Changes and Reminders for the 2026-27 School Year

Scholastic Standing- For fall sports, the first eligibility check shall be made on the 11th day of student attendance. During the subsequent weeks of the school year, the check shall begin the week before the first contest in the activity.

Reminder for Coach/School personnel ejection from a contest- A coach or school personnel ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct will be required to miss the next two contests at the level at which the ejection occurred and all contests in the interim. The coach/school personnel must also complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course and pay a $150 fine before regaining eligibility. While the individual is serving the suspension, they may not travel to or attend contests. School personnel include, but are not limited to, assistant coaches, scorekeepers, statisticians, managers, bus drivers, Athletic Directors, Asst. Principals, Principals, Superintendents.

Fan Ejection- Any fan ejected from a regular season contest may not attend, at a minimum, the next TWO contests in the activity and must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course online prior to regaining attendance eligibility. Any fan ejected from a state series contest (regional, sectional, or state) will be prohibited from attending any remaining contests for their school in the state series and must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course.

Financial Penalty for Failure to Seed- Schools that fail to complete the ranking/seeding process for baseball, softball, girls' and boys' basketball, and volleyball will be assessed a $50.00 fine.

Baseball - Regional Umpires: Schools hosting regional contests shall hire the regional officials. This would include schools hosting regional quarter-final games. Please see host instructions.

Girls Wrestling- Girls may compete against boys and/or girls during the regular season. For post-season competition, a school must enter ALL of its girl athletes in either the girls' division or the boys' division as a co-ed team. Please also review all new girls wrestling requirements, format, and structure information.

Volleyball - Standardized Libero Jersey: Beginning with the 2026-27 season, the libero jersey must be solid white or solid safety yellow with a black number of at least 4" tall on the center front and 6" tall on the back of the uniform top.

Changes to any sport rules will be detailed in the activity updates that will be available to the membership on the IESA website.

-----MISSION STATEMENT-----

The IESA provides the leadership and framework to ensure safe, equitable opportunities for students who are enriched through participation in education-based interscholastic activities.

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This 2026-27 edition of the Handbook was revised in June 2026. Some sections have been renumbered for clarification purposes. Items shaded in gray are changes for the 2026-27 school year.

Please contact the IESA office if you have questions or further suggestions for changes. Permission is granted to reproduce pages for use by administration, coaches, instructors, and directors.

Member School Responsibilities

- It is the responsibility of each member school to control its interscholastic athletic program in compliance with the rules and regulations of the Association.
- It is the responsibility of each member school to protect the health of and provide a safe environment for each participating student.
- In order to promote the character development of participants and to enhance the integrity of educating students, coaches and all others associated with their programs and events, member schools should adhere to fundamental values such as respect, fairness, honesty and responsibility.

DIVISION 1

1.000 IESA CONSTITUTION

1.100 NAME AND OBJECTIVES

1.110 This Association shall be known as the Illinois Elementary School Association (IESA). The Association shall be registered with the State of Illinois as a not-for-profit corporation.

1.120 This Association through the employment of the instrumentalities hereinafter established shall:

- regulate all of the interscholastic activities in which its member schools may engage; and
- perform such other functions related to interscholastic activities as may from time to time be approved and adopted by the Board of Directors.

1.130 In the performance of these functions, the ultimate educational objectives of the Association are:

- to elevate standards of sportsmanship;
- to encourage the growth of responsible citizenship; and
- to encourage academic excellence.

1.200 MEMBERSHIP

1.210 Public Elementary Attendance Centers

Any public elementary attendance center housing grades five through eight or any combination thereof, may become a member of this Association provided:

- the school is supported by public taxation;
- this Constitution and By-Laws have been adopted by the Board of Education or Board of Directors of the petitioning school as the code governing its interscholastic activities in which it is participating in IESA state-conducted tournaments or contests;
- the school is recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education;
- the governing body shall designate the principal as the attendance center representative to the IESA;
- application for membership must be approved and adopted by the governing body of the school district and signed by its president and secretary, and the principal; and
- each member school shall pay such dues and fees as are required by this Constitution.

1.220 Non-Public Elementary Attendance Centers

Any non-public elementary attendance center housing grades five through eight or any combination thereof, may become a member of this Association provided:

- this Constitution and By-Laws have been adopted by the governing body for the petitioning school for its interscholastic activities;
- the school is recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education;
- the governing body shall designate the principal as the attendance center representative to the IESA;
- application for membership must be approved and adopted by the governing body of the school district and signed by its president and secretary, and the attendance center representative; and
- each member school shall pay such dues and fees as are required by this Constitution.

1.230 Elementary Attendance Centers Governed by the State of Illinois

Any elementary attendance center governed by the State of Illinois housing students in grades five through eight, or any combination thereof, may become a member of this Association provided:

- this Constitution and By-Laws have been adopted by the governing body for the petitioning school for its interscholastic activities;
- the school is recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education;
- the governing body shall designate the principal as the attendance center representative to the IESA;
- the application for membership must be approved and adopted by the governing body of the school district and signed by its president and secretary, and the attendance center representative; and
- each member school shall pay such dues and fees as are required by this Constitution.

1.240 The Board of Directors shall rule upon the membership petition of any elementary attendance center if there is a question on meeting the requirements of membership as stated herein. Schools that are not eligible to receive recognized status from the Illinois State Board of Education shall petition the IESA Board of Directors for membership by completing the membership form available on the IESA website.

1.250 Certificate of Membership

Upon meeting the requirements for membership in this Association, the Association shall issue a certificate of membership to each member.

When there is more than one member school in the same school district, the membership division for all schools in that district shall be determined by the location of the district office. The IESA office shall be notified of any change in the location of the district office or member schools.

1.300 BOARD OF DIRECTORS; REQUIRED DIVISION MEETINGS

1.310 Authority

The administrative authority of this Association shall be vested in a Board of Directors.

1.320 Membership

The Board of Directors shall be composed of a like number of members as there are membership divisions. For the 2026-27 school year, members shall be elected from Divisions A, E, L, M, and N. For the 2027-28 school year, members shall be elected from Divisions B, D, F, H, and J. For the 2028-29 school year, members shall be elected from Divisions C, G, I, K, and O.

Persons serving on the Board of Directors must be elementary school administrators with a valid administrative certificate who hold the position of superintendent, assistant superintendent, principal, or assistant principal from a member school in their respective membership divisions.

1.330 Nominations

Not later than November 1, the Board of Directors shall cause to be electronically mailed to the representative of each member school in each division in which a Board of Directors' member is to be elected, a letter requesting a nomination from among the administrators in that division for membership to the Board of Directors and indicating the incumbent member of the Board. Nominations must be in the office of the Association by November 10. Persons nominated must meet the criteria detailed in section 1.320 of the Constitution.

The Executive Director shall tally the nominations. The two administrators from each membership division receiving the highest number of nominations, including ties, who accept such nomination, shall be declared the nominees and placed on the election ballot with the incumbent. If there is no incumbent, then the three administrators with the highest number of nominations, including ties, who accept the nomination, shall be placed on the final ballot.

1.340 Election

Not later than November 11, the Board of Directors shall cause to be electronically mailed to the representative of each member school in each division in which an election is to be held, a ballot on which are the names of the nominees. Each principal shall mark the ballot in the regular manner, voting for one of the nominees. This ballot shall be submitted to the office of the Association by November 20. All voting will be conducted online.

The President shall appoint a committee of three tellers who shall meet before the annual January meeting and canvass the ballots. They shall then certify to the Board of Directors the results of the balloting, and the Board shall declare the individual in each membership division receiving the higher number of votes to have been elected. In the event of a tie vote in any membership division, the tie votes shall be returned to that division for a second vote.

1.350 Term of Office

Members of the Board of Directors shall be elected for three years and shall take office at the conclusion of the January regular meeting of the Board following their election. They shall serve until their successor is elected; until they cease to be an elementary school administrator in the Division from which they were elected, or until they tender their resignation from the IESA Board, and it is accepted by the Board of Directors.

1.360 Vacancies

In case of vacancy, the President shall appoint an administrator who meets the criteria established in section 1.320 of the Constitution from a member school in the division in which the vacancy occurs to serve until the time of the regular election in that division.

1.370 Board of Director Meetings

The Board of Directors shall meet in September, January, April, and June of each year on a date to be determined by the Board. The time and place of the meeting shall be determined by its members. Special meetings may be called by the President and must be called upon written request of any five members of the Board. A conference call when a quorum is present shall constitute a special meeting.

If an elected member of the Board of Directors cannot attend a regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting, that member may appoint another administrator from the membership division to attend and represent the division in their absence. Except for personnel matters, the substitute shall have full voting privileges at the meeting. The Executive Director must be notified prior to the meeting should this occur.

1.371 Required Division Meeting Attendance

Member schools are required to view the Division Meeting that is held online each year. At least one representative from each member school must log in to watch the presentation. Schools can also meet the Division Meeting requirement by attending the meeting held in conjunction with the IESA-sponsored athletic director workshop. Feeder schools that do not enter any IESA-sponsored activities are exempt from the division meeting requirement. Schools that only enter the IESA for speech or scholastic bowl can receive credit for attending a Division Meeting if a representative of that school attends the IESA-sponsored workshop for that activity.

Failure to comply with this requirement will result in a one-year probation. A school that fails to attend a Division Meeting for two consecutive years will have its membership suspended for a period of one year beginning on January 1 following the school's second consecutive non-compliance with this requirement. During the suspension, the school is not eligible to participate in any IESA state series activity. Membership and activity fees will not be refunded. To be reinstated, a school would need to attend a Division Meeting the school year after the second consecutive missed meeting. That meeting will be held at the IESA office. A school facing suspension for failure to attend a Division Meeting for two consecutive years may elect to pay a $500.00 fine and attend a Division Meeting held at the IESA office to avoid a one-year suspension.

1.400 POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS & ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

1.410 Quorum

A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum. When a vote is taken upon any matter pending before the Board, a quorum being present, a majority of the votes of the members of the Board voting on the matter shall determine the outcome thereof. On roll-call votes, the motion-maker shall be called first, the person seconding the motion shall be called second, followed by membership divisions of the person making the second, with the President being called last.

1.420 Authority

The members of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Elementary School Association are hereby authorized to interpret the Constitution and By-Laws and to exercise all the powers and duties expressed or implied in this Constitution and By-Laws based on its reasonable belief, understanding or knowledge of the circumstances, and to act as an administrative board in the interpretation of and final decision on all questions and appeals arising from the directing of interscholastic activities of member schools.

Emergency Governance Provisions

There may be emergencies that arise which require the Board of Directors to act expeditiously. The Board of Directors actions will attempt to balance the interests of the member schools against the circumstances of an emergency as defined below. In addition to actions, the Board may also adopt emergency bylaws to address any urgent situations it deems appropriate.

"Major Emergency" means a major national, state or local emergency caused by a natural disaster, health crisis, terrorist, or other significant event resulting in serious disruption in normal life over multiple days or an extended period of time.

"Necessary emergency action" means action that is deemed by the Board of Directors to be necessary to be taken by such body immediately, under circumstances in which it is not reasonable to wait until normal conditions have returned. All necessary emergency actions taken by the Board of Directors pursuant to the Constitution and By-Laws shall be deemed duly authorized and approved.

During an emergency situation, the Board may deem it necessary to act inconsistently with current bylaws.

When an Appeals Panel conducts a hearing under the provisions of By-Law 5.050, such panel shall have the authority to make a final decision without further action by the Board of Directors.

1.430 Provide Employees

The Board of Directors shall conduct all business of the Association, shall be empowered to employ an Executive Director with such assistants as may be found necessary to carry on the affairs of the Association, and to provide office facilities, by rental, purchase, or other means, and other employees for the proper conduct of the business of the Association.

1.440 Authority of the Executive Director

The Executive Director shall have the authority to decide and rule on all matters concerning eligibility, protests, bylaws, or rules. The Executive Director may modify the effect or penalty for violation of or non-compliance with any by-law or rule if the circumstances causing the student or school to be ineligible or otherwise in violation of or non-compliance with the by-law or rule are determined, after full investigation:

1. to have been completely beyond the control of all of the following:
    a. the student
    b. the student's parent/guardian
    c. the school
2. or where the ineligibility or violation has been caused exclusively by a clerical or administrative error.

Rulings and decisions of the Executive Director may be appealed in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association.

1.450 Duties of the Executive Director

The Executive Director shall:

- keep a register of the post office address of each member and of each of the members of the Board of Directors and furnish copies to each member annually;
- keep the actual minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors;
- see that all notices are duly given with the provisions of the By-Laws or as required by law;
- be the custodian of the corporate records and of the corporate seal of the Association provided by the Board of Directors and see that the seal of the Association is affixed to all necessary documents;
- collect all membership fees and dues from all members as provided in these By-Laws;
- prepare and issue certificates of membership in this Association to all qualified members;
- be responsible for the collection of all entry fees and all monies due from any source or purpose to the Association and keep proper books of account therefore;
- shall furnish a bond, the amount of which shall be determined by the Board of Directors, premium on which shall be paid by the Association;
- in general perform all duties incident to the office of Executive Director and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors.

1.460 Authority of the Associate Executive Director and Assistant Executive Directors:

The Associate Executive Director, in the Executive Director's absence, shall have the authority to make decisions on matters covered by the Constitution and By-Laws when a decision is required by a member school. In the absence of the Executive Director and the Associate Executive Director, the Assistant Executive Directors shall have the authority to make decisions in matters covered by the Constitution and By-Laws when a decision is required by a member school. Each administrator shall have the authority to decide and rule on all matters pertaining to eligibility, protests, and compliance with the Constitution, By-Laws, and rules of this Association for those activities in which they have primary responsibility. They may impose such penalty as may be allowed or prescribed by the IESA Constitution, By-Laws, sports rule, or other regulation adopted by the Board of Directors for those activities in which they have primary responsibility. Rulings and decisions of these administrators may be appealed in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association.

1.470 Duties of the Associate Executive Director and Assistant Executive Directors:

- work with and be responsible to the Executive Director of the Association;
- be regularly involved with both member and non-member schools;
- in general, perform all duties related to the responsibilities of these positions and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the Executive Director, the President, or the Board of Directors.

1.480 Statewide Interscholastic Activities

The Board of Directors shall have sole authority, subject to the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws, to organize and conduct statewide interscholastic activities among the members of this Association and may by resolution provide the conditions upon which any member school may participate therein. The Board may call upon specialists from the various activity areas for such technical or other advice and assistance as may seem necessary. The expenses of such specialists incurred in activities ordered by the Board of Directors shall be paid by the Association.

1.490 Division of Member Schools

The members of this Association shall be divided into fifteen (15) membership divisions by the Board of Directors. The divisions shall follow county lines and shall consist of compact and adjacent territories and shall be equalized as nearly as possible as to the number of members to provide for equal representation.

The Executive Director will review the composition of the divisions and submit findings to the Board of Directors by January 2027 and every 5 years thereafter, or earlier if deemed necessary. The Board of Directors shall review the compositions of the existing Divisions and, if deemed necessary or advisable, shall redistrict the State effective on July 1. The number of divisions may be changed if deemed necessary.

Illustration for Section 1.400

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. Are appeals of decisions made by the administrative staff permitted?
A. Yes. The provisions of Division 5 of the By-Laws outline such an appeal procedure.

Q. What is a clerical or administrative error?
A. An inadvertent or unintentional error or omission that results in technical, rather than substantive, noncompliance with these by-laws. The failure to comply with any affirmative requirement of these by-laws shall not be deemed a clerical or administrative error.

1.500 OFFICERS

1.510 Officers of Board of Directors

The officers of the Board of Directors shall be President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer all of whom shall be elected by and among the members of the Board of Directors at the January meeting. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by one board member.

1.520 Term of Office

Officers shall be elected annually by the Board of Directors at the meeting during which the ballots from the election of members of the Board of Directors are canvassed and after new members have been seated. Officers shall be eligible to succeed themselves, provided they remain members of the Board of Directors. When a vacancy occurs in an officer position, the members of the Board shall elect a replacement.

1.530 President

The President shall perform the duties which regularly devolve upon the position of President. The President shall appoint members to the Finance Committee and Staff Relations committees.

1.540 Vice-President

The Vice-President shall perform the duties which regularly devolve upon the position of Vice-President and shall serve as Parliamentarian for all meetings of the Board of Directors.

1.550 Secretary

The Secretary shall be responsible for the minutes of all board meetings and for all official communications on behalf of the Board as may be required by law or to carry out the business affairs of the Association.

1.560 Treasurer

The Treasurer shall perform the duties which regularly devolve upon the position of Treasurer. The Treasurer shall also serve as the chair of the Finance Committee.

The Treasurer shall furnish a bond, the amount of which shall be determined by the Board of Directors, premium on which shall be paid by the Association.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for all Association funds and shall present an annual budget to the Board of Directors.

The Treasurer's accounts shall be audited annually at the close of each fiscal year and before the September meeting of the Board of Directors by an auditing firm selected by the Board of Directors.

1.600 FINANCIAL STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

1.610 Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Association shall be from July 1 to June 30.

1.620 Dues and Assessments

The Board of Directors shall be authorized to establish, collect, and levy annual dues and entry fees, and such other penalties and assessments upon all schools for membership and participation in the activities of the Association.

Such dues, fees, and assessments shall be determined by the Board to meet the annual budget approved for the operation of the Association.

1.630 Date of Payment of Dues and Entry Fees

The annual school membership dues shall be paid by the postmarked date of Monday of Week 49 as listed on the IESA standardized calendar. The membership year shall be from the date received until the membership dues entry deadline during the following June.

The Board of Directors shall establish entry fee deadlines for each activity sponsored by the Association. No entry fees for activities will be accepted until membership dues are paid, and no school will be permitted to participate in an interscholastic activity until entry fees are paid through the Association's office.

Entry deadlines, late entry deadlines, and penalty fees shall be listed for each activity in the By-Laws. [Section 5.000]

1.640 Compensation

The Board of Directors shall have authority to approve the expenses of the directors, committee members, and such other persons as deemed necessary for attendance at meetings, or such other purposes as directed by the Board.

1.700 ADVISORY COMMITTEES

1.710 Organization

A member of the IESA administrative staff shall chair the Advisory Committees as non-voting members and appoint members reflecting statewide participation on each committee as much as possible as follows:

- Athletic Directors (Members as needed)
- Athletes With Disabilities (Members as needed)

- Baseball (6 Coaches, 1 Administrator, 1 Official)
- Basketball (8 Coaches, 1 Administrator, 1 Official)
- Bowling (Members as needed)
- Cheerleading (6 Coaches, 1 Administrator, 1 Official)
- Chess (Members as needed)
- Citizenship & Sportsmanship (8 representatives)
- Cross-Country (6 Coaches, 1 Administrator)
- Emerging Sports (Members as needed)
- Golf (Members as needed)
- Speech (6 Coaches, 1 Administrator)
- Music (6 Directors, 1 Administrator)
- Scholastic Bowl (6 Coaches, 1 Administrator, 1 Moderator)
- Softball (6 Coaches, 1 Administrator, 1 Official)
- Track and Field (8 Coaches, 1 Administrator, 1 Official)
- Volleyball (6 Coaches, 1 Administrator, 1 Official)
- Wrestling (6 Coaches, 1 Administrator, 1 Official)
- Officials (1 Official from each sport plus 1 Administrator)

1.720 Duties and Authority of Advisory Committees

Each appointed coach shall be currently coaching in the activity. Each coach shall serve a maximum term of four years in succession. Each coach should have his or her administrator's approval to serve on the committee and to attend meetings.

Each appointed administrator shall serve for four years in succession. The administrator's school must be involved in the activity of the appointment.

Each appointed official shall serve for four years and shall be licensed with the Illinois High School Association in the respective athletic activity. The Scholastic Bowl moderator who serves on the Scholastic Bowl advisory committee shall serve for four years.

Each appointed coach, administrator, and official shall have a voting privilege on the committee.

Advisory committee members must resign if their school no longer participates in the activity or if they are not coaching in it. Upon resignation, the chair shall appoint a replacement to complete a term.

Persons interested in serving on the Advisory Committees should complete the form available on the IESA website.

1.800 BOARD COMMITTEES

The standing Board Committees shall be as follows and meet at least once annually:

- Finance (4 Board members)
- Staff Relations (4 Board members)

Board members serving on these committees shall be appointed by the President of the Board of Directors.

1.900 AMENDMENTS

Proposals to amend the Constitution and By-Laws shall be submitted by the administrator of any member school provided they are filed with the Executive Director of the Association not less than twenty (20) days before consideration by the Board of Directors. Proposals may also be submitted by chairs of the Standing Committees through committee recommendations and by the IESA Administrative staff.

All proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws and all other proposed changes of a permanent character shall be referred to the Board of Directors for final action.

Each amendment to the Constitution and By-Laws shall become effective on the following July 1 unless otherwise specified by the Board of Directors.

Changes not covered within the existing Constitution and By-Laws shall be covered by procedures in Roberts' Rules of Order.

DIVISION 2

2.000 SCHOOL BY-LAWS

2.010 COMPLIANCE WITH RULES; STRIKE BY-LAWS

2.011 Member schools of this Association shall adopt the Constitution, By-Laws, and all governing rules for the member's interscholastic activities at the grade levels in which the member participates in the IESA tournament and shall enforce all provisions thereof. The provisions shall not be waived by agreement or otherwise by a member school in activities with a member or non-member.

2.012 Except as provided herein, members of the Association, in all athletic activities at the grade levels in which they participate in the IESA state-sponsored tournament series, shall be permitted to participate with one team. That team may only be comprised of either boys or girls as that athletic activity is designated by the IESA unless the school follows the provisions of By-Law 3.110 regarding girls participation on a boys team.

2.013 All member schools must submit the information concerning athletic participation as required by the State Board of Education online through the IESA Member Center. Members must also make available, upon request by the Executive Director, all information pursuant to Sections 2.030 and 3.020.

2.014 All interscholastic athletic games, meets, and contests participated in by IESA member schools shall be governed only by the rules written or officially adopted for those respective sports by the National Federation of State High School Associations and modified by the IESA (see Section 4.000). Schools hosting IESA state series contests that do not uphold the By-Laws or Terms and Conditions of a given activity governing the conduct of those contests may be subject to sanctions as determined by the Executive Director.

2.015 School Strike Provisions

Representatives of member schools shall not participate in interscholastic activities during a strike when the member school has fewer than 51% of its students in attendance and is not meeting the minimum educational requirements of the State Board of Education.

Under the following criteria, regularly scheduled practice sessions may be held during the period when school is not fully operating:

1. They must be conducted for the same length and frequency they would be if school were fully operating;
2. They must be approved by the local Board of Education and school administration;
3. They must be conducted by qualified personnel who meet the provisions of By-Law 2.110; and
4. They must be conducted in such a manner that assures the health and safety of the participants.

If a school is on strike and not in legal session, as defined by the Illinois State Board of Education, on the date of the beginning competition in any IESA state series, students from that school may not participate in the state series.

However, when students from any member school first participate in the beginning level of competition in a given state series, that state series is considered to have begun for all entered schools. If a school subsequently incurs a strike, the qualified teams and/or students will be permitted to continue participating in the state series, with local Board of Education approval, so far as the IESA strike By-Laws are concerned, even though their school may not be in legal session on the dates of subsequent state series competition in that activity.

The IESA school strike provisions do not restrict schools from participating in activities on days when school is not held due to weather or other emergencies. The provisions apply only to situations in which school is not operating due to strike circumstances.

A school on strike may host an interscholastic event in which other schools participate. The striking school may not participate in the event.

See Division 5.000 for non-compliance of rules.

Illustrations for Section 2.010

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. Will the IESA govern fifth and/or sixth grade athletic teams sponsored by member schools that do not enter the IESA state series in a given activity?
A. No.

Q. If a school enters only the seventh-grade tournament of an activity, is the eighth grade team from that school governed by the IESA?
A. No.

Q. Do these and all other regulations govern fifth and sixth grade individuals who are members of junior high school athletic activities?
A. Only those who actually participate on a 7th and/or 8th grade team.

Q. May a regularly-scheduled contest be played on a Saturday if one of the participating schools was on strike on Friday?
A. No, this would be against the intent of this By-Law.

Q. Could a member school which is not in attendance due to a strike participate in an interscholastic contest?
A. A school shall not engage in an interscholastic activity unless 51% of the school's students are in attendance and the minimum program required by state law is being offered. This is in conformity with policy established by the Illinois State Board of Education. See By-Law 2.015 for additional strike provisions.

2.020 RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PRINCIPAL

2.021 The principal of a member school shall be responsible to this Association for matters pertaining to all athletic and non-athletic activities of his/her school. In addition, he/she shall be responsible for ensuring that his/her school is properly represented at all interscholastic events and be responsible for the conduct of the contestants and other persons from his/her school.

Illustrations for Section 2.021

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. Must the principal personally be present at all interscholastic activities?
A. No. The principal is responsible for ensuring proper supervision by officially designated school personnel. Such personnel shall meet the requirements as detailed in By-Law 2.110.

Q. What is "proper supervision"?
A. This term is viewed to require the presence of a certified person employed by the Board of Education and such other personnel as may be necessary to provide control of and be responsible for the safety and welfare of the participants and spectators.

Q. May a coach who is coaching a contest serve as the school's supervisor at an interscholastic contest?
A. No. By-Law 2.092 clearly states that an administrator or school representative, other than the participating coach, must be in attendance at all home contests. Therefore, a coach who is coaching a contest cannot be the school supervisor. It is the principal's responsibility to ensure proper supervision at contests.

2.030 ATTENDANCE & HOME SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY

2.031 Students must attend member schools and may only represent in competition the school they actually attend. See exceptions noted below and 2.140.

2.032 In music organizational events, students from more than one member school may participate together in an event entered by one member school.

2.033 The Executive Director shall have discretion to authorize the use of students from member feeder schools in junior high school activities provided:

- They are students at an elementary attendance center located in the same school district which feeds the junior high school; and
- They are not members of a grade school team in a sport, scholastic bowl team, speech chorale reading group, or music organization group which is entered in the IESA state tournament series; and

- They are members of the junior high school athletic or scholastic bowl team for at least one-half of the regular season contests; and
- Request for use of these feeder students is submitted by the junior high school principal to the Executive Director prior to participation in any given activity; and
- They are eligible under and in compliance with the requirements of these By-Laws; and
- The junior high school principal assumes full responsibility for the conduct of these students during all activities in which they represent the junior high school.

2.034 Students who are receiving their education through home schooling may be eligible only at the public school at which the student would regularly attend in the school district where the parents/guardian resides, provided they are in full compliance with the following requirements:

- all eligibility By-Laws other than the attendance By-Law,
- the home-schooled student's work must be accepted by the school district in which the student resides and be granted credit toward graduation by that school district,
- the school district shall establish a method to monitor the academic performance of the home-schooled student on the same basis as for students in regular attendance at the school, and
- the school certifies that the student is meeting the minimum academic eligibility standards for participation.

