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3887 Pick Road, Pinckneyville, IL 62274

July 9, 2019

SIJHSAA Member Schools:

This is the 2019 Fall Information Packet, which contains valuable information for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year. New information is illustrated in this document or will refer you to the SIJHSAA Website (www.sijhsaa.com) for specific information.

95% of the calls and e-mails I receive wanting information could be found on the SIJHSAA Website. I encourage all to use the website as a useful tool in gaining information about the SIJHSAA.

Pay strict attention about the new website features that will require your User ID and Password. There is a separate sheet of information listed specifically for these features.

A majority of my correspondence with member schools will be by e-mail. All school contact representatives 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. You will also be required to electronically go on the SIJHSAA Website, using your User ID and Password, and change the information for your school.

If you have any questions about the 2019 Fall Information Packet, feel free to reach me at the contact numbers below.

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618-357-2985 (Office)  
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www.sijhsaa.com (Website)
1. **SIJHSAA Website Changes:** The SIJHSAA Website will be going through new technology changes. It will allow school representatives to go on the website, with your user id and password, to log on valuable information. (school contact information, sport participation, enrollment, intent to play, etc...) The 19-20 school year will be the implementation of many of these features. Your school representative will be responsible to enter your School Online Member Profile and Contact Information along with your Fall 2019 and 2020 School Year Sport Participation by August 1, 2019. This is all you will do as of now. On September 30, 2019 you will be able to enter your K-8 School Enrollment.

**Note that if your school contact information has changed – you will still have to e-mail or fax my office a copy of the form in addition to the changes on the SIJHSAA Website. This is important as I will need e-mail addresses for my directory to communicate with your school.**

**Instructions the website changes are attached to this packet.**

2. **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-----------------------------RSIJHSAA/SB
   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 your SIJHSAA Board of Control Member from your region.

3. **Baseball/Softball Exception to NFHS Rules:** (Online) There are exceptions from the IHSAA (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 IHSAA online. ([www.IHSASStore.com](http://www.IHSASStore.com))

*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 – 2019 (Online):
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.
-NO 2 1/4" BASEBALL BARRELED BATS MAY BE USED STARTING IN 2019.
-NO USSSA BATS MAY BE USED IN BASEBALL OR SOFTBALL.

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

4. **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.

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 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 will be August 23, 24, & 25, 2019 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](http://www.sijhsaa.com))

*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](http://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](http://www.sijhsaa.com))

9. **Important Administrative Dates (2019-2020):** (Attached)

11. 2018-2019 State Meet And Tournament Results: (Attached)

12. 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.
*STRONGLY URGE SCHOOLS TO IMPLEMENT SPORTSMANSHIP RULES THAT EXCEED THOSE OF THE SIJHSAA IN CASES OF EJECTIONS.

A. Player/Parent/Coaches Meeting: Previous to each season – have a meeting for players, parents, and coaches concerning sport rules, school rules, and sportmanship.
B. Player/Parent Sportmanship Agreement: You could have each player and parent sign off on team rules and sportmanship 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 / Sportmanship / 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)

13. Board of Control Elections – Spring 2019: Regions 1, 2, & 3
seats were up for election. The following individuals won
seats on the BOC.

Region 1: Greg Frehner (Vienna) & Josh Staples (Jonesboro)
Region 2: Ryan Fritch (Pope County) & Tom Roper (Marion)
Region 3: Jerry Corn (Benton) & Russ Hobbs (Christopher)
*A complete listing of the present Board of Control, Steering
Committee, and Geographic Regions is posted on the
SIJHSA website. (www.sijhsaa.com) (Administrative)

14. 2019 Fall State Series Information: Information for Baseball and
Softball will be posted on the SIJHSA Website around August 20, 2019.
(www.sijhsaa.com) On the right side of the home page, under the
Latest News Section you will find information listed per sport.

NOTE
*Class I State Cross Country Meet:
Host: DuQuoin Middle School
Site: DuQuoin State Fairgrounds
Manager: Jeremy Cornett, DuQuoin Middle School AD
Pre-State Meet: Saturday, October 5, 2019 (flyer attached)
State Meet: Saturday, October 19, 2019

*Class S State Cross Country Meet:
Host: St. Mary’s Catholic School – Centralia
Site: Foundation Park
Manager: Mike Neudecker
Pre-State Meet: Saturday, October 5, 2019 (flyer attached)
State Meet: Saturday, October 19, 2019

*August 1, 2019 – DEADLINE TO ENTER ALL FALL SPORTS

**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.
15. **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

16. **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.

17. **Alcohol Policy:** The possession, distribution, sale and or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited at the site and on any affiliated property of an SIJHSAA State Series Contest.
   *SIJHSAA By Law Article XXXVIII: Policy / Section 3

18. **New Transfer By Laws:** The SIJHSAA has adopted new student transfer by laws. An attached handout has them listed and they can also be found on the SIJHSAA Website.
   *(www.sijhsaa.com / administrative / by laws)*
   *(Article I: Eligibility / Section 6: Transfers)*

19. **2020 SIJHSAA Individual State Golf Tournament:** In the spring of 2020, the SIJHSAA will offer an Individual Girls & Boys State Golf tournament at Rend Lake Golf Course, Ina, IL. There will be divisions for girls and boys. This tournament is limited to students from the 5th grade - 8th grade. Each school may enter up to 4 boys and 4 girls. Reggie Norman of Benton Middle School will serve as tournament manager. Important entry information is listed below.
    A. **2020 Intent To Play:** Schools wishing to enter must check the golf box and pay the $30 fee on the Intent To Play Card.
    *(Deadline is January 15, 2020)*
B. Late Deadline to Enter: March 1, 2020.
C. Submission of your school’s list of participants to the state
   Tournament manager: April 1, 2020
   (There is a limit of 60 boys and 50 girls)
   After the limits have been met, entries will close.
D. Girls & Boys Individual Golf State Series Released: April 8, 2019

20. Co-op Deadlines: Remember that co-op deadlines have changed. I have
    listed the new deadlines below.
    *August 1, 2019: Deadline for new co-ops/renewals dealing with
      baseball, softball, or girls & boys cross country
    *October 1, 2019: Deadline for all new co-ops/renewals dealing with all
      other sports (girls & boys basketball, volleyball, and girls & boys track)

21. Commonly Asked Questions:
A. Can athletes participate on non-school teams during SIJHSAA sport
   seasons?
   -YES (Article I: Eligibility / Section 12)
   *Note: Local Schools may have rules that prevent this activity.
B. Are home schooled students eligible for sports at member schools?
   -NO (Article I: Eligibility / Section 15)
C. Are schools required to hire IHSA Licensed Officials for 7th and 8th
   grade sport contests?
   -YES (Article IV: Contests / Section 14)
D. May girls play on boy’s teams?
   -In some cases YES (Article I: Eligibility / Section 11)
E. May boys play on girl’s teams?
   -NO (Article I: Eligibility / Section 11)
F. At SIJHSAA State Meets and Tournaments are shirt apparel sold
   online or at the site?
   -Both (Information is posted on the SIJHSAA Website Home Page
     2 weeks previous to the state tournament for online sales)
G. Who is responsible for the academic eligibility of athletes?
   -The member school’s academic guidelines