

**MINUTES OF THE 2018-19 IHSA BOYS/GIRLS TENNIS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

November 1, 2018

The IHSA Boys/Girls Tennis Advisory Committee met in the IHSA Office in Bloomington on Wednesday, November 1, 2018, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee Members present were: Division 1 – Darlene Horn, Girls Coach, Chicago (Northside); Division 2 – Steve Schoenfelder, Athletic Director, Antioch; Division 4 – Patrick Gornik, Boys/Girls Coach, Dunlap H.S.; Division 5 – Cindy Petersen, Girls Coach, Gibson City (G.C.M.S. H.S.); Division 6 – Mark McDowell, Principal Quincy (Notre Dame); and Division 7 – Mike Butler, Boys/Girls Coach, Carbondale (H.S.). Also in attendance were Boys State Tennis Tournament Manager Matt Norris, Arlington Heights (Hersey); Girls State Tournament Manager Kevin Schrammel, Buffalo Grove (H.S.); IHSTCA Representative Josh Leighton, Deerfield H. S.; and Assistant Executive Director Susie Knoblauch. Greg Postweiler from Tinley Park H.S was unable to attend. The meeting was adjourned at 1:57 p.m.

<https://www.ihsa.org/SportsActivities/BoysTennis/AdvisoryCommittee.aspx>

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

VI-C-1

Recommendation:

Thursday the 1st, 2nd and 3rd rounds of the main draw and 1st, 2nd and 3rd rounds of the back draw will be played.

Friday the quarterfinal and semifinal rounds of the main draw and the 4th, 5th, 6th rounds of the back draw will be played.

Saturday the final round of the main draw and the semi and final rounds of the back draw will be played.

Rationale: By playing three rounds in the main draw on Thursday, tournament management has the flexibility to adjust later in the tournament due to weather issues. This also allows tournament management to establish a set time for play of the championship matches.

Approved by Consent

ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION

1. The committee reviewed the 2017 IHSA Tennis Advisory Committee Minutes.

<https://www.ihsa.org/documents/adv%20minutes/17-18/17-tn-minutes.pdf>

2. Kevin Schrammel reported on the 2018 IHSA Girls Tennis State Final.

3. Matt Norris reported on the 2018 IHSA Boys Tennis State Final.

4. Josh Leighton provided an update on the IHSTCA initiatives.

5. The IHSA continues to look for great tennis sectional host sites. Knoblauch explained the host request process and the host availability survey.
6. The committee analyzed the use of tennisreporting.com. Feedback regarding tennisreporting.com can be submitted to Knoblauch. Knoblauch will coordinate a conference call with tennisreporting.com to review the program.
7. The committee considered the need for some sectionals to have more tennis balls. Knoblauch will reach out to Wilson and review the IHSA tennis ball contract to see if more tennis balls can be made available.
8. The committee reviewed a recommendation that sectional assignments need to be released earlier. Knoblauch reviewed sectionals and the timeline for releasing sectional assignments. The standard IHSA timelines for all fall and spring sports are as follows: Fall entries due September 1 – Fall assignments posted Sept. 14; Spring entries due February 1 – Spring Assignments posted March 15.
9. The committee reviewed a recommendation to consider online seeding at the sectional level in lieu of the live seed meetings. With the expansion of two classes in tennis, in some areas of the state schools have a significant way to travel for the live seed meeting on the Tuesday prior to tennis sectionals. With the use of technology: tennisreporting.com and online meetings, etc....the committee discussed the viability of this option. Currently there was no motion to go directly to online seeding, however, it is an area that will continue to be monitored and possibly considered in the future.
10. The committee examined a recommendation to protect sectional champs from playing other sectional champs in the first round of the state final. Sectional champs are protected from playing seeded players. Other necessary variances in place are to keep participants from the same school and winners and runners-up from the same sectional in opposite halves of the state final brackets. Once those considerations are in place, the rest of the qualifiers are placed randomly.
11. The committee discussed a recommendation to reserve indoor courts for the back draw to allow for all matches in the tournament to be completed. Logistics and cost inhibit the back draw to be held indoors.
12. The committee discussed a recommendation to allow on court coaching throughout the entire state series. Concerns regarding monitoring and distractions at the state series were considered. During regular season play, if conference bylaws permit, there could be allowances for on court coaching.
13. The committee examined a recommendation to expand the tennis state finals from 64 participants to 96 participants in both 1A & 2A singles and doubles. Currently the top 4 players from each sectional advance to state. This proposal will also advance 5th and 6th places from each sectional thus creating the additional field of 32 participants. Sectionals would seed up to 8 players. 32 of the advancing players would be seeded for the state final. An additional round of competition would be added to the state final with the addition of 96 entries. The 32 seeded players would receive a first round bye. Additional recommendations in this proposal outlined terms and condition changes necessary if passed. Discussion on advancing 96 participants included:

- a. The opportunity to advance more participants thus providing more with a state final experience.
- b. The expansion of team points values to spread out, thus limiting the opportunity for 1 or 2 players from a school to earn a team championship.
- c. The concern over logistics and management.
- d. The need for additional schools (tennis courts) to be available thus creating more personnel (site managers, athletic trainers) to be on site and away from school responsibilities.
- e. The management and costs associated with additional indoor courts needed due to inclement weather.
- f. Cost (transportation/housing) for member schools for more participants to attend.
- g. The percentage of participants advancing from sectionals to state.

The committee moved to support a recommendation to create an IHSA questionnaire for member school's IHSA official representative regarding the advancement of 96 participants per class from each sectional to the state finals in boys and girls tennis.

14. IHSA administrator Scott Johnson explained the IHSA AD Hoc Classification Committee's recommendations regarding the waivers and success factor programs impacting non-boundary schools.

<https://www.ihsa.org/AbouttheIHSA/ClassificationAdHoc.aspx>

<https://www.ihsa.org/Schools/EnrollmentsClassifications.aspx>

15. The committee weighed the best use of USTA officials during the State Series. The IHSA will work in conjunction with the IHSTCA to continue to promote the need for more USTA officials. Coaches and past players are encouraged to become USTA officials.

<https://www.usta.com/en/home/about-usta/who-we-are/national/Become-An-Official.html>

16. The committee recommended addressing in the IHSA online tennis rules video as a point of emphasis the communication etiquette of doubles players when playing defense.

17. The IHSA recognized and thanked IHSA Division 3 coach Greg Postweiler - Tinley Park; IHSA Division 6 Principal Mark McDowell - Quincy (Notre Dame); and IHSA Division 7 coach Mike Butler - Carbondale for their contributions and service on the IHSA tennis advisory committee. Those interested in serving on an IHSA advisory committee can express their interest via the school athletic administrator in the IHSA Schools Center under L – Staff Responsibilities and Logins.

<https://www.ihsa.org/AbouttheIHSA/AdvisoryCommittees.aspx>

<https://www.ihsa.org/Schools/SchoolDirectory/BoardDivisionsLegislativeDistricts.aspx>