacting the outcome of a varsity contest
- This change would enable small private schools to fill some roster spots on lower level teams, which does in turn help us fill out schedules
- Promotes cultural learning within the school setting

Cons:

- None at this time

2016-17 -- Proposal No. 6

Amend IHSA By-law 3.043.3 -- Transfer

Submitted by James Quaid, Principal, Chicago (DePaul College Prep) and Peter Groom, Principal, Oak Park (Fenwick)

By-law 3.043.3 Currently Reads:

In the event the student transfers attendance from any high school to any other high school, and the transfer is not in conjunction with a change in residence by both the student and his or her parents, custodial parent, surviving parent, or guardian to a residence outside the boundaries of the public school district attendance area the family originally resided in, the Executive Director may grant eligibility based on documentation that the transfer met one of the following conditions:

- The student is enrolling for the first time in the student's home public member high school with boundaries;
- Change in family's financial position;
- Extenuating circumstances documented by the sending school's principal or official representative

Amend By-law 2.043.3 to Read:

In the event the student transfers attendance from any high school to any other high school, and the transfer is not in conjunction with a change in residence by both the student and his or her parents, custodial parent, surviving parent, or guardian to a residence outside the boundaries of the public school district attendance area the family originally resided in, the Executive Director may grant eligibility based on documentation that the transfer met one of the following conditions:

- The student is enrolling for the first time in the student's home public member high school with boundaries;
- Change in family's financial position;
- Extenuating circumstances documented by the sending school's principal or official representative
- *The student is transferring for the first time from a non-boundaried school to a different non-boundaried school within a 30-mile radius of his or her residence; and*
 - a. *The principals of both non-boundaried schools involved accept the transfer by concurring that there is no evidence of non-compliance with any IHSA By-law regarding the student's transfer; and*
 - b. *The principals of both non-boundaried schools involved concur via an affirmative statement that the transfer is not athletically motivated.*

Rationale of Submitters:

This proposed transfer by-law amendment reinforces that transfers from/to non-boundaried schools will not take place due to athletic reasons. This is stated in the fourth and fifth bullet points dealing with finances and/or extenuating circumstance. Three years ago a partial return to the 2012-13 transfer rule was passed by the membership. This negated the 2013-14 transfer rule that was developed by a special committee and passed by the membership in the fall of 2013 which required a 365-day ineligibility period for all transfer students. Since the passage of the transfer by-law three years ago did not fully restore the transfer rule to the 2012-13 version, this proposed addition to section 3.043.3 would complete the return to the transfer policy as it existed in 2012-13. The 2012-13 policy effectively allowed all students to be eligible following a one-time transfer (*except those going from a boundaried to a non-boundaried school*). This by-law proposal would re-establish a more consistent transfer policy for students in member schools.

2016-17 -- Proposal No. 7
Amend IHSA By-law 3.043.3 – Transfer
Submitted by Peter Groom, Principal, Oak Park (Fenwick)

By-law 3.043.3 Currently Reads:

In the event the student transfers attendance from any high school to any other high school, and the transfer is not in conjunction with a change in residence by both the student and his or her parents, custodial parent, surviving parent, or guardian to a residence outside the boundaries of the public school district attendance area the family originally resided in, the Executive Director may grant eligibility based on documentation that the transfer met one of the following conditions:

- The student is enrolling for the first time in the student's home public member high school with boundaries;
- Change in family's financial position;
- Extenuating circumstances documented by the sending school's principal or official representative

Revise By-law 3.043.3 to Read:

In the event the student transfers attendance from any high school to any other high school, and the transfer is not in conjunction with a change in residence by both the student and his or her parents, custodial parent, surviving parent, or guardian to a residence outside the boundaries of the public school district attendance area the family originally resided in, the Executive Director may grant eligibility based on documentation that the transfer met one of the following conditions:

- The student is enrolling for the first time in the student's home public member high school with boundaries;
- Change in family's financial position;
- Extenuating circumstances documented by the sending school's principal or official representative

A student who does not qualify under the above provisions, and who transfers prior to the beginning of his or her sophomore year, is eligible with respect to transfer at all levels except varsity until he or she meets the requirements for play at the varsity level.

