

**Minutes of the Boys / Girls Track and Field Advisory Committee
September 9, 2009**

The IHSA Track & Field Advisory Committee met in the IHSA Office in Bloomington, Illinois, on Wednesday, September 9, 2009. The meeting began at 10:00 a.m. and concluded at approximately 2:30 p.m. Voting Committee members present were: Joe Skowronski, Athletic Director, Flossmoor (Homewood-F.); Jeff Butler, Boys Track Coach at Monticello; Chris Lacy, Girls Track Coach at Rock Falls; Ed Adams, Athletic Director at Chicago Leo; Keith Kittell, Principal at Chester H.S.; John Nalley, Coach at Palatine H.S.; Steve Colantino, Boys Track Coach at Rochester; John Polka, Meet Manager; Geza Ehrentreu, Coordinator of Officials. Other guests and non-voting members present were: Official; Glenn Cothorn, Official; Jerry Parsons, Illinois Coaches Association; Nicole Schaeffbauer, IESA Asst. Executive Director, Don Helberg, Illinois Track & Cross Country Coaches Association-North; Andy Preuss, Illinois Track & Cross Country Coaches Association-North; Mike Garcia, Illinois Track & Cross Country Coaches Association- South; Roland Brent, Illinois Track & Cross Country Coaches Association-South; Ron McGraw; IHSA Asst. Executive Director.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Item II- A & B: Sectional Meet Dates

Recommendation: In 2009-2010 Sectional T&F Meets may be conducted on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday with Saturday as the final possible rain date. Conducting these meets on Wednesday or Thursday is preferred but not mandatory in 2009-2010. Beginning in 2010-2011 Sectional T&F Meets must be conducted on Wednesday or Thursday with Friday as the last possible rain date.

Rationale: For the past several years obtaining three qualified T&F officials for each sectional has become increasingly difficult. Factors contributing to this problem are many. The available number of qualified, available T&F officials continues to be on the decline (in spite of efforts to correct the problem by the IHSA, and both the Officials and Coaches Associations). The problem is especially apparent on the weekend of the Girls State Finals which is also the weekend for the IHSA Boys Sectionals, IESA State Finals and several collegiate meets. In addition, the change to three classes has created an additional concern. As a result of the competition conducted on Thursday at the State Finals, the time schedule used by the IHSA staff to provide the Thursday competition with a State Final Program has been reduced by one day. All final edits of all program information must be sent to the printer by noon on Monday. If we are forced to conduct sectional meets on Monday afternoon/evening, we will not have an official program for Thursday's competition. This is unacceptable.

This proposal has been recommended by the T&F advisory committee in the past. The advisory committee discussed this matter for over one hour. The committee is aware of the negative consequences of conducting sectional competition on Wednesday and Thursday. As with most rule changes there will be both positive and negative consequences. The vote on this proposal was not unanimous. The actual vote was 6 yes, 2 no, with 1 abstention.

Approved as modified (to conduct track and field sectionals on Thursday or Friday with the administrator having discretion when excessive travel is required)

2. Item V-B and III-F: Sectional Seed Meeting Dates and Online List of Participants

Recommendation: (V-B) Sectional seed meetings must be conducted at each sectional site on either Monday or Tuesday the week of the sectional meets.

(III-F) Each school entering the state series (whether entering a team or individuals) must submit its On-Line List of Participants via the Internet through the IHSA School Center Web Site. The deadline for schools to submit their online List of Participants will be at noon on Monday, the week of the sectional meets.

Rationale: If the sectional meets are to be conducted earlier in the week as in the new proposed time schedule, it will be necessary to require the schools to provide their List of Participants earlier also.

Approved as modified (seed meeting will be held on Tuesday)

3. Item V-B-17: All schools participating in the IHSA Track and Field State Series must provide one (1) qualified volunteer to aid in the conduct of the sectional track meet attended by each school. (Proposed Change to the Current Terms and Conditions)

Recommendation: Each school participating in the IHSA Track and Field State Series must provide one (1) qualified volunteer to aid in the conduct of the sectional track meet attended by their school. The sectional host will express their specific needs to all assigned schools and use the school's volunteers as the manager deems appropriate. If a school fails to provide a volunteer, then a member of that school's coaching staff will be required to serve as that school's volunteer and will work in whatever capacity determined by the meet manager.

