



# IDAHO HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

Serving Idaho's Youth Since 1926

Chad Williams, Executive Director

Julie Hammons, Assistant Director      Mike Federico, Assistant Director

8011 Ustick Road      Boise, ID 83704

Phone #: (208) 375-7027      Fax #: (208) 322-5505

website: idhsaa.org      e-mail: admin@idhsaa.org

## 2025-2026 Sportsmanship Committee Meeting Synopsis

April 13, 2026

IHSAA Office

### *Committee Members in Attendance*

Josh Hegstad, District I  
Zairrick Wadsworth, District VI  
Kelli Knowles, Parent Rep.

Susan McNerney, District III  
Randy Winn, Officials Rep.  
Beckham Bsham, SAC

Hallie Hanohano, District V  
Zach Kelsey, Parent Rep.  
Samantha Parsons, SAC

### *Committee Members Excused*

Kymerli Jensen, SAC

Richard Whitelaw, District IV

Cori Pinque, District II

### *IHSAA Staff*

Mike Federico, Assistant Director

Morgan Potter, Manager, Partnership Services at PlayFly

### *Welcome*

Introduction of new members – Susan McNerney, District III; Beckham Basham, SAC; Samantha Parsons, SAC guest for Kymerli Jensen

### *IHSAA Report Items*

#### **Staff:**

- Morgan Potter discussed the sponsorship for the GEM State of Mind

#### **Promotional Opportunities:**

- Promotion of sportsmanship IHSAA Express & social media outlets
- Promote positive acts of sportsmanship

#### **Student Advisory Committee:**

- Battle of the Fans
- SAC plans to have a spring GEM State of Mind Leadership Summit in every district
- Student Lead Pre-game Sportsmanship Announcements – Successful program
- Captain's Handbook

#### **Sportsmanship Awards at State:**

- Softball & Baseball team awards beginning at the 2026 State Tournaments
- GEM State of Mind t-shirts for state Football Championship Games beginning 2026

## ***24-25 School Year Review***

### **IHSAA Sportsmanship Manual:**

- Reviewed by committee members – Recommend adding GEM State of Mind language

### **IHSAA Citizenship Through Sports Manual:**

- Reviewed by committee members – Recommend adding GEM State of Mind language

### **School of Excellence:**

- Reviewed by committee members - Recommend adding GEM State of Mind language

### **Web Site:**

- Reviewed sportsmanship page on website

### **Board of Control Meetings:**

- Attend 2 Board of Control meetings per year. One prior to, and one after the sportsmanship committee meeting

## ***24-25 Points of Emphasis Review***

### **GEM State of Mind:**

- PA script is updated on the IHSAA Sportsmanship webpage
- Over 90 schools participate in the GEM Media Kit program
- Yellow Cards are now GEM State of Mind updated
- Successful at all schools
  - Recommendation to continue practice and expand message and methodology

### **AD Mentor Program:**

- Discussed program and benefits for sportsmanship

### **Mental Health Education**

- Social Media awareness
- Spring summit focus
- Student Section behaviors

### **Review of Rule 4-3:**

- Reported on rule 4-3 change in procedure

### **Administrative Support at Parent Meetings:**

- IHSAA Parent Webpage - courses available through the IHSAA and NFHS

## ***Discussion Items***

### **Coaches Behavior:**

- Coach behavior can dictate the entire atmosphere
- Promote AD's working with coaches
- Walk-On coaches can benefit from education-based training
- Student evaluations would assist coaches' development
- Continuing education for all coaches

### **Players Behavior:**

- Coach and Officials can educate players

### **Parents Behavior:**

- Education for parents on expectations at parent meetings and in gym/field space
- Administration at home & away games

### **Event Management:**

- De-escalation of games
- “Pause Protocols” – ability to stop game and re-set as needed
- Work with conference ADs on sportsmanship strategies

### **NFHS Educational Courses:**

- NFHSLearn.com is a great resource for Coaches/Students/Administration/Parents

### **Bench Bad Behavior:**

- Downloaded materials from the NFHS at <https://benchbadbehavior.com/>

## ***District Reports***

### **District I**

- Josh Hegstad reported:
  - Create Middle School version for GEM State of Mind
  - Create clear guidelines for consistent game supervision
  - Turnover of school administration creates a need for mentoring and training with sportsmanship

### **District II**

- No Report:

### **District III**

- Susan McNerney reported:
  - Celebrate behaviors at admin. meetings, on social media and with coaches/students
  - Administration presence at games is vital to good sportsmanship and safety

### **District IV**

- No Report:

### **District V**

- Hallie Hanohano reported:
  - Racial issues were dealt with at school level by administration
  - Promote positive behaviors

### **District VI**

- Zairrick Wadsworth reported:
  - Parent meeting is important for all sports

### **Student Advisory Council**

- Beckham Basham & Samantha Parsons reported:
  - Student focus on leadership and promotion of GEM State of Mind

### **Officials Representative**

- Randy Winn reported:
  - Officials in District IV give out a sportsmanship award each year to school that demonstrates the best sportsmanship during girls' and boys' basketball season.

### **Parent Representative**

- Zach Kelsey reported:
  - Asked about time off for students
- Kelli Knowles reported:
  - Inquired more about student involvement

### ***Recommendations/Points of Emphasis for 2026-27 School Year***

- Promote State Sportsmanship Brand
  - GEM State of Mind
- Yellow cards for fans
  - Available by contacting the IHSAA
- Support new AD Mentor program
- Keep sportsmanship committee meeting date to spring – focus on following school year
- Student Lead Sportsmanship Announcements
- Proactive promotion of positive behaviors at events by fans, parents, students, coaches