Rationale of Submitter:

By adding the provision above it allows a student to transfer to a school and be allowed to play a non-varsity sport if they are transferring as a freshman. A student playing a non-varsity sport has no impact on the overall record of any varsity team or the state series. If a student starts in a school and does not feel it is the right fit, they have the ability to make a change early in their high school career when many transfers take place.

Additionally, under the current rule, there are students that transfer after their freshman year, are ruled ineligible and never play sports again since they may have been good enough to play on the JV level but not good enough to make a varsity team.

This proposal was discussed at the recent undue influence ad hoc committee and received a consensus of support from those members.

Finally, this would significantly decrease the amount of time that the IHSA staff dedicates to transfer rulings and allow them to focus on more big picture topics.

2016-17 -- Proposal No. 8
Amend IHSA By-law 3.161 – Open Gym Limitations
Submitted by Diane Brown, Principal, Chicago (De La Salle)

By-law 3.161 Currently Reads:

Schools may open their gymnasiums or facilities for recreational activities to students or other persons who reside in or outside their district, under the following conditions:

- a) A variety of recreational activities are available during the course of the year.
- b) There is no coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques in any sport at any time.
- c) Participation is voluntary and is not required directly or indirectly for membership on a high school squad.
- d) Comparable opportunities are afforded to all participants.

Revise By-law 3.161 to Read:

Schools may open their ~~gymnasiums or~~ *facilities, including off-site facilities that are used during particular athletic seasons*, for recreational activities to students or other persons who reside in or outside their district, under the following conditions:

- a) A variety of recreational activities are available during the course of the year.
- b) There is no coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques in any sport at any time.
- c) Participation is voluntary and is not required directly or indirectly for membership on a high school squad.
- d) Comparable opportunities are afforded to all participants.

Rationale of Submitter:

It enables growth in present sports as well as up and coming sports.

It gives everyone the same Open Gym opportunities. Not every school has on-site facilities for every sport.

It meets the needs of the urban schools which depend on Chicago Park District facilities.

2016-17 – Proposal No. 9

Amend By-law 3.161

Submitted by Robert Nolting, Principal, Tinley Park (Andrew) on behalf of the Competitive Balance-Undue Influence Ad-Hoc Committee

By-law 3.161 Currently Reads:

Schools may open their gymnasiums or facilities for recreational activities to students or other persons who reside in or outside their district, under the following conditions:

- a) A variety of recreational activities are available during the course of the year.
- b) There is no coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques in any sport at any time.
- c) Participation is voluntary and is not required directly or indirectly for membership on a high school squad.
- d) Comparable opportunities are afforded to all participants.

Revise By-law 3.161 to Read:

Schools may open their gymnasiums or facilities for recreational activities to *currently enrolled students or alumni* ~~or other persons who reside in or outside their district~~, under the following conditions:

- a) A variety of recreational activities are available during the course of the year.
- b) There are no *organized team activities or coaching of individual technique. Adults may monitor students for safety.* ~~coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques in any sport at any time.~~
- c) Participation is voluntary and is not required directly or indirectly for membership on a high school squad.
- d) Comparable opportunities are afforded to all participants.
- e) *Communication is general in nature. Targeted communication such as text or email groups, social media, and individual correspondence shall be considered an organized team activity.*

Rationale of Submitter:

The committee agreed to submit the following bylaw to revise the current IHSA bylaw regarding open gym. The policy, fundamentally, allowed for the opportunity of non-students and non-residents to attend open gyms. The committee felt this provided an unreasonable opportunity for student-athletes to work with teams and coaches from other schools and can/does lead to athletically motivated transfers.

