• Expands the opportunity for approved schools to participate in invitational tournaments during the regular season.

Rationale of Submitter:

I feel that IHSA approved schools should be able to participate in regular-season tournaments as well. I agree that only full members should be allowed to participate in the post season. However, allowing the IHSA approved teams to play in regular-season tournaments would be beneficial for full member schools as well. The reasons and examples are as follows:

1. With the number of basketball games increasing to 31 total games, the number of volleyball matches increasing to 35, and the initiation of pitch count regulations for baseball, some teams have gone away from playing in tournaments because there is no number-of-games advantage to playing in them. Therefore, tournaments are sometimes difficult to fill.

2. Adding a varsity IHSA approved school is better than completing a tournament field with a JV team.

3. As the president of the South Egyptian Conference, I cannot organize a conference tournament for any of our conference sports because one of our member schools in an IHSA approved school. If we were to try to organize a conference tournament, we would have to exclude them which would not make it a true conference tournament.

4. There is no disadvantage to allowing IHSA approved schools participate in regular-season tournaments.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 1.270 Approved Schools

Schools which are not eligible for membership in the Illinois High School Association may be approved by the Board of Directors for competition with member schools. Approved schools are not fully-accredited members of the Association. Member schools may engage only in dual contests *and tournaments* with approved schools. and not in invitational tournaments, festivals, etc. Approved schools are not eligible to participate in state tournament series sponsored by the Association. Schools wishing to be granted Approved status must apply annually to the Board of Directors.

Will Be Effective 30 Days from Approval if Amended

2019-20 Proposal 2 Amend By-law 1.300 Board of Directors Submitted By: Steve Rockrohr, Official Representative – Glenview (Glenbrook South); Filberto Torres, Official Representative – Aurora (East); Dan Jones, Official Representative, Hinsdale (Central); Steve Haines, Official Representative, Seneca; Tony Millard, Official Representative – Champaign (Centennial); Kevin Cartee, Official Representative – Red Bud; Benjamin Collins, Principal – Park Ridge (Maine South); John Finan, Principal – Northbrook (Glenbrook North)

Summary of Proposed Changes:

• Expands the administrators permitted to serve on the IHSA Board of Directors to include the administrators designated as the Official Representative of their schools.

Rationale of Submitters:

As the importance of high school sports has increased, athletic directors have moved to the center of the landscape. Coinciding with elevation of sports and the role of the athletic director, principals too are now expected to be all things in our high schools. As a result, many principals have directed the ADs to assume the role of the Official Representative to the IHSA. Currently 48% of the official representatives throughout the state are the athletic director. Consequently, it only bears to reason, that the IHSA Board of Directors reflect that change. Simply put, with the expanded role of the AD in today's high school sports arena, the IHSA is no longer a principal run organization as it has been in years past. It is now much more of an athletic director run organization at its roots. The IHSA and ADs work hand in hand on a great number of issues, and rarely, if ever, involve principals of our schools. Thus, the time has come for the possibility for an athletic director to be elected to its Board of Directors. ADs need to have a voice in the decision making process that has a direct impact on their jobs on a daily basis.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 1.320

For the purpose of electing the members of the Board of Directors and providing equal representation for all parts of the state, the state shall be divided into seven (7) Divisions. Each of these Divisions shall be formed by combining three of the twenty-one (21) Districts of the state established for the purpose of electing the members of the Legislative Commission, these Districts being defined in Section 1.330 of this Constitution. In addition three (3) members shall be elected from the membership at-large. One at-large member must be a racial minority, one must be a member of the underrepresented gender and one must be a member of a private/non-public school. All must be Principals *or Official Representatives* designated by principals of member schools. At-large members elected to the Board of Directors may not be from the same Board Division.

Amend By-law 1.340

No later than September 1 each year, the Board of Directors shall cause to be electronically mailed to the principal *or Official Representative* of each member school in each division in which a member of the Board of Directors is to be elected, and to the membership in the event one or more at-large members of

the Board of Directors is to be elected, a letter identifying the positions for which elections are to be held along with a primary ballot requesting nominations for the appropriate Board member positions. Principals *or Official Representatives* may nominate one principal *or Official Representative* from a member school in their Division as a candidate and/or one principal *or Official Representative* from any member school in the state as a candidate for an at-large position. These nominations must be completed online by September 15. The Board of Directors shall appoint a teller to verify the vote count. The two principals *or Official Representatives* from each Division, or from the state at-large, as pertinent to the positions for which nominations are sought, receiving the highest number of nominating votes shall be declared the nominees and they shall be notified immediately of their nomination by mail. In case of a tie vote in any Division, the tellers shall determine the winner by lot.

2019-20 Proposal 3 Amend By-law 1.721 Election Districts and By-law 1.722 Membership Submitted By: Ron Hoover, Principal – Westchester (St. Joseph); Greg Fearday, Principal – Effingham (St. Anthony) and Jason Dillon, Official Representative – Chicago (Cristo Rey Jesuit)

Summary of Proposed Changes:

- Designates seven (7) additional positions on the legislative commission to represent private schools in an at-large position.
- One representative would be from each IHSA division.
- Positions could be represented by principals, official representatives, athletic directors or activity directors.

Rationale of Submitter:

This change will broaden the concept of Community within the IHSA which is one of the goals of the IHSA Strategic Plan. This expansion of representation to Private schools will permit a greater emphasis and extension of communication between Public and Private schools within the structure of the Legislative Commission. This expansion is just a 16% increase and will encourage sincere discussion concerning the issues and problems that exist or may exist between Public and Private schools. This type of broadening will strengthen the unity and community within the IHSA.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 1.721 Election Districts

For the purpose of providing a geographic and equal representation on the Legislative Commission, the Board of Directors shall divide the State of Illinois into twenty-one Districts. Three of these Districts shall be in the City of Chicago. The other eighteen Districts shall consist of compact and contiguous territory containing approximately equal numbers of member schools. In 1978 and each three years thereafter, the Board of Directors shall review the compositions of the Districts then existent and, if deemed necessary or advisable, shall redistrict the state. In addition, seven (7) at-large Commission members shall be elected. One at-large Commission member shall be elected from each Division. All at-large Commission members must be a racial minority or a member of the underrepresented gender. At-large Commission members must be principals, official representatives, athletic administrators or activity directors. *And also, another seven (7) at-large Commission members shall be elected from each Division. The additional group of seven (7) must be private school principals, official representatives, athletic administrators.*

