



Board Meeting Briefs: April 25, 2019

Football, wrestling tournaments add qualifying adjustments; spring postseason assignments

BOONE, Iowa - With new state tournament qualifying procedures unveiled for football and wrestling in 2018-19, the IHSAA's Board of Control met Wednesday and passed recommendations from those sport advisory committees for minor adjustments ahead of the 2019-20 postseasons. Football's three changes tweaked the impact of the year-old RPI to determine at-large playoff qualifiers and placements. Wrestling will have a value change when computerized seeding is made for the 2020 state individual tournament, and the Board of Control allowed for an inquiry into a potential date change for future state dual team tournaments. Details on those changes and more are below.

FOOTBALL: The first of three adjustments to playoff qualification is the determination of one district champion for automatic qualification out of each district in all classifications. Two-way ties are broken by head-to-head competition, but true three-way district ties will see the team with the highest RPI become district champion and the other two teams enter the at-large field. The second change will have head-to-head competition supersede RPI for the final at-large qualifying spot if the two teams are side by side in the final rankings. And the third update will use head-to-head play over RPI to determine seeding if the two teams are directly side by side in the RPI's final rankings.

"The first year of football RPI was an excellent learning experience," IHSAA executive director Alan Beste said. "We are confident the recommendations from the advisory committee and our staff will help address concerns coming out of 2018."

WRESTLING: The sport's advisory committee recommended increasing the criteria point values of head-to-head competition and common opponents in the seeding process for the state traditional tournament as wrestlers' resumes are stacked up against each other in the TrackWrestling-generated formula. In its first year, all seeding criteria was worth one point. The two criteria above will now top the list and be worth two points each. The Board of Control passed the measure unanimously.

Another approved recommendation was to allow for an investigation of moving the state dual team tournament to a date prior to the IHSAA's current individual postseason series. The 2020 state duals will remain on Feb. 19, the day before the traditional tournament begins.

"The dates, qualifying procedures, and competition at regional and state duals are frequently discussed by our coaches and administrators, and we'd like to examine updated data and other states' models to consider ways to improve the event," Beste said. "While we can't guarantee changes will be made, we're committed to an in-depth look at possible options."

Soccer, tennis postseason assignments approved

Postseason assignments for 2019 soccer and tennis were approved by the Board of Control on Wednesday and released on Thursday. Soccer assignments show which teams will be grouped together in substates, with pairings to be determined and released the week of May 6. Tennis district assignments are for singles and doubles tournaments, while tennis substates are for team competition.

[Soccer Substates](#)

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[Tennis Districts](#)

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[Tennis Substates](#)

Classification Committee to meet in fall 2019

The Board of Control and executive director Alan Beste discussed and confirmed the assembly of the IHSAA's Classification Committee for this fall. The committee is put together to study and review the organization's sport classification structure and submit possible recommendations to the Board of Control. Appointments are made among Board of Control and Representative Council members, as well as administrators from varying regions, enrollment sizes, and school types across the state. The committee last met in 2017.

BEDS update ahead of 2019-20

Enrollment figures from the 2018-19 Basic Educational Data Survey which the IHSAA uses through the Iowa Department of Education were updated this week following their initial release in January. Previous school year enrollments create placements for the following year.

[Alphabetical](#)

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[Numerical](#)

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