

Illinois High School Scholastic Bowl Coaches Association Policies

All-Sectional/All-State

- A. All-Sectional Teams are selected by coaches at IHSA Seeding Meetings after teams have been seeded.
- B. Each team is allowed to nominate up to three students for the team. Anybody wishing to nominate a student for All-Sectional should fill out a Nomination Form before the Seeding Meeting and bring copies to the Meeting. Nomination Forms are posted on the IHSSBCA website several weeks before the Seeding Meetings. Before any voting takes place, completed Nomination Forms are distributed to all Team Representatives at the meeting and one minute is set aside per player so that the person nominating that player can explain why that player deserves a place on the All-Sectional Team.
- C. It is the expectation that anybody nominating a player will attend the Seeding Meeting. Exceptions can be approved by IHSSBCA All-Sectional/All-State Manager, who will communicate the exception to the Sectional host. In such cases, the nominating coach is expected to fax or mail the form to the host, and nobody will speak on behalf of that player. Before contacting a host, however, the nominator must contact the All-Sectional/All-State Manager.
- D. Each coach can nominate up to one player not on their own team as long as each team has at most three nominees.
- E. Once coaches have had a chance to read and hear about the players, each voter is supposed to rank what they believe to be the top twelve students, including their own students if applicable. IHSSBCA expects voters to consider the information presented and make decisions based on the merits of the individuals involved.
- F. All rankings are read out loud and tallied, with rankings given point values from 12 for the top position down to 1 for the twelfth position. The top twelve students are named to the All-Sectional Team, and the top six students automatically are advanced for consideration for the All-State Team. The coach of the student who got the highest vote total should send in all Nomination Forms to the All-Sectional/All-State Manager within twenty-four hours of the end of the Seeding Meeting.
- G. All protests should be made to the All-Sectional/All-State Manager, who has the power to add to or subtract from the All-Sectional Teams and the list of students eligible for All-State.
- H. Voters for All-State are chosen by the All-Sectional/All-State Manager. There is one Voter for each Sectional, with Class A Voters choosing the Class A All-State Teams and Class AA Voters choosing the Class AA All-State Team.
- I. The All-Sectional/All-State Manager makes copies of the Nominating Forms for every student to be considered for All-State and sends them to the Voters. The Voters then have two weeks to rank the students they consider to be the Top Twenty. The top vote getters are the All-State Team, with a First and Second Team chosen in each class so that each team contains ten students.

Banquet

- A. The IHSSBCA Banquet takes place after the season is over at a time and place announced well in advance in *Scholastic Visions* and on the IHSSBCA website.
- B. The following people are recognized at the IHSSBCA Awards Dinner: Hall of Fame Inductees, Rob Grierson Friend of Scholastic Bowl Award recipient, All-State teams, and State Champions.
- C. The Hall of Fame Inductees and Rob Grierson Friend of Scholastic Bowl Award recipient each receive two free tickets. Each member of the All-State Team receives one free ticket, and each State Champion team receives eighteen free tickets.
- D. Everybody is welcome to attend the banquet. People who need to purchase tickets can do so by contacting the Chair. The current cost of \$20 per person helps to cover the costs of the dinner incurred by the Association.
- E. The Hall of Fame Inductees and Rob Grierson Friend of Scholastic Bowl Award recipient are introduced by a person of their choice and can also speak. Each person is allotted a combined ten minutes for their introduc-

tion and acceptance. The All-State Team is introduced by the person who oversees the All-State Program. The State Champions are introduced by their respective Head Coaches.

Ethics

- A. IHSSBCA encourages ethical behavior by everybody associated with Illinois Scholastic Bowl. One of the ways we do this is through the Ethical Guidelines published on our website which have appeared in our Newsletter.
- B. Coaches who want IHSSBCA to be involved in a situation involving an apparent ethical breach by IHSSBCA or anybody associated with Illinois Scholastic Bowl should contact the Ombudsman. The Ombudsman will first seek out the facts of the case and then provide mediation, primarily by promoting communication. IHSSBCA does not have much power to take punitive action, but it may in some cases decide to report incidents to IHSA, which does. Attempts are made to maintain the confidentiality of parties to a dispute.

