

Minutes of the 2017-18 IHSA Sportsmanship Advisory Committee Meeting

December 7, 2017

The IHSA Sportsmanship Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office in Bloomington, IL, on Thursday, December 7, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were: Julie Nowak, Hoffman Estates (Conant); Curtis Price, Woodstock (Marian); Robert Hernandez, Aurora (IMSA); Rebecca Moran, Summit (Argo); Leslie Alappattu, IESA; Tom Huster (Official), Elmhurst; Jennifer Durbin, Mason City (Illini Central) Joshua Houberg, Gilman (Iroquois West); John Moad, Granite City; Tom Witting, Burbank (Reavis) and Beth Sauser, IHSA. Not in attendance: Alahrie Aziz-Sims, Chicago (Bogan); Will Hartje, Winnebago (H.S.); Jeri Miller, Goreville; Amy Mascal, Streator (Twp.); Heather Smith, Knoxville; Charles Lockenour, Heyworth;

RECOMMENDATION FOR BOARD ACTION:

1. **Recommendation:** Modify the Sportsmanship Advisory Committee name to Education and Leadership Advisory Committee.

Rationale: This change more accurately portrays the broader scope of topics and groups the committee addresses throughout the year.

Died for Lack of Motion

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

1. Reviewed correspondence the IHSA received concerning sportsmanship incidents that occurred during the fall at regular and post season contests in different sports. The SpAC discussed each situation. The committee thought the Administration at each school must address those involved.
2. The committee discussed ways for Administrators to educate their fans on Cheering vs. Personal Attacks:
 - a. When attending a contest as a fan, your role as a spectator is to support your team and school. Cheering for your own team does not include signaling out players from the opposing team or the officials working the game.
3. Create short PSAs to use at different contests:
 - a. Some ideas are cheer for own team; respect officials' decisions
 - b. Ask a fan from each school to read the sportsmanship message after the National Anthem and before the start of the game
 - c. Have a conversation with the opposing school inviting them to take part in a positive game
 - d. The SpAC and SAC members will post PSA examples
4. The committee reviewed and edited the Student-Athlete Leadership Handbook created by the SAC.
5. Future Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 3, 2018, Bloomington, IL 10am – 2pm