

Competitive Cheerleading



2024-25

Manual for Schools and Managers



Illinois High School Association
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School Information

2024-25 Academic School Year

Illinois High School Association

Terms and Conditions

In accordance with Section 1.450 of the IHSA Constitution, the IHSA Board of Directors has approved the Terms and Conditions governing the 2024-2025 IHSA Competitive Cheerleading State Series.

I. SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION

Classification in the IHSA Competitive Cheerleading State Series will be determined according to IHSA Policy 17 (Classification System).

Request to play up a division may be made through the IHSA by September 1.

A) Divisions:

Schools shall be categorized for participation in the Competitive Cheerleading State Series based on the following:

1) Large Team Division: A school enrollment of 1519.51 and over shall have up to 24 rostered participants with 20 allowed on the competition floor.

2) Medium Team Division: A school enrollment between 701.51 to 1519.50 shall have up to 20 rostered participants with 16 allowed on the competition floor.

3) Small Team Division: A school enrollment up to 701.50 shall have up to 16 rostered participants with 12 allowed on the competition floor.

4) Coed Team Division: Two males on the competition floor is an open division and shall have up to 24 rostered participants with 20 on the competition floor.

a. All Coed teams need to be announced to the IHSA by November 15.

b. Teams who miss this deadline will compete in the designated division per the school's enrollment.

Note: A mascot is considered part of a team and will be counted as a part of the maximum number of cheerleaders allowed on the competition floor.

II. DATES AND SITES

A) Dates: The dates for the IHSA Competitive Cheerleading State Series are:

- 1) Sectionals: Saturday, February 1, 2025.
- 2) State Final: Friday and Saturday, February 7 & 8, 2025.

B) Sites: The state shall be divided into five (5) Sectionals. The number of competing schools, travel distance, geographical location and the number of entries shall be primary factors in the determination of number and boundary lines for schools assigned to these Sectionals. Sectional host sites and school assignments will be announced in November and posted at www.ihsa.org on the "Competitive Cheerleading" menu page under "State Series Information and Results". Grossinger Motors Arena in Bloomington will be the venue for the State Final. Tournament Central will be located at the Pepsi Ice Center Foyer adjacent to the Arena.

III. ONLINE ENTRIES, WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURE, ELIGIBILITY, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND ONLINE LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

A) Policies and Procedures: The policy for entry deadlines, late entries and withdrawals shall be the policies and procedures regarding entry for all IHSA sponsored sports included in the 2024-25 entry policies and procedures which can be found in the IHSA Schools Center on the IHSA website.

B) Online Entries: All member schools must enter their school into state series competition through the IHSA School Center on the IHSA website at www.ihsa.org. The deadline for entry is November 1, 2024.

C) Late Entries: Any attempt to enter a sport online after the established deadline will be denied. Schools that wish to enter after the deadline will be considered late. To be considered for late entry, the principal/IHSA official representative must contact the IHSA office to request late entry into the state series. This request shall be in writing and can be directed to tcraig@ihsa.org. The penalty for late entry shall be \$100.00.

D) Breach of Contract By-Law 6.041 (Withdrawal Procedures): To withdraw without penalty, the principal/IHSA official representative must e-mail or fax notice to the IHSA office (tcraig@ihsa.org or 309-663-7479) notifying the IHSA of the school's withdrawal from the competitive cheerleading state series prior to the online list of participants deadline of December 13, 2024.

1. If a school withdraws after the deadline of December 13, 2024, the school will be charged a \$100 penalty and if applicable, the school may be charged for any additional financial loss sustained by the offended school(s) or the Association as a result of such breach.

2. If a school does not withdraw and does not show up for competition, the school will be charged a \$500 penalty and, if applicable, the school may be charged for any additional financial loss sustained by the offended school(s) or the Association as a result of such breach.

E) Eligibility: All member schools in good standing may enter one (1) team under the provisions of the IHSA by-laws.

F) Affirmative Action: Boys and girls shall be permitted to participate in the state series as outlined in the IHSA affirmative action policy.

G) Online List of Participants: Registration for the state series will be completed online using the IHSA Schools Center. Each school must complete the online list of participants by midnight on Friday, December 13, 2024. If a school does not submit the online list of participants by the deadline, coaches and/or participants from the school are subject to penalties, which could include, but not be limited to being ruled ineligible to coach or compete in the state series and/or charged \$100.00.

1) Confirmation of receipt of online list of participants: Schools should login to their school center site on the IHSA website and go to the activity tracker. The activity tracker will show "completed", if you have checked the button indicating you finished your report.

2) If the activity tracker does not indicate "completed", then you must go back into your school's list of

participants and check the button on the online list of participants indicating you are finished with your report.

at a member school, then the IHSA Board of Directors shall appoint a local manager with like responsibilities.

IV. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

A) Sectional Host School Expenses: Sectional host schools shall receive a guarantee of \$650 for hosting plus 20% of the net income. Officials will be paid by the IHSA via ArbiterPay.

B) Sites Other Than Member Schools: When a sectional is held at a site other than an IHSA member school, the IHSA will determine the financial arrangements with the host using current financial arrangements as guidelines.

C) Participant Expenses: Neither the IHSA or the local tournament management will assume responsibility for any contestant expenses of any kind.

D) Digital Tickets: Per IHSA Board Policy 22, GoFan Digital Tickets will be the exclusive ticket option available for this sport at the Sectional level of the State Series. Any exceptions must be approved by the IHSA office.

E) Admission: The following State Series ticket prices have been set by the IHSA Board of Directors. A baby in arms is free at all rounds of the State Series. Pricing for all other individuals is as follows:

SECTIONAL

Digital Ticket: \$8.00; Cash Ticket: \$9.00

STATE FINAL

Ticket: \$12.00 per session

GoFan digital ticketing is not available at the State Final. Bloomington Arena may make digital tickets for sale. The IHSA has no control over any convenience fees charged for these digital tickets.

F) Refunds: Under no circumstances shall there be a refund of ticket money for tickets sold.

B) Sectional Manager: The local manager shall have authority to take proper and appropriate action in any case of unusual situations arising during the competitions. However, no part of the terms and conditions may be set aside. In all cases involving an interpretation not specifically covered by the rules, the competition manager shall consult with the head official before the announcement of results or the presentation of awards.

C) Sectional Performance Order: Sectional competition order will be randomly determined by the IHSA and will be posted online on the competitive cheerleading menu page under state series information & results after the January list of participants deadline. There will be a site manager at each sectional. No local manager shall be permitted to change the order in which the schools compete unless given permission by the IHSA office. Programs and schedules can be created by the sectional managers using TourneyWire, the web-based competition management service program.

D) Coaches Meeting: A coaches' meeting will be conducted prior to each division of competition at sectional as outlined in the performance schedule. A coach (or a school representative) from each school must attend this meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to review any policies, procedures and rules governing the conduct of the event. Coaches will be responsible for the information covered at the meeting.

1. The sectional manager or appointed manager shall conduct the meeting for coaches prior to each division at the sectional tournament on the Saturday of sectionals.

2. The sectional manager will introduce the head official/officiating crew and any other personnel that they deem necessary to introduce to the coaches. The sectional manager will discuss items on the sectional agenda/tournament logistics and answer any questions regarding the competition.

3. Sectional managers have the option to prerecord or send out this information to qualifying schools in lieu of an in-person coaches meeting.

V. TOURNAMENT ASSIGNMENTS

A) Sectional Assignments: Sectional assignments can be found online at www.ihsa.org on the "Competitive Cheerleading" page under "State Series Information & Results". All IHSA member schools entered in the Competitive Cheerleading State Series will be assigned by the IHSA to one of the five (5) proportional divisions for sectional level competition. These assignments will appear online after the November entry deadline. Assignments are made according to the IHSA Grouping Policy #18. The number of competing schools, travel distance, geographical location and the number of entries shall be primary factors in the determination of number and boundary lines for these sectionals.

E) Warm-up Time: A seven (7) minute warm-up time at the sectional tournament shall be posted online at www.ihsa.org prior to competition. An eight (8) minute warm-up time at the state final will be posted online at ihsa.org. Coaches and competitors must report in person to the warm-up site director at the designated time.

1. At sectional and state competition the host shall not make its performance area available earlier to any teams for practice sessions. When a part of the state series is played at a facility other than a member school's facility, none of the teams entered, including a hosting member school shall be permitted to practice at the facility.

2. Schools entered in the competition will only be allowed warm-up/practice time as scheduled by the IHSA. Mats should be provided for all three warm-up stations: stretching - 2 mats, tumbling - 3 mats, full warm-up - 9 mats.

3. In the sectional and state series, uninterrupted clock minutes shall be provided for warm-up prior to competition. Teams may not be on the official warm-up floor prior to the designated time.

4. Only approved/credentialed participants, coaches, and athletic trainers will be allowed in the warm-up area during sectionals and state final competition.

VI. TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE AND TIME SCHEDULES

A) Sectional Management: In all cases in which a member school is selected as a competition site, the IHSA official representative of the high school shall automatically assume entire responsibility for the competition. The official representative may delegate the authority to manage the competition to another staff member. If the site is not located



F) Competition Disruption: Tournament management reserves the right to cease competition under the following conditions:

1) At the sectional and state preliminary rounds IHSA licensed officials reserve the right to stop a routine due to an obvious injury.

a. In the event that an injury causes the team's routine to be interrupted during a performance, the head official and tournament management shall determine the time for the team to feed back into the warm-up and competition order to complete their performance. This time should not exceed 30 (thirty) minutes for the team to perform their routine again. Judging will resume from the point at which the injury/interruption occurred as determined by the head official. The routine must be performed full-out from the beginning. All point deductions accumulated to the point of injury will carry over. If a team prefers not to re-work the routine, at the coaches' discretion, they may take the score they have received up to that point. If a skill has not been performed a "0" will be given in that category. If multiple injuries occur, the same process will be in effect.

b. In the event that an injury occurs during warm-up and the athlete is no longer able to participate, the head official and tournament management shall determine the time for the team to feed back into the warm up and competition order. This time should not exceed 30 (thirty) minutes from the time of injury in the warm-up area.

2) If, in the opinion of the tournament officials, a team's routine is interrupted because of failure of the tournament equipment, facilities, or other factors attributable to the tournament rather than the team, the head official should stop the routine. The tournament officials will determine the degree and effect of the interruption. The team will be allowed to present its routine from the place in the routine where the interruption occurred.

3) In the event a team's routine is interrupted because of failure of the team's own equipment, the team must either continue the routine or take the score earned to that point.

G) State Final Time Schedule: On Friday, February 7, 2025 preliminary rounds of competition will be conducted. On Saturday, February 8, 2025 final rounds of competition will be conducted. The state final time schedule shall be as follows:

Friday, February 7, 2025

SESSION 1

Small and Medium Team Preliminaries

8:00 a.m.—Doors of the Arena Open to Public
 8:55 a.m.—Welcome & National Anthem
 9:00 a.m.—First Performance
 (Small and Medium team performances alternate)
 1:10 p.m.—Last Performance
 1:15 p.m.—Announcement of Small Division Finalists
 1:30 p.m.—Announcement of Medium Division Finalists

SESSION 2

Large and Coed Team Preliminaries

2:30 p.m.—Doors of the Arena Open to Public
 3:25 p.m.—Welcome & National Anthem
 3:30 p.m.—First Performance
 (Large and Coed team performances alternate)
 7:40 p.m.—Last Performance
 7:45 p.m.—Announcement of Large Division Finalists
 8:00 p.m.—Announcement of Coed Division Finalists

Note: In lieu of an in-person coaches meeting prior to competition at the state final, a virtual coaches meeting will be conducted at 8:00 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to the state final.

Saturday, February 8, 2025

SESSION 3

Finals

10:00 a.m.—Doors of the Arena Open to Public
 10:55 a.m.—Welcome & National Anthem
 11:00 a.m.—Small and Medium Team Finals
 (Small and Medium team performances alternate)
 12:45 p.m.—Small Team Awards
 1:15 p.m.—Medium Team Awards
 2:30 p.m.—ParaCheer Midwest
 2:55 p.m.—Announcements & National Anthem
 3:00 p.m.—Large and Coed Team Finals
 (Large and Coed team performances alternate)
 4:45 p.m.—Large Team Awards
 5:15 p.m.—Coed Team Awards

H. State Final School Packets: At the state final, school packets, which include important state final information, updates, state final credentials and programs may be picked up Thursday, February 6 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Grossinger Motors Arena VIP south entrance and after 7:00 a.m. on Friday, February 7, at the Pepsi Ice Rink main entrance located on the south of the Grossinger Motors Arena. A coach/school official is the only person permitted to pick up the schools' packet. The Pepsi Ice Rink foyer of Grossinger Motors Arena in downtown Bloomington is tournament central.

I. State Final Performance Order: The IHSA office will determine the performance order for state level competition. This order will be posted online on the competitive cheerleading page at www.ihsa.org under state series information & results. The following formula shall be used to determine the performance order for the state final:

1. Each sectional is randomly assigned a letter code (A to E) prior to the start of the state series.
2. The chart below, and the sectional code, is published at the same time as the sectional performance order.
3. Each team's performance order within a particular division is determined by the place the team won at the sectional tournament, according to the table.
4. In case of a tie for 5th place at a sectional, an additional entry will be added at the end of the order.
5. In case of a tie for any particular place at a sectional, the teams will perform in the opposite order in the state finals. For example, at sectional A, two teams tie for 2nd (and 3rd) place. In the chart, the order assigned to A-2 is #14. The order assigned to A-3 is #18. Reversing the order, the team that performed first in the sectional is assigned order #18. The team that performed last in the sectional is assigned order #14.

