

## **Volleyball Advisory Committee Minutes**

### **January 24, 2018**

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Shelly TerHark with the following members present: Claude Howard, Teresa Bair, Liz Baethke, Angie Montgomery, and Kent Kocour. Absent: Tammi Veerbeek, Mary Miller and Maureen Heath. Brinkmeyer represented the State Office.

Committee members were introduced and a review of Committee purpose was given.

**Motion by Montgomery to approve the February 22, 2017 Advisory Committee minutes, second by Baethke and unanimously approved.**

Committee discussed the use of the Spalding volleyball. Howard inquired about the IGHS AU contract with Spalding. Brinkmeyer informed the Committee a contract has been signed with Spalding and will be utilized until 2022. Howard stated he has several volleyballs go flat each year, several members concurred. Brinkmeyer informed Committee if the volleyballs are inadequate, contact should be made with their Spalding rep so the defective volleyballs can be replaced. Montgomery suggested to put information in the pre-season memo regarding this as well as the district representative's contact information. Brinkmeyer stated she will include this in memo correspondence with schools.

Brinkmeyer informed Committee ball rollers at the state tournament were secured from non-qualifying teams in the Cedar Rapids area. Committee members present at the State Tournament commented on the change being positive. Brinkmeyer concurred that the change was favorable for all involved and all the schools were asked to perform the ball rolling duties next year as well.

Coaching attire was briefly discussed. Brinkmeyer informed the Committee this a local administration issue, however the State Office has reminded coaches at the state level to be cognizant of their attire as their matches could be televised. Committee concurs this is a reflection on players and schools and it is important to set standards for their players. It was suggested attire be a discussion point in the pre-season memo.

Briefly discussed players fist bumping officials during introductions. Due to this being a discussion item on the pre-season rules meeting, there has been a decrease in this practice. Kocour stated it seems like favoritism when one team fist bumps, and the other does not. Brinkmeyer stated this cannot be mandated by the State Office for the regular season matches, but can be strongly suggested in the pre-season memo. Brinkmeyer stated fist bumping officials at the State Tournament is not allowed.

Through correspondence Veerbeek asked about changing the rule regarding multi-day tournaments (in addition to conference tournaments) counting as one playing date. Currently Veerbeek's team plays in an out-of-state tournament where three matches are played each day of the two-day tournament, thus not exceeding the six-match limit for one date. She inquired of the possibility of a multi-day tournament where no more than six matches played total can count as one playing date. Committee discussed with no action taken. Brinkmeyer will gather more information about Iowa teams competing in multi-date, out-of-state tournaments. This will be revisited at next year's meeting.

Committee was reminded to check the IGHS AU website's clearing house for scheduling purposes.

Brinkmeyer informed Committee an AdHoc committee was formed with constituents from the IGHS AU, IHSAA, IHSSA and IHSMA. The purpose of this committee was to discuss the overall placement, length of season, etc. of ALL high school activities.

Brinkmeyer showed the Committee a pinned-map representing each class for post-season play. This was beneficial as it showed the process in which pairings are established. Committee could visualize the difficulty securing balanced regionals when working with geography and rated teams. Brinkmeyer reminded Committee classes 1A-3A play their regional final at a neutral facility and classes 4A-5A play their regional final at the higher rated team's home court. Brinkmeyer also informed Committee the previous year's first round opponent, ratings, records, ceiling height and geography go into consideration when establishing pairings.

Brinkmeyer informed Committee of the new online ticketing procedure. The US Cellular Center now has e-ticketing as an option. There is a small fee for utilizing this service, however there was very little pushback with the fees. Athletic directors gave the most positive feedback with the new ticketing procedure. It elevated a lot of ticketing issues by not having to organize pre-sale tickets for their fans and students.

The Committee briefly discussed Hudl video exchange. Brinkmeyer stated very few complaints were reported regarding the use of Hudl. There were a few glitches with the mandatory video exchange, but all coaches seemed to work out their difficulties. Committee concurs while cost may be a factor to some schools if they purchase the season-long Hudl program, incentives are sometimes given by Hudl. All concur Hudl is a valuable resource for the Regional Final video exchange.

Howard asked for clarification on what officials at the various levels must complete to be registered. Brinkmeyer informed Committee of procedures and stated this past year's volleyball clinics had record-breaking attendance. She feels with the new officials' evaluation program being implemented, more officials will be evaluated, which will in turn enhance volleyball in the state.

To improve officiating, Kocour suggested the importance of veteran officials mentoring new and upcoming officials with improving their game, rules knowledge, etc. He feels veteran officials are happy to help and promote the sport of volleyball. Kocour stated it's important for officials to advocate for themselves by attending meetings, working pre-season scrimmages, etc. Committee was also reminded of the IGCA clinics.

All agree it's important all officials receive the same information from clinic to clinic. Committee discussed inconsistency of calls made by officials. Brinkmeyer discussed several programs Tim Keating, Volleyball Officials Coordinator, has in place to help with the inconsistency of calls across the state. Brinkmeyer feels the best way to solve this is through communication, which will be a focal point for the upcoming season. Kocour shared about the new procedure at state where state tournament officials met immediately following their match for critique. He believes this will help increase the quality of officials as well.

The NFHS proposed rules were not available as of this meeting date. Brinkmeyer will send the approved NFHS rule changes to the Committee when finalized.

Committee discussed ballhandling during warm-ups when both teams are at the net. Due to an increase in concussions according to the NFHS, the IGHS AU will no longer allowed shared net for warm-ups during weekend tournaments. Shared net time has not been allowed during dual matches and has been

discouraged at weekend tournaments. However, weekend tournaments have been given some flexibility for warm-ups to condense the warm-up time. Brinkmeyer stated teams will still be allowed to warm-up outside of the serving line when their opponent is using the net. Due to most gym's lack of space, the IGHS AU will allow teams to be no closer than the serving line for their "off court" warm-up. Brinkmeyer will put information in the pre-season memo regarding no shared net time.

The committee wishes to express appreciation to Montgomery and Baethke for their years of service on the Volleyball Advisory Committee as their terms are expiring.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 23. With no further business, **motion to adjourn by Baethke second by Montgomery and unanimously approved.**

Heidi Reed  
Recorder