"You've got to earn it. You can't count on other people to do your job for you"- *Herm Edwards*

Kewanee High School

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Kewanee High School Athletics

IHSA Update

1] IHSA Board plans to meet before the new year

2] They hope to meet with IPDH & Governors Office before Jan 1

3] No sports have been canceled as of yet

-Basketball remains the outlier

4} Sports have been on a "Pause" since Nov 20, when the state instituted Tier 3 mitigations

5] Badminton {low risk sport} was moved from Spring Season to Winter

6] Contact Days for out season sports can begin when IPDH guidelines allow. Each athlete will be permitted 6 hours per sport each week.

7] If basketball cannot start when the other sports start, it will be considered an out of season sport for contact day purposes.

-during contact days, school may not hold interscholastic contests for sports-even if conducted outside the state

8] The academic requirement for student eligibility is temporarily changed for the pandemic. It is now 15 credit hours, or three classes, from the first semester. The 25-hour weekly passing credit remains.

9} Music, chess, speech, debate and drama will have a virtual state series and state final. Scholastic bowl state series will be conducted, but within whatever limitations the IDPH sets

10] The board adopted spectator guidelines created by the IHSA's sports medicine advisory committee. Individual schools can determine if they wish to allow spectators. All spectators should be masked and observe social distancing. Limits will depend on the sport in question . See attached.

IESA

-If we are still in Tier 3 mitigations on January 4, boys basketball will not be allowed to start on that date.

- If we are still in Tier 3 mitigations on January 11, girls volleyball will not start on that date.

IESA has set up a GO FUND ME campaign page. The IESA is not in good financial shape. As of Dec 18th, the IESA has raised $22,210 on this page. The goal is $500,000.

You'll never get ahead of anyone as long as you try to get even with him.
– Lou Holtz

A winner is just a loser who tried one more time.
– George Augustus Moore

IHSA

Cancellations of state tournaments undercut Illinois High School Association finances in fiscal year 2020, an audit by the accounting firm of Striegel Knobloch and Co. LLC concluded.

The IHSA — a not-for-profit organization that serves as the governing body for the state's interscholastic sports and activities — finished the 2020 fiscal year on June 30 with $1.68 million in revenue and non-salaried expenses of $590,968.

After $4.1 million in administrative expenses, the net losses were $576,198.

The IHSA released the firm's report after being presented with the annual audit's findings at Monday's meeting of its board of directors.

The half-million dollar in losses was expected. IHSA executive director Craig Anderson had been public about that amount throughout the process of trying to convince state health officials and the governor's office about the feasibility of conducting sports in the fall and winter.

Although minimum-contact sports such as golf, tennis, cross country and girls swimming were held during the fall, there were no state championships. Winter sports have been on pause since Nov. 20 to help mitigate a surge stemming from the Thanksgiving holiday.

In the document, the manager's assessment of future operations said "the financial impact due to COVID-19 has been significant."

In a normal year, the IHSA generates nearly 75% of its revenue from ticket sales at state series contests. Cancellations of the boys basketball state finals and all spring sports caused a dramatic reduction in revenue.

The report said the IHSA cut its 2020-21 budget and added activity fees in an effort to generate revenue to continue operations. The IHSA also froze staff salaries, reduced benefits and may reduce staff to help offset additional losses.

The 2020 boys basketball tournament was suspended on the eve of the small school state finals and with large schools in the sectional finals. The partially completed state series generated $1.2 million in revenue. After expenses, it earned a net $522,334.

In comparison, the 2019 boys basketball tournament brought in $2 million. After expenses, it cleared $994,416.

The IHSA was able to conclude its 2020 girls basketball tournament before the coronavirus brought things to a halt. Revenue was at $762,919. After expenses, it was $41,465. That was an increase over 2019, when revenues were at $744.026 and expenses left a net $34,792.

The IHSA also was able to conclude its wrestling tournament, a boon to its bottom line. Wrestling took in $583,241 for a net $149,799 — both increases over the previous year, when it raised $489,690 and had a net $70,449.

The football playoffs and state championships brought in $1.66 million in revenue for fiscal year 2020. After expenses, it had a net gain of $865,208. Volleyball was more than $600,000 in revenue for a net gain of $213,696.

For the 2021 budget year, those sports were moved from the fall into the spring in the hopes the pandemic would improve and permit both state series.

But the hit taken by not conducting spring sports in 2020 was significant when compared with 2019. In 2019, baseball was a net gain of $130,969; in 2020, it was $4,375. In 2019 softball was a net $5,546, in 2020 it was $2,203. In 2019, boys and girls track meets were a net gain of 68,954; in 2020 it was a net loss of $7,606.