Amend By-law 1.722 Membership

The Legislative Commission shall consist of thirty-five (35) forty-two (42) member schools. One principal shall be elected from each of the twenty-one (21) Districts. One athletic administrator shall be elected from each of the seven (7) Divisions. One Two at-large Commission member will be elected from each of the seven (7) Divisions. All One at-large Commission members of the underrepresented gender and/or minorities while the second at-large commission member must represent a private

school. At-large Commission members must be principals, official representatives, athletic administrators or activity directors. Elections shall be conducted for principals of the various Districts according to the following schedule:

- (a) In 1982 and each third year thereafter, Districts 1, 4, 10, 15, 16, 17 and 21;
- (b) In 1983 and each third year thereafter, Districts 2, 5, 8, 12, 14, 18 and 20;
- (c) In 1984 and each third year thereafter, Districts 3, 6, 7, 9, 11, 13 and 19.

Elections shall be conducted for representative athletic administrators of the various Divisions according to the following schedule:

- (a) In 1992 and each third year thereafter, Divisions 1, 4 and 7
- (b) In 1993 and each third year thereafter, Divisions 2 and 5
- (c) In 1994 and each third year thereafter, Divisions 3 and 6

Elections shall be conducted for at-large Commission members of the various Divisions according to the following schedule:

- (a) In 2000 and each third year thereafter, Divisions 1, 4 and 7
- (b) In 2001 and each third year thereafter, Divisions 2 and 5
- (c) In 2002 and each third year thereafter, Divisions 3 and 6

Note: Elections shall be conducted in 1992 for representative athletic administrators of Divisions 2, 3, 5 and 6. Division 2 and 5 athletic administrator representatives' terms from that election shall expire in one year with the regularly scheduled 1992 elections. Division 3 and 6 athletic administrator representatives' terms from that election shall expire in two years with the regularly scheduled 1993 elections.

• Requires IHSA to share publicly (via IHSA.org) the votes cast by each school on each by-law amendment proposal as well as identifying those schools that don't participate.

Rationale of Submitter:

The first reason would obviously be transparency, we could see who voted, how they voted, and by how much did amendment that effects their children pass or fail by. Increased participation would be the second reason. If it is posted every year who voted and who did not, by a couple years into this rule's adoption we will be close to full voter participation on the shame factor alone. Finally, we should have to defend the positions we take publicly and not just click a mouse and say "I can't believe all those other AD's and Principals voted for that terrible rule."

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 1.920 Referendum Vote

All proposals pertaining to the Constitution and By-laws and all other matters requiring an approving vote of the member schools that have been recommended for final action by the Legislative Commission shall be electronically mailed not more than ten (10) days after the second meeting of the Legislative Commission. Ballots for use in voting on such proposals shall be electronically mailed to all member schools not more than twenty (20) days after the second meeting of the Legislative Commission. All voting must be completed online within thirty (30) days after the second meeting of the Legislative Commission. A majority of the electronic votes cast shall be required for the passage of any proposal. *The voting record of the school on the IHSA By-Law Amendments from the previous academic school year will be posted on the internet to ensure transparency for all in their school community*.

• Restricts changes to or elimination of approved amendment proposals until the amendment proposals have been in place for a minimum of three (3) years.

Rationale of Submitter:

Pros:

- Creates stability and consistency over time of any new by-law
- Allows for quantitative and qualitative data to be collected so informed decisions can be made
- Allows the Executive Director to override the by-law if deemed necessary
- Creates an opportunity to increase the percentage of voter turnout

Con:

• Schools not supporting the new by-law have to wait three years to submit a proposal to change the by-law.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Add By-law 1.940 Future Action on Approved Amendments

An amendment which was approved based on the Illinois High School Association's process shall remain active for three years prior to the amendment being considered for change. If the newly approved amendment has a date of delayed implementation, the three year timeline begins upon active implementation of the amendment. The Board of Directors may permit an amendment proposal to modify a recent by-law amendment change for any amendment that is harmful and not in the best interest of student-athletes.

2019-20 Proposal 6 Amend By-law 2.030 Cooperative Team Sponsorship Submitted By: Larry Daly, Principal – Decatur (St. Teresa); Ron Hoover, Principal – Westchester (St. Joseph); Greg Fearday, Principal – Effingham (St. Anthony) and Jason Dillon, Official Representative – Chicago (Cristo Rey Jesuit)

Summary of Proposed Changes:

• Allows more private schools to participate in cooperative teams by increasing the enrollment limitation from 200 students to 400 students with the exception of Football, Boys and Girls Basketball and Girls Volleyball.

Rationale of Submitters:

The conference and the IHSA Board of Directors must approve all cooperative teams. These safeguards should prevent any schools from creating "super teams" that may dominate a given sport. The Cooperative Team By-law currently gives public school kids the opportunity to participate in sports they may not normally be able to participate in because of facility or enrollment restrictions. This by-law proposal gives that same opportunity to private school kids. As private schools, we are confident that the Board of Directors will prevent any situation in which the integrity of a sport is at risk due to teams forming coops. Currently, there are a lot of private schools that do not have the opportunity for kids to play certain sports due to enrollment or facility restrictions. This amendment change could very well lead to Public and Private schools creating Cooperative Teams together that would not only benefit their students but also bring community cooperation.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 2.030 Cooperative Team Sponsorship

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to approve the formation of cooperative athletic teams or activity programs by two or more member schools under the following conditions:

- (a) The schools are located in the same geographical area;
- (b) All schools participating in the cooperative are Class A (in a 2-class system) or Class 1A or 2A (in a 3 or 4-class system) schools according to the IHSA Classification System; or, in the event one or more of the cooperating schools is a Class 3A or 4A public school, the cooperative team is for a sport other than Boys Football or Boys or Girls Basketball; In the event one or more of the schools involved in the cooperative is a public non-boundaried school, that school's actual enrollment, not the multiplied enrollment is used to determine the eligibility of the cooperative team request.
- (c) Only Private schools with non-multiplied enrollments of 200 or less are eligible to form cooperative teams in all sports and activities. Private schools with the non-multiplied enrollments of more than 200 and up to 400 are eligible to form cooperative teams in all sports and activities with the exception of Football, Boys and Girls Basketball, or Girls Volleyball.
- (d) The combined enrollments of all schools involved in the cooperative team, calculated according to the IHSA Classification System, is utilized to determine the classification for the cooperative team;
- (e) The cooperative sponsorship agreement is established for a period of two consecutive school years;

