

MINUTES OF THE IHSA GIRLS BADMINTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
May 19, 2022

The IHSA Girls Badminton Advisory Committee met online, on Thursday, May 19, 2022, beginning at 1:30 p.m. Committee members present were: Rachael Nicholas, Coach at Chicago (Taft); Kendall Griffin, Athletic Director at Park Ridge (Maine East); Eve Muir-Wilson, Coach at Park Ridge (Maine South); Rachel Fassl, Coach at Flossmoor (Homewood-F.); and Paul Kelly, Principal at Elk Grove Village (E.G.). Jill Albright, Coach at Oswego (East) and Katie Maley, Coach at Hinsdale (Central) were absent. IHSA Assistant Executive Director Stacey Lambert was also in attendance.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **Recommendation:** The Committee Recommends moving the State Final seeding meeting to the Monday of week 45. The seeds will be released Monday, with the brackets released Tuesday, similar to the seeding matrix for team bracketed sports.

Rationale: This schedule change will give coaches an opportunity to review the seeds prior to the brackets being released. This should prevent any possible errors in the brackets.

Approved by Consent

2. **Recommendation:** The Committee Recommends, when space allows, coaches/spectators should position themselves at a minimum of 3 feet off the playing surface.

Rationale: This will ensure that players have ample space to make plays that might direct them toward out of bounds. Coaches standing too close could prevent a player from making a play and cause a safety concern for the player and coaches.

Approved by Consent

Administrative Recommendations:

1. **Recommendation** The Committee recommended that a tentative assignment list be released in early December. This will help schools schedule matches against schools in their sectionals. The committee was reminded that assignments cannot be finalized until after the entry deadline for spring sports.

Rationale This adjustment will ensure that coaches have seen players they will be asked to seed at the sectional seeding meeting.

Died for Lack of Motion

ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION:

1. The Committee reviewed 2021 Minutes.
2. The Committee reviewed the 2022 State Finals.
 - a. The committee recommended putting up signage indicating where player seating was in relation to spectator seating so that players continue to have their team location reserved for post-match cool down and debriefing.

- b. The committee recommended bringing back the big bracket boards at the state finals for coaches to follow the progression of the tournament.
 - c. The committee discussed the cost of admission at the state final. If we stay with the 3-day structure, we need to adjust the price per session to reflect the adjustment of the session.
 - d. The committee discussed bringing back the chains to separate the courts from the spectators and ensure only the necessary coaches for the match are seated in the coaching chairs.
 - e. The committee discussed adding another round to the Thursday playing round, if we continue with the 3 day tournament as was done in 2022.
 - f. The committee also discussed “additions” provide to athletes at other state finals. For example the brackets given to winners at the Girls Wrestling state final were provided by the IWCOA.
3. The Committee discussed the possibility of uploading a google doc or excel file into the LOP instead of typing in the complete match history from each player. Unfortunately, this will not work with the current IHSA Database system in place. It is possible that this could be implemented in the future after a database upgrade.
4. The Committee discussed how there were no programs available at the state finals. This was an Association wide change, where no state finals had any programs. Only flip cards were available at football and boys’ and girls’ basketball.
5. The Committee discussed adding coaches passes. They determined that since 4 matches was the most any team could be playing at one time, 4 coaches passes is adequate.
6. The Committee discussed adjusting the sectional playing dates to only Friday and Saturday but determined that by removing Thursday and the difficulties that could create would only add difficulties on Friday or Saturday. Giving hosts 3 days to conduct the sectional was the best option.
7. The Committee discussed sectional seeding, if there needed to be an adjustment with the number of players seeded. The committee determined that the was seeding is currently conducted is appropriate.
 - a. The committee also reiterated that if a team wished to receive a team seed, then all players on the LOP need a complete match history.
8. The Committee heard a report from Stacey as to how the state tournament bid process will go. The IHSA will post a request for proposals for any interested party to submit a bid to host the next state final. The proposals will be reviewed by IHSA Executive Director Craig Anderson and Stacey Lambert before site visits take place. The IHSA Board of Directors will review the recommendation from the IHSA staff.
9. The Committee discussed the distribution of teams to sectional complexes. Stacey is required to follow IHSA Board Policy 18. This does not allow for any consideration to be taken on team performance, program history, or team ranking. Policy 18 calls for grouping to be done only geographically.
10. The Committee discussed state final seeding and adjusting how players are placed on the brackets. No changes were suggested.
11. The Committee discussed if teams should be able to walk over a team they already beat if they meet up again in the loser’s bracket. No action was taken.
12. The Committee discussed the rotation of sectional sites, IHSA Board Policy calls for sites to be redistributed every 3 years, which will the 2024 season. It is important to note that even when sites are reshuffled not all schools will be separated.

13. The Committee discussed adjusting the season. This could only occur through a by-law change that would have to go through the legislative process. No action was taken.
14. The Committee discussed if the alternate match played at sectionals should be only for singles or for doubles teams as well. The committee asked Stacey to survey the coaching community to determine the best course of action.
15. The Committee thanked Rachael Nicholas, Eve Muir-Wilson, and Rachel Fassl for their years of service.