

MINUTES OF THE IHSA BOYS/GIRLS GYMNASTICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
March 25, 2009

The IHSA Boys and Girls Gymnastics Advisory Committee met at Lincoln-Way East High School, on Wednesday, March 25, 2009, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Committee members present were: Skip Adamson, Frankfort (Lincoln-Way East); Blaise Blasko, Glen Ellyn; Kathy Krebs, Crete; Perry Wilhelm, Mundelein. IHSA Assistant Executive Director Kurt Gibson and Jerry Dobbs, Girls' Gymnastics State Finals Meet Director were also in attendance. Not in attendance were Scott Helton, Addison (A. Trail) and Mike Kosta, Rolling Meadows.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **(BOYS) Item IX. B. State Final Passes: 1) Team Qualifiers**
 (GIRLS) Item IX. A. State Final Passes: 1) Team Qualifiers

Recommendation: b) maximum four (4) passes for coaches listed on the List of Participants.

Rationale: The committee believes this modest increase of one pass for team qualifiers won't negatively impact space concerns at either state final venue and provide an appropriate number of passes for those schools who qualify teams. In the event schools have more than four (4) coaches, schools will have to decide which coaches will be listed for a credential

approved

2. **(BOYS) IV. B. 1. Admission Prices**
 (GIRLS) IV. C. 1. Admission Prices

Recommendation: Increase the ticket price to the girls' and boys' gymnastics state finals to \$8/session. Additionally, create an all-sessions/season ticket for the boys' state finals, like there currently exists for the girls' state finals, and price both at \$20 for the entire state finals.

Rationale: This modest increase in ticket price to the state finals will bring ticket prices closer in line with other IHSA state finals events. The current ticket price makes it difficult to compete with rising expense costs at the state finals.

approved

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Ad-Hoc Committee to Review Girls State Series

Recommendation: The committee recommends forming an ad-hoc committee to review the structure of the girls' state series. The advisory committee recommends that the ad-hoc committee be made up of the following:

- one coach from each IHSA Board Division that has a girls' gymnastics team (at least one of whom shall be a member of the girls' gymnastics coaches association)
- one official
- one administrator
- one advisory committee member who is involved with a girls' program

The committee will be chaired by the IHSA administrator in charge of gymnastics. The committee would meet during the 2009-10 school year to develop formal recommendations for review by the IHSA Gymnastics Advisory Committee in March of 2010.

Rationale: Concerns about the structure of the state series in girls' gymnastics have continued to reach the advisory committee level. As a result, the committee believes it is an appropriate time to form an ad-hoc committee to look at some of those concerns and see if changes should be recommended to alter the structure of the state series.

approved

ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION

1. The committee reviewed the minutes of the 2008 advisory committee meeting.
2. The committee heard reports on the 2008 boys' gymnastics state final at Barrington High School and the recently-completed 2009 girls' gymnastics state final at Palatine High School. Both events were well-run, and thanks were extended to the administrations at both schools for their efforts. The committee discussed the placement of the video screens at Palatine (H.S.), expressing some concern that one of the screens caught some of the competitors off-guard, particularly on the vault and beam. The committee was especially appreciative of the efforts made by Barrington High School over the past five years and is excited to be working with Lincoln-Way (East) beginning later this spring. Committee member Adamson gave the committee a brief over-view of the planning the school has undergone to date to prepare for the up-coming boys' state meet on May 15-16, 2009
3. The committee discussed the importance of schools rating officials in a timely manner. Gymnastics officials are concerned about the lack of ratings received during the current season. The committee reviewed the ratings process and the responsibilities that both schools and officials have in the assignment process.

4. The committee discussed the possibility of using some type of electronic scoring mechanism for the judges at the state finals. Jerry Dobbs indicated he would look into such a system to gauge its cost effectiveness and practicality for the state meet.
5. The committee continued the discussion from last year concerning the set up of the warm-up gym at the girls' state finals. No real tracking of the warm-up gym's use was recorded to get a good feeling about its over-all use. Continued use of the full warm-up gym will be monitored and consideration will be given to its future use.
6. The committee discussed and reinforced the benefits associated with offering a gymnastics program. Principally, gymnastics programs are another avenue for schools to reach students and provide them an opportunity to grow and develop as individuals, including assisting in their physical development. Additionally, the remaining programs are still strong and there is a strong history and tradition in Illinois for gymnastics.
7. The committee discussed the process for changing by-laws. At issue was some concern that 'super teams' are being formed and not providing additional opportunities for students. The committee was given an over-view of the by-law process and was encouraged to have an administrator create a proposal for consideration by the membership and Legislative Commission next year.
8. The committee thanked member Blasko for his service to the committee over the past three years.