- (f) The governing boards of all schools participating in the cooperative team agreement jointly make the application to the IHSA Board of Directors for approval of the cooperative team agreement;
- (g) The joint application includes:
- (1) Written approval from the conference(s) of which the cooperating schools are members, and/or in which the cooperative team will participate, or, in the event the cooperative team will not be affiliated with a conference, written approval from a minimum of seven schools included in the cooperative team's schedule of competition;
- (2) A statement signed by the principals of all cooperating schools designating the name under which the cooperative team will compete;
- (3) A report of the number of students from each of the cooperative schools expected to participate on the cooperative team;
- (4) A report of the number of students, if any, from each of the cooperating schools who have been participating in the sport involved, in programs offered on a non-cooperative basis by their own schools;
- (5) A statement expressing the reasons for the formation of a cooperative team;
- (6) Written assurance that the cooperative team will not limit participation opportunities for students in any of the cooperating schools.

When a cooperative team completes two years of approved operation and the boards of education involved wish to renew the agreement for another two-year period, the involved school(s) shall submit to the IHSA, by the established date, notification that they wish to continue the cooperative with no changes and written approval from the conference.

 Provides a unique exception for students placed in a modified educational setting that would require their disenrollment from their high school to be granted an enrollment exception for eligibility.

Rationale of Submitter:

The current rule recognizes that student-athletes whose vision or hearing impairment require education in a separate setting should not be <u>automatically</u> barred from participating in athletics. The proposal extends this rationale to students whose IEP or 504 plans similarly require that they be educated in separate setting (e.g. therapeutic day school). In some districts, those setting are considered part of the standard school, and student-athletes' eligibility isn't jeopardized by a therapeutic placement. But in other districts, students who are placed in separate day or similar settings are disenrolled from their originating or district high school and placed in a separate school that typically does not have its own athletic program. Recognizing that in some cases, participating in athletics might not only be possible but also beneficial for the student-athlete, this proposal would give the IHSA Executive Director discretion to approve participation with the originating school. The school on whose team the student-athlete participates would be responsible for coordinating with the sending school to ensure the student-athlete's continued eligibility under all standard criteria. Because this proposal only applies to students whose IEP or 504 plans mandate placement in a separate school, it would not create "free agents" or an incentive for coaches to "shop" for athletes. On the contrary, it would remove a strong <u>disincentive</u> for a student or family to agree with a district's recommendation for a separate/therapeutic placement.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 3.011

A student must attend a member school and may only represent in interscholastic competition the member school the student attends. For purposes of this by-law, the term "attend" shall mean that the student is enrolled at the member school, and is taking at, or under arrangements approved by the member school, a minimum of twenty five (25) credit hours of work for which credit toward high school graduation will be granted by the member school upon the student's completing and passing the courses. The school which enrolls the student shall be exclusively responsible to verify the student's compliance with all of the eligibility requirements of all IHSA by-laws.

The Board of Directors shall have the discretion to waive the requirements of this by-law for the Illinois schools for the deaf or blind, or in a situation where a student is removed from a participating school to a therapeutic or alternative school without an interscholastic program pursuant to an IEP or 504. In unit systems having a 6-3-3 or 6-4-2 type of organization, ninth grade students may participate on senior

high school athletic teams at the member high school in the district designated by the Board of Education, provided:

- (a) such participation is approved by the district's superintendent of schools;
- (b) the senior high school principal shall certify that the ninth grade students:
 (1) are eligible under the requirements of these By-laws,
 (2) are students at a junior high school located in the district which supports the senior high school, and
 - (3) are not members of a grade or junior high school team in the same sport; and
- (c) the senior high school principal assumes full responsibility for the conduct of these students during all athletic contests in which they represent the senior high school.

• Allows a non-resident student of a public school district to meet the requirements of the residence by-law using the Legislative Waiver during a student's seventh and eighth grade years.

Rationale of Submitter:

Including students who have attended the seventh and eighth grades using the Legislative Waiver allows them the same opportunity to avoid a period of ineligibility that is provided to those who have paid tuition.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 3.031.2

They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction and have attended a minimum of the seventh and eighth grades as tuition-paying *or Legislative Waiver grantee* non-resident students in the district in which the high school they attend is located.

• Permits underclass students to participate in All-Star games in the sport of Soccer.

Rationale of Submitter:

Bylaw 3.121 does not take into consideration that soccer is unique to other sports because it is played in the fall, winter, and spring athletic seasons at the high school level both across the country and within Illinois, as the boys' season is in the fall while the girls' season takes place in the spring.

- The current Bylaw excludes Illinois boys and girls from participating in national soccer all-star contests before their eligibility is complete due to the unique year-round seasonal structure across genders and states.
 - For high school soccer, boys and girls play across three seasons nationally, so national allstar contests need to take place over summer break.
 - National summer soccer all-star contests have to feature underclassmen because seniors who have completed their eligibility aren't able to attend any summer allstar contests due to commitments for their new collegiate teams.
- The removal of "soccer" from Bylaw 3.121 would provide all current and future Illinois high school soccer players the opportunity to participate in Summer National All-Star contests as rising seniors, which would showcase our state's elite high school soccer talent on a national level.
 - Illinois consistently develops some of the nation's top high school soccer talent, for example currently five of the top 25 ranked boys' teams in the country are from our state. (topdrawersoccer.com 10/16)
 - Our players have earned the right to compete alongside players from states like California, New Jersey, and Florida, where Bylaws allow participation in summer all-star competitions before players have completed their interscholastic athletic eligibility.
 - If Illinois does not modify Bylaw 3.121, the IHSA will be denying current and future players the opportunity to showcase the best of Illinois high school soccer on a national stage.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 3.121

No student at a member school shall participate on an all-star team in basketball, football, **soccer** or volleyball during the student's high school career until completing their interscholastic athletic eligibility in that particular sport. A student may participate in no more than three (3) all-star contests in a sport.

