



2018 SOFTBALL ADVISORY MEETING
Thursday, October 11, 2018

ATTENDANCE

Leslie Alappattu - IESA Assistant Executive Director
Christina Clark - Paris Mayo Coach
Tracie Henry - IHSA Assistant Executive Director
Travis Lingafelter - Mt. Pulaski Coach
Stephanie McClure - Forrest Prairie Central Coach
Fred McNeeley - Princeville Official
Mark Peter - Shorewood Troy Assistant Principal and Assistant Coach
Perry Peterson - Barrington Station Coach
Jen Schafer - Glasford Illini Bluffs Coach
Crystal Tipton - Effingham St. Anthony Coach

The IESA Softball Advisory Committee makes the following recommendation to the IESA Board of Directors for their January 25, 2019 meeting:

RECOMMENDATION 1

Current	Each state series team shall consist of a maximum of 18 uniformed girls whose names appear on the school's regional entry form.
Proposed	Each state series team shall consist of a maximum of 22 uniformed girls whose names appear on the school's regional entry form. Schools will be able to change the team personnel spots of manager and statistician to players by selecting this option via a drop-down box when completing the regional entry form.
Rationale	With middle school the starting point for interscholastic athletics, it is advantageous to have a wider base of athletes participating and it can be discouraging to an athlete who has competed as a player throughout the regular season and is listed as a manager, statistician or scorekeeper when the state series begins. Making this change would maximize participation for more players on teams with larger rosters such as those schools with higher student interest and/or schools not allowed to make cuts. In addition, this change would correspond with the IHSA maximum of 22 softball players allowed in state series tournament play. Finally, this proposal retains that a maximum of 27 individuals that a school can enter but also provides flexibility in turning some of those spots into player positions if desired.
GSB T&C	VII.D.1
IESA By-Law	4.023
Board Action	Not approved

Based on a recommendation from the IESA Baseball advisory committee, the Board also approved that games can begin starting Wednesday of Week 6.

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

1. It is strongly encouraged that schools enter contest results as the season progresses and at minimum, they are updated weekly.
2. How schools rank each other in the regional will be made public once brackets are posted - rank with integrity!
3. Transition efficiently between innings - there is a 1-minute time limit per NFHS rule 6-2-5.

GENERAL DISCUSSION TOPICS

The following items were discussed by the committee with no recommendation for change made.

1. Ticket gate at regionals/sectionals - advantages to having a ticket gate exist, but this is not able to be consistently facilitated by all host because of the field layout, no schools represented by the committee charge a ticket gate during the regular season but host schools could certainly have a regular season ticket gate if they wanted to offset any additional costs when hosting the state series.
2. State finals time schedule - earlier start time may force some schools to stay overnight when they currently do not and overnight lodging is not always provided by the school (it would present a challenge to come up with that funding especially when schools may already have a high free-reduced lunch population), 10:00 is a normal start time for games and the likelihood of extra inning-games has not consistently presented itself as a reason to start earlier
3. Hiring officials for the regional quarterfinal game - current process of requiring the higher-seeded team in the quarterfinal game to hire the officials has worked out fine, since schools now have to enter the season schedule in advance and they can check results of the other teams in the regional throughout the season, coaches should have a better idea of which seed they will have in the regional and can begin planning in advance for the possibility of hosting the quarterfinal game
4. Time limit to games - a time limit may put a definitive end to a contest but the IESA already has game-ending procedures in place where there is a significant run differential; ending contests early limits participation and close contests shouldn't be stopped because of a time limit when weather/darkness are not a contributing factor
5. End games after 6 innings - There isn't a need in the best interest of the students to make an IESA exception to NFHS rule 4-2-1 which address seven innings being standard
6. Remove the option for the DP/Flex and instead use the "twin player" as outlined in NSA rules - IHSA officials are trained on NFHS rules and the IESA Board of Directors has adopted the use of NFHS rules - to make deviations from the NFHS rules and adopt policies of other associations will create confusion and additional training to officials and coaches of member schools
7. Overlap of softball, cross country, golf and girls' basketball - the IESA recognizes that this overlap exists as additional activities are offered through the IESA, imperative for coaches of the involved activities, athletes and the school administration communicate about and plan for the schedule conflicts, providing students the chance to participate in multiple extracurricular opportunities has benefits and challenges

2019-20 STATE FINALS PAIRINGS

	Game 1	Game 2	Game 3	Game 4
Class A	G vs. D	C vs. H	E vs. A	F vs. B
Class AA	H vs. D	B vs. C	E vs. F	G vs. A

COMMITTEE SERVICE RECOGNITION

Thank you for your service, Christina Clark and Fred McNeeley!

2019 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, October 17, 2019 @ 10:00 am

IESA ADMINISTRATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Include DP/Flex notecard with 2019 activity mailing