

## **2017-18 ACTIVITY / RULE / BY-LAW CHANGES**

### **Tennis Competition Limitation**

Tennis competition limit will be 18 dates of competition.

### **Unmanned Aerial System (Drone) Policy**

The IHSAA developed a policy for all unmanned aerial systems at IHSAA sanctioned events. The full policy can be found on page 105.

### **Restrictions**

**8-13-1** Moving to another school district or school does not remove an eligibility ruling by the preceding school or the Eligibility Committee. If a move is made without an eligibility determination by the former school, the new school has the right to make that determination based on their rules.

### **Foreign Exchange Students**

**8-9-2** The foreign exchange student must possess a current J-1 visa issued by the US State Department. A foreign exchange student who possesses a current F-1 visa, issued by the US State Department, is eligible for one year and only at the JV level. A receipt of their paid tuition must be included in the paperwork. Students who are placed by CSIET direct placement will be eligible for JV status only.

### **Sanctioning Swimming**

The IHSAA will sanction swimming beginning with the fall 2017 season. The state championships will not be sponsored by the IHSAA until the 2018 season.

### **Baseball Pitch Count Rule**

The IHSAA adopted pitch count guidelines that were in effect for the 2017 season. Complete pitch count rules can be found on the IHSAA website, baseball page.

### **4A/5A Tennis Seeding**

The IHSAA modified the tennis seeding guidelines, moving from seeding eight to seeding six for the 4A/5A State Tennis Championships. This policy was in effect for the 2017 state tournament.

### **“No Contact Rule” for IHSAA Activities**

**17-2-4 Pre-Season Coaching** Coaches are not allowed to coach students of the school competitively (during competition) from August 1 to the start of that sport season during the school year. Coaches, athletic trainers, or other school personnel cannot contact students during that same time. Winter and spring activities can contact students after the last starting date for fall activity practices.

**17-2-5 Summer Programs** Summer programs must be voluntary and must be terminated by the last day of July. The IHSAA supports member schools' involvement in voluntary summer programs. However, the IHSAA believes that students need time off during the summer and strongly recommends that member schools schedule at least ten days of non-student contact during the summer each year.

### **State Cross-Country Permanent Site Selection**

Three permanent sites for State Cross Country were selected and the meet will rotate between the three each year. The permanent sites for north, east and west are as follows: The Orchards (Lewiston), Portneuf Wellness Complex (Pocatello), Eagle Island (Eagle).

### **Football Mercy Rule – Change for 3A and 5A**

3A and 5A football teams will invoke the mercy rule (\*see below) at the beginning of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter (not in effect for IHSAA playoff games). 2A and 4A football teams will invoke the mercy rule at the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter (not in effect for IHSAA playoff games).

#### **\*Football Mercy Rule**

In 2A, 3A, 4A and 5A football, when a team is 40 points ahead in the second half, the mercy rule shall be invoked. The clock will be continuous except for a dead ball conversion, team timeouts or officials' timeouts.

### **Certification Requirements for Officials**

The IHSAA will allow individual sports' commissioners to choose which NFHS test is required for officials, Part I or Part II.

### **Eliminating “Zero Week” from Football Start Date**

The IHSAA eliminated the wording of “zero week” for the football start date from the IHSAA calendar and will now refer to the start date as “week 1”.

### **Soccer Sportsmanship Meeting Verification**

The mandatory sportsmanship meeting for soccer, and submission of the verification form, will be eliminated beginning in fall of 2017.

### **Scrimmages/Practices**

#### **5-12 SCRIMMAGES / PRACTICES**

**5-12-1** An organized scrimmage, drills, or practice by teams or individual students with or against teams or players not belonging to their school is considered a contest, and counts toward the total number of contests a team is allowed. This will also include non-high school players or coaches of that school in a team sport practice setting.

**5-12-2** Member school teams and individuals are prohibited from scrimmaging or practicing with or against non-high school teams, non-high school players or coaches in a team sport, except in the following situations:

- a. Practice is allowed between 9th and 8th grade in a junior high that has an 8-9 configuration.
- b. In the sport of track, high school teams may practice with junior high/middle school teams in the same school district.
- c. In the sports of volleyball and basketball, 1A Div. II teams may practice with 8th grade students if they cannot field enough athletes to have an inter squad scrimmage in game type conditions. The 8th graders must meet all other IHSAA requirements.
- d. No more than two district-approved coaches may participate, as a player, in practice at one time. 1A schools are exempt from rule 5-12-2-d.
- e. 1A/2A/3A teams may practice together in the pole vault. Proof of insurance/liability must be given to the host school administration by the sending school administration before athletes can vault at the host school. *(Final reading at the September 2017 Board meeting)*