

## MINUTES OF THE IHSA BOYS AND GIRLS SOCCER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

May 3, 2012

The IHSA Boys and Girls Soccer Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, in Bloomington, Illinois, on Thursday, May 3, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were; John Anderson, Official (Vernon Hills); Neil Curran, Chicago (F.W. Parker); Eric Eiss, (Rockton Hononegah); Scott Demers, Effingham (St. Anthony); Joe Moreau, Naperville (Nequa Valley); Paul Vignocchi, Northbrook (Glenbrook North); Mike Ward, Pleasant Plains and IHSA Assistant Executive Director Beth Sauser. Not in attendance: Jeff Faulkenberg, Troy (Triad)

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

#### **1. Boys and Girls Section VI. 3) Starting Times**

**Recommendation:** The committee recommends that the start time for the Class 1A Third Place and Championship games begin at 3pm and 5pm respectively.

**Rationale:** Since there's are only two games on Saturday the committee thought moving the games from 5pm and 7pm, to 3pm and 5pm, will help alleviate an extra night of hotel costs. Class 1A teams participating in the State Finals have requested to start the games earlier on Saturday and felt that it's better for the teams and the community.

Approved By Consent

#### **2. Boys Section VIII. J. Practice**

**Recommendation:** The committee recommends allowing the four Class 1A teams access to the Corn Crib field for practice Friday morning.

**Rationale:** The Corn Crib is a unique multipurpose field. By allowing competing teams access prior to their game, the players and coaches will be able to recognize the field layout and lines. The IHSA will work with the tournament manager to create a specific schedule.

Approved By Consent

#### **3. Boys and Girls Section VIII. B. Resolution of Tie Games**

**Recommendation:** If a tie exists during an IHSA soccer state series contest (except for the 3<sup>rd</sup> place state final games), teams shall determine a winner by playing two (2) ten-minute overtime periods, and if a tie still exists at the end of the second overtime then go to PK'S

**Rationale:** Based on feedback from coaches throughout the state, the committee recommends that a maximum of two overtimes (no golden goal) be played in all state series games except for the 3<sup>rd</sup> place games. The committee believes there has not been a noticeable benefit from playing four overtimes, but did see the quality of play deteriorate during the third and fourth overtimes. They also stated that four overtimes are too much for 14 – 18 year old student-athletes; no other soccer organization uses four overtimes to determine the game. Teams still have an opportunity to win the game on the field but without having to potentially play another half of a game before progressing to PK's.

Approved By Consent

#### **4. Boys and Girls Section VIII. New #3 (renumber the current #3 to #4 etc.)**

**Recommendation:** A. During weekday state series contests, if the game is delayed (inclement weather, power outage etc.) the game must resume by 10pm. B. No games shall start after 9pm.

**Rationale:** This recommendation standardizes the game management guidelines for host administrators and officials throughout the state. Local ordinances take precedence and will override the above.

Approved By Consent

## **ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**1. Recommendation:** The committee recommends the continued use of the current Soccer State Association Adoptions as well as any needed editorial changes to be made by Beth Sauser for 2012-13 seasons.

**Rationale:** The state association adoptions are in accordance with provisions set forth in the NFHS Soccer Rules Book. The adoptions have been in place in Illinois for years, and the committee favors their continued use since the rules have been generally accepted and successfully administered over the years.

Approved By Consent

**2. Recommendation:** The committee recommends, as additional state association adoption, that once the official arrives and enters the site of competition, their jurisdiction begins.

**Rationale:** Since officials are on the field during warm ups, their jurisdiction begins at that point, not just 15 minutes prior to the game.

Approved By Consent

**3. Recommendation:** The committee recommends removing 'strength of schedule' from being listed as a factor NOT to use when seeding. (if approved, this language would apply to all sports that seed)

**Rationale:** The committee believes coaches are already using this component when seeding in spite of instructions to the contrary. It seems logical to the committee to eliminate this as factor that coaches shouldn't use.

Approved By Consent

## **ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION and GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

1. The committee requests the Board of Directors to review Policy #19, Grouping and Seeding, and allow all Sectionals outside of the defined collar counties to be assigned in sub-sectional assignments instead of assigned regionals. Travel will still be limited and the top teams will be divided between two Regionals. This will create better balanced and more competitive Regionals, as well as, reward teams for their regular season performance
2. The committee requests the Board of Directors to review Policy #19, Grouping and Seeding, and allow the top four seeds to host the Regional games in team-bracketed sports. By hosting, the top teams are rewarded for their regular season play and there will be less manipulation of the seeding process if sites are not pre-determined.
3. The committee would like to see a "prompt" during the online rules meeting so participants cannot start the meeting, leave, and then come back to their computer to receive credit without actually watching the video.
4. The committee reviewed minutes from the 2011 meeting.
5. The committee reviewed the current Terms and Conditions and needed editorial changes to be made by Beth Sauser
6. The committee discussed the on-line seeding process. There are concerns that the coaches are able to write comments without any guidelines, and others do not have an opportunity to refute these comments. Some coaches write only the necessary information about their team to help other coaches make informed decisions on seeding. Other coaches use the comment section to "seed" the tournament and give their opinion on how people should vote. The committee would like to allow coaches more time to read the comments and have an opportunity to write a rebuttal, or, allow the Sectional/Regional host to have the ability to screen comments written on the SSF using guideline/criteria set by the IHSA.

7. The IHSA creates a guideline for coaches to use when writing their comments on the Season Summary Form. Comments should include: 1) common opponents 2) where the coach believes their team should be seeded 3) their teams' strengths and weaknesses 4) specifics about their wins and losses.
8. Reviewed the new IHSA By-laws and NFHS rules for the 2012-13 school year.
9. The committee reviewed the 2011 Boys and Girls State Final Tournaments. The new boys' state final venues and the tournament personnel at each site were excellent.
10. The committee discussed the college soccer "exposure camps" effect on eligibility of high school players. While some camps may be legitimate, most of them are known as an opportunity to generate revenue for the college soccer programs. Participation guidelines are currently posted in the Schools Center for in season and out of season participation by Illinois student-athletes.
11. The committee heard a report on the IHSA's drug testing program.
12. The committee discussed the Baden soccer ball contract as well as their experience using the ball during practices and games.
13. The committee reviewed the yellow card report from the boys and girls seasons. The committee reviewed the boy's 2011 team card totals. The highest number of yellow cards reported on a school was 43 and the highest number of red cards on a school was 9. The committee reviewed the girl's 2011 team card totals. The highest number of yellow cards reported on a school was 17 and the highest number of red cards on a school was 5.
14. The committee thanked Scott Demers and Eric Eiss for their service.
15. Next meeting: Thursday, May 2, 2013.