

MINUTES OF THE IHSA GIRLS SOFTBALL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

September 2, 2020

The IHSA Girls Softball Advisory Committee met virtually on Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 10 a.m. Committee members participating were: Becki Edmonson, Sterling (H.S.); Perry Peterson, Barrington; Kevin Hayhurst, Beecher; Adam Eucker, Williamsville; J.D. Koziarski, Chicago (Horizon/McKinley); Travis Pate, Greenville; Wade Thomas, Benton; and Courtney Hoffman, Stanford (Olympia). Conducting the meeting was Tracie Henry, IHSA Assistant Executive Director; and also participating was Nicole Schaeftbauer, Illinois Elementary School Association Assistant Executive Director.

TERMS & CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

NONE

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. IHSA Return to Activities 1.0

Recommendation: The committee reviewed Return to Activities 1.0. The committee made the following recommendations for the IHSA Board of Directors to review in order to make the Summer (May 3- June 26) more equitable with other IHSA 1.0 seasons.

- Allow softball practices to begin on April 19.
- Contests can begin on May 3.
- Follow IHSA By-law 5.225 and eliminate the restriction for the number of games allowed per week. If 35 games are not allowed come as close to that number as acceptable.
- Allow high school softball players relief to By-law 3.101 on June 4.

Rationale: The revisions will assist in keeping softball players in Illinois committed to the high school game and create a more equitable summer timeline in comparison with the other IHSA seasons.

ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION:

1. The committee heard a report from IESA softball administrator Nicole Schaeftbauer. IESA Softball will be conducting regionals only at the higher seeded team due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
2. Tracie Henry reported that the 2020 softball season was truncated due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
3. The committee reviewed the minutes of the 2019 IHSA Softball Advisory Committee meeting.
4. The committee discussed the NFHS would not be printing new rules books for the 2021 Softball season due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Officials and coaches are instructed to keep their 2020 rules books.

5. The committee expressed their hope to have a full IHSA Softball State Series in 2021.
6. Tracie Henry communicated the IHSA Board of Directors action to approve a recommendation for the IHSA Girls Softball State Finals to move to the Louisville Complex in Peoria beginning in 2021. The contract encompasses five seasons from 2021-2025.
7. The committee recognized J.D. Koziarski, Kevin Hayhurst and Travis Pate for their service to the IHSA Softball Advisory Committee after the final meeting of their terms.