

BASKETBALL COMMITTEE ADVISORY MINUTES

April 17, 2019

Meeting was called to order. Members present: Kristin Meyer, Thad Streit, Nicole Goodwin, Jerry Hulsing, Greg Groen, Bruce Dall, Jamie Smith, Jason Alons. Absent: Rachel Fisher. Chuck Brittain attended as supervisor of officials for the IGHSAU. Attending from the State Office: Gary Ross and Jason Eslinger.

Members were introduced and an explanation of Advisory Committee's purpose was given.

Motion by Streit, Hulsing second to approve April 25, 2018 Basketball Advisory Committee minutes as filed. Motion carried unanimously.

Rankings were discussed at length. Eslinger informed Committee the IGHSAU ranks teams for PR and to establish a baseline where power teams are to be used in pairings. A lot of time and consideration is given throughout the season, and the pre-season prospectus, box scores, articles, results, head to head scores, stats and viewing games all are criteria used in producing ratings. It was stated some teams load the end of the regular season with tougher opponents due to the release date of pairings, but strength of schedule is also taken into consideration as well. Hulsing stated his highly rated team played a higher rated team and lost by a few points, but that loss wasn't reflected in the next ratings. Groen feels it is difficult to schedule difficult teams towards the end as usually the regular season is filled with postponed games.

Ross gave an explanation of how regional pairings are established. The goal is to get the top eight teams playing in different regions in all classes. The top two teams in each regions are seeded and split within the bracket. Several factors also come into consideration, including geography, last year's first round opponent, gym capacity and gym availability. Ross stated this year was a unique year due to all of the weather postponements, but both the IGHSAU and the IHSAA worked well together to get games played, and a few boy-girl doubleheaders were held.

Brittain asked if coaches prefer to know if officials are being observed by official supervisors at their games. Committee concurred it's nice to know if the officials working are being observed.

Committee agreed the live streaming at the state basketball tournament was very well received.

Ross asked for feedback regarding the state tournament schedule in relation to Class 1A and 2A. Currently class 2A is split with late evening and early morning quarterfinal play, and early morning for semi-final play. Feedback was asked regarding switching the Class 1A and 2A schedule every two years. Committee supports this idea. The IGHSAU will consider this as a possibility in the future.

Currently the IGHSAU schedules MOST of their Saturday tournament games at 7:00 pm, with the exception of some doubleheaders and afternoon games due to weather postponements. Ross asked for feedback on starting some of the games at 5 or 6 pm. Alons stated this would be difficult for some officials who referee both college and high school basketball to get from one facility to another. Brittain stated he would try to not schedule those officials who first work college, then high school games (due to travel issues) anyway. Smith wondered about some

wrestling tournament schedules. Committee feels 7:00 pm is a late start, especially if there is a lengthy travel involved. Committee would prefer moving the start time up to 5:00 pm if there are no other conflicts. It was suggested games be started earlier during the week also, wherein Ross stated this would not be possible due to some teams being let out of school early. Brittain also agreed it would be difficult to secure some officials for an earlier start time during the week. Ross will discuss this option with Management.

IGHSAU staff, along with coaches and athletic directors' feedback has discussed delaying the release of the pairings one week to provide as accurate information in the regional assignments. Ross presented calendars showing the post-season regional schedules and the potential change in delaying the release of pairings by one week. Committee members supported the idea of delaying the release of pairings. During discussion, one aspect the Committee had a concern about was the shorter preparation time before regionals. As Hudl is not mandatory and not all schools have a Hudl account, some schools don't share game film well or give access to accounts. Committee concurs some conferences have rules regarding game film. All agree it is important schools have access to game footage on Hudl or a similar type of video access. Ross stated this will be discussed with Management and this may be a topic on a rules memorandum and video. Ross suggested committee members go out and speak with other coaches regarding this benefit and to push for all coaches to share their game footage. With the 2019-20 year being a "roll back" year (6 days later), the delay of the release of the regional pairings will actually result in the release being around two weeks later than this year.

