



Board of Directors Meeting

August 5, 2026, 2:00 pm MT

Zoom Link

Members Present

Jeremy Burgess, Burke Davis, Brady Dickinson, Dana Facer, Phil Hartman, Heath Jackson, Tyler Johnson, Mark Kress, Shawn Lawler, Randy Lords, Nick Smith, Shawn Tiegs

Members Absent

Spencer Barzee, Jan Bayer, School Board Representative

Staff Present

Mike Federico, Julie Hammons, Chad Williams, Morgan Apuan, and Conlin Coburn as secretary

Visitors

Jo Holloway, Centennial Baptist
Vince Mann, Borah HS
Stacy Wilson, Buhl HS
Mark Pixton, Century HS
Luke Wolf, Kuna HS
Jason Warr, West Ada SD

Travis Hobson, Thunder Ridge HS
Keelan McCaffrey, Centennial HS
Ty Price, Malad HS
Matt Harris, Ririe HS
Brian Walker, Boise SD
Ashley Green, Caldwell HS

Tom Shanahan, Bishop Kelly HS
Tol Gropp, Timberline HS
Travis Bell, Highland HS
Tonya Wilkes, PCSD

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

A motion was made to add 2027 State Soccer Locations as a discussion item.

Motion carried

A motion was made to add PlusFour Golf program as an action item for Final Reading.

Motion carried

CONSENT AGENDA

Balance Sheet/Financial Report

Chad Williams reviewed the financial report for the period beginning July 2026 and noted that expenditures have been minimal because the organization is only one month into the new fiscal year. He explained that the report reflects only a few expenditures to date, which is expected given the limited time elapsed in the fiscal year. Chad indicated that there were no significant financial concerns or notable spending trends to report at this time and invited any questions regarding the financial report.

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda which includes the June 10, 2026 Board Minutes, the Balance Sheet and Financial Report from July 1, 2026 to July 31, 2026, and the Board of Directors actions via phone or email.

Motion carried

REPORT ITEMS

YEA

Julie reported that the YEA fund balance reached a significant milestone at the end of June, exceeding \$6 million for the first time at year-end. The dividend distribution for the year totaled \$225,000. She noted that if all participating schools had been fully vested, the distribution would have exceeded \$300,000. An additional 0.5% was set aside for distribution among the 90 fully vested schools. Several schools successfully closed remaining gaps during the year to achieve full vesting status. The YEA Board also voted to increase the disbursement percentage from 3.5% to 4.5%. Overall, she reported that it was an excellent year for the YEA.

Marketing: IHSAA Corporate Sponsors

Morgan Apuan reported that Dairy West is in its 43rd year as a title partner. She shared that emails regarding the Athlete of the Week and Play of the Week programs will be sent out in the coming weeks and encouraged members to watch for them. She also noted that Gem State of Mind banners can be requested through the request kit form available on the website.

Officials: Data

Chad reported that there was little new information to share at this time. He noted that officials have begun registering for the fall season.

Annual Financial Review

Chad Williams reported that an accounting firm completed a review of the association's fiscal year and found that the organization finished the year in a positive financial position, ending approximately \$35,000 in the black. He also reminded the group that ticket price increases had been proposed at the previous meeting to help balance the budget. Those recommendations were made in anticipation of increased expenses for the upcoming year's state tournaments, including higher venue costs.

Board Committees

- ***State Tournament***
 - **Soccer AC Boise** – Action on this item was taken later in the meeting.
 - **4A Softball Site** – Julie Hammons reported on a proposal for the 2027 4A softball tournament site. She noted that a host site has not yet been secured. Preston submitted a proposal outlining available lodging, restaurant options, and other accommodations. The Board discussed concerns regarding travel distances for participating schools and the possibility of exploring site options within the Idaho Falls area. Concerns were also raised about lodging accommodations being located in Utah, as members expressed a preference for keeping associated tax revenue within Idaho.

2026 NFHS Summer Meeting

Jeremy Burgess, Chad Williams, Julie Hammons, and Mike Federico reported on their experiences at the NFHS Summer Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah. Jeremy noted that many of the same issues facing Idaho schools are being discussed nationwide and encouraged athletic directors to build and maintain relationships with their legislative representatives. Chad highlighted discussions on technology, particularly the growing use and development of artificial intelligence. Julie emphasized the value of collaborating with colleagues from other states and noted that student transfers remain a common topic of discussion. Mike shared that the legal sessions provided insight into issues that may eventually affect Idaho and emphasized the benefit of meeting directly with industry partners such as MaxPreps, GoFan and NFHS Network.