Order	Sectional	Place
1	A	5
2	B	4
3	C	3
4	D	2
5	E	1
6	B	5
7	C	4
8	D	3
9	E	2
10	A	1
11	C	5



12	D	4
13	E	3
14	A	2
15	B	1
16	D	5
17	E	4
18	A	3
19	B	2
20	C	1
21	E	5
22	A	4
23	B	3
24	C	2
25	D	1

Note: Finalized state final performance schedules will be posted online on the Monday after sectional level competition.

VII. SECTIONAL ADVANCEMENT OF WINNERS

A) Sectionals: The first, second, third, fourth and fifth place teams in each division from the sectional shall advance to the state final and compete in the division in which they qualified.

B) Advancement of Next Qualifier: Should a qualifying team withdraw or be disqualified before the state final tournament, the remaining qualifier from the same sectional in that division shall be moved up.

C) Withdrawal or Disqualification: A team moving up due to withdrawal or disqualification may be entered in the state final up to the competition time. It is the responsibility of the principal or coach to notify the IHSAs office at the earliest possible time that another advancing team may be necessary. The IHSAs office will officially inform the school's administration/coach that they will replace a qualifier.

VIII. TOURNAMENT RULES

A) NFHS Spirit Rules Book: The current National Federation Spirit Rules published by the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) are the official rules governing the IHSAs competitive cheerleading state series competition. The NFHS's official high school Spirit Rules Book is the minimum safety guide for the state series.

B) Participants: Schools shall be categorized for participation in the Competitive Cheerleading State Series based on the following:

- 1) Large Team Division: A school shall have up to 24 rostered participants with 20 allowed on the competition floor.
- 2) Medium Team Division: A school shall have up to 20 rostered participants with 16 allowed on the competition floor.
- 3) Small Team Division: A school shall have up to 16 rostered participants with 12 allowed on the competition floor.
- 4) Coed Team Division: Two males on the competition floor is an open division and shall have up to 24 rostered participants with 20 on the competition floor.

a. All Coed teams need to be announced to the IHSAs by November 15.

b. Teams who miss this deadline will compete in the designated division per the school's enrollment.

Note: A mascot is considered part of a team and will be counted as a part of the maximum number of cheerleaders allowed on the competition floor.

C) Competition Guidelines: Each team will present one competitive routine.

1) Timing

a. Competition will consist of a three (3) minute time limit.

b. No penalty for time violations will be assessed until three (3) seconds beyond the specified time limit. For example, if the time limit is three (3) minutes, no penalty will be assessed until the performance has exceeded three minutes and 3 seconds as verified by two (2) stopwatches.

c. The team may use a maximum of two minutes (2) of the three-minute time limit for music. The timing begins with the team's first movement, voice, or note of music, whichever comes first, on the competition floor. Timing ends with the last motion, word, or beat of music. There will be an official timer at each level of competition. All participants must start in the competition area with at least one foot on the floor. Entrances and exits are not considered part of the routine and should not be organized.

d. All competition rules will apply until the team completely clears the competition floor.

2) Competition Area

a. The competitive cheering surface shall be a matted area of 54 feet wide x 42 feet deep (9 strips). The mats should cover the entire area, provide uniform thickness and be a flat, consistent surface with no cracks, obstructions, or untaped seams. The competition mats will run vertical to the panel officials at all competition sites. **A white boundary line must run the entire perimeter of the competition mat.**

b. Teams may line up anywhere inside the competition area. A participant can step on the white boundary line. **If an entire body part of an athlete is off the performing surface it is considered out of bounds.**

c. Members of your competitive team must fulfill all spotting requirements as governed by the NFHS Spirit Rules.

3) Music

a. **Music can be in a digital format with a back-up. Coaches are responsible for all necessary adapters.**

b. It is the responsibility of the head coach or their designee to start and stop their music.

c. Coaches will be allowed to check their music prior to performing.

d. Music should not contain any suggestive lyrics.

e. The association assumes no responsibility for the payment of copyright, royalty, or any other fees connected to the performances of any material in the competitive cheer state series.

4) Props

a. Only appropriate poms, signs and school flags/banners used in a safe manner by competing teams to lead the crowd during their performance are allowed.

b. Megaphones appropriately used by competitors will be permitted.

c. Teams shall be permitted to place the above listed items on the competition floor before timing begins.

d. Teams should avoid stepping on poms, signs, school flags/banners and megaphones. After use, items must be placed safely on the floor per NFHS Spirit Rule 2-1-7.

e. Glitter may be used on signs if laminated or sealed per NFHS Spirit Rule 3-1-5.

f. Props are not permitted. Only crowd leading signs, poms, school flags/banners may be used in a safe manner per VIII. C. 4. a

D) Artificial Noisemakers: All artificial noise-making devices shall be excluded from the performance area. Tournament managers should not permit spectators to use air



horns at the competition venue. Cheerleaders may use megaphones during competition only.

E) Competitor's Apparel: All competitors shall wear only school issued/approved uniforms for competition during the sectionals and the state final. All uniforms, including footwear, must follow the NFHS Spirit Rules Book. The NFHS Spirit Rules Book governs all participant apparel/accessories. Participants will not be permitted to compete in illegal attire. Officials shall have authority to assess penalties for failure to comply with these requirements.

1) Team Uniforms:

a. All uniforms shall be devoid of commercial advertising. The manufacturer's logo/trademark which shall not exceed 2 1/4 square inches with no dimension exceeding 2 1/4 inches. It may appear only once on each piece of wearing apparel.

b. All briefs (base garments) should be a solid color and devoid of any markings including but not limited to sequins, prints, letters, words, and symbols.

c. Teams shall wear uniforms that are of similar color and/or marking.

d. All uniforms must have some school designation (i.e. school name, logo, mascot or monograms) visibly printed on the uniform.

2) Participant Limitations:

a. Fingernails, including artificial nails, must be kept at an appropriate length (short, near the end of the fingers) to minimize risk for the participant.

b. Hair must be worn in a manner to minimize risk to participants (away from the face and off the shoulders).

c. Glitter that does not readily adhere on the hair, face, body or uniform is not permitted.

d. Jewelry of any kind is prohibited, except for the allowable religious and medical needs as outlined in the NFHS Spirit Rules Book.

F) Scoring: Refer to the score sheet and rubric in the competition manual.

1) Sectional: The official IHSA score sheet will be used for the scoring of all competitive cheerleading routines. The total accumulative point value of the officials score sheets will be averaged. There shall be one (1) IHSA head official, three (3) IHSA technical officials, and three (3) IHSA panel officials assigned by the IHSA for each sectional site.

2) State: The official IHSA score sheet will be used for the scoring of all competitive cheerleading routines. The total accumulative point value of the officials score sheets will be averaged. There shall be five (5) IHSA hired panel officials and one (1) head panel official for each division for state. There shall be three (3) technical officials and (1) head technical official for state.

3) For both the sectional and the state final, deductions/penalties shall be subtracted from the total accumulative point value average.

G) Team Ties: At all competitions, teams tied for a position which qualifies for advancement from preliminaries to finals shall be advanced without the tie being broken.

H) Coaching: At the sectional and state final, eligible high school coaches shall follow these procedures:

1) A maximum of four (4) competitive cheerleading coaches shall be allowed on the roster to coach. Only coaches whose names appear on the list of participants will be allowed to coach unless written notification from the school's principal/IHSA official representative verifies the eligibility of a

coach. Schools may only submit the names of those coaches who are in compliance with IHSA By-law 2.070.

2) At the state final, eligible coaches shall receive four (4) coaching passes in their team packet.

a. The eligible coaches shall wear the coaching pass on the outside of his/her clothes while coaching.

b. Only coaches wearing this pass will be allowed into designated areas to coach.

3) Coaches must always remain in the designated areas during warm-ups and competition and not disrupt the competition. Coaching should be limited to words of help and encouragement, and the ethics of good sportsmanship must be observed.

4) Violation of ineligible coaching during the sectional or state final competition may be considered gross misconduct and could result in penalty deductions to dismissal from coaching.

I) State Final Passes: State Final passes will be provided to all competing schools and eligible coaches and school officials/administrators. All participants are required to wear their passes at all time. Competitors' passes can be kept with the coaching staff while the team is in uniform and competing. Competitors must have their passes visible to be allowed entry into the arena. State Final passes allow entry into the state final at any time during the competition.

J) Substitutions: After the list of participants have been entered, competing schools may use any student whose name appears on the list of participants as competitors. No substitution of names to the list of participants shall be made after the January list of participants deadline. Alternates on this list may be used for competition at any time.

K) Consolation Competition: There shall be no consolation competition.

L) Refusing to Participate: If an IHSA member team refuses to compete after being assigned to a competition, the tournament manager shall report the incident to the IHSA office. The withdrawing team will be responsible for all applicable fees. Refer to Article III-D in the terms and conditions regarding breach of contract.

M) Unsportsmanlike Conduct: Managers and officials have the strictest instructions to disqualify any competitor, coach and/or person guilty of profane or indecent language or of gross unsportsmanlike conduct. The IHSA by-laws give the IHSA Board of Directors complete authority to penalize a school for any unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of the principal, the coach, the athletes, the faculty, the board of education or any other official representative of any participating school.

N) Disqualification: Any team that does not adhere to these terms and conditions may be subject to disqualification from the tournament and will automatically forfeit any right to awards received at the tournament.

IX. TOURNAMENT POLICIES

A) All-Star Teams: No officers of the tournament, game official or anyone serving under the supervision of the Illinois



High School Association may cooperate in any way in the selection of an all-star/all-state team.

B) Fans Signs and Banners: The displaying of signs, banners, placards or similar items by fans at IHSA state series is permitted, provided:

- 1) They are in good taste and reflect good sportsmanship in their message and use;
- 2) They reflect identification and encouragement to participants and their respective school/community;
- 3) They are not displayed in the area of competition or in a manner which does not interfere with competition;
- 4) They do not obstruct the view of participants or spectators or cover other signage; and
- 5) They are not safety hazards.

C) Damage to Property or Equipment: If representatives from any school entered in the state series are found guilty of carelessly or maliciously breaking, damaging or destroying property or equipment belonging to the host school or host venue, such school shall be held responsible for costs incurred in replacing or repairing such property or equipment.

D) Media: Policy regarding media requirements for each local manager is contained in the current IHSA Handbook. Reporting information to the news media shall be the responsibility of each local manager. Media and school media passes are available by contacting Matt Troha at the IHSA office at 309-663-6377.

1) Media Provisions: Space shall be set aside to provide for news media representatives covering the state series whether they are from newspapers, radio stations, commercial television stations, and/or cable television stations.

2) Media Personnel Requirements: Photographers or television personnel with cameras may enter the performance area to take pictures provided that:

- a. The individual is wearing the IHSA media/photographers pass;
- b. The individual reports to the site manager with credentials;
- c. The individual stays off the matted competition areas and remains at least five feet away from the competition floor;
- d. The individual remains seated when taking pictures;
- e. The individual only walks when the competitors are entering or exiting;
- f. The individual refrains from speaking to the student athletes during competition.
- g. Media is not allowed in the warm up area or locker rooms.
- h. If applicable, news media may use non-distracting lighting if the manager has given permission. News media photographers are allowed to use filtered electronic flashes. If the manager and contest officials agree that the flashes are causing interference with the conduct of the competition, then they can require the photographer to cease use of the flash.

3) Television and Radio Originators: It is the responsibility of the local manager to accept applications, approve requests to originate, collect proper rights fees payment (where required) and make cancellation refunds for television and/or radio origination, according to the IHSA television and/or radio broadcast policy.

a. Television broadcast rights fees for all levels of competition below the state final level shall be paid to the host school and shall become part of the revenue to be shared by

the member school(s) and the Association according to the financial terms stipulated in these terms and conditions.

b. Radio broadcast rights fees are not required for any level of competition in this state series. Local managers shall permit radio originations of the competition.

c. Television and/or radio stations which do not apply in advance, or which do not pay required rights fees prior to the start of the competition in each respective level in this state series shall not be given credentials nor allowed access to the facility to originate. Sponsors of the originations for television and radio shall be only those so stipulated in the respective IHSA television and broadcast policies.

4) Rights Fees for Television and Radio:

a. Television rights fees are to be charged by local managers and/or the IHSA as contained in the IHSA television policy.

b. Radio Fees:

- i. Sectional Contest = No Charge
- ii. State Final = No Charge

E) Videotaping: The local manager may provide videotaping for purchase. Spectators will be allowed to videotape in the stands, provided they remain in their seat and do not obstruct the view of participants and spectators. The IHSA prohibits any taping for the purpose of video reviewing during the tournament.

F) Flash Photography: No flash cameras can be used during competition.

G) Tobacco/Liquid Nicotine Products: The use of tobacco or liquid nicotine products in any competition area, either during a practice or while a contest is in progress, or affiliated property of any IHSA state series contest by any coach, player, any other person connected with a team, or fan shall be prohibited. State series hosts are required to make all state series contest sites and any affiliated property, including parking lots, fan accommodation areas, and other school or event venue property, tobacco/liquid nicotine free zones on the date or dates of any IHSA event being held at the site.

H) Use of Inhalers: A student with asthma may possess and use his/her medication during an IHSA competition, while under the supervision of school personnel, provided the school meets the outlined procedures of self-administration in the Illinois school code.

I) Automated External Defibrillators (AED): Host schools must have an AED available and on site at all IHSA post season contests.

