

2018 FALL INFORMATION PACKET
JULY 1, 2018

SIJHSAA MEMBER SCHOOL:

This is the 2018 Fall Information Packet, which contains valuable information for the upcoming 2018-2019 school year. Please share this information in this packet with your coaches, staff, administration, and community.

95% of the calls and e-mails I receive wanting information could be found on the website. The SIJHSAA website (www.sijhsaa.com) has most of the information you need to know concerning our organization. Encourage all to use the website as a useful tool in gaining information about the SIJHSAA.

A majority of my correspondence with member schools will be by e-mail. All school contacts should check the website for your school information. If any changes are needed, e-mail (sijhsaa@gmail.com) or fax (618-357-2987) the attached School Contact Information Form to my office.

If you have any questions about the 2018 Fall Information Packet, feel free to reach me at the contact numbers below.

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TOPICS OF IMPORTANCE

1. **Rawlings “Official Ball of the SIJHSAA”:** Rawlings Balls will be used in Baseball, Softball, Boys and Girls Basketball, and Volleyball from the Regional’s through the State Finals. Listed are the Rawlings Balls that will be used in each SIJHSAA State Series.

Baseball-----RSIJHSAA
Softball-----RSIJHSAASB
Boys Basketball-----CNTR295-SIJHSAA
Girls Basketball-----CNTR285-SIJHSAA
Volleyball-----VB-202 (Red/White/Blue)

***Contact your local Sporting Goods Dealer to order SIJHSAA logo balls.
*Regional Organizers will receive game balls for your respective sport regional’s from a SIJHSAA Board of Control Member from your region.**

- 2. *Note*** **Baseball/Softball Exception to NFHS Rules: (Online)** *There are exceptions from the IHSA (Illinois High School Association) and NFHS (National Federation of High Schools) rules that the SIJHSAA follows. They can be found on the SIJHSAA Website / Administrative/ Forms and Documents / by sport. NFHS Rulebooks may be purchased from the IHSA online. (www.IHSASore.com)*

****Note:-Pitching Substitution Rule Change:*** *Any pitcher (either starting pitcher or any relief pitcher) withdrawn from the mound or game may return to the pitching position once per game. (This change was made because of the Pitch Count Limitation Rules. Coaches now will have more options as far as pitcher usage.)*

****Note that SIJHSAA has adopted Pitch Count Regulations in 2017.*** *Pitch Count Regulations, Pitch Count Sheet, and Pitch Count Game Ending Verification Sheet can be found on the SIJHSAA Website. (www.sijhsaa.com/ Administrative / Forms and Documents / Baseball-Softball) Please distribute the pitching rules and regulations to your baseball coaches.*

****Baseball Bat Rules: (Online) *NEW FOR 2018*** *New Baseball Bat Rules can be found on the SIJHSAA Website. (www.sijhsaa.com / Administrative / Forms and Documents / Baseball-Softball) Please make sure your baseball coaches, players, and parents are aware of the new bat rules.*

****Softball Bat Rules: (Online) May be found:*** <http://www.teamusa.org/usa-softball/play-asa/certified-asa-equipment>

3. **Scheduling Regular Season Sport Events During The Regional Window:** Schools are reminded **not** to schedule games, matches, or meets during the regional window for all sports that conflict with the completion of your regional. Many AD's and Conferences do this and expect the other regional schools to work around them. Please use your common sense in this area.
4. **IHSA Licensed Officials Hired: SIJHSAA By Law Article IV: Contests: Section 14:** During regular season games two(2) IHSA licensed officials must be hired for baseball, softball, and boys and girls basketball. One(1) IHSA licensed official for volleyball. The only exception in case of late notice of an official's cancelation that a non-licensed official may be substituted.
5. **SIJHSAA MEMBER SCHOOL ACCESS TO IHSA OFFICIALS DIRECTORY:** Member School AD's and Administrators will have access to the IHSA Listing of Licensed Officials for the sports of baseball, softball, basketball, and volleyball. The list of officials, per sport, will be for the Effingham, Mt. Vernon, Carbondale, and Metro and St.Louis Areas. These directories will be found under the Administrative Tab on the SIJHSAA Website under the heading Find Officials. School AD's and Administrators will only be able to access these directories by User ID and Passwords distributed by the SIJHSAA. Contact me by e-mail if you need to obtain your SIJHSAA ID and Password. The Officials Directories will be updated every Thursday. Please don't distribute your User ID and Password! Only the AD and Administrators should have access.
6. **Dicks Sporting Goods Corporate Agreement:** *The SIJHSAA and Dick's Sporting Goods have a corporate agreement. This agreement gives Dicks Sporting Goods advertising on our website and distribution of discount coupons for member school students and staff for purchase discounts at specially scheduled weekend sales. The SIJHSAA will e-mail all member schools discount coupons for 4 different Dick's Sporting Goods weekend sales. Member school AD's can distribute the 20% discount coupons to its K-8 students and staff. The first Dick's Sporting Goods Weekend Sale for will be August 24, 25, & 26, 2018 at your local Dick's Sporting Goods. (Coupon Attached)*
7. **Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act (SB 7):** *The Youth Sports Safety Act requires that all interscholastic coaches (head and assistant coaches-whether an employee of a school or a volunteer) and marching band directors must successfully complete an approved*

