

BASKETBALL COMMITTEE ADVISORY MINUTES

April 21, 2021

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Melissa Crosse. Members present: Kristin Meyer, Thad Streit, Nicole Goodwin, Greg Groen, Bruce Dall, Jamie Smith, Janel Burgess, Jason Alons. Chuck Brittain attended as supervisor of officials for the IGHSAU. Attending from the State Office: Gary Ross and Jean Berger.

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

Motion by Groen, Dall second to approve April 22, 2020 Basketball Advisory Committee minutes as filed. Motion carried unanimously.

Ross informed Committee there were 5 players and 2 coaches ejected during the 2020-21 season.

Ross asked committee for feedback regarding continuing protocols implemented due to Covid (benches separated, handshake, hand and ball sanitizing, etc.). Committee varied in their practices during the season. Masks were worn when not possible to separate a bench. Several coaches stated players opted to wear masks during practices to keep their team safe. Committee prefers waving to acknowledge the opposing team after a game and eliminating the handshake.

Committee asked if live-streaming capabilities during the post-season would be continued. Ross explained if a school was hosting a post-season game new live-streaming options were put in place. Some sites' audio varied, from non-existent to radio and student announcers. Because of its cost, it was suggested local businesses could sponsor the fee.

Committee discussed the possibility of implementing a shot clock and if adding a shot clock would improve the game. Groen feels a shot clock would create excitement and promote the game. He feels using a shot clock would bring more strategy (zone defense, full court press, etc.), and add more scoring opportunity, which would help promote girls basketball. All concur nobody enjoys watching a stalled game and a shot clock would definitely change the end of a game and how it's coached/played. Burgess stated it would be important to develop players and coaches more. Brittain stated adding a shot clock would involve a change in other rules (5-second closely guarded). Some might argue a school cannot afford a shot clock, but some clocks used in football games can be used in basketball too.

Ross stated the shot clock is talked about at the national level, and in Section 4 (central states) the majority is not in favor. Ross stated that at this time the IHSA will not implement unless the NFHS rule mandates it or if each state is allowed to determine whether they will be implemented or not. Basketball rule changes will be discussed this summer with final changes later this summer.

Discussion occurred on gathering information related to the shot clock. Management asked for committee members to assist in drafting a survey for all coaches to assess topics related to implementation of the shot clock..

Motion by Groen to implement a 35-second shot clock for Iowa girls' basketball with necessary rule changes as needed. Second by Meyer and unanimously approved by all members present.

The college women's rule of resetting fouls at each quarter and shooting 2 shots upon reaching the 5th foul in each quarter was discussed. Committee concurs this would speed up the pace of the game and allow for teams to be aggressive. **Alons recommends shooting 2 free throws upon reaching the bonus- a bonus is the two free throws that are awarded for each personal foul (except an offensive foul) committed by a player of a team, beginning with the fifth team foul in a period, with fouls resetting at the start of each quarter. Smith second and unanimously approved.**

Meyer asked about the possibility of a state-wide event, comparable to Rivalry Saturday (currently held at Coe College, Cedar Rapids), which would allow a 35-second shot clock and playing a 5-foul rule with reset. Committee agreed it would be imperative to involve all classes in all areas of the state, at all levels of play. Committee realizes these games would have to be played at a non-school venue (colleges, arenas). Committee feels this would greatly benefit colleges by getting students on their campus while earning money from concessions and ticket sales. Ross stated that the IGHSAU would be willing to support these events and grant approval to gather more information related to possible rule adaptations.

Discussion was held regarding off-season contact. Currently coaches are allowed unlimited contact in the summer, but the question was asked if coaches would be willing to give up some contact during the summer for a period during the school year to work on skill-development. Streit is very appreciative of the dead week during the summer that was recently implemented, and suggested less contact during the summer with added days during the school year. **Meyer recommends no basketball contact following the dead week in exchange for five extra skilled-development days throughout the fall. Motion died for lack of second.** Committee discussed and are satisfied with the current contact rules. Committee felt this topic could be added to the above survey.

Committee discussed mandating film exchange via Hudl. Ross stated this year a state-wide HUDL pool was developed to assist coaches in "scouting" since attendance at games throughout the season was not allowed due to covid-19 restrictions implemented by the state. The committee discussed mandating this throughout the year. Many schools do not subscribe to Hudl with reasons varying (cost, no interest). Covid forced coaches, parents, etc. to become familiar with technology to view/post games, but all agree Hudl helps improve the game (critiquing officials, studying game film, etc.). Brittain stated Hudl was vital this year for critiquing officials as often those other than parents were not allowed in gyms. **Streit recommends the IGHSAU require Hudl for film exchange in girls basketball during the entire season. Dall second motion and unanimously approved.**

Committee discussed and agreed schools should upload their games on Hudl by noon the following day for both home and away games. Smith asked what would be the impact of those schools that do not upload by the deadline. Committee concurs if a school has an issue getting their video submitted via Hudl by noon the following day, contact should first be made to the coach, then the athletic director. **Groen motioned the IGHSAU mandates film must be posted by noon the following day for both home and visiting teams for all**

conference and non-conference varsity games. Goodwin second and unanimously approved.

Ideas for increasing participation numbers in basketball was discussed. Some schools do not have enough to support a junior varsity team. Currently the IGHSAU allows junior high teams (boys or girls) to practice against high school teams, although some administrations do not allow this (local policy). Question was raised if a school team could play other teams not associated with a school. Some feel this would hurt a school team. Everyone acknowledges basketball is a difficult sport and it takes more time commitment than many of the other sports.

