

RATING REQUIREMENT OVERVIEW

No later than one week before seeding begins for any IHSA bracketed team state series, or, in non-bracketed state series, no later than one week before a school completes any online end of season forms, a member school entered in particular state series is required to have made a pre-determined number of officials' ratings in that sport for the current season in order to avoid being penalized in the manner described below. If a school will not have played enough contests to provide the required number of ratings before the prescribed date, the school may request a variance from the IHSA to provide a lesser number of ratings and not be penalized. The number of required ratings will increase every two years, with the ultimate goal of having schools provide 80% of the expected ratings by the required date. IHSA staff will communicate with member schools and coaches to apprise them of the yearly expectations each year.

RATINGS REQUIREMENTS FOR 2024-25 AND 2025-26

Football	5 games (Friday of Week 16 of the IHSA Standardized Calendar deadline)
Volleyball	30 ratings (October 3rd deadline in 2024-25)
Soccer	30 ratings (Boys: September 26th deadline; Girls: April 24th)
Basketball	30 ratings (Girls: January 30th deadline; Boys: February 6th)
Softball	30 ratings (1A/2A schools: April 29th deadline; 3A/4A schools: May 6th)
Baseball	30 ratings (1A/2A schools: April 29th deadline; 3A/4A schools: May 6th)
Boys Wrestling	15 ratings (January 30th deadline)
Girls Wrestling	10 ratings (January 22nd deadline)
Track & Field	7 ratings (Girls May 4 deadline; Boys May 11th deadline)
Swimming & Diving	10 ratings (Girls October 30; Boys February 12)
Water Polo	10 ratings (April 17th deadline)
Lacrosse	10 ratings (May 8th deadline)
Gymnastics	7 ratings (January 13th deadline)
Dance	12 ratings (January 16th deadline)
Cheerleading	12 ratings (January 23rd deadline)

PENALTY FOR FAILING TO RATE OFFICIALS

Effective with the 2025-26 school year, should a member school fail to make the necessary number of ratings by the pre-determined date, the school will be placed 'on notice'. Being placed 'on notice' means that the school will be required to make the necessary number of ratings in the next season of the sport, or, if they fail to do so, the head coach will be suspended from coaching in the first round of the state series in that sport that season. Should a member school fail to make the necessary number of ratings for three consecutive years in a particular sport, the school's head coach will not be allowed to participate in the state series until such time when the coach/school makes the required number of ratings by the prescribed date. If a school changes coaches when in the penalty portal, the new coach will start with a clean slate. School administration will be required to notify the IHSA Office of the coaching change.

Penalty Overview

Year 1: Head coach/team played "on notice"

Year 2: Head coach cannot coach in the first round of the state series

Year 3: Head coach cannot coach in State Series until ratings are submitted