On the listing of 2020 revenue and expenses, boys sports finished with a net amount of $1.56 million and girls sports $139,496. State series in dance, music, speech, chess, scholastic bowl, cheerleading and journalism produced $16,498 in losses — a reduction, actually, because journalism and some levels of music were not held. Revenue from other sources, such as donations, souvenirs and royalties were just under $1.1 million, about the same as in 2019.

THE FUTURE PLAYS HERE! IHSA
ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

The IHSA governs the equitable participation in interscholastic athletics and activities that enrich the educational experience.

IHSA 2020-21 WINTER SPECTATOR CONSIDERATIONS

This document is intended to provide guidance for schools conducting winter competitions in basketball, bowling, competitive cheerleading, competitive dance, gymnastics, and swimming and diving. The guidelines explained in this document are intended to decrease potential exposure to respiratory droplets and potential for illness through safe practices such as social distancing, proper hygiene, and appropriate protective equipment.

This is not an exhaustive list, and school officials may take additional measures based on requirements set forth by their school district and/or local health officials.

Please understand that even with this guidance, there is still risk of transmitting illness at events such as dance practices and competitions. Additionally, with the changing nature of the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, these guidelines may change.

Sports Spectators:

- Schools may determine if spectators are allowed or not at their competitions. Schools should announce to visiting schools if they will be allowed/ not allowed.
- Per IHSA guidelines, schools are allowed to have spectators at competitions.
- Spectators must wear masks and social distance at all times.
- In all sports spectators must be kept back from the playing surface to keep distance between the spectators and the participants.
- In multi-team events, time should be taken to clean and sterilize between spectator groups.
- Spectator limitations will be as follows:
    - Basketball- school spectators must be kept in 2 separate groups of 50 with the home spectators on one side of the gym, the visiting spectators on the other.
        - Spectators must be at least 12 feet back from the court.
    - Cheer/Dance- spectators will be allowed in one group of 50 (1 school) at a time, when their school is finished performing spectators shall exit.
        - It is recommended that spectator groups occupy different areas of the gym so that cleaning and sterilization can be done between groups.
    - Bowling- Spectators will be limited to 2 per bowler.
    - Gymnastics- Spectators will be limited to 2 per gymnast.
    - Swimming and Diving- Spectators will be limited to 2 per participant if space permits.

Eating and drinking:

- Ensure 6- ft distance whenever athletes are eating or drinking.
- Replace face coverings immediately after eating or drinking.

Activity and Performing Arts Spectator Guidance

- All spectators must wear a face covering over their nose and mouth at all times, except while eating or drinking, or when outside and able to maintain a safe distance (exceptions can be made for people with medical conditions or disabilities that prevent them from safely wearing a face covering, are younger than 2 years of age, have trouble breathing or are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the cover without assistance).
- Limit spectators to immediate household members or guardians of participants.
- Indoor theaters and performing arts/activity spaces should operate at lesser of 50 guests OR 50% of overall theater or performance space capacity. Outdoor activity, theater and performing arts spaces are preferred and should operate at 20% of overall space capacity.
- If a venue has multiple performance areas, capacity restriction should apply to each theater or activity competition and performance space.
- Performing arts/activity space administrators/venue operators should develop a method to inform spectators of available facility capacity before spectators arrive at the facility (e.g. reservation system, overview of days/times when competition/performances occur, etc...)
- Performing arts/activity space administrators/venue operators should have a plan to allow for social distancing within the venue(s) and if needed, designate employee(s) to monitor health checks, capacity limits and social distancing.
- Spectators should check for available capacity before going to the facility.
- Best practices for spectators: Do not attend events if exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, wash hands often, allot for extra time to enter and exit and between shows, performances, competition, etc....
- If applicable use mobile ticketing/touchless transactions – purchase tickets in advance online.
- Local school districts can always be more restrictive with their local district level or health department spectator policies.

IESA
Illinois Elementary School Association

The IESA provides the leadership and framework to ensure safe, equitable opportunities for students who are enriched through participation in education-based interscholastic activities.

IESA UPDATED PLAN FOR 2020-21

November 10, 2020

The purpose of this plan is to provide schools, administrators, coaches, parents, and officials with a general framework for their sports and activity program. It must be understood by all that this is a fluid plan and that at any time, the circumstances, guidelines, dates, opportunities, etc. listed below may change any part of this plan. Specifically, if the Governor places all schools on remote learning, all IESA sports will be suspended or cancelled.