J) Alcoholic Beverages and IHSA State Series: The possession, distribution, sale and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages are prohibited at the site and on any affiliated property of any IHSA state series contest. State series hosts are required to make all state series contest sites and any affiliate property, including parking lots, fan accommodation areas, and other school or event venue property, alcohol free zones on the date or dates of any IHSA event being held at the site. Violation of this policy by an event host will subject the host to a penalty for violation of IHSA By-law 2.020. Such penalty may include but not necessarily be limited to prohibition against subsequent event hosting assignments. Violation of this policy by a non-hosting member school will subject the school to penalty for violation of IHSA By-law 2.020. Patrons of any IHSA state series contest determined to be in violation of this policy will be removed from the premise, and law enforcement officials will be

called as warranted. No ticket refunds will be granted in such cases.

K) Prayer at IHSA State Series Contest: Prayer at an IHSA state series contest that takes place over the public address system is prohibited.

X. AWARDS

A) Sectional Awards: Awards will be presented at each sectional.

- 1) Team standings will be determined in accordance with the scoring system described in VIII.
- 2) The top five (5) schools advancing in each represented division from the sectional to the state final will be announced.
- 3) The winning school at each sectional in each represented division will receive a sectional plaque.

B) State Final Awards: An awards ceremony will be held at the conclusion of the state final.

- 1) Team standings will be determined in accordance with the scoring system described in VIII.
- 2) A trophy will be awarded to teams finishing first (1), second (2) and third (3) in each respective division.
- 3) Medallions will be presented to the schools of the first three placing teams in each respective division. In addition, four (4) coaches, one (1) superintendent, one (1) principal, one (1) athletic director and one (1) athletic trainer will be presented with a medallion. Only the credentialed team/school representatives may participate in the awards presentation.
- 4) Competitors participating in the awards presentation shall wear their school's official warm-up or team uniform. If a school fails to comply, they shall not be allowed to participate in the awards ceremony.

C) Awards Fulfillment: All awards will be furnished by the IHSA and are not an expense charged upon the individual host. Sectional level awards will be mailed to the host sites.

- 1) Duplicate awards will be presented in the case of ties.
- 2) Additional medallion awards can be purchased by the winning schools.

XI. OFFICIALS

A) Assignments: IHSA licensed officials will be assigned through the IHSA office to work the sectionals and state finals.

1) Sectionals: At each sectional level of competition seven (7) officials will be assigned to each sectional: One (1) head official, three (3) panel officials, and three (3) technical officials in which one will be designated as the head tech official. The head official will make "comments only."

2) State Final: At the state final competition, one (1) head official, five (5) panel officials, and three (3) technical officials for each division will be assigned. Additionally, one (1) head technical official will be assigned to the state final to oversee all four divisions.

B) Locations: The host site manager in conjunction with the head official will determine and confirm the logistics of the competition. Officials for the competition must be in the designated official's area when the warm-up period begins.

C) Communication: All competition communication must be directed to the host manager. Normal procedural conversation that must take place between the host school/manager, officials, coaches, team members or school representatives is allowed.

D) Electronic Scoring: Officials will submit score sheets electronically to the head official at the competition for each division. It is the head official's responsibility to verify all scores and order of finish. The site manager will include score sheets and order of finish after the competition of each division in the team exit packets.

E) Fees: Officials will be paid by the IHSA via ArbiterPay.

1) Sectionals: Each panel and technical official shall receive a flat fee of \$285.50. Each head official shall receive a flat fee of \$334.50.

2) State Final: Each panel and technical official shall receive a flat fee of \$510.00. Each head official shall receive a flat fee of \$542.00.

F) Mileage Reimbursement Policy: In the state series, to assist officials for out-of-pocket expenses, a voucher system will be used to compensate officials when they actually drive in excess of 70 miles round trip per competition. Payment will be made through the IHSA office, after completion of the tournament series, at a rate of forty-five (45) cents per mile for all mileage in excess of 70 miles round trip. No compensation will be permitted for trips of less than 70 miles round trip.

2024-25 Competitive Cheerleading Competition Information

Important Dates:

Tuesday, August 13.....	Online Rules Presentation Available
Monday, October 28.....	Practice May Begin
Wednesday, November 1	Entry Deadline
Monday, Nov. 4	Competition May Begin
Friday, November 15	Deadline to Declare Coed Entry
Tuesday, November 26	Last Date to View Online Rules Presentation
Friday, December 13.....	List of Participants Online Deadline
Friday, January 10.....	Team Photo and Cutline Due in IHSA Schools Center
Saturday, February 1	Sectionals
Tuesday, February 4.....	Deadline for Advancing Schools to Confirm Hotel Rooms
Thursday, February 6	State Final Packet Pick Up @ VIP Entrance of Grossinger Motors Arena- 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Friday, February 7.....	State Final Packet Pick Up @ Pepsi Ice Center @ 7:00 a.m.
Friday-Saturday, February 7-8	State Final @ Grossinger Motors Arena in Bloomington Tournament Central @ Pepsi Ice Center (Time Schedule Posted on IHSA.org)
Saturday, February 8	Season Ends
Wednesday, March 5, 2025.....	Competitive Cheerleading Advisory Committee Meeting

Future State Series Dates:

Sectionals

January 31, 2026
January 30, 2027
January 29, 2028

State

February 6-7, 2026
February 5-6, 2027
February 4-5, 2028

Terms and Conditions: The Terms and Conditions are the rules under which your school agreed to compete in the state series. The Terms and Conditions can be found online on at IHSA.org on the "Competitive Cheerleading" page under "Resources".

2024-2025 Rule Changes: Refer to the gray shaded areas of the Competitive Cheerleading State Series Terms and Conditions for any rule changes.

Sectional Assignment: Entered schools will be assigned to a sectional by the IHSA. Sectional assignments are available online at www.ihsa.org under the "Competitive Cheerleading" link - <https://www.ihsa.org/SportsActivities/CompetitiveCheerleading.aspx>. Click on "State Series Information & Results" and then "Assignments". Sectional assignments will be posted after the November entry deadlines.

List of Participants: To participate in the Competitive Cheerleading State Series, schools must complete the following information by midnight, Friday, December 13, 2024.

- IHSA List of Participants (LOP).

Schools should print a copy of each page of the online forms for their records and take them to the competition. If a school does not submit their online list of participants by the deadline, coaches and/or participants from that school are subject to penalties, which could include but not be limited to being ruled ineligible to coach or compete in the state series and/or charged \$100.00 for breach of contract.

Sectionals: Sectional level competitions will be held on Saturday, February 1 at various locations around the state. "Sectional Performance Order" for competition will be posted online on the "Competitive Cheerleading" menu page at IHSA.org under "State Series Information & Results". Schedules will be posted approximately two weeks prior to the Sectional and may be subject to change. A coaches meeting conducted by the assigned sectional manager will take place at each Sectional prior to each division.

Sectional Level Advancement of Winners & Awards: The top five (5) teams in each division shall advance from each sectional to the state final. The top team in each division from every sectional shall receive a sectional championship plaque.

Official's Assignments: Assignment of officials shall be made by the IHSA. The final assignments will be electronically sent to the host school managers through their IHSA Schools Center. Coaches are reminded to rate officials and update their top 15 list of officials throughout the season.



Future Sectional Host Sites: Schools interested in being a host site can enter information through the IHSA Schools Center under "Host Availability" or contact the IHSA at ccarr@ihsa.org.

Official Assignments: Assignment of officials shall be made by the IHSA. The final assignments will be electronically sent to the host school managers through their IHSA Schools Center.

State Final Information: Coaches can pick up team packets on Thursday, February 6, 2025 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the VIP entrance of the Arena. The arena will be available for viewing during this time at the concourse level only. On Friday and Saturday, tournament central will in the Pepsi Ice Center connected to the arena and coaches can pick up team packets after 7:00 a.m. on Friday, February 7, 2025.

State Final Souvenir Merchandise will be available for purchase in the concourse of the Arena on Friday and Saturday.

State Final Structure:

Friday: Preliminary rounds of competition in all four divisions with the top ten (10) teams in each division advancing to finals.

Saturday: Final rounds of competition in all four divisions with the top (3) teams being awarded.

State Final Awards: An awards ceremony will be conducted at the conclusion of each division on Saturday.

State Final

Small Division: 1st through 3rd places – team trophy and medals

Medium Division: 1st through 3rd places – team trophy and medals

Large Division: 1st through 3rd places – team trophy and medals

Coed Division: 1st through 3rd places – team trophy and medals

Sportsmanship award(s) will be sent to the school(s) that display exemplary sportsmanship throughout the state series.

Music Provider: Calvin Buado from Double B Entertainment will be the official provider of the state final warm up and competition music equipment. Questions regarding music can be directed to calvincornel@gmail.com.



Competitive Cheerleading Scoresheet

Sectional School: _____

State Division: _____

Official Name and ID Number: _____

COMPETITION CATEGORY	TEAM SCORE	COMMENTS
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JUMPS

Difficulty 10 pts. _____

Execution 5 pts. _____

TUMBLING

Difficulty 10 pts. _____

Execution 5 pts. _____

PYRAMIDS/TOSSES

Difficulty 10 pts. _____

Execution 5 pts. _____

PARTNER STUNTS

Difficulty 10 pts. _____

Execution 5 pts. _____

MOTIONS/DANCE

10 pts. _____

PROJECTION/SHOWMANSHIP

10 pts. _____

SKILL UTILIZATION

10 pts. _____

ROUTINE COMPOSITION

10 pts. _____

RAW SCORE _____ /100 PTS.

— **DEDUCTIONS** _____

— **LEGALITIES** _____

TOTAL _____ /100 PTS.





IHSA COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING Score Sheet Rubric

Degree of difficulty ranges are based on a *majority* of the team performing skills within each level. Placement within a specific range is determined by the difficulty of the skills performed, the percentage of athletes performing the skills, and additional skills performed above the level of difficulty achieved by the team. Not performing a majority of any skill in a given category will result in a difficulty score of 5-6.

Difficulty Rubric

JUMPS

Additional jumps, beyond those credited to degree of difficulty, will be rewarded in the skill utilization category.

LEVEL 1: 6-7	LEVEL 2: 7-8	LEVEL 3: 8-9	LEVEL 4: 9-10
-Two different advanced* jumps • One full team synchronized advanced* jump	-Two different advanced* jumps including • One full team synchronized advanced* jump	-Three different advanced* jumps including • One full team synchronized advanced* jump • One combination jump	-Three different advanced* jumps including • One full team synchronized advanced* combination jump

*Advanced Jumps include: herkie, side hurdler, front hurdler, toe touch, pike, double nine, around the world

TUMBLING - Standing or Running

The degree of difficulty will be based on the number of individual athletes completing tumbling skills in the same section. Additional tumbling skills, beyond those credited to degree of difficulty, will be rewarded in the Skill Utilization category.

LEVEL 1: 6-7	LEVEL 2: 7-8	LEVEL 3: 8-9	LEVEL 4: 9-10
-Basic roll (forward or backward) -Handstand -Cartwheel -Roundoff -Front or back walkover	-Front handspring -Running or standing back handspring -Aerial cartwheel -Advanced jump to back handspring	-Front aerial walkover -Punch front -Running or standing tuck -Running or standing pike -Advanced single jump to back tuck	-Advanced combination jump to back tuck -Specialty passes with two or more no handed skills -Running or standing layout -Running or standing full

PYRAMIDS OR TOSSES

If both Pyramids and Tosses are performed, the degree of difficulty will be based on the skill (either pyramid or toss) that has the highest difficulty. Additional skills will be rewarded in the Skill Utilization category.

LEVEL 1: 6-7	LEVEL 2: 7-8	LEVEL 3: 8-9	LEVEL 4: 9-10
-Pyramid must include: • One extended single leg position • One release transition and/or -Straight ride or one skill toss	-Pyramid must include: • One extended single leg position • One release that ends in an extended position and/or -Two skill toss	-Pyramid must include: • Two extended single leg structures • Two release transitions - one that ends in an extended single leg position and/or -Two skill toss including a twist	-Pyramid must include: • Three extended single leg structures • A variety of top people in extended single leg positions • Two release transitions - one inversion AND one that ends in an extended single leg position and/or -Three skills toss including a twist

PARTNER STUNTS

Additional partner stunt skills, beyond those credited to degree of difficulty, will be rewarded in the Skill Utilization category.

<p>LEVEL 1: 6-7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Intermediate level partner stunts -Prep level skills -Extensions -1/4 or 1/2 up to prep level -1/4 or 1/2 up to extended skill -Full up to prep level 	<p>LEVEL 2: 7-8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -High to low tick-tock -Low to low full around -Ground inversion to prep -Extended single leg skill with a full twisting dismount -Switch up, quick toss, 1/4 up, 1/2 up to extended level with one advanced body position* -Prep level inversion to extended single leg skill -Toss ball up to extension -Unassisted single base prep level skills 	<p>LEVEL 3: 8-9</p> <p>Must demonstrate a Level 3 skill with two (2) different extended advanced body positions* AND a full twisting dismount from an extended advanced body position or a single based extended stunt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Toss ball up to advanced body position -Switch up to advanced body position -Switch up with 1/4 turn to extended single leg skill -Full up to extension -Ground inversion to extended -Ground level inversion release to prep -Low to high tick-tock beginning in a liberty -Low to high full arounds -Low to high tick-tock 1/2 twist to liberty -Prep level inversion release to extension -Assisted single base extended skill 	<p>LEVEL 4: 9-10</p> <p>Must demonstrate two (2) different Level 4 skills with three (3) different extended advanced body positions* AND a full twisting dismount from an extended advanced body positions or a single based extended stunt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Toss ball full up to extended -Switch up with at least a 1/2 twist to an extended advanced body position -Full up to an extended single leg skill -1 1/2 up to extended -Low to high tick-tock advanced to advanced body position -High to high tick-tock -Low to high full around to an extended single leg skill -High to high full arounds -Prep level inversion release to extended single leg skill -Ground level inversion release to extended -Cradle/horizontal position release to extended -Double up to extended -Unassisted single base extended skill
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**Please note: Lists of stunts are not all inclusive **

*Extended advanced body positions include: Arabesque, heel stretch, over stretch, bow and arrow, scale, scorpion, needle etc. . .

