



IMPORTANT

Coaches must be qualified to coach prior to the start of the season.

Example: a girls softball coach must be certified to coach by July 27, 2009 (practice/tryouts start date).

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Coaching Education Requirements

Athletic coaches in all member schools shall be regularly certified to teach in the schools of Illinois or must complete an approved coaching education course.

If the following criteria are met for athletic coaches certified to teach, these individuals are exempt from taking a required coaching education course:

- Teaching or supervising classroom activity at least two periods daily in a member school; or
- Employed full-time in any elementary, junior high, or high school or
- An assistant teacher/resource aide, lay supervisor or other Para professional who is employed at least half-time per day in a member school; or
- Teaching full-time, within the provisions of the Illinois School Code, in a member school or in a vocational or special education cooperative in which the member school participates; or
- A retired teacher from a member school provided the person remains certified to teach.

Approved Coaching Education Courses

The following courses are approved by the Board of Directors for IESA middle school coaches:

IESA/ASEP Coaching Essential

Cost: \$19.95
Completed Online (avg. 2-3 hours)
2 Tests: Course Test and IESA Bylaws
CPDU: 2 units

IHSA and ASEP now have two courses available and approved.

Coaching Principals or Coaching Orientation.
For more information about these courses and their costs please contact ASEP.
800-747-5698 ext. 2299 or visit their website at www.asep.com

IHSA/NFHS Coaching Education

Cost: \$134
Completed Online
Coaching Fundamentals Course
First Aid for Coaches
IHSA Bylaws

Coaching Education Penalty

By-law 2.110

Any coach who does not meet the IESA coaching qualifications will be suspended for a minimum of two games and will not be permitted to coach again until he/she has completed an approved IESA coaching education course. Additionally, any contest in which the coach participated while in violation will be forfeited.

Additional sanctions may be applied by the IESA Board of Directors to schools with multiple coaching education violations.



“The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand.”
-Vince Lombardi

QUESTION AND ANSWER

GENERAL

- Q. What does the phrase ‘regularly certified to teach in the schools of Illinois’ mean?
A. You are a person who has fulfilled the requirements of state law to teach by the Illinois State Board of Education.
- Q. How often does a coach have to take the approved coaches education course?
A. Once.
- Q. Where can a school check a coach’s certification?
A. A school may check on the ASEP website by clicking the National Coaches Registry.
- Q. How do I obtain a copy of my ASEP certificate?
A. To obtain a copy or replacement of your ASEP certificate, please contact the ASEP office. 800-747-5698
- Q. Where can I find information regarding the online coaching certification courses available?
A. www.iesa.org and scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the ASEP logo.
- Q. Retesting? If I fail the online exam(s) can I retake the exam?
A. Yes, you can (must) take a failed exam again. The charge to retake an exam is \$10.

STUDENT TEACHERS

- Q. May a student teacher assist with the coaching of an athletic team?
A. Yes, provided it is part of the student teaching experience.
- Q. May student teachers continue coaching their student teaching assignments after the regular student teaching period ends?
A. Yes, provided their college or university authorizes the continuation.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

- Q. I have a high school student assisting our wrestling squad. My head coach was ejected from the contest. May the high school student take over as the head coach for the remainder of the match?
A. No. Your team would have to forfeit the remaining matches of the meet.
- Q. May the high school student we have assisting my volleyball coach be the only coach in the gym when my head coach had to miss practice?
A. No. The high school student who is assisting can never assume coaching duties unless he/she is under the direct supervision of a coach qualified under bylaw 2.110.
- Q. May we use high school students to demonstrate skills at practice?
A. One time, yes.
- Q. May a high school student serve as a manager?
A. Yes

VOLUNTEER COACHES

- Q. May a person volunteer to coach without pay at a member school?
A. Yes. However, whether a person is paid to coach or is a non-paid volunteer, the person must meet the qualification requirements of By-law 2.110 and its sub-sections.

RETIRED TEACHERS

- Q. Does the provision for coaching by retired teachers refer only to persons immediately retired from teaching, or to retired teachers regardless of the date of their retirement?
A. The by-law simply states “...a retired teacher from a member school.” This statement is interpreted literally. It permits a school to utilize any retired teacher from a member school as a coach, without needing approval of the person as a non-faculty coach, provided the person remains certified to teach in the schools of Illinois.

MINIMUM AGE OF NON-FACULTY COACHES

- Q. Is there an age minimum for non-faculty and/or non-certified personnel who coach?
A. The Board of Directors interprets the provisions of this By-law to require non-faculty and/or non-certified coaches to be high school graduate or equivalent.

CHEER COACHES

- Q. Do cheer coaches have to take a coach's certification test?
A. No, cheer coaches are considered non-athletic coaches and simply must be approved by their Board of Education. The same holds true for music directors, speech coaches, and scholastic bowl coaches.

AMERICAN SPORT EDUCATION PROGRAM (ASEP)

The American Sport Education Program (ASEP) is the leading provider of youth, high school, and elite-level sport education programs in the USA. A division of Human Kinetics, Inc., ASEP is based in Champaign, Illinois and was founded by renowned sport psychologist Rainer Martens PhD in 1981. Rooted in the philosophy of "Athletes first, winning second," ASEP has educated more than one million coaches, officials, sport administrators, parents, and athletes. For more than 25 years, local, state, and national sport organizations have partnered with ASEP to lead the way in making sport a safe, successful, and enjoyable experience for all involved. ASEP works directly with more than 40 state high school associations and the IESA in delivering the ASEP Professional Coaches Education Program to more than 25,000 coaches a year. A partial list of other ASEP partners includes Babe Ruth League, Cal Ripken Baseball, US Youth Soccer, Varsity Spirit, USA Wrestling, USA Volleyball, United States Tennis Association, American Football Coaches Association, and numerous park districts and youth sport organizations. For more information on ASEP sport education courses and resources, call 800-747-5698, e-mail ASEP@hkusa.com, or visit www.ASEP.com.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

IESA Contacts

Julie Cochran: julie@iesa.org
Asst. Executive Director
309-829-0114

1. Reporting Coaching violations
2. Assistance with questions

ASEP Contacts

The ASEP office is responsible for distribution of all coaching certification materials and certificates for the IESA and IHSA. Any questions pertaining to those issues should be directed to the ASEP office.

Lori Brown: LoriB@hkusa.com
ASEP Sales and Implementation Manager
800-747-5698 ext. 2299
Direct: 217.403.7607

IESA MISSION STATEMENT

The IESA will provide the leadership to ensure safe, equitable opportunities so students in our member schools can be enriched by participation in interscholastic activities which promote good sportsmanship, integrity, and life skills.

"ASEP is committed to improving amateur sport by encouraging coaches, officials, administrators, parents, and athletes to embrace the 'athletes first, winning second' philosophy and by providing the education to put the philosophy to work."

—Rainer Martens, PhD, ASEP founder



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