

**Advisory Committee Recommendations  
February 11, 2025, Board Meeting  
Consent Items**

***Boys/Girls Cross Country***

**Recommendation #1 Non-Consent – See Board Agenda**

***Boys/Girls Golf***

**1) Recommendation:** VI. Tournament Structure and Time Schedule B. Tournament Format and C. Pairing Procedures 2)

B. Tournament Format: Traditional tee times will be used for the state series. It is preferred that the regional and/or sectional tournament manager start competitors from the first and the tenth hole. However, if it is necessary due to darkness or weather, play may begin on the 1<sup>st</sup> hole only or as a shotgun start. All tee times should be nine (9) minutes apart. However, if it is necessary, due to weather, darkness, or an oversized field, the tournament manager may begin on the 1st hole only or utilize a shotgun start. Pairing Procedures 2) If a shotgun start is used, ‘wave’ groupings shall still be used. Managers should keep the groupings together as originally planned, using the following guidelines:

- a. For speed of play, par 3’s should have the fewest groups on a tee
- b. For speed of play, par 5’s should have the most groups on a tee

**Rationale:** The Committee feels allowing managers to set up the regional or sectional as a shotgun start in situations where darkness could become an issue would be very helpful to ensure the event gets done and there is time for a potential playoff with daylight available. The manager will be responsible for setting up warm up blocks to ensure all participants have time on the range.

**Recommendation #2 Non-Consent – See Board Agenda**

**Recommendation #3 Non-Consent – See Board Agenda**

**4) Recommendation:** III. Online entries, withdrawal, procedures, eligibility, affirmative action, and on-line list of participants F) – H)

F) List of Participants/Substitutions: Each school must enter the names of their 6 eligible starting players on the List of Participants form found in the Schools Center on the IHSA web site. No more than six (6) participants from a school may play in the regional, sectional, or state final. No alternate names are required. Team substitutions are allowed with any eligible golfer up to the start of each regional, sectional, or state final tournament. In addition, team substitutions may be made on Saturday’s final round of the state tournament. Substitutions are not allowed for individuals who are not a part of a team and who advance in the state series. Coaches with teams or individuals must complete the List of Participants prior to September 24, 2025. The regional manager will be able to view the rosters of the teams competing in their tournament on-line after September 24th to set up tee times for the regional tournament Sectional managers will be able to view their respective qualifiers through the online winner reports.

G) List of Participants Penalty: In order for a school to complete the entry process for boys’ and girls’ state golf series, they must enter their team or individual(s), have six (6) iWR rounds completed in iWanamaker, and complete the List of Participants by the established deadline date. Schools who fail to complete any part of the entry process will not be entered into the state series unless a late entry fee is paid and the proper information is submitted. Players without an iWR will be seeded last.

Remove H)

**Rationale:** This recommendation will require schools to use the iWanamaker system during the school year which will ensure teams are prepared for the post season and that their information is in the iWanamaker system. This year we had so many golfers not listed in iWanamaker that hosts had to chase down delaying hosts ability to finish the entries in iWanamaker.

**5) Recommendation:** VI. Tournament Structure and Time Schedules C) Pairing Procedures 1) d.

d. After the first day of competition at the state finals, the field will be reduced to the top 8 teams (and ties) and the top 40 individuals (and ties) not on the top 8 teams. For the final day of the state finals, pairings will be made based on scores shot during the first day of the state finals, with the better teams scheduled to begin play on each nine going off in the last wave. Coaches of advancing teams, who need to make any adjustments to their 1-6 lineups, outside of injury, illness, or ineligibility as certified by the High School Principal or AD; need to notify the IHSA immediately following the round if they plan to have substitutions and have the names to the IHSA administrator by 8pm Friday evening.

**Rationale:** The previous wording allowed for changes to be made with no notification up to 9pm on Friday evening. This ended up in multiple changes to tee times after the IHSA administrator had them complete, therefore delaying their release to the public. Coaches who plan to make subs outside of injury, illness, or ineligibility know earlier than 9pm, it only makes sense to notify the IHSA so appropriate steps can be taken.

NOTE: If recommendation 3 gets approved, the wording for recommendation 5 will be updated accordingly.

## Recommendation #6 Non-Consent – See Board Agenda

### *Boys/Girls Tennis*

## Recommendation #1 Non-Consent – See Board Agenda

**Recommendation #2:** Change the early start time consent form to be required for sectionals planning to start before 12:00 p.m. on Friday of the sectional tournament.

### II. DATES AND SITES, A. Sectional Tournament

To complete the tournament on Saturday, the local manager may, at their discretion if the number of entries warrant, elect to begin tournament play on Friday afternoon (after school hours). If the local manager wishes to begin the competition on Friday before 4:00 **12:00** p.m., written consent of the principal from each participating school is required. Sectional managers will send to the principals from participating schools the IHSA Tennis Request for Earlier Start Time Form for their approval. This document can be located online and in the tennis manual.