MOTIONS and DANCE

Technique = A team's effectiveness in demonstrating proper form, synchronization, precision, and uniformity. Errors that distract from the performance will also be included.

<p>LEVEL 1: 6-7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Below average level of technique -Little to no visual effects* -Slow pace 	<p>LEVEL 2: 7-8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Below average level of technique -Basic visual effects* -Average pace 	<p>LEVEL 3: 8-9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Average level of technique -Multiple visual effects* -Fast pace 	<p>LEVEL 4: 9-10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Above average level of technique -Multiple visual effects* -Variety of motions and dance -Full team incorporated -Fast pace
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*Visual effects include: Level changes, ripples, transitions, movements, foot and floor work, etc. . .

Additional Routine Components

PROJECTION and SHOWMANSHIP

A team's ability to demonstrate natural expressions to make the routine appear effortless within their ability level. Ability to capture the crowd and demonstrate genuine enthusiasm, energy, and confidence. Use of appropriate volume relative to number of athletes, inflection, enunciation, pace, smiles, spirit, facial expressions, and poise.

LEVEL 1: 6-7	LEVEL 2: 7-8	LEVEL 3: 8-9	LEVEL 4: 9-10
-Words are hard to hear or understand in cheer -Team lacks a natural energy and fun expression for the majority of the routine -The team lacks energy and enthusiasm during their skills, transitions and other routine elements	-Words are somewhat clear and loud for less than majority of the routine -Team has a natural energy and fun expression for less than the majority of the routine -The team has energy and enthusiasm through less than the majority of their skills, transitions and other routine elements	-Words are clear and loud for the majority of the routine -Team has a natural energy and fun expression for the majority of the routine -The team has energy and enthusiasm for the majority of the skills, transitions and other routine elements	-Words are clear and voices are loud for most of the cheer -Team has a natural energy and fun expression for most of the routine -The team has energy and enthusiasm for the majority of the skills, transitions and other routine elements

SKILL UTILIZATION

A team's effective use of additional skills throughout the routine, beyond those credited to degree of difficulty. Maximizing the use of athletes.

LEVEL 1: 6-7	LEVEL 2: 7-8	LEVEL 3: 8-9	LEVEL 4: 9-10
-Athletes not utilized effectively throughout most of the routine -Additional skills performed distract from routine -The team only demonstrates skills that get them into a skill-based rubric range	-Many times, throughout the routine athletes, are not utilized effectively -Additional skills performed distract from routine -The team demonstrates more than the required skills defined in 1 skill based rubric category	- Three to four times throughout the routine athletes are not utilized effectively - The team demonstrates more than the required skills defined in 2 skill based rubric categories	-One to two times throughout the routine athletes are not utilized effectively -The team demonstrates more than the required skills defined in 3 skill based rubric categories -Additional skills enhance the overall routine

ROUTINE COMPOSITION

A team's ability to demonstrate precise spacing and seamless patterns of movement throughout the routine, as well as, incorporation of visual, innovative, and intricate ideas to enhance the overall appeal.

LEVEL 1: 6-7	LEVEL 2: 7-8	LEVEL 3: 8-9	LEVEL 4: 9-10
-Transitions have a slow pace, with down time between the majority of routine elements -Most transitions utilize ineffective pathways, where athletes do not move easily across the mat -Spacing issues on most of the formations -Little to no creative elements -Visual/creative elements distract from overall appeal	-The routine is set at moderate pace, with down time between several routine elements -Some transitions utilize effective pathways where athletes easily move across the mat -Spacing issues on several formations -Several creative elements performed during the routine -Visual/creative elements minimally enhance the overall appeal	-The routine is set at a fast pace, with little down time between a few routine elements -Most transitions utilize effective pathways where athletes easily move across the mat -Spacing issues on a few formations -Creative elements performed during the majority of the routine -Visual/creative elements moderately enhance the overall appeal	-Routine maintains a fast pace, with little to no down time between routine elements -Most transitions utilize effective pathways where athletes easily move across the mat -Precise spacing throughout routine -Creative elements performed throughout the entire routine -Maximized visual/creative elements to enhance the overall appeal



IHSA COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING

Execution Rubric

JUMPS

Technique = A team's effectiveness in demonstrating proper form (body, leg, and arm positions; approach; height; flexibility; landing), uniformity and synchronization.

Below Level: 2-3	Average Level: 3-4	Above Level: 4-5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Less than the majority of jump preps are the same -Less than majority of the team have uniform arm and leg positions while in the air -Less than the majority of the team lands jumps with feet together -Less than the majority of the team has level or above level jumps -Less than the majority of jumps are synched 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Majority of jump preps are uniform -Majority of the team have uniform arm and leg positions while in the air -Majority of the team lands jumps with feet together -Majority of jumps are at level -Majority of jumps are synched 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Most jump preps are uniform -Most of the team have uniform arm and leg positions while in the air -Most of the team lands jumps with feet together -Most jumps are at or above level -All jumps are synched

TUMBLING

Technique = A team's effectiveness in demonstrating proper form (body, leg and arm positions; control; entry; landing), speed, uniformity and synchronization.

Below Level: 2-3	Average Level: 3-4	Above Level: 4-5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Less than the majority of athletes start and end with feet together -Less than majority of athletes have proper form and body lines during skills -Less than the majority of athletes do not have movement after landing pass (hops, steps etc.) -Less than the majority of the team has a consistent speed/increase in speed during skills -Less than the majority of athletes' connections are smooth and controlled 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Majority of athletes start and end with feet together -Majority of athletes have proper form and body lines during skills -Majority of athletes do not have movement after landing pass (hops, steps etc.) -Majority of the team has a consistent speed/increase in speed during skills -Majority of athletes' connections are smooth and controlled 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Most athletes start and end with feet together -Most athletes have proper form and body lines during skills -Most athletes do not have movement after landing pass (hops, steps etc.) -Most of the team has a consistent speed/increase in speed during skills -Most connections are smooth and controlled

IHSA COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING

Execution Rubric

PYRAMIDS or TOSSES

Pyramids Technique = A team's effectiveness in demonstrating proper form (body alignment, flexibility, control), timing, synchronization and power of structures, transitions, releases, and dismounts. Bobbles, balance checks, early cradles and errors that distract from the performance will be factored. Tosses Technique = A team's effectiveness in demonstrating proper form (body alignment, control, height, precision, catch) and synchronization.

Below Level: 2-3	Average Level: 3-4	Above Level: 4-5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Less than the majority of skills and releases in pyramid are executed to the top -Less than the majority of bases have little to no movement under skills -Less than the majority of pyramid skills are executed the same when different groups do the same skill -Less than the majority of top persons have uniform body control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Majority of skills and releases in pyramid are executed to the top -Majority of bases have little to no movement under skills -Majority of pyramid skills are executed the same when different groups do the same skill -Majority of top persons have uniform body control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Most skills and releases in pyramid are executed to the top -Most bases have little to no movement under skills -Most pyramid skills are executed the same when different groups do the same skill -Most top persons have uniform body control
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Less than the majority of bases have little to no movement during toss prep -Less than the majority of bases move in a path that indicates correct execution of the toss -Less than the majority of tosses are executed the same when different groups do the same skill -Less than the majority of top persons have uniform body control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Majority of bases have little to no movement during toss prep -Majority of bases move in a path that indicates correct execution of the toss -Majority of tosses are executed the same when different groups do the same skill -Majority of top persons have uniform body control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Most of the bases have little to no movement during toss prep -Most of bases move in a path that indicates correct execution of the toss -Most of tosses are executed the same when different groups do the same skill -Most of top persons have uniform body control

Partner Stunts

Technique = A team's effectiveness in demonstrating proper form (body alignment, flexibility, control), timing, uniformity, precision, power, and synchronization of stunts and dismounts. Bobbles, balance checks, early cradles and errors that distract from the performance will also be factored.

Below Level: 2-3	Average Level: 3-4	Above Level: 4-5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Less than the majority of bases have little to no movement under stunts -Less than the majority of the skills are executed the same when different groups do the same skill -Less than the majority of top persons have uniform body control -Less than the majority of top persons have uniform flexibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Majority of bases have little to no movement under stunts -Majority of the skills are executed the same when different groups do the same skill -Majority of top persons have uniform body control -Majority of top persons have uniform flexibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Most bases have little to no movement under stunts -Most of the skills are executed the same when different groups do the same skill -Most top persons have uniform body control -Most top persons have uniform flexibility



IHSA COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING

Definitions and Scoring Tools

DEFINITIONS As of: 7-26-23

Advanced Body Positions: Front, side and back flexibility with foot at or above waist level. (Examples: heel stretch, over stretch, bow and arrow, scale, arabesque, scorpion, needle, etc...). Torch, liberty, platform or target are not advanced body positions.

Assisted Single Base Stunt: Any stunt in which one base supports the weight of a top person(s) with hands-on assistance from a spotter any time during the stunt prior to the descent of the top person during a dismount.

Combination Jump: Continuous body movement between jumps with no more than 2 counts separating each jump. (Examples: double toe touch equals 2 jumps and 1 variety, and left hurdler/right hurdler combo equals 2 jumps and 2 variety).

Comparative Scoring: For each routine, scoring within a range is comparative to all routines performed in the same division on the same day.

Full Team Synchronized Jump: All athletes must perform the same jump.

Incomplete Tumbling Skill: Hands touch down on tumbling or tumbling lands on knees or other body parts.

Jump-Tumble Combination (Tumbling Levels 2, 3 and 4): The degree of difficulty of these skills will be scored in the tumbling rubric. The execution of the jump will be scored as jump execution. The execution of the tumbling skill will be scored in tumbling execution.

Major stunt fall: A top person lands on the performing surface in a compromising position.

Majority: 51% or more than half of the athletes.

Missed Stunt Skill: A building skill that falls during the skill. (Examples: drop from an individual stunt to a load, cradle, flatback, or unstable position; two body parts on the performing surface; a top person brought to the performance surface in a controlled manner (bear hug/melt down) before the skill ends; a top person falling on top of a spotter/base who is on the performing surface.)

Most: Nearly all of the athletes.

Performance based legality: A skill that is initiated legally however, due to improper execution, the skill becomes illegal.

Pyramid collapse: Two or more connected stunts falling. If multiple tops fall in the same pyramid but are not in direct connection, this deduction still applies.

Structure: A place in a pyramid when a top person connects and pauses to show a defined position. This is also referred to as a picture.

Unassisted Single Base Stunt: Any stunt in which one base supports the weight of a top person(s) without hands-on assistance from a spotter until the descent of the top person during a dismount.

ADDITIONAL ROUTINE COMPONENTS

Projection/Showmanship: A team's ability to demonstrate natural expressions to make the routine appear effortless within their ability level. Ability to capture the crowd and demonstrate genuine enthusiasm, energy, and confidence. Use of appropriate volume relative to number of athletes, inflection, enunciation, pace, smiles, spirit, facial expressions, and poise maintained throughout the entire routine.

Routine Composition: A team's ability to demonstrate precise spacing and quick, seamless transitions of movement that flow effectively throughout the routine. The incorporation of visual, innovative and intricate elements to enhance overall appeal.

Skill Utilization: The effective use of athletes throughout a routine. Use of additional skills beyond those credited to degree of difficulty. How well a team maximized the use of athletes.

GENERAL SCORING GUIDELINES

Degree of difficulty ranges are based on a majority of the team performing skills within each level. Placement within a specific range is determined by the difficulty of the skills performed, the percentage of athletes performing the skills, and additional skills performed above the level of difficulty achieved by the team. Performing less than majority of any skill in a given category will result in a difficulty score of 5.0-6.0. Not performing any skill in a given category will result in a score of 0.

Full twisting dismount: If full twisting dismount is achieved by one less than majority of team for level 3 or 4 due to a performance error, teams will only drop 1 level of Degree of Difficulty.

NFHS Legalities:

Multiple stunt groups and/or multiple individual skills that are illegal and performed in the same section = 1 deduction per article (major or minor)

Multiple stunt groups and/or multiple individual skills that are illegal and performed in different sections = 1 deduction per article AND per occurrence (major or minor)



Competitive Cheerleading Legalities

School _____ Division _____ Official _____

Please cite the NFHS rule violation and the time/part in routine in which the violation occurred.

MINOR NFHS VIOLATION:

Rule Infraction	Warning	Rule Number	x (1)
_____		_____	_____
_____		_____	_____
_____		_____	_____
_____		_____	_____

Examples: NFHS Spirit Rules Book; 2.1.5 Hair; 3.1.1 Jewelry; 3.10 Props; Performance based legalities, etc...

MAJOR NFHS VIOLATION:

Rule Infraction	Warning	Rule Number	x (5)
_____		_____	_____
_____		_____	_____
_____		_____	_____
_____		_____	_____

Examples: NFHS Spirit Rules Book 3.3.6 Illegal release inversion; 3.7.4 No back spot for a cradle from an extended stunt, etc. . .

