



**May 1, 2023**

## **Board of Directors Tables Four-Class Proposal Group will reconvene to vote on June 22**

During its annual review of the by-laws on Monday afternoon, the Board of Directors of the Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc. tabled a proposal that changes the way schools are classified in the four-class sports.

The Board of Directors, led by this year's President Chris Conley of Delta High School and Vice President Kye Denney of Wes-Del High School, approved 12 proposals, three (3) failed to receive enough support, and several others were tabled during the meeting in Indianapolis.

All proposals are considered in the order that the rule appears within the current by-laws. The Board of Directors has four options on each proposal: affirm, deny, table or amend a rule. A simple majority is necessary to act on any measure and all approved measures become effective immediately unless otherwise noted.

After lengthy conversation, the Board opted to table the proposal for further study which would begin classifying schools in the four-class sports of baseball, basketball, softball and volleyball using fixed enrollment figures. Since 1997-98, the rule has required equally distributing schools among the four classes.

The proposal, which will now be taken up at the June 22, 2023 Executive Committee meeting, was submitted by Commissioner Paul Neidig on behalf of the Indiana Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (IIAAA). It calls for the following breaks:

Class 4A: 1,400 enrollment and up  
Class 3A: 600-1,399 enrollment  
Class 2A: 325-599 enrollment  
Class 1A: 324 enrollment and down

### **Tournament Success Factor**

Due to the above tabling of the four-class proposal, the other proposals affecting the Tournament Success Factor – one from Yorktown Principal Stacy Brewer and another by Board member and Barr-Reeve Principal Jeff Doyle – were subsequently tabled as well.

### **Other items:**

- The Board unanimously approved (17-0) of reducing the necessary number of schools participating in an Emerging Sport (currently girls wrestling and boys volleyball) from 150 to 100 before that sport would become officially sponsored and a state tournament implemented. The minimum of 40 schools per district was also struck from the rule.

- The proposal that required schools to notify the Association of their intention to play up one or more classes for the next reclassification cycle with a deadline of September 1 was approved 18-0.
- An amendment to Rule 9-14 that reduces the number of practices required after missing consecutive days was approved 18-0. Students missing 8-14 consecutive days will now need two practices (previously four) while those missing more than 14 consecutive days will now need three practices (previously six).
- Clarifying language to Rule 14-8 that high school students with a provisional officiating license may officiate any contests other than those at the high school level (grades 9-12) was approved 18-0.
- An amendment to Rule 14-9 that extends the deadline to renew an officiating license from May 31 to June 30 was approved 18-0.
- A proposal from the Indiana High School Tennis Coaches Association requesting the first authorized practice date for girls tennis in the spring did not pass (1-17).
- Amendments to Rules 50-1 and 50-1.2 (Pre-Participation Practice) that reduced the number of practices required both passed unanimously (18-0).
- Two proposals from Austin Principal Dr. Ryan Herald that would reduce the maximum number of games that a baseball team and softball team may play both failed to receive any support.
- The elections for next year’s leadership of the Board and Executive Committee were also held. Stacy Adams of Valparaiso High School was voted president of the 2023-24 Board of Directors and Chad Gilbert of Charlestown High School was elected vice president. Chris Conley of Delta High School was named chairman of the 2023-24 Executive Committee and Tom Black of East Central High School was confirmed as vice chairman.

**About the 2022-23 IHSAA Board of Directors**

The IHSAA is governed by its legislative body, the Board of Directors. Composed of 19 individuals elected by member school principals from three legislative districts, they serve staggered three-year terms. Twelve board seats are filled by any qualified individual (open seats), and seven board seats are filled by two qualified female representatives, two qualified minority representatives, two qualified urban school representatives and one qualified private school representative. The Board of Directors meets annually with the responsibility of establishing the Association’s By-Laws and regulations.

<b>District, Seat</b>	<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Term Ends</b>
District I, Class 1A	Tom Finicle, Southwood	June 2023
District I, Class 2A	Paul Voigt, Churubusco	June 2024
District I, Class 3A	Nathan Dean, Jimtown	June 2023
District I, Class 4A	Jeff Hamstra, Chesterton	June 2024
District II, Class 1A	--	June 2024
District II, Class 2A	Kye Denney, Wes-Del**	June 2023
District II, Class 3A	Chris Conley, Delta*	June 2024
District II, Class 4A	Jim Brown, Fishers	June 2023

District III, Class 1A	Jeff Doyle, Barr-Reeve	June 2023
District III, Class 2A	Tim Grove, South Knox School Corporation	June 2024
District III, Class 3A	Mike Whitten, Boonville	June 2023
District III, Class 4A	Tom Black, East Central	June 2024
North District, Female	Patti McCormack, Lowell	June 2025
North District, Minority	Stacy Adams, Valparaiso	June 2025
North District, Urban	Brian Strong, Logansport	June 2025
South District, Female	Kris Painter, Terre Haute North Vigo	June 2025
South District, Minority	Kyle Duncan, Brownsburg	June 2025
South District, Urban	Chad Gilbert, Charlestown	June 2025
Private School	Joe Herrmann, Evansville Mater Dei	June 2025

\* President

\*\* Vice-President

\*\*\*

***About the Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc. (IHSAA)***

*The IHSAA is a voluntary, not-for-profit organization that is self-supporting without the use of tax monies. Since its founding in 1903, the Association's mission has been to provide wholesome, educational athletics for the secondary schools of Indiana. Its 407 member high schools - public, institutional, parochial and private - pay no annual membership fee or incur entry fees to play in the Association's tournaments. A state tournament series is conducted annually in 22 sports, 10 for girls, 10 for boys and two co-eds (unified flag football, unified track and field). A 19-person board of directors, elected by member school principals, governs the organization.*