

**Informational Update on IESA
Activities and By-Laws**

Steve Endsley, Executive Director
April 28, 2014

IESA Membership

- Renewal membership for the 2014-15 school year is now underway. If you have not yet completed the process, you are reminded that the deadline is June 9.
 - If you are leaving your current position, please be sure to take care of this responsibility before you leave.

Are we required to follow IESA rules even if we only enter one activity?

- We receive many questions related to this as well as questions related to following IESA rules for just regular season and the state series or just the state series.
 - In those activities in which a school enters the IESA, the school must abide by the IESA rules for both the regular season and the state series.

Sportsmanship

- The IESA remains committed to the ideals of good sportsmanship.
- Schools must be the leader.
 - Deal immediately with players, coaches, and fans who display poor sportsmanship, including barring fans from attending future contests.
 - Preseason parent meetings are a must.
- Sportsmanship Resources
 - Access IESA sportsmanship resources
 - Go to nfhslearn.com

I would like to see a rule changed— what needs to be done?

- There are a couple of avenues that an administrator can take to begin the process of having a rule or By-Law changed or modified.
 - Send an email to the IESA administrator for a given activity asking that the issue be discussed by the advisory committee for that activity.
 - If it is a By-Law pertaining to general eligibility rather than sport specific, contact the IESA Board of Directors member for your division and ask that the Board discuss the change.
- Any and all changes have to be approved by the IESA Board of Directors even if a given committee is recommending the change.
- Suggestions as to how the rule should be changed are always welcome.

Game and Official Contracts

- For officials: Schools should contract every official for all contests.
 - This protects both the school and the official concerning the date of the contest, type of contest, and rate of pay.
- For contests: Contracting contests helps to avoid wrong dates, insures both schools are aware of the type of game that is being played, and provides protection for both schools.
- IESA By-Laws requires schools to contract contests and game officials.
 - Forms are available on the IESA website under the INFORMATION heading and then clicking on Forms and Documents and then clicking again on Contracts.

State Track Discussion

- Major change to the automatic qualifiers for the state track meet
 - Only the 1st place finisher in each event is an automatic qualifier
 - Athletes can still qualify by meeting the qualifying standards for the given event
- Rationale for change
 - Activity Growth
 - Current and Future Qualifying standards

Illinois Firearm Concealed Carry Act

- The Concealed Carry Act specifically provides that a licensee under the CCA shall not knowingly carry a firearm on or into a public or private school.
- Be sure your school is properly posted to prohibit firearms as required by the CCA.
 - This would include a park if used for a competition like cross-country.
- IESA will work with our non-school venues (bowling finals, golf finals) to insure compliance.

Season Starting/Ending Dates

- In Illinois, at the jr. high/middle school level, not every school plays their sports at the same time. For instance, IESA conducts their girls basketball state series in the fall and the girls volleyball program in the winter/early spring yet there are many schools that play their girls basketball season in the winter and their girls volleyball season in the fall. The question becomes does IESA want to allow those schools who do not play their seasons in accordance with the IESA season, the ability to still participate in the IESA state series for that sport? The IHSA does not have this problem as practically every high school runs their seasons for their sports in accordance with the IHSA calendar. There are very good reasons to allow schools to play in the state series who do not play their regular season according to the IESA calendar and there are very good reasons not to allow a school to participate who doesn't play according to our season. This difference in playing seasons was one of the factors that led to the change in the non-school participation by-law.

Starting Ending Dates (cont'd)

- At the April Board of Directors meeting, steps were taken to shorten (tighten) the seasons of girls and boys basketball. For the majority of IESA member schools, the change will have zero impact on your programs. But, the action of the Board does signal that, in essence, schools that do not play their seasons at the same time the Association conducts the state series in a given activity that they will need to conform to the Association schedule if they want to participate in the IESA state series for that activity.

Other Changes for 2014-15

- By-Law 2.035---Feeder school students may represent their own school or the jr. high they will attend
 - This is a local school decision.
- By-Law 3.062---Slight revision regarding return to play following an injury or other "medical" reason for which a student was not allowed to participate.
- Sections 1.330 & 1.340 of the Constitution---slight revision to the timeline of the Board of Director elections.
 - When your membership division has an election, be sure to vote!
- By-Law 5.071---Any awards won (individual or team) in an athletic contest must be forfeited if the school used an ineligible contestant.
- By-Law 2.110---Coaches who do not meet the IESA Coaching Education requirements may not conduct practices until they are in compliance.
- Starting time for softball sectionals will now be 11:00 a.m.
 - For 2014, the softball sectional date is Saturday, September 20.

Changes to IESA Basketball for 2014-15

- Changes to season ending dates
 - Girls season must end Dec. 23.
 - Boys season must end Saturday of Week 36 (mid-March)
- Prior to the Roster and Record deadline, schools must have participated in at least three (3) interscholastic contests.
 - Failure to have played in three contests prior to the deadline will result in suspension from the current state series.
- Change to the Individual Limitations
 - Students may participate in a maximum of 8 quarters per day.
 - Students may participate in a maximum of 132 quarters per season.
- Sectional games are now scheduled for a 6:30 p.m. start time.
- The official scorer and timer for all state series contests must be at least 18 years of age.

Golf

- **BOYS DIVISION:** Beginning in the fall of 2014, a sectional qualifying level has been added.
 - Tentative plans call for there to be three sectional sites on Saturday, September 6---Decatur; Bloomington; and Rockford.
 - Boys will have to qualify for the finals that will be held in Peoria on Saturday, September 13.
- **GIRLS DIVISION:** The first 96 girls who register for the girls division will be entered into the State Tournament and participate in the girls finals also held on Saturday, September 13 in Peoria.
 - If the activity gets to a waiting list like we have had for the boys the last two years, then we would add a sectional level for girls in future years.
- Please note these changes to the state series dates for 2015 (and corresponding dates for 2016 and 2017):
 - Boys Sectional---Saturday, September 12, 2015
 - Girls & Boys State---Saturday, September 19, 2015
 - Changed so the sectional date does not conflict with Labor Day in 2015, 2016, and 2017

Questions, Comments?

- I would like to thank everyone for their continued support of the IESA and for the opportunities that you offer your students.
- The opportunity to participate in organized interscholastic competition is an experience unique to the students of Illinois and this cannot be accomplished without a solid partnership between the member schools, officials, and the Association.
- Good luck with the rest of the school year!
