



TOM KEATING, Executive Director

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November 4, 2020

Dear Swimming Coaches, Athletic Directors and Officials:

As we start the boys swim season, we want to highlight information that was shared in the rules meeting, the IHSAA Winter Sports Manual, and the COVID-19 webinar.

### **COVID-19 Resources**

We are hoping that each of you have had an opportunity to review the COVID-19 resources we have posted on our web site. As shared in an earlier email and in the Zoom meeting, the guidance for this winter is the same as the guidance used for the girls' fall season. The swimming specific guidance can be found at the following link: <https://www.iahsaa.org/swimming-covid-19-guidance-2020-21/>. In addition, non-sport specific guidance for all four winter activities can be found here: <https://www.iahsaa.org/covid-19-guidance-winter-2020-21/>. Finally, here is the link to the Zoom meeting where I go over the guidance: <https://youtu.be/3qbslYgnSRo>.

### **2021 State Meet**

For those who did not see the release in June, the IHSAA Board of Control has approved a two-day prelim-final state meet. 32 individuals will participate in the preliminaries on Friday with 16 making Saturday's final, while all 24 relay teams will swim Saturday. All qualifying will still take place via the district meet on Saturday, February 6. As shared in the COVID-19 Zoom with coaches and athletic directors, even with the board's action, all options are on the table for the 2021 state meet depending on the environment later this winter. More information related to the state meet will be shared later this winter.

### **2020-21 Rules Books**

Each swimming school and official received a new 2020-21 rules book this fall. Please keep these rule books through the 2021-22 boys swim season as our office will not be sending new rules books next fall.

### **2020-2021 Swimming Rules Meeting**

The 2020-21 Swimming and Diving Rules Meeting is active on the IHSAA website. Head coaches are required to view the rules meeting by Monday, November 30 in order to coach in postseason competition. Officials are required to view the rules meeting and pass the swimming examination in order to become registered and work any high school meet. Our rules meeting is the

same as the girls' meeting, so if you watched the meeting earlier this fall, you have met the requirement for the year.

### **Concussion in Sports: What You Need to Know Course**

All 7-12 coaches (head, assistant, paid, volunteer) are required to view the online concussion course before the first day of practice. This requirement is through legislative action and is being administered by the IHSAA. Your school has been receiving reminders for all coaches who have not completed this requirement. Coaches who do not view this course risk losing their coaching authorization/endorsement.

### **QuikStats/Varsity Bound**

QuikStats/Varsity Bound is now open and ready for schools to enter their rosters and schedules. Each school's roster should have rolled over and the grade of the athletes has advanced by one grade. Again, there will be 3 checkpoints throughout the regular season: Tuesday, December 8; Tuesday, January 12; and Tuesday, February 2. All meets completed through the previous Saturday of each reporting date need to be entered by the check date. Meet results must also be entered by the Tuesday after both the district and state meet. The penalty for failure to report on time is:

**First Offense:** a letter/e-mail to the head coach and athletic director from the IHSAA sport administrator giving 3 days to comply.

**Second Offense:** a letter to the athletic director with a copy to the principal and superintendent from the IHSAA executive director, giving 3 days to comply.

**Third Offense:** IHSAA member school's expense allowances will be withheld by the IHSAA in the sport in which the third offense occurred.

### **2020-21 Rules & Editorial Changes**

Here is a link to the NFHS rule and editorial changes for the current season: <https://nfhs.org/sports-resource-content/swimming-diving-rules-changes-2020-21/> . For exact wording of each rule change, please look at the PDF version of the rules meeting: [https://www.iahsaa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/20-21\\_IHSAA\\_IGHSAU\\_Swimming\\_and\\_Diving\\_Rules\\_Meeting.pdf](https://www.iahsaa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/20-21_IHSAA_IGHSAU_Swimming_and_Diving_Rules_Meeting.pdf).

**Proper Supervision of Swimmers** - Section 641-15.4(4)"d"(4) of the Iowa Code states, "For a structured swimming program, such as lap swim, competitive swimming, water exercise classes, swim lessons, and physical education classes a life guard is not required provided the program is supervised by an instructor, teacher, or **coach who is a lifeguard or has current certification from the American Red Cross in basic water rescue, first aid, and infant, child and adult CPR**; or equivalent training approved by the Department of Health. **"An instructor, teacher, or coach may be responsible for a MAXIMUM of 30 persons within a structured activity. If more than 30 persons are involved**

***(in or out of the water)* in a structured activity, a second qualified supervisor MUST be present.”**

**Iowa High School Swim Coaches Association**

Coaches are reminded of the networking and leadership opportunities and student-athlete awards that are available to members of the Iowa High School Swim Coaches Association. Please contact Rick Loeffelholz at Hempstead High School (rloeffelholz@dbqschools.org) for additional information.

We hope you have a great start to the season. Again, don't hesitate to contact me with any concerns throughout the season.

Sincerely,

Jared Chizek  
Assistant Director