



Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union

PO Box 10348 - Des Moines, Iowa 50306 - (515) 288-9741

Iowa High School Athletic Association

PO Box 10 - Boone, Iowa 50036 - (515) 432-2011



November 29, 2012

Dear Bowling Athletic Administrators and Coaches:

The 2012-13 bowling competitive season began last Monday with the first date of competition. We will share some information with you in this letter and continue to provide information throughout the season.

Changes From Last Season – Following the Bowling Advisory Committee meeting last May, the Board of Directors of the IGHSAU and the Board of Control of the IHSAA made two changes for Bowling for 2012-2013. Both of these changes were discussed in the online bowling rules meeting.

- 1. Coaches shall remain two feet behind the approach area and not be in a position that impedes the competitive bowlers.**

There was concern that “gamesmanship” was starting to become a factor in high school bowling. “Gamesmanship” is defined as “skill in using ploys to gain an advantage.” Coaches, when your students are bowling you can coach them from an area immediately behind the approach area. When the opponents are bowling you should not be in a position to interfere or distract the bowler. Coaches in all sports have a designated spot where they are to do their coaching. That designated spot is not in the competitive area. We know that the coaches will address this conduct and it will be taken care of. We have no interest in further restrictions, but if necessary they will be considered.

- 2. The individual state champion and place winners will be determined at the completion of the two games of 10 frame scoring. The individual awards will be presented at that time.**

This recommendation came to the committee from the administrative staffs of the IGHSAU and the IHSAA. There was a definite inequity in the previous determination of the state individual champion. Those who were only individual qualifiers had almost an hour of no activity as the team Baker games were competed. This hour of no activity could be considered both an advantage and disadvantage. Those team members bowling in the Baker games rolled ten additional frames in that same hour. Again these ten additional frames could be considered both an advantage and disadvantage. It a fact that many of the third individual game scores were poorer than the previous two games. This change will also allow those individual bowlers to complete their bowling, receive their awards and get an earlier start for home.

Bowlers Standing During Competition – As you know, at our state qualifying tournaments and at the state tournament, we require bowlers to be seated in the approach area. Bowlers being seated allow for coaches and spectators to observe the competition without competitors standing in front of them. We understand that there will be spontaneous excitement about the performances of the competitors and that competitors will stand to acknowledge performances and congratulate teammates. That is to be expected. It is also expected that as the next competitor is up on the lane

ready to bowl that others should then be seated. Right now doing so is a courtesy and an expectation. If we continue to get concerns about bowlers standing during the competition there will be discussion at the Bowling Advisory Committee regarding this concern and the possibility of a rule requiring bowlers to be seated.

Bowling Format – Neither the IHSAA or IGHS AU Bowling Manuals is specific in regards to the procedure for Round 1 – the six players bowling two games. It is a common practice to split the six bowlers from each team using four lanes rather than two lanes. Usually the top three bowlers from each team share two lanes and the next three bowlers from each team share two lanes. This is done to help reduce the amount of time necessary to complete Round 1 of the Competition Format. The administrative staffs have discussed this common practice and believe it is allowed by our rules.

Quik Stats Iowa – At the recommendation of the Joint Bowling Advisory Committee a bowling component was added to Quik Stats Iowa. It was developed using a format suggested by the committee. The committee also recommended and the Board of Control of the IHSAA and the Board of Directors of the IGHS AU approved a requirement that all varsity competition results must be posted on Quik Stats Iowa. Information about posting results was included in the online rules meeting and procedures for doing so are attached to this email and posted on our websites. There is a requirement to post results and there is also a consequence for failing to do so. The next date that all posting should be up to date is Thursday, December 18, 2012. We will be checking on that date to make sure our bowling schools are in compliance.

Awards – We have had several calls and emails regarding what awards students can accept in non-school bowling events. We have also had communication with the United States Bowling Congress about how awards are handled. A student can never receive cash. However, if cash is awarded in a non-school event the student can have that cash prize placed in their USBC SMART account. The Iowa Administrative Code has raised the value of an award to \$50. If you have questions or concerns about your students receiving awards for school or non-school participation please do not hesitate to contact us.

We are looking forward to a great bowling season. If you have any questions or concerns as the season progresses please do not hesitate to contact either organization. Those questions and concerns will be addressed in future correspondence.



Assistant Executive Director
IHSAA – danderson@iahsaa.org



Assistant Director
IGHS AU – johnoverton@ighsau.org