

## Indiana Girls Lacrosse Association Structure and Playoff System

### Playoff Committee Members:

Dave Elefante (Zionsville & INGLA VP)

Kenny Benoit (Bosse & INGLA Dir of Development)

Nick Estey (Brebeuf)

John Sherman (Officials Representative)

Jack Hettiger (INGLA President)

Annie Eustey (Penn)

Greg Motz (FJ Reitz)

Bob Rode (Lafayette Harrison)

Beth Boles (Heritage Christian)

### Background:

Over the course of two months, the playoff committee met numerous times to arrive at the proposal presented before you today. The primary reason the committee was formed was due to feedback from coaches during the 2018 Fall Coaches meeting, the absence of an accurate rating system due to the LaxPower website shut down, and to facilitate growth through our playoff system. An overview of the changes are below while the supporting detail is located in the subsequent sections.

### Overview of 2019 Season Changes:

- 1) Two State Champions will be crowned in 2019.
- 2) All Varsity teams will be separated into two Divisions (Class 2A & Class 1A) with four Sectionals in each.
- 3) Club Varsity teams will be able to compete for a state championship in Class 1A.
- 4) Divisions were decided using multi-year LaxPower RegIn Averages and Win-Loss records against divisional opponents.
- 5) Sectionals were created based on geography and school size that is similar to the IHSAA system.
- 6) In 2019, a blind draw will be used to determine playoff seeding within each sectional. There will also be a blind draw to determine seeding in the Final Four. (*Example: Sectional #1 will be a blind draw between Carmel, Culver, Penn, and Zionsville only*). Reason: 2019 scheduling has already taken place, an accurate rating system is not in place, and every varsity team will be eligible for the playoffs.
- 7) A policy similar to IHSAA that is based on Success Factors will facilitate movement between each division.
- 8) The regular season ends on Wednesday, May 15, 2019.
- 9) Sectional playoffs must start by May 16<sup>th</sup> and end by May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Teams in each sectional will agree on locations, dates, and times. All games do not need to be played at one field. Blind draws will take place in early May.
- 10) Class 2A and Class 1A Final Four & State Championship games will take place on May 31<sup>st</sup> & June 1<sup>st</sup>. Our intent will be to play the divisional final four games simultaneously. We will be actively looking for a site to accommodate this and have more information at the Spring 2019 Coaches Meeting.
- 11) State Structure and Playoff System will stay in place for a minimum of 3 years although amendments can be submitted to facilitate growth and competition.

### Overview of 2020 Season Changes:

- 1) Class 2A teams must have a separate JV team. If not, they will be moved into Class 1A.
- 2) Teams can appeal to switch divisions. All appeals will be heard and voted on by the playoff committee and INGLA Board.
- 3) You must play your sectional teams at least once during the 2020 regular season so Win/Loss record can be used for sectional seeding.
- 4) Sectional teams will rotate home and away games every year.
- 5) A minimum of six games in your 2020 regular season schedule must be against teams in your division.
- 6) 2020 Sectional playoff seeding will be based off sectional win/loss record and not a blind draw.
- 7) 2020 and beyond Final Four Pairing will be based on a set rotation that resets every three years.
- 8) 2020 Regular Season **WEEKEND** scheduling will take place at the 2019 Fall Coaches Meeting. You can schedule 2020 **WEEKDAY** games starting August 1<sup>st</sup>. Scheduling weekend games at the Coaches Meeting will allow us to plan play days more effectively.

## 2020 INGLA Divisions

<b>Class 2A</b>		<b>Class 1A</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bishop Chatard</li> <li>2. Brebeuf</li> <li>3. Carmel</li> <li>4. Castle</li> <li>5. Cathedral</li> <li>6. Culver</li> <li>7. Evansville Memorial</li> <li>8. Evansville North</li> <li>9. Fishers</li> <li>10. Guerin Catholic</li> <li>11. Hamilton Southeastern</li> <li>12. Noblesville</li> <li>13. Park Tudor</li> <li>14. Penn</li> <li>15. Warren Central</li> <li>16. Zionsville</li> </ol>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Avon</li> <li>2. Bloomington</li> <li>3. Bosse</li> <li>4. Brownsburg</li> <li>5. Center Grove</li> <li>6. Concord</li> <li>7. Crown Point</li> <li>8. Elkhart</li> <li>9. Evansville Central</li> <li>10. FJ Reitz</li> <li>11. Heritage Christian</li> <li>12. Homestead</li> <li>13. Lafayette Harrison</li> <li>14. North Central</li> <li>15. Northridge</li> <li>16. Roncalli</li> <li>17. St. Joseph</li> <li>18. Westfield</li> </ol>	
<b>Sectional 1: North Region</b>	<b>Sectional 3: South Region</b>	<b>Sectional 5: North Region</b>	<b>Sectional 7: South Region</b>
Carmel Culver Penn Zionsville	Bishop Chatard Brebeuf Cathedral Park Tudor	<del>Concord</del> Crown Point <del>Elkhart</del> Homestead Northridge St. Joseph	Center Grove Heritage Christian North Central Roncalli
<b>Sectional 2: North Region</b>	<b>Section 4: South Region</b>	<b>Sectional 6: North Region</b>	<b>Sectional 8: South Region</b>
Fishers Guerin Catholic HSE Noblesville	Castle Evansville North Evansville Memorial Warren Central	Avon Brownsburg Lafayette Harrison Westfield	Bloomington <del>Bosse</del> Evansville Central FJ Reitz

## **Playoff Eligibility**

### 2019:

All teams, regardless of Division (Class) should play at least 10 in state games to qualify for the postseason. Teams will also play two games >50 miles from their home school.

