

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION
June 16, 2020**

Due to COVID-19 and associated restrictions, this administrative session of the Board of Directors was called to order via Zoom at 9:00 a.m. by President Francis. Directors present: Francis, Ebeling, Dufoe, Fleshner, Kroemer, Boehmer, Fadness and Seivert. Participating from the state office: Berger, Brown, Ihnen, Ross, Eslinger and Brinkmeyer.

Motion by Fleshner, second by Kroemer and unanimously approved to accept consent items 1) May 19, 2020 Board of Directors' minutes 2) May 20, 2020 Board of Directors' Special Session minutes 3) May 2020 financials 4) Golf Advisory Committee minutes, May 26, 2020 and 5) Soccer Advisory Committee minutes, May 22, 2020.

Correspondence from West Hancock High School requesting authorization to continue to play basketball in Class 2A was reviewed by Directors. Reminder was given that IGHSAU policy states if a school asks to play up a class, it must be for two years. West Hancock currently is on the line between Class 1A and 2A and it fluctuates from year to year. In order to avoid the yo-yoing up and down, because the majority of the regular season games are against 2A schools, and because it is difficult for the school district to plan the calendar due to not knowing what class they will be participating in for postseason, West Hancock asked to be allowed to play in Class 2A for the next two years. **Following discussion, motion by Ebeling, second by Dufoe to allow West Hancock High School to participate in Class 2A during the 2020-21 and 2021-22 basketball postseason. Motion passed 6 to 1 with Boehmer casting the "no" vote.**

Executive Director Berger presented the 2020-2021 budget. Lengthy discussion ensued regarding COVID-19 and how it affected this year's budget and may affect the 2020-2021 budget. Directors expression their appreciation to Executive Director Berger for her conservative approach in preparing the 2020-21 budget. Seivert thanked Executive Director Berger for her attention to the fiscal matters that allowed the IGHSAU to survive the pandemic. **Motion by Fadness, second Kroemer and unanimously approved to accept the 2020-2021 budget as presented.**

Due to postseason softball being very different this year, Executive Director Berger shared with Directors a document reflecting regional hosting guidelines. All school districts who serve as a host site for the 2020 IGHSAU softball regionals must agree to comply with the most recent guidance disseminated by the Iowa Department of Health, the Iowa Department of Education, the Iowa Department of Public Health and applicable local public health officials, and the Iowa Girls' High School Athletic Union. Management proposed three options to manage host school gate receipts. Options are as follows:

- 1) Host schools receive 20% of gate receipts following capacity guidelines/social distancing guidelines issued by Governor Reynolds/Iowa Department of Health.
- 2) Host schools return 100% of gate receipts to IGHSAU if local attendance restrictions or limitations are below capacity guidelines/social distancing guidelines issued by Governor Reynolds/Iowa Department of Health.
- 3) Schools may host regional softball games but opt to pay IGHSAU a game fee of \$1,000 for each regional contest, \$2,000 for each regional semifinal and \$3,000 for each regional final. The game fee allows schools to restrict or limit attendance below capacity guidelines and still host regional contests.

Kroemer shared with Directors that she is aware of several conferences that are currently restricting attendance to two people per player. This will be re-evaluated later this month by those conferences. Ross indicated that he has received information indicating that schools will adhere to any guidelines established by the IGHSAU. It was the opinion of Kroemer and Boehmer to utilize option 1 – 80% - 20% which has been the past practice. Fadness believes local school districts should be allowed to choose between the three options. Fleshner agreed with Fadness. Dufoe stated that he believes that the decision to not host is the option that schools districts have. If school districts have to restrict more than required by the governor, they shouldn't host. Executive Director Berger stated that selecting host sites will be a little different this year and geography could play a larger role than in past years. She will reach out to the IHSAA to discuss their future plans for postseason. Consensus of Directors was that if schools decide to host regional softball tournament games, the schools must follow IGHSAU guidelines.

Directors reviewed and discussed the Board of Directors-Representative Council combined session agenda which will occur later this morning.