	TOTAL LEGALITY DEDUCTIONS:
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Competitive Cheerleading Deductions

School _____ Division _____

Official _____

Please cite the violation and the time/part in routine

DEDUCTION CATEGORY	NUMBER OF DEDUCTIONS	DEDUCTION TOTAL
Music Time – 2:00	Overtime _____ - 1	
Total Time – 3 min.	Overtime _____ - 1	
Incomplete Tumbling Skill <i>Examples: Tumbling lands on feet then touches hands</i> <i>Tumbling lands on feet then falls to another part of body</i>	_____ x .25 _____ x .50	
Missed Stunt Skill <i>Examples: Building skill that falls, twisting dismounts to stomach</i> <i>Pyramid Collapse</i>	_____ x 1 _____ x 2	
Major Stunt Fall <i>Example: Top person lands on the performing surface in a compromising position</i>	_____ x 2	
IHSA Terms & Conditions Violations Boundary Violation <i>Example: One body part completely off mat</i>	_____ x 1 _____ x .25	
	TOTAL POINT DEDUCTIONS:	

ONLINE LIST OF PARTICIPANTS INSTRUCTIONS

Schools must complete the online *List of Participants* (LOP) to enter eligible coaches and team members into the IHSA State Series. Contact your athletic director for your IHSA Schools Center login and password. The List of Participant deadline is midnight on Friday, December 13, 2024. IHSA will provide this data to your sectional manager. For changes after the deadline contact ccarr@ihsa.org.

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) Go to www.ihsa.org
- 2) Click on "School & Officials Center Login"
- 3) Enter your "User ID" (5 digits, a letter followed by a number) and "Password" (issued to you by your school/athletic director). Coaches must have a valid email on file in the IHSA School's Center to be issued a password. Passwords are generated via your athletic administrator.
- 4) Click on "Sport & Activity Tracker"
- 5) Click on the "Competitive Cheerleading List of Participants"
- 6) Click on "1. Instructions" – read instructions.
- 7) Click on "2. Coaches" – list all eligible coaches that can receive coaching credentials
- 8) Click on "3. Roster" – list entire allowable roster
- 9) Type in all requested information and save and print all page(s) for your records
- 10) Print each page of the report for your records by using ctrl key+P on the keyboard
- 11) After the deadline, you will not have access to these forms
- 12) Click on "Certify & Submit" by Friday, December 13, 2024

This information (names of coaches and participants) is used by the sectional hosts and the IHSA to prepare for the state series. This information will also be used in the state final program. Please double check spellings for accuracy.

If you experience any problems with the IHSA Schools Center or the List of Participants, please contact Carol Carr at the IHSA - 309-663-6377 - ccarr@ihsa.org.

LIST OF PARTICIPANT DEADLINE:

Friday, December 13, 2024 @ Midnight

Note: Team photo and cutlines are due on Wednesday, December 13, 2024.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem pulling in coaches names from the drop-down menu?

If a coach on your coaching staff doesn't appear in the drop-down menu in the list of participants, check the following in the IHSA Schools Center under the staff responsibility page:

- 1) Has he/she been designated as the head coach or an assistant coach?
- 2) Does it indicate how the coach is certified to coach?
- 3) Does your coach have a completion date listed for the PES examination?
- 4) Has your coach completed the concussion exam requirement?

If any of the above information is missing, he/she will not be able to add their name to the online list of participants and/or be issued a coaching credentials during the state final. Please contact your local athletic administrator to confirm compliance with the IHSA coaching bylaw 2.070. https://www.ihsa.org/documents/forms/current/IHSA_Handbook.pdf



Reasons for the "Red Box" to appear in the Sport/Activity Tracker:

School hasn't completed the "Certify & Submit" page. Go back and click "Certify and Submit".

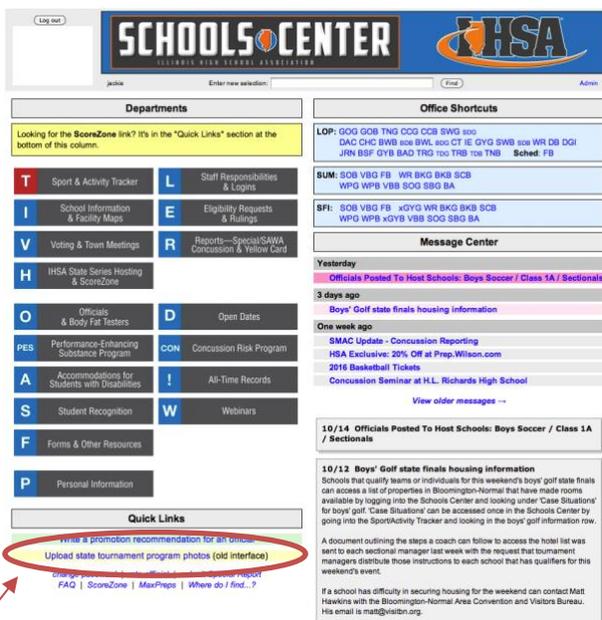
Verification of IHSA Receiving List of Participants:

Print a copy of your entries (ctrl key+P on the keyboard) prior to clicking the "Certify & Submit" button. This is verification of your entries to take with you to competition. You will not have access to this page, if you try to print it after the deadline. Make sure you click the "Certify & Submit" link so you will not receive unnecessary reminders from the IHSA office regarding not receiving your List of Participants.

Once the process is complete and the deadline date approaches, the IHSA Schools Center Activity Tracker will show that the deadline has passed. This does not mean your school didn't complete the List of Participants. It means the IHSA office has imported all rosters and is in the process of preparing the files for the host manager of your sectional.

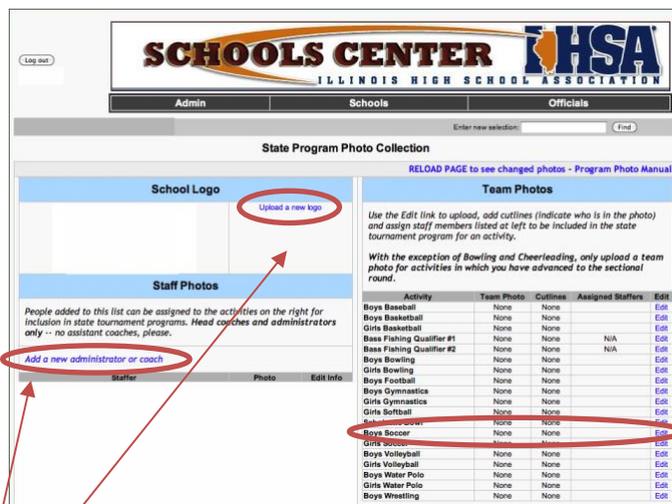
Any changes to the original List of Participants entries must be made online through the password protected IHSA Schools Center prior to midnight on Friday, December 13, 2024.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING PHOTOS



1. Sign into the Schools Center. Choose: Upload state tournament program photos here.
NOTE: Only your administrative staff has access to this link.

Submit your photos by uploading them in the Schools Center.



2. Upload the School logo in .jpg format.
3. Add administrators and coaches. Choose: Add a new administrator or coach. You will want to do this before adding team photos. (If your sport/activity does not include administrators or coaches in the program, you can skip this step and start uploading your team photo.) Follow the step-by-step instructions, making sure that you **save the photos and information**. Do not use all capital letters.
4. Upload your team photo. Choose The Edit button that corresponds with your sport/activity.
 - a. Following the instructions upload your team photo. **Save changes**.
 - b. Assign staff members. Use the pull-down menus to assign staff members to be included in this program. **Save changes to staff assignments**. (If no administrators or coaches are included in the program, you can skip this step.)
 - c. Add your cutlines. List individuals (first and last name) in each row. Do not use all capital letters. Do not include numbers, year in school, etc. Please use the following to designate supervisors in the photo: Head Coach John Smith, Asst. Coach Billy Bob, Mgr. Jane Doe. **Save changes to cutlines**.
5. Go to School Photos Menu. Check to make sure you have included all photos and cutlines for this sport/activity. If everything is correct, you can exit the Schools Center. Make sure that you have completed all other state final information for the program.

If you have any questions, please call **Carol Carr**
– 309-663-6377 or email ccarr@ihsa.org

Photos are due by January 10, 2025

If you have any questions, please call **Carol Carr** – 309-663-6377
or email- ccarr@ihsa.org



Information for Schools Advancing to the 2024-25 IHSA Competitive Cheerleading State Final

- | 1. Contacts | Position | Phone | Email |
|-----------------|---|----------------|--|
| Susie Knoblauch | Assistant Executive Director | 309-663-6377 | sknoblauch@ihsa.org |
| Carol Carr | Administrative Assistant | 309-663-6377 | ccarr@ihsa.org |
| Matt Jensen | IHSA Administrator Responsible for Technology | 309-663-6377 | mjensen@ihsa.org |
| Matt Troha | IHSA Administrator Responsible for Media | 309-663-6377 | mtroha@ihsa.org |
| Crystal Howard | Bloomington-Normal Convention and Visitors Bureau, Director | 1-800-433-8226 | crystal@visitbn.org |
| Zach Dietmeier | Bloomington-Normal Convention and Visitors Bureau, Housing Director | | 1-800-433-8226 |
| | zach@visitbn.org | | |
| | Grossinger Motors Arena, Downtown Bloomington - State Final Site | 309-434-2843 | |
| | Grossinger Motors Arena Ticket Office | 309-434-2679 | |
- State Final Qualifier's Information:** State Final Qualifiers Information can be found under the Competitive Cheer menu page at www.ihsa.org under Resources. This information will highlight and review pertinent state final details.
 - State Final Dates:** The 19th annual IHSA Competitive Cheerleading Tournament will be held at the Grossinger Motors Arena, downtown Bloomington, on Friday and Saturday, February 7-8, 2025.
 - State Final Times:** Session 1 – Small & Medium Team Division begins at 9:00 a.m. and Session 2 – Large & Coed Team Division begins at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, February 7th. Session 3 – Small & Medium Team Division begins at 11:00 a.m. and Large & Coed Team Division begins at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 8th.

Warm-up order and performance times will be posted online on the Competitive Cheerleading menu page under "State Series Information & Results" at IHSA.org following the sectionals on Monday, February 3, 2025.
 - Packet Pick-Up:** On Thursday, February 6, coaches may check in & receive their information packets from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the VIP entrance of the arena. For those teams that do not check in on Thursday night, packets must be picked up Friday morning after 7:00 a.m. at registration located in the Pepsi Ice Center foyer. Only coaches/school representatives may pick up a team packet.
 - Coaches Meeting:** In lieu of an in-person coaches meeting prior to competition at the state final, a virtual coaches meeting will be conducted at 8 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to the state final.
 - Ticket Information:**
Ticket: \$12.00 per session
GoFan digital ticketing is not available at the State Final. Bloomington Arena may make digital tickets for sale. The IHSA has no control over any convenience fees charged for these digital tickets.
 - Hotels:** School authorities from each participating school must make their own room reservations. The IHSA has courtesy blocks of rooms with a preferred group rate for the state final. A school representative must call to confirm hotel rooms by the deadline of midnight on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, identifying themselves as an IHSA state qualifying cheer team. Rooms will be released to the public following the deadline. A list of these reserved hotels can be found in this manual and online on the competitive cheerleading menu page. Schools are responsible for all housing expenses.

The IHSA Competitive Cheerleading website contains information from the Bloomington-Normal Area Convention and Visitors Bureau <http://www.visitbn.org/>. Fans are encouraged to visit the site or call the Bureau at (1-800-433-8226) for any additional available rooms and information.
 - Visual Image Photography (VIP):** VIP is the official photographer of the IHSA State Finals and will be on site to take pictures of competition. Photos can be viewed and purchased online at <http://photos.vipis.com/state-finals>.
 - State Final Merchandise:** State final merchandise will be available for purchase from Minerva Sportswear located in the concourse of the arena during the Competitive Cheerleading State Final <https://www.minervapromotions.com/stores/ihsa/girls-sports/competitive-cheerleading.html>.



ADDITIONAL AWARDS ORDER FORM

- 1.) Please print and complete this form with Official Representative Signature.
2.) Please email completed form to Cheryl Lowery @ (clowery@ihsa.org).
3.) From this form, an invoice will be generated and emailed back to the school email address supplied.
4.) From the Invoice, mail invoice to the awards company with payment for awards

This form is to be used only if the school is purchasing awards for one of the following reasons (Check one)
Team Roster Exceeds the number allowed in the T&C's
Dual Campus
Broken-Replacement
Coop School
Lost-Replacement
State Awards: Music Sweepstakes
Sport or Activity: Year: Qty.: Place:
Gender: Girls Boys Co-Ed
Classification: 1A 2A 3A 4A 5A 6A 7A 8A No Classification
A AA MUSIC SWEEPSTAKES ONLY
Level of Competition: Regional Sectional Super-Sectional State
1-5 (\$6.00) 6-12 (\$9.00) 13-24 (\$12.00) 25-above (\$14.00)

Type of Award:
Team Plaque
Team Trophy
Medal/Medallion
Sweepstakes Medallion
Badminton Gold Shuttlecock and/or Riser
Laser Trophy Plate
Replacement Trophy Plate w/o lasering
Bat, Tennis, Golf Club Replacement
Ind. Event Medals (indicate Event name):
Ordered By (Print):
Job Title: Principal A.D. Off. Rep. Coach
School Name:
School Address:
City, Zip:
Phone Number:
Email Address:
Official Representative Name (Printed):
Official Representative Signature:



ADDITIONAL AWARDS ORDER FORM

Once this form is completed and returned to the IHSA, an invoice attached will be provided to the email provided.