2016-17 -- Proposal No. 10

Amend IHSA By-law 3.170 – Classification

Submitted by Dave Ribbens, Official Representative, Chicago (University)

By-law 3.170 Currently Reads:

The IHSA Board of Directors has the complete authority to establish and implement policies to determine the number of classes of competition in IHSA sports and activities and to classify schools participating in such sports/activities except as follows:

An enrollment multiplier of 1.65 will be added to all non-boundaried schools unless application of this multiplier is waived under a policy of waiver which would be established by the Board of Directors.

The definition of a non-boundaried school is: Any private school, charter school, lab school, magnet school, residential school, and any public school in a multi-high school district that does not accept students from a fixed portion of the district.

Classifications shall be determined on an annual basis.

There will be a sub-committee comprised of IHSA staff and Legislative Commission members to develop the waiver policy for submission to the Board.

Revise By-law 3.170 to Read:

The IHSA Board of Directors has the complete authority to establish and implement policies to determine the number of classes of competition in IHSA sports and activities and to classify schools participating in such sports/activities.

Classifications shall be determined on an annual basis.

Rationale of Submitter:

The enrollment multiplier has failed to deliver on the IHSA's intent and reflects poor educational policy:

- The multiplier rule reflects an unsuccessful attempt to control the outcomes of athletic contests, a goal that falls outside the mission and purpose of the IHSA.
- It is a form of sports handicapping that has no place in high school athletics. The practice of sports handicapping was devised for promoting gambling.
- The IHSA mission statement, and subsequent statement of purpose, make no mention whatsoever of providing a level playing field or of attempting to control the success of one segment of schools versus another.
- A "level playing field" exists throughout the IHSA as we all agree to abide by the IHSA eligibility rules, seasons of competition, coaching certifications, use of IHSA certified officials, NFHS rules of play.
- The multiplier at its core is punishing students' success from non-boundaried schools by hoping they are less successful against larger schools. The whole concept has absolutely no place in our schools and is poor educational policy.
- The goal of leveling the playing field was never defined so there is no way to measure whether it is accomplishing the goal.

2016-17 -- Proposal No. 11

Add IHSA By-law 3.180 – Football Regular Season Structure

Submitted by Robert Nolting, Principal, Tinley Park (Andrew)

Add By-law 3.180 to Read:

The organization of varsity football competition during the regular season (Week 9 through Week 16) shall be determined by a policy approved by the Board of Directors.

The policy shall include the following elements:

- Schools classified into several "playoff-eligible" classes prior to the start of the season.
- A "developmental" class that schools may elect to be compete in.
- A set number of weeks at the start of the season during which schools would be responsible for scheduling their own contests.
- A set number of weeks at the end of the season during which competition would consist of round-robin play within assigned groups, with a certain number of qualifiers in each group advancing to the first round of the playoffs.
- The top one quarter of schools in each class initially assigned to separate groups, based on a seeding process, with the remaining schools assigned by geography.

Objectives:

- To positively impact conference relationships for non-football athletics (ie - to end the dismantling of conference relationships based on lack of parity in football)
- To remove the complexities of finding non-conference opponents by removing the potential consequences of non-conference losses on playoff qualification
 - Potential Advantages - preservation of rivalries; increase showcase games of highly competitive schools; reduce impact of elimination of traditional conferences
- To create a playoff structure that engages in the active participation of all schools without creating an environment of disproportionate play or excessive mismatches
- To mirror the regional/sectional model utilized in other athletics within the IHSA
- To greatly reduce scheduling constraints on programs and athletic departments
- To establish a non-conference schedule that allows for flexibility, renewed rivalries, and reduce financial burden of increased travel

Conceptual Framework:

There are 586 schools competing in the IHSA Football State competitive season in the 2016-17 school year. The concept is to allow a format for the regular season that has a seeding/qualifying design as well as state series for football thereby allowing for every program to compete in the series without compromising a nine game regular season schedule AND avoiding imbalance within the IHSA State series. Additionally, this system provides for greater assurance that those schools competing in the single-elimination tournament would follow similar paths AND increase competitive balance within the IHSA state series.

