



***Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union***  
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***Iowa High School Athletic Association***  
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February 11, 2019

TO: Athletic Directors, Track and Field Coaches, and Track and Field Officials  
SUBJECT: 2019 Preseason Track and Field Information

The 2019 Track and Field season officially begins today. Hopefully the weather will start cooperating here soon for all involved for practices and competitions. As we start the season, 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 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 receive a 2019 Track and Field and Cross Country rules book for the upcoming season. Please hang onto this book through the 2020 cross country season as the IHSAA and the IGHSAU provide rule books in all of our sports every other year.

**ONLINE RULES MEETING** - The online track and field rules meeting will be available for viewing on Monday, February 18. The rules meeting will be available until March 21. Please remember that all head coaches and officials (starter/referees) are required to view this online rules meeting. Failure to do so will result in consequences for the coach failing to meet this requirement. The online exam for officials also goes live on the 18<sup>th</sup>. For officials wanting to start a state qualifying meet, the online exam, rules meeting and availability form must be completed by March 21.

**CONCUSSION EDUCATION REQUIREMENT** – 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.

**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, for example sharing only one gender with another school, 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 15 for track and field.

**CLASSIFICATIONS** – Preliminary classifications are now posted on both the IHSAA and IGHSAU 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 15.

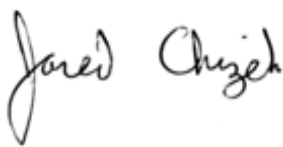
**ORDER OF EVENTS** – There are two slight changes with the order of event schedule for the 2019 season. First the 800 meter wheelchair will be contested right after the 800 meter sprint medley relay. With the boys shuttle hurdle height increasing to 36 inches, **the boys shuttle will run before the girls shuttle**. All other races will remain girls first followed by the boys. We have an updated order of event schedule posted separately on our sites, and the event schedule can also be found in the soon to be posted regular season manual.

**STATE QUALIFYING MEETS & STATE MEET** – The State Qualifying Meets will be held on Thursday, May 9. The State Qualifying Meet sites will be posted soon on our websites. The State Meet will be held Thursday-Saturday, May 16-18. The State Meet schedule does change this year. Class 2A and Class 3A will compete in the morning and Class 1A and Class 4A will compete in the afternoon. The state meet schedule is posted online as well. Please note that for relay events, athletes will only be able to use tape or other flat objects to mark their steps on the track for these two meets. For regular season meets, the local games committee can still allow tennis balls for athletes to use.

**QUIKSTATS** – When QuikStats rolls over in the coming weeks, you will notice that the backside of the site has changed. When entering your schedules, schools are only required to enter the meets they **host**; however, they will need to enter the other schools participating in the meet, so the meet will appear on the visiting teams' pages. For indoor and out of state meets, you can either create a separate host facility (Wartburg College) or enter a note in the event name of the meet's location.

**WHEELCHAIR COMPETITORS** – If your team has a wheelchair competitor, please complete the form on either the IHSAA or IGHSAAU site and return it to the respective organization by Friday, April 12. We need to work with our medal vendor to order awards for the state qualifying meets, and we want to make sure we do not forget a competitor. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

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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