Invoice must accompany payment! The awards company refers to the invoice to process awards orders.

Duplicate/Replacement Awards will only be shipped to the school.

Duplicate Awards Orders must be approved by the School's Official Representative

Trophy Letters & Figurine Replacement: Schools who need replacement letters or figurine(s) for older model trophies, please contact A & M Products direct at 815-875-2667.

Contact A&M direct for pricing and availability: 2008-2017 Figure and Plate Replacement Pricing:

- Gold State Champion-top figure (#1)
Gold State Champion-side figure (#1)
Gold State Runner-up-top figure (#1)
Gold State Runner-up-side figure (#1)
Gold State 3rd/4th Place-top figure (#1)
State 3rd/4th Place Gold-side figure (#2)
Gold Girls Soccer-side figure 3rd/4th (#3)
Gold Music Lyre-side figure 3rd (#3)

Pricing for Schools (INCLUDING MUSIC SWEEPSTAKES) Shipping not included:

Table with 3 columns: Finish, State Medallion, Reg./Sect Medal. Rows include Goldtone (1st), Nickel Silver (2nd), and Copper (3rd & 4th).

State Medallions and Reg./Sect. Medal Shipping Costs: 1-5 = \$6.00

- 6-12 = \$9.00
13-24 = \$12.00
25-above = \$14.00

Plaque/Trophy Pricing for Schools (Shipping included):

Table with 2 columns: Description, Price. Rows include Regional Champion Plaque (AM-260), Sectional and Super-Sectional Champion Plaque (AM-261), Third/Fourth place trophy (AM-558), and Champion/Runner-Up (AM-557/AM-557-1).

Plate Replacement Pricing:

Table with 2 columns: Description, Price. Rows include Plate Engraving charge for State Final Trophy, Replacement Black Plate for SF Trophy w/o lasering, and Bat, Tennis, Golf Club Replacement for All Figurines.

IHSA State Final Miniature Replica Trophy Order Form

Remit Payment payable to A&M Products with this completed order Form.

Price includes UPS shipping the total order to one address.

Trophy Dimensions: 11" High x 8" wide. White Lasered Acrylic sport inset, Lasered IHSA Seal & Sport Plate



Name to Appear on Base Plate		
Name to Appear on Base Plate		
Name to Appear on Base Plate		
Name to Appear on Base Plate		
Name to Appear on Base Plate		
Name to Appear on Base Plate		
Name to Appear on Base Plate		
Name to Appear on Base Plate		
Name to Appear on Base Plate		
Name to Appear on Base Plate		
Name to Appear on Base Plate		

A&M Products

Contact: Andy Austin

Address: 575 Elm Place, P.O. Box 266

Princeton, IL 61356

Phone: (815) 875-2667

Fax: (815) 879-0400

Please make copies of the second page for additional personalization's.



Manager Information

2024-25 Academic School Year

Illinois High School Association



IHSA Competitive Cheerleading Sectional Checklist

Considerations in the selection of sectional hosts include: Host manager experience, location, gymnasiums, auxiliary gyms/fieldhouse, mats, seating capacity, and ADA compliance.

Once a school has been confirmed by the IHSA as a sectional host site, the following checklist can guide in planning.

PRE-SECTIONALS

- ____ 1. Confirm and secure facility and space availability.
- ____ 2. Review the IHSA Terms and Conditions and the Manual for Managers which covers the rules for competition and guidelines for hosting.
- ____ 3. Check facilities (quantity & quality of mats, officials' areas, spectator viewing, restrooms, parking, accessibility, etc...). Confirm the following:
 - Seating to accommodate fans
 - Space for teams, press, administrators, senior citizens and/or handicapped
 - Controlled entrances and exits in front of judges/spectators - Plan for fans going in and out of gym and school throughout the day
 - Check the location of the Automated External Defibrillator (AED). Host schools must have an AED available and on site at all IHSA post season contests
 - Parking for officials, buses and fans
 - Parking lot patrolled for safety & security - adequate lighting in parking lot if applicable
 - Homeroom for officials
 - Competition seating for officials. Space directly in front, behind or near officials should be secure to allow the officials space to work
 - Technology needs for officials and print clerk (computers, internet, power outlets)
 - Space for teams to check in
 - Homerooms/locker rooms for teams
 - Team warm up space
 - Adequate restrooms
 - Equipment for warm up and competition space (competition mats, PA, sound systems)
 - Posting area for announcements, performance order and results (online)
 - Streaming video of the competition
 - Space for concessions and IHSA licensed vendors
- ____ 4. Secure staff/volunteers to work the event. Confirm any maintenance/custodial and security needs.
- ____ 5. Hire/confirm event workers (timers, music provider, PA announcer, security, concessions, ticket gate, custodial, team & officials escorts, etc.).
- ____ 6. Approximately 1 month prior to sectionals, check IHSA.org "Competitive Cheerleading" menu page under "State Series Information & Results" for sectional assignments.
- ____ 7. Send communication to schools assigned to your sectional outlining sectional dates, times, locations, parking, and other logistical information.
- ____ 8. Secure and finalize flow of event (warm-up area, entrance/exits, matting, sound system, performance space, etc...).
- ____ 9. Approximately 2 weeks prior to sectionals, check your IHSA Schools Center site for a list of the officials assigned to your competition.
- ____ 10. Contact the head official assigned to your site to review logistics.



- ____ 11. Verify computer needs and internet access at your site (1 computer for each panel and head officials, 1 computer for the tech team and 1 computer for printing results = 6 total computers/1 printer).
- ____ 12. Assign specific event tasks and train workers/volunteers.
- ____ 13. Coordinate water, ice and athletic trainer(s) on duty.
- ____ 14. Coordinate hospitality for officials and volunteers.
- ____ 15. Coordinate that school personnel and event staff are easily identifiable on the day of competition.
- ____ 16. Discuss the option of creating sectional programs and/or video sales.
- ____ 17. Confirm receipt of IHSA awards – Check awards upon arrival (usually 1 week prior to sectional). Notify the IHSA office if there is any damage.
- ____ 18. Review PA Announcements included in the managers manual and prep for PA announcer.
- ____ 19. Set up area for working press.
- ____ 20. Inform local media of event and alert area visitor bureaus of the sectionals.
- ____ 21. Have a group e-mail or phone listing of school administrators and/or Coaches assigned to the sectional on file in case of emergencies.

SECTIONAL

- ____ 1. Make sure all necessary areas are unlocked, unobstructed and clean.
- ____ 2. Verify competition mats are clean & secure.
- ____ 3. Confirm that all necessary directional signage is in place (parking, entrances, exits, concessions, lost & found, athletic trainer, etc...).
- ____ 4. Have cash box ready for tickets and concessions.
- ____ 5. Verify internet access for official. Once officials arrive, check online scoring program.
- ____ 6. Conduct a sound check and provide PA materials.
- ____ 7. Confirm the athletic trainer & supplies on site.
- ____ 8. Provide water for teams and officials.
- ____ 9. Introduce all working staff to necessary parties and review Emergency Action Protocol (EAP) and plan (administrators, officials, athletic trainers, etc...) Review locations of AED.
- ____ 10. Start on time.
- ____ 11. Prepare for sectional awards after each division announcing the top 5 advancing teams and awarding the sectional champions.
- ____ 12. Suggested administrative items:
 - Table/chairs for tickets, team check-in, and officials
 - Computers with wifi, calculator
 - Pens, pencils, erasers, black sharpie/markers, highlighters, whiteout
 - Tape/rubber band /clipboards/printer paper



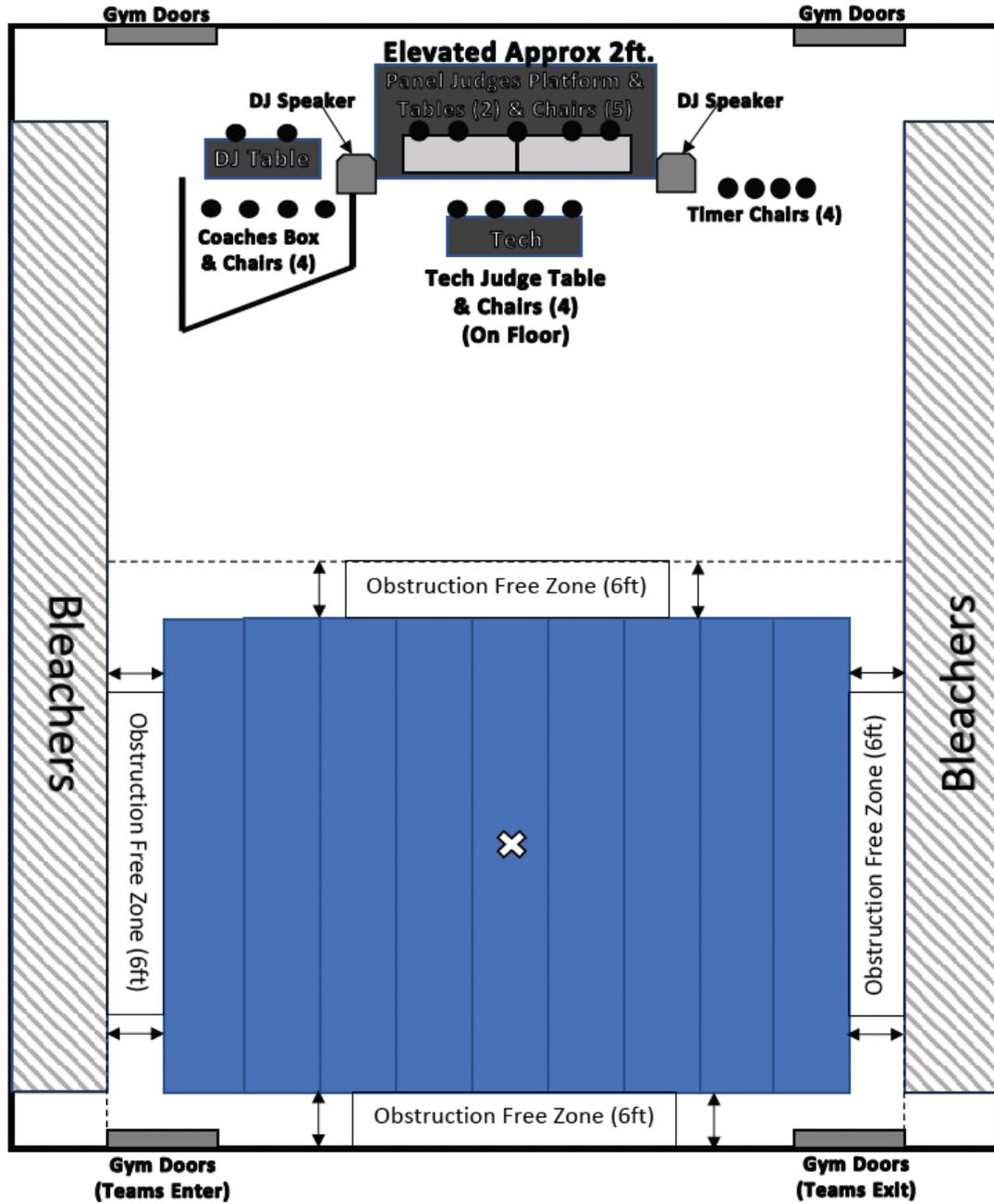
- Table/tablecloth for awards
- Athletic training supplies – water, ice/bags, scissors, first aid

POST SECTIONAL

- ____ 1. Sectional managers/designee distribute exit packets to teams including the team's scoresheet, deduction sheet, legality sheet and total team standings.
- ____ 2. Complete Winner Report via TourneyWire - Post online. (Note: Results can be posted after each division).
- ____ 3. Event clean up.
- ____ 4. Complete IHSA Financial Report (due 10 days after the completion of the sectional).

RECOMMENDED PERFORMANCE GYM LAYOUT FOR IHSA COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING SECTIONAL SITES

Note: Diagram not to scale





Managers Safety Information

School administrators, coaches and officials share a very important responsibility to the student athletes that are participating in the state series contest, to provide equipment, facilities and an environment that is as free of risk as possible. The concern for the health of our high school student athletes in our programs should be primary. Here are some reminders to ensure a healthy environment for competition.

Responsibility: Crowd supervision is critical. Administrators and other supervisors should observe the crowd and react quickly and reasonably when conduct becomes negative and drops below the level of expected behavior. To ignore inappropriate behavior by any spectator will only enable a person or people to continue in the same fashion.

The role of an official in this regard is with the competition. The role of the host school management is outside the lines/mats. Any act dangerous to others, is an unsafe behavior, incites participants or spectators to violent or abusive action, exhibits obscene gestures, or yells profanity and/or provocative type language toward an official, student-athlete, coach, spectator, bench and/or score table personnel is considered unsportsmanlike. Such undesirable behavior requires immediate attention by the officials and/or the host school/manager.

Procedure: If a situation occurs outside the lines, therefore outside the jurisdiction of the rulebook, the official shall instruct the host manager to take care of the problem. If possible, this should be done without stopping the competition/performances (i.e. between teams). If not possible, the official should stop competition until the host management takes care of the situation. If the manager, athletic director and/or local school principal is not in the gym, it becomes the responsibility of the host school coach.

The posting of the expected behavior at the gymnasium entrance always helps to clarify to everyone the host school's and the IHSA's expectation.

Prevention: Fans must be seated in an area that is carefully monitored. The IHSA suggests the first couple rows be reserved for senior citizen, handicapped seating, press or other teams. Space directly in front, behind or near officials should be secure to allow the officials an area free of fans to work. Officials should be escorted to and from the competition area and should have safe and secure access in and out of the competition.

