

**ILLINOIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
CROSS-COUNTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
RECOMMENDATIONS
November 12, 2009**

The following members were present for the meeting: Coaches Diane Stateman, Lemont Old Quarry; Steve Huber, Elmwood, Mike Brehm, Paxton-Buckley-Loda; Dave Frintner, Arlington Hts. South; Jan Marks, Germantown Hills; and Steve Shaffer, Mt. Prospect Lincoln; and IHSA Officials, Owen Fuller, Marseilles and Geza Ehrentreu, Rockford.

The IESA Cross-Country Advisory Committee, in its meeting of November 13, 2009, makes the following recommendation to the Board of Directors for its January 22, 2010, meeting:

1. To change By-Law 4.035 so that the top 10 individuals at sectionals receive medals instead of ribbons. **Rationale: While the committee is fully aware that this recommendation has been presented to the Board of Directors many times, they respectfully submit it once again for consideration. Simply put, it is a priority of the committee and they believe that the top 10 individuals who advance to the state cross country meet deserve a medal, especially when every invitational meet distributes medals to their placers and not ribbons.**

The committee was informed of a scoring error in the girls Class A race that eventually led to the switching of the 2nd and 3rd place teams. Mr. Endsley will contact the company providing the chip scoring system to insure a video review of the races is conducted. Mile splits were not called out although there was a clock set up showing the time. The mile split time will be read aloud in future years. A request from a school to switch the time schedule every other year so Class A schools would run later and Class AA schools would run earlier did not receive any support from the committee. Therefore, the time schedule will not change. The committee requests that the box assignments are either written on the outside of the team packet or a separate sheet is included in the team packet listing the starting box assignment. The assignments are already listed in the program all coaches receive. Discussion was held about the photograph taken of all teams upon check-in. Mr. Endsley will work with the photographer to streamline that process. A lengthy discussion was held concerning the distribution of the chips. While there are many coaches who would like to receive the chips at check-in, the committee was in favor of distributing the chips at the starting line. This method provides for less error and reduces the possibility of losing chips prior to the start of a race. A new coaches information packet was discussed. The committee would like to see the top 25 individuals posted in a second location. Finally, a reminder will be sent to all schools that while runners can certainly run the course prior to the races, there is not to be any type of organized race on the course prior to the state races. A group of runners apparently held a race before the start of the girls Class A race with parents of those runners telling officials to get out of the way, runners to get out of the way, etc. leading people to believe an actual race was being conducted. The finish line area will be closed off and roped off prior to the start of the races. Once again the committee was very appreciative of the job Normal Parkside did organizing the state meet.

Mike Brehm and Steve Huber were recognized for their service to the committee.

The date of the next meeting was set for November 12, 2010.