Structure:

- Each division (8A-1A) would have 64 teams competing based on enrollment
- On or before October 15th of the previous year, each member school will be declare themselves as *participating* or *developmental*. *Developmental* schools are schools with programs that have been chronically uncompetitive, declining enrollment, or upstart programs. Currently, many schools in CPS are determined as such as well as many small private schools may choose this designation due to enrollment or other constraints. It may also encourage small schools to pilot football. The IHSA would review this list and maintain 512 *participating* schools while allowing for closed scheduling among those schools that are *developmental* (the IHSA can potentially initiate a postseason developmental tournament as well).

- If there are more than 512 schools determined as *participating*, the IHSA will reassign schools to *developmental* based on factors such as school record (previous), number of years participating in football, school enrollment, etc.
- Schools who wish to participate in the IHSA series will not be relegated to *developmental* for more than two consecutive series

Scheduling:

- Every team in each division (8A-1A, plus *developmental*) across the state will have three non-conference games (Week 1-3).
- Based a seeding process through the IHSA, each school in a 64 team division will be determined a Top Seed based on historical performance. The IHSA will also determine 16 quads (Geographical Quads) which will be established primarily based on geographic proximity to play a three game series (Weeks 4-6). This schedule will be determined prior to November 15th of the previous school term.
 - Schools within the Geographical Quads will be assigned home/away games per IHSA. Each team is guaranteed one home game in Week 5 or 6. Each team will play in a round-robin format. The win/loss records will be used to determine seeds within the next round.
 - Ties will be broken as follows:
 - Head to Head record
 - Lowest points against within quad
 - Highest point against within quad
 - Assistant Executive Director will determine final seeds, if necessary
- After Week 6, 16 quads (Qualifying Quads) will be based on seeds from the Geographic Quads. Teams winning their Geographic quads will be placed in separate groups, followed by second place, then third, and then fourth. Those four teams will be placed into a Sectional Quad and compete in a three game series (Weeks 7-9).
 - The top two seeds will host twice, lower seeds hosting once. Schedule will be as follows (home team listed first):
 - Week 7 - 1v3; 2v4
 - Week 8 - 4 v 1; 2v3
 - Week 9 - 1v2; 3v4
 - Ties will be broken as follows:
 - Head to Head record
 - Lowest points against within quad
 - Highest points against within quad
 - Record within Regional Quad
 - Record against non-conference opponent, if applicable
 - Assistant Executive Director will determine final qualifier
- After Week 9, the top two teams from each Qualifying Quad will qualify for the single elimination IHSA State Series. Seeding will mirror the current state series process.

Potential Concerns (w/ resolutions):

- Potential increase of travel
 - Likely mitigated by the current need for schools to travel out-of-state or across state for non-conference games
- Lack of predictability of games / hosting week 7-9
 - Schools accommodate this concern for traditional playoff series, it would simply expand this dynamic
- Elimination of Conference Affiliation for Football
 - Three non-conference games without stigma of needing 5 wins can allow for preservation of traditional rivalries
 - Since many conferences are regionally aligned and similar size/school type, many games will be among current conference opponents
 - All-Conference athletes can still be determined by conferences since conference alignment would still exist for all other sports
- Scheduling of lower level sports
 - Should mirror Varsity schedule, but complexity of JV and Frosh B sports would be leveraged based on school size/location versus schedule

- This should be studied after one year of competition. Primarily, sophomore/JV games may become an issue based on how schools align lower-level teams. Can be resolved by reverting to conference competition at the lower levels.
- Designation of *developing* for many schools
 - Developing schools have the opportunity for student-athletes to experience success / reduce potential injuries that result due to mismatches
 - Schools that want to compete above *developing* will only be determined for one year only if they so chose.
 - Allows for smaller schools to preserve programs without having to face significant competition issues within their conference.

