

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION
April 6, 2021**

This administrative session of the Board of Directors was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Ebeling. Directors present: Ebeling, Kroemer, Boehmer, and Dufoe. Directors Fleshner and Adams joined via Zoom. Directors Fadness and Seivert were absent. Attending from the state office: Berger, Ihnen, Eslinger, Brinkmeyer and Ross.

Motion by Kroemer, Dufoe second and unanimously approved to accept consent items: 1) March 5, 2021 Board of Directors' minutes 2) March financials.

Madeline Mesenke of Gilbert has been selected by the Smiley family as the recipient of the Robert Smiley scholarship for 2021. She will be honored at the June 15 Board of Directors meeting. **Motion by Boehmer, second by Dufoe and unanimously approved.**

Directors received an update on the 2021 State Soccer tournament at Cownie Soccer Complex. Contract approval from the Des Moines City Manager is expected after a final review of the IGHS AU protocols that were presented to Des Moines Park and Rec.

Directors received an update on the State Golf with COVID protocols outlined for all four classes. Regional golf assignments will be released April 30, May 2, May 7 and May 10. The state co-ed golf tournament is scheduled for June 8 at Cedar Pointe in Boone for 1A and American Legion in Marshalltown for class 2A.

Directors received an update on the 2021 State Tennis tournament dates and sites. The regional individual tournament will be held on May 19. Regional team meets are held May 15, 22 and 24.

The state track & field qualifying sites on May 13 were presented for Directors' review. High school teams will compete at the Drake Relays on Thursday only this year, due to COVID protocols. Attendance will be very limited. At this time Drake is indicating attendance restrictions of around 4,000 per session for the state track meet on May 20-22. Directors reviewed the daily schedule if this attendance restriction is in place. Ross noted that the Track & Field Advisory Committee would review the schedule for further input. Adams raised the concern of the compressed time schedule between events and how that would impact teams with fewer athletes.

Survey evaluations from the 2021 State Basketball Tournament were reviewed. Overall, the comments and review were positive, with most of the negative comments due to COVID restrictions. 2021 was the first year that regional live streams were allowed. Overall 188 basketball games were approved by the IGHS AU for streaming by the host school. Student-led productions took place at 53 of the sites. The IGHS AU split \$63,500 with member schools for rights fee related to the livestreams.

The IGHS AU Digital Network updates were presented with updated view counts for the 2020-21 events broadcast live:

- Volleyball (November 3-5, 2020)**
- 228,623 total views (186,801 in 2019)

Swimming & Diving (November 13-14, 2020)

- 3,855 total views (6,286 in 2019)

Basketball (March 1 - March 5, 2021)

- 528,482 total views (334,862 in 2020)

Directors were updated on the performance of the IGHSAU investment account and the allocations based on the approved investment strategy.

Director Boehmer asked for consideration of a change to the Cooley Scholarship so that each school could determine a female recipient to honor. He felt that schools often have talented females who do not meet all of the criteria for the scholarship and a new award, with athletic director approval, could be created to recognize one female at each school. Directors generally supported the idea and asked staff to return with a recommendation outlining the criteria and name of the award.

Berger presented a summary of information gathered at the IHSADA state convention in March. The items gathered were part of a general session that the IHSAA and IGHSAU conducted with ADs on three topics: 1) what are we doing well? 2) How can we improve and better serve member schools? and 3) What are the challenges/opportunities facing districts in your area? Berger plans to follow up on these items and attend conference AD meetings for further discussion to help prioritize items.

Directors reviewed a letter expressing concern about a student section during regional basketball and alleged comments made to female participants from the visiting team. Berger will contact the school for a response and develop a written response to the school.

Information on the NFHS Summer Meetings in Orlando was presented to the Directors. The convention begins on June 28 and concludes on July 2. Directors were asked to submit arrival and departure dates and secure travel plans.

On a motion by Boehmer, second by Dufoe, directors voted unanimously to adjourn into executive session for a discussion on IGHSAU championships.

Berger relayed information about the possible sale of the Iowa Sports Network. Discussion ensued concerning this and those who are interested in buying and possible sharing of said ownership and how a sale would impact the IGHSAU and others involved.

Directors discussed several opportunities and challenges related to each proposal. Concerns were raised about IGHSAU existing television relationships, sponsorships and the ease that the general public already has in viewing our contests. Directors expressed willingness to listen and learn more about potential opportunities. However, the IGHSAU existing sponsorship program and television contracts is serving us very well.

Motion to leave Executive Session was made by Adams, second by Fleshner and unanimously approved at 12:48 p.m.

There be no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jean Berger
Recorder