The school at which the student will participate is required to keep all records to verify compliance with these requirements in the event the IESA is required to rule on the eligibility of the home-schooled student.

2.035 Students who are receiving their education through an alternative education plan may be eligible only at the public school at which the student would regularly attend in the school district where the parents/guardian resides, provided they are in full compliance with all of the following requirements:

- all eligibility By-Laws other than the attendance By-Law,
- the student's work must be accepted by the school district in which the student resides and be granted credit toward graduation by that school district,
- the school district shall establish a method to monitor the academic performance of the alternative education student on the same basis as for students in regular attendance at the school, and
- the school certifies that the student is meeting the minimum academic eligibility standards for participation.

The school at which the student will participate is required to keep all records to verify compliance with these requirements in the event the IESA is required to rule on the eligibility of the alternative-schooled student.

Illustrations for Section 2.030

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. Must a contestant be in school on the day he or she desires to participate in an interscholastic activity?
A. The contestant is not required to do so by the Association rules. Many schools maintain local policies of this sort which would determine if he or she would be permitted to participate.

Q. What is the definition of "the school which they actually attend"?
A. "The school which they actually attend" shall be viewed as the school at which a student is enrolled and permanent records are kept. The only exceptions to this definition would be students who are classified as special education, feeder school, involved in a cooperative team sponsorship, a music organization entry, or meet the criteria in By-Law 2.034 or 2.035.

Q. What is the definition of "alternative education"?
A. Alternative schools are designed to provide educational support and services to students who require a different learning environment or approach than traditional schools. These schools often cater to students facing academic, behavioral, or social-emotional challenges or those at risk of dropping out.

Q. May students from feeder elementary schools participate in a music solo and ensemble or speech contest as representatives of the middle school/junior high school which is an IESA member?
A. Yes. Students who attend a feeder school to their middle school or junior high school may represent the feeder grade school or they can represent the middle school/junior high school in these activities. Each feeder school must be an IESA member school. If the feeder school students will be representing the middle school/junior high school, the entries must be sent in with the middle/junior high school entries. If the student is going to represent the feeder grade school, then the entries must be received from the feeder school. Please see By-Law 2.033 for an exception for chorale reading groups in speech contests.

Q. How often must the written request to use students from feeder schools be made?
A. Annually. Permission shall be granted only after feeder schools have paid membership dues to the Association.

Q. Could a member junior high school bring up their best sixth graders from its three feeder schools to play on a tournament team?
A. Yes, provided the principal complies with the provisions of By-Laws 2.033 and all the requirements of By-Law 3.010.
Q. Can a student who is home schooled for a portion of the day and also attends a public school for a portion of the day participate for the public school?
A. Only if the district meets all the provisions of the home school By-Law 2.034.

Q. Softball practice begins in July. We have a new girl in our district, and we have been told she wants to try out but she has yet to register for classes because our registration is not held until the first week of August. Is she eligible to try out and participate for the team if she has not registered or moved to the district yet?
A. In general, this girl would be eligible to try-out, practice, and play in the days prior to the official opening of the new school year. Since practice and games begin before school starts, schools really do not have 100% assurance that even the students who were in attendance the previous school year will actually enroll when school begins. However, in this instance, the principal needs some assurance that the girl is going to be a bona fide resident of the district and intends to register for classes. Assuming she does register, is a resident of the district, and seemingly plans to attend classes, then she is certainly eligible to continue participating for the school team. If after the first day of classes, she has not registered, did not attend classes, and/or does not live in the district, then she must be removed from the team immediately until she meets all eligibility and residence requirements. Schools would not be required to forfeit any games in which the girl played if she does not attend class the first day as long as she is removed immediately

2.040 SCHOLASTIC STANDING

2.041 All contestants shall be in grades five through eight (5-8) and shall not have passed eighth grade standing. At no time, may a student who is in fourth grade or lower practice or participate with a member school.

2.042 A student shall be doing passing work as determined by the local school district in all school subjects and the school shall certify compliance with this By-Law. Use of a player, contestant, or participant shall be deemed such certification.

2.043 For all IESA activities, athletic as well as non-athletic, passing work shall be checked weekly. Eligibility will be applied to the Monday through Saturday following the week that was checked. Students must be passing each subject each week to be eligible. Grades shall be cumulative for the school's grading period.

2.044 The eligibility check shall be the same day each week unless school is not in session; then it must be taken on the last day of student attendance that week.

2.045 For fall sports, the first eligibility check shall be made **on the eleventh day of student attendance**. During the succeeding weeks of the school year, the eligibility check shall begin the week prior to the first contest in an activity.

Illustrations for Section 2.040

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Q. We are in the 5th week of our nine-week grading period. During our weekly grade check we discovered that we have a student who is receiving four A's and one F in all subjects. Is that student eligible to participate?
A. No. Since grades are cumulative for a grading period and the student is not passing all subjects, the student is ineligible for the following week. When the grade check is taken the following week and if the student is now passing all five subjects, then the student will regain eligibility.

Q. When a student is ineligible for a given week because of grades, may that student participate in practices held during the week of ineligibility?
A. This is a local school decision.

Q. My school will be on winter vacation from December 21-January 5. We took a grade eligibility check on Friday, December 20. If we have members of our boys basketball team who are grade ineligible, are they able to play in contests held during break and/or the week of January 6-11?
A. No. Students who were grade ineligible with the last weekly grade check remain ineligible for all contests until the next weekly grade check is conducted. In this particular situation, the student would be ineligible for a total of three weeks---the two weeks during the winter break and the first week that students return to school. Eligibility for the week starting January 13 will depend on the grade check taken the week of January 6.

Q. Our teacher's grades are due at the office by 3:00 p.m. each Thursday to determine grade eligibility for the following week. One of my teachers reported a failing grade for a student when he turned in grades. On the following Monday, the teacher reported that the student who had been failing turned in an extra-credit report over the weekend and was now considered passing. Is this student eligible?

A. No. The student is ineligible since he was failing on the day that grades were due to the office. The fact that the extra credit project now makes the student grade eligible will help when the grade check is done next Thursday, but the student was failing when the grade check was completed, and as a result, the student is ineligible for the following week. The grade check must be done on the same day each week and cannot count grades earned or received after the check has been completed.

Situation: A new principal has come to Illinois from another state where scholastic eligibility rules differ from those of the IESA. The principal notes in the IESA rules that a student must be passing all subjects weekly to be scholastically eligible. Not understanding how to determine what "passing per week" means, the principal calls the IESA office for an explanation.

Most important to note is that "passing per week" is determined by measuring a student's performance on a cumulative basis from the beginning of a school's grading period (usually a six or nine-week period) through the date on which the check is made. The check should not reflect only a given school week's scholastic performance; rather it should reflect the student's cumulative performance for the grading period through the date of the check. Schools are expected to conduct this weekly check in a consistent manner. Student eligibility or ineligibility is then affected on the Monday following the week that was checked.

For example, consider a school which checks eligibility every Wednesday. Records are processed through the computer and a printout of all students' scholastic standing is given to the athletic director on Thursday. The athletic director's office reviews the list and reports Thursday afternoon to the principal that a student is not passing all subjects as of this check. The principal informs the student and coaches on Friday morning that the student is not passing the required work and is thus ineligible for one week, beginning the following Monday morning. The student may play in contests held that evening or on Saturday, the next day. However, the entire next week, Monday through Saturday, the student is ineligible. The following Wednesday, the process is repeated. This time, when the report reaches the principal on Thursday afternoon, the student's record shows the student is now passing all subjects on a cumulative basis since the beginning of the grading period. Now, the principal will inform the student and coach on Friday morning that the student will become eligible again the following Monday morning. Please note that the student is not permitted to play on this Friday and Saturday because of last week's failure to meet the grade requirements. A student becoming scholastically ineligible by the weekly eligibility check must remain ineligible for one full calendar week before possibly becoming eligible again.

2.046 In cases where a contest has been postponed or re-scheduled, the current week eligibility shall be used to determine a student's eligibility. For example, a contest is scheduled to be played on Tuesday and because of poor weather, the contest is rescheduled for two weeks later. A student who was grade eligible for the originally scheduled game but is ineligible during the week of the rescheduled game is not eligible. Conversely, a student who was ineligible the week of the originally scheduled game and is grade eligible the week of the rescheduled contest is eligible to play.

2.050 RESIDENCE

2.051 A student shall be eligible if he/she attends the member school in the district in which he/she resides.

2.052 If the parents of a student move from one school district to another during the school year, the student may retain eligibility for the remainder of the school year provided the student continues to attend the school in the district from which the parents moved.

2.053 In cases where a local Board Policy has been established for children of staff members to attend the school tuition-free, the student shall have eligibility at his/her school of attendance within the district where the parent/guardian is a full-time staff member. A full-time staff member is defined as a staff member employed and compensated by a school district who works thirty-five (35) or more hours per week for the district during the school year.

2.054 Tuition students may participate in interscholastic activities at the member school they are actually attending, providing that such non-resident students are paying 100% of the tuition cost as provided in the Illinois School Code.

2.055 Students in special education classes have the option of participating for their home school district, which is counting their attendance, and receiving state aid for them or at the attendance center of their special education class. Once the student has chosen the option, it will not be changed unless the student's special education Individualized Education Plan (IEP) changes.

Illustrations for Section 2.050

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Q. What is the definition of a staff member?
A. A full-time staff member is defined as a staff member employed and compensated by a school district who works thirty-five (35) or more hours per week for the district during the school year.

Q. We have a student attending our junior high school. His family lives out of district, but his mom is a staff member and teaches at the high school within our district. Our district has received a legislative waiver from ISBE to allow students who live out of district to attend tuition-free as long as one of their parents works for the district. Is the student eligible to participate for our school?
A. Yes, provided the parent who works in the district is a full-time employee of the district.

Q. We have a student attending our junior high school. His family lives out of district, but his dad is (a) a full-time custodian or (b) the dad is part-time custodian within the district. Our district has a Board Policy to allow students who live out of district to attend tuition-free as long as one of their parents works for the district. Is the student eligible to participate for our school?
A. In (a) the student would be eligible and (b) the student would not be eligible. Employees must be full-time employees of the district in order for their children to be eligible.

Q. A family is building a new home within our district. It will not be finished by the time school starts in the fall so the parents are living in their old house which is in another district until their new house is ready to be occupied. Our district is going to allow the children to attend tuition-free until they move into their new home. What is the eligibility of their children to practice and participate in contests while they are attending tuition-free?
A. The students are not eligible to practice or participate in this situation. A student who is a non-resident is only eligible to practice and participate if they are paying tuition. In this case, the district is waiving tuition. However, since the student is not living in the district and is not paying tuition, the student is not eligible to practice or participate in contests until residency within the district has been established.

2.060 TRANSFER

2.061 A transfer student is defined as one who transfers from one school to another school after the first day of classes at his/her school.

2.062 A student who transfers from one school to another school shall be eligible to participate under the following guidelines:

a. The student would be eligible to participate in a sport at their new school during the current school year if during the IESA designated season for a sport, the student had NOT participated in a tryout, organized practice, or contest in that sport at their previous school. See By-Law 2.072 regarding student status as a member of a team.
b. A student who transfers from one school to another and is eligible in accordance with section (a) above shall become eligible to participate in contests for the new school on his/her eleventh day of attendance at the new school in any sport or activity and provided all other eligibility requirements are met.

2.063 A student who transfers from one school to another is eligible immediately if the school from which he/she transfers is involved in a co-op with the school to which he/she is transferring.

Illustrations for Section 2.060

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Q. What does the phrase "eligibility requirements" mean?
A. In general, when a student transfers he/she must have on file with the new school of attendance a birth certificate, 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 such tryout, practice, or contest in any athletic activity, the student must meet the age guidelines as set forth in By-Law 3.050, and the principal can verify passing grades from the previous school.

Q. May a student who plays girls volleyball in the fall in Missouri play girls volleyball for an IESA member school in the winter if her family moves from Missouri to Illinois?

A. Yes. She becomes eligible on her 11th day of attendance. The IESA Board of Directors has determined that the season in which a sport is played in another state is a circumstance beyond the control of the student, the family, and the IESA member school.

Q. May a student who participated in a softball try-out at one school and then moves to a new school prior to the start of classes be eligible to participate on the softball team at the new school?
A. No. The student would not be eligible to participate in that same activity at the new school. The student would be eligible in any activity in which they did not participate in a tryout, practice, or contest at the old school.

Q. According to the IESA standardized calendar, tryouts/practice for the boys basketball season may begin October XX. May a student who transfers to my school in December join our school basketball team?
A. Yes, but only if the student did not try out, practice, or participate in a game with the previous school. If the student tried out, practiced, or participated in a game with his former school, then the boy would not be allowed to join the team at his new school. If he did not participate in a tryout or practice with his former school, then he would be eligible to compete for the team at his new school of attendance.

Q. May a student who transfers to my school in January participate with our track team when practice may begin on March XX?
A. Yes. This student will have been in attendance at least 11 school days before the start of track practice and therefore is eligible to be a member of the track team. If the transfer occurred on or after March XX and the student practiced or competed with the former school, the student would not be eligible to join the track team at the new school of attendance.

2.070 USE OF PARTICIPANTS

2.071 Only students who are currently eligible under the rules and By-Laws are eligible to participate.

2.072 A student becomes a member of the school team when he/she practices with the school team or participates in a contest.

2.080 SCHOOLS WITH WHICH CONTESTS MAY BE HELD

2.081 Member schools may permit eligible students to participate in interscholastic activities as school representatives pursuant with the following:

- Schools which are members of this Association;
- Illinois elementary attendance centers containing any of the grades five through eight which are not members of this Association;
- Any school (Illinois or non-Illinois) containing grades five through eight as long as that contest is held in an Illinois school;
- Non-Illinois elementary attendance centers in states adjacent to Illinois which contain any of the grades five through eight.

2.082 Member schools may not permit students to participate as school representatives in interscholastic activities with high school or non-school groups.

2.083 Member schools are not allowed to practice against or with other schools, including high schools, or allow students from their own school to practice with a different school.

Illustrations for Section 2.080

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Q. Is a team from a member school allowed to participate against teams from non-school organizations, such as YMCA's, wrestling clubs, etc.?
A. No. This is in violation of this By-Law.

Q. Could a team from a member school play a contest against the school faculty?
A. Yes, such games would be permitted at any time, even if they involved students who are certified athletes. As this is not an interscholastic contest, it would not be counted as one of the contests to which a school team is limited by the By-Laws.

Q. Could a team from a member school play a game against the players' parents?
A. Yes. This would be permitted and would have no effect on student eligibility. As this is not an interscholastic contest, it would not be counted as one of the contests to which a school team is limited by the By-Laws.

Q. My 7th grade team was defeated in the regional round of play. Can my 8th grade team that has advanced to the IESA state finals practice against the high school freshman team prior to the finals?
A. No. IESA teams are not allowed to practice against high school students. Additionally, IHSA rules prohibit high school students from practicing with/against junior high school teams.

2.090 SPORTSMANSHIP OF SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES

2.091 It is the clear obligation of students, school staff, boards of education, and all other official representatives of member schools in all interscholastic relationships to practice and promote the highest principles of sportsmanship and the ethics of competition, and it is the obligation of the member school to maintain proper crowd control at all interscholastic activities. The Association shall have no responsibility for crowd control or for the actions of school representatives. The Board of Directors shall have full authority to penalize any member school, any of whose representatives or spectators may be adjudged upon competent evidence to have violated these obligations.

2.092 The IESA and its Board of Directors require an administrator or school representative (other than the participating coaches) be in attendance at all home contests. It is recommended that, in addition to the tournament manager, an administrator or other school representative from the host school be in attendance at all times for state tournament series contests.

2.093 The IESA and its Board of Directors recommend that a school have a policy in place when it is necessary to deal with a fan ejection(s).

2.094 For all contests, game officials will be required to fill out and submit a special report form for an ejection within 48 hours of the incident. In addition, the host school administrator on duty should also complete a special report form.

Illustrations for Section 2.090

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Q. Is the host school exclusively responsible for crowd control?
A. No. While the host school for any activity must assume primary responsibility for the physical management of the activity, including providing for crowd control, this is a mutual responsibility. Visiting schools must also take such measures as are necessary to ensure proper behavior on the part of their own students and spectators.

2.100 MISBEHAVIOR DURING ACTIVITIES

Students participating in interscholastic contests in violation of the By-Laws, or other persons found to be in gross violation of the ethics of competition or the principles of good sportsmanship, may be barred by the Executive Director from interscholastic activities.

2.110 QUALIFICATIONS OF COACHES AND INSTRUCTORS

QUALIFICATIONS OF COACHES FOR NON-ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

Coaches in the activities of speech, music, scholastic bowl, and chess shall be designated by their Board of Education or governing board as personnel responsible for the supervision of the school's contestants. Coaches in these activities do not have to meet any coaching education requirements.

QUALIFICATIONS OF ATHLETIC COACHES

To serve as Head or Assistant Coach, athletic coaches in member schools in the sports in which the school participates in the IESA state series must:

- be regularly licensed by the ISBE as a teacher, administrator, or school service personnel (i.e. counselor, social worker, speech therapist, etc.), or
- be a retired teacher/coach from an IESA or IHSA member school, or
- be a college student coaching as part of an official student teaching assignment, or
- be certified through an IESA approved coaches education program, and
- be a high school graduate or equivalent (see exception below for high school students), and
- be officially employed by the local school board of the member school.

The following courses have been approved by the IESA Board of Directors:

- IESA/Human Kinetics Coaching Essentials course,
- IHSA/Human Kinetics Coaching Principles or Coaching Orientation course, or
- NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching Course.

A person with a substitute-only license must complete one of the IESA-approved coaching education courses to serve as a coach.

Coaches in the activities of bowling, cheer, and golf must also meet the Qualifications of Athletic Coaches criteria.

High school students may be assigned to assist with the coaching of athletic teams in a member school provided they are under the direct supervision of an individual who is qualified to coach under the provision of Section 2.110.

Any coach who does not meet the IESA coaching qualifications as detailed above will be suspended for a minimum of two games and will not be permitted to coach again until he/she complete an IESA-approved coaching education course. This includes practices and contests.

The Board of Directors may apply additional sanctions to schools with multiple violations for non-compliance with the coaching education By-Law.

.Illustrations for Section 2.110

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GENERAL

Q. What does the phrase "regularly licensed by the ISBE" mean?
A. You have fulfilled the requirements of state law to teach by the Illinois State Board of Education.

Q. If I am not a licensed teacher or administrator and therefore must complete one of the approved coaching education courses, how often do I have to take the approved coaching education course?
A. Once.

Q. All of my coaches, including my cheer coach, are licensed teachers. Can we require that they complete the coaching education course?
A. Yes. This would be a local policy requiring such completion.

STUDENT TEACHERS

Q. May a student teacher assist with the coaching of an athletic team?
A. Yes, provided it is part of the student teaching experience.
Q. May student teachers continue coaching their student teaching assignments after the regular student teaching period ends?
A. Yes, provided their college or university authorizes the continuation.

VOLUNTEER COACHES

Q. May a person volunteer to coach without pay at a member school?
A. Yes. However, whether a person is paid to coach or is a non-paid volunteer, they must meet the qualification requirements of By-Law 2.110 and its subsections.

RETIRED TEACHERS

Q. Does the provision for coaching by retired teachers refer only to persons immediately retired from teaching, or to retired teachers regardless of the date of their retirement?
A. The by-law simply states "...a retired teacher from an IESA or IHSA member school." This statement is interpreted literally. It permits a school to utilize any retired teacher from a member school as a coach.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHING LICENSE

Q. May a person with a substitute-only license coach?
A. No. However, once they complete an IESA-approved coaching education course, they are eligible to coach.

MINIMUM AGE OF NON-FACULTY COACHES

Q. Is there a minimum age for non-faculty and/or non-certified personnel who can serve as a head coach?
A. The Board of Directors interprets the provisions of this By-Law to require non-faculty and/or non-certified head coaches to be a high school graduate or equivalent.

COACHING CERTIFICATION NOT REQUIRED
Q. Are there IESA activities where the coach of a given activity would not be required to meet coaching education requirements?
A. Yes. Coaches/instructors for music, speech, scholastic bowl, and chess are not required to meet the coaching education requirements.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AS COACHES
Q. I have a high school student assisting our wrestling squad. My head coach was ejected from the contest. May the high school student take over as the head coach for the remainder of the match?
A. No. You would have to forfeit the remaining matches of the meet unless there is an individual who meets the coaching education requirement in attendance who can assume the duties of the head coach.

Q. May the high school student we have assisting my volleyball coach be the only coach in the gym when my head coach had to miss practice?
A. No. The high school student assisting shall never assume coaching duties unless they are under the direct supervision of a coach qualified under the provisions of 2.110.

Q. May we use high school students to demonstrate skills at practice?
A. Yes, provided they are only demonstrating skills and not practicing against or with the middle school/junior high school athletes.

DEFINITION OF CERTIFIED STAFF MEMBER
Q. What is the definition of a certified staff member or a licensed teacher, administrator, or school service personnel?
A. A school employee who is eligible to participate in the Teacher Retirement System (TRS).

2.120 SELECTION AND USE OF OFFICIALS, JUDGES, AND MODERATORS

2.121 Coaches from participating teams should never be the contest officials.

2.122 All contest officials shall be familiar with IESA contest regulations for the activity which they are officiating. Officials are to adhere to the uniform requirements outlined in the IHSA Sports Official Handbook.

2.123 If an assignment has been made by the IESA in the state series and there is an affiliation between an official and a participating team, the official will be reassigned or paid. If an assignment has been made by a host school for a state series contest and there is an affiliation between an official and a participating team, the official will be removed from the contest.

2.124 Contest officials shall make all decisions regarding the rules of play. Their judgments and decisions cannot be protested.

2.125 The following procedure shall be in effect for payments to officials in both the regular season and state series when contests are postponed or suspended:

- When an official is notified before arriving at the site, there shall be no compensation.
- When an official arrives at the site, and the contest is suspended or canceled before the contest begins, the official shall be paid one-half of the game fee.
- If the contest begins and then is suspended until the next day, the official shall receive the full game fee for the contest that began and then a full fee for the completion of the contest the next day.

2.126 Activity Officials

It is essential for the integrity and advancement of the officiating profession that only qualified and trained individuals officiate IESA contests. If a school is aware that an IESA member school is hiring non-licensed officials, please inform the IESA office.

PROVISIONAL LICENSE: A provisional license is available to students who are 15 or 16 years of age. Provisional licensees may work 9th-grade-level contests or below in the sport for which they are licensed, provided they are working with a fully licensed IHSA Official. Students with a Provisional License are not allowed to work any interscholastic contest beyond the 9th grade level. Students with a Provisional License may not work IESA post-season contests.

NOTE: A school's first violation for hiring a non-licensed official in baseball, softball, basketball, wrestling, and/or volleyball will result in a warning. With a second violation, the Executive Director shall have the full authority to determine and impose a monetary penalty equivalent to the cost of one regional official for that activity.

Baseball

Member schools are required to use Illinois High School Association baseball officials for all regular-season contests. The IESA administrative staff shall contract officials for all sectional and state final contests. . Schools hosting regional contests shall hire the regional officials. For the IESA state series, officials licensed by the Illinois High School Association in baseball shall be used.

Two umpires shall be hired for all regular-season games, both of whom shall be licensed by the IHSA
Two umpires shall be hired for each regional game
Two umpires shall be hired for each sectional game
Three umpires shall be hired for each state-level game

A pre-game conference with umpires and head coaches is required to take place prior to all contests involving member schools.

Softball

Member schools are required to use Illinois High School Association softball officials for all regular-season contests. The IESA administrative staff shall contract officials for all sectional and state final contests. Schools hosting regional contests shall hire the regional officials. For the IESA state series, officials licensed by the Illinois High School Association in softball shall be used.

Two umpires shall be hired for all regular-season games, both of whom shall be licensed by the IHSA
Two umpires shall be hired for each regional game
Two umpires shall be hired for each sectional game
Three umpires shall be hired for each state-level game

A pre-game conference with umpires and head coaches is required to take place prior to all contests involving member schools.

Basketball

Member schools are required to use Illinois High School Association basketball officials for all regular-season contests. The IESA administrative staff shall contract officials for all sectional and state final contests. Schools hosting regional contests shall hire the regional officials. For the IESA state series, officials licensed by the Illinois High School Association in basketball shall be used.

Two officials shall be hired for all regular season games, both of whom shall be licensed by the IHSA
Two officials shall be hired for each regional game. Three officials shall be hired for regional FINAL games.
Three officials shall be hired for each sectional game
Three officials shall be hired for each state-level game

No official may work more than three state series games in one day.

A pre-game meeting with officials, head coaches, and captains is required to take place prior to all contests involving member schools.

Volleyball

Member schools are required to use Illinois High School Association officials licensed in volleyball for all regular-season contests. The IESA administrative staff shall contract officials for all sectional and state final contests. Schools hosting regional contests shall hire the regional officials. For the IESA state series, officials licensed by the Illinois High School Association in volleyball shall be used. For the IESA state finals, the line judges shall also be licensed by the Illinois High School Association in volleyball.

Two officials shall be hired for all regular-season matches, both of whom shall be licensed by the IHSA
Two officials shall be hired for each regional match
Two officials shall be hired for each sectional match
Two officials shall be hired for each state-level match
Two line judges shall be hired for each state-level match

For regular season matches, regionals, and sectionals, the host school has the option to use qualified line judges. If the host school uses line judges:

- they must be at least 17 years of age; and
- two line judges (no more, no less) must be provided

A pre-match conference with officials, head coaches, and captains is required to take place prior to all contests involving member schools.

Wrestling

Member schools are required to use Illinois High School Association officials licensed in wrestling for all regular-season contests. The IESA administrative staff shall contract officials for all regional, sectional, and state final contests. For the IESA state series, officials licensed by the Illinois High School Association in wrestling shall be used.

Three officials shall be hired for each regional wrestling tournament
Five officials shall be hired for each sectional wrestling tournament
Twelve officials shall be hired for the state wrestling tournament

Prior to contests involving member schools, the referee shall meet with the head coaches and team captains.

Track & Field

It is recommended that member schools use Illinois High School Association officials licensed in track and field for all regular-season meets. The IESA administrative staff shall contract officials for all sectional and state final meets. For the IESA state series, officials licensed by the Illinois High School Association in track and field shall be used.

Two starters shall be hired for each sectional meet and will be hired by the IESA office
Licensed officials as needed will be hired for each state meet

Prior to contests involving member schools, the referee shall address head coaches and team captains in a meeting or by written communication.