Grants

- A. IHSSBCA provides grants to teams whose programs can best benefit from them. The maximum size of a grant is \$400 per team per year. IHSSBCA currently plans to set aside \$4000 for grants each year.
- B. Teams wishing to receive grant money should apply to the IHSSBCA by October 15 to receive grants given out at the end of November or by April 15 to receive grants given out at the end of the current season or beginning of next season. Decisions on grants are made at our cybermeetings.
- C. Only members can apply for grants.
- D. The Steering Committee may ask for clarifications on grant requests or place conditions on grants given.
- E. Steering Committee members may not vote on grants associated with their school.

Hall of Fame

- A. The Hall of Fame honors coaches whose careers had a great positive impact on their students and Illinois Scholastic Bowl.
- B. Anybody who has coached in Illinois is eligible for the Hall of Fame, though the Hall of Fame Chair generally singles out coaches who are known to have won at least 200 matches or who likely would have had that amount if they had coached after the rapid growth of Scholastic Bowl during the 1980s.
- C. In September, the Hall of Fame Committee Chair circulates a document giving career summaries for many of the candidates and asks Committee Members to add to that body of information.
- D. Once the information is compiled, the Chair sends it out to the Committee in November or early December and asks each person to list (but not rank) the top ten candidates.
- E. In December or early January, the Committee Chair announces the ten candidates who are listed most often in the first round of balloting and asks each Committee Member to rank the ten finalists. Those rankings are converted into points, and the three finalists with the most points join the Hall of Fame.
- F. To serve on the Committee, you must have at least five years of coaching experience. Anybody wishing to serve should contact the Committee Chair.
- G. Anybody wishing to nominate any individual for the Hall of Fame should send basic information on the nominee's career to the Committee Chair.
- H. A Veterans Committee consisting of people who started coaching at least twenty years ago selects one additional inductee each year whose impact was significant before the last twenty years.

Kickoff Tournaments

- A. Every member of IHSSBCA is mailed a Kickoff invitation in September, and the tournaments take place in November.
- B. Entry fees to Kickoffs are lower than entry fees to other tournaments because IHSSBCA or a sponsor covers the costs of trophies and questions. The entry fees go to the hosts, who cover the costs of building usage, moderators, food, and other incidentals. C. The question source is chosen by the Chair and approved by the Steering Committee. D. Decisions about tournament formats and pool placement are made by the hosts.
- E. Kickoff matches generally follow IHSA rules, though there may be minor differences, especially regarding issues such as match length, uniforms, and allowing teams with too few players. Any other differences should be approved by the Steering Committee.
- F. Kickoff sites are paid \$25 per Certified Moderator that they use.
- G. Kickoff sites are paid an additional entry fee from the Association if they keep full stats.
- H. Every team is guaranteed at least seven rounds of play, and each match is 20 tossups with associated bonuses.
- I. Sites will not use single elimination formats.
- J. The question provider is NAQT.

Membership

- A. Membership is for the school year. Basic membership is \$35, though there are deductions offered for early registration, first-time members, second coaches at the same school, noncoaches, and coaches outside Illinois. There is a small additional cost for members wishing to receive paper copies of the newsletter.
- B. Members receive the newsletter and invitations to Kickoffs and Turnabouts as long as they join before each item is sent out. Members allow us to carry on all IHSSBCA projects.

Moderator Certification

- A. IHSSBCA Moderator Certification recognizes good moderators and encourages moderators to study the IHSA Rules.
- B. To become Test Certified, a candidate takes a fifty-question multiple-choice exam and must get at least forty-five answers correct. The exam is open book and does not have a time limit. Candidates can try the exam at most twice each year. To remain certified, moderators must pass the test every other year.
- C. To become Match Certified, a candidate gives rating cards to coaches who he or she moderates for. Certified Moderators can also rate each other as long as moderator doing the rating watches the moderator being rated. The cards need to eventually be turned in to the Moderator Certification Coordinator. Once a moderator has at least ten cards and an overall average rating of at least eighty percent, that moderator is Match Certified. To continue being Match Certified, the moderator must have at least ten cards submitted within the past two years.
- D. Kickoff and Turnabout sites are paid \$25 per Certified Moderator that they use.

