

Minutes of the IESA Officials Action Team

Date of meeting: April 13, 2011

Present at the meeting were: Nicole Schaeftbauer, IESA Associate Executive Director; Dan Wieczorek, Peru, Baseball; Thorn Keene, Peoria, Basketball; and Barry Burnett, Arthur, Volleyball. Jay Marshall, Richmond, Track/Cross Country was not present.

The IESA Officials Action Team makes the following recommendations to the IESA Board of Directors:

1. To add a penalty for the violation of 2.128: A school's first violation for hiring a non-licensed official will result in a warning. With a second violation, the Executive Director shall have the full authority to determine and impose a monetary penalty equivalent to the cost of one regional official for that athletic activity.

RATIONALE: The recommendation allows for the Executive Director to use discretion in applying penalties. The Committee recommends a monetary penalty assessed to the school which would be the equivalent of the cost of one regional official for each of the scheduled contests that day.

2. To modify the 2.120 Q&A:

Q. As a licensed official, I arrived at a game and my partner is not a licensed official. What should I do?

A. It is important that only licensed officials work IESA contests. A licensed official should not work an IESA contest with a non-licensed official. In this situation, the licensed official should work the contest without the aid of the non-licensed official. The licensed official should report a situation like this to the IESA Office.

RATIONALE: Better for the integrity of the game and the participants for the licensed official to work the contest.

3. To update the following wording for 2.128:

Basketball: It is required that member schools use Illinois High School Association officials licensed in basketball for all regular season contests.

Volleyball: It is required that member schools use Illinois High School Association officials licensed in volleyball for all regular season contests.

RATIONALE: This will make the wording of all by-laws consistent.

4. To add wording to each of the following activities the requirement of a pre-game meeting:
Baseball: A pregame conference with officials and head coaches is required to take place prior to all contests involving member schools.

Softball: A pregame conference with officials and head coaches is required to take place prior to all contests involving member schools.

Cross Country: Prior to contests involving member schools, the referee shall, either by a meeting or written communication, address head coaches and team captains.

Wrestling: Prior to contests involving member schools, the referee shall meet with head coaches and team captains.

Volleyball: A pre-match conference with officials, head coaches, and captains is required to take place prior to all contests involving member schools.

Track and Field: Prior to contests involving member schools, either by a meeting or written communication, address head coaches and team captains.

RATIONALE: This is a reinforcement of NFHS requirements.

5. To add the following Q&A to 2.120 and to all athletic activity sections:
 - Q. As a licensed official working an IESA contest, am I required to hold a pre-game meeting? As a head coach, am I required to attend a pre-game meeting?
 - A. Yes. NFHS rules require that officials conduct a pre-game meeting prior to a contest. In addition, the meeting is important in reinforcing contest requirements and expectations. Pre-game conferences may include court/field considerations, equipment legality, sportsmanship expectations, concussion management, etc.

The next meeting of the Committee was set for Wednesday of Week 41 (April 11, 2012).

Points of Emphasis:

- Reminder that only licensed officials may be hired to meet individual sport requirements.
- Any violation (hiring of non-licensed official, ejection, or an occurrence of a concussion) must be reported to the IESA Office. Use the Special Report Form that is available on the IESA website.
- Officials need to consistently enforce uniform requirements.

For IESA Administrator:

1. Continue work on the Officials Association material
 - a. add the Officials' Association flyer to the Officials center online
 - b. email the flyer to the officials associations and ask them to post the information on their site
2. Materials:
 - a. Create a flyer for the schools with all of the individual limitations included.
 - b. Hosting officials flyer (include this in the all-school mailing and the activity specific mailings)
 - c. Make sure that state hosts are contacting their officials prior to contests
 - d. Expectation of Behavior flyer (include in the all school mailing and put this on the activity specific webpages)
3. Pre-game conferences- add to the Division meeting presentation and special flyer in the individual mailings.
4. Work on the creation of an online officials center
 - a. See if we can put a link in the IHSA Officials center- **this has been done**
 - b. Need to incorporate officials as an option in the email center
 - c. Add in the other years for IESA State Final Officials