

April Association Meeting

April 28, 2025 @ 7:00pm, Lake Park East Campus
Agenda/Minutes

Virtual Link: <https://meet.google.com/oqo-wpin-udy>



Call To Order: 7:05pm

Attendance

In person: Frank Novakowski, Alex Pajor, CJ Patton, Jeff Wronkiewicz, Blaise Blasko, Adrian Batista, Christian Lunsford

Virtual: Andy Isaacson, Jesus Bahena, Tony Ciezadlo, Greg Gebhardt, Andy Foerch, Bruce Beiersdorf, Steve Foerch, Luke Badger, William Norris, Brandon Tucker, Carlos Fuentes, Scott Phillips, Ryan Brown, Bill Cordts, Tom Huml, Donald Raymond, Howard Rubin, Daniel Bajek, William Norris, Ryan Dul, Sam Zeman, Xavier Barry, Jason Brandenburg, Keith Mukai

- Sectional Hosts: Please put QR code for our IHSGCA GoFundMe in program (can get it directly from website) - will also have in State meet program

Finances

Balance

- Current Balance: \$13,887.06
- Balance at this time last year: \$10,845.26

Association Dues:

Make sure to pay your Association Dues. These MUST BE PAID in order to be a full voting member. (Not including HOF members)

- Yes, I attended the Winter Clinic - **\$100.00**
- No, I did NOT attend the Winter Clinic - **\$35.00** (Head Coaches) & **\$30.00** (Judges/Asst. Coaches)

Methods of Payment (receipts upon request)

- Check (make Payable to IHSGCA & put name of School on Memo Line):
Adrian Batista at Niles West High School
5701 Oakton St, Skokie, IL 60077
- Cash - Give to any Executive Board Member
- Zelle : treasurer@ihsgca.org

Attendance requirement to be eligible for voting - If attending in person, must be present for 2 total meetings. If no meetings were attended in-person, there must be at least 3 virtually attended meetings. Along with all dues and associated fees paid.

- **Full Association Members/eligible voters vote on:**
 - Coach of the Year (May meeting), Senior Gymnast of the Year (sectionals), Hall of Fame Inductees (sectionals), Constitutional Amendment(s), Rules Proposals (none for this year), and Committee members (Executive Board, Steering, HOF, Rules, etc)
 - Frank Novakowski, Scott Phillips, and Alex Pajor will have the packets of SGOY, COY, and HOF Nominees at Sectionals this year. If you are an eligible voter, make sure you remember to vote at your Sectional meet!
 - Voting for at large/all COY awards is done at May meeting

GoFundMe: <https://gofund.me/edec6ec0> Copy and share the link to donate!



Scholarship Applications:

- **IHSGCA**- Due (4/26) (at least 1x \$1,000) [IHSGCA Form](#)
- **John Brinkworth** Due (4/26) (\$500 funded by Brinkworth Committee) [JOHN BRINKWORTH 2025](#)
- **Senior Gymnast of the Year**- (Scholarship Amount:) Due (4/26) [SGOY](#)
- **Ryan McDonough** - Due (4/26) (at least 1x \$500) - for true four year High School gymnast. Non USAG gymnast

Athletic Director Emerging Sport Sponsor


- Brandon Murphy (after offering the role up to other ADS in the West Suburban Conference) would be willing to act as a sponsor and coordinator for the Sport going forward. Should we reach out and potentially invite to State meet to see the active community: Tony C. - DG coach
 - Tony C will reach out and invite to sectional and State Meet.

2024 Season/Dates

- Sectionals - May 5, 6, 7, 2025 (Week 44)
 - [2025 Sectional Warm-Up/Competition Times](#)
 - As voted on by the Association in March - Only the Full bye 12 min. blocks will be open to all competitors. "Half-bye" blocks are closed.
 - The suggested Sectional Fees: \$400 (\$150 if just 1 individual is competing).
 - Make sure to remind your AD that the sectional meet is run as an invite, a contract should be sent out and a fee should be paid by the schools that attend.
 - \$1890 = 12 judges for each sectional

	Monday, May 5th		Tuesday, May 6th		Wednesday, May 7th
	Host: Glenbard West		Host: Niles West		Host: Lake Park
1	Geneva	1	Evanston	1	Conant
2	Glenbard South	2	Glenbrook North	2	Downers Grove Co-op
3	Glenbard West	3	Glenbrook South	3	Fremd
4	Hinsdale Central	4	H Park/Deerfield	4	Glenbard East
5	Hinsdale South	5	Leyden	5	Glenbard North
6	Naperville Central	6	Lyons	6	Hoffman Estates
7	Naperville North	7	Niles Co-op	7	Lake Park
8	Wbrook / AT Co-Op	8	Stevenson	8	Schaumburg
9	Wheaton Co-op	9	Lake Zurich*	9	Palatine

10	Kaneland*	10		10	Carbondale
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- **State Championship** - Saturday, May 17, 2025 (Week 45)
 -  2025 IHSGCA Boys State Final Gymnastics Schedule
 - Single Day session at Hoffman Estates HS
 - ALL STATE QUALIFIERS ARE AT-LARGE (No automatic Sectional qualifiers)
 - Top 10 Team Scores make it to State
 - Top 50 Individuals on each event make it to State
 - Please bring your whole team to spectate, whether your team/individual athlete qualifies or not. All coaches should bring their programs to the state meet. We need to pack the gym and give the younger squads a goal to work towards!
 - Conference Reps, please help remind all teams to attend.
 - Use social media to get people in the gym

