



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Indianapolis, IN
February 15, 2024 at 8 am ET

Members Present:

Chairman Chris Conley, Vice Chairman Tom Black (virtually), Stacy Adams, Jim Brown, Martin Brown, Larry Cochren, Kye Denney, Jeff Doyle, Kyle Duncan, Tom Finicle, Chad Gilbert, Tim Grove, Jeff Hamstra, Joe Herrmann, Patti McCormack, Kris Painter, Roman Smith, Brian Strong, Paul Voigt.

Executive Staff Present:

Commissioner Paul Neidig, Assistant Commissioner Robert Faulkens, Assistant Commissioner Chris Kaufman, Assistant Commissioner Brian Lewis, Assistant Commissioner Kerrie Rosati, Assistant Commissioner Janie Ulmer, Associate Commissioner Ed Gilliland, Foundation Director Trip Lukemeyer, Technology Director Luke Morehead, Director of Broadcasting Heath Shanahan, Sports Information Director Jason Wille, General Counsel Katie Williams-Briles.

* * * *

At the start of the meeting, Commissioner Paul Neidig and Assistant Commissioner Robert Faulkens gave an update on the Ticketmaster ticketing difficulties being experienced by the general public for this weekend's Wrestling State Finals at the Ford Center in Evansville.

I. FOR ACTION

A. **Consideration for Approval – Minutes from the January 11, 2024 Executive Committee Meeting**

Motion:

Motion moved by Tim Grove and motion seconded by Brian Strong. Approved 19-0.

B. **Softball Rules Proposals**

Assistant Commissioner Kerrie Rosati presented Proposal 2 submitted by the Softball Coaches Association of Indiana (SCAI) from last month's Executive Committee meeting for a formal vote.

Proposals 1 & 3 are potential changes to the IHSAA Member School By-Laws and will be added to the agenda for the Board of Directors to consider at its April 29, 2024 meeting.

Proposal 2: Allow the optional use of the safety bag at first base (also known as a Double First Base).

Explanation: A safety bag is an orange base that is connected to the standard white bag at first base. The first baseman uses the white bag inside the foul line and the

baserunner uses the orange bag outside the foul line to minimize collisions. If runners are taking extra bases on a hit, they use the inside base. The safety bag gives the runners a base to run through that keeps them in their running lane without having to move back into fair territory to touch the regular white bag.

Motion:

Motion moved by Brian Strong and motion seconded by Tim Grove. Failed 0-19.

C. Baseball Rules Proposals

Assistant Commissioner Robert Faulkens presented Proposal 3 submitted by the Indiana High School Baseball Coaches Association (IHSBCA) from last month's Executive Committee meeting for a formal vote.

Proposals 1, 2 & 4 are potential changes to the IHSAA Member School By-Laws and will be added to the agenda for the Board of Directors to consider at its April 29, 2024 meeting.

Proposal 3: Allow the optional use of the safety bag at first base (also known as a Double First Base).

Explanation: A safety bag is an orange base that is connected to the standard white bag at first base. The first baseman uses the white bag inside the foul line and the baserunner uses the orange bag outside the foul line to minimize collisions. If runners are taking extra bases on a hit, they use the inside base. The safety bag gives the runners a base to run through that keeps them in their running lane without having to move back into fair territory to touch the regular white bag.

Motion:

Motion moved by Jeff Doyle and motion seconded by Kye Denney. Failed 0-19.

D. Volleyball Rules Proposals

Assistant Commissioner Kerrie Rosati presented Proposals 2, 3 and 4 submitted by the Indiana High School Volleyball Coaches Association (IHSVCA) from last month's Executive Committee meeting for a formal vote.

Proposal 1 is a potential change to the IHSAA Member School By-Laws and will be added to the agenda for the Board of Directors to consider at its April 29, 2024 meeting.

Proposal 2: Eliminate the cap at 25 in sets one and two for junior varsity contests. Win by two.

Motion:

Motion moved by Kyle Duncan and motion seconded by Patti McCormack. Approved 16-3 with Chad Gilbert, Stacy Adams and Brian Stong opposed.

Proposal 3: Seed the top two teams in each sectional and regional to allow the best teams to play for the championship. Other teams' placement will be a blind draw.

Motion:

Motion moved by Brian Strong and motion seconded by Kye Denney. Failed 0-19.

Proposal 4: Change regional format to one match. Four teams will advance to Semi-State. Three matches played; a team must win two matches to advance to the State Finals.

Motion:

Motion moved by Joe Herrmann and motion seconded by Tom Finicle. Approved 19-0.