• Reduces the number of summer contact days from 25 to 20.

Rationale of Submitter:

Currently, there are 25 contact days in the summer, which are probably too many for high school athletics. A normal summer consists of about 9 weeks (63 days), but if you exclude Saturdays and Sundays, there are 45 days available. Furthermore, many school districts are also closed on Fridays, which could limit the summer to 36 days available. If high school athletes want to participate in multiple sports, 25 contact days is very difficult to manage for two or three sports. By limiting the contact days to 20 days, it will help a high school athlete that wants to participate in multiple sports and also have some personal time during the summer.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 3.153 Special Provisions for Summer Participation

Persons who coach a sport at a member school may have a maximum of **25 days** *20 days* of contact in that sport with students from that school during the period between the last day of classes or Monday of Week 49 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar (whichever date is earlier) in the spring each year and Sunday of Week 5 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar. The Students may have a maximum of **25 days** *20 days* of contact per sport with persons who coach that sport at the school they attend during the same time period. A day of contact is defined as any date on which any coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques of any sport takes place. These limitations apply to all sports except Baseball and Softball. An exception may be made by the Executive Director under the guidelines adopted by the Board of Directors for competitions sponsored and conducted directly by the National Governing Body for the sport.

• Eliminates a required annual determination of classification which therefore permits the twoyear classification cycle.

Rationale of Submitter:

The IHSA Board of Directors approved a two-year cycle for classification based on a survey of member schools confirming their desire to move away from an annual classification determination. Modifying this by-law accordingly would affirm the action of the board.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 3.170 Classification

The IHSA Board of Directors has the complete authority to establish and implement policies to determine the number of classes of competition in IHSA sports and activities and to classify schools participating in such sports/activities except at follows:

An enrollment multiplier of 1.65 will be added to all non-boundaried schools unless application of this multiplier is waived under a policy of waiver which would be established by the Board of Directors.

The definition of a non-boundaried school is: Any private school, charter school, lab school, magnet school, residential school, and any public school in a multi-high school district that does not accept students from a fixed portion of the district.

Classifications will be determined on an annual basis.

There will be a sub-committee comprised of IHSA staff and Legislative Commission members to develop the waiver policy for submission to the board.

• Requires separate class state series tournaments for non-boundaried and boundaried schools in multiple class sports and activities.

Rationale of Submitter:

According to numbers provided by the IHSA administration, in the years below, boundaried schools have defeated non-boundaried schools roughly 44.8% of the time (3343 out 7454) in the post-season, even with the 1.65 multiplier in play a good part of the time. To some, that might not seem out of the ordinary. However, one can put it this way: if a fair coin was flipped 7454 times, the chances it would land heads 3343 or fewer times is about 1 in 3,440,000,000,000,000,000. To put it another way, the chances that the coin was actually fair are not as good as a person winning the Illinois Lotto game two days in a row. It is, simply put, nowhere close to a fair system.

Year	Total	NB Win	Bound Win	NB Win Pct	
2014	1,216	682	534	56.1%	
2015	1,221	664	557	54.4%	missing WR
2016	1,245	689	556	55.3%	missing WR
2017	1,259	686	573	54.5%	missing WR
2018	1,312	740	572	56.4%	
2019	1,201	650	551	54.1%	thru 5/24/2019
Total	7,454	4,111	3,343	55.2%	

In addition, below is a list compiled by Carlinville High School of the championship appearances of boundaried/non-boundaried schools in the last ten years in selected team sports*:

Sport	Championship	Championship	Percent of Championship
	Appearances	Appearances	Appearances by
	Non-Boundaried Schools	Boundaried Schools	Non-Boundaried Schools
Baseball	29	51	36.3
Softball	12	66	15.4
Girls' Soccer	22	38	36.7
Boys' Basketball	33	47	41.3
Girls' Basketball	32	48	40.0
Football	53	107	33.1
Boys' Soccer	27	33	45.0
Volleyball	37	43	46.3
Wrestling	16	44	26.7
Totals	261	477	35.4

*these results have not been double-checked.

According to information provided by the IHSA, 27.1% of the IHSA members are non-boundaried. Of the sports listed above, using the table we have created, non-boundaried schools reached the state championship game 35.4% of the time (261 out of 738 times). Statistically speaking, the expected number of times that non-boundaried schools would have reached the championship game is 200 (27.1% of 738 is 200), and so non-boundaried schools have reached the title game in these sports 61 more times than one would have expected them to. At first glance, this might not be a glaring disparity. However, if all things were equal, the probability of non-boundaried schools appearing in 261 or more of these championship games is about 1 in 4.6 million.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 3.170

The IHSA Board of Directors has the complete authority to establish and implement policies to determine the number of classes of competition in IHSA sports and activities and to classify schools participating in such sports/activities except as follows:

An enrollment multiplier of 1.65 will be added to all non-boundaried schools unless application of this multiplier is waived under a policy of waiver which would be established by the Board of Directors.

In the sports and activities where there are multiple classes, boundaried and non-boundaried member schools will be placed in separate classes. The proportion of the schools in each sport/activity that are boundaried and non-boundaried will be taken into consideration.

The definition of a non-boundaried schools is: Any private school, charter school, lab school, magnet school, residential school, and any public school in a multi-high school district that does not accept students from a fixed portion of the district.

Classifications shall be determined on an annual basis.

There will be a sub-committee comprised of IHSA staff and Legislative Commission members to develop the waiver policy for submission to the Board.

• Moves the start of the Fall Baseball season one week earlier for practices and contests.

Rationale of Submitter:

I believe this would be more consistent in keeping the sports aligned. Fall baseball starts a week later than the rest of the sports and I see no reason not to align it with the others.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 5.011 Season Limitation

a. No member school shall organize a Boys Fall Baseball team if it organizes a Football team, or if more than 15 percent of its male student body participates in a cooperative Football program

b . No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Fall Baseball teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of **Week 7** *Week 6* or later than Saturday of Week 16 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

c . A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Fall Baseball no earlier than Monday of **Week 8** *Week 7* in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

2019-20 Proposal 14 Amend By-laws 5.020 Boys Spring Baseball and 5.270 Girls Spring Softball Submitted By: Dr. Heidi Deininger, Principal - Oregon

Summary of Proposed Changes:

 Moves the start and ending dates for the IHSA spring baseball and softball seasons (practices and contests) a week later.

