

IHSAA News Release



Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc.

9150 N. Meridian Street, PO Box 40650, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240-0650
317-846-6601 ▪ Fax: 317-575-4244 ▪ IHSAA.org ▪ IHSAAtv.org ▪ @IHSAA1

TICKETS

General admission tickets are \$10 per person and available to purchase at Gate 5 at Noblesville High School on Saturday. Pre-school children admitted at no charge.

DOORS OPEN

Doors will open to spectators at 11:30 am ET on Saturday, one hour prior to the Opening Ceremonies.

WEBSTREAM

Saturday's competition will be streamed live by IHSAAtv.org.

- Host Thad Vandeventer
- Analyst Camille Hayes
- Analyst Ashley Jacobs

TWITTER

Follow us @IHSAA1 and use hashtag #IHSAA



THE 47TH ANNUAL IHSAA GYMNASTICS STATE FINALS

Saturday, March 9, 2019
Noblesville High School, Noblesville
Opening Ceremonies, 12:30 pm ET
Competition, 1 pm ET

[Order of Competition](#) | [State Championship Records Book](#) | [State Tournament Results](#)

Six teams return from last year's field of state finalists including defending state champion and top-ranked Chesterton along with three individual state champions as the 47th Annual IHSAA Gymnastics State Finals are contested Saturday at Noblesville High School for the first time.

■ Defending Team Champion

The Trojans will be gunning for a repeat performance under coach Dawn Matthys with the hopes of carrying home the state championship trophy for the fifth time in school history (1993, 2000, 2002, 2018).

■ Defending Individual State Champions

Three individuals who stood at the top of the podium last year return this weekend seeking more state championship glory.

Sophia Hunzelman, Chesterton junior, is the two-time defending all-around champ. With another title on Saturday, she would become the first gymnast to win three all-around crowns. She is currently one of nine individuals with two to her credit in tournament history with Valparaiso's Angie Cook the only other competitor to win in her first two years of high school in 1993 and 1994.

Hunzelman is the only athlete with multiple titles this weekend having won the 2017 bars and last year's beam but Trojans teammate Jordan Bush was the state champ on the floor exercise a year ago and gives Chesterton a formidable lineup. The senior earned last year's crown with a 9.825 and finished fourth in the all-around competition. She won the all-around at the Valparaiso regional last Saturday.

Also among this year's defending state champions is Whitney McKeon of Valparaiso. The senior shared the beam title with Hunzelman at 9.70 in 2018 and finished fifth in the floor exercise and the all-around. She placed second in the beam to Hunzelman on Saturday.

In fact, Bush, McKeon and Hunzelman placed one-two-three in the all-around in the loaded Valpo regional last Saturday.

■ Homestead senior Catherine Milne and Columbus North freshman Emily Moore both won their respective all-around awards at the sectional and regional rounds.

■ Five schools in the field have strung together multiple state finals appearances led by seventh-ranked Columbus North making its 13th consecutive trip as a team. Homestead follows with five straight and Chesterton and Columbus East advancing to championship Saturday for the fourth year in a row. Two of the longest streaks in state history were snapped as Valparaiso did not advance out of the sectional for the first time since 2001 while Fort Wayne Bishop Dwenger did not advance out of the regional for the first time since 1999 ending its record of state finals appearances at 19 years in a row.



NOTABLES

State Tournament Participation

One hundred fifteen athletes representing 23 different schools will compete in this weekend's event. Sectionals began two weeks ago with 77 schools and 515 participants.

Former State Champions in Meet (3)

- Sophia Hunzelman (11) Chesterton (2017, 2018 All-Around, 2017 Bars co-champion, 2018 Beam co-champion).
- Jordan Bush (12) Chesterton (2018 Floor champion).
- Whitney McKeon (12) Valparaiso (2018 Beam co-champion).

Schools Represented (23)

Angola, Bloomington North, Carroll (Fort Wayne), Chesterton, Columbus East, Columbus North, Crown Point, DeKalb, Fort Wayne Bishop Dwenger, Fort Wayne Concordia Lutheran, Fort Wayne Wayne, Harrison (West Lafayette), Homestead, Lafayette Jefferson, Lake Central, McCutcheon, New Castle, Northwestern, Pendleton Heights, Portage, Richmond, Seymour, Valparaiso.

Competing for Team Championship (9)

Angola, Carroll (Fort Wayne), Chesterton, Columbus East, Columbus North, Homestead, Lake Central, Portage, Richmond.

Returning Teams from 2018 (6)

Carroll (Fort Wayne), Chesterton, Columbus East, Columbus North, Homestead, Portage.

Consecutive State Finals Appearances

13: Columbus North
5: Homestead
4: Chesterton, Columbus East
3: Carroll (Fort Wayne)

First-Time State Finals Appearances

Angola, Lake Central

State Finals Drought-Breaker

Richmond will be represented in the state finals team competition for the third time overall but first since 1980.

Sectional Champions (6)

Angola, Chesterton, Columbus North, Homestead, McCutcheon, Richmond.

Regional Champions (3)

Chesterton, Carroll (Fort Wayne), Columbus North.

Sectional All-Around Champions

- Makenna King (9) South Central (Union Mills)
- Julie-ann Stephany (11) Lafayette Jefferson
- Ashtyn Evans (9) Angola
- Catherine Milne (12) Homestead
- Emily Moore (9) Columbus North
- Elizabeth Ruger (9) Richmond

Regional All-Around Champions

- Jordan Bush (12) Chesterton
- Catherine Milne (12) Homestead
- Emily Moore (9) Columbus North

INDIANA HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASTICS FINAL COACHES POLL (2/18/19)

1. Chesterton (5)	75
2. Valparaiso	67
3. McCutcheon	47
4. Portage	46
5. Lake Central	43
6. Carroll (Fort Wayne)	41
7. Columbus North	40
8. Merrillville	32
9. Homestead	31
10. Crown Point	26
11. Logansport	24
12. Angola	22
13. Richmond	10
T14. Fort Wayne Bishop Dwenger	9
T14. Harrison (West Lafayette)	9

MEDIA INFORMATION

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Connie Walters

ASSISTANT TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Barbi Kern

TOURNAMENT ADMINISTRATOR: Sandra Walter, Assistant Commissioner

MEDIA HOST: IHSAA Sports Information Director Jason Wille will be on hand to assist you in your coverage of the event.

MEDIA CREDENTIALS: Media Credentials: Deadline is Thursday, March 7, 2019, 4 pm ET. The 2018-19 IHSAA State Finals Media Credential issued previously this year is good for admission. For those news organizations without credentials and planning to cover the gymnastics state finals, please apply by e-mailing your request (with name of individual applying) to IHSAA Sports Information Director Jason Wille at jwille@ihsaa.org. E-mail requests MUST originate from a recognized business account; e-mails from personal accounts (ie: yahoo.com, gmail.com, etc.) will not be accepted. Approved media credential requests may be claimed inside Gate 6 at Noblesville High School on Saturday. Please have proper identification available.

MEDIA SERVICES: Complimentary copies of the official state finals program will be available and includes the order of participants in each event. The facility also is equipped for wireless internet access. Electrical power and phone lines will be available for use there.

MEDIA SEATING: News media will be seated on the floor near the scorers table. An open seating policy will be used.

PHOTOGRAPHERS: *During the event, please use discretion when photographing the athletes as your camera strobe can pose a danger to the safety of the athletes during their performances.* With the exception of the IHSAA's Official Photographer from "Double Edge Media", all photographers should remain off the floor until all competition has concluded.

