IMPLEMENTING NEW SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

SUSIE KNOBLAUCH & TRACIE HENRY
ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
EMERGING SPORTS & ACTIVITIES

• Mission:

“The IHSA governs the equitable participation in interscholastic athletics and activities that enrich the educational experience.”

• To align with the mission the IHSA continues to evaluate current programs and look at future programs that may interest the membership.
EMERGING SPORTS

• Definition of Emerging Sport
  Any sport for which IHSA does not conduct a state tournament series and which a member school elects to sponsor as either a sport under the auspices of its athletic administration or as a club or other informal sports activity shall be considered an emerging sport.

• Purpose of Emerging Sports Policy
  The Emerging Sport Policy is designed to establish parameters under which schools may engage in competitive sports activity even when state tournament series competition is not available for the sport. It will establish common ground rules and management policies for the sport among member schools and will facilitate the growth of such sports within the established confines of the Association’s Constitution and By-laws.

• Registration of Emerging Sport Programs
  All member schools facilitating participation by students in any emerging sport shall register for participation in said sport(s) with the Association by adopting an Emerging Sport Resolution and filing a copy of said Resolution along with the registration forms supplied by the Association with the IHSA Office. IHSA will utilize Emerging Sport Registration Records to monitor the development of new sport activities in member schools and assist in determining when new state series should be considered.

• Dates Sport May Be Conducted
  Any school belonging to this Association may organize, practice or compete in an emerging sport at any time during its established calendar for the current school term, unless a specific season has been established.
EMERGING SPORTS

- Band
- Boys Ice Hockey
- Boys Lacrosse
- Boys Rowing
- Boys Rugby
- Boys Sailing
- Competitive Flags
- Girls Field Hockey
- Girls Ice Hockey
- Girls Lacrosse
- Girls Rowing
- Girls Sailing
- Mock Trial
- Model UN
- Robotics
- Show Choir

14. GUIDELINES FOR ADDING AND DELETING STATE SERIES PROGRAMS

1. The Board will entertain proposals to add a new state series when **ten percent of the member schools** engage in regularly scheduled competition in the sport or activity.

2. When the minimum required participation level is demonstrated and proposals to add a new state series are considered, the Board shall (a) consider the growth potential of the sport or activity, and (b) consider the equity criteria included in the classification policy in determining whether to add the proposed new series.

3. The Board will entertain recommendations from staff to consider deletion of an existing state series when no less than ten percent of the member schools participate in the series and/or engage in regularly scheduled competition in the sport or activity.
NEW SPORTS & ACTIVITIES

- Competitive Cheer-2005-2006
- Competitive Dance-2012-2013
- Journalism-2005-2006
- Bass Fishing-2008-2009
IHSA COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING

• **Inaugural Year:** 2005-2006
• **Host Site:** U.S. Cellular Coliseum, Bloomington, IL
• **Tournament Format:** Top five teams from each sectional division advance to the state finals
• Small, Medium, Large, Co-Ed, Division

• [http://vimeo.com/61585610](http://vimeo.com/61585610)
IHSA CHEER - CHALLENGES
## IHSA Cheerleading Participation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of Participants</td>
<td>5,635</td>
<td>6,622</td>
<td>7,567</td>
<td>8,017</td>
<td>7,964</td>
<td>8,331</td>
<td>8,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Teams Entered</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>338</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COMPETITIVE DANCE

- **Inaugural Year:** 2012-2013
- **Host Site:** U.S. Cellular Coliseum, Bloomington, IL
- **Tournament Format:** Top six qualifiers from each sectional advanced to the state finals
  - 1A, 2A, 3A Class

- [http://vimeo.com/61582838](http://vimeo.com/61582838)
IHSA DANCE-PARTICIPATION

- 247 Schools entered the first year
  - 206 schools performed at sectionals
  - 4,266 athletes participated
CHALLENGES-DANCE

- Floor/Surface
- Open Dance Format
BASS FISHING

- **Inaugural Year:** 2008-2009
- **Host Site:** Carlyle Lake, Carlyle, IL
- **Tournament Format:** A maximum of three boats from each of the twenty two sectionals will advance to the state finals
BASS FISHING-CHALLENGES

• Weather
• Increasing Competitive Advantages
• Coaching
• Insurance
BASS FISHING PARTICIPATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of Teams</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>237</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
JOURNALISM

- Inaugural Year: 2006
- Host Site: Eastern Illinois University
- Tournament Format: Winners first, second and third places in each Journalism contest event category advance from sectionals to state.
# JOURNALISM PARTICIPATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of Teams</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IHSA JOURNALISM
IMPLEMENTING NEW CATEGORIES

- Broadcasting-IHSA Journalism
- Informative Speaking-Individual Events/Speech
- Programs for Athletes with Disabilities
BEST PRACTICES

• When to Say When
• When to be Careful not to Saturate the Market
• Finding a Balance
IMPLEMENTING NEW SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES
Quick Facts

- PIAA assumes jurisdiction over 30 sports.
- PIAA sponsors 21 championship events.
- Since 2009 PIAA has added 3 new championships:
  - Lacrosse (2009)
  - Team Golf (2012)
  - Competitive Spirit (2013)
Impact Test

Impact on membership
- Budgets
- Varsity/non-varsity status
- Schedules/Club/School-affiliated

Impact on association
- Budget
- Policies/Rules and Regulations

Impact on sport
- Dynamics of sport
- Traditions of sport
Square Peg – Round Hole

Competitive Spirit

Policies

Classifications

Traditions

Brackets
Think “Outside the Bracket”
Outside the Bracket… New atmosphere
Outside the Bracket….Special Effects Lighting & Onsite Photography Contracts

- Special effects – lighting with logos & additional brand identification
- Photography gallery – touchscreen photo shop for immediate sales
- Green screen technology
- Mobile photo truck
Outside the bracket…Industry Experts

- Educated the educators
- Establish championship parameters
- Championship schedule
- Experienced judges/spotters
- New fresh talent – DJ/Announcers
**Outside the Bracket…**

**Results:**
- 95 teams in one day Championship event
- Attendance over 3,500
- Under budget on expenses
- Exceeded forecasted revenues
- Expanding to 120 teams for 2014
- New sponsor contracts
Outside the Bracket…Within our Mission

**Health**
To organize, develop, and direct an interscholastic athletic program which will promote, protect and conserve the health and physical welfare of all participants.

**Education**
To Formulate and maintain policies that will safeguard the educational values of interscholastic athletics and cultivate the high ideals of good sportsmanship.

**Competition**
To promote uniformity of standards in all interscholastic athletic competition.
On the horizon…

Ice Hockey

Bowling
Think Outside the Bracket….

“The world as we have created it is a process of our thinking. It cannot be changed without changing our thinking.”

-Albert Einstein
Melissa N. Mertz, Associate Executive Director
550 Gettysburg Road
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
(717) 697-0374 or (800) 382-1392
mmertz@piaa.org