E. Richard G. Lugar Award

Assistant Commissioner Chris Kaufman requested approval to present this year's Richard G. Lugar Awards for Distinguished Service to Interscholastic Athletics. This year's recipients will be recognized at the IHSAA Boys Basketball State Finals on March 30, 2024.

Motion:

Motion moved by Jim Brown and motion seconded by Stacy Adams. Approved 19-0.

* * * *

II. REPORTS

A. Report on Officials for the 2023-24 Boys Basketball Tournament Series

Assistant Commissioner Brian Lewis shared a list of the officials who have applied to work this year's Boys Basketball State Tournament Series. The tournament requires six officials per sectional for a total of 384 individuals.

B. Report on Officials for the 2023-24 Gymnastics Tournament Series

Assistant Commissioner Janie Ulmer presented a list of gymnastics officials who have applied to work this year's Gymnastics State Tournament Series.

C. Sponsorships

Assistant Commissioner Chris Kaufman shared the latest information on the IHSAA's various corporate partnerships and potential partners.

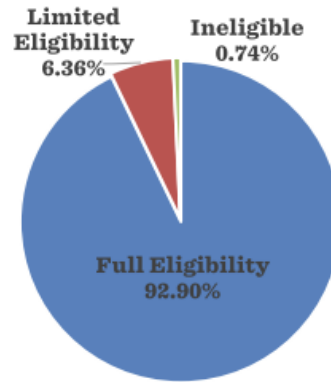
D. Transfers

Assistant Commissioner Brian Lewis reported on transfers that have been ruled on for the period of June 1, 2023-February 12, 2024.

Student-Athlete Transfer Report

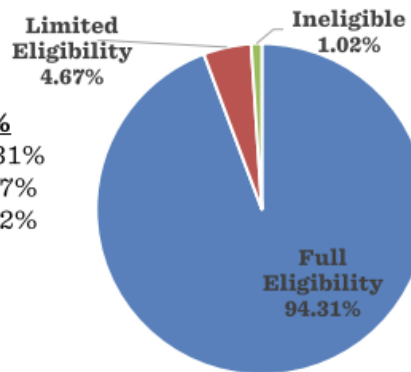
Student-Athlete Transfer Eligibility Statistics

	Totals	%
Full Eligibility	2629	92.90%
Limited Eligibility	180	6.36%
Ineligible	21	0.74%
Total	2830	



J1 Visa Foreign Exchange Transfer Student-Athlete Eligibility Statistics

	Totals:	%
Full Eligibility	464	94.31%
Limited Eligibility	23	4.67%
Ineligible	5	1.02%
Total	492	



E. Officials Update

Assistant Commissioner Brian Lewis reported on the current numbers of licensed officials. With a little more than 6,000 licensed officials, those numbers are holding steady or slightly up from recent years.

F. Sportsmanship

Assistant Commissioner Janie Ulmer reported that 364 exemplary sportsmanship reports have been received and highlighted one report specifically from the Shoals-Wood Memorial girls basketball game. She also said a sportsmanship story from the Benton Central-Twin Lakes girls basketball game will be featured during the girls basketball state finals webstream on Feb. 24.

G. Technology

Director of Technology Luke Morehead reported on recent updates to the myIHSAA web portal. Morehead also summarized upcoming improvements to help member schools track coach accreditation within myIHSAA.

H. Legal Report

General Counsel Katie Williams-Briles updated the Executive Committee on the status of pending litigation against the Association.

I. Legislative Update

Commissioner Paul Neidig shared information he's received regarding proposals and bills at the Indiana Statehouse related to high school sports.

J. Sportsmanship Committee

Assistant Commissioners Janie Ulmer and Brian Lewis spoke about the sportsmanship committee that has recently met and its plans going forward. The group will meet again this spring. A sportsmanship survey that was sent to administrators last fall received approximately 1,500 responses on ideas to improve sporting behavior.

K. Participation Committee

Assistant Commissioner Kerrie Rosati and Associate Commissioner Ed Gilliland shared the agenda and list of individuals that met as part of the Participation Committee.

The group reviewed the baseball and softball proposals on expanding the limited contact period and a potential second summer moratorium week. Discussion also was had on the question of whether limited contact programs should be permitted to go off school grounds and how to preserve the multi-sport athlete.

