



IESA BASEBALL

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES & RECOMMENDATIONS

November 4, 2013

The following members were present for the meeting: Alex Razo, Chillicothe, Darren Loschen, Potomac, Joshua Stone, Raymond, Jeremy Smith, Gillespie, Tom Knapczyk, Shorewood Troy; and Umpire Steve Vorhies, Dallas City. Introductions were made and a review of the advisory committee's role took place.

There are no recommendations for the Board of Directors.

There were several items discussed by the committee. The following Points of Emphasis will be included in the Terms and Conditions that will be mailed to schools prior to the beginning of the 2014 season:

- ** Schools hosting regular season and state series game should be sure that the foul lines are chalked properly including beyond first and third base. This is necessary for umpires in particular as well as for players and coaches.
- ** Better enforcement of NFHS rule 6-2-2 in particular one minute between innings. This will help speed up games which often last too long.
- ** Curtail excessive celebration following home runs.

Discussion was held on the following items:

**Umpires chosen to work sectional and state level games will need to work at least 5 regular season jr. high games in order to receive assignments. This practice is currently in place for basketball and volleyball officials.

**Dugout positions for regional and sectionals will be determined by the host school. Host schools should communicate the dugout that each participating school will use prior to teams arriving on site.

**Portable pitching mounds during the state series were once again discussed. The committee reiterated that they do not want portable pitching mounds allowed during the state series as approved by the IESA Board of Directors.

**School that offer to host a Regional and/or a Sectional and are subsequently assigned by the IESA Office before the season begins to serve as the host must have a traditional pitching mound. Schools that do not have a pitching mound should not submit a request in advance (Host Interest Form) to host a regional or sectional. Once the assignments have been released and if there is no host for a given regional or sectional, then a school without a pitching mound may contact the IESA Office to indicate their interest in hosting and may be assigned as the host.

**A standardized procedure to pay the umpires during the regional was discussed. Currently, there are some regionals where each time a school participates they pay for one of the umpires; in other regionals the host pays all of the umpires and then sends out an assessment notice after the completion of the regional. The committee felt that the procedure that is the least confusing and easiest to manage is for the host school to simply pay all of the umpires for the regional and then send an assessment notice to each participating school based on the number of games each school plays. This will avoid a school going to their school's bookkeeper on multiple days asking for a check to be cut, not knowing whether the check should be made payable to either the official or the school, and simply paying their share all at once as opposed to perhaps multiple checks. The host school would have the responsibility to have checks prepared for each official for each game.

**Bat rules and a request to allow a minus 5 drop was briefly discussed. The minus 3 drop rule is an NFHS rule and therefore will not be modified to allow for a minus 5 drop. IESA rules already allow for bats 30' and under with a barrel diameter of no more than 2 ¼" to exceed the minus 3 drop.

**The possibility of adding a 7th grade baseball state series was discussed. The committee looked at how such a state series would fit into the current calendar. After discussion, there was no support to add such a state series mainly due to the fact that the overwhelming majority of school simply do not have enough numbers (players) to conduct a separate 7th grade and 8th grade team.

**Schools that serve as the regional host will no longer be required to forward in advance the baseballs provided to them as the regional host school to the sites who serve as first round hosts for the "play-in" games played on Tuesday prior to the Saturday semi-finals. Regional host schools should, at some point in time, whether it is before the play in game or after the play in game, be sure to give the baseballs to the schools who serve as a host for the play in games.

The committee acknowledged the work and effort of East Peoria Central and the staff at EastSide in conducting the 2013 state finals. In particular, the concession lines were much more manageable than in previous years due to the additional concession stations.

Pairings were drawn for the 2014 state finals as follows:

	<u>GAME 1</u>	<u>GAME 2</u>	<u>GAME 3</u>	<u>GAME 4</u>
CLASS 1A --	G vs. H	D vs. F	A vs. E	B vs. C
CLASS 2A--	C vs. D	A vs. G	B vs. H	E vs. F
CLASS 3A--	A vs. G	F vs. C	B vs. D	E vs. H

Alex Razo, Darren Loschen, Trevor Stoecklin, and Steve Vorhies were recognized for their service to the committee. In addition, Josh Stone's term on the committee will end with the 16-17 school year.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2014.