Rationale of Submitter:

The current start date for practice for the IHSA baseball and softball season (IHSA Week 35) can be as early as February 25 with the first allowable contests (Monday of IHSA Week 37) occurring as early as March 11. For much of Illinois, the weather at this time of year makes it impossible to practice or play outside. For schools that do not have sufficient indoor practice space for these "outdoor" sports, it makes it difficult to effectively teach the required skills of the game. In fact, in some recent cases, schools have taken the field for the first time in a game situation without ever having been able to hold an outdoor practice prior to competing. This is not only a skills issue, but a potential safety issue as players may not be properly acclimated to the speed of a ball hit in outdoor practice or game conditions.

By moving the start date of the high school baseball and softball seasons back one week later in the IHSA calendar, it will allow schools to begin practice one week later when fields and weather conditions have likely improved. It will also allow for several games that may have originally been scheduled for early March to now be played in mid to late May.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 5.021 Boys Spring Baseball Season Limitation

a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Boys Spring Baseball teams, practice, or participate interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 35 36 or later than Saturday of Week 49 50 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Boys Spring Baseball no earlier than Monday of Week 37 <u>38</u> in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 5.271 Girls Spring Softball Season Limitation

a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Spring Softball teams, practice, or participate interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 35 <u>36</u> or later than Saturday of Week 49 <u>50</u> in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Spring Softball no earlier than Monday of Week 37 <u>38</u> in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

2019-20 Proposal 15 Eliminate By-law 5.074 Football Scheduling Submitted By: William Lapp, Principal – Minonk (Fieldcrest); Brian Quam, Principal – El Paso (E.P.-Gridley)

Summary of Proposed Changes:

• Removes the by-law directing the IHSA to implement a football scheduling system for regularseason varsity games, impacting the current ability for schools to schedule games AND qualify for the playoffs as it is currently administered.

Rationale of Submitters:

The proposal that was approved by schools during the 2018-19 legislative session has major impacts to schools, taking away local authority and decision making powers of member schools. The IHSA has been a post-season tournament organizer ONLY. No other sport or activity has a regular season that is directed by the IHSA. The uncertainty of divisions every 2 years, scheduling of officials in a timely manner and impact to non-varsity scheduling is also a concern. The submitters recognize the issue with the scheduling and conference affiliation of some member schools. However, this change has greater impact to more schools, taking away local authority to decision making. The IHSA would create fewer issues with forcing conferences to accept schools with no affiliation. Lastly, a revisit to the proposal is imperative now that more of the facts and consequences have been released.

Pros:

- 1. Promotes the local scheduling of contests to remain and local school boards to continue to be the ultimate decision making authority as it relates to conference affiliation and regular season scheduling/travel.
- 2. Prevents the implementation of a proposal that impacts the make-up of current conferences that have strong relationships and programs.
- 3. Unless the by-law is removed, officials will not be able to be secured until divisions and games are released as late as January of the year games will be played, causing major scheduling issues. Officials in the Heart of Illinois Conference are currently scheduled 2 or more years in advance.
- 4. Prevents the financial impact to schools who will lose potential contests with specific schools whether immediately or over the first 3 to 4 years.
- 5. Unless the by-law is removed, schools dropping football or moving to 8 man after divisions have been established will have major implications to scheduling, especially in the smaller divisions.
- 6. The Illinois Football Coaches Association did not demonstrate support for by-law 5.074.
- 7. There were 21% more votes cast than schools who actually have football teams, raising concern that approximately 150 schools without football impacted a vote related to football that succeeded by only 17 votes (324-307-69).

Con:

1. Issues with some schools having scheduling issues or no conference affiliation remain.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Eliminate By-law 5.074 Football Scheduling and Playoff System

The IHSA shall implement a scheduling system (for varsity contests only) that provides the following: Playoff classification of every school determined before the season.

Placement of schools into geographic groups within each class.

A round robin schedule of regular season games for the schools within each group, with games during the weeks not scheduled left to the discretion of each school.

Qualifications and seeding of the playoffs based on the final standing within each group.

2019-20 Proposal 16

Amend By-law 5.074 Football Scheduling

Submitted By: John Catalano, Official Representative – Northbrook (Glenbrook North); Filbert Torres, Official Representative – Aurora (East); Charles Hiscock, Principal – Aurora (West Aurora); Rob Wagner, Official Representative – Elmhurst (York); Steve Gertz, Official Representative – Carpentersville (Dundee-Crown); Tim Burkhalter, Official Representative – Lake Forest (H.S.); Barry Gurvey, Official Representative – Pekin; Michael Obsuszt, Official Representative – Barrington; Steven Schoenfelder, Official Representative – Antioch; Will Dwyer, Principal – West Chicago (H.S.); Richard Knar, Official Representative – Moline (H.S.); Trista Sanders, Principal – Moline (H.S.); Ron Lear, Official Representative – Plainfield (North); Mark Krusz, Official Representative – Plainfield (Central); Kurt Weigt, Official Representative – Oswego (East); Steve Millsaps, Official Representative – Joliet (West); Jennifer Doede, Official Representative – Joliet (Central); Mike Strode, Official Representative – Romeoville (H.S.); Paul Pennington, Official Representative – Elgin (H.S.); Ethan Karolczak, Official Representative – Elgin (Larkin); Tricia Betthauser, Official Representative – Lincolnshire (Stevenson); Dan Klett, Principal – Wauconda; Eric Michaelsen, Principal – Lemont (H.S.); Erin DeLuga, Principal – Elmhurst (York); Michelle Lillis, Official Representative – Rock Island (H.S.); Greg King, Official Representative – Sterling (H.S.); Ken Lecomte, Official Representative – Chicago (Mather); George Szkapiak, Principal – Chicago (Kennedy)

Summary of Proposed Changes:

- Expands football playoffs from 32 to 48 teams per class.
- Top 16 teams in each class would receive a bye in week 9.
- Teams would play an 8 game regular season schedule, with a week 9 game option for nonqualifiers with a determination made to IHSA during week 8. IHSA to schedule those contests.
- Replaces the district model and returns scheduling autonomy to schools.

