SCHOLASTIC BOWL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The IHSA Scholastic Bowl Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office, Bloomington, Illinois on Wednesday, May 2, 2018, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee Members present were: David Berendt, Asst. Principal Maine South H.S.; Chad Sloan, Coach, Warrensburg Latham H.S.; Michael Oliver, coach, Chicago (DePaul College Prep); Robert Richardson, Principal/Superintendent, Brimfield H.S.; Charlie Taylor, Coach, Carlinville H.S.; Tammy Austin, Coach, Fairfield H.S.; Fred Knap, Coach, Peotone H.S.; Rob Grierson, Coordinator of Officials, Skokie. Others in attendance: Matt Hasquin, IHSSBCA President, Brad Fischer, Head Question Editor, Kraig Garber, IHSA Assistant Executive Director;

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS:

V.B – Seeding Meeting
Recommendation: The committee recommends changing the sectional seeding meeting format from a face to face meeting at the host school to an online meeting. The recommendation would change the seeding meeting section of the Terms & Conditions as follows:

1. ~~The Sectional Manager will conduct~~ There will be an Online Seeding Meeting Tuesday, February 5, 2019 for the purpose of seeding teams and determining the four (4) Regional host schools. ~~The meeting shall be held after school hours. The time shall be designated by the Sectional Manager. Sectional Managers should take into consideration the travel time of competing schools when establishing this meeting time.~~ While highly recommended, ~~attendance~~ participation is not required.
2. The Sectional Manager should ~~cover~~ email the following points of emphasis ~~at~~ during the Online Seeding Meeting time frame: a. Matching tops are required (Tops must be similar, not necessarily identical). b. Name Plates (no nicknames) c. Sportsmanship (at all times) d. Reminder to review the Scholastic Bowl School and Manager Manuals e. A team is required to have four or five (4 or 5) members to begin a match. Fewer than four (4) may continue in the day's competition, if there are extenuating circumstances.
3. The top eight (8) teams in each Sectional ~~will~~ can be seeded by the head scholastic bowl coach through their Schools Center account. The Online Seeding Form in Schools Center will include information provided in the Team Record Report as well as each team's winning percentage to assist coaches in seeding teams in an informed manner.
~~4. Before a seeding vote begins When each team's weighted winning percentage should be displayed. The weighted winning percentage is calculated in the following manner: (winning percentage) + (total number of matches ÷ 100). For example; 6 wins and 2 losses 6(6+2) + (6+2)/100 = .83 compared to 25 wins and 15 losses 25/(25+15) + (25+15)/100 = 1.025. The following criteria should be considered when determining seeds: a. Head to Head common opponent or record b. Number of Matches Played c. Win/Loss Record d. Quality of Competition e. Returning players.~~
~~5. Each school's representative should bring a record of season's matches. They should also bring enough copies to distribute to each school in the sectional. These sheets will be used by coaches in attendance to help guide their voting.~~
~~6.~~ 4. Any school who fails to complete their On-Line Team Record Report by the deadline, are subject to sanctions, which could include but not be limited to being ruled ineligible to compete in the State Series. ~~As a courtesy to your seeding meeting host, please contact them to indicate whether you plan to attend the seeding meeting.~~
~~7.~~ 5. Each school's head coach is highly encouraged to provide as much information about his/her team as possible in the "comments" section of the Team Record Report because this information will be made available to coaches during the online seeding process. ~~school's representative will have three (3) minutes to present their case as to where their team should be seeded. This time may not be used to raise other issues, and this time may not be used to speak about other teams. Coaches may waive their time.~~
~~8.~~ 6. Coaches will then rank the top eight (8) teams in their Sectional through the Online Seeding Form in Schools Center. ~~Each coach will complete a ballot listing all teams. Each coach will rank the top 8 teams.~~ The best team will be given the number 8, next best 7, etc. The online seeding program will total each team's points and calculate an average by dividing the team's total points by the number of teams eligible to vote for them. This would be one (1) less than the total number of teams whose coaches completed the Online Seeding Form for that Sectional ~~present at the seeding meeting for any school that is in attendance at the seeding meeting~~. All ballots will ~~must~~ be made public in Schools Center. No school may vote for itself (this is the reason we use one (1) less than the total number of schools whose coaches completed the Online Seeding Form ~~present at the seeding meeting~~ when calculating the average). The team with the highest average will be the number one (1) seed. The online seeding program will use this process to calculate the top eight (8) teams ~~Continue with this process until eight (8) teams are ranked~~. In the event that there is a tie for a seed, the team with the higher winning percentage will be awarded the higher seed. If the tied teams have identical winning percentages, the online seeding program will randomly select one of the tied teams to be the higher seed.