Rationale: The major concern of those schools that host sectional track and field meets is the difficulty in obtaining the large number of qualified volunteers required to conduct a fair, quality and efficient meet. Participating schools taking advantage of the host schools willingness to take on the major responsibility of conducting sectional track and field meets have a responsibility to aid the host in obtaining adequate, qualified help. The term "qualified volunteer" is critical. The importance of the need to have experienced, knowledgeable volunteers can not be over emphasized. The success of any track and field meet always depends upon the quality of the officials and volunteers conducting the meet.

Approved

4. Item VII.-C-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 T&F Qualifying Standards

Recommendation: The following changes to qualifying standards have been proposed by the advisory committee:

1A Girls – Remain the same as in the 08-09 season.

2A Girls – Remain the same as in the 08-09 season

3A Girls – 4 X 100 Relay	49.8	Manual	50.24	F.A.T.
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1600 M Run	5:17.00	Manual	5:17.24	F.A.T.
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4 X 200 Relay	1:45.5	Manual	1:45.74	F.A.T.
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1A Boys – Remain the same as in the 08-09 season.

2A Boys – Remain the same as in the 08-09 season

3A Boys – 4 X 100 Relay	42.7	Manual	42.94	F.A.T.
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High Jump	6'-5"			
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Rationale: Qualifying standards are reviewed annually. After review and discussion by the members of the T&F Advisory Committee, some are modified and some remain the same.

Approved

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **Investigate the possibility of providing an additional exit gate from the track area so athletes do not have to exit out of the entrance to the clerk's tent.**
2. **Investigate the possibility of providing a "No Entry" box in the online entry pages.**
3. **Investigate the possibility of providing a box in the online List of Participants process where coaches would list where and when the time or trial being entered for seeding purposes was actually achieved.** While this may or may not be possible, all coaches are reminded to bring such documentation with them to their seeding meetings. Any time or trial is subject to evaluation if the coaches present ask for documentation. If you choose not to attend your seed meeting you should send your documentation to the sectional host in order to provide the coaches present the information they may request (by T&C V-C-5, they have the right to do so). Without documentation they may elect not to accept the time or trial and seed your athlete into the event as a, "No Seed" (last). This is a coaches responsibility and the primary reason all coaches should attend their seed meeting.
3. **Rotating the Classes Annually**

The concept of rotating the classes so that all classes eventually conduct their meet on Thursday was again reviewed. The original 3 class proposal had provided for the rotation to take place. However, since the change in 3 class enrollment figures was adopted by the Board of Directors, the size of the three meets is no longer roughly equal. Consequently, the class 1A meet will always be the largest of the three meets. Given this fact, there is no logic to rotating the meets as had been tentatively planned in the original proposal. The majority of the committee believed that the 1A meet should remain on Thursday and that the 2A and 3A meets should also remain constant. There will be no rotation of the classes. 1A will compete on Thursday, while 2A and 3A will compete on Friday (2A followed by 3A).

ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION:

The committee reviewed and discussed all comments and suggestions sent to Ron McGraw. All of the items on the list below were recognized by the committee. Some of the items received considerable discussion and some did not. All items that received a motion and a second from our advisory members were voted on by the committee members.

LIST OF DISCUSSION TOPICS FOR TRACK AND FIELD 2009-2010 September 9, 2009

1. Leave the 2A Qualifying Standards the same for the 2009-2010 season.
2. Adjust boys 2A standards; THEY ARE TOO DIFFICULT AND WAY OUT OF LINE.
3. Seeding procedures to be followed when the coach being questioned is not present at the seed meeting (are they allowed to call into the meeting with changes).
4. Require all coaches to attend the seed meetings.
5. Require all sectional meets have a trainer and ice.
6. Require FAT at all sectional meets.
7. Raise host school allowance to avoid any loss for conducting sectional meets.
8. Will the IHSA provide additional dollars to compensate schools using FAT?
9. In the 3200 in 2A we had 25 competitors...why did we run two sections? (according to the T&C we could have had only one section).
10. Move the fastest runner in the 3200 back to the inside position. Coaches do not like Alley 4, position 1 (the actual suggestion was to move from 4-4 to 4-1?).
11. We want a coaches box on the inside of the track for the high jump finals on the south end under the scoreboard.
12. Each athlete should be allowed access to one coach at track side at the state meet.