Rationale of Submitters:

While understanding the landscape and a need for change in the football model, we believe expanding playoffs from 32 teams to 48 per class (256 teams to 384 teams overall), is a much better solution to the issues and concerns about football scheduling – the drive for 5 and conference shuffling than the districting model. By only needing 3 wins to qualify for the playoffs, the pressure on schools, coaches and Ads to find 5 wins is removed. The need to change conferences to find 5 wins is also removed. Unlike the district model that assumes having 1-2 games that don't count that will mean schools will open up their schedule and play "bigger" schools, there are no guarantees that will actually happen. Why are coaches and schools going to risk playing games that don't count? All games matter/count in this model.

Football districting is a divisive issue that did not consider or factor in anything other than school size and geography. To assume /equate the only factor in football success is school size is discriminatory. Districting punishes schools with high enrollment, but small football participation numbers and does not factor in football success/history. Districting also does not take into account socio-economic demographics of schools. Assumes higher enrollment= football success which is not always true. The district model also does not take into consideration teams that utilize shared venues/stadiums, which will lead to scheduling conflicts and issues once the IHSA releases the district scheduling for the year. Districting also does not consider fan participation/travel/attendance, traffic and potential overnight accommodations and the economic resources needed to cover the added expense of travel for some

teams. The submitters did entertain an all schools make the playoffs model as well as a 56 team playoff model but did not believe that was in the best interest of all schools, as 2-6-1-7, 0-8 potentially make the playoffs in those models. The submitters also feel strongly that no IHSA by-law should ever be created that would leave schools to consider removing a sport, or, in this case, moving to 8-man football. Any proposed by-law should be about creating opportunity and grow the sport, not hamper it.

Pros:

- Returns autonomy to schools to schedule the best fit for the needs/abilities/safety of their students district model sets up massive mismatches and creates student safety concerns and risks district model is unclear as to who will be held liable if a student gets injured when the IHSA mandates schedule
- To restore conference alignment and keep long-time traditions and rivalries alive
- All games matter districts provide 2 weeks of meaningless games
- To help schools impacted by conference realignment by lessening the "regular" season by one game 1 less non-con is needed
- Lower level games/schedules restored district model has nothing in place for lower levels
- Schools know their clientele (students) best. IHSA is incapable of factoring in each unique school's makeup and scheduling appropriately and in the best interest of students at all schools
- Economic factor schools can keep long-time rivals and traditions on the schedule to ensure gate receipts stay the same. In districts, schools will play "uncommon" opponents and potentially lose out on ticket money
- Conferences have rules, protocols, align levels and game management in place along with awards to students (all-conference, mvp, etc.), district model has nothing for this
- Officials conferences can return to using their assignors to get officials for games. District model provides nothing for officials and how they are assigned.
- More teams make the playoffs
- 48 team playoff allows for more competitive 1st round match-ups, as 5-3 could play 3-5, 4-4 could play 6-2, etc.
- Ease of scheduling some districts have 9 teams in them, nothing in place for their "bye" week in district
- Should slow conference shuffling when only 3 wins are needed to make the playoffs
- Eliminates the drive for 5

Cons:

- 10 team conferences have to figure out scheduling and conference champs
- Will not alleviate all issues with current 9 game schedule, conference shifting and scheduling
- Will not help odd numbered conferences (5, 7, 9, 11, etc. teams) as they may still have to travel far/out of state one week

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 5.074 Football Scheduling and Playoff System

Starting with the 2021 school year, all IHSA schools will play a 9 week schedule with an 8 game regular season schedule, as scheduled by each individual school. For Week 9, playoff qualifying teams will begin

the playoffs with the top 16 seeds in each class receiving a bye week until Week 10. Non-qualifying teams will play Week 9, as scheduled by the IHSA, which will be determined by season record and geography – class size will only be a determining factor if there are multiple schools in the same geographic area with similar records. Non-qualifying schools may opt out of playing Week 9 as long as they notify the IHSA by 10 am on Monday of Week 8. Should there be an odd number of non-qualifiers, the team in each class with the lowest criteria in play-off selection will not participate.

The IHSA shall implement a scheduling system (for varsity contests only) that provides the following: Playoff classification of every school determined before the season.

Placement of schools into geographic groups within each class.

A round robin schedule of regular season games for the schools within each group, with games during the weeks not scheduled left to the discretion of each school.

Qualifications and seeding of the playoffs based on the final standing within each group.

Structure of By-law

Playoffs – 48 teams qualify for playoffs, top 16 seeds get bye (NFL, college, all get byes/time off in between playoff/bowl games)

- Success points determine playoff qualifiers
- Conference champs are automatically in playoffs
- Teams with 6+ wins qualify automatically
- Teams with 5 wins qualify as ranked by success points
- Teams with 4 wins qualify as ranked by success points
- Teams with 3 wins qualify as ranked by success points
- Teams with 2 wins could qualify as ranked by success points

Non-Qualifying Teams

IHSA will schedule matchups for Week 9 for non-qualifying teams based on geography and record. School size/Class level will not be a determining factor. Schools can opt out of Week 9 if they give notice to IHSA by 10 am on the Monday of Week 8. If there is an odd number of teams willing to play Week 9, the 0-8 team with lowest success points will not participate. IHSA will schedule officials for the game but, host school will pay for officials. Home team will be determined by record and/or playoff points. All factors being equal the schools will work together to decide home/away. If no agreement can be reached, the IHSA will determine home team via coin toss. This game is individually hosted and there will be no financial support from the IHSA for this game.

Week 9 Lower Level Games

Lower levels can play Week 9 at the discretion of individual schools. Schools will schedule Week 9 lower levels on their own, including officials along with opponents.

2019-20 Proposal 17 Amend By-law 5.102 Boys Lacrosse and 5.240 Girls Lacrosse Submitted By: Brian McDonald, Official Representative-Vernon Hills on behalf of the Lacrosse Advisory Committee

Summary of Proposed Changes:

• Modifies the contest limitations for boys and girls lacrosse to 20 matches in the regular season as opposed to a match and tournament limitation.

