



IESA SPORTSMANSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Recommendations

March 19, 2026

10:00 a.m., Hybrid

The following members were present for the meeting: Principal, Kate Williams, Germantown Hills; Athletic Director, Tony Bauman, Bloomington JHS; Assistant Principal/AD, Dan Erwin, El Paso-Gridley; Assistant Principal/AD, John Downs, Girard North Mac; Athletic Director, Abby Oleson, Rockford Public Schools; Athletic Director, Afriyie Dudley, Calumet City Schrum; Athletic Director, Lauren Hoppensteadt, Yorkville.

The IESA Sportsmanship Advisory Committee, in its meeting on March 19, 2026, makes the following recommendations to the IESA Board of Directors for their April 10, 2026, meeting:

Recommendation #1

Current: Any fan ejected from an activity must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course and provide proof of completion of the course to their school's administration before they can attend another IESA activity.

Proposed: Any fan ejected from an activity is suspended from attending the next two contests, must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship Course, and provide proof of completion of the course to their school's administration before they can attend another IESA activity.

Rationale: We have seen an increase in the number and severity of fan ejections over the last several years. Adding a two-game suspension gives the penalty more teeth and should help curtail poor fan behavior during the regular season.

By-Law: 5.105

Board Action **APPROVED**

Recommendation 2:

Current: Any fan ejected from the state finals cannot attend the remaining games if their team advances.

Proposed: Any fan ejected from the IESA state series (regional, sectional, or state finals) will not be allowed to attend any of their school's remaining contests in the state series, as well as complete the NFHS Sportsmanship Course and provide proof of completion to their school's administration. If ejected from a state contest and their team loses, they must serve the two-game suspension in their student's next IESA activity.

Rationale: Due to the finality of a team's season ending if their team loses, fans tend to act irrationally during the state series. Not being able to attend the remainder of the state series should help deter poor fan behavior.

By-law: 1.130, 2.091, 2.100, 5.100

Board Action **APPROVED**

Other topics discussed.

1. Summary of the ejection report and comparison over the last 3 years.
2. Sportsmanship Pins
3. Sportsmanship School of the Month
4. Division Sportsmanship Award voting
5. Updating of the sportsmanship video
6. Student section expectations-Possible contest for schools to create a .30-1min video of what and what not to do.

Date of next meeting: TBD