

Classification/Realignment/Scheduling Discussion

AIA Executive Board Meeting
17 Nov 14

Membership Feedback

- Based on discussions at conference, administrator and coaches meetings, the following options are being presented to the Board for their consideration

Steps to Enhancing the System

- Step 1: Improving the initial classification of member schools to work the same across all team sports
- Step 2: Scheduling within each division to be customized to the needs of that respective division

Step 1: Classification

- Three options exist for going forward with classification

Option 1

- AIA continues with the current process for classifying member schools in all sports for the next three year block, including the current division/section and scheduling process
- Initial Division placements come out this week
- Timeline would have schedules out by late March

Option 2

- Continue for one year with the current division and section alignment as it currently is
- AIA would assign independent schools a section within their current division
- AIA will release Division and Section assignments for next year by Dec. 5, 2014
- Member schools can then appeal their current division (up or down) and section placement by Dec. 17
- Sports Advisory Committees/Placement Appeals Committee will hear Division and Section placement appeals Jan. 7 to 13, 2015
- Member schools can appeal a denied request to the Board by Jan. 16, 2015
- AIA Board will hear final appeals and finalize divisions and sections on Jan. 20, 2015 for the 2015-2016 school year

Option 3

- AIA continues development on a new division alignment formula, with the goal to be presented and finalized with initial division and section placements at the January Board meeting
- The formula would take into account possible factors including enrollment, free and reduced lunch, rankings history, and perhaps participation, all of which over a three (3) to five (5) year span
- AIA to work with experts in the mathematics field regarding the creation of the formula

Option 3 cont'd

- Member schools can appeal their division and/or section placements between the January and February board meeting, with the final division and section placements locked in at the February Board meeting
- One Year schedules for 2015-2016 to the schools to add/edit, etc. released between end of March and mid April utilizing the scheduling process approved at the August 18, 2014 Board meeting

Step 2: Enhanced Scheduling

- For scheduling beginning fall 2016 through spring 2018
- Focus groups within each division that would generate a scheduling system that each division can work off of separately
- Would require the cooperation of multiple conferences where they overlap within divisions
- Division 1 would likely have the most consistent scheduling approach across all team sports

Step 2 cont'd

- Final recommendations from the conference committees/focus groups made by the April board meeting
- Final scheduling plan approved at the May board meeting
- AIA Staff begins development in the summer of 2015 to enhance the current computer scheduling program to meet the scheduling plan

Working Toward the Future

- To develop a classifying system whereby every two years (beginning with the 2018-2020 two year block) , the formula (or whatever is determined to be used) is used to promote schools up or relegate schools down
- Divisions and sections would essentially never change with the exception of the above
- Appeals can still be heard for schools that are promoted or relegated if they so believe they should remain where they were, and even by schools not promoted or relegated if they believe their current placement should be changed, prior to scheduling