Speech

Speech contest hosts shall obtain judges for the contests, preferably from the approved list of judges provided by the IESA office. Host schools shall provide the speech judges with complete rules for the conduct of the contest. All judges shall be people well-versed in the ability of elementary and junior high students to express ideas orally. No coach serving as a judge shall judge students from his or her own school. The IESA office will assign the judge representative to all contests.

Music

Music contest hosts shall obtain judges for the contests, preferably from the approved list of judges provided by the IESA office. Host schools shall provide the judges with complete rules for the conduct of the contest. All judges shall be well-versed and experienced in the area they are to judge. Three judges shall be hired for organizational events and one judge for all solo, ensemble, and choir events. No music director serving as a judge shall judge students from his or her own school.

Scholastic Bowl

Coaches will be allowed to moderate regular-season matches. It is recommended that schools contact their opponent ahead of the match, informing them that a coach will be moderating. At halftime, coaches have the option to switch roles and moderate the second half of the match.

Scholastic bowl regional contest hosts shall obtain moderators, scorers, and timers for the contests. The Sectional host shall contract the required number of moderators. For the IESA state final contests, the IESA shall contract the necessary number of moderators. Host schools shall provide the moderators with complete rules for the conduct of the tournament. Moderators used during the state series must be at least 18 years of age. Sectional and state contest hosts shall obtain scorers and timers for all contests.

Cheer

It is recommended that any school conducting a competitive cheer competition use IHSA licensed cheer officials as judges for the competition. The IESA administrative staff shall contract officials who are licensed by the IHSA as needed for the IESA cheer competition.

Illustrations for Section 2.120

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. Can a school demand that an official be changed for a state series game in which they participate?
A. No.

Q. How can coaches be assured officials know of differences between the IESA and National Federation rules of play?
A. This should be checked with the officials prior to the start of the contest. It would be helpful for a host school to have a copy of the IESA Handbook available to answer such questions from officials or coaches. Exceptions for each sport are given in Division 4 of the By-Laws and are also included with the Terms & Conditions for each activity.

Q. As a licensed official, I arrive at a game, and my partner is not a licensed official. What should I do?
A. It is important that only licensed officials work IESA contests. A licensed official should not work an IESA contest with a non-licensed official. In this situation, the licensed official should work the contest WITHOUT the aid of the non-licensed official. The licensed official should report the situation to the IESA office after the contest.

Q. As a licensed official working an IESA contest, am I required to hold a pre-game meeting? As a head coach, am I required to attend a pre-game meeting?
A. Yes. NFHS rules require that officials conduct a pre-game meeting prior to a contest. In addition, the meeting is important in reinforcing contest requirements and expectations. Pre-game conferences may include court/field considerations, equipment legality, sportsmanship expectations, concussion management, etc.

Q: In the rare occurrence that two licensed officials cannot be hired to work my contest, can I use one licensed official?
A: Yes, as long as your opponent, their administration, and the one official who would be working the game are all in agreement. The one official should be paid the total fees both officials would have received. For instance, if your school pays $45 per official for a regular season game, the one official would get $90 for working by themself. Hiring fewer than the required number of officials should not be used as a cost-saving measure. Schools should do everything possible to hire the required number of licensed officials.

2.130 STANDARDIZED IESA CALENDAR

2.131 All IESA-sponsored state tournament series, sport seasons, and activities shall be conducted on dates established with the standardized calendar adopted by the Board of Directors.

2.132 The standardized calendar shall number the weeks of the year, with week one (No. 1) being the first full week of July (Sunday through Saturday).

2.133 The standardized calendar shall be updated and adopted annually at the September board meeting for a three-year period and is subject to change. The standardized calendar is available from the IESA website and should be checked periodically by school personnel for updated dates/changes.

2.140 COOPERATIVE TEAM SPONSORSHIP

2.141 The Executive Director shall have the authority to approve the formation of cooperative athletic teams or activity programs by two or more member schools in the following activities: girls softball, boys baseball, boys & girls cross-country, girls basketball, boys basketball, boys wrestling, girls wrestling, girls volleyball, boys & girls bowling, speech, cheerleading, scholastic bowl, golf, and boys & girls track and field under the following conditions:

- When schools enter into cooperative agreements girls basketball, boys basketball, girls volleyball and track and field, the agreements apply to the activity and cannot be subdivided into 7th or 8th specifically.
- When schools enter into cooperative agreements for cross country and track and field, the agreements are applied to both genders. Agreements may not be gender specific for these activities.
- The combined enrollments of all schools involved in the cooperative team shall be utilized to determine the classification for the cooperative team.
- The cooperative sponsorship agreement is established for a minimum period of two consecutive school years and shall designate the sponsoring school. An additional school may be added to an existing co-op agreement after one year, provided:
    - they complete a new application for a two-year period,
    - the conference (if applicable) approves of the new school being added, and
    - the approval of the Executive Director has been given.

- The governing boards of all schools participating in the cooperative team agreement jointly make the application to the IESA for approval of the cooperative team agreement. In addition to the governing boards approving the formation of the cooperative team, 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 that the cooperative team will not be affiliated in a conference, written approval from a minimum of five schools included in the cooperative team's schedule of competition must be secured. When a school renews the co-op application, conference or opponent approval is not required if no changes have been made to the original agreement.
- The Executive Director has the authority to dissolve a co-op after one year provided a letter requesting to do so is signed by the President of the Boards of Education involved in the co-op and the principals of the schools involved in the co-op. All schools must agree to dissolve the co-op after one year for this to occur.

2.142 Application Procedures

A statement signed by the administrators of all cooperating schools designating the name under which the cooperative team will compete.

A statement expressing the reasons for the formation of a cooperative team.

The signatures of the administrator and Board of Education presidents of each of the schools involved in the cooperative.

One application form must be completed and filed with the IESA office for each cooperative team a school wishes to establish. Application forms are available from the IESA office or the IESA website.

The application deadline for cooperative teams during a given school year in a given sport shall be determined by the Board of Directors and will be published in the official calendar.

Any school participating in a cooperative team agreement may not form an individual team representing its own school in that activity.

Any member school participating in a cooperative team agreement is required to pay the IESA activity entry fee for that activity by the initial entry deadline for that activity and prior to participation in the cooperative agreement. All participating cooperative schools must pay activity fees for the length of the active agreement.

Duplicate team awards may be ordered by the IESA office at the request of a non-sponsoring cooperative team. The cost of the extra awards shall be the responsibility of the requesting school.

Prior cooperative agreements may be renewed for a minimum of two years by signature of an administrator from each school after approval of the Boards of Education of the cooperating schools. If there are changes in the interschool agreement, a new cooperative application must be filed. Conference approval or opponent's approval is not required when a school renews the cooperative agreement and no changes have been made to the original agreement.

For school districts with more than six IESA member schools that form one district team in all activities, a district co-op team may be entered in the IESA state series when all of the following requirements are met:

- All schools involved in the co-op must be a member of the Illinois Elementary School Association;
- The co-op school team is the only team representing the schools involved in the co-op;
- All students participating for the co-op team must meet all eligibility guidelines;
- An application is filed with the Association listing all participating schools;
- Only one activity fee is required

Illustrations for Section 2.140

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. If a school adds a boys sport team by formation of a cooperative team, must it also add a girls sport team to its program?
A. Simply adding a team for one sex of students by forming a cooperative does not require corresponding action to add a team for the other sex of students. However, schools are bound by the provisions of the Illinois Sex Equity Rules, published by the Illinois State Board of Education. Questions in respect to these rules and the implications of cooperative teams in light of them should be referred to the Illinois State Board of Education.

Q. May a cooperative team be formed with out-of-state schools?
A. No.

Q. May cooperative teams be formed with non-IESA member schools from Illinois?
A. No. All schools involved in the cooperative agreement must be members. Membership is open to all schools in Illinois with grades five through eight.

Q. May a school form more than one cooperative team in the same sport?
A. No.

Q. May a school form a cooperative team with one school in basketball, a different cooperative team with another school in cross-country, and even a third cooperative team with yet another school in volleyball?
A. Yes. The provisions of this rule permit formation of different cooperative teams with different schools on a sport-by-sport basis. However, each cooperative team formed must undergo the complete process of approval by the Boards of Education and the IESA office.

Q. May schools that form a co-op make cuts and/or limit participation opportunities?
A. While the goal of forming a co-op is to increase opportunities for students, it may become necessary to make a cut if the co-op team has too many members for the given activity. These decisions are up to the local districts to work out the details of who will be allowed to try-out and participate on the co-op team.

Q. May a school drop one sport such as fall baseball, in order to enter a cooperative team arrangement in another sport, such as cross-country?
A. Yes. The decision as to which sports to offer is exclusively the prerogative of each local Board of Education.

Q. Is there a deadline for filing application with the IESA office for approval of cooperative teams for each activity for each school year?
A. Yes, the deadlines are published in the official IESA calendar.

Q. May a cooperative team agreement be formed during a sport season, in order to accommodate participating in the state tournament series that school year?
A. No. All cooperative teams for each school year must have applied to the IESA for approval no later than the cooperative agreement deadline for that activity. Applications received after that particular date will be denied for that school year.

Q. If two member schools, whose enrollments for a given year are 70 and 80 respectively, form a cooperative team, what enrollment will be used to determine the classification of the cooperative team?
A. Classification of the cooperative team will be based on the combined enrollment of the cooperating schools. In this case, 70 plus 80 equals a total of 150. This figure of 150 will determine classification for the cooperative team only. The individual schools will still be classified on the basis of their individual enrollments of 70 and 80 respectively for other sports.

Q. If two schools form a cooperative team for any school year, may they redraft their cooperative agreement and add a third school to the cooperative at the end of one year?
A. Yes, provided they file a new two-year agreement, and with approval of the conference (if applicable) and the Executive Director.

Q. If two schools form a cooperative agreement, and then after the season for that sport begins, interest wanes and there are not sufficient students participating to sustain the team or if the co-op simply is not working out between the schools, what is the status of the agreement if the administration and Board of Educations by mutual consent terminate the team's existence?
A. Each cooperative agreement must be written for a minimum of two years. It is possible that a co-op can dissolve after one year PROVIDED the administrators and Board of Education Presidents of all the schools in the co-op sign a letter requesting that the co-op dissolve listing the reasons why the cooperative arrangement is not working. The reasons for dissolution of the cooperative team are extenuating circumstances accepted by the IESA Board of Directors.

Q. If two schools have established a cooperative team, and the cooperative dissolves prior to the end of its two-year agreement, may either of the schools participate as an individual school in that activity before the termination of the cooperative agreement?
A. Yes, provided the reasons for dissolution of the cooperative team are extenuating circumstances accepted by the IESA Board of Directors. However, a school in this situation may not enter another cooperative agreement in this activity until the end of the two-year time period of the original cooperative agreement.

Q. May two schools form a cooperative team for any two school years, then subsequently consolidate with each other effective for the second year of the cooperative?
A. Yes. Consolidation of schools joined in a cooperative team agreement will simply supersede the cooperative agreement.

Q. Will the IESA approve a cooperative team application in the event all questions pertaining to contracts with other schools and/or officials are not mutually resolved?
A. It is not likely, though a judgment will be made in each individual case.

Q. If schools A and B form a cooperative team and then school B consolidates with or annexes to school C, is the cooperative team still in effect? In other words, is school C obligated to continue the cooperative which B had entered with A?
A. Consolidation and/or annexation actions may negate existing cooperative team agreements. Situations like this should be discussed when the possibility of consolidation or annexation exists.

Q. Which school will receive mail for the cooperative activity from the IESA office?
A. Only the school sponsoring the activity.

Q. Can cooperating schools renew their agreements if they have changes?
A. No. They must submit a new application form and interschool agreement for approval.

Q. Does the initial cooperative application need approval of my conference?
A. Yes, provided you are a member of a conference. If you are not a member of a conference, then you need approval from five of your opponents. Speech, cheer, and bowling co-ops do not need conference approval. Co-op renewals do not require conference approval if no changes have been made to the original agreement.

Q. If two schools have established a cooperative team and during the season for that sport, one of the two cooperating schools experiences a teacher strike may the cooperative team continue to participate during the strike or is it restricted under the terms of the IESA strike By-Laws?
A. The cooperative team will be affected by the strike By-Laws. Therefore, if either cooperating school experiences a strike, the students from the striking school will be restricted from competition for the duration of the strike. Students from the non-striking school may continue to participate. If the non-striking school is unable, due to insufficient numbers, etc., to fulfill the terms of contracted obligations, the cooperative team will be held in breach of contract.

3.000 ATHLETIC BY-LAWS

3.010 REGIONAL/SECTIONAL ENTRY FORMS

3.011 The Regional/Sectional Entry Form, which is available only from the IESA website for each activity in which a school participates, shall be used to list up to the maximum number of certified contestants for state tournament series play. Only those individuals listed on the Regional Entry Form are allowed to sit on the team bench during state series play.

3.012 In baseball, softball, basketball, volleyball, and scholastic bowl competition, principals of competing schools shall complete a copy of the Regional Entry Form using the online form that is available on the IESA website. Once the form is completed, the information is automatically available to the regional host and the IESA office. Teams shall be ruled ineligible to compete in any tournament series contest unless this requirement is completed. The same exact procedure is used for completing the Sectional Entry Form for cross-country, golf, and bowling.

3.013 In boys wrestling, the on-line Regional Entry Form, must be completed online through the designated platform, and may list up to two certified contestants in each weight class for state tournament series competition. Schools are required to complete the Regional Entry Form by the Tuesday preceding the regional. The Regional Entry Forms will be available on-line for regional hosts to view. Teams shall be ruled ineligible to compete at the regional level of the IESA state tournament series unless they have official entries at the seeding meeting. No changes may be made to the regional entries after the seeding meeting. On the day of the regional meet, there are no substitutions---only scratches.

In girls wrestling, the on-line Sectional Entry Form, must be completed online through the designated platform, and may list up to one certified contestant in each weight class for state tournament series competition. Schools are required to complete the Sectional Entry Form by the Monday preceding the sectional. The Sectional Entry Form will be available on-line for hosts to view. Teams shall be ruled ineligible to compete at the sectional level of the IESA state tournament series unless they have official entries at the seeding meeting. No changes may be made to the sectional entries after the seeding meeting. On the day of the sectional meet, there are no substitutions---only scratches.

3.014 In track and field, each school entering the state series (whether entering a team or individuals) must submit its Sectional Participant Information online. Sectional Participant Information must be completed within the time frame as detailed in the Track and Field Terms & Conditions. No changes may be made to the Sectional Participant Information after the posted deadlines. Contestants shall be allowed to participate only in those events in which they are entered. On the day of the sectional meet, there are no substitutions---only scratches.

3.015 It is the ultimate responsibility of each competing team entered in the state series to ensure that each participant listed on their Regional/Sectional Entry Form is eligible. Regional/Sectional hosts for all activities are also required to check each contestant on the Regional/Sectional Entry Form. Schools may make changes to the Regional Entry Form until the "Roster Closed" deadline date as detailed in the Activity Calendar that is posted on the IESA website. After the Roster Closed deadline, no changes will be permitted on the Regional Entry Form.

3.016 Advancing teams will not need to hand-carry or forward the Regional/Sectional Entry Form to sectional or state tournament hosts. Sectional hosts may check with the IESA office if there is a question on the certification of a participant. Entrants for all state tournament contests shall be checked at the IESA office.

3.017 The school administration may petition the Executive Director to correct the Regional/Sectional Entry Form when a student's name has been omitted due to a clerical or administrative error.

Illustrations for Section 3.010

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. Are coaches required to submit the online Regional Entry Form by the posted deadline?
A. Yes. Failure to do so will subject the school and contestants to penalty.

Q. If I have supplied my regional host with a copy of my baseball Regional Entry Form, must I have a copy for the sectional and state hosts also?
A. No.

Q. My coach inadvertently left a player off the Regional Entry Form. The student played in the first round regional game and our team won. Is there a penalty and do we have to forfeit that contest?
A. It depends on the situation. If there is a roster spot open on the Regional Entry Form and the principal completes a Roster Reinstatement Form and can document that the player in question participated in at least 60% of the team's contests during the regular season, then the team will not have to forfeit the contest and the player will be added to the Regional Entry Form. However, the player will have to miss the next game by serving a one game suspension and the school will be fined $50. If, however, there is no roster spot open on the Regional Entry Form and the individual plays in a state series game and the team wins the contest, this will be treated as using an ineligible player and the team will be required to forfeit the contest and penalized in accordance with By-Law 5.071.

3.020 CLASSIFICATION BY ENROLLMENT

3.021 Seventh and eighth grade enrollment from the previous school year as reported to the IESA by the member school through the IESA Member Center shall determine the classification of each school for boys baseball, girls softball, girls and boys cross-country, girls and boys basketball, girls volleyball, scholastic bowl, boys wrestling, routine division of cheerleading, and track and field after a tabulation of entries in each sport.

In scholastic bowl and boys wrestling, an equal split of the number of entries will determine placement in Class A and Class AA. The highest 50% of the participating schools will be Class AA and the smallest 50% of the participating schools will be Class A. In softball, baseball, and Cheer (Routine Division), the teams will be divided equally into three classes each containing 1/3 of the participating schools. Girls and boys basketball, girls volleyball, cross-country, and boys and girls track teams will be split into four equal classes each containing 25% of the participating schools.

For classification purposes, the total student enrollments for a K-7 only building, a 6th grade only building, a K-6 only building, or a K-5 only building will be as follows: For a K-7 building (or any building housing up to grade 7 only), the enrollment of the 7th grade only class shall be doubled; for a 6th grade only building, the enrollment of the 6th grade shall be doubled; for a K-6 building, the enrollment of students in grades 5 & 6 shall be used, for a K-5 building, the enrollment of the 5th grade shall be doubled.

When two or more schools consolidate or annex, the total student enrollment figures reported by the schools to the IESA Office as of September 30 of the preceding school year for all the schools involved in the consolidation shall be combined and the consolidated school shall be classified on the basis of this combined total student enrollment figure.

When a school joins the Association, and that school enrolled students during the previous school term, the total student enrollment figure used for classification purposes for that school shall be the total student enrollment figure reported by the school to the IESA office as of September 30 of the preceding school year.

When a school joins the Association, and that school did not enroll students during the previous school term, the total student enrollment figure used for classification purposes shall be the total student enrollment figure reported by the school to the IESA office as of September 30 of the current school year. An unofficial figure obtained from the school district may be used by the IESA for planning purposes.

When a school (or several schools) loses students due to the opening of a new school or schools in the same school district, or due to the deannexation of a major portion of the school district, the total student enrollment figures used for classification purposes shall be the total student enrollment figures reported by the school to the IESA office as of September 30 of the current school year. An unofficial figure obtained from the school district may be used by the IESA for planning purposes.

When a school (or several schools) gains students due to the closing of a school or schools in the same school district, or due to the deactivation of a neighboring school district, the total student enrollment figures used for classification purposes shall be the total student enrollment figures reported by the school to the IESA office as of September 30 of the current school year. An unofficial figure obtained from the school district may be used by the IESA for planning purposes.

3.022 Petition for Variance

Not later than July 1 of a given year, the principal of an IESA member school may submit a letter of application to the Executive Director for approval of a variance in a school's total student enrollment figure used for classification purposes if:

- there is an anticipated, verifiable twenty percent (20%) or more decrease (or increase) in total student enrollment for the ensuing school year for reasons deemed acceptable by the Board of Directors of the IESA.

- such variance is approved by the Executive Director, the varied total student enrollment figure approved for a school shall be the enrollment figure used for classification purposes for that school during the ensuing school year.

Illustrations for Section 3.020

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. Can a Class 1A school be moved and participate in Class 2A in an activity by its own choice?
A. The Board of Directors has ruled this is not permissible and that each school must participate only in the class to which it has been assigned in each activity, dependent upon that school's enrollment. However, a school may be Class 1A in one activity and Class 2A in another, depending on the enrollment cutoffs for those activities.

Q. Can a school's enrollment possibly place them in Class 1A in seventh grade girls volleyball and then in Class 2A in eighth grade girls volleyball?
A. No. A school will always be in the same class at both the seventh and eighth grade levels in a given activity.

Q. How does IESA receive my school's enrollment?
A. In the fall of each year, schools submit their enrollment as of September 30 to the IESA through the IESA Member Center. This number can be compared to the official number submitted to the ISBE.

3.030 SEASON LIMITATION IN ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

3.031 During the school year, no member school shall organize its teams, hold tryouts, practice, scrimmage, or participate in any interscholastic sport outside of the season limitations as prescribed in Division 4.000 of these By-Laws for any activity in which it participates in the IESA state tournament series.

Illustrations for Section 3.030

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. Must a member school that does not enter the IESA tournament series in basketball follow the basketball regulations contained in the By-Laws?
A. No. Member schools must abide by all regulations in activities at the grade levels in which they enter IESA tournament play.

Q. Is a scrimmage considered to be a practice or an interscholastic contest?
A. If a scrimmage or workout involves students from one member school only, it is considered to be practice. If students of more than one school are involved, it is an interscholastic contest and subject to all regulations pertaining thereto.

Q. Could a team representing a member school that participates in the IESA state series participate as a school team in summer tournaments?
A. Yes, provided the summer tournament is scheduled after the close of the school year for that particular team.

Q. Can basketball teams representing their schools participate in "shootouts"?
A. Yes, if such "shootouts" are held during the school year and during the school's basketball season, each game played during the "shootout" must count as a regular-season interscholastic contest. If the "shootout" is held during the school year, either before or after the school's basketball season, the school team could not participate.

3.040 PARTICIPATION LIMITATIONS

3.041 No student is eligible to participate at the same academic grade level for two different school years in the same activity. This is true whether the student attended a member or a non-member school. Participation in one interscholastic contest in an activity constitutes one season of eligibility in that activity.

3.042 No student shall be a member of an interscholastic team using ninth-grade or high school students. Athletic activities designated as seventh grade shall consist of contestants in grades five through seven. In all other athletic activities, fifth through eighth graders are eligible to participate. All contestants must meet the required age eligibility standards as detailed in By-Law 3.050.

3.043 See Division 4.000 for limitations in individual sports.

Illustrations for Section 3.040

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Q. I have a 7th-grade boy who I would like to play on both the 7th-grade state tournament team and the 8th-grade state tournament team. Is this allowed and if so, what is his eligibility for the following year?
A. A 7th-grade student may play on both the 7th-grade state tournament team and the 8th-grade state tournament team. It has no effect at all on eligibility the following year as an 8th grader. Assuming he continues to meet all eligibility requirements and is an 8th grader the following year, he is eligible to play on the 8th-grade team the next year. Local school policy may prevent an individual from playing on both the 7th-grade and 8th-grade tournament teams, but the IESA does not prohibit an individual from playing on both levels.

Q. For purposes of determining whether a student can participate after being retained, when is a contestant considered to have used a season of eligibility for a particular sport/activity?
A. A student is considered to have used a season of eligibility for a sport/activity once he or she actually competes in a contest.

Q. Last year a student was in 7th grade in another city. The student is transferring to my building during the summer. The student did not fail, but the parents requested the student repeat 7th grade due to immaturity when the student transferred. Is the student who has transferred into my school able to participate as a seventh grader this year?
A. If the student participated in an interscholastic activity as a seventh grader in the previous school year, the student is ineligible for that activity this school year.

Q. A girl played in one softball game as a sixth grader last year. She is being held back and will repeat 6th grade this year. Is she eligible to participate in softball this year even though she is still in 6th grade and only played in one game last year?
A. No. She has used her sixth-grade year of eligibility the previous year for that sport. However, if she did not participate in basketball, volleyball, track, or cross-country, she would be eligible for those activities this year.

Q. I have a boy who was in the 7th grade last year, and he played on the seventh-grade basketball team. Due to a variety of reasons, he was retained and will be in the 7th grade again this school year. Can he play on the 7th-grade team again this year?
A. No. That would be participating at the same academic grade level for two different school years in the same activity. This student would have used his seventh-grade basketball eligibility the previous year.

Q. I have a girl who was in the 7th grade last year, and she participated in the speech program and received a Division 1 first-place medal. Due to a variety of reasons, she was retained and will be in the 7th grade again this school year. Can she participate in the IESA speech contest again when she is repeating 7th grade?
A. No. That would be participating at the same academic grade level for two different school years in the same activity. This student would have used her seventh-grade speech eligibility the previous year.

Q. May a seventh-grade boy who played on the seventh-grade basketball team last year and was retained play "up" on the eighth-grade team this year?
A. No, that would be considered to be playing the same sport in two different school years at the same academic grade level. This student is not eligible to play basketball at any level during his second year in seventh grade. Assuming he is promoted to the 8th grade after his second year in seventh grade and assuming he still meets the age requirements, he would be eligible to play his 8th-grade year.

Q. Could a girl who is on her school's girls basketball team participate with a non-school travel basketball team during the girls basketball season?
A. It depends on the school's policy regarding participation on a school team and a non-school team at the same time. If the school would permit this type of participation, then the girl would be eligible. If the school did not allow this type of participation and the girl participated in the non-school competition during the school season, she would be in violation of local school policy and not an IESA rule.

Q. Could a boy on his school's cross-country team participate in a five-kilometer run during the school's cross-country season?
A. This would be a local school/coach decision.

Q. May a student participate on more than one school athletic team at a time?
A. Yes. The IESA places no limitations on this. Member schools may have local restrictions against this.

Q. Could a boy tryout for the school baseball team and practice with the school team while he is still a member of his summer Little League baseball team?
A. It depends on the school's policy regarding participation on a school team and a non-school team at the same time. If the school would permit this type of participation, then the boy could do both and be eligible. If the school did not allow this type of participation and the boy participated on the Little League team during the school season, he would be in violation of local school policy and not an IESA rule.

Q. May a student participate in a tryout for a non-school team while a member of a school team in the same sport?
A. Yes.

Q. May a student participate in practice with a non-school team while a member of the school team in the same sport?
A. This is a decision made by each school. The school decides whether or not a student can practice with a non-school team while he/she is a member of a school team in the same sport.

Q. Our school does not start the school season until January 15. According to the IESA calendar, the wrestling season may begin the Monday of Week 22 (late November/early December). May students from our school wrestle in IKWF tournaments from November 26 until January 15?
A. Check with your school for their policy. If they would allow a wrestler to participate in an IKWF tournament during that time, then you would be eligible to do so.

Q. A member of my boys basketball team played on a non-school team during our school's Christmas break despite repeated warnings I gave to the team to not play on non-school teams. What is the penalty?
A. The penalty would be determined by the local school if a local policy was violated.
Q. A member of our school's basketball team wants to participate with an indoor soccer team during the basketball season. Is this allowed?
A. Yes, provided your local school does not have a policy preventing this.