Rationale of Submitter:

- Overuse injuries are on the rise and too many matches in the HS season is part of the problem.
- Pool of officials is growing, but is struggling to assign officials where schools play more than 20 matches in a regular season.
- Some schools are playing in tournaments that don't comply with IHSA tournament limitations (5 or less matches in a tournament).
- Spring Break Lacrosse tournaments often have more than five (5) games scheduled and Illinois teams have to beg out of the last games due to the current IHSA tournament restriction.
- Proposal would allow lacrosse teams to play as many tournament games as the tournament schedules on Spring Break while remaining under the 20 match limit.
- Recommendation of the Lacrosse Advisory Committee.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 5.102 Boys Lacrosse Contest Limitation

No boys lacrosse team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than:

- 1. Nineteen (19) twenty (20) matches exclusive of state playoffs.; or
- 2. Eighteen matches, plus one (1) tournament, exclusive of state playoffs; or
- 3. Seventeen (17) matches plus two (2) tournaments, exclusive of state playoffs.

Amend By-law 5.242 Girls Lacrosse Contest Limitation

No girls lacrosse team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than:

- 1. Nineteen (19) twenty (20) matches exclusive of state playoffs.; or
- 2. Eighteen matches, plus one (1) tournament, exclusive of state playoffs; or
- 3. Seventeen (17) matches plus two (2) tournaments, exclusive of state playoffs.

- Modifies the team dates limitation in wrestling to a fixed number of dates (25) rather than a combination of dates and tournaments.
- Modifies the individual match limitation in wrestling to a set number of matches (45) rather than a combination of dates and tournaments.

Rationale of Submitter:

This would simplify the scheduling process for wrestling. Would also provide consistency between sports (many have eliminated the contest vs. tournament language). The amount of dates and matches was determined based on the approximate maximums of the current system (21 non-tournament matches + up to 4 tournaments = approximately 45 matches).

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 5.172 Boys Wrestling Team Limitation

No Boys Wrestling team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than 25 dates, exclusive of the IHSA Series.

a. eighteen (18) dates and no (0) tournaments exclusive of the IHSA series; or b. seventeen (17) dates and one (1) tournament exclusive of the IHSA series; or c. sixteen (16) dates and two (2) tournaments exclusive of the IHSA series; or d. fifteen (15) dates and three (3) tournaments exclusive of the IHSA series; or e. fourteen (14) dates and four (4) tournaments exclusive of the IHSA series.

Amend By-law 5.173 Boys Wrestling Individual Limitation

Students who participate on a school squad in Boys Wrestling may participate in no more than forty-five

(45) twenty-one (21)-matches in any one season, exclusive of the IHSA Series., exclusive of tournaments. Students may participate in no more than four (4) tournaments exclusive of the IHSA State Tournament Series except that a student who does not participate in the IHSA State Tournament Series may participate in one (1) additional tournament. Participation in a tournament shall mean that a student actually competes (regardless of the length of the time) in a match.

2019-20 Proposal 19 Amend By-law 5.290 Girls Swimming Submitted By: Augie Fontanetta, Official Representative – Winnetka (New Trier) and Chris Livatino, Official Representative – Evanston (Twp.)

Summary of Proposed Changes:

• Moves the ending date for the girls swimming season limitation one week earlier.

Rationale of Submitters:

The change to the end of the season would provide for a much needed "week off" between girls and boys swimming and diving seasons. The change also balances the schedule of both seasons to 14 weeks each.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 5.291 Girls Swimming Season Limitation

a. No school belonging to this Association shall organize its Girls Swimming teams, practice or participate in interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 20, Week 19 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

b. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in Girls Swimming no earlier than Monday of Week 8 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

- Moves the competitive cheerleading season to a Fall sport concluding one week prior to Thanksgiving weekend.
- Implementation set for 2021-22 school year if passed.
- Eliminates the requirement of a competitive cheer team member to also be a member of the winter sideline cheer squad (or any sideline cheer squad).

Rationale of Submitter:

- 1. If approved, this change would go into effect for the **2021-22** school year for scheduling purposes.
- 2. It is up to local level control to determine the participation of the competitive cheerleading team as it pertains to fall sideline responsibilities.
- 3. Fall season seamlessly transitions summer contact time to fall sideline/competitive season without violating by-law 5.351.
- 4. Fall season eliminates grey area regarding approved sideline practice and competitive practice.
- 5. Fall season eliminates conflict between the state series and final exams for student-athletes.
- 6. Fall season provides an appropriate performance surface for the specialized skills of cheerleading with rubberized tracks and/or grass/turf as outlined in the NFHS spirit rules book.
- 7. Fall season allows "homecoming choreography" and "competitive choreography" to be the same material.
- 8. Fall season will assist member schools with indoor facility usage in regards to practice space and contest scheduling.
- 9. Fall eliminates the pressure on the student athlete to choose which spirit activity they would like to participate in. Many member schools share athletes involved in spirit sports.
- 10. Fall sideline does not have a restriction as to their number of student -athletes allowed on the sideline throughout the football playoffs where winter postseason restricts sideline participation to 12.
- 11. Fall season typically involves 1-sideline performance per week.
- 12. Fall season will minimize the conflict with all-star style organizations potentially encouraging more in-school participation.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 5.341 Competitive Cheerleading Season Limitation

- No school belonging to this Association shall conduct its Competitive Cheer team practice earlier than Monday of Week 17-Week 6 or later than Saturday of Week 31 Week 20** in the Standardized Calendar.
- b. No school belonging to this Association shall allow its Competitive Cheer team to participate I interscholastic contests earlier than Monday of Week 18 Week 7 or later than Saturday of Week 31 Week 20** in the Standardized Calendar.

Amend By-law 5.343 Competitive Cheerleading Individual Limitation

a. No individual shall be permitted to participate on a member school's Competitive Cheerleading team unless he/she is a rostered participant on the member school's winter (basketball) sideline cheerleading team.

b. No member of a Competitive Cheerleading Team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate on more than six (6) dates, exclusive of the IHSA State Series.

**Note: The end of the season could be adjusted by the IHSA to best fit the standardized calendar.

• Adds one additional contest date in the regular season for competitive cheerleading (from 6 to 7).