GENERAL FORMAT

- **Basketball and Volleyball:** Teams will be limited to a maximum of 15 games for the season.
- Schools are to follow all guidelines listed in the All Sports Policy.
- If an Illinois COVID Region or County is placed in Phase 3 or lower of the Governors Restore Illinois Plan, all sports for schools in that Region or County will be suspended or cancelled.
- Spectator and group gatherings subject to IDPH guidelines during this time.
- Regular season play should be limited to within conference, other schools in the same general geographical area, (approximately a 30-mile radius), or EMS region only.
- E-learning students would be eligible provided the local district allows their participation.
- Current IHSA Phase 4 Return to Play guideline in place for all sports.

Winter (Jan. – March)

Boys Basketball- Practice may begin: January 4; Games may begin: January 16; 7th Regional Tournament: Feb. 20, 22-26; 7th Grade Sectional: March 3; 8th Regional Tournament: Feb. 27, March 1-5; 8th Grade Sectional: March 10.

Girls Volleyball- Practice may begin: January 11; Games may begin: January 23; 7th Regional Tournament: March 6, 8-11; 7th Grade Sectional: March 17; 8th Regional Tournament: March 12, 13, 15, 16; 8th Grade Sectional: March 18.

Spring (Feb. – May)

Girls Basketball- Practice may begin: March 8; Games may begin: March 20; 7th Regional Tournament: April 24, 26-30; 7th Grade Sectional: April 30; 8th Regional Tournament: May 1, 3-7; 8th Grade Sectional: May 7.

Boys & Girls Bowling-- State Tournament Series tentatively remain as scheduled

****Wrestling**- Practice may begin: April 5; Matches may begin: April 12; Regional Tournament: May 29

Boys & Girls Track & Field- Practice may begin: March 1; Meets may begin: March 15; Sectional Meet 1A/2A: May 7-8; State Date: May 14-15; Sectional Meet 3A/4A: May 14-15; State Date: May 21-22

Activities

Speech—Each School Conducts its own contest any date from September-May

****Chess**—The State Tournament has been cancelled for the 2021 season.

Scholastic Bowl-- State Tournament Series tentatively remains as scheduled

Music-TBD

****Competitive Cheerleading**--- The competition has been postponed and may be rescheduled at a later date.

**Note schedule/date changes

Winter (Jan. – March)

Boys Basketball-

Final Entry Deadline:	December 1
Withdrawal Deadline:	**January 8**
Practice Begins:	January 4
Games Begin:	January 16
7th Regional Tournament:	Feb. 20, 22-26
Quarterfinals	Feb. 20, 22
Semifinals	Feb. 23, 24
Championship	Feb. 25, 26
7th Sectional:	March 3

8th Regional Tournament:	Feb. 27, March 1-5
Quarterfinals	Feb. 27, March 1
Semifinals	March 2, 4
Championship	March 5
8th Sectional:	March 10
Season Must End	March 12

Girls Volleyball-

Final Entry Deadline:	December 1
Withdrawal Deadline:	**January 8**
Practice Begins:	January 11
Games Begin:	January 23
7th Regional Tournament:	March 6, 8-11
Quarterfinals	March 6
Semifinals	March 8, 9
Championship	March 11
7th Sectional:	March 17

8th Regional Tournament:	March 12, 13, 15, 16
Quarterfinals	March 12
Semifinals	March 13, 15
Championship	March 16
8th Sectional:	March 18
Season Must End	March 19

****Competitive Cheerleading**--- The competition has been postponed and may be rescheduled at a later date.

Spring (Feb. – May)

Girls Basketball-

Final Entry Deadline:	January 15
Withdrawal Deadline:	**February 19**
Practice Begins:	March 8
Games Begin:	March 20
7th Regional Tournament:	April 24, 26-30
Quarterfinals	April 24
Semifinals	April 26, 27
Championship	April 28, 29
7th Sectional:	April 30

8th Regional Tournament:	May 1, 3-7
Quarterfinals	May 1
Semifinals	May 3, 4
Championship	May 5, 6
8th Sectional:	May 7
Season Must End	May 9

****Wrestling**

Final Entry Deadline:	
Withdrawal Deadline:	**April 5**
Practice/Tryouts Begins:	April 5
Meets Begin:	April 12
Regional Tournament:	May 29
Season Must End:	May 30

Scholastic Bowl

Final Entry Deadline:	February 1
Withdrawal Deadline:	**March 1**
Matches Begin:	January 25
Regional Tournament:	April 28
Sectional Tournament:	May 3
Season Must End:	May 30

Boys & Girls Track & Field-

Final Entry Deadline:	Feb. 1
Withdrawal Deadline:	**March 15**
Practice Begins:	March 1
Meets Begin:	March 15
1A/2A Sectional Meet:	May 7, 8
1A/2A State Meet:	May 14-15
3A/4A Sectional Meet:	May 14, 15
3A/4A State Meet:	May 21-22
Season Must End:	June 12

Boys & Girls Bowling-- State Tournament Series tentatively remain as scheduled

December, 2020

To All IESA Member Schools:

Anyone can make a donation by going to the IESA Go Fund Me page. You can access that page by clicking on this link:

https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/the-campaign-to-save-iesa

Q: Why is Go Fund Me Charity being used to raise funds?

