

## **MINUTES OF IHSA EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

September 30, 2024 | 10:00 AM

IHSA Office | Bloomington, IL

The IHSA Equity Advisory Committee met in-person on Monday, September 30, 2024, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were: Jason Dillon, Chicago (Cristo Rey Jesuit); Amanda Brode-Rico, Elmwood Park; Dan Beebe, Aurora (A. Christian); Jim O'Brien, Joliet (Catholic Academy); Nicole Ebsen, Oak Park (O.P.-River Forest); Cory Hynek, Peoria (P. Christian); Constance Jackson, Peoria (Manual); Larry Daly, Decatur (St. Teresa); Matt Hensley, Mahomet (M.-Seymour); Dennis Littekin, Breese (Mater Dei); Caleb Houchins, Highland. Absent from the meeting: Antwione Allen, Chicago (Englewood STEM); Pollee Craven, Mt. Sterling (Brown County) and Barry Creviston, Jacksonville (Routt). IHSA Executive Director Craig Anderson, Assistant Executive Director, Matt Troha and Director of IT Matt Jensen, were also present.

1. The Committee reviewed the Classification Policy presented by Matt Troha from the IHSA staff.

The committee discussed the merits of the proposal and took no official position.

The committee also seemed to support classifying schools annually, instead of bi-annually, and attempting to use as up-to-date classification enrollments as possible (spring ISBE reporting numbers if possible).

Some portions of the Classification Policy Proposal would potentially need to be altered if annual classifications were to take place. Craig plans to review the proposal with the IHSA staff and potentially the IHSA Board moving forward.

2. Wauconda High School Athletic Director Mark Ribbens joined the committee via video conference to discuss the perceived inequity of sitting out an entire football game after an ejection based on the number of games played in football versus other sports that play significantly more games. Some committee members seemed to support the notion that sitting out one half following an ejection, especially given that the school could enforce greater penalties in especially egregious situations, might be more equitable. Mark indicated that he would likely submit a by-law proposal to change the penalty for an ejection in football.

The committee also discussed the equity of ejections within various sports. They asked for the Soccer Advisory Committee to review the red/yellow card policy that is currently in place.

3. The committee reviewed current transfer eligibility ruling data and discussed the new online transfer database. The group unanimously supported moving all rulings online to the database.

4. Sam Knox updated the committee on the activity of the Ad Hoc Football Committee's first two meetings and potential proposals. Several committee members vocally supported their potential proposals, even though the timing could disrupt some out-of-state and non-conference football

games that are already scheduled.

5. The committee heard an update on the inaugural IHSA Girls Flag Football State Series and discussed the future of the sport.

6. The committee reviewed and discussed multiple IHSA by-laws that have been submitted for the upcoming legislative cycle related to residence and transfer eligibility, cooperative teams, and the make-up of the IHSA Board of Directors.