

IESA WRESTLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES & RECOMMENDATIONS

April 17, 2014

The following members were present for the meeting: Coaches Tom Unruh, Joe Cliffe, Ed Bryson, Chris Protska, and John Schaidle; Administrator, Darryl Hogue; and IHSA Official Ray Winesburg.

The IESA Wrestling Advisory Committee, in its meeting of April 17, 2014, make the following recommendations to the Board of Directors for their June 20, 2014, meeting:

1. That only one wrestler per weight class counts toward team points at the regional level. Should a team advance two wrestlers to the sectional and/or state, both wrestlers points would count toward team points at the sectional and state level. **Rationale: Schools with smaller enrollments (and therefore probably fewer wrestlers in the school program) cannot fill 38 regional positions--2 wrestlers at each of the 19 weight classes. Therefore, only the larger schools who can consistently fill two wrestlers in each weight class realistically compete for team awards which simply doesn't give the smaller enrollment schools an opportunity to compete for a 1st or 2nd place regional team finish. By allowing only one of the two wrestlers to score team points, it gives all schools assigned to a regional an equal chance to win team awards. The committee made this recommendation last year and the IESA Board did not approve the recommendation. The committee believes this is the only way a small school has the chance to win a regional team award.**
2. At the state finals, that the semi-final rounds of the wrestlebacks be cross-bracketed but that walkovers will still be in place. **Rationale: Current advancement procedure does not have a cross bracketing format. Therefore, when wrestlers who have previously met in the championship bracket and are scheduled to wrestle in the consolation bracket, the previous result in the championship bracket stands and the winner of the match in the championship bracket automatically advances in the consolation bracket without the wrestlers wrestling again. These "walkovers" affect the semi-final rounds of the wrestlebacks. Without the cross bracketing, the walkovers determine who will wrestle for 3rd-4th and 5th-6th places but these placing matches are always held. There would be no walkovers for the placing matches. With the cross bracketing and walkovers, the possibility exists that a placing match would not be held because of previous decision but the wrestlers will have the opportunity to gain a higher place (3rd-6th place only) because all matches would be held in the semi-final round of the wrestlebacks.**
3. To change By-Law 4.054 so that scratches must be reported by 12 noon on Thursday preceding the state meet in order for there to be a substitute wrestler for the reported scratch. **Rationale: Currently, scratches must be reported by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday prior to the state meet in order for there to be a substitute. Even when a scratch is reported at 3:30 p.m. on that Thursday, it is difficult to contact all the schools/individuals that late in the day to secure the proper substitute. By moving the time to 12 noon to report scratches, the IESA Office has more time to notify everyone.**

There was one item discussed by the committee but after Mr. Endsley met with the meet management from DeKalb, a decision was made to not put forth a committee recommendation. The committee discussed and proposed that the meet start earlier on Friday so that the quarterfinal round in the championship bracket is wrestled on Friday. This would allow all wrestlers to know when they leave the Convocation Center on Friday whether or not they would wrestle on Saturday. Since much of the success of the tournament is dependent on DeKalb being able to secure workers, it was determined that many of the workers would not be able to get to the facility the 1-2 hours earlier that would be necessary to conduct an entire additional round on Friday. Therefore, the starting times and the first two rounds being wrestled on Friday will not change for 2015.

Other items discussed without any recommendations from the committee included: switching of weight classes at the seeding meeting---The committee is not recommending any changes. Therefore, switching of weight classes the night of the seeding meeting may continue to occur; Removal of the overall record as one of the criteria for determining seeds---After discussion, the committee decided that the overall record does have enough importance in the seeding process and should be kept as one of the criteria

Joe Cliffe, Tom Unruh, and Ray Winesburg were recognized for their service to the committee. Darryl Hogue informed the committee he would have to step down as he is talking on a new position next year.

The next meeting of the committee was set for April 16, 2015.