~~9.~~ 7. Coaches should consider the following when <u>completing online seeding</u> ~~voting~~: weighted winning percentage, head-to-head records <u>(if available from Team Record Report)</u>, records against common opponents <u>(if available from Team Record Report)</u>, placing in tournaments <u>(if available from Team Record Report)</u>, and strength of schedule <u>(if available from Team Record Report)</u>.

~~10.~~ 8. For purposes of seeding, no school should include its own "B", "C" or "D" team's record on the Sectional Seeding Team Information Report sheet.

~~11.~~ 9.The IHSA will assign Sectional Hosts (any participating school is invited to host a Sectional Tournament, simply contact Kraig Garber). Regional sites will be filled <u>after</u> ~~at~~ the <u>online</u> seeding meeting. <u>Schools who would like to be considered to serve as a Regional Host must indicate their interest through the Online Seeding Form in Schools Center.</u> ~~The opportunity to host a regional will be offered first to the top four (4) teams in each Sectional. If the top team is unwilling to host a Regional, the hosting opportunity will pass to the next highest seed until all teams are given an opportunity to host.~~ Geography <u>and team seedings</u> shall be considered when selecting Regional host sites.

~~12.~~ 10. Regionals that do not have a host will be cancelled. ~~Do not leave the Seeding Meeting without identifying four (4) hosts.~~ Coaches must know that their school administration has or will approve their school as a host prior to indicating their willingness to do so through the Online Seeding Form. ~~Coaches must discuss the possibility of hosting prior to offering their school as a host.~~

~~13.~~ 11. ~~After the meeting, the Local Sectional Manager will email or fax the Seeding Report Form results to Kraig Garber at the IHSA. This form will be e-mailed to each Sectional manager prior to the seeding meeting.~~ Upon receipt of all results from the <u>Online</u> Sectional Seeding Meetings, the IHSA will <u>select Regional hosts and</u> assign each school into a Regional Tournament based on the geography of the Regional hosts ~~identified at the Sectional Seeding Meeting~~. Every effort will be made to separate the top 4 seeds in each Sectional, but this is not guaranteed (this can be impacted by who volunteers to host, and the geography involved). The Regional pairings will be posted on the IHSA Scholastic Bowl; State Series Information and Results; assignments web page.

Rationale: The on-site seed meetings have had low turnout since the change in the rules to make them non-mandatory for schools. It has been stated that many sites have had only 5-10 out of an average of 40 schools per sectional show up. This translates to less than a 25% attendance rate. Moving to on-line could help to raise participation because schools would not have to travel, and the online model provides for more flexibility. Weather is also a factor this time of year. Therefore, if there is inclement weather, school officials could complete the seeding without having to worry about getting out onto roads that could be in poor condition.

Approved

VIII.M.12 - Moderator Instructions
Recommendation: Adjust the language as follows:
12. Question writers and/or editors are encouraged to consider and research alternative correct answers and/or common, similar, or related incorrect answers and to list them with instructions to the moderator to "accept also", "do not accept", "prompt on", <u>or "anti-prompt"</u>.

Rationale: Permits a new moderator instruction to be used in IHSA sets; it was used in 2018 and reflects common practice in scholastic bowl.

Approved

VIII.P.8 - Computational Toss-Ups
Recommendation: Adjust the language as follows:
8. There will be no ~~more than two (2)~~ computational ~~math~~ toss-ups ~~per round. All computational toss-up questions will be from the math category and need not be multi-clue.~~

Rationale: Implementation has varied from 1, 2, or no computational toss-ups annually, so coaches and players haven't known what to expect. Removing computational toss-ups will improve game flow while providing coaches and players consistency in what to expect.

VIII.P.8 - Note: Breakdown of Replacement Questions

Recommendation: Adjust the language as follows:

Currently reads: Note: There will be two (2) toss-up and two (2) bonus replacement questions for each level.

Revise to read: Note: For each level of competition (Regionals, Sectionals, State Finals) there will be a replacement set with three (3) toss-up and three (3) bonus Social Studies questions; one (1) toss-up and one (1) bonus Miscellaneous question; and two (2) toss-up and two (2) bonus questions in each of the other four categories (Science, Mathematics, Literature, Fine Arts). The replacement questions will appear in two groups: twelve (12) toss-up questions followed by twelve (12) bonus questions. Within each group questions will be ordered in an apparently random way but adjusted to ensure that no two in a row are from the same category.