Newsletter

- A. *Scholastic Visions* is published four times per year.
- B. When members join, they decide whether to have a paper copy of *Scholastic Visions* mailed to them or receive it by email only. Members must pay an additional ten dollars to receive paper copies.
- C. Current editions of *Scholastic Visions* are for members and a few individuals as selected by the Newsletter Editor only. Old editions are available to anybody on the IHSSBCA website.

- D. Anybody who has ideas for *Scholastic Visions* should contact the Newsletter Editor, who is primarily responsible for its content.
- E. The Editor is paid \$200 per issue.
- F. Throughout the year, *Scholastic Visions* contains articles explaining to coaches how to be involved in IHSSBCA projects, including Kickoffs, Turnabouts, the Awards Dinner, SchoBowlFest, All-Sectional/All-State, Moderator Certification, the Hall of Fame, and the Rob Grierson Friend of Scholastic Bowl Award. *Scholastic Visions* also contains a calendar listing upcoming tournaments and giving results of past tournaments.

Rob Grierson Friend of Scholastic Bowl Award

- A. The Rob Grierson Friend of Scholastic Bowl Award is given to a person or group each year who provides significant support to Scholastic Bowl. Though people who coached for short times are eligible, the Award is intended to honor non-coaches who successfully worked hard for Illinois Scholastic Bowl.
- B. The Award is selected at the IHSSBCA Annual Meeting and is presented at the IHSSBCA Awards Dinner. In addition to two free tickets to the Dinner, the Recipient receives a plaque and is lauded on the IHSSBCA website and in *Scholastic Visions*.
- C. People wishing to nominate anybody (including themselves) for this honor should contact the Chair before the Annual Meeting in February.

SchoBowlFest

- A. SchoBowlFest takes place near the beginning of the season at a date and location announced well in advance on the IHSSBCA website and in *Scholastic Visions*.
- B. The purpose of SchoBowlFest is to educate coaches and other interested parties about Scholastic Bowl rules and practices. There are a variety of sessions to inform attendees about different aspects of Scholastic Bowl.
- C. People can sign up for SchoBowlFest when they become members or from a form on the IHSSBCA website. There is a small fee for members who attend and a slightly larger fee for nonmembers so that this event is approximately revenue neutral for the Association.
- D. The site will be rotated through different regions of Illinois so that people who are unwilling to travel long distances can attend every few years.

Scorebooks

IHSSBCA designs, prints, and sells scorebooks. Scorebooks can be purchased using a membership form, but nonmembers can purchase them. The price of scorebooks is the same for everybody and is set to do little more than cover Association costs. Scorebooks are not mailed out during the Spring or Summer, and it may take several weeks to receive one during the season.

Turnabout Tournaments

- A. All of the policies regarding Kickoff Tournaments also apply to Turnabout Tournaments except the dates and that some members are not invited to Turnabouts. Turnabout invitations are mailed out in November, and the tournaments take place in January or February.
- B. Turnabout Tournaments are designed to allow teams to play matches without going up against the top teams in the state. Therefore, top teams are not invited. The following accomplishments prevent teams from receiving an invitation: winning an IHSA or Masonic Sectional the previous year, winning an invitational with at least twenty teams the previous or current year, or reaching the semifinals of a total of at least three invitationals the previous and current years. In addition, some teams may be disinvented because they are known to be very strong teams. All invitation decisions can be appealed to the Turnabout Manager.

Website

- A. The IHSSBCA website is used to keep members informed of upcoming events, tournament results, and award recipients.
- B. Anybody who has ideas for the website should contact the Webmaster, who is primarily responsible for its content.