

ANNUAL AFTER ACTION MEETING AGENDA – MARCH 22, 2015

COOPER'S STARDUST BOWL, NOBLESVILLE; NOON – 3PM

Attendees: Steve Kunkel, Scott Devers, Cathy Sumner, Jon Squires, Kim Burton, Kathy Muzzillo, Mike Caron, Nancy Batliner, Stephanie Cooley, Lucille Liebert, Curt Morrison, Christel Hughey, Rich Hamilton, Larry Zaideman and Randy Lohman.

The opening discussion was about the Online Registration program that is being built by Way Point in Lafayette. The program will be designed to save time and paper for everyone: coaches, coordinators and the state office. The program is being designed to handle the team roster info, electronic signatures for waivers and a check for current/valid USBC certification numbers. Future add-ons could include season and tournament scoring and standings. Way Point has agreed to do a seminar at the two Coaches' Clinics in the fall (Sept 27 @ Mike Aulby's Arrowhead Bowl in Lafayette and Oct 4 @ Cooper's Sport Bowl in Anderson). We will also provide a 'webinar' for those who cannot attend either session. Each team will be required to have one of their coaches attend one of the meetings. Coordinators may have to help with registrations, but this time should be less than the time that has been required for all the paperwork.

The next discussion was about the Lafayette Jefferson accident on the way to the Semi-State in South Bend and the thought of changing the schedule to try and get away from the bulk of bad weather. The Indiana Tech bus accident was mentioned to show accidents can and do happen in good and bad weather conditions with cars and busses. The ISUSBCYA would prefer we finish before they start their 10-week tournament. If we move back 3 weeks into March, most HS bowlers and coaches will probably wait until after the IHSB tournament to schedule for the ISUSBCYA tournament and that could cause a lack of lanes to schedule everyone. It was also discussed the possibility of losing bowlers if we split an IHSAA season. We feel we have a number of bowlers participating in other activities (sports and other), that moving would possibly make them decide to not bowl. A final thought was the IHSAA runs their tournaments during this time. The attendees feel it's best to stay with the present schedule and coaches/bowlers need to watch the weather forecast and plan their travel accordingly. (This highlights the need to have the signed waivers on file.)

The uniforms were the next discussion, specifically slacks and headbands. As has been the case for the duration of our program, there were varying ideas of what we need to do about the slacks. It was decided that what we have is ok and trying to rewrite the rule will only cause more confusion. We feel that it's not a tremendous issue. The group had no problem with 'headbands' being used as 'hairbands'. They suggested simply making 'sweatbands' worn across the forehead illegal.

We talked about 'excessive noise' and agreed that cheering for their team is ok. Screaming or just making noise is unnecessary. Every coordinator or tournament director has the authority to consider any complaints, watch and listen to determine if the noise is appropriate or not. They can then ask those out of line to quit.

No one had a problem with the current coed rule. We agreed that sometimes the coaches take the easy way out and field only a coed when a boys' and girls' team may be possible. Currently there is nothing wrong with the rule.

We had a nice discussion about allowing multiple teams from a school. There was some concern that it might 'cheapen' the program, but the group didn't believe it would. Most felt it would be best to keep bowlers on one team throughout conference play, but the coach could move bowlers around to form his tournament teams. If a school has more than one team in the conference, they all would be allowed to participate in the tournament. The biggest issue seemed to be the number of lanes in some conferences and the ability to schedule matches and practices. It was proposed that the proprietors be surveyed to get their ideas about allowing more varsity teams.

The group felt if the multiple teams were allowed, home school students could be as well. They would be required to meet the same criteria as they do for IHSAA. One of the requirements is to attend a class (an hour) at the school. This would determine which school they would bowl for. Grades were a question, but again IHSAA has this covered. There was a little concern about a home school student taking the place of a school student. The proprietors are to be surveyed on this as well.

The group felt the point system for the All-State teams need to be adjusted. They felt the tournament was more important than the conference play and it should be worth 60 points and the conference only 40. We recommend the difference in conference from one position to the next be changed to 3 point instead of 6. We also suggested making the tournament stepladder points just one different from each place and then drop 3 for each place out of the stepladder with all advancing bowlers receiving 1 point.

They agreed with the present nomination process with the commissioner picking up or adding bowlers that had not been nominated from the final Top Ten average listing, state finals or top players in a conference.

Although most of us have questions about the benefit of USBC certification, we agreed to continue making certification a requirement. The online registration program is supposed to help determine issues. Once we get the ruling on the pending issue of the Rule #400 violation

we are to make our rule and enforce it with or without USBC. Although we all agree the balls should meet USBC standards, we feel it would be a major issue trying to set up a check procedure and enforce a rule about it. Questionable equipment can be checked before the next completion by a non-partial shop. None of our state or local events checks equipment.

The state will not try to organize a pre-season or holiday tournament event, but will forward any flyer for any center wishing to do so.

Although we would recommend sectional sites to use some kind of controlled shot (not house shot), we will not require it. Coordinators should speak with their local proprietors and see if an agreement can be reached. Kegel can be contacted with help on machine settings.

There is nothing wrong with the 'Wild Card' rule and it should remain in effect to keep an even number of teams at each tournament site.

The idea was presented to change the team tournament format. It was suggested to address the issue of tournaments running too long. It was suggested we change the format from 2 regular games and 5 bakers to 12 baker games (15-12 games). Teams could bowl 2 games and then switch lanes in the set and then move sets after 4 games. This would be 3 fewer games plus we wouldn't have the break in action to seed teams after the regular games. It was further suggested making the stepladder matches the best 2 of 3 instead of the 2 game total. This could help keep matches exciting where they sometimes aren't when a team wins the first game by a large margin. This would also eliminate the need to add pins to determine the winner. The group agreed with this proposal unanimously.

I brought up the idea that someone had asked for 10 team medals instead of 7 as many teams have more than 7 and everyone helped get them there, not just the 7 that day. I told the group it was simply a matter of money. 3 extra medals would add a lot of cost. Someone suggested we at least get better medals like they have in the northwest. I told them to get me the info and I would check it out.

We decided each singles bowler can have 2 coaches in the bowlers' area.

The idea of asking the coaches and bowlers to sit didn't get much discussion. The group felt this was a part of the game and didn't want to take it away.

The idea of giving defending champions a free pass to the finals the next season was shot down after a little discussion.

I asked if we could make it a state rule to allow kids to bowl on Saturday if they miss school on Friday. Cathy Sumner said it was an IHSAA rule. The group agreed Sat. was a new day and it didn't matter if they missed Friday.