SAMPLE:

The following is based on Fall of 2016 numbers. Win/loss is hypothetical as is the geographic grouping.

Geographic Quad (*Top Seed bold/italicized*)

<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>G</i>	<i>H</i>
Lincoln Way West Lincoln-Way Cen. Romeoville Andrew	Pekin Alton Belleville West Collinsville	Bradley-Bour Normal Quincy Granite City	Thornton TF South Thornwood Plainfield Cent.	Highland Park Willowbrook Mundelein Jacobs	Libertyville Maine West Rockton Hono. Round Lake	Cary-Grove Buffalo Grove Rockford Auburn Larkin	Lake Zurich Rockford East Grant Machesney Park Harlem
<i>I</i>	<i>J</i>	<i>K</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>O</i>	<i>P</i>
Geneva Marmion Aca. Streamwood Moline	WW South DeKalb St. Charles N. Wheaton North	Batavia Rolling Meadows Elk Grove Village Prospect	Fenwick Hersey Proviso East Addison Trail	Whitney Young St. Patrick Glenbrook North Rolling Meadows	Carmel West Chicago Niles North Shepard	Mt. Carmel Schurz (Chi) Oak Lawn Eisenhower	St. Rita Lincoln Park (Chi) Reavis Maine East

EXAMPLE - Geographic Quad Sample Results RED ONLY

<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>D</i>
1 - Lincoln Way West 3-0 2 - Lincoln-Way Cen. 2-1 3 - Romeoville 1-2 4 - Andrew 0-3	1 - Collinsville 2-1 2 - Pekin 2-1 3 - Alton 1-2 4 - Belleville West 1-2	1 - Bradley-Bourbonnais 2-1 2 - Normal 2-1 3 - Quincy 1-2 4 - Granite City 0-3	1 - Thornton 3-0 2 - Plainfield Cent. 2-1 3 - TF South 1-2 4 - Thornwood 0-3

QUALIFYING QUAD - Based on results from Regional Quad (Yellow, Green, and Blue would follow suit)

<i>Regional 1</i>	<i>Regional 2</i>	<i>Regional 3</i>	<i>Regional 4</i>
Lincoln-Way West Pekin Quincy Thornwood	Collinsville Normal TF South Andrew	BBCHS Plainfield Cent. Romeoville Belleville West	Thornton Lincoln-Way Central Alton Granite City

QUALIFYING QUAD / RESULTS - Sample. Top Seeds (based on record/tiebreaker) / Second Qualifier (based on record/tiebreaker)

<i>Regional 1</i>	<i>Regional 2</i>	<i>Regional 3</i>	<i>Regional 4</i>
<i>Lincoln-Way West 2-1</i> Pekin 1-2 Quincy 0-3 Thornwood 2-1	<i>Collinsville 2-1</i> <i>Normal 3-0</i> TF South 1-2 Andrew 0-3	<i>BBCHS 3-0</i> Plainfield Cent. 1-2 Romeoville 1-2 Belleville West 1-2	<i>Thornton 2-1</i> Lincoln-Way Central 1-2 Alton 2-1 Granite City 1-2

State Tournament - South Quad (Rounds 1-3)

#1 - Lincoln-Way West v. #8 Belleville West

#4 - Normal v. #5 Alton

#2 - BBCHS v. #7 Thornwood

#3 - Thornton v. #6 Collinsville

**Blue, Yellow and Green will follow suit to form the North, West, and East Quadrants. The IHSA will bracket the tournament based on current seeding process and determine the quadrant matchups.

2016-17 -- Proposal No. 12

Add IHSA By-law 5.081 – Boys Fall Golf Season Limitation

Submitted by Jerry Dobbs, Official Representative, Palatine (H.S.)

