

2017 IESA CROSS COUNTRY ADVISORY MEETING

Minutes and Recommendations

November 13, 2017

The following members were present for the meeting: Nicole Schaeftbauer (IESA Associate Executive Director), Dave Stier (Official), Jake Norman (Pekin Broadmoor, Coach), Jason Palmer (Shelbyville Moulton, Coach), Jennifer McCoy (Normal Parkside, Administrator), John Darrow (Clarendon Hills Notre Dame, Coach), Lisa Martin (Mahomet-Seymour, Coach), Melissa Strickler (South Pekin, Coach), Rob Pacey (Paxton-Buckley-Loda, Coach), Shane Orlow (Freeport JHS, Coach).

The IESA Cross Country Advisory Committee, in its meeting on November 13, 2017, makes the following recommendations to the IESA Board of Directors for their January 19, 2018, meeting:

Recommendation 1- By-laws and Terms and Conditions

Current	The IESA Office will assign IHSA licensed starters for each sectional. Payment to sectional starter is \$50.00.
Proposed	The IESA Office will assign an IHSA licensed girls starter/referee and a boys starter/referee for each sectional. Payment to each starter/referee is \$50.00.
Rationale	An additional official would allow for a more efficient flow of the meet. As one official was verifying the finish the other official could be checking in the athletes for the next race. Not all meets have a common start/finish area. This would also allow coverage of a race if an issue needed to be addressed.
XCC T&C	X- B and C
IESA By-Law	5.042
Admin Vote	4-0 in favor
Board Action	Approved

Recommendation 2- Terms and Conditions and Host Instructions

Current	None
Proposed	A minimum of forty-five (45) minutes will be scheduled between race start times at the Sectional meet. This may be adjusted the day of the meet by the meet officials for weather situations.
Rationale	The 45 minutes between race start times mirrors the state meet schedule. It allows for the official to verify the finish line results and any necessary video review. It also allows single coaches the opportunity to conclude coaching one team before attending to their second team.
XCC T&C	II- B
IESA By-Law	None
Admin Vote	4-0 in favor
Board Action	Approved

Recommendation 3- Terms and Conditions

Current	None
Proposed	At all Sectional Meets, bibs are required. Bibs must be positioned high on the front of the chest. Bibs should be white with dark numerals.
Rationale	Bibs make identification of runners easier for finish line personnel and for video review. (Bibs are about \$50 for 200.)
XCC T&C	IV- D
IESA By-Law	None
Admin Vote	4-0 in favor
Board Action	Approved

Recommendation 4- Terms and Conditions

Current None

Proposed Once the race has started, there will be no disqualification for an improper uniform (unless the uniform is altered after being approved at the starting line by an official). It is the responsibility of the clerk of the course and or the referee/starter to inspect each competitor’s uniform prior to the start of a race. They are not to allow a runner to compete in an illegal uniform. If the clerk is unsure of the uniforms compliance with the rules, they will request a ruling from the referee/starter prior to the start of the race. Any runner that alters their uniform after being approved by a clerk of the course will be disqualified for unsporting conduct (this would include but not be limited to, rolling the top up which could expose the midriff).

Rationale This is the wording that is included in the IHSA Terms and Conditions. IESA Cross Country has been operating under these interpretations and would like to move it to our Terms and Conditions for coaches and officials to reference.

XCC T&C

IESA By-Law None

Admin Vote 4-0 in favor

Board Action **Approved**

Recommendation 5- Terms and Conditions and By-laws

Current There will be nine (9) Class 1A sectionals, nine (9) Class 2A sectionals, and nine (9) Class 3A sectionals.

The first, second, and third-place sectional teams plus the top five individuals not on the first, second, or third place teams shall advance to state level competition....

Proposed There will be eight (8) Class 1A sectionals, nine (9) Class 2A sectionals, and nine (9) Class 3A sectionals.

The first, second, and third-place sectional teams in each class shall advance to state level competition. In Class 1A, the top eight individuals not on the first, second or third place teams shall advance to state level competition. In Class 2A and 3A, the top five individuals on the first, second or third place teams shall advance to state level competition....

Rationale Over the last three years, the Class 1A field size has had fewer full teams competing. The Committee feels that reducing the number of sectionals would standardize the field size by increasing the number of full teams in each sectional. Increasing the additional qualifiers would help keep the total number of runners at the state meet similar to previous years.

XCC T&C V- A; VI-A

IESA By-Law 4.033

Admin Vote 4-0 in favor

Board Action **Approved**

	2017				2016				2015			
	CLASS 1A				CLASS 1A				CLASS 1A			
	BT	TR	GT	TR	BT	TR	GT	TR	BT	TR	GT	TR
A	10	82	7	68	7	58	4	41	11	82	7	57
B	13	82	15	92	10	71	9	65	7	64	5	51
C	10	71	11	72	9	62	10	66	8	70	11	77
D	8	57	7	55	9	66	9	71	9	75	8	57
E	6	54	7	60	11	80	11	78	12	84	10	76
F	12	84	9	74	9	65	9	64	6	57	9	67
G	8	68	8	66	5	54	7	63	9	78	8	68
H	12	70	9	60	9	71	9	73	12	82	10	73
I	7	58	7	51	9	77	11	79				
TOTAL	86	626	80	598	78	604	79	600	74	592	68	526
Avg Sect.	14 schools per sect.				13 schools per sect.				14 schools per sect.			

The approximate number of full teams for 2017 2A and 3A was 107 girl teams and 116 boy teams.

Discussion Topics

1. Discussed shortening the cross country season. While the Committee understands the issues that overlapping seasons has, they feel that this is a problem that must be addressed by each district. The IESA sets the schedule and each school/district/coach must set a policy to address the needs/interests of their students. The Committee encourages districts/schools/coaches to find a workable solution for their students.
2. Regular season course markings. The Committee suggested that the NFHS specifications regarding course markings be included in the Cross Country activity update and also in the sectional host instructions.
3. The Committee would be interested in the thoughts of the Board regarding the development of a host rotation schedule. This would mean keeping certain schools together year-after-year.
4. The Committee briefly discussed four classes of the activity. No recommendation was made.
5. Discussion of host expenses and financial reimbursement.
6. The Committee discussed the option of holding exhibition races after the sectional races. **ADMINISTRATOR RECOMMENDATION: Additional unauthorized timed or un-timed races are not permitted prior to the conclusion of the awards ceremony the day of the Sectional Meet.** (Administrative staff in favor.) **APPROVED BY BOARD**
7. Develop a class rotation survey. The Committee would like to gauge the interest of the participating schools in rotating the class race schedule at the state meet.

The Cross Country Advisory Committee would like your feedback regarding the state meet race schedule. Please answer the following survey question. The survey question must be answered to proceed to the Cross Country Entry Center. The results of the survey will be reviewed by the Advisory Committee.

1. Currently, the IESA Cross Country State Meet race time schedule has the Class 1A Girls and Boys races first, the Class 2A Girls and Boys races second, and the the Class 3A Girls and Boys races third. Would you be in favor of implementing a rotation schedule for the races? Please note that the time schedule for future years would be posted in advance.

i.e.

Yr. 1	Yr. 2	Yr. 3
9:30- Class 1A	9:30- Class 2A	9:30- Class 3A
11:00- Class 2A	11:00- Class 3A	11:00- Class 1A
12:30- Class 3A	12:30- Class 1A	12:30- Class 2A

Yes or No

Next Advisory Committee Meeting Date
Monday, November 12, 2018 @ 10:00 am