



AUGUST NEWSLETTER



News- Welcome Back!

A new school year often brings new faces to the staff. If there will be changes to your administration or coaching staff, please make sure that information is updated before the fall seasons begin.

Information may be updated by accessing the "Your School" tab in your IESA Member Center. To update administrator and coach information, log in to the Member Center with your Administrator password. When updating information, please include cell phone information.

As a special request, we kindly ask that all schools provide the name and contact information of their athletic director. We are often asked to facilitate connections between new and experienced athletic directors, and having up-to-date information will be helpful. Many thanks for considering this request!

Reminders- Initial Mailing & Survey

The IESA Initial Mailing will be sent out this week to all member schools. It contains the IESA Handbook, various information pieces, workshop registration forms, and four (4) activity passes. The activity passes are in a small envelope within the mailing.

If you do not receive the mailing by Aug. 13 or find any pieces missing, please reach out to the IESA Office.

MEMBER SURVEY STREAMING

The IESA Board will be exploring possible streaming options for state tournaments. We will be gathering information from the membership to assist in this process. Please take a minute to participate in our [SURVEY](#).



NEWS FROM THE BOARD

**Next Board meeting
is September 14.**

The Board of Directors will be meeting on September 14. If there are items you would like discussed during this meeting, please contact your Board Representative. This information can be found in your Member Center by clicking the Email Center link.

Please welcome Chuck Milem, Erie, as the new Division B representative and Vince Perillo, Manhattan, as the new Division D representative.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes from Activity Advisory Committees with Board action may be found on each activity webpage. Spring activities had their minutes and recommendations presented to the Board of Directors at the June meeting.

[Bowling](#)

[Scholastic Bowl](#)

[Music](#)

[Track & Field](#)



Athletic Director Resources

Licensed streaming with School Music License enables you to:

- Share performances and events online confidently and legally
- Expand your audience to families near and far
- Support composers, publishers, and copyright holders
- Celebrate your students without licensing headaches

School Music License supports these streams, letting your students shine online while keeping your program protected.



Become a member of the IADA, enjoy the opportunity to network, engage in educational leadership and professional development through NIAAA classes and have other opportunities to learn and grow alongside other Athletic Directors.

<https://www.illinoisad.org/>



Click for the School Music License Checklist



IESA Office Hours

**Monday - Friday
8am - 4pm**

Email the IESA at anytime
iesa@iesa.org

Office Number 309-829-0114.

Social Media Corner

As we begin another exciting school year, our IESA social media channels will continue to celebrate the people who make education-based athletics and activities special. In addition to sharing championship highlights, important reminders, and updates throughout the year, we'll be continuing several recurring features on our socials:

- Weekly Officials Spotlights
- Monthly Athletic Director Spotlights
- Good Sport Reports

Help us honor outstanding individuals using the QR codes below!

**Athletic Director
Questionnaire**



**Good Sport Report
Form**



Click the icons below to follow the IESA on social media
and tag us in your photos!



Get to Know Your Member Center

The IESA Activity Tracker provides member schools with an overview of the status of all of their paid activities for the school year. When looking at your school's Activity Tracker, you will be able to:

- View a list of all activities that have been paid for in 2026-2027 and if any are still in unpaid status.
- Update coach information for any of your school's activities.
- Check the status of completion for action items for each activity.
 - **Green = Good to Go**
 - **Yellow = Action Still Needed/Editing Still Available**
 - **Red = Overdue/Needs Immediate Attention**
- Click on dates for Entry Forms or Seeding Deadlines to go to the Entry Center for that activity, and make updates to schedules, rosters, seed opponents, etc.
- See if assignments have been posted for an activity.
 - Deadlines and completion status for Entry Form and Seeding will not be available until assignments for the applicable activity have been posted.

Remember to check the Activity Tracker regularly to ensure important deadlines aren't missed!

FUND\$ FACTS

Schools participating in **Golf SECTIONALS** must pay greens fees to the host course prior to competing. Contact the host course for questions regarding payment. **STATE** greens fees are the responsibility of the IESA; this does NOT include practice rounds.



Member schools competing in **softball and baseball REGIONALS** are responsible for the cost of one official per game they participate in; contact your host school for payment details. Hosts may require each school to bring a check made out to an official or to the host school on game day; others may ask for payment for all games at the conclusion of the regional. Prompt payment is required. For softball and baseball SECTIONALS, the IESA compensates the officials.

UPCOMING DATES

Aug. 8- Refund deadline for Baseball

Aug. 15- Refund deadline for Golf and Cross Country

Sept. 1- Final entry deadline for Boys Basketball

Sept. 14- Girls basketball coop deadline

Sept. 26- Refund deadline for Girls Basketball

Sept. 28- Speech entry deadline

Oct. 5- Entry deadline for Wrestling, Volleyball, Scholastic Bowl, and Track

Celebration of Excellence: Look Back

2025-2026 marked the 3rd annual Celebration of Excellence.