13. Want four state trophies.
14. State Meet: Two athletes from the same school lucky and talented enough to qualify in a sprint event (9 qualifiers to finals) should be placed in different heats on Friday whether or not they call it semi finals as opposed to prelims
15. Do not separate two kids from the same school that are seeded in the same heat.
16. Timing of the announcer calling a race and the awards presentations -
Class A Boys 800 - great race and awards were read through the entire thing and on the other end of that there are coaches that wish the announcer wouldn't call the race the last 100 meters - do the kids really hear him to know someone is coming?
17. Has the IHSA looked into club sports (AAU basketball and Open Gyms) and the impact on other sports?
18. Can we add a "No Entry" box to the online entry process? Also a box where coaches would be required to indicate where the mark was achieved.
19. Coaches want a receipt confirming their online entries are complete. (Go to your IHSA Activity Tracker)
20. Can a video camera be used at the long and triple jump boards in order to avoid the flaws in the system?
21. Make the 3 class system reflect a 33.3% distribution in each class. Class 1A is worse off than before.
22. Can we eliminate preliminaries in the field events at sectionals (in the horizontal jumps allow all competitors 4 jumps, no finals)?
23. Coaches do not want to help at sectional T&F meets. How do coaches get this practice stopped? (Actually Ron McGraw will be presenting a proposal that will actually REQUIRE each school attending the sectional to provide 1 or 2 volunteers; it will no longer be suggested that each school provide a volunteer).
24. A first year interim head track coach was unhappy with the conduct of the sectional meet and is certain he could have conducted a better meet than the one that he attended?
25. At a sectional meet if there are 6 lanes and 6 heats (100, 200 and hurdles) do you take the six heat winners to the finals? If so, what happens if the top seed scratches for other events? Give us some direction.
26. Rotate the class 1A meet so that all classes have to compete on Thursday, not just 1A.
27. Allow 3 individuals to automatically qualify for state from each sectional.
28. Allow for additional qualifying meets during the spring season (or simply use any qualifying time achieved during the season that used FAT).
29. Why do we allow the sectional host to decide how kids will advance to the finals when using FAT? Shouldn't we just require that it be done like at state (winners then next best times)?
30. Why can't we hand time straight away races and use FAT for the other races (when the wind direction is a problem)?
31. Reword T&C V, c,11b & c
No substitutions shall be permitted in any event after the Sectional Seeding Meeting, except in cases of a substitution made (in an individual event only) because of school disciplinary reasons, or a disabling illness or injury to an entered contestant which must be certified to by either the high school principal, Official IHSA Representative or attending physician (or the school's certified trainer) to the Sectional manager, or a death in the athletes immediate family. **This option does not apply to relay runners; for this reason coaches are encouraged to list eight names at the time of completing their online entries.**
Note: In accordance with the Track and Field Rules, a school may scratch competitors from individual events to make them eligible to run on relay teams. Such scratches should be made before the Sectional meet begins.
 - a) Such substitutions shall be made just prior to the Sectional meet at a scratch meeting held for that purpose.

- b) The substitute already entered in 4 individual events, shall not be withdrawn to legally compete in that event.
- c) The substitute shall replace the contestant in the heat/section and lane assignment determined at the Sectional Seeding Meeting and the event shall not be reseeded only to accommodate the substitute.
- d) The contestant thus replaced (substituted) shall not compete in any other events in the Sectional meet.
- e) In the case of a substitution (allowed in an individual event only) that occurs during the Sectional meet due to a disabling injury or illness of an entered contestant attested to by the Meet Referee, (and by a certified trainer if available) the same provisions included in a), b), c), d), e) above shall apply and a contestant thus replaced shall not return to competition in the Sectional meet.

