

2024-25 ACTIVITY / RULE / BY-LAW CHANGES

As of July 1, 2024

Classification

2-2-1 Classifications for the current school year:

Sports/Spirit/Drama

6A 1400 & over

5A 1399-700

4A 699-350

3A 349-175

2A 174-90

1A 89 and below

Classification Petitioning Process

2-3 The IHSAA Board of Directors shall make the final determination on all classification petitions during their annual September meeting. Classification petitions will be considered for two-year cycles. Petitions must be submitted to the IHSAA by September 10 of the grace year.

- a. Schools may petition to move down a classification in specific team sports (see 2-3-1).
- b. Schools may petition to move up a classification in specific team sports (see 2-3-1).
- c. Schools may petition to move up a classification in specific individual sports (those not listed in 2-3-1).
- d. Schools may petition to move up a classification as a school (all sports/activities).

2-3-1 Cheer, dance, football, boys soccer, girls soccer, volleyball, boys basketball, girls basketball, baseball and softball are considered team sports for the classification petitioning process.

2-3-2 Petitions must include the following to be considered when petitioning down a classification:

- a. The IHSAA office will tabulate votes from all superintendents of the classification in which the school wishes to be placed as well as the classification they will be leaving. A simple majority of the superintendent votes, one vote per high school, must be obtained to move the petition to the Board for a final decision.
- b. Cover letter and letters of support.
- c. Evidence that the varsity, JV, and freshman combined winning percentage is near or below 25% during the most recent two years of competition against their assigned classification.
- d. Evidence that the varsity, JV, and freshman teams finished near or below the bottom 33% of their postseason tournaments during the most recent two years of competition.
- e. The IHSAA office will organize team sport committees to review all petitions prior to coming to the IHSAA Board of Directors to be used as advisory information.

2-3-3 Petitions must include the following to be considered when petitioning up a classification:

- a. The IHSAA office will tabulate votes from all superintendents of the classification in which the school wishes to be placed as well as the classification they will be leaving. A simple majority of the superintendent votes, one vote per high school, must be obtained to move the petition to the Board for a final decision.
- b. Cover letter and letters of support.
- c. The IHSAA office will organize team sport committees to review all petitions prior to coming to the IHSAA Board of Directors to be used as advisory information.

Tennis – district entry limitations

Three boys singles, players, three girls singles players, two boys doubles teams, two girls doubles teams, and two mixed doubles teams from each school may enter the district tournament.

Rule 8-4 Amateur Status

Add:

- c. It is permissible for a player to accept necessary meals, lodging and transportation if such are accepted in service rather than in money or any other material form. Examples of such events include NCAA Academies, McDonald's All-American games, USA Basketball, etc. State or district level all-star games will not be considered for this.

Eligibility Regulation Waiver (Hardship) Process

8-6 The Board of Directors has the authority to waive an eligibility rule when, in the opinion of the Board, the rule fails to accomplish the purpose for which it is intended. This request must be completed and submitted by an administrator of the school in which the student is enrolled and will be attending. The request should include any hardship that has a bearing on the case. The order for review will be as follows:

- a. The Executive Director will first consider each case after they receive an Eligibility Regulation Waiver form.
- b. If warranted, an eligibility committee of the Board will consider each case after they receive an Eligibility Regulation Waiver form.
- c. At the school's request, an appeal committee, consisting of Board and community members who did not hear the first appeal, will then consider the case.

8-6-1 A written notification of the decision will be sent from the Executive Director. The decision of the eligibility is final.

Rule 2-5-3 MaxPreps Rankings

Add:

- a. MaxPreps rankings will include all regular season games and district tournament games.
- b. Regular season and district tournament game scores must be posted by each member school on MaxPreps prior to midnight the Saturday prior to the state tournament. Scores posted and/or altered after the Saturday deadline will NOT be included in the final rankings.
- c. Official and final rankings will be published by the IHSAA the Monday prior to the state tournament.

Fall Sports Competition Date

All fall sports are allowed to hold their first contest the day after completion of the required 10 days of practice. Note: Golf is exempt from the required 10 days of practice and therefore can compete on their first day of the season.

By-Law, Article VIII

Section 7. Review and Audit. A report of Review of Financial Statements will be conducted each year unless a report of Audit of Financial Statements is requested by the Board of Directors.

Coeur du Christ Academy

The Board approved Coeur du Christ Academy as a new member school. (District I, 1A)

Lifetime Passes for Officials

The change allows officials to continue to work after qualifying for and receiving an IHSAA lifetime pass.

Music - All State and State Solo Qualifying Requirements

Students who audition for All State or compete in the State Solo Contest are subject to Academic Eligibility Rules 8-1 through 8-1-5 and Enrollment/Attendance Rule 8-8-1. *Non-traditional students – See Rule 8-16.*

Sponsoring State Baseball

The IHSAA will now sponsor and oversee all aspects of the State Baseball tournament.

State Speech Classification

Four classifications; 1/4 of registered programs in each class - Division 1, Division 2, Division 3, Division 4

Division 1 – smallest school category

Division 4 – largest school category

State Speech Sweepstakes Points

Modifications were made to how sweeps points are allocated at State Speech. See Speech rules for specific guidelines.

Rule 6 Contracts

Additional language was added regarding what information should be included in Interscholastic Activities Contracts and what affect a breach of contract would have on MaxPreps/Track Wrestling rankings.

Add:

1. A contract would include but is not limited to:
 - a. IHSAA Opposing School Activity Contract
 - b. IHSAA School Wide Activity Contract
 - c. Schedule Signature Verification by Both Schools
 - d. School Specific Contract
 - e. Electronic Verification

Add:

- 6-2-1 If the District Board of Control determines a breach of contract has occurred, schools will enter a “forfeit” score into MaxPreps or Track Wrestling, whichever is applicable.

Rule 12 Participation in Special Events

The change will now allow schools to request up to three “outside” events during the season for their exceptional student-athletes. Previously, the limit was two. The third event request must be for a national-level event or equivalent.

Soccer Yellow Card Accumulation Policy

Yellow card counts will now reset to zero at the beginning of district play and again prior to the State Tournament.

Note: State play in games are considered part of the State Tournament.

Rule 17 Seasons

The IHSAA now considers the beginning of the school year to be 7 days prior to the start date of fall sports (first day of the fall no-contact period).