

2012 TRACK AND CROSS COUNTRY PROPOSALS TO THE IHSAA/IIAAA

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IATCCC and ICGSA

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ICGSA/IATCCC Proposals to the IHSAA/IIAAA

Proposal #1: Change the IHSAA tournament entry form to comply with the NFHS rule allowing athletes to be entered in 4 events (excluding relays), but only compete in 4 events (including relays).

Proposal #2: Allow sponsor labels (advertisement) on track & field equipment & venues.

Proposal #3: Change individual advancement in the IHSAA tournament for cross country to the top 10 athletes who are not advancing on a team.

Proposal #4: Change the cross country tournament to a four-level, four week tournament with all races on Saturday.

Proposal #5: Award medals to the top 25 individuals in the IHSAA state championship meet instead of the current 15 medals.

Proposal #6: Allow sponsor labels (advertisement) at cross country venues.

ICGSA/IATCCC Proposals to the IHSAA/IIAAA

Proposal #1: Change the IHSAA tournament entry form to comply with the NFHS rule allowing athletes to be entered in 4 events (excluding relays), but only compete in 4 events (including relays).

Rationale:

We believe this change will allow coaches greater flexibility in creation of the team roster for the IHSAA tournament. This change will allow athletes who do not advance out the sectional or regional in their individual events to represent their team at the regional or state meet if a coach believes it is in the best interest of the athletes and team.

70% of those who responded to this question voted yes.

(329 voted yes, 142 voted no, 471 responses)

ICGSA/IATCCC Proposals to the IHSAA/IIAAA

Proposal #2: Allow sponsor labels (advertisement) on track & field equipment & venues.

Rationale:

As our budgets continue to feel the constraints reflected by the economy and cuts to education funding, allowing advertising on track & field equipment (hurdles, landing pits, etc.) may help raise needed funds.

80% of those who responded to this question voted yes.

(376 voted yes, 95 voted no, 471 responses)

ICGSA/IATCCC Proposals to the IHSAA/IIAAA

Proposal #3: Change individual advancement in the IHSAA tournament for cross country to the top 10 athletes who are not advancing on a team.

Rationale:

With cross country being a single class sport, many smaller schools fail to be represented after the sectional level of the tournament. Frequently, the top 15 individual places are people already advancing with their teams. Changing the tournament to advancing the top 10 individuals not already advancing on a team will allow quality athletes from other teams to also advance and experience higher levels of the tournament. We believe this will encourage athletes currently in tournament sites frequently dominated by big school teams to see an opportunity to advance if they work hard to succeed.

66% of those who responded to this question voted yes.

(263 voted yes, 135 voted no, 398 responses)

ICGSA/IATCCC Proposals to the IHSAA/IIAAA

Proposal #4: Change the cross country tournament to a four-level, four week tournament with all races on Saturday.

Rationale:

Racing a 5000 meter sectional race on Tuesday and then the 5000 meter regional on Saturday puts a lot of demand on a young athlete's body. Many schools have schedules during the season that recognize this and so they only race once a week. Another challenge that would be avoided by Saturday only meets is that it is easier to complete the meet prior to darkness taking over the course when we race on Saturday morning. This year's sectional #2 girls' race took longer than expected due to some ladies taking 45 minutes complete the course. This delayed the start of the boys' race and led to the awards ceremony concluding as it was getting dark. Taking down the course and other meet management responsibilities could be completed before dark in venues without lights during daylight if races were held on Saturday morning. An additional benefit of the Saturday race day is that schools traveling through heavy traffic on a Tuesday after school will normally have less traffic on a Saturday. They will also have the option of more travel time that does not conflict with the school day schedule.

We would like to see the season shifted one week later in the calendar. Our surrounding states schedule ends one week later than ours allowing them to avoid some of the hottest weather. Our current schedule also puts a three week gap between the end of the state meet and our All-Star Meet. The other states only have to wait two weeks for the All-Star Meet making it easier to maintain their fitness. We believe this change increases the chance for safer weather.

66% of those who responded to this question voted yes.