L. Penalties Assessed

East Chicago Central – Boys wrestling – Rule 63-6 (*Mismanagement of reporting wrestlers weigh ins during the regular season and did not meet all the provisions of the weight management program*)

- The East Chicago Central High School wrestling program has been issued a warning. This warning is notice that a member school rule violation has occurred and shall not be repeated.
- Head Coach Antony Burns is reprimanded for allowing this violation to be committed. The head coach holds the responsibility that each student-athlete meets all requirements of the member school wrestling weight management plan.

- While ineligible, the wrestling matches the student-athlete participated in shall be rescored to remove any individual and team points earned by the student-athlete and the team score shall be recalculated. The opposing member schools shall be notified of this violation.
- The administration of East Chicago Central High School is commended for its handling of this member school by-law violation. Part of a member school's duty is to uphold the by-laws of its association and furthermore to self-report any violation to the Commissioner (Rule 3).

Hauser – Girls Basketball – Rule 52-3c (*A girls basketball student athlete participated in more than the allowable five (5) quarters in a single session*)

- The Hauser High School girls basketball program has been issued a warning. This warning is notice that an IHSAA member school rule violation has occurred and shall not be repeated.
- In accordance with Rule 3-9, Hauser High School shall forfeit the contest if victorious and the opposing school shall be notified of this violation.
- The administration of Hauser High School is commended for its handling of this member school By-Law violation. Part of a member school's duty is to uphold the By-Laws of its association and furthermore to self-report any violation to the Commissioner (Rule 3).

Lanesville – Boys Basketball – Rule 15-2.1g (*A JV student-athlete participated in a Sunday basketball league on two separate dates during the school year in-season*)

- The Lanesville High School boys' basketball program has been issued a warning. This warning is official notice that member school by-law violation has occurred, is a matter of record, and shall not be repeated.
- A meeting shall be scheduled with the entire boys' basketball program to review IHSAA member-school by-law 15. Once this meeting is complete, the date of the meeting, meeting agenda, and attendance shall be sent to Assistant Commissioner Lewis.
- The student-athlete involved is not permitted to participate in the next single regular season contest on the Lanesville High School basketball schedule.
- Further digressions as they relate to Member school by-laws by student-athletes, coaches, or affiliates of the boys' basketball program and may include further sanctions, including but not limited to, further suspensions of coaches and/or student-athletes and/or probation for the program.
- The administration of Lanesville High School is commended for its handling of this member school by-law violation. Part of an IHSAA member school's duty is to uphold the member school by-laws of its association and furthermore to self-report any violation to the Commissioner (Rule 3).

Kankakee Valley – Boys Basketball – Rule 52-3c (*A boys basketball student athlete participated in more than the allowable five (5) quarters in a single session*)

- The Kankakee Valley High School boys basketball program has been issued a warning. This warning is notice that an IHSAA member school rule violation has occurred and shall not be repeated.
- In accordance with Rule 3-9, Kankakee Valley High School shall forfeit the contest if victorious and the opposing school shall be notified of this violation.

- The administration of Kankakee Valley High School is commended for its handling of this member school By-Law violation. Part of a member school's duty is to uphold the By-Laws of its association and furthermore to self-report any violation to the Commissioner (Rule 3).

Knox – Wrestling – Rule 19-3 (*A student-athlete participated in three (3) interscholastic JV contests without an approved transfer of file*)

- The Knox High School boys wrestling program has been issued a warning. This warning is official notice that a member school By-Law violation act has occurred, is a matter of record, and shall not be repeated.
- The student-athlete involved in this violation is declared ineligible for further competition until a transfer report is completed and ruled upon.
- In accordance with Rule 3-9, the contest(s) in which the ineligible student-athlete participated in shall be forfeited and the opposing school(s) shall be notified of this violation.
- The administration of Knox High School is commended for its handling of this member school By-Law violation. Part of a member school's duty is to uphold the By-Laws of its association and furthermore to self-report any violation to the Commissioner (Rule 3).

Muncie Burriss – Girls Swimming & Diving – Rule 19-3 (*A student-athlete participated in multiple interscholastic meets without an approved transfer of file*)

- The Muncie Burriss High School girls swimming & diving program has been issued a warning. This warning is official notice that a member school By-Law violation act has occurred, is a matter of record, and shall not be repeated.
- The student-athlete involved in this violation is declared ineligible for further competition until a transfer report is completed and ruled upon.
- In accordance with Rule 3-9, the contest(s) in which the ineligible student-athlete participated shall be rescored to remove any team points earned by the ineligible student-athlete and the opposing school(s) shall be notified of this violation.
- The administration of Muncie Burriss High School is commended for its handling of this member school By-Law violation. Part of a member school's duty is to uphold the By-Laws of its association and furthermore to self-report any violation to the Commissioner (Rule 3).