Rationale of Submitter:

As we are approaching the 15th year of the IHSA competitive cheerleading state series, more conferences have included competitive cheer into their conference championships. This additional required competition that typically involves 12 or less schools in various divisions prohibits schools from attending a competition that would align more with the IHSA state series divisions. By adding an additional date of competition, schools can receive scoresheets to assist in guiding them towards improvements for the IHSA state series. The additional date would be optional and not a requirement for schools to add another competition to their calendars/budgets. Currently, with 13 weeks in the competition cheer season, seven (7) dates of competition is still significantly conservative.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 5.342 Competitive Cheerleading Contest Limitation

No Competitive Cheerleading team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate in more than six (6) seven (7) dates exclusive of the IHSA state series.

Amend By-law 5.342 Competitive Cheerleading Individual Limitation

a. No individual shall be permitted to participate on a member school's Competitive Cheerleading team unless he/she is a rostered participant on the member school's winter (basketball) sideline cheerleading team.

b. No member of a Competitive Cheerleading Team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate on more than six (6) seven (7) dates, exclusive of the IHSA series.

• Eliminates the requirement of a competitive cheer team member to also be a member of the winter sideline cheer squad.

Rationale of Submitter:

With the fact that competitive cheer has grown so much and has become much more about the competitions than about cheering at basketball games AND the fact that cheer dance are the only sports that have a requirement that team members also have to be at and take part in another sports contests (must cheer at basketball games), it is time to treat competitive cheer as an independent sport with same respect as any other sport.

Allows sideline basketball to become an activity with same rationale as above.

Removes the stress and issues of competitive cheer teams having to cheer at basketball on Friday or Saturday nights when they have competitions of their own on the following mornings.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 5.343 Competitive Cheerleading Individual Limitation

- a. No individual shall be permitted to participate on a member school's Competitive Cheerleading team unless he/she is a rostered participant on the member school's winter (basketball) sideline cheerleading team.
- b. No member of a Competitive Cheerleading Team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate on more than six (6) dates, exclusive of the IHSA series.

• Adds classification language for the sport of competitive cheerleading based on the September 30 enrollment submitted the previous school term.

Rationale of Submitter:

The rationale for reverting the guidelines for the Classification Enrollment in the sport of Competitive Cheerleading has to do with aligning the sport with the IHSA Mission Statement and to provide a more equitable experience for all student-athletes in the sport of Competitive Cheerleading. The on-bracketed, three-division state series format, creates a larger spread within the three divisions. The Two-Year Classification System does not provide the same benefit for Competitive Cheer as it may for other sports, as there are no direct head-to-head contests or "Regular Season Matches/2-Year Contracts/Contests". Rather, there are Invitationals that any team, from any classification, are able to attend at their discretion annually. In conclusion, the use of Actual Enrollment as defined in the previous classification language contained in Policy 17, circa 2018-19, is more reflective of the current enrollment of IHSA Member Schools participating in the sport of Competitive Cheerleading and would provide an opportunity for the student-athletes to partake in a more equitable experience based on the most recent school enrollment data available.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Add By-law 5.344 Competitive Cheerleading Classification Enrollment

- a. The classification of a Competitive Cheerleading Team, representing a high school will be based on its total student enrollment figure (ninth through twelfth grade), as reported to the Illinois State Board of Education on September 30 of the preceding school term. For example, classifications for the 2020-21 school term are based on the official school enrollments submitted on September 30, 2019. This figure is known as the "actual enrollment." The Non-Boundaried School Programs waiver language will be in effect as stated in Policy 17 of the IHSA Administrative Procedures, Guidelines and Policies Document.
- b. Schools that did not compete in the Coed Division in the previous school term, will be placed in divisions based on "actual enrollment". With the smallest 1/3 (33.33%) in the Small Division, the next smallest 1/3 (33.33%) in the Medium Division, and the remaining 1/3 (33.33%) in the Large Division.

• Eliminates the requirement of a competitive dance team member to also be a part of the winter game day performance team.

Rationale of Submitter:

With the fact that competitive dance has grown so much and has become much more about the competitions than about sideline at basketball games AND the fact that dance and cheer are the only sports that have a requirement that team members also have to be at and take part in another sports contests (must perform at basketball games), it is time to treat competitive dance as an independent sport with same respect as any other sport.

Allows sideline dance to be an activity and gives girls who just want to dance for basketball the ability to do that.

Removes the stress and issues of competitive dance teams having to perform at basketball on Friday or Saturday nights when they have competitions of their own on the following mornings.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 5.353 Competitive Dance Individual Limitation

- a. No individual shall be permitted to participate on a member school's Competitive Dance team unless he/she is a rostered participant on the member school's winter (basketball) game day performance team.
- b. No member of a Competitive Dance Team representing a member school shall, in any one season, participate on more than six (6) dates, exclusive of the IHSA series.

2019-20 Proposal 25 Amend By-law 6.011 Players Ejected for Unsportsmanlike Conduct Submitted By: Bill Dorethy, Principal – Mendon (Unity)

Summary of Proposed Changes:

• Permits schools an opportunity to appeal a player ejection when the player was ejected as a result of the misapplication of a playing rule by an official.

Rationale of Submitter:

Pros:

- It is unfair for a player to suffer consequences when the official misapplied the rules of the sport.
- Suspension of the player, when a rule is misinterpreted, can affect the outcome of the next interscholastic contest.
- It is unfair for the player to miss a portion of his interscholastic season based on a misapplied rule by an IHSA registered official.

Con:

• IHSA Registered Officials may feel like they are unfairly being evaluated or overruled by the Executive Director.

Text of By-law with Proposed Changes

Amend By-law 6.011 Players Ejected for Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Any player ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next interscholastic contest at the level of competition, and all other interscholastic contest at any level in the interim, in addition to other penalties the IHSA or the school may assess.

If the school contests the ejection and video evidence clearly indicates that a player was misidentified in an ejection, the IHSA will work with the school(s) involved to ensure the proper player(s) are identified. After the IHSA Executive Director review the video provided by the school(s) and verify the misidentification, the misidentified player shall be eligible for the next interscholastic contest at the level of competition.

If a school thinks an official misapplied or misinterpreted a rule, which led to a player ejection, the school may communicate with the IHSA Executive Director to clarify the correct rule application. After reviewing the situation, if the Executive Director determines that an official did misapply or misinterpret a rule that led to a player ejection, the Executive Director may waive the requirement that the player is ineligible for the next interscholastic contest at that level of competition.