Rationale: In 2015-16, the number of social studies questions was increased to seven (7) and the number of miscellaneous questions was reduced to one (1). However, the number of replacement questions for these categories was not adjusted. Therefore, this change makes the number of replacement toss-up and bonus questions per category more proportionate to the number required for competition. Note: if VIII.O is approved, then it will slightly change the breakdown of replacement questions in this recommendation.

VIII.O. – Categories and Sub-categories for Toss-up and Bonus Questions

Recommendation: Change the subcategory requirements under Social Studies to 4/4 History, 1/1 Geography, 1/1 Religion, and 1/1 Social Sciences.

Rationale: This change seeks to more closely replicate the category distribution seen in regular season play. Geography and Religion are usually given a full 1/1 representation in regular season tournament play, and some question providers often go beyond that in Geography. Regular season question sets also often limit the social sciences to 1/1 or less.

Recommendation: Separate the 4/4 History and the other 3/3 social studies topics into two separate top-level categories, "History" and "Social Sciences."

Rationale: Most regular season tournaments announce their category distributions with history and the social sciences separated, and the Head Editor assigns questions to writers based on this distinction as well. History and the various social sciences are often studied by different players on a team, and separating these categories may make it easier for a team to assign categories for studying purposes during the year. In-game, announcing "History" and "Social Sciences" separately will allow teams to more easily track categories for substitution purposes during a game.

Recommendation: Move 1/1 Mythology from Literature (reducing the Literature category from 5/5 to 4/4) to Social Sciences (which increases the Social Sciences category from 3/3 to 4/4).

Rationale: While mythological traditions are usually studied in the form of literature, numerous players and coaches have noted varying levels of confusion when the top-level category of "Literature" is announced and the question is, instead, Mythology. This change seeks to alleviate that confusion. As "Social Sciences" is already serving as a broad category that incorporates Religion, adding Mythology under its umbrella adds little in-game confusion. This change would not affect how Mythology questions are written.

Approved

Recommendation: Change the Fine Arts sub-distribution to "A: 2/1 or 1/2 Visual Arts" and "B: 1/2 or 2/1 Music", eliminating "C: Other."

Rationale: This codifies the standard practice that, after the 1/1 History of Art and 1/1 Classical Music and Opera, the other 1/1 is evenly split between Visual Arts and Music.

Approved

VIII.V – Technology Use During Competition
Recommendation: Adjust the language as follows:
Players, in particular, must have any and all communication/smart devices turned off and stored in inaccessible places (pockets, purses, held by non-players or coaches, etc.) while playing.

Rationale: Updating this language to include smart devices covers many devices, such as smart watches, that could potentially be used discretely as an aid during competition by competitors.

Approved

RECOMMENDED RULE BOOK CHANGES:

Rule 3-D-2
Recommendation: Change to read: Players may not bring accessible written material to the table with them. Notebooks with previously written material may be brought to the table, but must be turned to a new, blank page; previous pages may not be reviewed at any time during the game. The moderator should verify that papers at the table are blank or contain only bonus grids. Written material found before the game starts should be put away (notebooks turned to a new page, etc.) without penalty. Turning back in a notebook or otherwise consulting previously written material during a game is considered illegal communication in accordance with rule 4-A-4b.

Rationale: During games, an overwhelming number of players write notes for future reference in a notebook, devoting one or more pages to a single game. This effective study method is laudable and should be encouraged. As long as each game begins with a fresh blank page, the rules regarding pre-written information can still be enforced.

Died for Lack of Motion

Rule 4-B-3
Recommendation: Change to read: A player's initial response to a question will be considered to be the player's answer. Corrections, if attempted, will be ignored ~~result in an automatic ruling as an incorrect answer~~. Pausing and restarting, or going back and repeating a portion of an answer without changing the answer or introducing obvious confusion is permissible.

Rationale: The adjusted language permits a correct initial response to be accepted as correct.

