

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION
October 15, 2020**

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

Motion by Kroemer, Dufoe second and unanimously approved to accept consent items: 1) September 3, 2020 Board of Directors' minutes 2) September 3, 2020 Executive Session minutes 3) September 29, 2020 Executive Session minutes 4) October 2, 2020 Executive Session minutes and 4) September 2020 financials.

Softball Advisory Committee minutes, September 15, 2020 were reviewed by Executive Director Berger. Directors discussed the committee's recommendation to approve an Iowa adaptation to NFHS softball rules mandating a pitching chute be marked on the playing field. Management did not support the recommendation. NFHS rules should be followed whenever possible and this proposal is not necessary. The committee's stated goal was to enable umpires to more easily call illegal pitches as well as help train pitchers. Both of those can be accomplished within the current NFHS rules through education and coaching. Discussion ensued with Directors taking no action.

The second recommendation from the committee was to allow coaches to have contact with hitters for up to 10 days from January 1 to the first day of practice. Within discussion, management indicated if recommendation was approved, it would bring softball in line with opportunities already afforded baseball coaches and allows coaches to develop players' hitting skills. The committee recognized that the 10 days would be allowed over a greater time frame (January – May) but felt if afforded the most opportunity to work around multiple-sport athletes and was more respectful of the players' time demands. Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the possibility of narrowing the time for contact out of season for softball. **Motion subsequently filed by Kroemer, second by Boehmer and unanimously approved to accept the recommendation to allow coaches to have contact with hitters for up to 10 days from January 1 to the first day of practice.**

Discussion ensued regarding the third recommendation. If coaches are afforded 10 days of contact for hitting, they recommended to amend the unlimited contact rule for pitchers and catchers. Unlimited contact would begin January 1 and continue up to the first day of practice. Management supports the recommendation because coaches expressed willingness to decrease year-around contact time with pitchers and catchers in order to gain time on hitting skill instruction. After brief discussion, **motion by Dufoe, Kroemer second and unanimously approved to amend the unlimited contact rule for pitchers and catchers. Unlimited contact would begin January 1 and continue up to the first day of practice.**

Three seats on the Golf Advisory Committee and one seat on the Soccer Advisory Committee needed to be filled. Brinkmeyer shared with Directors the applications received for the open seats. After discussion, **motion by Fadness, second by Dufoe and unanimously approved the appointment of Kelli Moore, West Des Moines Valley High School, Matt Kovacevich, Centerville High School and Julie Kadlec, Xavier High School to the Golf Advisory Committee. The motion also included appointing Kim Croston, Sergeant Bluff-Luton to the Soccer Advisory Committee.**

Student-Athlete Advisory Committee minutes, September 23, 2020 were reviewed and discussed by Directors. **Motion by Fadness, second by Boehmer and unanimously approved to accept the September 23, 2020 SAAC minutes as presented.**

Eslinger reviewed the credentials of the three Volleyball Hall of Fame nominees. **Following discussion, motion by Boehmer, Dufoe second to accept hall of fame nominations as presented. Motion unanimously approved.**

2020 VOLLEYBALL HALL OF FAME
Lisa Brinkmeyer, Hubbard-Radcliffe – 1993
Emily Luensmann, Dubuque Hempstead -- 2004
Morgan Kuhrt, Waverly-Shell Rock – 2012

Ross reviewed the proposed policy for regular-season contests following elimination from the post-season. Due to COVID-19 and the August derecho, schools were unable to participate in all scheduled contests prior to the start of post-season. Because of this, management proposed allowing member schools to schedule additional regular-season contests following both schools' elimination from the post-season. This permission is granted for all high school levels of competition. Following discussion, **motion by Fadness, Boehmer second and unanimously approved the following policy: "Member schools may schedule additional regular season contests following both schools' elimination from the post-season. This permission is granted for all high school levels of competition. The following conditions must be met:**

- 1) The contest(s) may be scheduled on any date and may be played through the last day of the IGHS AU state tournament.**
- 2) The total number of regular season contests may not exceed the allowable number in that sport for either team**
- 3) Schools should notify the IGHS AU sport administrator when contests are scheduled.**

Due to COVID-19 and the fact that some schools are limiting the number of fans attending sporting events in their facilities, the IGHS AU has been researching the possibility of allowing entities to stream post-season contests leading up to the state tournament. Florian reviewed proposed post-season lead-up event video broadcast policies. The list of policies pertain to all requests for live and/or delayed video broadcasts (over-the-air television, cable television, internet webcast, internet stream, etc.) of IGHS AU-sponsored

post-season events (regionals) that lead up to IGHSAU state tournaments/championships. Also reviewed was the fee structure. It was noted that 50% of access fees charged will be returned to the host school. Student groups operating broadcasts through their school as part of a class or recognized student organization are not subject to the listed broadcast access fees. Following discussion, **motion by Fadness, second by Fleshner and unanimously approved to accept the live streaming policies presented including fee structure.**