Oak Hill – Girls Swimming & Diving – Rule 19-7 (*A foreign exchange student-athlete participated in multiple interscholastic swimming & diving meets without an approved Foreign Exchange transfer on file*)

- The Oak Hill Girls swimming & diving program has been issued a warning. This warning is notice that an IHSAA member school rule violation has occurred and shall not be repeated.
- The student-athlete was declared ineligible until a completed foreign exchange transfer report was submitted and ruled upon.
- In accordance with Rule 3-9, the contest(s) in which the ineligible student-athlete participated shall be rescored to remove any team points earned by the ineligible student-athlete and the opposing school(s) shall be notified of this violation.
- The administration of Oak Hill High School is commended for its handling of this member school by-law violation. Part of an IHSAA member school's duty is to uphold the member school by-laws of its association and furthermore to self-report any violation to the Commissioner (Rule 3).

South Bend Saint Joseph – Boys wrestling – Rule 63-6 (*A student-athlete did not meet all provisions of the member school weight management program*)

- The South Bend Saint Joseph High School wrestling program has been issued a warning. This warning is notice that a member school rule violation has occurred and shall not be repeated.
- Head Coach Logan Wishart is reprimanded for allowing this violation to be committed. The head coach holds the responsibility that each student-athlete meets all requirements of the member school wrestling weight management plan.
- While ineligible, the wrestling matches the student-athlete participated in shall be rescored to remove any individual and team points earned by the student-athlete and the team score shall be recalculated. The opposing member schools shall be notified of this violation.
- The administration of South Bend Saint Joseph High School is commended for its handling of this member school by-law violation. Part of a member school's duty is to uphold the by-laws of its association and furthermore to self-report any violation to the Commissioner (Rule 3).

* * * *

III. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A. Spring Principals Meeting

- District I - **Tues. Apr. 16, 2024** - 9:30 a.m. ET at **Fort Wayne Snider HS**
- District II - **Wed. Apr. 17, 2024** - 9:30 a.m. ET at **Pendleton Heights HS**
- District III - **Thur. Apr. 18, 2024** - 9:30 a.m. ET at **Vincennes Lincoln HS**
- District I - **Mon. Apr. 22, 2024** - 9:30 a.m. CT at **Hobart HS**
- District III - **Tues. Apr. 23, 2024** - 9:30 a.m. ET at **Charlestown HS**
- District II - **Wed. Apr. 24, 2024** - 9:30 a.m. ET at **Plainfield HS**

B. For Good of the Order

- A video by Assistant Commissioner Kerrie Rosati explaining Rule 15 regarding individual sports, was played for the group. It will be posted to the IHSAA YouTube channel soon.
- The loan the IHSAA received following COVID-19 continues to be reduced.
- Renovation to the IHSAA office building has been largely completed with a few minor odds and ends to be finalized.

- Update on the Wrestling State Finals which begins tomorrow at the Ford Center in Evansville.
- Foundation Director Trip Lukemeyer reminded that Cato Scholarship nominations are due at the end of February.
- Assistant Commissioner Chris Kaufman reported that the annual Brady Sports Achievement Awards dinner hosted by Forte Sports Medicine has been discontinued and that the IHSAA Foundation will host its own similar program focused on high school athletics. An announcement will be made soon.
- Commissioner Paul Neidig requested volunteers for this spring's reclassification committees.

C. Communications

- Thank you letters received from Mike Goebel, Evansville Mater Dei.

D. Congratulations

The following earned NIAAA Certifications in the month of January 2024:

- Jacob Dunn – RMSAA - Crothersville
- Michael Schultz – CAA - Munster

Named NFHS Coaches of the Year for 2022-23

- Angie Lensing - Evansville Memorial -Named NFHS Girls Soccer Coach of the Year for 2022-23
- Mike Goebel - Evansville Mater Dei -Named NFHS Football Coach of the Year for 2022-23

E. IHSAA Related Events

- Friday, February 23rd - Indiana Fever & Indiana Pacers and Indiana Basketball Coaches Association Girls' Basketball Luncheon at Gainbridge Fieldhouse
- Wednesday, March 20th – Boys' Basketball Hall of Fame Induction
- Friday, March 29th – Kiwanis' Boys' Basketball Luncheon at Primos
- Saturday, April 27th – Girls' Basketball Hall of Fame Induction

F. Adjournment

Motion:

Motion moved by Jim Brown and motion seconded by Jeff Doyle. Approved 19-0.

G. Next Meeting

Executive Committee Meeting: Friday, March 29, 2024