Approved

Rule 4-B-8 (Hose Rule vs. Bonus Parts); split, and renumber existing 4-B-9 / 4-B-10
Recommendation: Format Change (separate alternative answers from hose rule) and Additions
4-B-8. Moderators have the authority and the responsibility to accept or reject alternative answers and different forms of answers, using their best judgment, as long as their decision is not contrary to a decision made in the moderator's meeting, or an instruction by the question writer to accept or reject a specific alternative answer, or when a specific form for the answer has already been heard. This rule applies to toss-ups as well as bonus parts.
4-B-9. A well written ~~question~~ toss-up will be clear in what it is asking from the start and will guide the listener towards that answer throughout. However, if a moderator (or a coach, on appeal) believes that a toss-up has misled the listener by clearly changing intent or direction (also known as a "hose"), and that has resulted in a wrong answer on an early buzz by one or both teams, the moderator should discard the toss-up and replace it for both teams to hear. Bonus parts, however, are designed to be read in entirety and are not subject to this rule.

Rationale: Codifies common practice and avoids misapplication of the "hose" rule.

Approved

Rule 4-C-1
Recommendation: Add 4-C-1g Translations: If an answer has an original name that is not in the English language, then the original-language name, a reasonably literal English translation of that name, and any commonly used or published English name will be acceptable.

Rationale: Codifying common practice. Answer lines usually have these various acceptable answers provided, but a rule explicitly providing for this acceptability is necessary in cases of appeals on incomplete answer lines.

Approved

Rule 4-C-1a (Hyphenated Last Names and Compound Last Names)
Recommendation: Proposed Format Adjustment (similar to 4-C-1b Units) and Addition
4-C-1a.	Names:
4-C-1a-1	Under normal circumstances, last names will be sufficient.
4-C-1a-2	If a question asks for a name and does not specifically ask for both first and last names, and if the printed answer requires both first and last name, then the player should be prompted for the missing information.
4-C-1a-3	For persons who are historically known primarily by their first name only or by a nickname, that name is sufficient (e.g. Moses, Dante Raphael, Michelangelo, Pele).
4-C-1a-4	Players may answer with a first initial instead of a first name, and/or a middle initial instead of a middle name, and be ruled correct, even if the printed answer requires a first and/or middle name, provided no ambiguity remains.
4-C-1a-5	Hyphenated surnames must be given in full; no prompt. (e.g. Claude Levi-Strauss)
4-C-1a-6	If both parts of a compound surname are required, and a player gives only one, the player should be prompted for the missing part. (e.g. David Lloyd George)
4-C-1a-7	Nobility particles are optional even if a printed answer has them as required. (e.g. Beethoven and Assad are acceptable for printed von Beethoven and al-Assad.)

Rationale: Clarifies prompting for a partial answer with hyphenated or compound names.

Approved

Rule 4-C-1d. (Hyperbolic Functions)
Recommendation: Proposed Addition: 4-C-1d. Trig Functions: Players may use the abbreviated pronunciations "sin", "cos", "sinch", "cosh" and so on, as acceptable replacements for the full pronunciation of "sine", "cosine", "hyperbolic sine", "hyperbolic cosine", and so on.

Rationale: Brings the rule into line with current practice in some high school math classes.

Approved

Rule 4-C (Completeness vs. Prompting)
Recommendation: Proposed Addition: 4-C-4. In rare cases a printed answer may include a moderator instruction to "anti-prompt". This occurs when a question is seeking a general answer, but a clue in the question points to something more specific. The moderator will anti-prompt by saying, "Can you be less specific."

Rationale: Adds a rule to clarify a new moderator instruction that is appearing in IHSA sets.

Approved

Recommendation: Proposed Addition: 4-C-5. Even without printed moderator instructions, a moderator is permitted to "anti-prompt".

Rationale: Allows the moderator to handle unusual situations that a Head Editor can't predict.

Approved

Rule 4-E-3c (Time Allowed for the Rebounding Team)
Recommendation: Proposed Addition: 4-E-3c. If the controlling team fails to provide an answer in ten (10) seconds, the moderator will alert the rebounding team that it may answer and begin timing three (3) seconds. The moderator will not warn the rebounding team to answer. Three (3) seconds applies even if the controlling team interrupts the reading of the bonus part to answer or "pass". (Rule 4-E-4c)

Rationale: Clarifies Rule 4-E-3c by adding a reference to Rule 4-E-4c, which reads, in part: Teams may answer (or "pass") before the moderator is done reading the bonus lead-in or a particular part. … If the answer is not correct (or the team "passes"), the moderator will inform the teams that the answer is incorrect and will continue reading the lead-in (if not completed) or bonus part for the rebounding team and start timing three (3) seconds when completed.