The proposed Iowa Farm Bureau agreement to continue as the IGHSAU Sole Title Sponsor was reviewed by Directors. The three-year agreement includes premium cost for the Head Strong Concussion insurance policy. The autograph ball program is also included in the agreement. Reminder was given that Florian has secured a ball provider at a lesser cost. Going forward the IFB's logo will appear on the bag tags given to each state tournament/championship participant. The Iowa Farm Bureau's logo will be included on all Consolidated State Championship Banners that will be distributed to all qualifying schools beginning with the 2020-2021 school year. Discussion ensued regarding the banner. Directors were informed that the pennant style banner currently given to state qualifying schools by the IGHSAU will continue. The IFB banner is totally separate. **Motion by Fleshner, second by Ebeling and unanimously approved to accept the Iowa Farm Bureau agreement as presented.**

Florian reviewed four bids that were received to become the official merchandiser of the IGHSAU. Management recommended the proposal submitted by Fine Design, which is an Iowa company based in Grimes. The bid also includes the IHSSA. Following discussion, **motion by Boehmer, Fadness second and unanimously approved to accept the merchandising proposal from Fine Design which includes both IGHSAU and IHSSA.**

Directors reviewed 2020 IGHSAU and IHSAA cross country state qualifying meet assignments. Class 4A will compete at five sites on Wednesday, October 21 and 3A will compete at five sites on the same day. Class 1A will compete on Thursday, October 22 at five sites and Class 1A at eight sites on the same day.

Due to COVID-19, Ross presented documentation reflecting basketball rules considerations/guidelines. The plan included basketball rules considerations, pre-game and post-game ceremony, basketball rules interpretation, considerations for coaches, considerations for students, consideration for officials, considerations for parents, workers and volunteers and considerations for school administration. Discussion ensued.

Brinkmeyer reviewed adjustments that will be implemented at the state volleyball tournament due to COVID-19. There will be five time slots per day and matches scheduled on 2 ½-hour blocks. This will provide the arena additional time to clean the facility after each block of matches. It will also assist with the flow of spectators transitioning to and from their seats between blocks. The IGHSAU will communicate with schools to encourage their spectators to arrive shortly before their specific match time (not too early) and to leave immediately following their specific matches. Teams will not

be allowed to congregate with their spectators following their matches in the lobby of the arena this year. Per arena policy based on local public health requirements, spectators will be required to wear face coverings when transitioning to and from their seats and anytime they are moving about the arena. Schools will be encouraged to have their fans purchase tickets online. This will help the arena prepare for varying crowd sizes. Discussion ensued.

Eslinger reviewed adjustments that will be implemented during the bowling regular season and post-season. No change to practice dates/regular season matches and no change in format. The USBC is mandating masks for all spectators and participants. Bowlers can remove their mask when ready to bowl. Rubbing alcohol will be permitted for ball cleaning. Social distancing at meets will include having junior varsity and varsity participating on separate nights. Girls and boys will also compete on different nights. The IGHS AU recommends no handshakes/high fives. Sanitizer will be available on each lane of competition. There have been significant changes to post-season—state qualifying tournaments will now be conducted over two days. Girls will compete in state qualifying tournaments on Tuesday, February 16 and boys will bowl on Monday, February 15. Two spectators per bowler will be allowed to attend state-qualifying tournaments. A co-ed state meet is not feasible for social distancing reasons. The state tournament will continue to be held over three days; however, there will be two sessions per day. On Monday, February 22 Class 1A girls will compete at 8:30 a.m. and 2A girls at 2:00 p.m. On Tuesday, February 23, 3A girls will bowl at 8:30 a.m. and Class 3A boys at 2:00. Class 2A boys will compete on Wednesday, February 24 at 8:30 a.m. and 1A boys at 2:00 p.m. Discussion ensued.

Florian shared with Directors that the “Iowa Girl” campaign was launched on October 1 and will continue indefinitely. The campaign challenges student-athletes to show what it means to be an Iowa Girl. Being an Iowa Girl means more than being a girl from Iowa. Student-athletes are encouraged to download a poster created by the IGHS AU, write a word or a phrase that represents them and then take a picture with the poster and share it on their social media accounts. The campaign has been very successful.

The Joint Committee meeting agenda was reviewed by Directors. Ebeling, Dufoe, Boehmer, Seivert, Ross and Executive Director Berger will represent the IGHS AU at the November 4 meeting.

Following review of the November combined session agenda, Directors requested that a discussion on eligibility be added.

Correspondence from DT Magee, Superintendent, Norwalk Community Schools was reviewed and discussed by Directors. The correspondence requested that the IGHS AU and IHSAA hold an annual member meeting/convention. Directors made no decision on the annual member meeting/convention request but will share it with the Representative Council in November.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m. and moved into executive session through a motion by Boehmer, second by Fadness and unanimously approved.

Karon Brown
Senior Associate Director