By-law 5.081 Currently Reads:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Fall Golf teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Wednesday of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 15 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Fall Golf no earlier than Monday of Week 7 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Revise By-law 5.081 to Read:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Fall Golf teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than *Monday* of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 15 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Fall Golf no earlier than *Thursday* of Week 6 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Rationale of Submitter:

- Many schools moving to a collegiate calendar, moving the start of the school year to allow for finishing first semester prior to Winter Break and second semester prior to Memorial Day weekend.
- Moving the start of the season up two days will:
 - Allow for greater access to courses to evaluate student athletes due to the fact that the courses have limited availability on the weekends
 - Allow for tryouts to conclude prior to the start of classes
 - Reduce the conflicts for coaches and students associated with the start of the school year; actual classes or teacher institute days
- Moving the start of contests will allow for more 18 hole tournaments to be conducted prior to athletes starting classes

2016-17 -- Proposal No. 13

Add IHSA By-law 5.221 – Girls Fall Golf Season Limitation

Submitted by Jerry Dobbs, Official Representative, Palatine (H.S.)

By-law 5.221 Currently Reads:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Fall Golf teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Wednesday of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 15 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Fall Golf no earlier than Monday of Week 7 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Revise By-law 5.221 to Read:

- a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Fall Golf teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than *Monday* of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 15 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Fall Golf no earlier than *Thursday* of Week 6 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Rationale of Submitter:

- Many schools moving to a collegiate calendar, moving the start of the school year to allow for finishing first semester prior to Winter Break and second semester prior to Memorial Day weekend.
- Moving the start of the season up two days will:
 - Allow for greater access to courses to evaluate student athletes due to the fact that the courses have limited availability on the weekends
 - Allow for tryouts to conclude prior to the start of classes
 - Reduce the conflicts for coaches and students associated with the start of the school year; actual classes or teacher institute days
- Moving the start of contests will allow for more 18 hole tournaments to be conducted prior to athletes starting classes

2016-17 By-Law Proposal No. 14
Amend IHSA By-law 5.112
Submitted by Victor Iturralde, Principal, Chicago (Solorio Academy)

By-law 5.112 Currently Reads:

No Boys Soccer team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than:

- (1) Seventeen (17) matches exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (2) Sixteen (16) matches plus 1 tournament exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (3) Fifteen (15) matches plus 2 tournaments exclusive of the IHSA series.

Revise IHSA By-law 5.112 to Read:

No Boys Soccer team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than *twenty-five (25) games exclusive of the IHSA series.*

Rationale of Submitter:

For many schools, scheduling and travel time present specific challenges. This proposed change would make it easier for schools to schedule games, provide more options of playing in tournaments/showcases, and reduce travel time. In addition, soccer season limitations would fall in line with season limitations for baseball, softball and tennis.

This proposal has had the support of the IHSA Soccer Advisory Committee for the past two years which consists of referees, athletic directors, and soccer coaches from across the state.

Effective thirty (30) days after passage

2016-17 By-Law Proposal No. 15
Amend IHSA By-law 5.252
Submitted by Victor Iturralde, Principal, Chicago (Solorio Academy)

By-law 5.252 Currently Reads:

No Girls Soccer team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than:

- (1) Seventeen (17) matches exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (2) Sixteen (16) matches plus 1 tournament exclusive of the IHSA series; or
- (3) Fifteen (15) matches plus 2 tournaments exclusive of the IHSA series.

Revise IHSA By-law 5.252 to Read:

No Girls Soccer team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than *twenty-five (25) games exclusive of the IHSA series.*

Rationale of Submitter:

For many schools, scheduling and travel time present specific challenges. This proposed change would make it easier for schools to schedule games, provide more options of playing in tournaments/showcases, and reduce travel time. In addition, soccer season limitations would fall in line with season limitations for baseball, softball and tennis.

This proposal has had the support of the IHSA Soccer Advisory Committee for the past two years which consists of referees, athletic directors, and soccer coaches from across the state.

