



**Illinois Elementary School Association
Strategic Planning
State Tournament Structure Action Team Minutes
January 12, 2006**

The following members were present for the meeting: Scott Doerr, Elkhart; Rich Fields, Washington Beverly Manor; Rich Kantner, Edwardsville, Liberty; Fred Lamkey, Riverton; Joe Marks, Sullivan; Tom Morse, LeRoy; Doug Nelson, Aledo; Margaret Segersten, Antioch; Jeff Starwalt, Mahomet-Seymour; Mike Stoecklin, Saunemin; Tim VanSwol, Manteno; and Shelly Wills, Carlinville. Also present was Steve Endsley, IESA Office.

A review of the November 7, 2005 minutes was read. It was explained to the action team that the softball advisory committee favored the change in the playing of the regional dates that this committee has recommended to the IESA Board of Directors.

The action team reviewed charts showing a possible set-up of a three class system in baseball. That set-up would be as follows:

33 1/3 – 33 1/3 - 33 1/3 system in Boys baseball using enrollments from the 2005 season:

<u>Class</u>	<u># of Schools in Class</u>	<u>Enrollments</u>
3A	81	1079-182
2A	81	181-96
1A	82	95-18

Based on the above information, a recommendation was made and unanimously supported by the action team that effective with the 2006 season, that there be three classes of baseball, split according to school size utilizing a 33 1/3 – 33 1/3 - 33 1/3 classification system. Each class would consist of 16 regionals with approximately 5 teams in each regional, 8 sectionals and 8 teams advancing to the state finals. No state series playing dates would change. First round regional games would be played on Tuesday, semi-finals on Saturday, and the regional championship on Monday. All state games would be played at the EastSide Centre.

The committee then turned its attention to girls and boys basketball and to girls volleyball. The action team reviewed charts showing a possible set-up of a four class system in boys basketball. That set-up would be as follows:

25% in each class in Boys Basketball using enrollments from the 2005-06 season:

<u>Class</u>	<u># of Schools in Class</u>	<u>Enrollments</u>
4A	96	1079-278
3A	96	270-138
2A	96	136-80
1A	96	80-15

Based on the above information, a recommendation was made and unanimously supported by the action team that effective with the 2006-07 season, that there be four classes of girls and boys basketball, split according to school size utilizing a 25, 25%, 25%, 25% classification system. Each class would consist of 16 regionals with approximately 6 teams in each regional, 8 sectionals and 8 teams advancing to the state finals. Regional and sectional playing dates would not change. However, because only 8 teams will be advancing to the finals, the quarterfinal and semifinal rounds of the state finals will be played on Saturday and the consolation and championship games would be played the following Thursday. This significantly reduces travel for the competing teams and keeps the current total of 64 teams advancing to the state finals.

Note: Girls basketball enrollment numbers are very similar to the above numbers for boys. Since there are approximately 40 fewer schools that enter girls basketball compared to the boys, there will definitely be some schools that are in a different class in girls basketball than they would be in boys basketball.

Next, the committee turned its attention to girls volleyball. The action team reviewed charts showing a possible set-up of a four class system in girls volleyball. That set-up would be as follows:

25% in each class in Girls Volleyball using enrollments from the 2005-06 season:

<u>Class</u>	<u># of Schools in Class</u>	<u>Enrollments</u>
4A	88	1079-279
3A	88	278-139
2A	88	138-78
1A	89	78-12

Based on the above information, a recommendation was made and unanimously supported by the action team that effective with the 2006-07 season, that there be four classes of girls volleyball, split according to school size utilizing a 25, 25%, 25%, 25% classification system. Each class would consist of 16 regionals with approximately 5-6 teams in each regional, 8 sectionals and 8 teams advancing to the state finals. Regional and sectional playing dates would not change. However, because only 8 teams will be advancing to the finals, the quarterfinal and semifinal rounds of the state finals will be played on Saturday and the consolation and championship games would be played the following Tuesday. This significantly reduces travel for the competing teams and keeps the current total of 64 teams advancing to the state finals.

The committee asks everyone to keep in mind the following:

1. At this point in time these are only recommendations. They will be formally acted on by the IESA Board of Directors during their meeting on January 20, 2006.
2. The focus of the committee has never been to give more schools championships. It has been their desire to level the playing field with regard to like-sized schools playing each other in the state series, to give schools a feeling that they have a chance to be competitive in the state series, and perhaps most importantly, reduce the travel and the costs associated with the travel to school districts under the current set-up.
3. Finally, these recommended changes to the state series in baseball, girls and boys basketball, and girls volleyball are in no way related to the recent classification changes approved by the Illinois High School Association. This IESA action team has been meeting since August studying this issue and the timing between the IHSA announcement and the release of these recommendations is purely coincidental.

The action team will meet again on Thursday, March 16, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. at the IESA Office in Bloomington.