- 32. At Sectionals establish a minimum between the 100H and 100 if there is not a 3200 slow heat contested.
- 33. Reduce volume of paper work from the IHSA?
- 34. Relay list issues ?
- 35. Allow for fights in the sectional PV (best kids forced to wait too long).
- 36. At the state T&F meet provide for an FAT camera at each end so the direction could be reversed if necessary. The coach submitting this suggestion does not ever recall the girls being allowed to run the other direction regardless of wind conditions.
- 37. Keep 16 teams in a sectional.
- 38. What can we do about the unequal travel time to the state meet? The schools in the far northern counties have to travel farther.
- 39. 3 classes at state is going to take too long to complete all events.
- 40. Can we combine the 3A girls and 3A boys state meets and conduct it in the Chicago area like North Central College? 3A coaches would be willing to run the meet. 3A coaches would be willing to become licensed officials. The travel and lodging issues would be significantly easier for all schools. North Central College has been very friendly to high school coaches.
- 41. Nothing to do in Charleston on Friday except watch the 2 and 3A T&F meet. Find a new location for the meet.
- 42. Should mix schools into sectionals based only on who in the group is willing to host, not geographically. Why put together a sectional group where no one is willing to host?
- 43. Allow each school to enter up to 3 athletes per event at sectional with a limit of 44 total athletes from each school.
- 44. The check in procedure at the State Meet is not acceptable.
 - It is inconsistent in terms of when teams/relays check in
 - Year to year inconsistencies
 - Even race to race inconsistencies!
 - There is no possible way to hear the clerk, since there is a lack of a PA system and the clerk was elderly
 - Warm up areas do not condone a safe or simple check in
 - The indoor track is quite far from the check in and has no communication with the check in clerk
 - The area around the check is where most athletes are changing their shoes and doing their warm ups
 - Constant traffic causes athletes to be stepped on and stressed out
 - Parents and teams are celebrating at the mouth of the check in area while other events are trying to check in
- 45. 2A and 3A did not get enough practice time at state on Thursday following the 1A meet. Start the 1A meet earlier.
- 46. I would like the committee/IHSA to consider moving the start time of the Class A prelims on Thursday back a bit - maybe starting at 12:00 or 1:00. (Or even better yet,

3 or 4:00) If you started at say Noon, you would still be done late afternoon , which would still give the other 2 classes a couple of hours in the early evening for practice on the track. This year, in Class A, if you had athletes in the early events, you really had to be down there Wed. night to stay over night, which then meant a 3 night stay - which puts a financial strain on small school budgets. I also know that there were some schools that were forced to return home Thursday night and then return Friday night or Saturday morning to avoid the "extra expense". If the prelims started at say Noon on Thurs, nearly every school could drive down on Thurs morning and make the meet and wouldn't feel the need to spend the money for Wed. night lodging. Even better, would be to have the Class A prelims with a late afternoon start time - say 3 or 4:00. All classes could practice on the track before that time. When we had a 2 class meet, most of the schools were done practicing by 3:00 anyways on Thursday. I know, because I typically arrived then for that reason - the track was much less crowded. I was on the Adv. Comm. a few years back when we were discussing how we would run a 3 class meet and one of the biggest concerns was the extra expense on schools if the meet stretched to 3 days. Our initial idea was to have one of the class prelims late afternoon/early evening on Thurs so that schools would still only have 2 days of lodging expenses. I wonder why that idea was scrapped.

I would like the committee to revisit the idea of a "late start" on Thurs for the Class A prelims. I believe a start at 3 or 4 in the afternoon would allow all Class A schools avoid the 3rd night of lodging expense (unless schools choice otherwise) and yet there would still be time for all 3 classes to practice on the track Thurs. morning and early afternoon.

47. At last years Sectional, Kyle Reid was disqualified in the 110m HH for "failing to attempt to clear every hurdle". I have no problem with the rule, but both IHSA assigned officials were at the starting line - i.e. behind the race. I believe these officials were out of position to make such a judgement call. Kyle didn't make contact with the first three hurdles which means the officials were a good 40m away from the field of runners. Maybe the problem is the fact that only two officials were present. I assume one is the starter and the other is the finish judge. The finish judge also acted as the asst. starter in the dashes which is why both officials were in the same place during the 110's.
48. Field Events: Consistency with the order that athletes compete. Best athletes (top sectional performances) should get to compete last in the shot, discus, LJ, TJ (last flight).
Also, there are some flights that go three at a time and others that go straight through - they should all go straight through one attempt at a time.
49. 10:00 AM Start for the 3A Shot - this causes transportation / team travel issues because everything else starts at 12:30 or later.
50. Numbers advancing in the PV and HJ - why only 9 as min? why not 12 as min? - no height on Saturday would result in missing place / medal (which I know does occur in sprints for a false start)
51. Room check-in and check-out procedures for teams going home on Thursday but returning on Friday night.
52. Consider conducting 3A shot put events earlier on Friday.