concussion training course no later than September 1, 2016. 2 years have gone by since its inception. Coaches must take an approved course every 2 years to maintain compliance with the legislation. If your school needs codes to comply with this legislation, contact the Illinois High School Athletic Association at 309-663-6377. There is a fee per code from the IHSA. Concussion information can be found on the SIJHSAA Website. (www.sijhsaa.com/administrative/forms and documents)

**In 2016 the IHSA and NFHS launched a new initiative called PlaySmartPlayHard! It is a website that contains valuable information pertaining to concussions, heat related injuries, overuse injuries, etc.. The SIJHSAA is a supporter of this website and its content. Use this site to gain valuable sports medicine information. Please make sure that your athletes, parents, coaches, and administration are aware of this website!* www.PlaySmartPlayHard.com

8. **Rick Franklin Coaching Longevity Awards Program:** In 2017-18 the SIJHSAA started the Rick Franklin Coaching Longevity Award. The Rick Franklin Longevity Award is an award that recognizes coaches that have been coaching at least 20 years in the same member school district. Schools please check out the criteria to see if your applicant qualifies. If your applicant meets all the criteria, fill out the form and follow the instructions on the form. The award will be sent to the school and the school can decide how they want to present the award. For example, at halftime of a basketball game or at a school board meeting to name a couple. Please realize that after filling out the form, confirming the information, sending it to our trophy provider, and sending it to your school, can take a little time. So have this in mind when you are giving the award. The application form can be found on the home page of the SIJHSAA Website. (www.sijhsaa.com)

9. **State T-Shirt Sales Changes:** *The SIJHSAA has entered a 2-year contract with Minor League of Salem for all its State Tournament T-Shirt Sales. The contract will enable state tournament hosts to create a t-shirt transfer made for each individual tournament. An online store will open for a 2 week period before each tournament. (ex: One for the Class S BB/SB State Tournament at Coulterville, one for the Class M BB/SB State Tournament at Pinckneyville, and one for the Class L BB/SB State Tournament at Centralia) Fans may purchase the following from the online store:*

- *50-50 white short sleeve t-shirt*
- *50-50 color short sleeve t-shirt*
- *Dry Fit white or color short sleeve t-shirt*
- *50-50 white or color long sleeve t-shirt*

**Hoodies*

All purchases from the online store will be paid for by credit card. The products will be packaged with the credit card receipt enclosed and delivered to your respective state tournament site for pick up. Each respective online store will close on the Tuesday-midnight previous to the start of its state tournament. T-Shirts will still be on sale at each tournament site, but online sales guarantees fans of their shirts in advance.

- 10.** *Cross Country-Adoption of Spike Usage: This is a reminder that all runners must wear shoes. Spiked shoes, flats, or rubber soled shoes are recommended. Spiked shoes may be worn that have spikes that don't exceed 5/8" in length. (SIJHSAA By Law: Article XXVII: Cross Country: Section 6: Uniforms)*
- 11.** **Residence Issues:** I strongly suggest that parents or guardians of students complete an Affidavit of Residence each year during registration. The form is on the SIJHSAA Website. This puts the burden on the parent or guardian providing the correct residence of the student. In many eligibility rulings this document establishes residence and speeds up the process.
- 12.** *Important Administrative Dates (2018-2019): (Attached)*
- 13.** *Annual Sports Calendar (2018-19 & 2019-20): Annual Sports Calendar is on the SIJHSAA Website. (www.sijhsaa.com / Sports Calendar)*
- 14.** *2017-2018 State Series Results: (Attached)*
- 15.** **Sportsmanship:** Again, sportsmanship is a point of emphasis in all sports in the SIJHSAA. Much improvement needs to occur in this area. The only way it will improve is by increased efforts by member schools. I am listing things that may be done to improve sportsmanship.
- A. Player/Parent/Coaches Meeting:** Previous to each season – have a meeting for players, parents, and coaches concerning sport rules, school rules, and sportsmanship. I have attached a sportsmanship video on how to be a sports parent.
- B. Player/Parent Sportsmanship Agreement:** You could have each player and parent sign off on team rules and sportsmanship agreement. Signing this signifies that they know all the penalties for violating these rules.

- C. **Imposed School Penalties:** Create school-imposed penalties for fan ejection for unsportsmanlike conduct that exceeds SIJHSAA penalties.
- D. **School Handbook:** Insert SIJHSAA Sportsmanship By Laws in your school handbook.
- E. **Sportsmanship Announcement:** Use sportsmanship announcements at your athletic contests on your PA System.
- F. **Post SIJHSAA Sportsmanship By Laws and School Rules at events.**
- G. **Add A.Tude Handbook:** The IHSA Website (www.ihsa.org) will have this informative sportsmanship handbook soon in PDF format. Go to the IHSA website / Resources / Sportsmanship / Add A. Tude to find the handbook.