Ideas for promotion of girls basketball were discussed. Grimm stated Montezuma recognizes younger kids for achievements (2,000 shots for game announcement, etc). This gets younger kids excited for the game. Grimm realizes this won't work for all classes, but it's working for her school. Meyers stated it is vital in her school to be active in their junior program (be present in practices, help manage tournaments, etc.). This also helps kids stay motivated and excited about being involved in the future girls basketball program.

Ross asked committee's opinion on allowing 6th graders to be a part of junior high sports. Would this help participation numbers? Burgess stated this would definitely help smaller schools. Groen stated it would depend on the logistics of schools (is JH considered grades 7-8, 6-8, etc?). Some states allow 8th graders to participate at the high school level. Committee concurs it would be help with participation numbers providing that these 6th grades do not take the place of 8th graders.

The committee discussed opportunities for growth in coaching education, and ways the IGHSAU can assist in mentoring other coaches in professional development. All concur it is important for the growth in basketball to increase education in coaches. Mentoring younger coaches was suggested. Could colleges offer coaching classes? Meyer suggested with Zoom it is easier to reach out to coaches and suggested putting different topics (growing youth programs, ethics in coaching, etc.) that coaches can sign up for. As obtaining a coaching license is time consuming and expensive, offering a "provisional license" that would allow a new coach a gradual certification (1st year background check, 2nd year testing, etc.). Other suggestions such as successful and experienced coaches mentoring younger coaches was offered. Could the IGHSAU require new coaches to be mentored and be given good resources (videos, articles, speakers)? Ross stated the "NFHS Learn" courses are valuable. The IGHSAU will continue to work with the BOEE to make it an easier process to becoming a coach.

Question was asked if video replay could be an option during state tournament play only. The committee discussed this idea at length, and questioned what criteria would be used to trigger a replay (angles, different feeds/game, etc.). Management stated that the IGHSAU would recommend that practices/procedures not be utilized only at the state level if not implemented throughout the regular season. All concur the time used during replay often takes away from the flow of the game. Committee is not in favor of implementing a video replay.

Ross explained the process in which pairings are created and shared variables used when establishing pairings (strength of schedule, site availability, geography, rankings, records,

etc.). Currently the higher seeded team hosts in classes 4A and 5A, and 1A-3A regional final games are held at neutral facilities. Ross stated the difficulty finding a neutral site at times as some athletic directors do not want to host if their team is not playing or have difficulty securing workers, costs incurred, etc. Should the higher seeded team also host in Class 3A? Dall feels there is a definite home court advantage (no travel, home crowd, familiarity), and likes the current system in which Class 4A and 5A host the regional final games while Classes 1A, 2A and 3A games play the regional final games at neutral sites. Streit agrees. Goodwin appreciates the IGHSAU working towards finding a neutral court in the middle as regional final teams can have lengthy travel.

Ross informed Committee the 5:00 start time on Saturdays during post-season conflicted often with wrestling and speech, so the Saturday time will continue to remain at a 7:00 p.m. Certain circumstances (weather, DH games) may require an earlier start if approved by the IGHSAU.

Committee discussed pros and cons of this year's state tournament games being spread out two hours apart. Allowing teams more time to warm-up on the floor was an advantage, but as a spectator the time between games was too long. The 9:00 am start time was too early and the 9:00 pm start time was too late. Next year games will go back to their regular schedule with 5A and 3A championship games on Friday night while the Class 4A, 2A, and 1A games would occur on Saturday. With the Honor Luncheon occurring on Saturday morning, the 3 championship games would begin in the afternoon on Saturday.

Ross stated the Parade of Champions and Academic All-State video presentations were well-received on the overhead video board, but these presentations will return to an in-person format next year. Most coaches preferred the Casey's hometown video recorded in advance at their own school. This helps with not being rushed during the state tournament to prepare these videos.

The committee discussed different aspects of the survey in which state qualifying coaches and players completed following the state tournament. This year the year was not placed on the back of the state medals and Farm Bureau basketballs due to the uncertainty of the tournament due to covid-19. The committee prefers to have the year listed in the future if possible. Another suggestion was to present a t-shirt to all state qualifiers in place of the medallion.

Ross stated that the Classification committee with the IHSAA and IGHSAU took place to discuss overall classification for the different sports. Following the committee's initial discussions, the IGHSAU will discuss IGHSAU specific-related aspects for possible adjustments in how classification is determined. The basketball advisory committee discussed cooperative sharing, gender-only BEDS, socioeconomics, etc.

Alons informed Committee the process in which officials qualify to work state. Communication, rule knowledge, positioning, and consistency are important attributes for a good official. Alons and Brittain reminded committee recommendations and comments on the officials rating form are important, as there is a process for state tournament official's selections with these recommendations being very important.

Alons stated many officials strive to improve as an official and suggested high school-focused

clinics would be very beneficial and could be run through local official's organizations, such as the IBCA clinics. During these clinics, games could be worked with break-out sessions and evaluations. All acknowledge continuing communication through the game and throughout the season is very important. Ross places important official's information from Chuck Brittain that is relevant to coaches in coaches memorandums.

Committee wishes to express their appreciation to Streit, Goodwin and Meyer for their years of service on the Advisory Committee as their terms have expired.

The date for the 2022 Basketball Advisory Committee Meeting is April 20, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Heidi Reed
Recorder