Ross presented calendars showing the post-season regional schedules. One day in which the IGHSAU has had challenges is the Monday of week 34 (regional final for Classes 1A and 2A). On this same date the IHSAA has the opening sub-state boys' basketball games for Classes 3A and 4A. By having both the IGHSAU regional finals and the IHSAA sub-state on this same date, the potential sites for hosting the regional final Class 1A and 2A games are limited. By moving the Class 1A and 2A regional finals to the Wednesday of week 34, the Class 3A and 4A basketball schools will be available to host as host sites. In addition, the additional two days will provide Class 1A and 2A girls teams more preparation time for the regional final with plenty of time prior to the state meet.

Hudl is also used to help critique officials. Some coaches are asked to send in clips, which are used in teaching and help with questionable calls. Brittain stated this has been a great teaching tool for officials.

Dall asked if eighth graders could play high school basketball due to some schools having low numbers to practice. Ross informed Committee junior high can practice with high school teams but cannot compete in a game with their high school team. This is a Department of Education rule.

Brittain informed Committee of the regular and post-season process for assigning officials. Coaches are to send in their recommendations, along with officials observations during the regular season. There were seventeen new officials who worked the state tournament this year. Brittain stressed the importance of coaches critiquing officials on the QuikStats tab as the information generated is used in teaching officials during clinics. The importance of coaches using this will be emphasized next year.

Ross reminded Committee the Ad-Hoc Committee (IGHSAU, IHSA, IHSSA and IHSMA) has been reviewing the placement and overlap for all high school activities on the Unified Calendar. Ross stated the Board of Directors of the IGHSAU has not finalized the new changes, but hopes to release the changes soon. A state-mandated break, the number of contests and length of seasons is also being discussed.

Ross informed Committee there are fewer schools in Class 1A due to schools closing and/or dropping programs, and discussed making Class 1A and 2A more consistent with other 5-class sports (volleyball, softball and basketball). Committee concurs these numbers should reflect consistency. In the three 5-class programs, Class 2A would have 80 schools with 16 schools moving to Class 1A. Committee would support this change.

Ross informed Committee about the Basketball Showcase that will be held in June in the Kansas City area with participation from five different states. This Showcase is connected to the NCAA "Rice" recommendations related to Division I men's basketball. This Showcase will involve both boys and girls teams. As the Women's Division I contact period is currently in July, the Iowa girls' team will be geared more towards the potential Division II or III athlete with a possible expansion in the future.

Committee discussed the NFHS emphasis on "rolling of shorts" and "tucking shorts in". The emphasis by the NFHS was "Equipment and apparel shall not be modified from the original manufactured state and shall be worn in the manner the manufacturer intended it to be worn". In the online rules meeting and clinics, the IGHSAU supported the NFHS emphasis. A great deal of focus was spent dealing with this issue as officials, coaches and administration. Management will be communicating expectations related to this in next year's rules meeting after internal discussion.

Game limitations regarding a 2-day tournament counting as one date was discussed. Schools may play 21 games. Locally, schools can determine the format of those 21 games.

The shot clock was discussed. Smith feels adding the shot clock will develop players and is a natural progress to improve the game. Groen feels this would add a new dimension to the game and add excitement for both players and spectators. Meyer feels the shot clock is needed but will not come into play a lot during the game. Defenses will improve because of it. Alons feels it forces action. Hulsing is not in favor of implementing the shot clock as he feels we have a great game, the game is exciting, and doesn't feel it is needed. Streit agrees, stating often smaller schools struggle finding enough people to work the bench, and this would add one more person. He feels not having a shot clock forces the defense to come out and guard or foul. Brittain feels the officials will have more decisions to make and would be going to the bench more often, which would slow down the game and have more game interruption. It was stated scoring has not increased with states that use a shot clock.

The National Federation will discuss several recommendations from the State Associations. Items discussed were:

- After five fouls go to two shots and re-set the fouls each quarter
- Option to advance the ball to half court on a time-out

Committee wishes to express their appreciation to Fisher for her years of service on the Advisory Committee as her term has expired.

The date for the 2020 Basketball Advisory Committee Meeting is April 22, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

Heidi Reed
Recorder