



**CHES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES & RECOMMENDATIONS**

April 9, 2014

The following were present for the meeting: Jim Aman, Chicago; Garrett Scott, Normal; Ryan Hagen, Frankfort Summit Hill; Anne Messmore, East Peoria Central; Mike Zacate, Mokena; Dave Tonry, Jacksonville Our Saviour. Not present: Herb Ferguson, Homewood Hart; Betsy Dynako, Chicago; Chris Merli, Champaign; Randy Black, Dunlap.

The IESA Chess Advisory Committee makes the following recommendations to the IESA Board of Directors for its June, 2014 meeting:

Recommendation #1: *To add to the Terms and Conditions and to revise IESA By-Law 4.161:*

Competition will be held based on 6th, 7th and 8th grade classification.

Rationale: Currently, the IESA Chess State Tournament is held based on a 7th and 8th grade divisions. Within those divisions, 5th and 6th grade students are allowed to participate. The incorporation of a 6th grade division would help to manage the size of the tournament, while keeping the current format, as the total number of entries continue to grow. Schools would be allowed to enter up to seven participants in each of the three divisions. The minimum amount of participants to hold a seven round, Individual/Team Swiss System tournament is 64 per division. Below is a breakdown of the participants by grade per division during the 2014 Chess State Tournament:

195 Total 7th Grade Entries

5th/6th - 71 Entries

7th - 124 Entries

136 Total 8th Grade Entries

5th/6th - 15 Entries

7th - 2 Entries

8th - 119 Entries

Recommendation #2: *To add to the Terms and Conditions:*

The IESA will provide sixth grade trophies to the teams winning first, second, third, and fourth places. Medallions will be presented to the members and head coach of the first four placing teams. Individual medallions will be presented to the players scoring 5.0 or more points in the sixth grade division.

- i. Individuals scoring 7.0 points or next highest score will receive gold medallions.
- ii. Individuals scoring 6.0-6.5 points will receive silver medallions.
- iii. Individuals scoring 5.0-5.5 points will receive bronze medallions.

Rationale: This will keep the sixth grade division consistent with the seventh and eighth grade divisions.

Recommendation #3: *Revision to the Terms and Conditions (clarification to the cell phone penalty):*

A cell phone that goes off in the playing area will result in the following penalties:

- a) Player's cell phone in use: forfeiture of game.
- b) Player's cell phone vibrating or ringing: Loss of five minutes off clock but not to be lowered past one minute of time remaining. Second violation would result in a forfeiture of game.

Rationale: Cell phones can be used to transfer information via a text message, such as playable moves etc. They could also serve as a distraction by merely going off during play, thus disrupting a player's concentration. Participants are warned before the start of each round that cell phones must be turned off completely or placed on silent.

Recommendation #4: *Revision to the Terms and Conditions and Chess Rules - Rule 11 - Section 5:*

Reduce the forfeiture arrival time from 30 minutes to 20 minutes.

Rationale: Currently, if a player arrives 30 minutes after the beginning of a round, the individual's match is forfeited and the individual is disqualified from further participation in the tournament. Due to the fact that each game is conducted within the 40 minute time limit, if an individual were to arrive 29 minutes late, a realistic game could not be completed in 11 minutes (does not apply to round one).

Recommendation #5: *To add to the Chess Rules - Rule 23 - Section 5 - Article 4:*

In the event of a game not making progress, floor officials may advise players as to applicable rules.

Rationale: With many participants still learning the game of chess, stalemates are common. This would allow floor officials to advise both players of specific rules that would help progress the game. For example: The game is drawn when a player having the move demonstrates that at least fifty moves have been made by each side without the capture of any chessman or the movement of any Pawns.

Recommendation #6: *To remove from the Chess Rules - Rule 2 - Section 1 - Article 5*

No chessboard shall be ruled unsuitable for play without the complaining player being able to provide a more suitable chess board.

Rationale: With the tournament entering its fifth year, schools have had enough time to purchase suitable chessboards that fit the necessary requirements. This eliminates the possibility of distracting color schemes.

Recommendation #7: *To remove from the Chess Rules - Rule 3 - Section 1 - Article 5*

No set of chessmen shall be ruled unsuitable for play in accordance with 3-1-1 to 3-1-4 without complaining player being able to provide a more suitable set of chessmen.

Rationale: With the tournament entering its fifth year, schools have had enough time to purchase suitable chessmen that fit the necessary requirements. This eliminates the possibility of distracting color schemes.

Committee Discussion:

1. The 2014 Chess State Tournament received positive feedback, with a special thanks to the Bone Student Center for their contributions.

2. The Team Tie-Break System will no longer follow the total modified median. Below is the updated order of team tie-break procedures:
 - a. Total Solkoff, Total Cumulative, Total Opponents Cumulative, Duplicate Awards.
3. The committee discussed the altering of the tournament schedule with no recommendation made.
4. The committee discussed the implementation of an "online chess regular season" with no recommendation made.
5. The committee discussed a proposal for a six board team tournament with no recommendation made.
6. The committee discussed allowing coaches on the playing floor with no recommendation made.
7. Chris Merli has been appointed to Chief Tournament Director following the retirement of Walter Brown.

The date of the Committee's next meeting is the Friday of Week 41- April 17, 2015