The Celebration is a chance for the IESA to celebrate and honor outstanding individuals each school year. The celebration is held in April at the Double Tree Hotel in Bloomington.

Click the link: [CELEBRATION 2026](#)

You can find winners, the event program and so much more.

RECOGNITION & SPORTSMANSHIP



Good Sports Reports: Once again, the IESA will recognize good sportsmanship during the 26-27 school year. We are asking coaches, administrators, and officials to submit Good Sports Reports to us regularly. Please make a concerted effort to complete at least one Good Sports Report for each of the activities your school is participating in during the 26-27 school year. Click on the link below to complete the Good Sports Report. Please be as detailed as possible when completing the form.

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/tHHfxTPhc8>

Fan Ejection Policy Update: Any fan ejected from a regular season contest may not attend, at a minimum, the next TWO contests in the activity and must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course online prior to regaining attendance eligibility. Any fan ejected from a state series contest (regional, sectional, or state) will be prohibited from attending any remaining contests for their school in the state series and must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course.

School Personnel Ejection Reminder: A coach or school personnel ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct will be required to miss the next two contests at the level at which the ejection occurred and all contests in the interim. The coach/school personnel must also complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course and pay a \$150 fine before regaining eligibility. While the individual is serving the suspension, they may not travel to or attend contests. School personnel include, but are not limited to, assistant coaches, scorekeepers, statisticians, managers, bus drivers, Athletic Directors, Asst. Principals, Principals, Superintendents.



Coaching Education By-Law: 2.110

Q. How often does a coach (paid or volunteer) have to take the approved coaches education course?

A. Once

Q. All of my coaches are certified teachers. Can we require that they complete the coaching education course?

A. Yes. This would be a local policy requiring such completion.

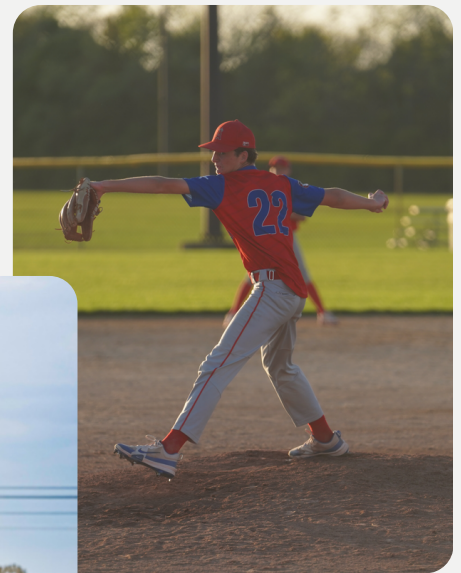
Q. What activities require coaching education?

A. Golf, Softball, Baseball, Cross Country, Basketball, Cheer, Volleyball, Wrestling, Bowling, Track and Field

Q. Does my paraprofessional/teaching assistant, licensed substitute teacher or volunteer need to complete a coaching education course to be eligible?

A. Yes

Learn more → [Coaching Education Information](#)
[Coaching Course: Human Kinetics](#)



Looking for IESA
apparel?
Check out the
Cubby Hole
STORE!

2026 IESA WORKSHOPS

The Annual Athletic Director workshop will be held at the Double Tree Hotel in Bloomington on Sept. 11. Click [HERE](#) for registration information.

On Sept. 18, the IESA will be hosting the Speech workshop for coaches and sponsors at the Double Tree Hotel. Click [HERE](#) for registration information.

OFFICIAL BALLS

The IESA works with two great companies to provide the balls used in the State Series. The "Official Balls" are required for post-season play.



IESA Official Ball Models

Girls Softball - Rawlings RIESASB

Boys Baseball - Rawlings RIESABB

Girls Basketball - Rawlings CNTR285-IESA

Boys Basketball - Rawlings CNTR295-IESA

Girls Volleyball - Mikasa VQ2000

For Sales Representative Information, please click [HERE](#).

PARTNER HIGHLIGHT:

IESA is proud to welcome Digital Scoreboards as an official partner, bringing professional-grade LED scoreboard solutions to member schools across Illinois.

For more than 10 years, Digital Scoreboards has been on a mission to make sure every school, regardless of size or budget, can create a game-day experience worth showing up for. Indoor boards, outdoor boards, mobile LED displays, rubberized baseball boards and the best service and warranty in the industry to back it all up.

As Chris Kirn, President & CEO of Digital Scoreboards, put it: "Our mission has always been to make professional-grade scoreboard solutions accessible to every school, regardless of size or budget. Through this partnership, we look forward to helping IESA member schools elevate their athletic programs, engage their communities, and create game-day experiences their students will remember for years to come."

Learn more → digitalscoreboards.net

