

**ILLINOIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
CROSS-COUNTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS & MINUTES  
November 15, 2013**

The following members were present for the meeting: Coaches Peggy Luther, Frankfort Hickory Creek; Pat Hernandez, Mundelein Carl Sandburg; Kelly Fox, Mt. Zion; Todd Ehler, Geneseo; Jeff Kyle, Tolono Unity; and Tom Koonce, Metamora, GS

The IESA Cross-Country Advisory Committee, in its meeting of November 15, 2013, makes the following recommendations to the Board of Directors for their January 24, 2014, meeting:

1. To change By-Law 4.035 so that trophies are awarded to the top four teams in each class at the state meet. **Rationale: Currently, just the top three teams receive trophies which was changed from four teams receiving trophies at state to three teams when the third class was added in 2012. In 2002, we had approximately 160 total schools in cross country so there were 80 schools in each class. We were giving four team trophies in each class. In 2013, we had 291 schools participating (approximately 97 schools in each class) and we are only giving three team trophies in each class. The committee believes the growth of the activity warrants a 4<sup>th</sup> place team trophy given that there was a time when there were fewer schools in each class and four state trophies were awarded. Board Action--Approved**
2. To change By-Law 4.035 so the first place finisher in each sectional received a medal and runners placing 2-10 at each sectional receive a ribbon. **Rationale: Currently, runners in places 1-10 at each sectional receive a ribbon. For many years, the committee recommended that the top 10 at each sectional receive a medal instead of a ribbon. Each year, the IESA Board did not approve the recommendation. Due to the growth of the activity, the committee feels a medal is an appropriate award for the runner who finishes in first place at the sectional. Board Action--Approved**

Other items discussed:

\*\*The overlap between the girls basketball and cross country seasons. This issue has been discussed many times in prior years by the committee. No changes or recommendations to the current calendar will be made.

\*\*The possibility of having a state qualifying time (similar to track qualifying standards) was discussed. After discussion, there was no recommendation made mainly due to the differences in courses throughout the state.

\*\*Normal Parkside was commended for hosting the state meet. There were a couple of layout suggestions (fencing near the start line, rope near first turn) that will be shared with the Parkside administration.

\*\*T-shirt sales and photography sales were also discussed with suggestions for improving each. More signage is needed for the photography sales inside the Parkside gymnasium and additional personnel at the awards site. If t-shirts are sold at awards site in future years, more personnel would be needed at that site.

The committee was informed that the cups of water that have been made available to the runners finishing each race will not be available starting next year.

Pat Hernandez and Peggy Luther were recognized for their service on the committee.

The next meeting of the committee was set for November 14, 2014.