

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION  
October 17, 2019**

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

**Motion by Kroemer, second by Fadness and unanimously approved by all Directors present to accept consent items: 1) September 5, 2019 Board of Directors minutes, 2) September 2019 Financials and 3) Softball Advisory Committee minutes, September 10, 2019.**

Currently, Iowa's adaptation requires the non-pivot foot to be in contact with the pitching plate prior to the start of the delivery. The Iowa adaptation was originally in place so that IGHSAU rules matched the NCAA rules and Iowa pitchers were then ready for the next level. The NCAA changed its rule and the Softball Advisory Committee felt the IGHSAU should do the same. The IGHSAU softball umpire advisors also support removing the adaptation because it would bring consistency to all levels of softball and the definition of an illegal pitch. Within discussion management stated it supports the change indicating it should alleviate the calling of so many illegal pitches. **Motion by Kroemer, Boehmer second that the IGHSAU pitching adaptation be eliminated and to follow the NFHS softball pitching rule. Motion approved by all Directors present.**

The Softball Advisory Committee also recommended to allow a courtesy runner who enters the game to serve as courtesy runner only, not be charged a game toward their daily game limitation. Management supports the recommendation. Younger players who serve only in that role for varsity are being held out of lower-level participation due to the 3-game per day limit of the current policy. The player is charged a full game of participation if she is on base one time and utilized for only a courtesy runner in a very limited role. Within discussion Fadness expressed that if a change is made, we need to make sure schools are educated on the change. Following additional discussion, **motion by Fadness, Ebeling second and unanimously approved by all Directors present to allow a courtesy runner who enters the varsity game to serve as courtesy runner only, not be charged a game toward their daily game limitation.** IGHSAU policy will be modified to reflect the limited use of how this is calculated.

As an informational item, Executive Director Berger shared with Directors that the Softball Advisory Committee supported a change of regional dates for 3A softball. This would allow the number of games on each day of regional play to be spread out to help accommodate the shortage of post-season officials in some areas of the state. The softball umpire advisory group recommended a change for post-season assignment to help alleviate the issues experienced last year and to avoid playing as many doubleheaders.

Following are new members on various advisory committees.

Softball Advisory Committee – appoint Tonya Moe, Linn-Mar as chairman of the committee. **Motion by Kroemer, second by Boehmer and unanimously approved by all Directors present to appoint Tonya Moe as chairman of the Softball Advisory Committee.**

Soccer Advisory Committee – appoint David Rosenthal, Iowa City West. This will be the second term served by Rosenthal. **Motion by Fadness, Dufoe second and unanimously approved by all Directors present to appoint David Rosenthal to the Soccer Advisory Committee.**

Golf Advisory Committee – appoint Scott Garvis, Ankeny Centennial as chairman and Tim Kopriva, Dike-New Hartford to the committee. **Motion by Kroemer, Fleshner second and unanimously approved by all Directors present to appoint Scott Garvis as chairman and Tim Kopriva to the Golf Advisory Committee.**

Discussion ensued regarding moving the state volleyball tournament from week 19 to week 18 effective the 2020-2021 or 2021-2022 school year. Due to regionals being more compact in 2020, question was raised regarding schools pulling out of weekend tournaments already scheduled. Another concern was assignors may have already assigned volleyball officials for 2020. Lengthy discussion ensued. If approved, postseason volleyball dates will occur on weeks 16, 17 and 18. **Motion subsequently filed by Dufoe, second by Fadness and unanimously approved by all Directors present that effective 2020, the state volleyball tournament will be scheduled on week 18.**

**Motion by Boehmer, Ebeling second and unanimously approved by all Directors present to move regional and state swimming and diving meets to weeks 18 and 19, effective 2020.**

Directors reviewed two proposals for post-season awards. The bids were provided by Trophies Plus and A and M. Trophies Plus bid was significantly lower and they offered a five-year contract with a no price increase guarantee for those five years. Discussion ensued regarding the quality of awards from Trophies Plus. Directors were informed the awards are the same quality as we have had in the past. **Motion by Fadness, Ebeling second and unanimously approved by all Directors present to enter into a five-year contract with Trophies Plus beginning July 1, 2020.**

Student-Athlete Advisory Committee minutes, September 11, 2019 were presented by Brinkmeyer. The SAAC Committee will meet three times this year–September 11, a winter meeting in January and a spring meeting in May. Committee members will be assisting at the state volleyball and state basketball tournaments and any other state tournaments they are interested in. The committee established three goals for the year:

- 1) Concussion Communication – committee will be researching some videos that may be used by schools to provide information to coaches and athletes related to the symptoms and repercussions of concussions
- 2) Sportsmanship Projects – IGHSAU posters for locker rooms, video board PSAs with SAAC members; signage at venues, recordings from the students to be read at events.
- 3) Feature SAAC members with their impact in their home districts. Students are to connect with their local school boards of education to share their experiences of serving on the committee.