IHSA Special Reports, Sport a Winning Attitude (SAWA) Reports. Officials Ratings and Top 15 Lists are all tools that schools and officials can use to report inappropriate behavior and recognize exemplary behavior.

Coaches Questions: Due to the time schedule of the sectional, officials do not have time to address coaches' individual questions. Coaches who have questions after competition can work through their athletic administrator and contact the IHSA office.



Instructions for Submitting Sectional Winner Report

Sectional Managers are required to complete the competitive cheerleading sectional winner report online in the immediately following the sectional tournament. For the IHSA Competitive Cheerleading competition, Winner Reports are submitted via the TourneyWire www.tourneywire.com tournament management program.

Following the awards assembly after every division, managers can go into TourneyWire and click the 'Post final results' button. Then scroll down, confirm the results, and click 'Post results'. After clicking this button, those results will be both posted on TourneyWire.com and marked as ready for the IHSA state tournament scheduler to use.

If you have any questions accessing tourneywire prior to your sectional, please call the IHSA Office 309-663-6377 M-F from 7:00 a.m.- 3:15 p.m. and ask for Carol Carr or e-mail ccarr@ihsa.org. If you have questions on the day of sectionals contact Ben Stewart - TourneyWire at support@tourneywire.com.

The IHSA Winners Report **MUST** be completed immediately after the conclusion of your sectional so state final programs can be prepared.



TOURNAMENT MANAGERS: This form must be completed to order the ties awarded earned during your Regional/Sectional Tournament.

PLEASE COMPLETE AND FAX THIS DO DOCUMENT AT THE CONCLUSION OF YOUR TOURNAMENT SO MEDALIST DON'T HAVE TO WAIT LONG FOR THEIR AWARD (S).

Please return UNUSED TOURNAMENT medals to A & M Products, 575 Elm Place, Princeton, IL 61356

Tournament Location: _____ Competition Level: _____ Reg _____ Sect _____
Sport/Activity: _____ Gender (check one) [] Girls. [] Boys [] Co-ed
Tournament Manager's Name: _____
Tournament Manager's Phone Number: _____
Tournament Manager's Email Address: _____
Classification (check one): 1A [] 2A [] 3A [] 4A [] 5A [] 6A [] 7A [] 8A [] Unclassified []

A&M Products will mail orders for "Ties" directly to the School(s) indicated below.

TEAM PLAQUE

Place: _____ Recipient Town: _____
School (Must supply both): _____

Individual Event Medal Tie Requests

(*Pole Vault, Discus, Diving, 100 yd. Butterfly, Singles, Doubles, 102 lb.; Speech: IE, etc.)

Recipient Town & School: _____
Name of Recipient: _____ Place: _____
Event Name*: _____
Recipient Town & School: _____
Name of Recipient: _____ Place: _____
Event Name*: _____
Recipient Town & School: _____
Name of Recipient: _____ Place: _____
Event Name*: _____
Recipient Town & School: _____
Name of Recipient: _____ Place: _____
Event Name*: _____

Fax (815) 879-0400 or email (OfficeAssistant@aandmproducts.com) this completed form



State Series Awards Delivery Information For Tournament Managers

1. Tournament Plaques/Trophies/Medallions will be shipped to the school sites directly from A & M Products via United Parcel Service. Please inform whoever receives your UPS deliveries to expect awards to arrive up to two weeks prior to the tournament and ask them to deliver the awards to you upon receipt. This is key in case we need to replace any damaged awards prior to your tournament.

STATE SERIES AWARDS WILL BE MARKED WITH A LIME GREEN LABEL SAYING "OPEN IMMEDIATELY"



UPON ARRIVAL – Please OPEN and INSPECT the awards upon arrival. Contact Andy Austin IMMEDIATELY (aaustinaandmproducts.com) for awards damage. Most awards can be replaced prior to the level of competition, if inspected upon arrival. A&M will submit a "damages claim" against the shipping company and cannot do so if the school waits months to make a claim after the tournament for a replacement. Any claims due to damages after the tournament will result in the school being billed for the replacement.

2. Be advised that **IHSA Tournament**, medals and plaques may be shipped separately and may not arrive at your tournament site on the same day. Please open boxes immediately to check contents, as medals **CAN** be in plaque boxes. **NOTE:** There are no medals given at Regional and/or Sectional Levels in the team sports of baseball, basketball, competitive cheerleading, football, soccer, softball and volleyball, and in the activities of Drama/Group Interpretation and scholastic bowl.
3. It is very likely that some awards (particularly trophies) will arrive in two or more boxes. They may not arrive on the same day but should be opened as they arrive.

Our awards supplier, A and M Products of Princeton, IL, often ships Regional and/or Sectional medals in the box with the plaque. **PLEASE CHECK THE PLAQUE BOXES CAREFULLY AND DO NOT DISCARD THEM UNTIL YOU HAVE DETERMINED THE MEDALS ARE NOT THERE!!**

4. Please check all trophies, plaques, etc.,
 - (1) Good condition and not damaged in any way.
 - (2) Awards are engraved with the proper sport, tournament level, year, etc.
 - (3) No missing medals/places

State Final Tournaments, medallions and trophies may be shipped separately and may not arrive at your tournament site on the same day. Please open boxes immediately to check contents, as medallions can be in trophy boxes.



General Information

2024-25 Academic School Year

Illinois High School Association

Emergency Action Plan (EAP)

In accordance with By-law 2.150, a school shall have on file for each student that participates (including practice) in interscholastic athletics a certificate of physical fitness issued by a licensed physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner as set forth in the Illinois State Statutes not more than 395 days preceding any date of participation in any such practice, contest or activity. As this By-law addresses pre-participation certification only, there is not a guideline or By-law in place to address release to interscholastic activity following an injury, with the exception of head injury/concussion. With the understanding that schools throughout the state have different needs and services available to them, this document was produced to provide guidelines on an athlete's return to activity following an injury.

Each school should have a written Emergency Action Plan (EAP) in place to address medical emergencies among athletes, staff, officials, and spectators, regardless of severity, occurring during a practice or competition. The plan should also address severe weather, fire, electrical failure, bomb threat, criminal behavior, or other possible emergencies. This plan should be developed to address the unique needs of the individual sport and venue.

EAP's should consist of the following components:

- Personnel
- Communication
- Equipment
- Emergency Medical Care
- Player Medical Information
- Game-day Responsibilities (includes appropriate sideline preparedness)
- Catastrophic Incident Plan

While each school's sports medicine/medical service needs and availability are different, guidelines should also be developed to assist the coaching staff on what injuries should be allowed to return to competition without a medical release. It is not practical to identify every situation or injury; however the following guidelines should assist the school/coaching staff on determining if the athlete should be allowed to return to activity without a release.

1. No swelling or deformity.
2. No headache, nausea, blurred vision, tingling, numbness or sensory changes.
3. Symmetrical (equal to the other side) joint range on motion and strength.
4. Ability to bear weight, without a limp, if injury occurs to the lower body.
5. Ability to complete full functional sporting activities without compensation.

Please remember that the majority of high school athletes are a minor. If there is a question as to their injury and ability to participate, the parents/guardian should be consulted.

Athletes that are unable to meet the above criteria should be encouraged to seek medical treatment prior to return to inter-scholastic activity. Those athletes that seek medical treatment should be required to provide a written medical release indicating their ability to participate. Without obtaining this release, the school may assume legal liability if the athlete is allowed to participate in activities not permitted by their medical provider.

A proper plan establishes accountability, should be comprehensive, yet flexible, practical, and easily understood. The written EAP must be revised, approved, distributed, and should be rehearsed regularly prior to every athletic season. The athletic department, administration, and sports medicine team share the responsibility to establish, practice, and execute the EAP.

A sample venue-specific is included as a part of this document, which was developed from portions of the third and fourth editions of National Federation of State High School Associations Sports Medicine Handbook. Persons interested in purchasing this handbook can do so at the following location: <http://www.nfhs.org/resources/publications/>



VENUE-SPECIFIC ACTION PLAN

VENUE

Sport: []
Location: []

EMERGENCY PERSONNEL

Present: []
On-Call: []

EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT LOCATION ON-SITE

Nearest AED: []
First Aid Kit: []
Items for proper care of blood-borne pathogens: []
Ice or chemical ice packs, water and towels: []
Player Medical Information: []
Other equipment as deemed necessary by local circumstances and qualifications of available personnel: []

COMMUNICATION

Access to 911: []
Access to on-call emergency medical personnel: []

ROLE OF FIRST ON THE SCENE:

- 1. Control scene (gain access to athlete)
2. Initial assessment (to determine breathing, consciousness, pulse status)
3. Detailed assessment (to determine extent of injury/illness)
4. Send designated coach to summon help if needed:
a. EMS: Call 911
b. Athletic Trainer: Call Athletic Training Room or Cell: []
5. Initiate immediate care to the sick or injured athlete

EMS ACCESS:

If EMS is called provide directions/access to scene
Directions to site/location: []

Open access gates
Designate individual to meet EMS at entrance



Sports Medicine

IHSAA Protocol for Implementation of NFHS Sports Playing Rule for Concussions

“Any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health care professional.”

The above language, which first appeared in all National Federation sports rule books for the 2010-11 school term, reflects a strengthening of rules regarding the safety of athletes suspected of having a concussion, but not a revision in primary responsibilities in these areas. Previous rules required officials to remove any athlete from play who was “unconscious or apparently unconscious.” This revised language reflects an increasing focus on safety, given that the vast majority of concussions do not involve a loss of consciousness. However, the revised language does not create a duty that officials are expected to perform a medical diagnosis. The change in rule simply calls for officials to be cognizant of athletes who display signs, symptoms, or behaviors of a concussion from the lists below and remove them from play.

NOTE: The persons who should be alert for such signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion in an athlete include appropriate healthcare professionals, coaches, officials, parents, teammates, and, if conscious, the athlete him/herself.

Definition of a Concussion

A concussion is a traumatic brain injury that interferes with normal brain function. An athlete does not have to lose consciousness (be “knocked out”) to have suffered a concussion.

Behavior or signs observed indicative of a possible concussion

- Loss of consciousness
- Appears dazed or stunned
- Appears confused
- Forgets plays
- Unsure of game, score, or opponent
- Moves clumsily
- Answers questions slowly
- Shows behavior or personality changes
- Can’t recall events prior to or after the injury

Symptoms reported by a player indicative of a possible concussion

- Headache
- Nausea
- Balance problems or dizziness
- Double or fuzzy vision
- Sensitivity to light or noise
- Feeling sluggish
- Feeling foggy or groggy
- Concentration or memory problems
- Confusion

This protocol is intended to provide the mechanics to follow during the course of contests/matches/events when an athlete sustains an apparent concussion. For the purposes of this policy, appropriate health care professionals are defined as: physicians licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois and certified athletic trainers.

1. During the pre-game conference of coaches and officials, the official shall remind the head coaches that a school-approved appropriate health care professional (who meets the description above) will need to clear for return to play any athlete removed from a contest for an apparent head injury.
2. The officials will have no role in determining concussion other than the obvious situation where a player is unconscious or apparently unconscious as is provided for under the previous rule. Officials will merely point out to a coach that a player is apparently injured and advise the coach that the player should be examined by the school-approved health care provider.
3. If it is confirmed by the school’s approved health care professional that the student did not sustain a concussion, the head coach may so advise the officials during an appropriate stoppage of play and the athlete may re-enter competition pursuant to the contest rules.
4. Otherwise, if an athlete cannot be cleared to return to play by a school-approved health care professional as defined in this protocol, that athlete may not be returned to competition that day and is then subject to his or her school’s Return to Play (RTP) protocols before the student-athlete can return to practice or competition.
5. Following the contest, a Special Report shall be filed by the contest official(s) with the IHSAA Office through the Officials Center.
6. In cases where an assigned IHSAA state finals event medical professional is present, his/her decision to not allow an athlete to return to competition may not be over-ruled.

Additional information regarding concussion has been made available to IHSAA member schools and licensed officials and can be accessed on the IHSAA Sports Medicine website at <http://www.ihsa.org/Resources/SportsMedicine.aspx>



Concussion Information

Return to Play (RTP) and Return to Learn (RTL)

Background: With the start of the 2010-11 school term, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) implemented a new national playing rule regarding potential head injuries. The rule requires “any player who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the game and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health care professional.” In applying that rule in Illinois, it has been determined that only certified athletic trainers, advanced practice nurses (APN), physician’s assistants (PA) and physicians licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois can clear an athlete to return to play the day of a contest in which the athlete has been removed from the contest for a possible head injury.

In 2015, the Illinois General Assembly passed the Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act, and this legislation, among other items, required schools to develop Concussion Oversight Teams and create Return to Play (RTP) and Return to Learn (RTL) protocols that student-athletes must meet prior to their full return to athletic or classroom activity.

Mandatory Concussion Education

Required concussion education for all athletic coaches and marching band directors is another component of the Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act passed by the Illinois General Assembly in the fall of 2015.

The IHSA program includes two video presentations and other supplementary materials that ALL high school athletic coaches, marching band directors, and Concussion Oversight Team members need to review prior to taking a required exam over the curriculum. Individuals will be required to demonstrate proficiency on the exam by scoring at least 80% in order to serve as an athletic coach or marching band director at an IHSA member school.

The program offers training in the subject matter of concussions, including evaluation, prevention, symptoms, risks, and long-term effects. Coaches will be able to access the program after logging into the IHSA Schools Center and clicking on the “CON” tab, which will be located under the ‘Departments’ heading on the Schools Center homepage.

