

Competitive Balance Committee

March 3, 2026

The first meeting of the Competitive Balance Review Committee met on March 3, 2026. The committee members in attendance were Julian Zavala, Chicago (University); Tom Schergen, Chicago (De La Salle); Whitney Martino, West Aurora; Dan Tully, Niles (Notre Dame), Scott Maupin, Wilmington; Katie Cazalet, Dunlap; Tim McConnell, Erie; Chris McGraw, Bloomington (Central Catholic); Brian Brooks, St. Joseph (S.J.-Ogden); Danley Killam, Carlinville; Jason Clay, Vandalia; Tracie Henry, IHSA Staff; Matt Troha, IHSA Staff; and Craig Anderson, IHSA Staff.

Committee members Brian Hoener, Alton (Marquette); Barry Creviston, Jacksonville (Routt); and Maurice Young, Country Club Hills (Hillcrest); were unable to attend.

Following introductions the committee reviewed the direction received by the IHSA Board of Directors as an outcome of the IHSA Strategic Planning meeting to review and prepare recommendations for the IHSA Board of Directors for potential changes in IHSA Board Policies or a By-law amendment proposal related to the competitive balance of boundaried vs. non-boundaried schools. The committee plans to meet monthly as necessary through September 2026.

The committee reviewed the outcomes of the Thought Exchange responses to questions about strategic planning. The committee reviewed current by-law and Board policy language related to competitive balance. The committee reviewed some historical data on boundaried vs. non-boundaried schools success in all sports over the last 5 school years.

The committee discussed a variety of topics in this first meeting while committing to working together to discover the root cause of inequities in competitive balance and bring proposals forward that may create a more balanced system.

The committee has requested the following resources to help summarize evaluate the history of competitive balance and a review of what's been established in other states:

- 2025-2026 Sectional and State Final results by school type
- Geographic regional data of success for both boundaried and non-boundaried schools
- Sport specific breakdowns of success
- Specific School success by program
- Classification by-laws and policies from other states
 - Use of a multiplier
 - Use of a success factor
 - Other methods

- Transfer data (number of transfers related to school success)
- 30-mile radius review with population density

The committee has designated two future dates for in-person meetings on April 14, 2026, and May 6, 2026.

The committee welcomes questions and responses during this process. Please correspond with the administrators representing your division or communicate directly with IHSA administrative staff.