**Motion by Ebeling, Fleshner second and unanimously approved by all Directors present accepting SAAC minutes as presented.**

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the Classification Committee minutes, October 1, 2019. The meeting was held to review the current classification of all sports. The IGHSAU and IHSA has received board resolutions from 34 school districts to consider socioeconomic status as part of future classification structures. Even though socioeconomic status was the only factor requested to be looked at during the meeting, the committee discussed other factors. The committee discussed the goal of classification and goal of high school participation. Common points were: Goal of Classification – participating against like schools in the postseason, leveling the playing field for all participating schools and Goal of Participation – creating lessons and opportunities that are extensions of the classroom, developing student character, creating an enjoyable experience. Other areas discussed included how to define success, the General Transfer and Open Enrollment rules and sharing agreements and how they impact classification. Executive Director Berger shared the idea of classifying based on the number of females in a school. Another meeting of the Classification Committee will be held in December.

Directors were informed that the Department of Education proposed amendment to Chapter 36 “Extracurricular Interscholastic Competition,” of the Iowa Administrative Code. Item 1 of revised Chapter 36 incorporated changes to the section on Scholarship rule by providing that a student may not be required to sit out in more than one school sponsored extracurricular activity for a failing grade. Item 2 of the revised Chapter 36 provides the IGHSAU, IHSA, IHSSA and IHSMA with the discretion to set a dead week or weeks during the summer for a period up to 14 days in length in which no contact with students would be allowed. A public hearing will be held on January 7, 2020. Following the hearing, the subject will go back to the Department of Education for action. Discussion ensued.

Ross reviewed cross country state qualifying meet assignments. The meets will be held on Thursday, October 24 with the state meet scheduled on Saturday, November 2. Reminder was given that the shuttle service from four Fort Dodge locations to the state meet site will be utilized again this year. Individuals will pay \$10 upon entering a shuttle bus and will receive a wristband upon entry, no longer paying admission at the meet site. The wristband will serve as admission into the state site.

Ross shared with Directors that the first basketball officials' clinic was held on October 16 at Ankeny Centennial High School. There are four additional clinics scheduled for various sites around the state. The agenda includes rules/points of emphasis for 30 minutes followed by an hour of situations on Powerpoint and the last 30 minutes of work on the basketball court.

Ross informed Directors the IGHSAU has agreed to allow the use of a 35-second shot clock for all games at the 16<sup>th</sup> edition of Rivalry Saturday, scheduled for November 30 at Kohawk Arena on the campus of Coe College. A story about Rivalry Saturday and the use of a shot clock that appeared in the Cedar Rapids Gazette was shared with Directors. Discussion ensued regarding the one-time experiment.

Brinkmeyer indicated that post-season volleyball pairings were released on October 8. Tim Keating, Coordinator of Officials for volleyball, is currently assigning officials for all matches. Regionals will begin on October 22 with the state tournament on November 12-15 at the US Cellular Center in Cedar Rapids.

The swimming update was presented by Eslinger. Regional assignments will be posted within the next couple of days. Regionals will be held at six different locations on November 2. Regional diving meets will be held on October 31. State swimming and diving will be held at the Marshalltown YMCA on Friday, November 8 (state diving and preliminary swimming) and Saturday, November 9 (state swimming finals).

The IGHSAU, IHSAA, IHSSA and IHSMA will present a session at the Iowa Association of School Boards annual convention. The presentation will include how the organizations are structured and operate, review of the Unified Calendar, how the Joint Committee functions and the work the Classification Committee is currently undertaking as well as other topics—basically meant to be an education session on why there are four separate organizations. The session will be held at the Iowa Events Center, Thursday, November 21 from 9:30 – 10:15 a.m.

The National Federation of State High School Associations appointed several members of the IGHSAU staff to national committees representing Section 4. IGHSAU Official Coordinators Cathy Creighton and Tim Keating were appointed to sport rules committees. Creighton will serve a four-year term on the NFHS Softball Rules Committee and Keating was appointed to the NFHS Volleyball Rules Committee. Gary Ross is currently serving on the NFHS Middle School Advisory Committee while Jason Eslinger was named to the Swimming and Diving Advisory Committee. Executive Director Berger was appointed to the NFHS Women's Leadership and Mentoring Committee.

Executive Director Berger presented remaining concerns associated with the ASPI contract. The concerns were reviewed and discussed at length.

A proposed agenda for the Board of Directors and Representative Council combined session, Thursday, November 14 was reviewed. It was determined that Executive Director Berger and President Francis would meet with the three new Council members

the evening of November 13 for an orientation session prior to the combined session on November 14.

A new Council member needs to be appointed to fill the vacant seat in the northeast district left by Travis Fleshner when he became a Board member. This is a one-year appointment. A replacement will be identified, Directors will vote on the recommendation and the new Council member will be in place for the November 14 combined session.

A listing of schools that are sanctioning girls' wrestling during the 2019-2020 school year was shared with Directors. Discussion ensued regarding the administrative side of wrestling both at the state and local level.

The preliminary agenda for the Joint Committee was reviewed. It was determined that Boehmer would chair the November 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Discussion ensued when the Joint Committee should meet throughout the year. It is inconvenient to hold a Joint Committee meeting during a state championship. Suggestion was made that the committee meet during the NFHS summer meeting. Additional discussion is needed as to the best location and time.

Executive Director Berger brought Directors up to date on facility contracts. Wells Fargo Arena and the US Cellular Center have both requested a 10-year contract. Before signing the contract, a termination clause will be included. Fort Dodge Parks and Recreation have requested a list of facility improvements the IGHS AU would like to have addressed. They are currently planning for new infields. The IPTV contract is in the process of being renewed.

The Board of Directors state volleyball itinerary was reviewed by Brown.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Karon Brown  
Senior Associate Director