***EJECTIONS**

***Pay attention to the Ejection By Laws: Article VIII: Section 2, 3, & 4. They deal with player, coach, and fan Ejection.**

***The host school Athletic Director or Principal is responsible for reporting an ejection to the SIJHSAA Director's Office no later than the morning after the ejection. Unsportsmanlike Conduct Forms may be found on the SIJHSAA Website. (Administrative / Forms and Documents)**

***ANY FAN EJECTED FOR UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT WILL SIT OUT 2 GAMES. (ARTICLE VIII: SPORTSMANSHIP / SECTION 3)**

16. **SIJHSAA By Laws Deal With 7th & 8th Grade Contests:** SIJHSAA By Laws apply to only 7th and 8th grade contests. A reminder to all schools that 8th grade contests may have 8th graders and younger participating - 7th grade contests may have 7th graders and younger participating. Some schools were allowing 8th graders to participate in 7th grade contests. This act is illegal by SIJHSAA By Laws. (SIJHSAA By Law Article IV: Contests / Section 7)

17. Board of Control Elections – Spring 2018: Regions 4, 8, & 9
Note seats were up for election. The following individuals won seats on the BOC.

Region 4: Jason Finke (Nashville) & Jeremy Cornett (DuQuoin)

Region 8: Wayne Stone (Field) & Kevin Bowen (Cisne)

Region 9: Doug Hargis (Centralia) & Suzie Worman (Salem)

**A complete listing of the present Board of Control, Steering Committee, and Geographic Regions is attached and posted on the*

SIJHSAA website. (www.sijhsaa.com) (Administrative)

18. *2018 Fall State Series Information: Information for Baseball and Softball will be posted on the SIJHSAA Website around August 20, 2018. (www.sijhsaa.com) On the right side of the home page you will find information listed per sport.*

**Note that the Cross Country State Series will be released as soon as a Class S State Host and Site has been selected.*

***Yearly some schools enter a fall state series and fail to get the numbers to have a team. Schools that are entered will have until August 20 to make a final decision of their participating in baseball and softball.*

19. **Article V: Physical Examinations (395 Day Physicals):** Please note that the present athletic physicals last for 395 days (13 months). Physical Examination Forms may be found on the SIJHSAA Website. (www.sijhsaa.com) (Administrative / Forms and Documents)

20. **Season Limitations:** Remember that the only sport that the SIJHSAA has season limitations is Girls and Boys Basketball. The season starts the first day of school and ends the last day of their respective state tournament. Game limitations for Girls and Boys Basketball can be found in the SIJHSAA By Law: Article XXVIII: Basketball (Boys and Girls) Section 2a. All other sports have no game limitations or opening season limitations. **SIJHSAA By Law: Article XXVIII: Basketball (Boys & Girls) / Section 2a:**

- *16 games and 3 tournaments
- *17 or 18 games and 2 tournaments
- *19 or 20 games and 1 tournament
- *21 or 22 games and 0 tournament

21. **Girls Participating on Boys Team: SIJHSAA By Law: Article I: Eligibility/Section 11:** This deals with girls participating on boys teams. Follow the protocol with the Illinois State Board of Education stated in this by law. **This must be done each school year and have a copy of your gender equity confirmation, from the Illinois State Board of Education, on file in the SIJHSAA Office.**
Lynda Vaughn 312-814-3985 (ISBE Contact)
lvaughn@isbe.net

**Boys can't participate on girls teams if that issue come up. (SIJHSAA By Law Article I: Eligibility / Section 11a5)*

22. Media Policy for SIJHSAA State Series Events:
Broadcast rights, copyright privileges, and other intellectual property rights to or related to all state playoff events belong to the Southern Illinois Jr. High School Athletic Association (“SIJHSAA”). The SIJHSAA has the right to determine if any of these events may be broadcast, televised, webcast, tape recorded, filmed, or photographed for any “commercial” purposes. The SIJHSAA has the exclusive right to establish the terms and conditions upon which such a production or reproduction of these events may be permitted.

23. Class S State Cross Country Site: *Presently the SIJHSSA has no host site for the Class S Girls and Boys State Cross Country Meet. The SIJHSAA is accepting bids of interest from schools or organizations that wish to host the meet. A final decision on the host site will be made in mid July. If interested contact Greg Hale – Director – SIJHSAA.*

24. Bowling State Series Changes: *Due to the increased number of girls and boys bowling entries, the SIJHSAA Girls and Boys Bowling State Series will institute regional play to advance to the state finals. Details of sites, numbers of advancing individuals and teams, awards, etc.. will be released after the Wednesday, October 17, 2018 SIJHSAA Fall Board Meeting.*