### 2020 and beyond changes:

Teams must play all teams in their sectional and must ensure that a minimum of six games are against divisional opponents. Once the minimum is satisfied, teams may schedule within whichever division they like. Teams will also play two games >50 miles from their home school.

Regular season **WEEKEND** game scheduling for 2020 will take place at the Fall 2019 Coaches Meeting. You may begin scheduling weekday games on August 1<sup>st</sup>. This change is being made to ensure game coverage efficiencies for officials and to allow our players to officiate IYLA Girls games if they are able. More information will be released on this initiative at the 2019 Spring Coaches Meeting.

## **Playoff Schedule**

### 2019:

- Sectionals (Begin May 16 must be concluded by May 23)
- Winner of each sectional moves on to the Final Four.
- All playoff seedings will be decided by blind draw by early May.
- Sectional playoff locations TBD by the members of the Sectional by Spring coaches meeting.
- Final Four games will take place on Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at a central location in Indianapolis. Our intent is to try to have each division play the final four games at the same time so opponents find out who they are playing at the conclusion of the game. The other division will play their games after.
- Both State Championship games will take place on Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at a central location in Indianapolis.
  - 1A Championship Game - Warm up at 12:30 pm, Game at 1:30, Trophy presentation at 3:30
  - 2A Championship Game - Warm up at 3:30 pm, Game at 4:30, Trophy presentation at 6:30

### 2020 and beyond changes:

- Sectional seeding decided by sectional win/loss record
- Championship Weekend will follow a similar format as 2019.
- 2020 Final Four seeding follows the format below:
  - Winner of North 1 vs. North 2 (2A)
  - Winner of North 5 vs. North 6 (1A)
  - Winner of South 3 vs. South 4 (2A)
  - Winner of South 7 vs. South 8 (1A)
- 2021 Final Four seeding will be: 1v3, 2v4, 5v7, 6v8
- 2022 Final Four seeding will be: 1v4, 2v3, 5v8, 6v7
- 2023 Final Four seeding will be: 1v2, 3v4, 5v6, 7v8
- Both State Championship games will take place at a central location in Indianapolis.
  - 1A Championship Game - Warm up at 12:30 pm, Game at 1:30, Trophy presentation at 3:30
  - 2A Championship Game - Warm up at 3:30 pm, Game at 4:30, Trophy presentation at 6:30

## **Movement Between Divisions**

Adopt policy similar to IHSAA success factor for movement between 2A and 1A divisions.

Sectional Championship win = 2 points

Final Four win = 3 points

State Championship win = 4 points

Each team will be assigned points based on their highest tournament success. Any 1A division team that accumulates 9 or more points in a three-year period will be automatically moved to the 2A division starting the next three year cycle.

1A division teams that move up to 2A but earn 3 points or less in a three year period will return to 1A division at the beginning of the next three year cycle.

*(Ex. Brownsburg wins 1A championship in 2019 for 4 points, final four in 2020 for 3 points, and final four in 2021 for 3 points. Since they accumulated 10 points, they will move to the 2A division for 2022, 2023, and 2024 seasons. If at the end of the 2024 season, Brownsburg has not earned 3 tournament points they return to 1A division. If they have earned 4 tournament points they will remain in 2A division for the next three seasons.)*

The tournament points reset every three years.

*(Ex. Lafayette Harrison wins 1A championship in 2019 for 4 points and loses in the Sectional Championship in 2020 and 2021. In 2022, their tournament points reset to 0 and they remain in the 1A division because they've only earned 4 points in the three year cycle. 4 for winning the state title and 0 not winning the sectional championship.)*

Class 2A teams can move to Class 1A if after three year cycle they have 1) not earned any tournament points, 2) carry a sub .500 record the 3 consecutive years and 3) Class 1A teams have moved up due to success. All three factors are required. Moving from Class 2A to Class 1A can be denied if the move will create a substantial imbalance in numbers between each division.

## **Appeals To Switch Divisions**

Teams assigned to Class 1A can request to be assigned to Class 2A. The playoff committee and executive board will consider and vote on these requests.

Teams assigned to Class 2A but would prefer to be in Class 1A may appeal to the playoff committee and executive board **must email the request to [INGLAPLAYOFFS@gmail.com](mailto:INGLAPLAYOFFS@gmail.com) by July 1st** and include why the change is both necessary and appropriate. The request will be accepted or denied based on the information. Sectional and Divisional alignments will be communicated by **July 15<sup>th</sup>**. Teams should not request to gain a competitive advantage or attempt to "game" the system. Attempting to tamper with the integrity of the league may result in sanctions against program.

Additionally, the Playoff Committee will review all varsity teams every year to ensure they are slotted in the proper division. If needed, the committee may make recommendations to the INGLA board to realign teams between divisions/sectionals for the purposes of competition, growth and/or fair play. The board will decide on appropriate action based on majority vote.