3.050 AGE QUALIFICATIONS

3.051 For all seventh grade athletic activities sponsored by a member school, a student shall be **eligible through age fourteen (14)**. If a student in a seventh grade athletic activity becomes fifteen (15) from the beginning date of practice in an activity as determined by the IESA standardized calendar through the final event in the seventh grade state tournament series in girls basketball, boys basketball, or girls volleyball, he/she is not eligible to participate in that activity. For boys and girls track, the final date of eligibility shall be governed by the member school's size classification.

3.052 For all activities sponsored by a member school, other than activities designated as seventh grade activities as noted above, a student shall be **eligible through age fifteen (15).** If a student in an activity becomes sixteen (16) from the beginning date of practice in an activity as determined by the IESA standardized calendar through the final event in the state tournament series in that activity, he/she is not eligible to participate in that activity. For boys and girls track, the final date of eligibility shall be governed by the member school's size classification.

3.053 A student shall be permitted to try-out only for those activities for which he/she is eligible by age.

3.054 Each student must provide the school principal with birth certification before practice or participation in any athletic activity. This must be a birth certificate, hospital record, or a thermostatic copy thereof. A baptismal certificate is not acceptable.

3.055 The school administrator shall be responsible for having birth certification on file for each athletic contestant prior to any practice or participation in any athletic activity.

3.056 The Executive Director shall rule on certification of any student who cannot meet the birth certification requirement on file.

3.057 The following procedures are established for an initial determination between member schools if there is a question regarding a contestant's eligibility due to age:

The administrator of the protesting school shall check with the administrator against whom a protest is made regarding age.

If the protest cannot be resolved between the administrators of the two member schools, the protesting school should notify the Executive Director to determine eligibility.

If the Executive Director verifies a contestant's ineligibility, the contestant's school is subject to the provisions of Section 5.070. In regular season contests, the ineligible contestant may be suspended from further competition in interscholastic contests for the remainder of the current season in that activity and the offending school from the state series in that activity.

If an age-ineligible player has been used in a previous tournament contest and this is brought to the attention of the tournament host by an administrator of a participating school prior to the beginning of the next contest in which the ineligible player would participate, the Executive Director should be informed at once by the tournament host. If a contestant's ineligibility is verified by the Executive Director, the contestant's school is subject to the provisions of Section 5.070, and advancement by the losing team from that contest shall be in accordance with the "State Tournament Team Limitations" listed in Division 4 of these By-Laws. No previous tournament contest in which an ineligible contestant may have played will be replayed.

Illustrations for Section 3.050

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Q. What determines a sports season?
A. A sports season is defined as the beginning date of practice, according to the IESA standardized calendar, through the final state championship date for that activity. The final date for track is determined by a school's track classification.

Q. I have an 8th grade boy who will turn 16 the day after the Class 1A boys baseball state finals. Is he eligible to play on my baseball team?
A. Yes. He is eligible the entire season including the state tournament series.

Q. I have an 8th grade girl who turns 16 the day of the girls softball sectional championship. May she play during the regular season, through the regional, and then not play at all in the sectional or state finals?
A. No. She is not eligible to compete in any softball games--regular season or IESA state series contests.

Q. May a 7th grade boy who turns 15 during the boys basketball season play on the 8th grade team instead of the 7th grade team?
A. Yes. Due to his age, the 8th grade team is the only team for which he can try out or compete.

Q. One of my 8th grade boys turns 16 the day of the basketball state championship. Even though I believe my team will be defeated in the regional, thus making him 15 throughout the season, is he eligible to be on the 8th grade team?
A. No. He is not eligible to try out for the team or compete in any basketball games.

Q. What are the age cutoff dates for the 2026-27 school year activities?
A. A student must be born on or after:

- September 18, 2010 for Girls Golf
- September 19, 2010 for Boys Golf
- September 20, 2010 for Girls Softball
- October 4, 2010 for Boys Baseball
- October 18, 2010 for Boys and Girls Cross-Country
- December 11, 2011 for 7th Grade Girls Basketball
- December 18, 2010 for 8th Grade Girls Basketball
- February 11, 2011 for Cheerleading
- February 5, 2012 for 7th Grade Boys Basketball
- February 12, 2011 for 8th Grade Boys Basketball
- February 28, 2011 for Chess
- March 14, 2011 for Boys and Girls Wrestling
- March 14, 2012 for 7th Grade Girls Volleyball
- March 21, 2011 for 8th Grade Girls Volleyball
- April 18, 2011 for Girls and Boys Bowling
- May 8, 2011 for Scholastic Bowl
- May 16, 2012 for Class 1A & 2A 7th Grade Boys and Girls Track and Field
- May 16, 2011 for Class 1A & 2A 8th Grade Boys and Girls Track and Field
- May 23, 2012 for Class 3A & 4A 7th Grade Boys and Girls Track and Field
- May 23, 2011 for Class 3A & 4A 8th Grade Boys and Girls Track and Field

Q. May a girl who will turn 15 during the 7th grade girls basketball season tryout for the 7th grade team?
A. No. She may only try out for the 8th grade team since this is the only team for which she is eligible by age.

Q. According to the IESA standardized calendar in a given year, the Class 1A state track finals end May 14. Am I correct that if a Class 3A 8th grader who turns 16 on May 17 is ineligible to participate in track for the entire season while a Class 1A 8th grader who turns 16 on May 17 would be eligible for the entire season?
A. Yes. The eligibility of a Class 1A/2A track participant will always end one week earlier than for a Class 3A/4A track participant due to the different state final dates.

Q. Why is a baptismal certificate not acceptable as proof of birth?
A. The Board of Directors has ruled that only a birth certificate or hospital record shall be accepted. As the baptismal certificate is issued by a church, it is not considered sufficient for our purposes to establish a contestant's date of birth.

Q. May a student try out or practice with a team before the student provides a birth certificate?
A. No. It must be on file with the school. It is the administrator's responsibility to let coaches know whose certification is on file.

Q. What happens when I have protested a student's age and the administrator of the opposing school refuses or cannot produce birth certification?
A. The Executive Director should be notified immediately.

Q. What happens if an ineligible player has been found to have been used in a tournament game after the completion of the state tournament?
A. The school is still subject to penalty and could be determined to forfeit all games and awards.

3.060 PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

3.061 No student shall be permitted to compete in a tryout, practice, or contest unless such student has filed with the school principal 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 such tryout, practice, or contest in any athletic activity.

3.062 Any student who is not allowed to participate in interscholastic activities as the result of a physician's directive may not return to play until they have received written clearance from a physician.

Illustrations for Section 3.060

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Q. Is a physical examination administered by a chiropractor acceptable for athletic purposes?
A. The athletic physical examination must be administered by a licensed physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner as set forth in the Illinois State Statutes. The physician must be one who is licensed to practice medicine in all its branches. Some chiropractors have this kind of licensing from the State of Illinois and some do not. The chiropractor's physical examination is acceptable only when the physician is licensed to practice medicine in all its branches.

Q. Why can a physician's assistant or nurse practitioner administer a physical?
A. On July 19, 2002, former Governor George Ryan signed into law Public Act 92-0703, granting signature authority to physician's assistants and nurse practitioners for school physicals ("Physicians licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, advanced practice nurses who have a written collaborative agreement with a collaborating physician which authorizes them to perform health examinations, or physician assistants who have been delegated the performance of health examinations by their supervising physician shall be responsible for the performance of the health examinations.")

Q. Must the form provided by the IESA be used for physical examinations?
A. No. This form is provided only as a service and is optional for use by member schools. However, some form of written physical examination certificate must be used.

Q. Why must a student have a physical examination to try out for an athletic activity when the student may shortly be cut from the team?
A. The Board of Directors believes this provides each member school with liability protection. The possibility of an unknown illness or an injury is as likely in a tryout situation as in a game situation.

Q. What is meant by "395 days" in terms of this rule?
A. "395 days" means literally 395 days from the date of the physical until a new physical is required.

3.070 AMATEURISM

3.071 As the result of participating in the IESA state series (regional, sectional, state) a student in a member school may accept any award (except cash) which does not exceed $100.00 in fair market value, in the following sports: baseball, basketball, cross-country, softball, track, volleyball, wrestling, bowling, and golf.

3.072 A student in a member school may accept a school letter for an interscholastic sport, regardless of cost.

3.073 Violation of the provisions of By-Law 3.070 shall cause ineligibility in the sport in which the violation occurred. An official ruling must be secured from the Executive Director before any student who violates these rules may be reinstated to eligibility.

Illustrations for Section 3.070

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Q. If a student participates in a road race sponsored by (1) a local business; (2) a private running club, may the student receive awards that are greater than $100.00 for winning or placing in the race?
A. In both of these instances a student may accept any prize or award. IESA amateur rules apply only to awards received as the result of participating in IESA state series events. Since these awards were given as the result of participating in non-school events, students are free to keep any awards given.

Q. May a student accept a meal at a restaurant and a plaque in recognition of advancing to the IESA finals in a given sport?
A. The food prize and the plaque are acceptable as long as the fair market value of the items combined is no more than $100.00.

Q. May a student accept a trophy valued at $125.00 for winning a non-school competition?
A. Yes.

Q. May a student accept a trophy valued at $50.00 for making the most consecutive free throws during a sectional basketball game?
A. Yes.

Q. May a student accept a $25.00 cash prize because she made the winning shot in the regional championship game?
A. No.

Q. If a school team wins the state championship, may team members receive items such as gift certificates for dinners, jackets, sweaters, watches, etc., in recognition of the team's accomplishment?
A. Gifts such as these are permitted as long as the total of the gifts received does not exceed $100.00 in "fair market value."

Q. Is it acceptable if, by virtue of a student's performance in the IESA state series, the student is awarded:

a. $100.00 in the form of a scholarship
b. $100.00 donated to the scholarship fund of the student's choice
c. $100.00 donated in the student's name to charity
d. $100.00 donated in the student's name to the athletic program at the school

A. IESA By-laws prohibit a student from receiving any amount of cash for participating in the IESA state series. This is true even if the reward is delayed for presentation following the student's graduation from school. Consequently, example (a) is not permitted, but examples (b), (c), and (d) are acceptable since the student personally does not and will not receive any cash or merchandise.

Q. If a student plays on a community sports team, and that team wins $500.00 cash in a tournament, is the student in violation of the amateur by-laws?
A. No. The rules apply only to receiving awards for performance in IESA state series contests. Cash won in a non-school activity or prizes won in a non-school activity that exceed $100.00 in fair market value are allowed because it is non-school activity.

Q. May a student participate in a "jog-a-thon," "swim-a-thon," or other "...thon" activity and receive cash or merchandise prizes for fund-raising efforts?
A. Yes.

Q. Does acceptance of reimbursement of expenses for non-school competition constitute an amateur rule violation?
A. No. IESA amateur rules apply only to awards received as the result of participating in IESA state series events.

Q. May a student coach, teach or officiate an athletic contest for pay?
A. Yes. The rule refers exclusively to actual playing. An individual may be paid for services performed.

Q. If a student violates the amateur rules, how and when is the penalty affected?
A. Violation is penalized with a period of ineligibility. A report of the violation must be made to the IESA office for determination of the term and effective date of ineligibility. In addition, the reward must be returned or surrendered, at the direction of the Executive Director.

Q. May a member school athlete accept a cash or merchandise prize won through a drawing or raffle at a high school athletic contest?
A. Yes.

Q. Does the amateur rule apply to events such as three-player basketball, ten-player softball, 5k or 10k road races, etc.?
A. No. The amateur rules apply only to "IESA state series activities."

3.080 PARTICIPATING UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME

3.081 In the event students participate in interscholastic competition under any other name than their own, the principal shall immediately suspend violators from further interscholastic participation. The future interscholastic participation of violators and/or persons contributing to a violation shall then be considered by the Board of Directors.

Illustrations for Section 3.080

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Q. To what does the term "interscholastic competition" refer in this rule?
A. "Interscholastic competition" is a competitive situation in which the student represents his or her school and is sponsored or otherwise directly connected with his or her school.

Q. Could a coach be held responsible for submitting students in competition using names other than their own?
A. Yes. The school, the coach, and the students would all be subject to penalty for violation of this By-Law.

3.090 COACHING SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

3.091 A student who is a member of the school team in a sport may participate, depending on local school district policy, in any coaching school/camp during that interscholastic sport season.

3.092 A coaching school/camp is defined as any program sponsored by an organization or individual that provides instruction in sports theory and skills to groups of persons.

3.093 Students may participate in and/or receive private lessons, school physical conditioning programs, and be used for demonstration purposes in coaches' clinics.

Illustrations for Section 3.090

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Q. Could a student attend a clinic on the proper technique for shooting free throws during the basketball season?
A. Yes. The rules allow for a student to attend a camp or coaching clinic during the sport season.

3.100 ALL-STAR PARTICIPATION

3.101 No athletic team from any member school may compete against an "all-star" team.

Illustration for Section 3.100

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Q. Could an athletic conference make up an All-Star team from the other member schools in the conference to play the conference winner?
A. No, this would be in direct violation of this By-Law.

3.110 MIXED TEAM (GIRLS ON BOYS TEAMS) REGULATIONS

IESA is not an enforcement agency when it comes to determining a school's compliance with Title IX and the Illinois Sex Equity Rules. The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) monitors the Federal law and the Illinois Sex Equity Rules (23 Illinois Administrative Code 200) that require school districts to offer athletic programs that accommodate the interests and abilities of both sexes to a comparable degree. IESA member schools seeking a waiver for female athletes to participate on boys' teams must demonstrate and provide assurance to ISBE of compliance with 23 Illinois Administrative Code 200.80.

3.111 Notwithstanding the requirement of Section 2.012, and prior to any tryout, practice or game participation, the principal of a member school desiring to participate in an activity designated as a boys athletic activity, with a team comprised of both boys and girls shall:

1. Complete and submit the Gender Equity in Athletics Waiver Application that is available through the Illinois State Board of Education's (ISBE) Web Application Security System (IWAS). This online application replaces the paper form ISBE 33-95. Please note the following:
   a. Paper applications to the Illinois State Board of Education will no longer be accepted.
   b. The application process for any sport in which a school wants permission to participate with a girl on a boys team must be completed prior to any tryout, practice or game participation by the girl.
   c. The ISBE IWAS application will require review by the District Superintendent, the Regional Office of Education Administrator, and finally the ISBE Administrator who will issue final approval.
   d. The application does not have to list the names of the girls who wish to compete on the boy's team.
   e. The application may list multiple sports if you need to get permission for more than one sport.

   Questions concerning the completion of the form can be sent to:
   Leslie N. Ward, Ed.D.
   Illinois State Board of Education
   Student Care Department
   Phone: (312) 814-8988 E-Mail: lward@isbe.net

2. After submitting the ISBE IWAS application, you must send the IESA office some type of communication (e-mail, FAX, or written letter) that you have started the online application. Conditional approval for the girl(s) to play on the boy's team shall be automatic upon receipt of this communication. Conditional approval allows a school to permit a girl to tryout, practice, or participate in interscholastic boys athletic activities without penalty, pending the final compliance ruling from the ISBE.

3. The Illinois State Board of Education will notify both the member school and the IESA office when compliance with the Illinois Sex Equity Rules is determined.
4. Applicant schools that have been determined to be in compliance with the Illinois Rules and received waivers will be considered to be in compliance for the entire school year. Female athletes will therefore be eligible to participate on sports teams not identified on the original waiver application and where permitted by IESA by-laws. In such instances member schools must communicate additional participation requests to the IESA via e-mail, FAX, or written letter.

3.112 A girl having participated as a member during a school year on a team shall not be eligible to participate on a boys team in that sport during one school year, except that a girl in grades 5-7 may participate on an eighth grade team in the same sport in the same year. **For wrestling, please see by-law 3.116.**

3.113 When a contract has been signed to participate in a single-sex sport and a school offers a mixed gender team, the other school must be notified prior to the contest of the mixed-gender team.

3.114 In the sports of golf, cross-country, basketball, bowling, and track and field when the school offers both a boys team and a girls team, girls must participate on the girls team in that sport. Boys are not eligible to participate on girls teams. See By-Law 3.115

3.115 Boys are not eligible to participate at any time on any school athletic team designated as a team for girls only. Such athletic teams shall include: girls golf, girls softball, girls cross-country, girls basketball, girls volleyball, girls wrestling, girls bowling, and girls track and field.

3.116 In the sport of wrestling, girls may compete against boys and/or girls during the regular season. For post-season competition, a school must enter all of its girls' athletes in either the girls' division or in the boys' division as a coed team.

Illustration for Section 3.110

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Q. If a member school does not offer a boys team or a girls team in a sport in which the IESA sponsors both a boys and a girls state tournament competition or series, and there is an option to compete for individual honors, can a girl enter the boys state series?
A. No, the school will be permitted to enter a girl in the girls state tournament series only.

Q. If a member school offers a girls team but no boys team in a sport in which the IESA sponsors both a boys and a girls state tournament competition or series, can the school enter a girls team into the boys state series?
A. No, the school will be permitted to enter a girls team in the girls state tournament series only.

Q. Our school offers both 7th and 8th-grade girls and boys' basketball. Can our girls basketball players play on both the girls basketball team in the fall and then also play on the boys basketball team in the winter?
A. No, when a school offers the same sport to both the girls and boys even though they are in different seasons, the girl must play on the girls team and the boys must play on the boys team.

Q. Our school only offers 7th-grade basketball for girls, but offers both 7th and 8th-grade boys basketball. Can our 7th-grade girls' basketball players play for the 7th-grade girls' team and then the 8th-grade boys' team?
A. Yes. Given that a 7th-grade student, a boy or a girl, can play at both the 7th-grade and 8th-grade level, the 7th-grade girl would be given her opportunity to participate on the 8th-grade level by participating with the 8th-grade boys' team.

Q. Can a girl who is participating on the boys team during the season also compete in a girl's meet or contest?
A. Yes, however by competing in a girl's meet or contest that school has established a girl's season and therefore she would no longer be eligible to compete for the boy's team.

Q. If a member school offers both a girls team and a boys team in the same sport but in different seasons, can the girl participate on the boy's team?
A. No, that school will be permitted to enter a girl in the IESA girls state tournament series only in that sport, even though the boys and girls tournaments may occur in different seasons.

Q. Can a girl, who has participated on the boys team during the regular season, compete in the boys state series instead of the girls state series?
A. Yes. If a member school offers a boys team but no girls team in a sport in which the IESA sponsors both a boys and a girls state tournament series, and in which students may compete for individual honors, the school will be permitted to enter a girl in the boys state tournament series provided she has participated on the boys team in that sport during the regular season.

Q. Can a girl who has participated on the boys team during the regular season, opt to compete in the girls state series instead?
A. Yes. The school may elect to enter the girl to compete for individual honors in the IESA girls state tournament series in that sport. However, a school will not be permitted to enter a girl in both the IESA boys and girls state tournament series in that sport.

3.120 SEEDING FOR REGIONAL/SECTIONAL TOURNAMENTS

3.121 Regional tournaments for baseball, softball, basketball, and volleyball shall be seeded as follows with four to nine teams assigned:

In four-team tournaments, seed #1 vs. seed #4 in game 1 and seed #2 vs. seed #3 in game 2. Winners of games #1 and #2 then will play for the championship.

In five-team tournaments, seed #1 vs. bye and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 1 in top bracket; seed #2 vs. bye and seed #3 vs. bye in the bottom bracket. In the second round, seed #1 plays winner of game 1 in game 2 and seeds #2 and #3 play game 3. Winners of games #2 and #3 then will play for the championship.
In six-team tournaments, seed #1 vs. bye and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 1 in top bracket; seed #3 vs. seed #6 in game 2 and seed #2 vs. bye in bottom bracket. In the second round, seed #1 plays the winner of game 1 and seed #2 plays the winner of game 2. Winners of games #3 and #4 then will play for the championship.

In seven-team tournaments, seed #1 vs. bye and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 1 in top bracket; seed #2 vs. seed #7 in game 2 and seed #3 vs. seed #6 in game 3 of bottom bracket. In the second round, seed #1 plays winner of game 1 and the winner of game 2 plays the winner of game 3.

In eight-team tournaments, seed #1 vs. seed #8 in game 1 and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 2 in top bracket; seed #2 vs. seed #7 in game 3 and seed #3 vs. seed #6 in game 4 in bottom bracket.

In nine-team tournaments, seed #8 vs. seed #9 in game 1 in the top bracket; seed #1 vs. winner of game 1 in game 2 and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 3 of top bracket; seed #2 vs. seed #7 in game 4 and seed #3 vs. seed #6 in game 5 in bottom bracket.

3.122 In the sports of baseball, softball, basketball, and volleyball, regional seeding shall be conducted using an online procedure. In general, seeding shall be done as if an actual meeting were taking place using traditional seeding criteria except that the procedure is done online rather than an actual meeting. Please refer to the Terms and Conditions and the IESA standardized calendar for the respective activity for the timeline for online seeding. All schools entering the baseball, softball, basketball, and/or volleyball state series will enter the following information online to assist with the seeding process.

- Team Record
- Season Schedule with Results
- Regional Entry Form
- Special Comment Section on your Team's Season

ONLINE SEEDING PROCEDURES/INFORMATION

NOTE: No school may enter the state series unless they have participated in at least three interscholastic contests in that sport prior to seeding.

A school that fails to enter its season schedule, results, and Regional Entry Form by the online roster and record deadline has no say in the seeds and will be locked out of the seeding process. However, the other schools in the same regional will be able to rank the school that fails to enter the required information.

Factors to consider in seeding:

a. Season Record
b. Quality of team's competition
c. Smaller schools (1A or 2A) schools competing against larger schools (Class 3A or 4A)
d. Head-to-Head competition
e. Record against common opponents
f. Roster of the post season team i.e. a 7th grader who has played on the 8th grade team all year but will play on the 7th grade team in the state series or a 7th grader who has played only 7th grade all year but will also play on the 8th grade team in the regional may be the basis for giving a higher seed.
g. Each school shall rate all teams assigned to the regional except their own.

The IESA will confirm all seeds and break any ties. The actual seeds given by a school for the regional will be seen by all the schools assigned to the regional. Each host school should remind the school representatives that the IESA has the right to review the seeding. If it becomes apparent that some representatives have intentionally rated teams in a manner that cannot be justified, the IESA office may take appropriate action to correct the problem. We do not anticipate having to do so, as we believe our member school representatives will exercise the integrity and sportsmanship they expect in return.

3.123 See Wrestling Terms and Conditions for wrestling seeding procedures.

3.124 See Track and Field Terms and Conditions for sectional track seeding procedures

NOTE: ATTENDANCE AT THE TRACK SECTIONAL SEEDING MEETING IS MANDATORY

3.125 A team withdrawing from competition following the online ranking deadline shall be declared as a forfeit. The remaining teams shall not be re-seeded. If a scholastic bowl team drops after the online seeding process, the teams shall be re-seeded.

3.126 The following penalties are in effect for schools that fail to submit their online roster/record and/or seeding information by the posted deadlines in the activities of girls softball, boys baseball, cross-country, girls volleyball, boys and girls basketball, boys wrestling, boys and girls track and field, and scholastic bowl:

- First offense: School will be placed on probation.

- **Second consecutive offense**: School will be able to participate in the state series of the current year but will not be able to participate in the state series the following year unless the school pays a $250.00 fee for reinstatement to the state series.

3.127 **See Section 5.028 for penalty assessed to schools who fail to complete the ranking/seeding process for baseball, softball, girls and boys basketball and volleyball.**

3.130 GENERAL RULES FOR IESA ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

3.131 In regional, sectional, and state final tournament play, the host school shall not make its gymnasium or playing fields available to the visiting teams for practice sessions. This provision does not apply to sectional and state cross-country hosts.

3.132 The display of signs, banners, placards, or similar items at the IESA State Finals (NOT at the Regional or Sectional level) is permitted, provided:

- They reflect good sportsmanship in their message and use.
- They reflect identification and encouragement to participants and their school/community.
- They are not displayed on the field of play or in a manner that interferes with play.
- They do not obstruct the view of participants or spectators.
- They are not a safety hazard.

3.133 All light sticks and artificial noise-making devices shall be excluded from playing area. Tournament managers should not permit spectators to bring megaphones into the playing area for cheering purposes. Cheerleaders may use megaphones for cheering purposes.

3.134 If players or representatives of any school entered in an IESA state series tournament are found guilty of carelessly or maliciously breaking, damaging, or destroying property or equipment belonging to the host school or other visiting schools, such as damaging baskets or backboards during warm-up drills, breaking or damaging lockers, etc., destruction to other teams equipment, buses, etc., such school shall be held responsible for costs incurred in repairing or replacing such property or equipment.

3.135 No interscholastic tournaments may have a sponsor who is a manufacturer, distributor, or advertiser of tobacco or alcoholic beverages, political or religious groups, or of any other products or services which might reflect unfavorably upon the school or the Association.

3.136 Video-taping will be allowed in all IESA state series contests. Review of such video during a contest is determined by NFHS rule for each activity.

3.137 If a host school has a band capable of contributing to the entertainment, there is no objection to have it play before games and during intermission of IESA state tournament series games. Members of the band may be given free admission. Under no circumstances may the band instruments be used for cheering purposes. The use of band instruments for cheering purposes will be considered evidence of discourteous conduct and upon receipt of substantiating evidence of such conduct, the Executive Director will instruct the local manager to exclude the band from the gymnasium.

3.138 During a basketball game, there shall be a maximum of 12 cheerleaders performing sideline cheers on the floor at one time, provided the facility can safely accommodate this number. A game official may always ask for the sidelines (endlines) to be kept clear and reduce this number for the safety of the players. All cheers, performances, routines, or other activities conducted by a school's spirit squad (i.e. cheerleaders, pom pons, flags, drill team) shall be conducted in accordance with the Spirit Rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations.

NOTE: Even though the NFHS allows certain tosses on certain surfaces for high school students, all tosses (sponge and basket) are prohibited at the IESA level.

3.139 Athletic uniforms may not show any commercial or non-school advertising and must be in compliance with the NFHS uniform rules for the respective sport. Warm-ups worn by competitors may feature commercial or non-school advertising.

3.140 In addition to team members listed on a school's Regional Entry Form limits on free passes to the IESA state tournament series shall be two managers, two statisticians, one scorekeeper, and 12 cheerleaders for all athletic activities (except volleyball and wrestling). Cheerleaders must be in uniform to be admitted free but are not allowed for the IESA state series in volleyball and wrestling. Managers, statisticians, and scorekeepers are not admitted free to the state wrestling finals.

During the 7th-grade state tournament series in girls' and boys' basketball and girls' volleyball, members of the school's 8th-grade team may receive complimentary admission to state series games as long as they are accessing the tournament entrance with the competing 7th-grade team. During the 8th-grade state tournament series in girls' and boys' basketball and girls' volleyball, members of the school's 7th-grade team may receive complimentary admission to state series games as long as they are accessing the tournament entrance with the competing 8th-grade team.