Effective thirty (30) days after passage

2016-17 By-Law Proposal No. 16
Amend IHSA By-law 6.011
Submitted by Jason Wind, Principal, Springfield (Southeast)

By-law 6.011 Currently Reads:

Any player ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next interscholastic contest at that level of competition, and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim, in addition to other penalties the IHSA or the school may assess.

Revise By-law 6.011 to Read:

Any player ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next interscholastic contest at that level of competition, and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim, in addition to other penalties the IHSA or the school may assess.

If the school contests the ejection and video evidence clearly indicates that a player was misidentified in an ejection, the IHSA will work with the school(s) involved to ensure the proper player(s) are identified. After IHSA officials review the video provided by the school(s) and verify the misidentification, the misidentified player shall be eligible for the next interscholastic contest at that level of competition.

Rationale of Submitter:

We are proposing this change due to the ejection of one of our football players who was misidentified by officials during a varsity contest. During the contest, a fight occurred on the field between 1 of our players and 2 players from the opposing team. After the fight was stopped the officials conferenced and ejected three players, 2 from our team and 1 from the opposing team. Our coaching staff explained to the officials that one of our players who had been ejected had been on the sideline during the fight and had not gone on to the field. The officials did not change the call and our player was out for the remainder of the game. After our coaches and administration looked at video footage from the game, the misidentified player was clearly visible on the sideline throughout the fight. This video footage was sent to the IHSA the following Monday and our conference assignor for football along with the officials of the contest contacted the IHSA to explain they had misidentified our player. Even with this evidence the lack of an appeal process for ejections led to our player serving the additional 1 game suspension. The addition of an appeals process for a player who is clearly misidentified in an ejection, provides any player in this situation an outlet for reinstatement without involving possible litigation.

2016-17 By-Law Proposal No. 17
Amend IHSA By-law 6.011
Submitted by Ryan Miller, Official Representative, Benton

By-law 6.011 Currently Reads:

Any player ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next interscholastic contest at that level of competition, and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim, in addition to other penalties the IHSA or the school may assess.

Revise By-law 6.011 to Read:

Any player ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next interscholastic contest at that level of competition, and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim, in addition to other penalties the IHSA or the school may assess.

A player ejection may be reviewed by the Executive Director or the Administrator in charge of the activity under the following circumstances:

- *The appeal is made to the IHSA on the next business day.*
- *There is evidence that the wrong player was ejected, or that the ejection resulted from an error made by the official.*

Players ejected from a contest due to multiple personal fouls are not reviewable.

Rationale of Submitter:

In education and education based activities, we strive to do what is in the best interest of students. By allowing for a review process, students are NOT punished for an error that is easily corrected.

2016-17 By-Law Proposal No. 18
Amend IHSA By-law 6.012
Submitted by Shane Gordon, Principal, Abingdon (A.-Avon)

By-law 6.012 Currently Reads:

Any coach ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next interscholastic contest at that level of competition, and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim, in addition to other penalties the IHSA or the school, may assess.

Revise By-law 6.012 to Read:

Any coach ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next interscholastic contest at that level of competition, and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim, in addition to other penalties the IHSA or the school, may assess *if the Official Representative confirms the Special Report after conducting an investigation. If the Official Representative finds cause for an unwarranted ejection, no suspension shall ensue.*

Rationale of Submitter:

Currently, there is no due process to ensure the validity of special reports submitted by game officials. The vast majority of special reports have no grounds for any form of protest. However, on occasion, a rule is misinterpreted or facts get lost and a coach is unjustly ejected from a contest. This procedure allows the building Principals (or the official IHSA representative) to conduct a proper, meaningful investigation to ensure due process. It also allows decisions of game officials to be overturned if the official IHSA representative disagrees with details submitted with the special report. It also ensures if a mistake is made or a rule is misinterpreted during a contest, an inadvertent or unwarranted ejection does not cost a coach another contest.