Approved

Rule 4-E-4f (Prompting on a Bonus Part)
Recommendation: Proposed Change: 4-E-4f. If the moderator prompts on a bonus part, it is recommended that the same player who gave the answer respond to the prompt; however, any team member may respond. Brief consultation among teammates is permitted, ~~as long as it is not done as a delaying tactic~~ but the additional information must be delivered within three (3) seconds. In any case, the moderator will take the first response unambiguously directed at him or her.

Rationale: The current wording is not specific. Brings this into line with other "answering" limits.

Approved

Rules 4-H-1g and 4-H-1h (Moderator Error During a Bonus Part)
Recommendation: Proposed Change: 4-H-1g. Giving the answer to a bonus part before anyone has had a chance to answer. Remedy: Discard and replace the entire bonus question ~~part~~.

Rationale: Clarifies & simplifies the steps the moderator should use when replacing a single bonus part.

Approved

Recommendation: 4-H-1h. Giving the answer to a bonus part before the second team has had a chance to answer. Remedy: ~~Read a replacement bonus part to the other second team only.~~ Discard and replace the entire bonus question.

Rationale: Clarifies & simplifies the steps the moderator should use when replacing a single bonus part.

Approved

RECOMMENDED CASE BOOK CHANGES

Case 4-C
Recommendation: Add 4-C-5 Case #1
The moderator begins reading the following toss-up:
"This substance names a magnetic system in which all spins are oriented irregularly. Boron trioxide is added to reduce the coefficient of thermal expansion of one form of this substance. Pyrex is an example of what transparent amorphous solid formed by heating and rapidly cooling silica, found in windows and portholes?"
The printed answer is: Pyrex glass (anti-prompt on Pyrex alone after "boron" is read)
Player 1 from Team X rings in after the word "boron"
Player 1 states "Pyrex"
The moderator prompts by saying, "Can you be less specific?"
Player 1 states "glass"
The moderator properly states: "Correct"
The moderator has handled the situation correctly by following the printed instructions. The first clue/sentence does not refer to Pyrex, but the second clue/sentence does. So, in this case, the question writer anticipated that a player hearing 'boron' might think of Pyrex, and therefore included that specific anti-prompt along with the answer.

Rationale: Clarifies the new proposed rule regarding the anti-prompt.

Approved

Recommendation: Add 4-C-5 Case # 2
The moderator begins reading the following toss-up:
"Books in this category are based on real events. When the subject is a real person, it may be authorized or unauthorized. What literary genre includes owner's manuals and textbooks?"
The printed answer is: nonfiction
Player 1 from Team X rings in after the word "unauthorized"
Player 1 states "biography"
The moderator prompts by saying, "Can you be less specific?"
Player 1 states "nonfiction"
The moderator properly states: "Correct"
The moderator has the authority to anti-prompt if he or she decides it's appropriate. In this case, the question writer did not anticipate this particular early answer. The moderator realized that the answer biography fits the first and second clues, so an anti-prompt is appropriate.

Rationale: Clarifies the new proposed rule regarding the anti-prompt.

Approved

Administrative Recommendations:

1. **Question Source**: The committee supports the recommendation to allow Brad Fischer to continue to serve as the Head Editor for the IHSA State Series Questions for the 2018-19 school year.
   Prior to voting, Kraig Garber informed the committee of the potential conflict of interest that arises because Brad's wife is the coach of a team that participates in the State Series. Along with his bid to act as Head Editor for this past season (2017-18), Brad provided a written assurance that he will keep the questions confidential, and the committee feels that bringing the potential conflict to light serves to further ensure that no infractions occur.

Approved

Other items of discussion that did not receive action:

1. All teams in a sectional should be seeded at the seeding meeting.
2. Change the format of the regionals to pool play, take each pool champion to sectionals (in other words 2 teams from each regional would qualify for sectionals). The sectionals would also consist of pool play with 8 teams, and the champions from each pool would advance to state (2 from each sectional). There would then be 16 state qualifiers which would necessitate that the state finals be held at a high school or other location that could accommodate this. This could allow for the state finals to be conducted on a Saturday.
3. X.A. Eliminate the Regional Championship plaque; X.B. Add a 2nd Sectional Championship plaque so that each team advancing to State receives a Sectional Championship plaque; XI.A. Eliminate the $10 scorer fee. This proposal is linked #2 to help offset costs of having additional matches.
4. There was a discussion on the clarification of Illustration 259 in the IHSA handbook.