3.141 No alcoholic beverages shall be served at any IESA activity where there are students participating.

3.142 When excessive supervision costs by a host school cause a deficit in an IESA state series contest, it shall be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors by the Executive Director. A letter shall be sent to the host school's principal by the Board of Directors informing the host school if any action was taken by the Board.

3.143 All fans that attend IESA state series contests must wear shirts at all times.

3.144 Only students who are currently eligible to participate in an interscholastic contest shall appear at the contest in the uniform of their school.

3.145 No cell phones or electronic devices are permitted at the scorer's table during any contest. This includes both regular-season contests and IESA state series contests.

3.146 Prayer at an IESA state series contest that takes place over a public address system is prohibited.

3.147 The use of flash photography at indoor contests during the state series is prohibited.

3.148 No spectators shall be allowed to sit on the first row of the bleachers during the state series in girls basketball, boys basketball, or girls volleyball. Spectators with special needs or elderly are exempt as space allows.

Illustrations for Section 3.130

The following is provided for illustrative purposes only and is neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. My regional baseball tournament is being hosted at a public park. Can I organize a team practice at this facility?
A. No. The By-Law prohibits visiting teams from practicing at a school's playing fields. Individuals could utilize the park for practice or a team could schedule a game at the facility but a school may not organize a team practice at the facility once the site has been chosen to serve as a state series facility.

Q. Our sectional cross-country meet will be held at (a) a public park; or (b) at a local school. Am I allowed to take my school squad to practice at these sites?
A. In both instances, a regular practice can be held without being in violation of 3.131. However, in situation (b), permission should first be obtained from the school.

Q. My cheer squad consists of 16 cheerleaders. When may they perform?
A. During play, only 12 can be cheering at one time provided the space can safely accommodate 12 cheerleaders. During full timeouts, between quarters, and at halftime, all 16 may perform provided the squad can complete their performance without delaying play. However, during the state series, only 12 may be admitted for free.

Q. Even though my cheerleading squad consists of only 6 girls can the game official require us to move?
A. Yes. The game officials have full authority to move cheerleaders and/or require that they not cheer in a certain area if he/she believes that the safety of the participants is at risk.

Q. I am hosting the regional basketball contest at my school. May I conduct a 50/50 drawing?
A. Yes. Effective with the 2009-10 school year, the Board of Directors has removed the By-Law prohibiting 50/50 and raffle drawings at state series contests.

Q. My cheerleading squad wants to participate in a local competition and perform basket tosses. Is this allowed?
A. No. Tosses are not allowed at the junior high level. Your squad should only perform stunts which they can safely perform.
Q. At halftime of our basketball game, my cheer squad is going to perform. The performance includes several basket tosses and double full twist dismounts. They will be performing on a soft-yielding surface. May they perform these stunts?
A. No. IESA rules prohibit all tosses (sponge and basket) and NFHS rules only permit 1¼ turns.

3.150 OPEN GYM LIMITATIONS

Schools may open their facilities, including off-site facilities that are used during particular athletic seasons, to students or other persons who reside in or outside their district under the following conditions:

- A variety of recreational activities are available during the course of the year.
- There is no coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques in any sport at any time.
- Participation is voluntary and is not required directly or indirectly for membership on a school squad.
- Comparable opportunities are afforded to all participants.

Illustration for Section 3.150

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Q. What procedures should schools use to ensure all students are adequately notified of opportunities to participate in open gyms?
A. Schools must publicize open gyms in a manner that ensures all students have a reasonable opportunity to be informed regarding dates and times of open gyms. Schools may utilize public address announcements, flyers, written announcements, or newsletters to notify students regarding open gyms.

Q. May a school conduct a sport-specific open gym?
A. Yes, provided a variety of recreational activities are available during the course of the year.

Q. May a coed school conduct a gender-specific open gym?
A. Yes. Schools should provide equal availability of open gym opportunities for both genders.

Q. Is it permissible for a coach to play with or against students from his/her own school during out-of-season open gym programs?
A. Yes.

3.160 PROVISIONS FOR SUMMER PARTICIPATION

Students may participate either as an individual or as a member of a team in any type of athletic activity during the summer months. Students from the same school may participate on the same team. Summer months are defined as the period from when school closes in the spring until classes begin in the fall. A coach of a member school may coach students from the school during the summer.

Illustration for Section 3.160

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. Can a member school and/or coach sponsor a summer camp and coach students from his or her own school?
A. Yes.

Q. Could a team representing a member school that participates in the IESA state series participate as a school team in summer tournaments?
A. Yes, provided the summer tournament is scheduled after the close of the school year for that particular team.

4.000 ACTIVITY BY-LAWS

The latest National Federation of State High School Association rules shall govern the rules of play for all athletic activities with the exceptions noted for each sport in Division 4. See Division 2 for governing rules for regular season and tournaments. Any record established in the state final athletic competitions shall be considered as the IESA record for that event. Marks established in competitions other than the IESA finals shall not be considered as a state record.

4.010 BOYS BASEBALL

4.011 The official rules for IESA Boys Baseball are included in the IESA Baseball Terms and Conditions, NFHS Baseball Rules, and any printed instructions distributed from the IESA Office.

4.012 Regional, sectional, and state level competition shall be held for Classes 1A, 2A and 3A. Regional and sectional competition sites will be assigned by the IESA office. If a regional or sectional site is not assigned by the IESA office, then schools assigned to that regional/sectional may contact the IESA office to indicate their willingness to host a state series contest. Actual state series competition dates shall be in accordance with the IESA calendar. Seeding shall be done online according to the timeline in the IESA standardized calendar. Bids for regional, sectional, and state tournament sites shall be forwarded to the IESA office. See Section 3.120 for seeding procedures. It is recommended that the starting time for the regional championship be set no later than 4:00 p.m. for those fields without lights.

4.013 Season Limitations

No member school participating in the boys baseball state tournament series shall organize, hold tryouts, or practice prior to Monday of Week 5 in the IESA standardized calendar.

A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in baseball no earlier than Wednesday of Week 6, and its last interscholastic contest in baseball no later than Saturday of Week 17 in the IESA standardized calendar. There is not a maximum number of season contest limitations.

Only schools that have an established school team that has played at least three (3) interscholastic contests prior to the online roster and record deadline for that sport during the current season may participate in team competition at Association-sponsored meets or tournaments.

4.014 IESA State Tournament Team Limitations

Each tournament team shall consist of a maximum of 18 uniformed boys whose names appear on the Regional Entry Form. Schools may make changes to the Regional Entry Form until the "Roster Closed" deadline, as detailed in the Activity Calendar posted on the IESA website. After the Roster Closed deadline, no changes will be permitted on the Regional Entry Form.

All tournament play shall be single-elimination, with the winning team advancing from regional to sectional and from sectional to state-level competition. If an opponent incurs a violation in the state series that requires a contest or contests to be forfeited, the following policy will be followed:

- If the violation affects only one round of competition, the opponent within that round will be advanced on to the next round of competition within the state tournament series.
- If the violation affects more than one round of competition, no opponent from the preceding rounds of competition shall be advanced to the next round of competition within the state tournament series.
- The advancement of opponents shall be determined by the IESA office.

It shall be the responsibility of the regional and sectional host schools to list the tournament winner on the IESA website after the tournament concludes.

If a sectional site has not been determined, the two regional winners shall contact each other, confirm the sectional site, and notify the IESA office as soon as possible. The IESA office will assist in determining the host school if needed. If both regional winners desire to host, a coin flip conducted by the IESA office will determine the host.

4.020 GIRLS SOFTBALL

4.021 The official rules for IESA Girls Softball are included in the IESA Softball Terms and Conditions, NFHS Softball Rules, and any printed instructions distributed from the IESA Office.

4.022 Regional, sectional, and state level competition shall be held for Classes 1A, 2A, and 3A. Regional and sectional competition sites will be assigned by the IESA office. If a regional or sectional site is not assigned by the IESA office, then schools assigned to that regional/sectional may contact the IESA office to indicate their willingness to host a state series contest. Actual state series competition dates shall be in accordance with the IESA calendar. Seeding shall be done online according to the timeline in the IESA standardized calendar. Bids for regional, sectional, and state tournament sites shall be forwarded to the IESA office. See Section 3.120 for seeding procedures. No regional contest may begin after 5:00 p.m. on a field that does not have lights.

4.023 Season Limitations

No member school participating in the girls softball state tournament series shall organize, hold tryouts, or practice prior to Monday of Week 4 in the IESA standardized calendar.

A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in girls softball no earlier than Wednesday of Week 5, and its last interscholastic contest in girls softball no later than Saturday of Week 16 in the IESA standardized calendar. There is not a maximum number of season contest limitations.

Only schools that have an established school team that has played at least three (3) interscholastic contests prior to the online roster and record deadline for that sport during the current season may participate in team competition at Association-sponsored meets or tournaments.

4.024 IESA State Tournament Team Limitations

Each tournament team shall consist of a maximum of 18 uniformed girls whose names appear on the Regional Entry Form. Schools may make changes to the Regional Entry Form until the "Roster Closed" deadline, as detailed in the Activity Calendar posted on the IESA website. After the Roster Closed deadline, no changes will be permitted on the Regional Entry Form.

All tournament play shall be single-elimination, with the winning team advancing from regional to sectional and from sectional to state-level competition. If an opponent incurs a violation in the state series that requires a contest or contests to be forfeited, the following policy will be followed:

- If the violation affects only one round of competition, the opponent within that round will be advanced on to the next round of competition within the state tournament series.
- If the violation affects more than one round of competition, no opponent from the preceding rounds of competition shall be advanced to the next round of competition within the state tournament series.
- The advancement of opponents shall be determined by the IESA office.

It shall be the responsibility of the regional and sectional host schools to list the tournament winner on the IESA website after the tournament concludes.

If a sectional site has not been determined, the two regional winners shall contact each other, confirm the sectional site, and notify the IESA office as soon as possible. The IESA office will assist in determining the host school if needed. If both regional winners desire to host, a coin flip conducted by the IESA office will determine the host.

4.030 BOYS AND GIRLS CROSS-COUNTRY

4.031 The official rules for IESA Boys and Girls Cross Country are included in the IESA Cross Country Terms and Conditions, NFHS Cross Country Rules, and any printed instructions distributed from the IESA Office.

4.032 Sectional and state level competition shall be held for girls and boys in Classes 1A, 2A, 3A. and 4A. Sectional sites may be determined by a meeting of the participating schools or the site may be assigned by the IESA office. If a sectional site is not assigned by the IESA office, then schools assigned to that sectional may contact the IESA office to indicate their willingness to host the sectional. The sectional shall be held on the date approved in the IESA standardized calendar. Bids for the sectional and state meet site shall be forwarded to the IESA office.

4.033 Season Limitations

No member school participating in the boys and/or girls cross-country state series shall organize, hold tryouts, or practice prior to Monday of Week 5 in the IESA standardized calendar. There is no maximum number of season contest limitations.

A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in boys and/or girls cross-country no earlier than Saturday of Week 6 and its last interscholastic contest in boys and/or girls cross-country no later than Saturday of Week 17 in the IESA standardized calendar.

Only schools which have an established school team which have participated in at least three (3) interscholastic contests prior to the sectional meet during the current season may participate in team competition in Association-sponsored meets.

4.034 IESA State Tournament Team Limitations

Full teams shall consist of a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 7 students.

A member school may elect to enter one to four individual runners rather than a full team, without being eligible for team awards.

A maximum of 10 runners may be listed on the Sectional Participant Information available online. Up to seven of the 10 may run in the sectionals. If a school runs more than seven individuals in the sectional race, all runners in that race from that school will be disqualified and may not advance to the state meet. For purposes of advancement, teams shall be considered to consist of those runners who participated in the sectional. However, any runner whose name appears on the Sectional Participant Information may be used as a substitute at the state final provided the runner remains eligible for the meet. The Sectional Participant Information must be completed on-line and must be submitted by 12 noon on the Wednesday preceding the sectional. No changes may be made to the Sectional Entry Form after 12 noon on the Wednesday preceding the sectional. Failure to submit the entry form as required will result in disqualification from the sectional.

Team Advancement to State---There will be eight (8) sectionals in each class- 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A. The first, second, and third place sectional teams shall advance to state level competition. For purposes of advancement of teams from sectionals to the state final, if a tie occurs at the **last qualifying spot**, the teams tied advance to the state final.

Individual Advancement to State--- In each class- 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, the top seven (7) individuals not on the first, second, or third place teams shall advance to state level competition. The IESA cross-country administrator will add additional individual runners within the top ten of a given sectional as state qualifiers.

Illustration for Section 4.033

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Q. If a five-member cross-country team advances to state competition from the sectional, what happens if one member is unable to run due to illness, ineligibility, or absence?
A. The other four members will run as individuals. The individuals will not be eligible for team awards.

4.040 BOYS AND GIRLS BASKETBALL

4.041 The official rules for IESA Boys and Girls Basketball are included in the IESA Basketball Terms and Conditions, NFHS Basketball Rules, and any printed instructions distributed from the IESA Office.

4.042 Regional, sectional, and state level competition shall be held for Classes 1A, 2A, 3A, and 4A in both the seventh and eighth grades. Regional and sectional competition sites will be assigned by the IESA office. If a regional or sectional site is not assigned by the IESA office, then schools assigned to that regional/sectional may contact the IESA office to indicate their willingness to host a state series contest. When inclement weather alters the designated playing site of a regional tournament game, the higher seeded team will host the game(s) unless schools mutually agree to a different site. If weather forces the sectional to be rescheduled, the host must reschedule the sectional for Thursday or the IESA will release the sectional to the participating schools so the sectional can be completed on Thursday. If both schools express an interest in hosting, a coin flip will be done in the IESA Office to determine the new sectional host. Actual state series competition dates shall be in accordance with the IESA calendar. No eighth-grade regional tournaments will be permitted to be scheduled on seventh grade sectional dates. Sectional hosts shall not schedule regular season contests of any activity on sectional dates at the venue where the sectional is being played. It is recommended that regional competition be scheduled in the evening hours to increase receipts and minimize the assessment to participating schools. Bids for regional, sectional, and state tournament sites shall be forwarded to the IESA office. See Section 3.120 for seeding procedures.

Illustrations for Section 4.040

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. I am a sectional basketball host and will be hosting a regular season volleyball contest in an auxiliary gym in my school. Separate dressing rooms will be used for the regular season volleyball contest. May I host the volleyball contest?
A. Yes. The primary playing court reserved for the sectional basketball game nor the locker rooms that would be used for this game would be affected.

Q. I am hosting a girls' basketball sectional. Can I conduct a boys' basketball practice on the sectional game floor prior to the sectional game?
A. Yes. If the practice is being held on the sectional game floor, the practice must be concluded and the locker rooms vacated at least one hour prior to the scheduled game time.

Q. I am serving as the host for our boys basketball regional. My school dismisses students at 3:10 p.m. and our regional is scheduled to start at 6:00 p.m. May I conduct a practice for my team on the day of the regional in my school gymnasium where the regional is played?
A. Yes, as long as your practice is completed by 5:00 p.m. Host schools are only allowed to practice in any of the school's facilities until one hour prior to the start of the game.

Q. My school is serving as the regional host. I have an auxiliary gymnasium that I would like to practice in because the main gymnasium, which is the site of the actual regional, is occupied immediately after school. May I practice in this auxiliary gymnasium?
A. Yes, but only until one hour before the start of the regional contest. After that you may not practice in the auxiliary gymnasium or the main gymnasium as schools are only allowed to practice in any of the school's facilities until one hour prior to the start of the game.

4.043 Season Limitations

No member school participating in the girls basketball state tournament series shall organize, hold tryouts, or practice prior to Monday of Week 11. No member school participating in the boys basketball state tournament series shall organize, hold tryouts, or practice prior to Monday of Week 16 in the IESA standardized calendar.

A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in girls basketball no earlier than Saturday of Week 12. The last interscholastic contest in girls basketball shall be no later than December 23. A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in boys basketball no earlier than Saturday of Week 17. The last interscholastic contest in boys basketball shall be no later than Saturday of Week 35 in the IESA standardized calendar.

Only schools which have an established school team which has played at least three (3) interscholastic contests prior to the online roster and record deadline in that sport during the current season may participate in team competition in Association-sponsored meets or tournaments. Failure to do so will result in suspension from the state series.

4.044 Team Limitations

No basketball team representing a member school shall, in any one season and exclusive of the IESA series, participate in more than 24 games. All interscholastic competitions shall be considered a game.

Illustrations for Section 4.043

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. In prior years, I could only schedule a maximum of two tournaments. Am I correct that the rule would now allow me to schedule five tournaments as long as the total number of games between tournaments and regular season games does not exceed 24?
A. Yes. A team may now play any combination of regular season games and regular season tournaments as long as the total number of games played does not exceed 24. A team entering regional play with more than 24 games played would be in violation of this rule.

Q Does a scrimmage against another school team qualify as a game?
A. Yes. An interscholastic scrimmage is considered a game, must count toward your total game limitation, and should be reported on your regular season schedule.

4.045 IESA State Tournament Team Limitations

Each tournament team shall consist of a maximum of 15 uniformed girls for girls' teams and/or 15 uniformed boys for boys' teams whose names appear on the Regional Entry Form. Each school entering the basketball state series must submit its Regional Entry Form via the internet through the IESA Member School Center to the IESA office. Schools may make changes to the Regional Entry Form until the "Roster Closed" deadline date as detailed in the Activity Calendar that is posted on the IESA website. After the Roster Closed deadline, no changes will be permitted on the Regional Entry Form.

All tournament play shall be single elimination with the winning team advancing from regional to sectional and from sectional to state level competition. If an opponent incurs a violation in the state series that requires a contest or contests to be forfeited, the following policy will be followed:

- If the violation affects only one round of competition, the opponent within that round will be advanced on to the next round of competition within the state tournament series.
- If the violation affects more than one round of competition, no opponent from the preceding rounds of competition shall be advanced to the next round of competition within the state tournament series.
- The advancement of opponents shall be determined by the IESA office.

For a team competing in two regional games in one day, the time between the start of the first regional game for that team and the start of the second regional game for that team must be a minimum of three (3) hours.

4.046 Individual Limitations

For regular season contests and all tournaments (regular season and state series), students shall be limited to a maximum of eight (8) quarters per day. Participation in a quarter shall mean that a student actually competes (regardless of the length of time) in the quarter.

Students may participate in either or both grade levels of the IESA state tournaments for which they are qualified. 8th graders are never permitted to play on 7th grade teams. 7th graders are never allowed to participate on 6th grade teams.

Students in 5th or 6th grade who participate on the school's 7th and/or 8th grade teams must abide by all IESA rules and regulations only during the IESA season for the given activity.

In addition to automatic forfeiture of the contest, should a student exceed the individual limitations listed, the coach of the team shall be ineligible to coach for the next two interscholastic contests at the level where the violation occurred and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim.

Illustrations for Section 4.045

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. Can a student play 3 quarters in the 7th grade game and 3 quarters in the 8th grade game on the same night?
A. Yes. Students may play 8 quarters in one day.

Q. Can a student play 4 quarters in the 7th grade game and 4 quarters in the 8th grade game on the same night?
A. Yes. Beginning with the 2014-15 season, students may play 8 quarters in one day.

Q. Our conference 7th grade tournament is scheduled so there are two games on Saturday. Is this allowed?
A. Yes. In tournament play, teams may play more than one game in a day and individuals may play up to 8 quarters in one day.

Q. Can a 7th grader play 4 quarters in a 7th grade game tournament and later that day play in an 8th grade tournament?
A. Yes. Beginning with the 2007-08 school season the By-Law was modified to allow a student to play no more than 8 quarters a day in regular season tournaments.

4.050 BOYS AND GIRLS WRESTLING

4.051 The official rules for IESA Boys and Girls Wrestling are included in the IESA Wrestling Terms and Conditions, NFHS Wrestling Rules, and any printed instructions distributed from the IESA Office.

4.052 For Boys Wrestling, regional, sectional, and state level competition shall be held for Classes A and AA. Regional and sectional competition sites will be assigned by the IESA office. If a regional or sectional site is not assigned by the IESA office, then schools assigned to that regional/sectional may contact the IESA office to indicate their willingness to host a state series contest.

For Girls Wrestling, sectional and state-level competition shall be held for a single class of competition. Sectional competition sites will be assigned by the IESA office. If a sectional site is not assigned by the IESA office, then schools assigned to that sectional may contact the IESA office to indicate their willingness to host a state series contest.

Actual state series competition dates shall be in accordance with the IESA calendar. Seeding shall be done at the regional seed meeting for boys wrestling and the sectional seed meeting for girls wrestling. Bids for regional, sectional and state tournament sites shall be forwarded to the IESA office. Schools offering to host a regional or a sectional must use digital scales to conduct weigh-ins.

4.053 Season Limitations

No member school participating in the girls wrestling state tournament series shall organize, hold tryouts, or practice prior to Monday of Week 22.

A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in girls wrestling no earlier than Monday of Week 23. The last interscholastic contest in girls wrestling shall be no later than Saturday of Week 39 in the IESA standardized calendar.

No member school participating in the boys wrestling state tournament series shall organize, hold tryouts, or practice prior to Monday of Week 22 in the IESA standardized calendar.

A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in boys wrestling no earlier than Monday of Week 23. The last interscholastic contest in boys wrestling shall be no later than Saturday of Week 39 in the IESA standardized calendar.

Only schools which have an established school team which has played at least three (3) interscholastic contests prior to the regional seeding meeting in that sport during the current season may participate in team competition in Association-sponsored meets or tournaments.

Illustrations for Section 4.052

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. Does a scrimmage count as a contest?
A. Yes. An interscholastic scrimmage is considered a contest and should be reported on your regular-season schedule.

4.054 IESA State Tournament Team Limitations

Each member school is eligible to enter one team, consisting of no more than two contestants in each weight class for boys wrestling and one contestant in each weight class for girls wrestling.

During the state series, all teams shall weigh-in together with their coach present. If even one wrestler is absent, the team shall wait until all members are present before they begin their weigh-in. If a wrestler fails to make the required weight at the regional, sectional, or state meet in the entered class, the wrestler cannot move up to the next weight class and must be scratched. No wrestler can replace a wrestler who scratches or misses at regional weigh-in. Once a bracket has been seeded, if there is a scratch on the day of regional, sectional, or state, the seeds will be advanced.

No state series host shall make a weight scale available to check weight before the actual weigh-ins begin. No school may bring a scale to a state series site to check weight prior to the official weigh-in. A school that checks their weight upon arriving at the state series site will be disqualified from competing if the head official on site is a witness to the checking of weight.

For the criteria used to determine replacement wrestlers at the sectional and state level in case wrestlers who qualified for sectional and state are scratched prior to the tournament, please see the IESA Wrestling Terms and Conditions.

4.055 Individual Limitations

Wrestlers are limited to a maximum of 42 matches per season (includes all regular season matches wrestled). Matches wrestled in the state series (regional, sectional, state) do not count toward the 42-match limitation.

Individual contestants shall be limited to a maximum of six matches per day, with a minimum rest period of 30 minutes between each match.

In addition to automatic forfeiture of the contest, should a student exceed the individual limitations listed, the coach of the team shall be ineligible to coach for the next two interscholastic contests at the level where the violation occurred and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim.

State Series Advancement- Boys Wrestling:

- Regional: The first, second, and third place regional individual weight class winners shall advance to sectional level competition.
- Sectional: The first, second, third, and fourth place sectional individual weight class winners shall advance to state level competition.

State Series Advancement- Girls Wrestling:

- Sectional: The first, second, and third place sectional individual weight class winners shall advance to state level competition.

Illustrations for Section 4.055

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. For a meet held in February, I have a wrestler who weighs 91 lbs. Is he eligible to wrestle at the 90 lb. weight class?
A. No. Beginning with the 2009-10 school year, wrestlers are only eligible for the weight class for their actual weight the day of the contest. A wrestler who weighs 91 lbs. would only be eligible at the 95 or 100 lb. class.

Q. I have a wrestler in the 119 lb. weight class that won the regional and has now advanced to the sectional. At sectional weigh-ins, he weighed in at 120 lbs. Does he get to wrestle in the sectional?
A. No. In this instance, the wrestler will be scratched and is ineligible for the sectional. There are no weight allowances throughout the entire year. A wrestler who does not make weight during the state series will be ineligible for the remainder of the state series.

Q. I have a wrestler who has consistently weighed 82-83 lbs. all year. Therefore, he has wrestled at the 85 lb. weight class. The week before regionals, his weight has jumped to 84-85 lbs. Should I list him in the 85 lb. weight class for regionals?
A. Wrestlers do not receive any growth allowance. Therefore, if you list him in the 85 lb. weight class and he advances to the state meet, he must weigh no more than 85 lbs. throughout the state series. As the coach, you must be very aware of your wrestler's weight trends throughout the season so he is placed in the proper weight class for the state series and can make weight for the entire state series.

4.060 GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

4.061 The official rules for IESA Volleyball are included in the IESA Volleyball Terms and Conditions, NFHS Volleyball Rules, and any printed instructions distributed from the IESA Office.

4.062 Regional, sectional, and state level competition shall be held for Classes 1A, 2A, 3A, and 4A in both the seventh and eighth grades. Regional and sectional competition sites will be assigned by the IESA office. If a regional or sectional site is not assigned by the IESA office, then schools assigned to that regional/sectional may contact the IESA office to indicate their willingness to host a state series contest. Seeding shall be done online according to the timeline in the IESA standardized calendar. Actual state series competition dates shall be in accordance with the IESA calendar. No eighth-grade regional tournaments will be permitted to be scheduled on seventh grade sectional dates. It is recommended that regional competition be scheduled in the evening hours to increase receipts and minimize the assessment to participating schools. See Section 3.120 for seeding procedures.

Illustrations for Section 4.061

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. I am a sectional host and will be hosting a regular season contest in an auxiliary gym in my facility. Separate dressing rooms will be used for the regular season contest. Is this allowed?
A. Yes. The primary playing court reserved for the sectional game nor the locker rooms that would be used for this game would be affected.

Q. I am hosting a 7th grade girls volleyball regional. Can I conduct an 8th grade girls volleyball practice on the regional game floor prior to the regional game?
A. Yes. If the practice is being held on the regional game floor, the practice must be concluded and the locker rooms vacated at least one hour prior to the scheduled game time.

Q. I am serving as the host for our girls volleyball regional. My school dismisses students at 3:10 p.m. and our regional is scheduled to start at 6:00 p.m. May I conduct a practice for my team on the day of the regional in my school gymnasium where the regional is played?
A. Yes, as long as your practice is completed by 5:00 p.m. Host schools are only allowed to practice in any of the school's facilities until one hour prior to the start of the game.

