



The IESA will provide the leadership to ensure safe, equitable opportunities so students in our member schools can be enriched by participation in interscholastic activities which promote good sportsmanship, integrity and life skills.

August 10, 2009

To: IESA Member Schools

Welcome to the beginning of the 2009-10 school year. It is indeed a privilege and an honor to serve as your Executive Director. This will be the 80th year IESA has been the state's leader in providing educational, interscholastic activities for students in our member schools. Thank you for being a member of the Association.

Enclosed in this mailing are several items. I encourage you to become familiar with the IESA Handbook. The individual activity updates are not included in this mailing as they have been in recent years. Instead, we will be posting all of these on our website so you can download and print them at your discretion. Please be sure these are shared with your coaching staff. These updates highlight important changes from last year and other information pertinent to the respective activities. If you are not familiar with our website, please take the time to visit.

Your membership dues for the 2009-10 school year have been paid. Most schools have already paid athletic and non-athletic entry fees in accordance with entry deadlines. As a reminder, October 5 is the deadline to enter girls volleyball, boys wrestling, boys and girls track and field, and scholastic bowl. The speech entry deadline is September 28. If you have not paid for these activities you must do so from the IESA website. Please send your entry fees before the deadline to avoid payment of late fees. Other entry deadlines are published in the pocket calendars previously sent to your school. There is a complete calendar located on the IESA website and in this mailing.

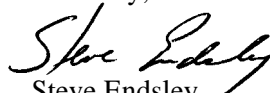
Please make a special effort this year to share Terms and Conditions for the activities, state series regional and sectional assignments, and all pertinent information with the respective members of your coaching and fine arts staff. Coaches constantly tell us they never receive any information when many times the information is located somewhere in the building. Regional and Sectional Entry forms are now located on the IESA web site. We no longer send these to the schools. You must complete these online and then your regional and sectional host will automatically have access to this information. You no longer have to mail a copy to your host schools. Speech entries and music entries also must be completed online. Please be certain that your speech and music directors are aware of this registration procedure.

Without a doubt, the single biggest change for 2009-10 is the coaching education mandate for all non-certified staff. Enclosed is a flyer that explains in greater detail the requirements and the online courses that are available to complete the requirement. Please be sure all of your coaches meet the requirement before the respective season begins.

Please stop by our exhibit booth at the IPA Conference in Peoria on Monday, October 19 and acquaint yourself with the other members of my administrative staff, Nicole Schaeffbauer and Julie Cochran. We will once again hold one of our Division Meetings at the IPA Conference on Tuesday, October 20 at 8:00 a.m. and continue to co-host a luncheon with IHSA later that day.

Please contact us if we can be of any service to you. Have a great school year!!!!

Sincerely,


Steve Endsley
Executive Director

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