Competitive Balance Committee
October 6, 2026

The Competitive Balance Review Committee met on October 6, 2026 at the IHSA office. The committee members in attendance were Dan Tully, Niles (Notre Dame), Scott Maupin, Wilmington; Katie Cazalet, Dunlap; Brian Brooks, St. Joseph (S.J.- Ogden); Jason Clay, Vandalia; Maurice Young, Country Club Hills (Hillcrest); Whitney Martino, West Aurora; Chris McGraw, Bloomington (Central Catholic); Tim McConnell, Erie; Juliana Zavala, Chicago (University); Tom Schergen, Chicago (De La Salle). Tracie Henry, IHSA staff Matt Troha, IHSA staff and Craig Anderson, IHSA staff.

Committee members not in attendance: Skip Birdsong, Belleville (Althoff); Danley Killam, Carlinville.

The committee reviewed the minutes from its September meeting.

The committee reviewed and finalized the transfer by-law changes that it plans to submit as a part of the IHSA's upcoming legislative process.

The committee reviewed and finalized the residence by-law changes that it plans to submit as a part of the IHSA's upcoming legislative process.

The committee continued to review and discuss a proposal that would create separate paths for public and private schools within team bracketed sports based. This model will be presented to the IHSA Board of Directors in October and the committee hopes that the Board will bring it to member schools for review and feedback during the Town Hall meetings in November. If the membership support the model, the Board could implement it for the 2027-28 school year.

The committee discussed the equity of public non-boundaried schools and how they fit into the separate path model.

The committee reviewed maps of different sports for the two-path proposal and discussed true geographical regionals and other logistics related to the tournament structure if it were to be implemented.

The committee discussed the football playoffs and how they fit into the two-path proposal model. The committee was unanimous that the size of the playoff field is significant in

determining this. They have created models for both a 32-team and a 48-team playoff field, but would work in conjunction with the Board of Directors to finalize the football model after the current legislative cycle based on if the membership choose to change the current football playoff structure.

The committee discussed football in general, including how the IHSA classifies schools and how that could evolve.

The committee discussed the viability of the success formula, multiplier, and multiplier waiver process. They discussed potential changes to each if the two-path proposal were to be implemented. The Board of Directors would have the discretion to make changes to it.

The committee discussed open divisions but agreed that based on the timing and research done thus far as a committee, it is not a viable solution at this time.

The committee devised a plan to create a position statement that explains the changes they are proposing (via by-law proposals and recommended Board Policy changes) and why they are proposing them. Once all committee members have signed off on the position statement, they will ask the IHSA staff to distribute it along with all the proposals for the 2026 legislative process, once they are ready in late October.