Q. My school is serving as the regional host. I have an auxiliary gymnasium that I would like to practice in because the main gymnasium, which is the site of the actual regional, is occupied immediately after school. May I practice in this auxiliary gymnasium?
A. Yes, but only until one hour before the start of the regional contest. After that you may not practice in the auxiliary gymnasium or the main gymnasium as schools are only allowed to practice in any of the school's facilities until one hour prior to the start of the game.

4.063 Season Limitations

No member school participating in the girls volleyball state tournament series shall organize, hold try-outs, or practice prior to Monday of Week 23 in the IESA standardized calendar.

A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in volleyball no earlier than Monday of Week 27 and its last interscholastic contest in volleyball no later than Wednesday of Week 39 in the IESA standardized calendar.

Only schools which have an established school team which has played at least three (3) interscholastic contests prior to the online roster and record deadline in that sport during the current season may participate in team competition in Association-sponsored meets or tournaments.

4.064 Team Limitations

No girls volleyball team representing a member school shall, in any one season and exclusive of the IESA series, participate in more than 24 matches. A team can enter any combination of regular season matches and tournaments in a given season as long as the total number of matches does not exceed 24. A team could also choose to enter no tournaments and simply play 24 matches. Any combination of matches and tournaments will be allowed as long as the total number of matches played prior to the start of regional play does not exceed 24. All interscholastic competition shall be considered a match.

Illustrations for Section 4.063

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. Does a scrimmage qualify as a match?
A. Yes. An interscholastic scrimmage is considered a match, must count toward your total match limitation, and should be reported on your regular season schedule.

4.065 IESA State Tournament Team Limitations

Each tournament team shall consist of a maximum of 15 uniformed girls whose names appear on the Regional Entry Form. Schools may make changes to the Regional Entry Form until the "Roster Closed" deadline date as detailed in the Activity Calendar that is posted on the IESA website. After the Roster Closed deadline, no changes will be permitted on the Regional Entry Form.

All tournament play shall be single elimination with the winning team advancing from regional to sectional and from sectional to state level competition. If an opponent incurs a violation in the state series that requires a contest or contests to be forfeited, the following policy will be followed:

- If the violation affects only one round of competition, the opponent within that round will be advanced on to the next round of competition within the state tournament series.
- If the violation affects more than one round of competition, no opponent from the preceding rounds of competition shall be advanced to the next round of competition within the state tournament series.
- The advancement of opponents shall be determined by the IESA office.

During the IESA state series, teams may play in no more than two matches per day.

Illustrations for Section 4.064

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. I am serving as the host for our volleyball regional. My school dismisses students at 3:10 p.m. and our regional is scheduled to start at 6:30 p.m. May I conduct a practice for my team on the day of the regional in my school gymnasium where the regional is played?
A. Yes, as long as your practice is completed by 5:30 p.m. Schools are only allowed to practice in any of the school's facilities until one hour prior to the start of the match.

Q. My school is serving as the regional host. I have an auxiliary gymnasium that I would like to practice in because the main gymnasium, which is the site of the actual regional, is occupied immediately after school. May I practice in this auxiliary gymnasium?
A. Yes, but only until one hour before the start of the regional contest. After that you may not practice in the auxiliary gymnasium or the main gymnasium as schools are only allowed to practice in any of the school's facilities until one hour prior to the start of the match. The main floor will be available for stretching 45 minutes prior to the start of play.

Q. How is the warm-up period of 2-6-6 interpreted?
A. Both teams shall share the court for 2 minutes. The home team then has the entire court for 6 minutes, followed by the visiting team having the entire court for 6 minutes.

4.066 Individual Limitations

For regular season contests as well as regular season tournaments, students shall be limited to a maximum of four (4) matches per day. Participation in a set shall mean that a student actually competes (regardless of the length of time) in any set during a match.

Students may participate in either or both grade levels of the IESA state tournaments for which they are qualified. Eighth graders are never permitted to play on seventh grade teams. Seventh graders are never allowed to participate on sixth grade teams.

Students in 5th or 6th grade who participate on the school's 7th and/or 8th grade teams must abide by all IESA rules and regulations only during the IESA season for the given activity.

In addition to automatic forfeiture of the contest, should a student exceed the individual limitations listed, the coach of the team shall be ineligible to coach for the next two interscholastic contests at the level where the violation occurred and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim.

Illustrations for Section 4.065

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. Can a 7th grader play in 3 matches of a 7th grade regular season tournament and later that day play in 2 matches in an 8th grade regular season tournament?
A. No. Students are limited to a maximum of 4 matches in a day.

Q. We have a Saturday tournament scheduled with 16 teams. A school that advances to the championship game will be playing 4 matches in one day. Is this allowed?
A. Yes. Students are limited to a maximum of 4 matches in a day.

Q. My 6th grade team has a match prior to the 7th and 8th grade match on the same evening. There are no officials for the 6th grade match. Do I have to count the match my 6th graders played toward their individual limitations if they play in either the 7th or 8th grade match later that evening?
A. Yes. Students are limited to a maximum of 4 matches in a day.

Q. I have two 7th graders who also play on the 8th grade team. If the 7th grade match goes 3 sets and the two girls play in all three sets of the 7th grade match, how many sets can they play in the 8th grade match?
A. Beginning with the 2022-23 school year, the individual limitations were changed to a maximum of 4 matches per day. Sets no longer need to be tracked.

Q. My school has a 7th grade "B" match scheduled the same day as a 7th grade "A" match. Do I count the "B" match toward the individual limitation for the day?
A. Yes. Students are limited to a maximum of 4 matches in a day in all regular season play and this counts all matches they may have played in no matter how short a period of time that might have been.

4.070 BOYS AND GIRLS TRACK AND FIELD

4.071 The official rules for IESA Track and Field are included in the IESA Track and Field Terms and Conditions, NFHS Track and Field Rules, and any printed instructions distributed from the IESA Office.

4.072 Sectional and state-level competition shall be held for Classes 1A, 2A, 3A, and 4A in both the seventh and eighth grades. If a sectional site is not assigned by the IESA office, then schools assigned to that sectional may contact the IESA office to indicate their willingness to host the sectional. Track sectionals shall be scheduled on either Friday at 1:00 or 2:00 p.m. or Saturday at 9:00 or 10:00 a.m. as listed on the approved IESA calendar. Any change in the scheduling of a track sectional must be approved by the IESA track administrator. See IESA Track and Field Terms and Conditions for seeding procedures.

Students with disabilities will compete in events within the Wheelchair Division regardless of school classification. A disability is a physical, visual, or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.

Wheelchair Division:

a. Students who use a wheelchair for mobility or sports or those that have been classified as T/F 31-34, T51-54, or F51-57.
b. Students who qualify for the Wheelchair Division will compete separately for place and medals.
c. Students with disabilities wishing to participate in this Division must have a statement of disability on file with appropriate personnel responsible for student health issues at the student's school. The IESA reserves the right to request this documentation as part of the entry process.
d. Wheelchair participants will compete at the sectional to which their school is assigned.
e. The Wheelchair Division will have the 100 M track event, 400 M track event, and the shot put. These events will not score points toward the team total.

4.073 Season Limitations

No member school participating in the boys and/or girls state series shall organize, hold try-outs, or practice prior to Monday of Week 35 in the IESA standardized calendar.

A member school may conduct its first interscholastic contest in boys and/or girls track no earlier than Saturday of Week 38 and its last interscholastic contest in boys and/or girls track no later than Saturday of Week 49 in the IESA standardized calendar. There is not a maximum number of season contest limitations.

4.074 IESA State Tournament Team Limitations

A member school will be permitted two entries in each individual event for boys and girls plus one entry in each relay for each boys and girls class in which it has entered the state series.

Schools must submit their track entries online using the Sectional Participant Information form. Schools that fail to submit their entries using the online Sectional Participant Information form are subject to sanctions that could include being ruled ineligible for the state series. All boys and girls who will be participating in the sectional meet shall have their names on the Sectional Participant Information Form. A limited number of changes may be approved to the Sectional Participant Information after 4:00 p.m. on the day of the seeding meeting. See the Track Terms and Conditions for these instances. Contestants shall be allowed to participate only in those events in which they are entered on the Sectional Participant Information. On the day of the sectional meet, there are no substitutions--only scratches.

It shall be the responsibility of the sectional track host to invite the coaches of the participating schools to a seeding meeting on Wednesday prior to the date of the sectional meet. The meeting will be held virtually. The Sectional Host has the responsibility to seed the track meet based on the Sectional Participant Information. Teams without official entries at the seeding meeting shall be disqualified from sectional participation. The state meet shall be organized on the basis of sectional results.

It is mandatory for the head coach (or another school representative) to attend the virtual Sectional Seeding Meeting. If a head coach (or another school representative) is not in attendance at the seeding meeting, the Sectional Meet Manager should seed the athletes from the non-attending school and contact the IESA administrator at the IESA office immediately the following morning.

- Sectional managers may accept requests from schools to make exceptions for attendance at the Sectional Seeding Meeting. A letter requesting an exception for attendance must be sent to the Sectional Manager and signed by the school's principal or official representative prior to the beginning of the scheduled Seed Meeting.
- If the coach (or other school representative) fails to comply with these provisions, the coach and/or the competitors from that school may be sanctioned.
- It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to contact the Sectional Host immediately if for any reason they experience an emergency situation that would not allow them to get to the seeding meeting on time. Sectional managers are encouraged to provide participating coaches with a phone number to be used in case of an emergency.

If a coach or school representative fails to attend the track and field seeding meeting, the following sanctions will be applied:

- Non-attendance first meeting: School will be placed on probation.
- Non-attendance second consecutive meeting: School will be able to participate in the track and field state series of the current year but will not be able to participate in the track and field state series of the following year unless the school pays a $250.00 fee for reinstatement to the state series.

All schools participating in the sectional meets are required to make available to the sectional host, one qualified volunteer to be assigned by the sectional host to work the meet. Adequate and competent help is critical to the success of all sectional T&F meets. If the school fails to provide a quality volunteer, then a coach from that school's team must serve as a volunteer. This will be true even if the school only has one coach, so head coaches are encouraged to get involved with their athletic director to ensure that this obligation has been met.

State Series Advancement: The first-place winner in each event at the sectional track meet shall automatically advance to the state final meet. In addition, any individual or relay team who equals or surpasses the qualifying marks which are listed for each particular class and level as detailed in the track information sent from the IESA office to each participating school shall advance to state level competition. In the Wheelchair Division, the top two finishers in each event will automatically advance to the state final meet; however, the Executive Director has the authority to modify advancement procedures.

Contestants must participate in the sectional meet and either place first in an event or meet the qualifying standard into advance to the state meet. Relay teams may consist of up to six (6) individuals and any of those individuals may run in the relay at the sectional level. Should the relay team qualify for the state meet, any four of the five may run at state.

4.075 Individual Limitations

In all interscholastic track and field meets, students are allowed to participate in a maximum of four (4) events.

Relay teams may list a maximum of six athletes- four runners and two alternates. Any four of the six runners listed may run at either the sectional or state level of competition. Students may participate in a maximum of three relays. Athletes listed as a relay alternate will not have an event count toward their event total unless they participate in that event. Athletes may be listed as an alternate for both the 4x100 and 4x200 relays but may only participate in one of those relays.

Students in grades 5-7 may compete in:

- INDIVIDUAL EVENTS at either or both grade levels not to exceed the maximum
  - NOTE: At no time is an individual athlete allowed to compete in the same event at both grade levels
- RELAY EVENTS
  - A maximum of three relays. Athletes may participate in relays at both the 7th and 8th grade levels within the maximum athlete entries.
  - NOTE: Regardless of the participation grade level, no student may participate in both the 4x100 relay and the 4x200 relay.

Students in eighth grade may only compete in events at the 8th grade level.

In addition to automatic forfeiture of the contest, should a student exceed the individual limitations listed, the coach of the team shall be ineligible to coach for the next two interscholastic contests at the level where the violation occurred and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim.

Illustrations for Section 4.074

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. May the same runner *participate* in both the 4 x 100 and the 4 x 200 relays?
A. No. If a runner is going to be run in two relays, one of the relays must be the 4 x 400 or the 1600M Mid-Distance Medley Relay.

Q. I listed a boy for both the 4 x 100 relay and the 4 x 200 relay. He only ran in the 4 x 100 relay at sectionals, but that relay team did not qualify for state. Our 4 x 200 relay team did qualify for state. Can this boy now run on the 4 x 200 relay team at state even though he did not run in the event at sectionals?
A. Yes. Because he only ran in the 4 x 100 at sectionals which did not advance, he could run in the 4 x 200 at state since he was listed for both. If he was not listed for both, he would be ineligible to run in the 4 x 200 relay at state.

Q. I have a 7th grade girl who will compete as an individual at the 8th grade level of competition. Is she still eligible to be a member of a 7th grade relay team?
A. Yes.

Q. Is it now permissible for a contestant to run in four events?
A. Yes. Beginning in 2013, a contestant may enter any four events. This could be four running events or four field events. It could be 2 running events and 2 relays as long as one of the relays is the 4 x 400 or the 1600M Mid-Distance Medley Relay. It could be 3 field events and 1 running event. Any combination of four events is now acceptable.

Q. The individual limitation only permits a student to compete in a maximum of three relays in the regular season and state series. If my team is competing in a regular season specialty relay only meet can an individual compete in four relays?
A. Yes. If the specialty meet offers only relays, then an individual may compete in four relays.

Q. Am I correct that one of my 7th grade girls could run in the 7th grade 100 m dash, the 7th grade 200 m dash, and the 8th grade long jump?
A. Yes. Beginning in 2020, a 7th grader can participate individually at both the 7th grade and 8th grade level as long as he/she is not participating in the same event at both grade levels.

Q. May a 7th grade student compete in the 7th grade 100 m dash, the 7th grade 200m dash, the 7th grade 4 x 100 meter relay, and the 8th grade 100 meter dash?
A. No. At no time is an individual permitted to compete in the same event at both grade levels. In the above example, the individual wants to participate in both the 7th grade and 8th grade 100 meter dash. This is not allowed. If the student wants to participate in any other 8th grade event that he/she is not participating in as a 7th grader that would be acceptable.

4.080 SPEECH

4.081 The official rules for IESA Speech are included in the IESA Speech Terms and Conditions and any printed instructions distributed from the IESA Office.

4.082 The Association shall conduct annual speech contests. The IESA administrator responsible for the activity shall divide all participating schools into as many state areas as necessary to conduct the activity. All contest areas must have a host rotation in place. The following events shall be offered:

4.083 Individual Limitations

Qualified students are eligible to participate in the IESA State Speech Contest in any combination of up to three events. Students may participate in multiple performances in the same scripted event within the maximum. Improvisational events will only be allowed one entry in the same event per performer. To be eligible to participate in Team Improv, students must also perform a scripted event.

Illustrations for Sections 4.080

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. What IESA Speech events are available to my students?
A. IESA Speech is divided into four classifications: individual, duet, chorale reading, and small group acting events. Individual events include solo acting, poetry, impromptu speaking, original script, and storytelling. Duet events can be regular duet acting, improv duet acting, and original script. Chorale reading is the only event in the third classification. Small group events are the fourth classification and include small group acting and team improv.

Q. May my speech contestants perform a humorous regular duet and a serious regular duet?
A. Yes, as long as the scripts/pieces are different, this would be allowed.

Q. I have a student who would like to enter just Team Improv. Is this student eligible for the event?
A. No. The student must be entered into and perform a scripted event. In order for the student to be eligible for Team Improv, the student would have to enter and perform in one of the following events: Solo Acting, Poetry, Original Script, Storytelling, Duet Acting, Original Script Duet, Small Group Acting, or Chorale Reading.
Q. I have a student who has already performed in an Improv Duet. Can he/she serve as a partner in another Improv Duet?
A. No. Improvisational events are only allowed one entry in the same event per performer.

4.084 General Contest Regulations

Each school entering the speech state series must submit its Participation Information via the internet through the IESA Member School Center to the IESA office. Participant information is to be completed by Tuesday of week 15 in the standardized calendar. After Tuesday of week 15, all event changes must include a $25.00 fee payable to the host school. Participant name changes within an entry or the elimination of an entry will continue to be accepted by hosts with no penalty.

4.090 MUSIC SOLO AND ENSEMBLE AND ORGANIZATION CONTEST GENERAL REGULATIONS

4.091 The official rules for IESA Music are included in the IESA Music Terms and Conditions and any printed instructions distributed from the IESA Office.

4.092 Participant information for Solo & Ensemble and Organization contest must be entered online in the Music Entry Center by the posted deadlines. If this requirement is not met, the host school is under no obligation to accept the entries. All changes accepted by the host school after the deadline must include a $25.00 fee made payable to the host school. Participant name changes within an entry, or the elimination of an entry, will continue to be accepted by hosts with no penalty.

4.093 No vocal nor instrumental soloist, ensemble, or choir shall perform the same selection for both a solo and ensemble or choir. Ensembles and choirs shall not use the same selection as a chorus entry from their school. No vocal nor instrumental contestant in more than one ensemble shall use the same selection.

4.094 No vocal nor instrumental soloist, ensemble, nor choir shall perform any one number in two consecutive years. Schools are encouraged to limit the number of contestants using the same selection.

4.095 All students participating in an IESA music contest must be a member of the school's band, choir, or orchestra. Students may participate in contest if there is no performing group available at their school of attendance.

4.120 MUSIC SOLOS AND ENSEMBLES

4.121 The Association shall conduct annual Music Solo and Ensemble contests. The IESA administrator responsible for the activity shall divide all participating schools into state areas as may be necessary.

4.122 Individual Limitations

A student shall not participate in more than a total of six (6) solo and ensemble events. A student shall not participate as a soloist in more than one event with the same instrument or voice.

Illustrations for Section 4.120

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. Are instrumental soloists required to play scales or percussion soloists required to play rudiments?
A. No, they are not required. However, if a scale element is added, a bonus point may be awarded.

4.130 MUSIC ORGANIZATIONS

4.131 The Association shall conduct annual Music Organizational contests. The IESA administrator responsible for the activity shall divide all participating schools with organizational entries into state areas as may be necessary.

4.132 School Limitations

Students from more than one member school may participate together in a music organization event entered by one member school. Only the designated host school needs to register.

4.133 Individual Limitations

A vocal student may participate in one mixed chorus, either one boys or girls chorus, and one show choir. An instrumental student may participate in one band, one jazz band, and one orchestra.

Illustrations for Section 4.130

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. May a student participate in two different mixed choruses in an IESA contest?
A. No, only in one mixed chorus.

Q. What is the penalty if the individual limitations are violated in Organization?
A. The penalty shall be the lowering of the final rating by one division and the loss of the Best of Day award opportunity.

4.140 SCHOLASTIC BOWL

4.141 The official rules for IESA Scholastic Bowl are included in the IESA Scholastic Bowl Terms and Conditions, the IESA Scholastic Bowl Manual, and any printed instructions distributed from the IESA Office.

4.142 Regional, sectional, and state level competition shall be held in two classes (A/AA) based on enrollment, with an equal split of the number of entries. Competition sites shall always be determined by the IESA office.

4.143 Regional tournaments will be held as designated by the Board of Directors, consisting of two or more schools in round-robin competition or pool play with round-robin competition within the pool, with the two pool winners meeting for the regional team championship. Regionals must start no later than 4:30 p.m.

4.144 A number of sectional tournaments will be held as designated by the Board of Directors. There shall be round-robin competition for the four regional winners competing. Sectionals must start at either 4:00 p.m. or 4:30 p.m.

4.145 Class A and Class AA state tournaments will be held as designated by the Board of Directors. Each tournament will consist of eight sectional winners. State competition shall consist of two pools with four teams each, in round-robin competition, with the two pool winners meeting for the state championship.

4.146 Season Limitations

Only schools which have an established school team which has played at least three (3) interscholastic contests using IESA scholastic bowl rules during the current season prior to the regional tournament date (Wednesday of week 43 in the standardized calendar) may participate in the state series.

Schools participating in a scholastic bowl competition using IESA rules may conduct their first contest no earlier than Monday of week 30 in the standardized calendar. Participating schools will be seeded using only the results of matches where IESA scholastic bowl rules were followed. Schools may participate in outside academic competitions at any time during the school year. Results of outside academic competitions shall not be reflected when listing the team's season record for the online regional seeding procedure. There is not a maximum number of season contest limitations.

4.147 School Limitations

Each member school may enter one team in the IESA Scholastic Bowl State Tournament Series.

The IESA state series shall be held as round-robin competition for all participating schools. The winning team from each regional and/or sectional shall advance to the next level of competition. If an opponent incurs a violation in the state series that requires a contest or contests to be forfeited, the following policy will be followed:

- If the violation affects only one round of competition, the opponent within that round will be advanced on to the next round of competition within the state tournament series.
- If the violation affects more than one round of competition, no opponent from the preceding rounds of competition shall be advanced to the next round of competition within the state tournament series.
- The advancement of opponents shall be determined by the IESA office.

No school shall be allowed to participate in regional play without submitting their scholastic bowl record online during the regional seeding procedure.

4.148 IESA State Tournament Team Limitations

A maximum of 15 competitors may be included on the school's Regional Entry Form for the state tournament series. Schools may make changes to the Regional Entry Form until the "Roster Closed" deadline date as detailed in the Activity Calendar that is posted on the IESA website. After the Roster Closed deadline, no changes will be permitted on the Regional Entry Form. Any of the competitors listed on the Regional Entry Form may be used in any match at any level of the state tournament series. Only students who are eligible in accordance with IESA By-Laws may participate in the IESA Scholastic Bowl State Tournament Series.

The following penalties are in effect for schools that fail to submit their online record/seeding information by the posted deadline:

- First offense: School will be placed on probation.
- Second consecutive offense: School will be able to participate in the state series of the current year but will not be able to participate in the state series the following year unless the school pays a $250.00 fee for reinstatement to the state series.

Five team members shall begin play for each match. Less than five team members may continue in the match if there are extenuating circumstances.

Each team shall be accompanied by at least one coach who has been designated by the administration of the participating school.

All head coaches must indicate their students are in compliance with the sportsmanship and eligibility standards when completing the online Regional Entry Form.

4.150 CHEERLEADING COMPETITION

4.151 The official rules for IESA Cheerleading are included in the IESA Cheerleading and Conditions, NFHS Cheerleading Rules, and any printed instructions distributed from the IESA Office.

4.152 The Association shall conduct a cheerleading competition for students. Regional and sectional competition will not be held. The competition is a "one-time" performance at a location determined by the IESA office. All schools that enter the cheerleading competition will perform at this location. The date of the competition is Wednesday of week 32 in the IESA standardized calendar.

4.153 Team Limitations

IESA Recommended Cheer Season would need to be adopted by each member school's board.

- Mandatory No Contact Period – Monday following the IESA Cheer Championships through March 31st.
- Tryouts allowable in April and May.
- Camps/Open Gyms allowable during June and July. These events may not be mandatory.
- Season Begins – Monday Week 4 (last Monday in July)

4.154 Competition Divisions

Schools participating in the Routine Division will be determined by enrollment.

- Seventh and eighth grade enrollment from the previous school year as reported by the member school shall determine the classification of each school after a tabulation of entries in each sport.
- Routine Division will be split into 3 (three) classes each containing 33 1/3% of the participating schools.
    - The highest 33 1/3% of the schools entered in the activity is 3A, the next 33 1/3% of the schools entered in the activity is 2A, the next 33 1/3% of the schools entered is 1A.

Game Day Cheer is one division.

All participants in the cheerleading competition must be listed on the online entry form.

4.160 CHESS

4.161 The official rules for IESA Chess are included in the IESA Chess Terms and Conditions, the Chess Rulebook, and any printed instructions distributed from the IESA Office.

4.162 The Association shall conduct a chess competition for students. Regional and sectional competition will not be held. Competition will be held based on 6th, 7th and 8th grade classification. It will not be held based on school size classification. The state competition shall be held on Friday-Saturday of week 34 in the IESA standardized calendar.

4.163 Season Limitation

There is no official season start date and mandatory season ending date. Schools may schedule matches with other schools any time during the school year.

4.164 IESA State Tournament Limitations

Each school must complete the online roster entry form and rank their participants by Thursday of Week 33 in the IESA standardized calendar.

The online roster entry form is located in the IESA Member Center of the IESA website. The total number of students at each grade level that a school can enter is ten (10). Participant information must include the name of the participants, year in school, and their rank. The online roster entry form must also include the name(s) and cell phone numbers of the school's coach(es) (or school representatives).

4.165 Individual Limitations

- For sixth grade activities, a student shall be eligible through age thirteen (13). If a student in sixth grade becomes fourteen (14) before the final day in the state chess tournament, he/she is not eligible to participate in sixth grade chess.
- For seventh grade activities, a student shall be eligible through age fourteen (14). If a student in seventh grade becomes fifteen (15) before the final day in the state chess tournament, he/she is not eligible to participate in seventh grade chess.
- For eighth grade activities, a student shall be eligible through age fifteen (15). If a student in eighth grade becomes sixteen (16) before the final day in the state chess tournament, he/she is not eligible to participate in eighth grade chess.

4.170 BOWLING

4.171 The official rules for IESA Bowling are included in the IESA Bowling Terms and Conditions, the USBC Bowling Rules, and any printed instructions distributed from the IESA Office.

4.172 The Association shall conduct a bowling competition for students. Competition will be held for girls and boys. It will not be held based on school size classification. Sectional and state competition will be held in accordance with dates listed on the standardized calendar. Competition dates may change from year to year.

4.173 Season Limitation

There is no official season start date and mandatory season ending date. Schools may schedule matches with other schools any time during the school year.

4.174 IESA State Tournament Limitations

Each school must complete the online roster entry form by the posted Roster Deadline published in the IESA standardized calendar.

In IESA Bowling, a team is defined as four (4) bowlers competing from one school at the start of Round 1. A school may register a boys and/or girls team of four (4) roster positions to bowl for the state series. A school with four paid bowlers is permitted to enter two (2) alternates on the roster. If a school does not have 4 bowlers, the school is permitted to register up to 3 individuals to compete for individual awards in the state series competition. Schools registering 1, 2, or 3 individual bowlers shall not be permitted to have an alternate listed on the roster. Schools may make changes to their bowling roster up until 12:00 noon on the Monday prior to the Sectional competition. After this deadline, schools are only permitted to scratch participants from sectional competition.

There will be six sectional sites, with each advancing the top four boys' teams and top four girls' teams, along with the top eight individual boys and girls not on an advancing team.

4.180 GOLF

4.181 The official rules for IESA Golf are included in the IESA Golf Terms and Conditions, the United States Golf Association's Rules of Golf, and any printed instructions distributed from the IESA Office.