(261 voted yes, 137 voted no, 398 responses)

ICGSA/IATCCC Proposals to the IHSAA/IIAAA

Proposal #5: Award medals to the top 25 individuals in the IHSAA state championship meet instead of the current 15 medals.

Rationale:

The cross country championship race had 196 athletes finish the race in 2011. Only 15 individuals received medals. That is only 7.6 % of those competing in that race. In track and field, there are 27 participants normally in each event and the top nine receive medals, or 33.3 %. In swimming there are usually 32 participants in each event and 25% of them receive medals. In wrestling, there are 16 competitors in each weight class and the top 8 receive medals, or 50%. We agree that medals awarded should be earned through excellent performance but find that in cross country the athletes are held to a disproportionate standard than in other sports. Increasing the medals awarded to individuals to 25 still gives cross country athletes a much smaller percentage (12-13%) than other sports, but we feel it would be a step that maintains the integrity the medals represent.

92.6% of those who responded to this question voted yes.

(398 voted yes, 32 voted no, 430 responses)

ICGSA/IATCCC Proposals to the IHSAA/IIAAA

Proposal #6: Allow sponsor labels (advertisement) at cross country venues.

Rationale:

As our budgets continue to feel the constraints reflected by the economy and cuts to education funding, allowing advertising on cross country equipment (timing clocks, finish chutes, etc.) may help raise needed funds.

85% of those responding to this question voted yes.

(335 voted yes, 59 voted no, 394 responses)

ICGSA/IATCCC Proposals to the IHSAA/IIAAA

Method of acquiring results for IATCCC/ICGSA survey

Survey questions developed by the members of the IATCCC and were then provided to the IHSAA. The IHSAA (Ed Sullivan, IHSAA-IT Director) emailed the survey to all member schools for their consideration. After the results were received, the IATCCC selected those items with a 2/3 approval to be part of our proposal.

ICGSA/IATCCC Proposals to the IHSAA/IIAAA

IATCCC/ICGSA survey

The following is a complete list of questions from the survey.

Track & Field Questions:

- 1) The NFHS rule allows athletes to be entered in 4 events (excluding relays), but only compete in 4 events (including relays). Would you be in favor of making this change for the IHSAA State Tournament Entry?
- 2) Would you be in favor of a multiclass system for Track & Field?
- 3) Would you be in favor of adding the Triple Jump to the IHSAA tournament?
- 4) Would you be in favor of adding the 800 M Relay to the IHSAA tournament?
- 5) Would you be in favor of adding the Turbo Jav to the IHSAA tournament?
- 6) Would you be in favor of allowing sponsor labels on track & field uniforms?
- 7) Would you be in favor of allowing sponsor labels (advertisement) on track & field equipment & venues?

Cross Country Questions:

- 1) Are you satisfied with the representation of teams from small, medium and large schools competing at the state meet?
- 2) Would you be in favor of a tournament series that recognizes the top teams, athletes and mental attitude award recipients from large, medium and small schools?
- 3) In the IHSAA tournament, would you favor changing the individual advancement from the top 15 athletes to the top 10 athletes who are not advancing on a team?
- 4) Would you be in favor of going back to a 4-level, 4 week tournament, with all tournament races on Saturday? This would not extend the season; it would just involve beginning the tournament the Saturday before the current Tuesday sectionals.
- 5) Would you be in favor of awarding 25 medals to the top 25 individuals at the State meet rather than the current 15?

ICGSA/IATCCC Proposals to the IHSAA/IIAAA

IATCCC/ICGSA survey

The following is a complete list of questions from the survey.

(Continued)

- 6) Do you favor changing the selection of IATCCC All-State Team members from the current 3 classes to just one class while maintaining first, second, third and honorable mention teams?
- 7) Do you favor changing the selection of members of the IATCCC All-State Teams to a formula based solely on performance in the IHSAA State Tournament in place of the current system which allows for input from individual coaches at the selection meeting?
- 8) Would you be in favor of allowing sponsor labels (advertisement) on cross country uniforms?
- 9) Would you be in favor of allowing sponsor labels (advertisement) at cross country venues?