**Rationale:** The current timeline of 4:00 p.m. was added to the tennis terms and conditions in 1981 when there were less teams participating in tennis. The growth in participation has required sectionals to start earlier to complete the tournaments while navigating weather, daylight, and number of available tennis courts. Each sectional currently hosts 9 to 11 schools, which requires five rounds to complete. To ensure that sectional tournaments are completed through the quarterfinals on Friday and leaves the final two rounds for Saturday, the vast majority of schools are already consenting to start sectionals before 4:00 p.m. on Friday with most starting between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. In the fall, starting at 4:00 p.m. would likely only permit one round of matches to be conducted at sites without lights due to darkness.

**Recommendation #3:** Whenever possible, the 3 and 6 seeds should be on the same half of the sectional bracket, and the 4 and 5 seeds should be on the same half of the sectional bracket to preserve the 3 vs. 6 and 4 vs. 5 quarterfinal matchups. *Note: This recommendation is proposed for the current state series format of 6 seeded players and 4 state qualifiers per sectional. If Recommendation #1 is approved, then this recommendation would be withdrawn because of the increased number of seeded players.*

### V. TOURNAMENT ASSIGNMENTS AND SEEDING, B. Sectional Seeding Meeting

4. At the sectional tournaments, the draw for both singles and doubles shall be made so those competitors from the same school are placed in opposite halves of the bracket. **If the 3, 4, 5, or 6 seed must be moved to the opposite half of the bracket to prevent teammates on the same half, the 3, 4, 5, and 6 seeds shall all be moved to the opposite halves of the bracket provided no teammates are on the same half as a result.**

**Rationale:** The quarterfinal round of the sectional is the state-qualifying round. To ensure that the higher seeds have the fairest and most appropriate path to qualify for the state finals, the 3 versus 6 and 4 versus 5 quarterfinal matchups should be preserved whenever possible. Note that there are arrangements of seeds that will not allow the 3/6 and 4/5 quarterfinal matchups to be preserved.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION**

**Recommendation:** Adopt current USTA officiating procedures for overruling out calls when a licensed tennis umpire is present.

**Rationale:** USTA officiating procedures have changed so that umpires immediately overrule ‘out’ calls from a player when the ball is in rather than waiting on an appeal from the opposing player. Adopting this practice at the state finals would be consistent with USTA procedures that many of the players are familiar with, and it would reduce any confusion between players and umpires when a player may or may not be appealing an ‘out’ call.

***Boys/Girls Volleyball***

**1) Recommendation:** Officials A) Appointment and Fees:

2) Sectional Fee: In the sectional tournaments, each R1 and R2 appointed by the IHSA shall receive a fee of \$95.00 per match. Line judges shall receive a fee of \$50.00 per match worked. **IHSA will pay officials via ArbiterPay**

3) Super-Sectional Fee: In the super-sectional matches, each R1 and R2 shall receive a fee of \$129.00 per match. Line judges shall receive a fee of \$60.00 for the match. **IHSA will pay officials via ArbiterPay.**

**Rationale:** The current set up where the school pays for the line judges has become quite confusing. The IHSA assigns the line judges it only makes sense that the IHSA would pay the line judges. This will also ensure that line judges get paid in a timely manner.

**Recommendation #2 Non-Consent – See Board Agenda**

**3) Recommendation:** Officials are allowed to use headsets during the post season.

**Rationale:** Officials have been experimenting with the use of headsets during the regular season with generally positive feedback. This recommendation will not be a requirement of officials to use headsets.

**Recommendation #4 Non-Consent – See Board Agenda**

**Recommendation #5 Non-Consent – See Board Agenda**

**Administrative Recommendations:**

**Recommendation #1 Non-Consent – See Board Agenda**

**State Association Adoption:**

**Recommendation #2 Non-Consent – See Board Agenda**

***Boys Football***

**Recommendation #1 Non-Consent – See Board Agenda**

***Do What's Right - Sportsmanship***

**No Recommendations Forwarded**

***Sports Medicine***

**Recommendation #1:** The Committee recommends resubmitting their proposal from last year to reduce the number of summer contact days from 25 to 20.

**Rationale:** The Sports Medicine Advisory Committee feels this recommendation will help athletes' physical and mental health by reducing the number of contact days our high school athletes can have. Right now, many multi-sport athletes go year-round from sport to sport; this is weighing on our athletes to a point where they are more beat up coming out of summer than they are at the end of the season. This by-law amendment will still allow weightlifting and conditioning if no sport-specific training occurs. This by-law recommendation will keep our kids active in our schools and hopefully give them the break they need over the summer to rest, relax, and enjoy their breaks from school.

***Student Advisory Committee***

**Recommendation #1 Non-Consent – See Board Agenda**

**Recommendation #2 Non-Consent – See Board Agenda**

**No Recommendations Forwarded.**

Adv Comm Recommendations - Consent