A: Although the IESA isn't a charity it is a 501 © 3 organization that qualifies for use of Go Fund Me Charity

Q: Where will my donation go?

A: Your donation will be added to our general operating fund.

Q: May I donate to a specific activity?

A: At this time, we are not accepting donations for a specific activity.

Q: Is my donation tax deductible?

A: Yes. Your receipt will indicate your tax deductible gift.

Q: Will my donation guarantee that activities will resume in the 2020-21 school year

A: We cannot guarantee that activities will be held in the 2020-21 school year. Please know that your donation will be helping to keep the Association's doors open so that we can conduct tournaments as soon as it is safe to do so.

Q: What is the IESA's normal operating budget per fiscal year?

A: Approximately 1.7 million dollars for our fiscal year of July 1 - June 30.

Q: Was IESA in financial trouble prior to the pandemic?

A: No.

Winter Updates to All Sports Policy

This guidance issued by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO), the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) pertains to all youth and adult recreational sports, including, but not limited to, school-based sports (high school and elementary school), travel clubs, private leagues and clubs, recreational leagues and centers, and park district sports programs. This guidance does NOT pertain to professional sports leagues or college division level sports.

These guidelines do not apply to adult sport activities subject to existing DCEO guidance identified below:

- For golf, refer to existing guidance on the DCEO website.
- For tennis, refer to existing guidance on the DCEO website.

Wearing face coverings or masks, including during competition, may further reduce the transmission of disease and is recommended for all sports below where face coverings do not unduly interfere with participation.

This guidance will be regularly updated as public health conditions change and new information becomes available.

HIGHER RISK	MODERATE RISK	LOWER RISK
• Basketball • Boxing • Football • Hockey • Lacrosse • Martial Arts • Rugby • Ultimate Frisbee • Wrestling	• Fencing • Flag Football or 7v7 Football • Paintball • Racquetball • Soccer • Volleyball • Water Polo • Wheelchair Basketball	• Archery • Badminton • Baseball • Bass Fishing • Bowling • Competitive Cheer • Competitive Dance • Climbing • Crew • Cross Country • Cycling • Disc Golf • Golf • Gymnastics • Horseback Riding • Ice Skating • Ropes Courses • Sailing, Canoeing, Kayaking • Sideline Spirit • Skateboarding • Softball • Skiing • Swimming/Diving • Tennis • Track and Field • Weight Lifting

Additional detailed guidance on sport-specific mitigation efforts, including appropriate distance, cleaning of equipment, and use of masks by participants, are included below.

The level of play allowed is dictated by current public health conditions.

Below are the **Type of Play Levels:**

Level 1	No-contact practices, and trainings only
Level 2	Intra-team scrimmages allowed, with parental consent for minors; no competitive play
Level 3	Intra-conference or Intra-EMS-region[1] or intra-league play/meets only; state- or league-championship game/meet allowed for low-risk sports only
Level 4	Tournaments, out-of-conference/league play, out-of-state play allowed; championship games allowed

Current Conditions Allow for the Following Types of Play per Sport Risk Level:

- Lower-risk sports can currently play at Levels 1, 2, and 3
- Medium-risk sports can currently play at Level 1 and 2
- Higher-risk sports can currently play at Level 1

[1] EMS Regions are the 11 regions IDPH uses for the Restore Illinois boundaries

The following mitigation efforts can lower the risk of COVID-19 transmission while engaged in the following sports:

Baseball	Maintain at least 6-feet apart in dugout areas or if players are seated in bleachers behind dugout
Basketball	Maintain at least 6 feet of distance on the bench
Bass Fishing	Limit number of individuals on boat to allow for social distancing
Bowling	Clean and sanitize equipment, including bowling balls
Competitive Cheer	Minimize contact between participants by maintaining at least 6 feet of distancing on the floor during routines, including when changing formations, and by prohibiting lifts, stunts, pyramids, and tosses as well as shared equipment (e.g., signs, flags, poms)
Competitive Dance	Minimize contact between dancers by maintaining at least 6 feet of distance (i.e., spacing) on the floor during routines, including when changing formations, and by prohibiting lifts and stunts and shared equipment (e.g., poms)
Cross County	Significantly limit the number of teams and follow physical workspace guidelines
Cycling	Play individually or use only every other track in velodrome