For more information on the Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act, including specific requirements of the law and other concussion education providers besides IHSA, individuals can access Sports Medicine resources on the IHSA website at <http://www.ihsa.org/Resources/SportsMedicine.aspx>.

For those first adopters of this training, new curriculum from the IHSA/IESA is expected to be released in March of 2018 so those whose training will expire in 2018 will be able to remain in compliance with the law.



STUDENT MEDIA CREDENTIALS FOR PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Congratulations on qualifying for an IHSA state final in a team sport. In order to provide the best possible coverage of this event for your school newspaper, yearbook and AV club, etc. you are entitled to have up to three students receive credentials to cover this event as official media members. In the event that you have less than three students, an adult sponsor may be included on this list. To apply for student media credentials, please have your Athletic Director or an individual involved with the aforementioned programs email Matt Troha (mtroha@ihsa.org) at the IHSA with the following information:

- 1) The names of individuals attending
- 2) Whether they are students or adults
- 3) If the attending individuals will serve as reporters, photographers, videographers, etc.

Student media who are registering for credentials are expected to maintain a level of professionalism while covering this event. That includes no cheering while in the press box or game coverage area. Proper attire is also required. Wearing school shirts and colors is acceptable, but students wearing face paint, costumes, carrying props, etc. will be required to change before receiving credential clearance.

The individual applying for student media credentials will receive specific information on credential pick up and media regulations at the event via email in the days leading up to the state final.

Please note that student media credentials are only available for state final events in team sports. Due to the sheer volume of schools who qualify in individual sports, our press facilities would be unable to accommodate student media from all participating schools in individual sports. Student media are also welcome to cover IHSA state final activities. Credentials are not required for these events, but please have your students check-in with state final personnel upon arrival for media coverage regulations.

VIDEO TAPING STATE FINALS FOR COACH FILM BREAKDOWN

Each school will be eligible to receive a pass for an individual attending the state final event to shoot game film that is for the sole purpose of being used by the coaching staff for postgame breakdown. Passes for videographers shooting highlight videos, documentaries, etc. should be included in student media application reference above. Additional passes for videotaping purposes will need to come from the allotment of state final passes given to school/head coach at or prior to the state final event.

To apply for a credential to shoot video, please have your Athletic Director email Matt Troha (mtroha@ihsa.org) at the IHSA with the name of the individual who will be taping and whether they are an adult or a student.

Please contact Matt Troha (309-6336-377) at the IHSA or any questions related to this document.



INTERNET VIDEO BROADCASTING INFORMATION

The advent of greater broadcasting technology has brought about many new potential internet broadcasting partners who may contact you seeking to broadcast the postseason IHSA events you host.

The IHSA's official broadcast partner, the NFHS Network, has the first right to exclusively broadcast any postseason IHSA event. If your school streams on the NFHS Network, via either the School Broadcast Program or a fixed Pixellot camera system in your gym or stadium, then you are encouraged to exclusively stream any/all postseason games you host. Additionally, if an NFHS Network school competing in the postseason tournament you are hosting would like to broadcast on the NFHS Network, they should be given exclusivity to do so as well. The NFHS Network also partners with several third party media companies, who should be granted the same exclusivity to broadcast as a school.

If you as the postseason host are not an NFHS Network school, and no competing school contacts you about broadcasting on the NFHS Network, at that point, a third party can be granted the rights to broadcast the event on the internet. In this instance, a broadcast rights fee is due to the IHSA. The internet streaming fee schedule is listed below. Potential broadcasters should be directed to complete and submit the IHSA Broadcast Application form from the IHSA website (TV fee schedule also located in this application), which can be found here: www.ihsa.org/documents/media/Video%20Ap.pdf

If at any time you ever have questions on the fees or any other matters related to broadcasting or media, please email/call Matt Troha at the IHSA office (mtroha@ihsa.org or 309-663-6377).

INTERNET VIDEO BROADCAST RIGHTS FEE SCHEDULE

BOYS BASKETBALL

- Per Regional Game-\$125
Per Sectional Game-\$150
Per Super-Sectional Game-\$225

GIRLS BASKETBALL

- Per Regional Game-\$125
Per Sectional Game-\$150
Per Super-Sectional Game-\$225

FOOTBALL

- Per 1st Round Playoff Game-\$250
Per 2nd Round Playoff Game-\$325
Per Quarterfinal Playoff Game-\$400
Per Semifinal Playoff Game-\$475

ALL OTHER SPORTS

- Per Regional Game/Meet-\$75 Per Sectional Game/Meet-\$100
Per Super-Sectional Game/Meet-\$150

VOLLEYBALL

- Per Regional Game-\$100
Per Sectional Game-\$125
Per Super-Sectional Game-\$150

SWIMMING & DIVING

- Per Sectional Meet-\$250

TRACK & FIELD

- Per Sectional Meet-\$250

WRESTLING

- Per Regional meet-\$200
Per Sectional meet-\$325

Please contact Matt Troha (309-6336-377) at the IHSA or any questions related to this document.



Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (Drone) Policy

For IHSA Tournaments

Effective February 18, 2015

The use of unmanned aerial vehicles ("UAV"), also known as drones, is prohibited for any purpose by any persons at IHSA tournament venues. Tournament management shall refuse admission or entry to anyone attempting to use a UAV; and if necessary, tournament management shall remove anyone attempting to use a UAV and/or confiscate the UAV until the event has been completed.

For purposes of this policy, a UAV is any aircraft without a human pilot aboard the device.

An exception to this policy may be made in specific cases for IHSA broadcast partners, provided the management of the tournament facility permits the presence of UAVs for broadcast purposes under the control of the IHSA.



IHSA LICENSED VENDOR

SCHOOL INFORMATION:

Please read the entire Trademark Use and Royalty Policy for full disclosures.

- By virtue of membership, schools are granted a license to use the IHSA Trademarks on or in connection with IHSA State Series Events. Member schools may produce their own programs or merchandise in accordance with the terms of the Trademark Use and Royalty Policy.
- Any writing or merchandise produced in connection with IHSA State Series Events must conspicuously display the IHSA name and at least one logo.
- Member schools contracting with an outside vendor to have programs or merchandise produced in connection with IHSA State Series Events are required to use IHSA licensed vendors.
- Member schools advancing to an IHSA State Final and choosing to have merchandise produced in connection with that event, must use Minerva Sportswear. The IHSA has a contract with this company to be the exclusive IHSA State Final Merchandise Vendor.
- A member school may use any IHSA Licensed Vendor.
To see the approved list, visit the IHSA website at <http://www.ihsa.org/Resources/Merchandise/LicensedVendors.aspx>.

VENDOR INFORMATION:

Please read the entire Trademark Use and Royalty Policy for full disclosures.

- Any printed material or merchandise produced in connection with IHSA State Series Events, must conspicuously display the IHSA name and at least one logo.
- IHSA marks and logos can only be utilized by those who are granted a license by the IHSA.
- Member schools contracting with an outside vendor to have programs or merchandise produced in connection with IHSA State Series Events must use an approved IHSA licensed vendor.
- IHSA licensed vendors can sell licensed material to any IHSA member school.
- IHSA licensed vendors cannot produce merchandise in conjunction with an IHSA State Final. The IHSA has an exclusive State Final Merchandise Vendor contract.
- Licensed publication vendors pay the IHSA a 5% royalty of gross advertising sales, and licensed merchandise vendors pay the IHSA an 8% royalty of gross merchandise sales (based on sale of the finished product) - Royalty Report.
- For unlimited events, vendors can be licensed by the IHSA and utilize the IHSA name and logos for an entire year for a \$500 annual fee; or
- For limited events, vendors can be licensed by the IHSA and can utilize the IHSA name and logos for a single event, up to three events in a year, for \$50 per event or \$100 for three events.

Applying to be an IHSA Licensed Vendor (unlimited events):

1. Submit a completed Licensed Vendor Application for approval;
2. Once approved, sign the IHSA Vendor License Agreement; and
3. Pay the annual licensing fee of \$500.

Applying to be an IHSA Licensed Vendor (limited events):

1. Contact the IHSA office for approval;
2. Once approved, sign the IHSA Limited Use Vendor License Agreement; and
3. Pay the single event fee of \$50 or \$100 for three events.

For additional information regarding Licensing and Royalty, contact Tammy Craig at 309-663-6377, or visit the IHSA website at <http://www.ihsa.org/Resources/Merchandise/LicensedVendors.aspx>.

School's Responsibility: Sportsmanship



SCHOOL'S RESPONSIBILITY TO AN OFFICIAL PRIOR TO THE SEASON

1. Send a reminder card or email to the officials after you have them scheduled.
2. Reminder should include date of contest, time, level, location and sport. Even though many schools and conferences have assignment chairpersons, sending a reminder is highly recommended. When an official does not show, people in your community won't know who the assignment chairperson is, but they do know the athletic director. Avoid embarrassment.
3. Have a standard wage scale set for your different sports and levels and a method in place to raise the pay periodically.
4. If possible, let the working officials know who their partner(s) will be.
5. Hire police and security along with medical assistant or athletic trainer coverage for events whenever possible.
6. Set a policy with your school board on fan, coach and player behavior.
7. Make sure all officials have a contract that is signed by your school—preferably by the principal or IHSA Official Representative.

SCHOOL'S RESPONSIBILITY TO AN OFFICIAL PRIOR TO THE CONTEST

1. Prior to the contest, provide the officials with directions and inform them of any special activities that might be occurring (i.e., Homecoming, Senior Night, etc.)
2. Give the official a number they can call in case of an emergency or postponement due to weather.
3. Have competent workers assigned at all contests (scorers, announcers, chain crew, etc.). These people are of great assistance to the official during the contest.
4. Have a host assigned to meet the officials as they arrive. The host should do the following for the officials:
 - a. Provide a reserved parking space.
 - b. Meet officials and take them to the dressing room.
 - c. Have refreshments available for halftime and postgame.
 - d. Ask for any additional needs.
 - e. Introduce the officials to those game workers pertinent to the contest (i.e., scorer, announcer, chain gang, etc.).
 - f. Get the proper pronunciation of officials' names so they are correct when given by the public address announcer.
5. Athletic director should discuss with the officials any special events, conference rules, national anthem time, etc. that would affect the game.
6. Provide the officials with the name of the adult supervisor for that contest and where that person can be found in the event a challenging situation should occur.
7. Make officials aware of location of an athletic trainer or other first responders during the contest. Have a doctor on site when possible (especially at football contests).
8. Make sure all bench personnel are properly attired.
9. Do a check on game scoreboards and lighting systems prior to the game or contest.
10. Make sure the playing area is properly marked and meets National Federation guidelines for that contest.
11. Provide appropriate secured dressing area and hot water showering facilities.

SCHOOL'S RESPONSIBILITY TO AN OFFICIAL DURING THE CONTEST

1. Insist coaches display good sportsmanship and are proper examples for your players and crowd.
2. Have your public address announcer or cheerleader read the IHSA sportsmanship statement and remain unbiased during contest.
3. Make sure the event supervisor understands the duties and responsibilities pertinent to that contest.
4. Make sure the playing area is maintained during halftime of each contest. For wrestling, make sure the mat is properly cleaned and washed.
5. Help with adverse weather conditions; monitor accordingly.
6. Make sure proper crowd control is visible and in place. Good administrative control can prevent difficult situations.
7. Observe the crowd during the contest and prevent any disturbances that may occur.
8. Work with the official during the game regarding crowd control.
9. Retrieve the game ball at the end of the contest.
10. Escort the officials back to the dressing room at halftime and at the conclusion of the contest.

SCHOOL'S RESPONSIBILITY TO AN OFFICIAL AFTER THE CONTEST

1. Escort the officials safely back to the dressing room and parking lot.
2. Do not allow unauthorized persons in the dressing room after the game. This includes coaches.
3. Have refreshments available for the officials after the contest.
4. Be sure to thank the officials for their time and effort, regardless of the outcome of the game.
5. Make sure arrangements for paying the officials have been completed. It is preferable to pay the official the day of contest.
6. Ensure that officials are not confronted by anyone after the contest.

Do What's Right! Sportsmanship



DWR Expectations

1. Represent your school and community favorably through positive interaction with opposing fans and players before, during, and after the competition.
2. Use positive yells, chants, songs or gestures.
3. Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
4. Respect and acknowledge the integrity and judgment of officials.
5. Exhibit positive behavior in both personal interaction and social media comments.

Acceptable Behaviors

- During the National Anthem, students, participants and fans should remove any hats, face the flag, not talk, place the right hand on the heart, and remain still until the end of the anthem.
- Applause during introduction of players, coaches and officials.
- Players shaking hands with opponents while both sets of fans recognize player's performance with applause.
- Accept all decisions of the game officials.
- Spirit Participants lead fans in positive support.
- Handshakes between participants and coaches at the end of contests, regardless of the outcome.
- Treat competition as a game, not a war.
- Coaches/players search out opposing participants to recognize them for outstanding performance or coaching.
- Applause at the end of the contest for performance of all participants.
- Everyone showing concern for an injured player, regardless of the team.
- Encourage surrounding people to display sportsmanlike conduct.

Unacceptable Behaviors

- Disrespectful or derogatory yells, chants, songs or gestures.
- Booming or heckling an official's decision.
- Criticizing officials in any way; displays of temper with an official's call.
- Yells that antagonize opponents.
- Refusing to shake hands or give recognition for good performances.
- Blaming the loss of the game on officials, coaches or participants.
- Laughing or name calling to distract an opponent.
- Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game.
- Doing own yells instead of following the lead of spirit participants.