Executive Director Berger presented an update on the Payroll Protection Plan utilized by the IGHSAU due to COVID-19. All records reflect the funds were used for payroll and utilities thereby relieving the IGHSAU from repaying the amount.

The state softball schedule utilizing four fields was reviewed and discussed by Directors. Executive Director Berger explained that with this schedule the only consolation games that will be played will be for third and fourth place. There is significant time allowed between games for the purpose of cleaning and allowing fans to leave prior to arrival of the next game's fans. Additional time has been allowed between championship games. Management has a site visit at Harlan Rogers Softball Complex in the near future. The facility has some social distancing procedures in place, which will be discussed during the site visit. Utilizing the four-field schedule reflects the IGHSAU is cognizant of social distancing and desiring everyone to be safe. The order in which classes play will be determined at a later date.

Ross highlighted the Track and Field Advisory Committee's recommendations from their meeting of June 2, 2020. Reminder was given that prior to the Board of Directors considering the recommendations, the Joint Committee must review and provide input. The 2020-2021 track season will be shorter than previous years. Due to this, track and field coaches recommend allowing coaches to have 10 contact days, starting Week 31-Week 35, with local schools determining when these 10 days occur during the time period. The committee also recommended that the top three place finishers in each class and event be recognized during the state meet. A set schedule for indoor meets was also recommended. Discussion ensued regarding the committee's recommendation to allow coaches 10 contact days starting Week 31-35. Kroemer indicated that if the 10 days are allowed, it will lead right up to the official start date. Kroemer and Boehmer do not support the recommendation. If the move were to be approved, the action would be going against the work done by the AdHoc Committee. The IGHSAU Joint Committee members will share Directors' position of not supporting allowing coaches the 10 contact days. Also mentioned was the fact that fine arts activities are occurring during this time.

The NFHS summer conference schedule was reviewed by Executive Director Berger. Due to COVID-19 and associated restrictions, the annual conference will use a virtual format. This summer's conference will be shortened, consisting of summits, workshop sessions and general sessions. Directors will have the flexibility to view sessions and workshops which would benefit them. Discussion ensued regarding sharing the conference information with athletic directors. Ihnen indicated that the conference is geared more towards sport administrators in state offices.

Executive Director Berger shared with Directors the updated tournament site availability and host agreement document for the 2020-2021 school year. New language has been added to address special requirements to minimize the risks of COVID-19. Following is the additional language:

“As we enter the 2020-21 sports season and school year, it is important to recognize the special requirements to minimize the risks presented by the COVID-19 virus. Any school which applies to host postseason competition must acknowledge and agree to comply with guidance promulgated by the Iowa Department of Health, the Iowa Department of Education, applicable local public health officials, and the Iowa Girls' High School Athletic Union. Districts who require additional guidelines than what is outlined in the above referenced guidance must have those requirements approved by the IGHSAU prior to hosting. Additional guidelines should only be enacted after consultation with local public health and legal counsel and districts must indicate that these additional guidelines are a locally determined distinction.

The athletic director or designee of the host school agrees to immediately contact local public health officials and the IGHSAU if anyone associated with their athletic team has been diagnosed with or has a suspected diagnosis of COVID-19, or if they have reason to believe that any member

of their athletic team may have been exposed to any individual who has since been diagnosed with COVID-19.”

Eslinger shared that this document will now be included as one of the on-line forms. Access to this form will be more convenient for the membership.

Brown presented several options for Directors to consider associated with a possible July administrative session. It was consensus of Directors that planning a meeting and some type of team building activity in August would be extremely inconvenient. Discussion ensued regarding a July meeting date and if Directors wanted to meet in person. It was determined that an administrative session would occur on Friday, July 31, 2020 with time and location to be determined.

Executive Director Berger stated that she would reach out to the IHSAA for possible Joint Committee meeting dates and share same with IGHSAU representatives.

Directors were informed that there is a possibility that a couple of appeals associated with school transfers will be requested. Executive Director Berger provide a brief summary of the cases.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Karon Brown
Associated Executive Director