4.182 The Association shall conduct an individual and team golf competition for both boys and girls. Both the boys and girls divisions shall consist of a sectional level of play and a state final level of play. There is no classification based on school size or grade level. Sectional contests for boys shall be held on the first Wednesday after Labor Day. Sectional competition for girls shall be held on the first Thursday after Labor Day. The state competition for girls shall be held on the second Thursday after Labor Day. The state competition for boys shall be held on the second Friday after Labor Day.

4.183 Season Limitation

There is no official season start date and mandatory season ending date. Schools may schedule outings with other schools any time during the school year.

4.184 IESA State Tournament Limitations

Each school must complete the online roster entry form by the deadline date as indicated in the official IESA activity calendar. Schools must designate all coaches for sectional and state play by the roster deadline.

Substitutes at the sectional level are permitted up until 12:00 p.m. on the Wednesday preceding the sectional tournament. The IESA office must be notified of the substitution. If it is necessary to make a substitution the day of the sectional tournament, the change will be made by the club professional at the sectional site. No changes may be made to the roster after the conclusion of the sectional.

A school may register for a maximum of 6 boys and 6 girls. A team is defined as any school that has at least 4 golfers participating in a division.

a. The golfers with the lowest four scores will determine the team score and the composition of the advancing team.
b. Only the lowest four scoring golfers for a team will participate in the team competition at state. Those golfers on the team whose score was not counted as of the four lowest may still have the ability to advance to the state tournament as individuals.
   For example, a team has six golfers participating in the sectional tournament. The team advances to the state tournament. The golfers with the four lowest scores will represent the school team in that state meet. The remaining two golfers can participate in the state tournament as individuals if their scores qualify.

The intent is to advance 8 boys teams, 6 girls teams, 52 individual boys and 60 individual girls (not associated with one of the advancing teams.) One team from each boys sectional and girls sectional will advance to state, with the objective of bringing 84 male golfers and 84 female golfers to the state tournament. Individual qualifiers advancing to state will be based on a percentage of participants in each sectional as of the online roster deadline date. Ties for the final spot will be included. At the discretion of the IESA golf administrator, state qualifying teams and individuals can be added or subtracted based on the number of sectionals.

5.000 CURRENT PROCEDURE BY-LAWS

5.010 STATE SERIES ORGANIZATION AND DATES

5.011 Information listing state activity time schedules shall be sent to all participating schools by the IESA administrator for a given activity for all athletic activities and by the contest host for all non-athletic activities. State host schools shall not change the set time schedules without the approval of the Executive Director.

5.012 It is the responsibility of the IESA office administrative staff to determine regional/sectional assignments.

5.013 It is recommended by the Board of Directors that activities not be scheduled on school time.

5.014 A coach with participating contestants shall not be the tournament manager of a state tournament.

5.020 ENTRY DEADLINES AND FEES

5.021 The Board of Directors shall determine entry deadlines for all activities. The deadlines shall be listed on the forms that are available online. Additional entries past the initial entry deadline shall be regarded as late and shall not be accepted at the regular entry fee.

The Executive Director does not have the authority to waive such late fees.

Schools that have not renewed their membership by the June entry deadline or have not entered an IESA activity in which they participated the previous year shall be notified at least one week prior to the membership or entry deadline.

No entry will be accepted after the final entry deadline, and no appeal will be heard to accept a school entry after the final entry deadline.

5.022 Renewal of annual membership dues must be paid by the postmarked date as listed on the IESA standardized calendar.

5.023 Athletic and non-athletic entry fees and the initial entry deadline for each activity are designated on the online fee schedule form.

5.024 Late entry deadlines as designated on the online form have been set for specific athletic and non-athletic activities with double entry fees.

5.025 One-half of the amount collected for double fees in the fine arts activities shall be forwarded to the host school.

5.026 Entry fees, not including any late fees, for sports with a June entry deadline will be refunded upon request according to the following schedule:

Golf	Requested by Aug. 15
Softball	Requested by Aug. 1
Baseball	Requested by Aug. 8
Cross Country	Requested by Aug. 15
Girls Basketball	Requested by Sept. 26
Boys Basketball	Requested by Oct. 25

Entry fees for all other activities will be refunded upon request prior to the initial entry deadline for the activity.

5.027 Late entry fees shall be waived for schools designated as new members or for current member schools entering an activity for the first-time which petition to participate in an activity after the initial entry deadline.

5.028 The penalty fee assessed to a school which does not participate in an athletic activity for which it is registered without notifying the IESA office or withdraws from the state series after the seeding meeting/online ranking deadline for a given activity shall pay a $50.00 penalty, the cost of the officials for the contest which they forfeited, and that school's share for one contest for any deficit, and any other penalties (including monetary) as deemed appropriate by the Executive Director. The $50.00 penalty fee shall be paid directly to the host school.

Scholastic Bowl teams withdrawing from the state series must notify the IESA office of their intent to withdraw by the conclusion of the online ranking process. Failure to do so will result in a $50.00 penalty which must be paid to the IESA.

Schools that fail to complete the regional ranking/seeding process for baseball, softball, girls' and boys' basketball, and volleyball will be assessed a $50.00 fine.

The acceptance of membership dues and/or entry fees shall be withheld from any school which has an outstanding penalty fee with the Association.

The acceptance of membership dues and/or entry fees shall be withheld from any school which fails to return tournament financial reports.

The Executive Director has the authority to suspend the membership of a school which fails to pay an assessment due to another school when the school owing the assessment does not pay such assessment in a timely manner.

5.029 A **non-refundable** participation fee will be assessed to all schools intending to enter IESA Music and/or Speech. Music entry fees will not be refunded if a contest is postponed due to weather and the school cannot attend on the re-scheduled date.

Illustrations for Section 5.020

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. Where are the entry deadlines posted for the various activities?
A. Entry Deadlines for all activities are listed in the IESA standardized calendar and also on the Entry Forms that are available on the IESA website.

Q. What is meant by a "deadline"?
A. Your entry must be postmarked by the given date.

5.030 FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

5.031 Each member school hosting a regional or sectional basketball, wrestling, or volleyball tournament, or a sectional track meet shall remit to the IESA 30% of the gross receipts for admissions, in addition to any activity administrative or platform fees paid by the Association. Allowable expenditures as indicated on the financial report forms shall be paid by the host school. Expenditures not permitted shall be detailed on the financial report forms. Any profit shall be retained by the host school.

5.032 If there is a deficit in regional or sectional athletic tournament finances, participating schools may be assessed by the host school on a per-game basis for baseball, softball, or basketball; on a per-wrestler basis for sectional wrestling and volleyball; or on a per-team basis for sectional cross-country, regional wrestling, and sectional track.

Assessments shall be paid directly to the host school and shall not be sent by participating schools until the Executive Director approves the financial report.

Host schools will have 45 days from the conclusion of their tournament to request to assess participating schools. Online financial reports must be completed within the 45-day period prior to requesting assessment approval from the IESA Office. Host schools may not assess participating schools 60 days after the conclusion of the tournament.

5.033 Each member school hosting a regional or sectional baseball or softball tournament shall receive no prepaid funds from the IESA office. No school hosting a baseball or softball regional and/or sectional game may charge admission.

Each member school hosting a sectional golf, cross country, or bowling contest shall receive a stipend from the IESA Office to assist in event expenses. The stipend amount will be set by the Board of Directors and dispersed to hosts prior to the sectional event.

5.034 If a track sectional host does not have the facilities to charge admissions, a request may be made to the IESA office for an amount equal to what is paid to the sectional starter. If the reimbursement is made, no assessments shall be made to participating schools.

5.035 Each member school hosting a state-level athletic activity shall complete the financial report within two weeks after the completion of the tournament. Expenditures not permitted shall be detailed in the financial information. Host schools will be entitled to reimbursement for their approved documented tournament expenses, in addition to receiving one-third of the event's net profits. The IESA shall be entitled to receive a reimbursement for documented tournament expenses incurred, along with an allocation of two-thirds of the net profits generated from the event. Deficit expenditures shall be paid by the IESA. The state tournament host shall receive an amount approved by the Board of Directors as their share of the t-shirt sales. Any outside vendors, other than concessions, at state tournament events shall be contracted at least one month in advance through the IESA office rather than the host school.

5.036 Each member school hosting a state speech contest shall pay all allowable expenditures from the 80% of the entry fees for the participating schools forwarded by the IESA office plus any admission. IESA shall retain 20% of the entry fees to cover costs of printing, postage, and awards. Expenditures not permitted shall be detailed on the financial report forms. If income exceeds expenses, one-half of the profit shall be retained by the host school and one-half sent to the IESA.

Each member school hosting a state music contest shall pay all allowable expenditures from the 80% of the entry fees for the participating schools forwarded by the IESA office plus any admission. IESA shall retain 20% of the entry fees to cover costs of printing, postage, and awards. Expenditures not permitted shall be detailed on the financial report forms. If income exceeds expenses, one-half of the profit shall be retained by the host school and one-half sent to the IESA.

5.037 Scholastic bowl regional and sectional hosts shall receive an amount equal to the amount needed to pay for the moderators and scorekeepers for the entire tournament.

5.038 If there is a deficit in a state Music and/or Speech contest, participating schools may be assessed by the host school on a percentage of each school's entry fees against the total entry fees.

If there is a deficit in a scholastic bowl contest finances, participating schools may be assessed by the host school on a per-match basis.

Assessments shall be paid directly to the host school and shall not be sent by the participating schools until the financial report is approved by the Executive Director. Host schools will have 45 days from the conclusion of their tournament to request to assess participating schools. Online financial reports must be completed within the 45-day period prior to requesting assessment approval from the IESA Office. Host schools may not assess participating schools 60 days after the conclusion of the tournament.

5.039 When admission is charged at any IESA state series contest, the admission prices shall be determined by the Board of Directors and indicated on the financial report form.

5.040 PAYMENTS TO OFFICIALS, JUDGES, MODERATORS FOR IESA STATE SERIES CONTESTS

5.041 State level officials and moderators who work on consecutive days shall receive one night's lodging paid for by the Association. No mileage shall be paid to any state series officials who are contracted by the Association.

5.042 Payments to Athletic and Activity Officials

Baseball & Softball--Payments of $65.00 for each game at the regional level, $75.00 per game at the sectional level, and $85.00 per game at the state level. State Level Umpire-in-Chiefs will each receive $225.00. Three UIC's shall be hired for softball and three UIC's shall be hired for baseball.

Cross-Country--**Sectional:** Two starters assigned by IESA Office---payments of $65.00 for each starter; **State**: $45.00 to each starter; $100.00 to the referee; $80.00 each to the Head Umpire, and Head Clerk; $75.00 each to the Assistant Referee and Head Finish Judge; and $40.00 to staging clerks and umpires who do not have a separate paid position.

Basketball--Payments of $55.00 for each game at the regional level; $65.00 for one game at the sectional level; and $80.00 for each game at the state level. State Level Coordinator of Officials will each receive $30.00 per game.

Cheerleading--Payment of $300.00 each to the panel judges; $300.00 each to the technical judges; and $275.00 to the non-scoring quality judge.

Wrestling--Payments of $160.00 at the regional level, $225.00 at the sectional level, and $175.00 per day at the state level.

Volleyball--Payments of $55.00 for each match at the regional level, $65.00 per match at the sectional level, and $75.00 per match at the state level. State officials working as a line judge shall receive $25.00 per match. If line judges are used at the regional and/or sectional level, the expense may be charged to the financial report. Maximum amount each line judge may receive is $20 per match. State Level Coordinator of Officials will each receive $30.00 per match.

Track--Payments of $240.00 per meet at the sectional level for each sectional track starter. Sectional fee includes a shell stipend. At the state meets, the meet referee shall receive $300.00, and the assistant referees (3) shall each receive $240.00; the boys starter shall receive $240.00; and the girls starter shall receive $240.00, the Head Field Event judge shall receive $260.00, the Head Finish Line Judge shall receive $150.00, the Clerk of the Meet shall receive $240.00, and the Conflict Referee will receive $240.00. The public address announcer shall be paid $240.00.

Bowling--Payment of $150.00 to two (2) state tournament managers, $100.00 to tournament host, $75.00 to scorekeepers.

Scholastic Bowl-- Payment to scholastic bowl moderators at $30.00 per match at regionals; $40 per match at sectionals. Payment of $20.00 per match for other tournament personnel at regionals and sectionals. State final moderators shall receive $75.00 per match for the tournament. Scorekeepers shall receive $20 per match for the tournament. Mileage is not paid at the regional, sectional or state level.

Speech & Music--Payments of $30.00 per hour (no mileage) for speech and music contest judges. Judges should be scheduled for a thirty-minute paid lunch period.

Chess-- Chief Tournament Director, $280.00; Pairings, $200.00; Section Chiefs, $250.00; Stewards, $20.00 per round; Scorekeepers, $40 per day.

5.050 PROTESTS, PENALTIES, AND HEARINGS

5.051 All protests or charges of a violation of the Constitution, By-Laws, rules or regulations of the Association shall be reported to the Executive Director in writing or otherwise verified to the Executive Director within 48 hours of the alleged violation. The Executive Director shall have the authority pursuant to Article 1.440 to decide the matter. Such decision may be appealed as provided in these By-Laws.

5.052 In the event a student, parent/guardian, school, or individual against whom or in favor of whom a decision or ruling has been rendered wishes to request a hearing, they shall file such request for such hearing in writing through the principal of the member school involved, with the Board of Directors of the IESA.

5.053 The President of the Board of Directors may appoint a hearing officer or select an Appeals Panel to conduct an appeal. A decision of the Board of Directors or an Appeals Panel shall be final. The decision of a hearing officer can be appealed to the Board of Directors, who shall hear and decide the appeal. Only the Board of Directors may hear and decide a matter involving the Constitution or Sections 5.080 and 5.090 of the By-Laws.

5.054 A hearing officer or Appeals Panel will be appointed by the President, or in the President's absence, failure or refusal to act, by the Vice-President to review the ruling of the Executive Director.

5.055 When the President of the Board of Directors refers an appeal to an Appeals Panel, the President shall appoint not less than three members of the Board of Directors to constitute such appeals panel and to conduct a hearing on an appeal. The members so appointed shall select a chairperson from among their number to preside at all hearings. Members of an Appeals Panel shall not be from the school or division involved in the appeal. The Appeals Panel shall review all documents or information presented to it, shall decide the matter in accordance with the By-Laws or rules of the Association, and shall provide a written copy of its decision to the administrator of the school or student's school involved. A written report of all decisions of the Appeals Panel shall be given to the Board of Directors not less than quarterly.

5.056 When a hearing officer is appointed, he/she shall promptly convene a hearing to consider the ruling by the Executive Director. The hearing officer shall review all documents and information provided and may affirm, modify, or reverse the decision of the Executive Director. The hearing officer's decision may be appealed to the Board of Directors.

5.057 The decision of a hearing officer may, upon written request filed with the Board of the IESA within ten (10) days of a decision, be reviewed at a further hearing conducted by an Appeals Panel or the Board of Directors as determined by the President. All interested persons may attend and provide testimony or evidence at all hearings. The decision of the Appeals Panel to affirm, modify, or reverse the decision of the Executive Director or hearing officer shall be final when made.

5.058 Protests pertaining to the decision of a game official shall not be subject to a ruling by the Executive Director, Appeals Panel, or the Board of Directors. Principals shall file a report of unsatisfactory performance by game officials with the Executive Director. Such report must set forth the facts and specific charges such as lack of knowledge, error in judgment, improper conduct, or other charges. [See By-Law 2.124]

5.059 An administrator of that school shall present the case for a member school at a hearing with a hearing officer or Appeals Panel. A case for an individual may be presented by a student, parent/guardian, or the individual's appointed representative. If an Appeals Panel is called to reach a decision, there will be a fee charged to that member school of $100.00, plus the actual expenses incurred by the Appeals Panel.

5.060 Penalties for violations of the Constitution, By-Laws, or any rule or regulation adopted by the Board of Directors shall be in accordance with the Constitution, By-Laws, rules and regulations of the IESA. The Executive Director shall have full authority to determine and impose any penalty, including suspension or expulsion, for a period not to exceed one year. The findings of any investigation conducted by the Executive Director shall be made known to the administrator of the school or student's school alleged to be involved.

Illustration for Section 5.050

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. What course may I take when all hearing procedures have been exhausted and I am still not satisfied with the decision of the Appeals Panel?
A. The decision of the Appeals Panel is final. If still not satisfied, you have the option of examining the problem through the courts of the State of Illinois.

Q. In addition to the $100.00 charge for an appeal, what other expenses might I expect to pay?
A. If an appeal is heard via a telephone conference call, you could expect to pay at least $300.00 for the cost of the telephone conference call. If the Appeals Panel should actually meet to hear the appeal, then the party requesting the appeal would be responsible for paying the round-trip mileage to the hearing site and meal costs for the members of the Appeals Panel.

5.070 FORFEITURE OF CONTEST

5.071 The use of any ineligible participant in any interscholastic game or contest shall make the forfeiture of the game or contest automatic and mandatory if won by the offending school. In addition, any individual or team awards won by the school using an ineligible player must be forfeited. The use of an ineligible participant for a non-athletic contest shall result in the forfeiture of any award to be received by those participants. Coaches who allow students to exceed the individual limitations as detailed in Division 4 of these By-Laws shall be subject to a two-game suspension at the level where the violation occurred and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim.

5.072 Any team which fails to play a scheduled game and forfeits such game is subject to action of the Board of Directors, including penalty, assessments, suspension, or expulsion.

5.073 A team failing to field the required number of starting players in boys baseball, girls softball, girls or boys basketball, girls volleyball, or scholastic bowl within thirty (30) minutes of the scheduled game time shall forfeit the game. A game or match that is played even though the school failed to field the required number of starters within thirty (30) minutes of the scheduled game time cannot be protested for that reason.

5.074 State series contests in girls softball, boys baseball, girls basketball, boys basketball, and girls volleyball shall not be forfeited due to weather. If the administrator of any participating school determines the team cannot reach the tournament site due to weather, or if the tournament manager makes the decision that all contests scheduled on a given day shall not be held because of weather, the host school shall reschedule the game(s) and adjust the remainder of the playing schedule as necessary. Other contests scheduled on that date may still be held.

Teams that cannot attend a golf sectional or state finals, a cross-country sectional or state finals, the cheerleading competition, a wrestling regional, sectional, or state finals, the bowling sectional or state finals, a scholastic bowl regional, sectional, or state finals, or a track sectional or state finals due to weather may forfeit without penalty. However, only when a majority of the schools scheduled to compete in the contest are not able to participate due to weather will the contest be rescheduled dependent on facility availability. Should weather cause a delay or postponement in any state final activity, it is the responsibility of the IESA along with the respective host school to reschedule the contest.

5.075 Any coach or school official who withdraws a team from the field of play under any circumstances prior to the official completion of the game shall forfeit all rights to protest, except when the principal of the forfeiting school believes circumstances which affected the health, safety, or welfare of the students required such action. The principal may file a protest under the provisions of Division 5 in these situations.

5.076 If a coach is ejected and there is not another coach present to assume coaching duties who meets the guidelines for qualifications of athletic coaches as set forth in By-Law 2.110, the game must be forfeited.

Illustrations for Section 5.070

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. A conference tournament or regular season game is scheduled on the same night as the IESA regional. How should we proceed?
A. IESA competition takes preference over any regular season or other tournament play. Teams that would forfeit a state series contest are subject to the provisions of By-Laws 5.028 and 5.072.

Q. As a regional tournament host, should I notify the other team before they leave home when their opponent has forfeited in advance?
A. Yes. It is not necessary for a team to correctly appear at the site at the correct time if it is known in advance that their opponent is forfeiting the contest. Administrators should use good judgment when deciding whether to notify other teams of declared forfeits.

Q. Can the coach of a girls volleyball team call the tournament host to tell him they are unable to appear due to bad weather?
A. It is valid only when done by a school administrator.

Q. As a state tournament host, what is my responsibility in scheduling when a cancellation becomes necessary due to weather conditions?
A. Contact the IESA office immediately.

Q. One of the teams that is scheduled to play in my sectional is late. There has been no contact from that school. What do I do?
A. The game will be forfeited if the school is not dressed and ready to play within 30 minutes of the scheduled starting time.

Q. One of the teams that is scheduled to play in the first round of my regional has called to indicate their bus is having mechanical problems. They believe they will be an hour late. What do I do and what is my next step?
A. The game will be forfeited if the school is not dressed and ready to play within 30 minutes of the scheduled starting time. While it is unfortunate that the team will be late because of bus problems, continuing to delay the regional will only cause problems for the teams scheduled to play later in the day and for officials scheduled to work that day as well. If the school arrives 30 minutes after the scheduled start time, the contest should be declared a forfeit, the host school should notify the IESA office, and the next game should be played at the scheduled start time.

Q. My sectional basketball game was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. One of the schools scheduled to play in the contest has called and indicated they have had bus problems and will be arriving at 6:25 p.m. Should this game be forfeited?
A. No. Schools have 30 minutes from the scheduled start time to arrive at the site. Since contact has been made between the host school and the school that will be late, the game shall start no later than 6:30. There would be at most 5 minutes of warm-up time given to the school who is late as the game may not start later than 30 minutes from the scheduled start time.
Q. Whose responsibility is it to declare a forfeit if a team is late?
A. The host manager has the responsibility to declare a forfeit. This is generally the administrator of the host school.

5.080 BREACH OF CONTRACT BETWEEN MEMBER SCHOOLS

5.081 In the event of any emergency, strike, or boycott, every effort should be made by both parties to resolve the breach of contract by mutual consent. If agreement cannot be reached, the school which created the breach shall be responsible to fulfill the terms of the contract or be liable to terms of this section. If a contest is not played because a member school complies with the prohibitions of By-Law 2.015 pertaining to a strike, no financial penalty or assessment, other than that which is specified in By-Law 5.082, shall be imposed against the offending school for breach of contract.

5.082 In case of strike, the school district on strike shall be responsible for payment of all officials' and/or judges' contracts.

5.083 In case of a breach of contract between member schools, the Board of Directors shall have authority to consider and decide any penalty including an award of financial loss which is sustained by the offended school.

Illustrations for Section 5.080

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. When a member school cannot participate in a scheduled contest because it is not in legal session due to a strike, may the contest be rescheduled or must it be canceled and forfeited?
A. A contest which is not played because of a strike may be rescheduled within the provisions of the season and participation limitations of these By-Laws and by mutual consent from both schools. If the contest is not rescheduled and played, the school which could not participate because of the strike must forfeit the contest.

Q. Is a school which cannot play a contest because of a strike obligated to make financial settlement for unrealized revenue with the host school for the contest?
A. No. The provisions of By-Law 5.081 specifically absolves a striking school of such obligations if it complies with the terms of By-Law 2.015, which prohibit it from playing a contest while on strike.

Q. Who is responsible for payment of officials when a forfeit has occurred?
A. The school that caused the forfeit is responsible for payment to the officials. In some cases restitution may have to be made to the host school if the host school has paid the officials and it was the visiting school that caused the forfeit. Example: School A and School B have a game scheduled for Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. School B has requested that the game be moved to 4:00 p.m. on the same date to accommodate a school concert. School A is willing to play earlier but must contract a different set of officials for the earlier starting time. School B is responsible for paying the original set of officials because they were the ones who requested the time change, necessitating new officials.

Q. Our baseball (or softball) game has been canceled because of rain. Do I have to pay the umpires?
A. If the umpires have driven to the site, then generally payment is made. If the school was able to contact the umpires before they left for the contest, payment does not need to be made. See By-Law 2.125 for postponement/suspension policy.

Q. I have a set of officials contracted to work two basketball games. Our school lost power and we were not able to play. Am I responsible for paying the officials?
A. In general, yes. Some officials will understand the situation and if you can contract them for the make-up date, they will not expect payment. However, if you cannot contract the same officials, then they should be paid. The officials held the date for you and they should be paid if a new date cannot be scheduled. See By-Law 2.125 for postponement/suspension policy.

Q. When a contest is not played because of a strike, how are game contracts resolved?
A. Game officials are contracted by the host school for the contest, and it is obligated to pay officials for contracted games, whether the game is played or not, unless other resolution is mutually consented to by both the school and officials(s). However, in the event of a game which is not played because one of the schools scheduled to play cannot because of a strike, the striking school must either pay the game officials according to the terms of their contracts if it is the host school, or the striking school must reimburse the host school for the terms of the officials contracts if it is the visitor.

5.090 BREACH OF CONTRACT BETWEEN SCHOOL AND OFFICIAL

5.091 In case of breach of contract between a member school and official, either in total or in part, the Executive Director or Board of Directors shall have authority to assess such penalties as they deem appropriate against the offending party.

5.092 Member schools of the Association shall contract officials. Contracts may be in either written or in electronic form.

5.093 If, in the judgment of the school or official, there are extenuating conditions, a hearing may be held. Written request for such hearing must be submitted to the Executive Director, who shall be responsible for conducting an investigation and hearing.

5.094 If an official's contract is made during a given school year for a contest to be played during the next school year and if, in the meantime, there is a change in the school principalship, the contract is valid only if and when the incoming principal has been notified of the existing contract and has sanctioned it or has failed to inform the official of cancellation within one week after the notification.

5.100 PENALTY FOR VIOLATING RULES

5.101 Any player ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible:

- **First offense:** For the next two (2) interscholastic contests at that level of competition (and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim). In addition the player must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course online prior to regaining eligibility. Receipt of course completion must be acknowledged by the IESA Office prior to the player regaining eligibility.
- **Second Offense:** For the next five (5) interscholastic contests at the level at which the ejection occurred (and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim), in addition to a $100.00 fine assessed to the school.
- Player may also be subject to other penalties the IESA or the school may assess.

Examples:

1. A basketball player is ejected twice during the course of the season. That player is not allowed to participate in the next five basketball contests (at that level of competition and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim) following the second ejection and school must pay a $100.00 fine.
2. A player is ejected one time during the baseball season for unsportsmanlike conduct and one time during the basketball season also for unsportsmanlike conduct. Following the second ejection, that player is not allowed to participate in the next five basketball contests following the second ejection and school must pay a $100.00 fine.

5.102 Any coach/school personnel ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible:

- **First offense:** For the next two (2) interscholastic contests at that level of competition (and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim). In addition, the coach/school personnel must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course online, and the school must pay a $150.00 fine before regaining eligibility. Receipt of course completion and fine receipt must be acknowledged by the IESA Office prior to the coach/school personnel regaining eligibility.
- **Second Offense:** For the next five (5) interscholastic contests at the level at which the ejection occurred (and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim), in addition to a $300.00 fine paid by the school.
- While serving the contest suspension, the coach/school personnel may not travel with the team or attend contests.
- Coach/school personnel may also be subject to other penalties the IESA or the school may assess.
- **School personnel include, but are not limited to, coaches, assistant coaches, scorekeepers, statisticians, managers, bus drivers, Athletic Directors, Asst. Principals, Principals, Superintendents.**

Examples:

1. A basketball coach is ejected twice during the course of the season. That coach is not allowed to attend the next five basketball contests (at that level of competition and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim) following the second ejection and must pay a $300.00 fine paid by the school.
2. A coach is ejected one time during the baseball season for unsportsmanlike conduct and one time during the basketball season also for unsportsmanlike conduct. Following the second ejection, that coach is not allowed to participate in the next five basketball contests following the second ejection and must pay a $300.00 fine paid by the school.

