



Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union
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Iowa High School Athletic Association
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January 29, 2018

TO: Athletic Directors, Track and Field Coaches, and Track and Field Officials
SUBJECT: 2018 Preseason Track and Field Information

The 2018 Track and Field season will begin on Monday, February 12, 2018 which is the first day for practice and competition. We want to share some information with you as athletic administrators, coaches and officials.

COACH NAMES AND EMAILS – Special attention to the AD’s - We currently have a large number of both boys’ and girls’ coaches who are not listed in the IHSAA Directory or have no email address. Please understand that correspondence like this is not being sent to your coach and it is your responsibility to make certain they are properly informed. Please use your Member School Login at the IHSAA site and make certain you track and field coach information is current. Use this site for both boys and girls coaches.

RULE BOOKS – Both schools and officials will not receive a 2018 Track and Field and Cross Country rules book for the upcoming season. All parties were notified during the 2017 season to keep their rules books through the 2018 cross country season as the IHSAA and the IGHSAU now provide rule books in all of our sports on an every other year basis. Schools and officials will receive a new rule book in time for the 2019 track and field season. Rule changes for the 2018 track and field season are posted at <https://www.iahxaa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/2018-Track-and-Field-Rule-Changes.pdf> and will be covered in the online rules meeting.

ONLINE RULES MEETING - The online track and field rules meeting will be available for viewing on Monday, February 19, 2018. The rules meeting will be available until March 22, 2018. Please remember that all head coaches are required to view this online rules meeting. Failure to do so will result in consequences for the coach failing to meet this requirement. **Officials** – You are also required to view this meeting as part of your registration. You will be receiving the IHSAA Officials’ Departments regarding the online rules meeting and other requirements required of officials.

CONCUSSION EDUCATION REQUIREMENT – By legislative action all coaches, grades 7-12, are required to receive concussion education before the first day of practice. If any coaches were recently hired or will be hired and they have not viewed the concussion course, it is imperative that you get this take care of prior to the first date of practice. **Officials** – Although you are not required to view this meeting, the IHSAA and IGHSAU would strongly suggest you view this online video if you have not already done so. Rule 4-4-2 places some responsibility on officials for recognizing the signs and symptoms of concussion. Watching this video can be to your advantage.

POLICY REGARDING COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS - In the sport of track and field, member schools that are placed in different classes due to cooperative agreement decisions made by other member schools, shall remain in the same class. The member school will be placed in the lower of the two split classifications. Member schools placed in different classes, based on the member school’s decision to have different cooperative programs for each gender or cooperative programs with different schools, will remain in different classifications and be assigned to state qualifying events as classified. Member schools will not be allowed the

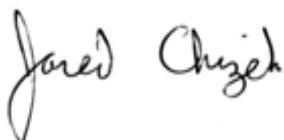
choice to participate in a higher classification. In order for classifications to be determined in a timely manner, no new cooperative program will be accepted, nor will any existing cooperative program be allowed to dissolve after 5:00 pm Friday, March 16, 2018 for track and field.

CLASSIFICATIONS – Preliminary classifications are now posted on both the IHSAA and IGHSAA web site under their respective Track and Field pages. Please review your school's information to make sure it is correct, particularly if you are a part of a cooperative sharing agreement. Again, classifications become final at 5:00 pm Friday, March 16, 2018.

ORDER OF EVENTS – The advisory committee recommended and both boards approved a change to the field event order for regular season co-ed meets. In all co-ed meets, girls will participate in the shot put and high jump first while the boys will throw the discus and long jump first. This is the same order that is used at the state qualifying meets.

STATE QUALIFYING MEETS & STATE MEET – The State Qualifying Meets will be held on Thursday, May 10, 2018. The State Qualifying Meet sites will be posted soon on our websites. The State Meet will be held Thursday-Saturday, May 17-19, 2018. The State Meet schedule does not change this year. Class 1A and Class 4A will compete in the morning and Class 2A and Class 3A will compete in the afternoon. Please note that for relay events, athletes will only be able to use tape to mark their steps on the track for these two meets. For regular season meets, the local games committee can still allow tennis balls and other visible markers for athletes to use.

There will be more information provided to you as we get closer to the start of the track and field season and as the season progresses. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions or concerns.



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Assistant Director



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