26-27 SAC Goals

Mike Federico reported on the Student Advisory Council, which currently consists of 33 students. He shared that more than 45 applications were received and expressed appreciation to athletic directors for nominating students. During their recent meeting, the seniors helped establish goals for the year and discussed issues affecting students across the state. Mike noted that the council plays an important role in providing student voice and is working to expand its outreach to gather feedback from students statewide. He also reported that fall symposiums will be returning and reminded members that schools may request Gem State of Mind banners through Morgan Potter. In addition, all Student Advisory Council members will complete the National Federation student credential program, making Idaho the first state to have all council members earn the certification. Mike added that the council uses social media to share its message and will continue meeting twice annually to strengthen student engagement and representation throughout the state.

Activities Director Mentoring

Chad Williams reported on the launch of the Activities Director Mentoring Program, developed through the efforts of Mike Federico, Tom Shanahan, the IAAA, and the IASA. The first mentoring meeting was held the previous day and provided 29 new athletic directors with focused training, guidance, and opportunities to discuss real-world scenarios with experienced mentors. Chad noted that participant feedback has been collected and that the IAAA is enthusiastic about the program. He also shared that he and Jeremy Burgess consulted with Michigan officials regarding their established mentoring program. It was noted that Region 6 is still in need of a mentor representative. Tom Shanahan thanked the office staff, Board members, the IAAA, and principals for their support and expressed his excitement for the program's future.

2026 Administrative Workshops

Chad Williams reported that the 2026 Administrative Workshops will begin on August 10. He noted that he will travel throughout the state meeting with school administrators to discuss IHSAA programs, policies, and other topics related to interscholastic activities.

2026-27 Media Days

Mike Federico reported that he is traveling throughout Idaho to meet with members of the media and review rule changes, media protocols, and other important information related to IHSAA events. He expressed appreciation to schools for hosting the meetings and encouraged members to inform local media representatives about these opportunities. Mike also noted that a new media request form is being implemented. In addition, he clarified that the IHSAA media credential is intended for use at state tournament events and does not automatically grant access to regular-season contests, although schools may choose to honor the credential at their discretion.

Legends of the Game

Julie Hammons reported that administration of the Legends of the Game program is being transitioned to Conlin Coburn. She reminded members that nominations are due by September 10 and encouraged schools to nominate outstanding basketball teams from their communities who have made a lasting impact on the sport. Julie noted that future program communications and nomination information will be distributed by Conlin.

Ballot Protocol

Chad Williams reviewed the ballot protocol for hardship requests. He reminded members that all hardship paperwork should be submitted to Conlin Coburn and that all required documentation must be included. Once received, Chad will distribute the materials to the appropriate committee for review. Committee members will receive an email notification when a ballot is available. If all five votes have not been received within 48 hours, Chad will follow up with any members who have not responded. Decisions should be returned to schools within 72 hours.

August Meeting Schedule

- IASA Conference, August 3-4, 2026

- IHSAA Annual Meeting: August 4, 2026, 12:45 pm
- IHSAA Hall of Fame: August 4, 2026, 6:30 pm
- IHSAA Work Session: August 5, 2026, 9:00 am
- IHSAA Board Meeting: August 5, 2026, 2:00 pm

September Board Meeting

1. September 28 & 29: District IV
2. Wood River Inn- Promo Code IHS09 Valid stay date: Sept 26-29; based on availability

Chad Williams reminded members that the next Board meeting will be held September 28-29. He noted that the Code allows schools to reserve hotel rooms in advance when doing so results in discounted rates for Board members attending the meeting.

Digital Activity Cards Steps

- Individuals
- Athletic Directors

Chad Williams reviewed the five-step process and noted that Steps 1 and 2 were completed at the end of the school year. He reported that Steps 3, 4, and 5 are now available and encouraged members to carefully follow each step of the process. Chad noted that as schools become more familiar with the process, the remaining steps should become quicker and easier to complete. He also thanked Amanda and Riley for their work and assistance in implementing the process.