5.103 **All fines must be received by the IESA Office prior to a coach/school personnel or player regaining eligibility.**

5.104 Once the first contest of regional play has begun for a school, any player or coach/school personnel ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible *for the next two (2) IESA postseason contests at that level of competition (and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim).*

5.105 Any fan ejected from a contest shall not be allowed to attend, at a minimum, the next two contests in the activity and must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course online prior to regaining attendance eligibility. The fan must present proof of completion to their school administration.

Any fan ejected from the IESA state series, including regional, sectional, or state final events, will be prohibited from attending any remaining contests for their school in the state series. Additionally, such individuals are required to complete the NFHS Sportsmanship Course and provide proof of completion to their school's administration. Furthermore, if a fan is ejected from a state contest and their team does not advance, they must serve a two-game suspension during their student's next IESA activity.

5.106 Any player or coach ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct who fails to sit out the remaining interscholastic contest(s) as required in By-Laws 5.101 and 5.102 shall cause the team(s) to forfeit that contest and possibly receive other penalties as determined by the Executive Director.

5.107 Any school that receives two ejections in a school year (which includes players, coaches, and fans) shall be required to communicate in writing through the school's administration with the Sportsmanship Review Panel on the steps the school is taking to address the issue. The panel may recommend additional sanctions to the Board of Directors if they deem it necessary. The Sportsmanship Review Panel shall consist of an IESA administrative staff member, a member of the sportsmanship advisory committee as well as no less than one member of the Board of Directors.

Illustrations for Section 5.100

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. May a coach who has been ejected pay the fine with a personal check?
A. No. Whenever there is a fine involved because a player or coach has been ejected, a school check must be used to pay the fine, and the school check must be received in the IESA Office before the player or coach can play or coach.

Q. My scorekeeper was ejected from a regular season contest. This is their first ejection, do they have to serve a penalty?
A. Yes. **School personnel include, but are not limited to coaches, assistant coaches, scorekeepers, statisticians, managers, bus drivers, Athletic Directors, Asst. Principals, Principals, Superintendents**. As school personnel, your scorekeeper would not be eligible to attend the next two interscholastic contests at the level of competition where the ejection occurred (and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim). In addition, the scorekeeper must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course online, and the school must pay a $150.00 fine before regaining eligibility. Receipt of course completion and fine receipt must be acknowledged by the IESA Office prior to the coach/school personnel regaining eligibility.

Q. I have a player/coach/fan that needs to take the NFHS Sportsmanship course. How much does that cost and how do I notify IESA that the course was completed?
A. The course is free from the NFHS website which is nfhslearn.com. Upon completion, a certificate of course completion is available. That certificate must be sent to the IESA Office before the player/coach/fan can return.

Q. May a coach who is ineligible for a contest due to a suspension for unsportsmanlike conduct travel with the team to the contest or attend the contest?
A. No.

Q. If a player is ejected from a 7th grade game, when is he/she eligible to participate?
A. A player ejected from a 7th grade contest may not play in the 8th grade contest scheduled on the same evening. Furthermore, whenever the next 7th grade contest is scheduled, the player is required to miss that contest and all contests between.

Q. What is the definition of two ejections in a school year?
A. Two ejections is literally interpreted as two ejections by any player, coach, or fan during a given school year. It does not matter if the two ejections occurred on the same day, different days, two fans, or any combination. If a school has two ejections in a given school year, then they are subject to the provisions of By-Law 5.104.

Q. My coach was ejected from a 7th grade basketball game on Tuesday. Our next 7th grade game is not scheduled until two weeks from that day. Our county 8th grade tournament is scheduled to start this coming Saturday. Is my coach allowed to coach in the 8th grade county tournament?
A. No. The coach is required to miss the next two contests at the level at which the ejection occurred and all contests in between. Since your coach was ejected in the 7th grade contest, he/she could not coach in the 8th grade county tournament and would have to also miss the next two 7th grade contests. In addition, the school is fined $150, and the coach must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course.

Q. What is the definition of Unsportsmanlike Conduct?
A. Unsportsmanlike Conduct is defined as the following: fighting, verbal abuse/dissent directed toward an official or opponent, racial or ethnic slurs, profanity/obscene gestures, flagrant/violent fouls, taunting/trash talking/baiting, cheating, throwing/abusing equipment, physical intimidation, or abuse of an official or opponent, and unauthorized leaving of the team bench, etc.

Q. If a player is disqualified for committing five personal fouls in a basketball game, must he/she sit-out the next contest?
A. No. By-Law 5.101 only applies when players are ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct.

Q. If a girl is ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct from the first game of a softball doubleheader, is she eligible to play the second game of the doubleheader?
A. No. She would have to miss the second game that day.

Q. What is the umpire's/referee's role in enforcing By-Laws 5.101, 5.102, and 5.103?
A. Game officials are not responsible for enforcing the By-Law. Officials must report the ejection to the IESA office and the member school within 48 hours of the incident. They should also send a copy of the report to the offending member school. However, due to commitments officials may have, it is possible they will not be able to submit a report within 48 hours. Even if an official does not submit a report within 48 hours of an ejection, it is the school's responsibility to enforce automatic next-game suspensions/penalties if a player, coach, or fan is ejected.

Q. May players who are ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct travel with the team to the next contest or attend the contest?
A. Yes, but the ineligible player may not dress for the contest.

Q. What happens to a player who is ejected during the regional basketball final and the team loses the regional contest?
A. The ejected player must sit out the next two interscholastic contests at that level of competition, and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim, in which he or she participates. Example: A 7th grade boy is ejected in the 7th grade regional basketball championship game. The team loses the championship game. This student also plays on the 8th grade team. This boy would not be eligible to play in any remaining 8th grade basketball contests as the 7th grade season is over and the By-Law states he must sit out the next interscholastic contest at that level and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim. He would have to miss the first two track meets of his 7th grade year assuming he participates in track, If he does not participate in track, then he would have to miss the first two contests of his 8th grade year in any interscholastic contest.

Q. Can the decision of the game official to assess an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty be appealed?
A. No. That is a decision of the contest official and By-Laws 2.124 and 5.058 prohibit the decisions of game officials to be appealed.

Q. A coach receives two technical fouls in a game and therefore is required by rule to be ejected from the game. Is the coach required to sit out the next two contests?
A. Yes. Receiving two direct technical fouls is considered being ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct. In addition, the school is fined $100, and the coach must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course.

Q. When a student is ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct and has to sit out the next game and also becomes academically ineligible for the next game, will the student serve both periods of ineligibility at the same time?
A. No. The student will be academically ineligible for the next week and then the student will serve the penalty for the ejection once the student has regained academic eligibility.

Q. One of my fans was ejected on Saturday at our quarterfinal game in basketball in the IESA state tournament. When can that fan return to watch the tournament?
A. That fan cannot return to the state tournament. The fan is banned from the remainder of games that are played on Saturday as well as any games that are played on Thursday. In addition, that fan is required to watch the NFHS Sportsmanship course.

Q. My coach was ejected from the regional game that our team lost. Are the penalties still required?
A. Yes. The coach must sit the appropriate number of contests, the penalty fee must be paid by the school and the coach must successfully complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course.

Q. One of my players was ejected during our regional semi-final game on Saturday. We play a double-header versus a conference team on Monday and then have the regional championship on Tuesday. Can my player serve her suspension by sitting out the two games of the doubleheader on Monday?
A. The player would have to sit those two games as well as the next two IESA postseason contests. The by-law indicates that the player shall be ineligible for the next two (2) IESA postseason contests at that level of competition (and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim).

Q. My team won its sectional and will play at the state tournament. However, the Tuesday before the state finals, my player was ejected from the conference tournament. Does she still have to serve the 2-game IESA suspension even though she was ejected from a conference game and not a regional or sectional game?
A. Yes. Once the team has begun regional play, an ejection from any contest results in a 2-game IESA postseason suspension.

IESA Member School Publicity Policy

Each member school acknowledges that athletic contests and interscholastic competitions take place in the public. As such, there is no expectation of privacy in the images, videos, social media content, or any other related media materials featuring student athletes, coaches or other participants at such events. The IESA and/or its agents or designees may take, distribute and use photographs of student athletes, coaches, officials and other participants at such events and use the same for publicity, marketing and other appropriate purposes, including event programs. The member school will take appropriate actions to notify its student athletes, coaches and participants of this provision.

IESA E-mail Policy

E-mail can be an efficient method to exchange information, request services, ask questions or transfer data 24 hours a day. That is the upside. The downside is an overwhelming demand to get immediate responses to questions e-mailed at all hours of the day and night.

Please note that due to the volume of e-mail messages received on a daily basis, our first priority is to respond to our member schools and contest officials. E-mails from member schools and contest officials will be answered as quickly and as efficiently as possible. E-mails from all other parties will be answered as time permits.

General public e-mail messages regarding the performance of contest officials will not receive a response.

E-mails from the general public requesting eligibility rulings or rule interpretations should be directed to the principal or athletic director of your local school before contacting the IESA. PLEASE NOTE: The IESA member school is our constituent -- we may share your correspondence with the school administration. E-mails must include the full name, mailing address and telephone number of the sender within the message.

For inquiries of a general nature, sport, or program/service, please use our general e-mail address: iesa@iesa.org

IESA Severe Weather Safety Guidelines

When thunder is heard, or a cloud-to-ground lightning bolt is seen, the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. Take shelter immediately.

Lightning is one of the most consistent and underrated causes of weather-related deaths or injury in the United States. Nearly all lightning-related injuries occur between the months of May and September and between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Therefore, the greatest concern for injuries in an outdoor contest appears to be during that time, though it can happen any time of year.

It is essential that host schools, competing schools, and contest officials establish dialogue in advance of the contest or event to ensure that all involved are aware of what the plan will be in determining whether or when to suspend play. Host schools are encouraged to share their plan with competing schools and officials prior to the start of the tournament.

Advance Planning

Local Managers should have a documented plan in place, designated people who are responsible for monitoring the weather and a qualified person (typically a trained manager and/or officials) to make the decision to suspend play. In state series competitions, the host school administrator or official(s), if assigned, can make the decision to suspend play.

Monitoring Weather

Local Managers during the contest should be aware of any potential thunderstorms that may form during the competition; if an evacuation is needed, managers should also know how long it would take teams to get to their safest location. Monitoring the weather with a weather alert radio, or with lightning detection systems, or any other available means, is recommended.

If competing schools have portable devices they will be bringing to a contest and have specific policy or directions from their administration that they must follow, the school must communicate those policies with the host school. Host schools must know the policies of each school assigned to their tournament prior to its start.

Lightning Awareness

Generally speaking, it is felt that anytime a cloud-to-ground strike of lightning can be seen, or thunder heard, risk is already present. It is time to seek shelter.

Criteria for Suspending Play

If the local management does not have commercial weather warning equipment at the site or an efficient method of making an accurate, timely decision on location, listening for thunder is the best way to mitigate the danger. If thunder is heard, or lightning is seen hitting the ground, the thunderstorm is close enough to strike in your location. According to the National Weather Service, lightning can strike 10 miles away from the parent thunderstorm. When thunder roars, go indoors! It is important that the local manager(s) monitor not only how far away the lightning is but also how fast it is approaching. Thunderstorms can form and move quickly and danger can arrive quickly.

Either host school administration or assigned contest officials have the authority to suspend or cancel interscholastic contests. It is recommended that those groups work together in making such determination and use any and all available information in doing so. Participating schools with concerns at particular events should direct those to the host school management or assigned contest official.

The following guidelines should be followed in determining when to suspend an event:

1. Anytime a cloud-to-ground strike of lighting can be seen, or thunder heard, risk is present, and a contest should be suspended. At that point, the 30 minute rule for resumption should go into effect.

   NOTE: Due to the layout of some outdoor facilities, contest officials or tournament managers may not be able to see lightning actually "strike the ground." However, whenever lightning is seen moving out of clouds towards the ground, it can be assumed that the lightning is striking the ground somewhere, and as a result, the contest should be suspended.

2. If lightning or thunder is not present but the weather is starting to become ominous, tournament management and/or contest officials should use all available information to determine if and when a contest should be suspended. Care for both participants and spectators should be taken into account at this point. If in doubt, contest officials or tournament managers are encouraged to exercise caution and suspend play. Tournament officials should be ready to implement their emergency plans. However, competing schools who pull their teams or athletes off the field of competition prior to a contest or event suspension do so at the risk of forfeiture or disqualification from the game or event.

3. Suspended contest or events should be resumed at a time when the weather and/or field conditions allow for resumption.

Evacuation Plan

Safe Areas: All personnel, athletes and spectators should be clearly informed of available safe structures or shelters in the event a thunderstorm approaches. A safe structure is any fully enclosed building frequently used by people. In absence of that - athletes and spectators should go to any vehicle with a hard metal roof. Roll up the windows and do not touch the sides of the vehicle. If no safe structure or vehicle is available, find a thick grove of small trees surrounded by taller trees or a dry ditch. Assume a crouched position on the ground with only the balls of your feet touching the ground. Wrap your arms around your knees and lower your head. Minimize contact to the ground since lightning often travels through the ground.

Avoid: Tall trees or objects like light poles or flagpoles, individual trees, standing pools of water and open fields. Also avoid being the highest object on the field. Do not take shelter under trees. Avoid bathrooms if another building is available, and do not use a land-line telephone. A cellular phone or portable phone is a safe alternative if in a secure shelter or vehicle.

Resuming Activity

The NSSL (National Severe Storms Laboratory) recommends that everyone should wait at least 30 minutes after the last flash of lightning or sound of thunder before returning to the field or activity.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (Drone) Policy

The use of unmanned aerial vehicles ("UAV") also known as drones, is prohibited for any purpose by any persons at IESA 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 IESA broadcast partners, provided the management of the tournament facility permits the presence of UAV's for broadcast purposes under the control of the IESA.

Policy and School Recommendations for Transgender Participation

The Illinois Elementary School Association approves this policy and process to address the participation of transgender students in all IESA state series in athletics and activities. The IESA allows participation by students consistent with their gender identity subject to applicable state and federal laws.

For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions will be in place:

- **Transgender**: a person whose gender identity is different than the sex assigned to them at birth.
- **Gender Identity**: a person's internal sense of being of a certain gender. Note – Although an individual may sense that they are gender fluid, non-binary, gender nonconforming, pangender, gender neutral, etc., or maybe intersex (i.e., born with reproductive or sexual anatomy and /or chromosome pattern that doesn't seem to fit the typical definitions of female or male), for purposes of this policy pertaining to participation in gender-specific athletics or activities, the individual's gender identity must be either male or female.
- **Gender Expression**: The external expression of a person's gender identity, typically reflected through behavior, clothing, body characteristics, voice, mannerisms, social interactions, speech, and other characteristics and behaviors, which may or may not conform to behaviors and characteristics typically associated with being either male or female.

Procedure

Students wishing to participate in gender-specific state series athletic events or activities with a gender identity different from the sex assigned to them at birth shall receive an eligibility ruling from the IESA prior to participating in a state series event aligned with their gender identity.

Schools shall notify all students who wish to participate in state series athletic events or activities that any student who wishes to participate in gender-specific state series athletic events or activities under a gender identity different from the sex assigned to the student at birth shall be required to obtain an eligibility ruling from the IESA prior to participation.

1. Students requiring a ruling shall be advised to contact the school's official representative to the IESA (or their designee) on a confidential basis to facilitate the ruling, notifying them that their gender identity differs from the sex assigned to them at birth and that the student wishes to participate in state series athletic events or activities in a manner consistent with their gender identity.
2. Following the receipt of the request for an eligibility ruling, the school shall submit a written request to the IESA for an eligibility ruling, indicating that the student would like the opportunity to participate in state series athletics or activities if they are selected through the team try-out process (if any) and accompanied by such of the following information as the student, their parent(s) and/or the school deem appropriate:
    a. Current transcript and school registration records, including gender identity used for school registration records (if any).
    b. Documentation of consistent gender identity, including but not limited to statements of parent(s), school personnel, clergy, or other individuals familiar with the student's gender identity, and other evidence of gender expression.
    c. Medical documentation relating to the student's gender identity (i.e. hormone supplementation or suppression treatments, sexual re-assignment surgery, other medical treatment, counseling, statements of medical or mental health personnel, etc.).
    d. Student statement affirming their gender identity.
    e. Records of past participation in athletics or activities.
    f. Such other information as the student, their parents, or the school (if involved) deem relevant.
3. IESA will make final rulings on student participation. The Executive Director shall make the eligibility ruling, subject to appeal to the IESA Board of Directors as set forth in Section 1.440. The IESA will establish a panel of medical personnel to act in an advisory role, as necessary, when making eligibility rulings. In ruling on the eligibility of a student to participate in athletics or activities consistent with a gender identity which differs from the sex assigned to them at birth, the IESA shall consider:
    - Whether the claimed gender identity is bona fide and/or for the purpose of gaining competitive advantage; and
    - Whether allowing eligibility would be inconsistent with concepts of fairness in competition or present a risk of injury to the participants.

In considering the ruling, the IESA may request additional information from the student, their parent(s), or the school. While the determination of what information to submit shall be left to the student, their parent(s), and the school, the IESA shall not be required to presume that any information not provided would weigh in favor of the student's eligibility consistent with their gender identity. The student, parent(s), and school are therefore encouraged to provide complete information when requesting a ruling.

The IESA shall make its ruling based on the individual circumstances presented, not on preconceived notions or assumptions. The IESA will seek to minimize harm to students whose opportunity to participate on a team consistent with their gender identity would be limited or denied.

The IESA will notify the member school in writing of its decision on the eligibility ruling. Once the student is ruled eligible under this Policy, participation consistent with the student's gender identity shall be allowed through the duration of the student's junior high school career and does not need to be annually renewed unless the student, parent(s), or school report that there has been a change in the medical circumstances or documentation submitted (if any) or a further change in the student's gender identity. At that time, the school shall contact the IESA in writing, advise the IESA of the changes, and request an updated ruling.

A student to whom eligibility is allowed under this Policy shall only be permitted to participate in athletics or activities consistent with their gender identity unless a subsequent ruling has been obtained. A student who is denied eligibility to participate in an athletic event or activity consistent with their gender identity shall be permitted to participate in athletic events or activities consistent with the sex assigned to them at birth.

Privacy and Confidentiality: All discussions and documents at all levels of the process, either by a member school, appeals panel, and/or IESA, shall be kept strictly confidential unless specifically requested by the student and/or their parent(s). Only those individuals at the school and IESA with a "need to know" shall be privy to the request for ruling, the information provided in support thereof, and the ruling.

Areas of Awareness:

- Have a plan in place
- Use correct names/pronouns according to student's self-identification
- Allow gender-appropriate restroom and locker room accessibility
- Provide educational training for teachers, counselors, coaches, administrators, and students on transgender sensitivity in relation to student
- Permit and be sensitive to students' gender expression according to their gender identity
- Provide access to resources and accurate information

Emerging Activities Policy

The IESA Board of Directors may consider recommendations to add a new state series/championship when a recommendation is brought forward by the Emerging Activities advisory committee.

The IESA will utilize the information provided by member school as detailed in Steps 1 and 2 below to monitor the development of new and emerging activities in member schools and to assist in determining when a new state series/championship should be considered.

1. Interest Step: Schools interested in an emerging activity shall indicate their interest with the Association in the IESA Member Center. Indicating the school's interest means the school does not currently offer interscholastic competition in a given activity(ies) but is interested in having this as an option for students in the future.

2. Registration Step: Schools currently participating in an emerging activity shall register their participation with the IESA Office. Registering the school's participation means that even though the IESA does not offer a state series/championship at this point, the member school conducts interscholastic competition throughout the school year in a given activity(ies).

3. The IESA's Emerging Activities administrator will gather the following additional information:
    a. The number of schools in a geographical area to complete a schedule
    b. Feasibility and scheduling of state series and its impact on existing IESA programs
    c. Pre-existing community-based programs
    d. Availability of certified officials
    e. Growth potential of the activity
    f. Consider gender equity criteria
    g. Financial and staffing impact to the Association

4. Once the information in Step 3 has been gathered, the Emerging Activities advisory committee will make a recommendation to the Board on next steps to take.

Varsity/Non-Varsity Definitions and Policy

Both Varsity and Non-varsity

- **Designation of contest:** The level of competition for a contest is regularly specified on the contract which schools enter into for a given contest. Unless otherwise mutually agreed upon by the principals/official representatives of all competing schools prior to the contest, the level of competition specified on the contract designates the level of the competition.
- **Season limitations:** Season limitations apply to varsity and non-varsity teams. The school season ends for varsity athletes and non-varsity athletes on the date of the school's last contest at their level in the particular sport.
- **Team limitations:** Team limitations apply to varsity and non-varsity teams.
- **Individual player limitations**: Individual player limitations apply to both varsity and non-varsity teams (per day limitations).
- **Eligibility Requirements**: Eligibility standards and requirements apply to both varsity and non-varsity athletes.

Varsity Only

- **Officials**: A varsity contest may be played only if licensed officials can be obtained.
- **Schedule**: Only varsity contests count toward a teams required minimum and maximum number of contests.
- Varsity team is identified by the school at the start of the season. That team fulfills a schedule of contests arranged for the varsity team. This team is considered to be the team which comprises the most skilled competitors in the sport and is the team which is the school's representative at its highest level of competition, including the state series.

Non-Varsity Only

- **Officials**: A below varsity level contest may be officiated by members of the coaching staff, faculty and/or administrative staff from any of the competing schools if the contracted official does not show or the school could not obtain a licensed official for the contest.
- **Format**: By agreement of the participating schools, the format of the contest may be altered.

Policy for Accommodation Request

Purpose

It is the policy of the IESA to provide students with disabilities full and equal opportunities to be integrated in IESA interscholastic sports and activities whenever possible. IESA recognizes and adopts the definition of disability as provided within the Americans with Disabilities Act. The IESA will not discriminate against students with disabilities based on disability in its services, programs, or activities.

Procedure for Requesting an Accommodation

Students who need accommodations are encouraged to work with their member schools to complete and submit the Request for Accommodation Form. A disability is an impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity. Disability includes, but is not limited to, physical impairments, mental impairments, visual impairments, hearing impairments, intellectual impairments, learning disabilities. A request for an accommodation should be submitted prior to the start of the applicable athletic or activity season, or as soon as is practically possible in light of the accommodation being sought.

The IESA recognizes that it cannot anticipate all potential accommodations necessary and that providing accommodations to students with disabilities will require an individualized review and assessment. Accordingly, a request for an accommodation shall be considered on a case-by-case basis. The IESA will engage in an interactive process to the extent necessary for each request for accommodation. The IESA may work with the student, his/her parent or guardian, coaches or other staff from the student's member school, or outside consultants, if necessary, in the interactive process. A request should be in writing, but a request can be made in an alternative format such as an audio recording or video. All requests for accommodations shall be sent to the Executive Director of the IESA.

Process for Submitting a Request

The process for submitting a request for an accommodation (available in the IESA Member Center) is as follows:

- The student, his/her parent/guardian are responsible for completion of Part 1 of the Request for Accommodation.
- The Request for Accommodation should be submitted prior to the start of the applicable athletic or activity season, or as soon as is practically possible, in light of the accommodation being sought.
- The student and his/her parent/guardian are responsible for obtaining the school principal's or athletic director's completion of Part 2.
- The request can be submitted by email to the IESA, fax or mail. The request is deemed submitted on the date emailed or faxed, or, if mailed, three days after the postmark.

Once the IESA receives a request for an accommodation, the following activity will occur:

- After receiving the request, the Executive Director will conduct a review, which can be informal, but will be interactive to the extent necessary. The student, his/her parent/guardian, and personnel from the student's school shall be given the opportunity to submit additional evidence or engage in discussions with the Executive Director, as they may deem necessary. The IESA reserves the right to request more information, including medical records, to better understand the request being sought. Furthermore, the IESA will consult with outside consultants as necessary. The interactive process can be done by telephone, videoconference, or in-person.
- The Executive Director will complete Part 3 of the Request for Accommodation and will provide a letter explaining the accommodation within 10 days after the request for accommodation is submitted to the IESA. If a request for accommodation is denied by the Executive Director, the student, parent/guardian and/or member school may pursue an appeal pursuant by submitting a written request for a hearing to the Board of Directors.
- Requests that have been approved are only applicable to the school year in which they have been submitted. The accommodation may or may not be approved in future years. Approval by the IESA does not mean that the accommodation will be approved by the IHSA.

Developing a Rationale for Grouping and Seeding State Tournament Series

The cornerstone of IESA state tournaments has long been geographic assignments to the state series leading to geographic representation at State Final tournaments. The geographical concept was developed to ensure that interscholastic participation was compatible with a school's educational objectives. The geographic concept helped maintain a "reasonableness" to competition and safeguarded key resources such as time and money, while, at the same time, providing for a structure that was equitable to all member schools.

It is important to note that the interscholastic programs of a school are designed to enrich the educational process. The establishment of sound standards and procedures for the regulation and control of interscholastic programs not only provides for fairness and equity, but they also keep the programs in an educational context. The geographic principle is essential to regulating the character of interscholastic competition.

The Geographic Principle of IESA State Tournament Series

1. The State Series is designed to determine a State Champion. The State Series is not intended to necessarily advance the best teams in the state to the State Final.

2. Representation in an IESA State Final Tournament is determined on a geographic basis — that is, schools advancing to the State Final Finals qualify from given geographical areas of the state. In bracketed activities, pairings for the State Final Tournament are determined a year in advance in a random drawing that is conducted by the activity Advisory Committee.

3. Schools are assigned to first level tournaments/meets on a geographical basis so that there is a reasonable balance in the number of schools assigned at each first level site.

    A. Factors considered in assigning schools to first level tournaments include:
        1. Number of schools entered in state series and their locations; and,
        2. Classification of schools in the state series.
        3. The number of schools assigned to the beginning competition is balanced as much as possible. Travel distance to the tournament/meet site could justify an imbalance in the number of schools assigned to a site.

    B. Factors considered in assigning schools to first level tournaments do not include:
        1. Won-lost records of the schools;
        2. Strengths or weaknesses of the schools in a geographic area;
        3. Anticipated or potential revenue; and
        4. Individual, private requests of schools and/or coaches.