

State of Indiana high school tennis 2013

Presented by:

Tim Cleland, President of the Indiana High School Tennis Coaches Association

Sharon Rosenburgh, 1st VP of the Indiana High School Tennis Coaches Association and Chairperson of the Indiana Coaches of Girls' Sports Association.

We present on behalf of both organizations.

The IHSTeCA and the ICGSA is opting to not stand before you and present any rule proposals concerning bylaw changes. We have collected data from the Indiana coaches via our district meetings, the IHSTeCA and ICGSA convention and conference, state finals meeting, a statewide survey, emails and several meetings with assistant IHSAA commissioner Chris Kaufman. All parties have agreed to share our report.

We appreciate the process for rules proposals. We also appreciate the invitation to meet during our allotted presentation time with the IHSAA/ IIAAA. However, sharing our information through Bryce, Pete and Chris will be sufficient. Even though we are not presenting, we want to assure you we continue to devote considerable time advocating for Indiana high school boys' and girls' tennis student-athletes. The continuity of our leadership has enabled us to be successful with many significant proposal changes through the years. We have also established positive relationships within the IHSAA hierarchy, allowing minor non-bylaw changes to be made easily.

We received a record number of 288 coaches responding to the 17 questions on our 2012 survey. After thorough analysis of the results we determined that we would not propose any bylaw changes. However, we do have several non-bylaw changes, which we met, presented and discussed with Chris Kaufman. We appreciate the respect given to improve communication and understanding of existing rules for our coaches.

Five non-bylaw changes were accepted worthy of attention. These changes are:

- No limit on the number of participants in our scrimmage.
- Sectional sites with four or fewer teams can adjust the schedule of play from starting on Wednesday to starting on Thursday if they notify Assistant Commissioner Chris Kaufman of the change.
- The specific USTA rules of coded penalties (racquet and ball abuse, language, etc.) will be printed in the coaches guidebook and tournament rulebook.
- More specific information and expected procedures will be shared with the tournament directors and coaches regarding the sectional draw meeting. Protocol for changing lineups, filing a grievance, etc., will be provided for consistency among all sites.
- An additional school-approved coach will now be allowed at tournaments or matches that are held at two or more sites. This coach will ensure necessary supervision.

We appreciate the IHSAA working with our coaches to continually improve our Tennis Coaches Guidebook. Our matches are officiated by the coaches. Printed and clearly defined match rules and proper code of conduct are essential.

We are keeping a close eye on the increasing interest in supporting multi-class tennis. We are also very interested in providing medals for all Eight at State participants. Part of our reasoning for proposing Eight at State was to recognize more than the four teams in our non-class format. Even though an oversight, we did enjoy having the optional opportunity to purchase medals for teams not making it to the final four.

Our coaches expressed a desire to continue with the consolations for the singles and doubles tournament. We are aware the focus in the tournament is to declare a champion. On occasion players and coaches have not respected the spirit and intent of the consolation matches, especially in the girls' season due to the Midwest Qualifier. We ask for this issue to be re-visited in the future.

We appreciate your sharing with the IIAAA and IHSAA Executive boards that we are very passionate yet realistic about our advisory position. We thank you for understanding our reasoning concerning the correction of the draw for the boys' season. We are looking forward to the continued willingness of the IIAAA and the IHSAA to help guide and mentor our thoughts, our energy and to lend the listening ear to our concerns.

Tim Cleland
Sharon Rosenburgh