3A Football Bracket

Chad Williams reported that an error was identified in the approved 3A football bracket documents. Specifically, the first bullet point incorrectly stated that the No. 1 seed "will host" in the quarterfinal round. He noted that the language in the Rules and Regulations is correct and that the discrepancy resulted from two different versions of the document. Because the bracket had previously been approved with modifications as needed, the correction has been made to align the document with the approved Rules and Regulations.

Track & Field Representation 3A & 4A

Chad Williams reported on 3A and 4A track representation, noting that the item had previously been approved with modifications as needed. He shared that an error was brought to his attention after Marsh Valley moved from 4A to 3A and was inadvertently overlooked in the representation data. The correction has since been made, and the updated representation is now accurate. He noted that the change is finalized and ready to move forward.

Rules & Regulations

- **Rule 2-2-1: Classification proposals are due Sept. 10, 2026-** Chad Williams reviewed Rule 2-2-1 and noted that the Association is now locked into the 2026-28 classification cycle, as the cycle is beginning and classifications have already been established. He explained that the current classifications were determined according to the Association's classification rules, which are based on school enrollment. Chad encouraged members who would like to propose an alternative classification method to submit a proposal by September 10 for consideration in future classification cycles.
- **Fall Practice Model** - Chad Williams reviewed the fall practice model, noting that some provisions are recommendations while others, such as lightning protocols, are mandatory requirements. He reported that significant discussion centered on air quality and the challenges schools face when conditions vary across different regions of the state. Board members discussed the importance of monitoring conditions, communicating proactively, and maintaining consistency in decision-making. It was noted that some conferences have established air quality thresholds for participation, while host school administrators are often

responsible for making decisions when conditions change during an event. Chad also reminded members that existing IHSAA scheduling rules provide flexibility for rescheduling contests when cancellations occur due to environmental conditions.

ACTION ITEMS-FINAL READINGS

Rollie Lane Exemption

A motion was made to treat Rollie Lane as a single-day event for the 26-27 and 27-28 school years with modifications as needed as a Final Reading.

Motion carried

Golf Team Hardship

Julie Hammons highlighted that this proposal reduces the number of teams that are available to apply for a hardship.

A motion was made to approve the Golf Team hardship proposal with modifications as needed as a Final Reading.

Motion carried

Golf Proposal – modification of coaching restrictions

Julie Hammons reported that the primary point of emphasis was maintaining an appropriate pace of play. She reminded schools to clearly identify their coaches and noted that only two coaches are allowed.

A motion was made to approve the Golf Proposal – modification of coaching restrictions with modifications as needed as a Final Reading.

Motion carried

Rule 8-2: Age Eligibility

Chad Williams discussed the age eligibility rule and emphasized that students are ineligible to participate in any sport season during which they turn 20 years old. Students may participate only if they remain 19 throughout the entire season. If a student will turn 20 during a sport season, they are not eligible to begin that season.

A motion was made to approve the Rule 8-2: Age Eligibility Proposal with modifications as needed as a Final Reading.

Motion carried

Rule 2-5-6b: Idaho Rankings

Chad Williams explained that the current rule language made the Saturday night deadline final once the rankings were released, leaving no opportunity to correct a missing score afterward. The proposed revision would provide flexibility to identify and contact schools that may have failed to report a score before the rankings are finalized. Schools would still be subject to the applicable fine, but the missing score could be included to ensure accurate rankings.

A motion was made to approve the Rule 2-5-6b: Idaho Rankings proposal with modifications as needed as a Final Reading.

Motion carried

Lifetime Pass Criteria: Add Athletic Trainer as Eligible

A clarification was made that eligibility is not based on when an athletic trainer retired. As long as the individual worked at a school and meets the established criteria, they remain eligible

A motion was made to approve the Lifetime Pass Criteria: Add Athletic Trainer as Eligible proposal with modifications as needed as a Final Reading.

Motion carried

FY27 Ticket Prices

Chad Williams reviewed the FY27 ticket prices and noted that the highlighted rates reflect the approved increases. He explained that most ticket prices increased by \$2 and shared comparisons with rates charged by neighboring states. Chad stated that the increases were recommended in anticipation of rising state tournament expenses, particularly venue costs, and are intended to help close that budget gap. He noted that approximately \$1.7 million in ticket revenue has been budgeted for FY27.

A motion was made to approve the FY27 Ticket Prices with modifications as needed as a Final Reading.

Motion carried

Rule 2-5-1: Schools opting out of play-in games

Chad Williams clarified that if a team chooses not to participate in a play-in game, it may do so; however, no replacement team will be selected to take its place.

A motion was made to approve the proposed changes to Rule 2-5-1 with modifications as needed as a Final Reading.

Motion carried

Regular Membership Application

Brady Dickinson moved, Shawn Lawler seconded to approve both [Kootenai Classical Academy's Regular Membership Application](#) and [Valor Christian School's Regular Membership Application](#) to begin in the fall of 2027, with modifications as needed as a Final Reading.

Motion carried

- **By-Law Article I, Section 1.A :** Application for membership by schools in the State must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors as a Final Reading at the January IHSAA Board of Directors meeting the school year prior to membership.

PlusFour Golf

Julie Hammons presented a proposed golf scoring platform developed by former Idaho golf coach Dwight Lee. She noted that the platform is designed specifically for Idaho schools, courses, and tournament operations and provides real-time scoring for spectators. The platform is free for schools to use and includes fundraising opportunities that could benefit both schools and the IHSAA. Julie recommended requiring use of the platform during the final five regular-season matches prior to district tournaments while allowing schools to begin using it earlier if desired. Discussion also included implementation procedures and score-entry expectations during competition.

A motion was made to implement the PlusFour golf program and modify the applicable rules as needed, with implementation required beginning with the final five regular-season matches, with modifications as needed as a Final Reading.

Motion carried

10 Approve; 1 Deny

ACTION ITEMS-FIRST READINGS

Winter Season Proposal

A motion was made to approve the Winter Season Proposal with modifications as needed as a First Reading.

Motion carried

PitchKount Requirement

A motion was made to approve the PitchKount Requirement proposal with modifications as needed as a First Reading.

Motion carried

Rule 11-3

A motion was made to approve the proposed changes to Rule 11-3 with modifications as needed as a First Reading.

Motion carried

Approve 10; Abstain 1

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. **Soccer proposal** - Julie Hammons presented a proposal to add a 3A classification in soccer. Discussion focused on the continued growth of soccer participation and whether there are enough programs to support an additional classification. Julie noted that the proposal would not take effect for two years, allowing time to further evaluate participation numbers and state tournament format options. She also noted that the Board could consider the classification proposal separately from the proposed state tournament format.

A motion was made to advance adding a 3A soccer classification with any necessary modifications, to First Reading.

Motion carried

2. **Student Eligibility** - Chad Williams placed the item on the agenda for discussion but noted that he had not yet received all of the necessary information. The topic will be revisited at a future Board meeting.
3. **Rule 18: Appeals, editorial revisions** - Chad Williams reported that he is undertaking a comprehensive editorial review of the Rules and Regulations to improve readability and clarity. He emphasized that the proposed revisions are editorial in nature and do not change the intent or application of any rules. The changes were highlighted in red for review. During discussion, Shawn Tiegs asked for clarification regarding the provision allowing appeals within 10 days of a decision. Chad noted that he will revise Rule 18-2 to provide additional clarity.

A motion was made to move the Rule 18 amendments to a First Reading, with modifications as needed.

Motion carried

4. **AC Boise State Tournament Site-** Julie Hammons reported that AC Boise has expressed interest in hosting the 2027 state soccer championships. She noted that the facility would be an excellent venue and that the proposal includes hosting all six championship matches over a two-day period. Discussion focused on potential tournament format adjustments that would be necessary to accommodate the schedule, including options for organizing championship matches by classification or gender. If approved, at least two tournaments would need to move to a Wed-Fri format. Julie added that the proposal is currently limited to 2027, and that AC Boise has plans for future facility expansion.

A motion was made, to advance the AC Boise State Tournament Site Proposal for the 2027 state soccer championship games to a First Reading, with modifications as needed.

Motion carried

Information

1. Letters
2. Boards of Control
 - a. [District I Financial](#)
 - b. [District VI Financial](#)

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:53 p.m.

Motion carried