- **Association Meetings** @ Lake Park East Community Room 7pm
 - Monday, 4/28/25
 - Monday, 5/12/25
 - Monday, 5/19/25 (HOF Banquet at Morava Center)

- **Golf Outing/Hall of Fame Banquet**
 - Golf - Monday, May 19 starting @ 2:30pm
 - Golf outing is for EVERYONE! COME OUT! (\$40/\$60 per person)
 - Tee times start at 2:30PM
 - Old Orchard Country Club - 700 W Rand Rd. Mt. Prospect, IL
 - Form on the website to register your team of 4 www.ihsgca.org
 - Hall of Fame banquet @ Gary Morava Center - 6:30pm - 8:30pm
 - EVERYONE is invited! Please send Adrian Batista a note if you plan on attending

- Ryan Brown: "Current gymnasts will be allowed to enter with their team for free. That's for the state meet."
- If the goal is to be consistent across all 3 sectionals, then we should all agree to charge the same fee for guest teams. That, however, is not what is currently happening, and there's not much the Association can do to prevent the host from contracting any fee or no fee. Same is true at the door. If the host school chooses not to charge spectators, or to charge spectators, then we have no say in what happens there.
- The downside, though it may seem small, is that we, as an association, look disorganized and undirected.
- Current standard: Cost of both spectator entrance fee, and invite contract fee is determined by each individual school host and/or district.

Committee Nominations:

- **Executive Board**
 - **Secretary (1)**
 - Outgoing: Lunsford
 - Nominees:

Candidate	Nominated By:	Seconded By:
Brock Herion	Alex Pajor	Christian Lunsford
Dylan Gnat	Frank Novakowski	Adrian Batista
Brian Bekkedal	Frank Novakowski	Adrian Batista

- **Treasurer (1)**
 - Outgoing: Badger
 - Nominees:

Candidate	Nominated By:	Seconded By:
Paul Kim	Frank Novakowski	CJ Patton
Ryan Dul	Adrian Batista	CJ Patton
Brian Bekkedal	Adrian Batista	Christian Lunsford

- **Vice President (1):** Luke Badger has respectfully declined nomination for VP. Proposal to nominate Christian Lunsford for the role of VP and nominate two new positions for Secretary and Treasurer.
 - Outgoing: Batista
 - Nominees: Christian Lunsford
 - Seconded: Adrian Batista

- **Steering Committee (5 positions)**
 - Outgoing: Cordts, Mukai, Patton, Novakowski, Zeman
 - Nominees:

Candidate	Nominated By:	Seconded By:
Frank Novakowski	Christian Lunsford	Alex Pajor
Ryan Dul	Adrian Batista	Alex Pajor
Tony Ciezadlo	Bill Cordts	Sam Zeman
Carlos Fuentes	Bill Cordts	Alex Pajor

CJ Patton	Christian Lunsford	Alex Pajor
Pratik Patel	Frank Novakowski	CJ Patton
Matt Meyer	Frank Novakowski	Christian Lunsford
Micahel Borge	Frank Novakowski	Alex Pajor
Dylan Gnat	Sam Zeman	CHristian Lunsford
Christian Stanicek	Bill Cordts	CJ Patton

- **Rules Committee (5 positions)**

- 2 permanent = D Foerch, Novakowski
- 5 Open Positions - Outgoing: Cordts, Tucker, Gebhardt, Hagel, Mukai

- Nominees:

Candidate	Nominated By:	Seconded By:
Scott Hagel	Christian Lunsford	Frank Novakowski
Brandon Tucker	Frank Novakowski	Adrian Batista
Greg Gebhardt	Frank Novakowski	Frank Novakowski
CJ Patton	Alex Pajor	Christian Lunsford
Alex Pajor	CJ Patton	Blaise Blasko
Jeff Wronkiewicz	CJ Patton	Adrian Batista

- **Hall of Fame Committee (2 positions)**

- Outgoing: Kafka, Rubin


- Nominees:

Candidate	Nominated By:	Seconded By:
Steve Kafka	Alex Pajor	Blaise Blasko
Howard Rubin	Alex Pajor	Blaise Blasko
Sam Zeman	Alex Pajor	CJ Patton
Frank Novakowski	CJ Patton	Blaise Blasko
Greg Gebhardt	Adrian Batista	Alex Pajor

- **Other Nominations**

- Outstanding Press Coverage Award
 - Nominees: Bill Stone
- Special Recognition
 - Nominees:
 - Howard Sokol
 - Robert Russell
 - Joe Skowronski
 - CJ Johnson
 - Superintendent: Dr. Lisa Small (District 211)
 - AD Downers South
- Other?
 - Outstanding Official of the Year (Google form will be created to vote for top choice. Winner receives a certificate)
 - Joe Skowronski
 - Randy Gentile
 - Hilary Carlson
 - Lora Kalka
 - Alex Pajor
 - Frank Novakowski
 - Brandon Tucker
 - Scott Hagel
 - Steve Kafka
 - Michael Borge
 - Doug Foerch

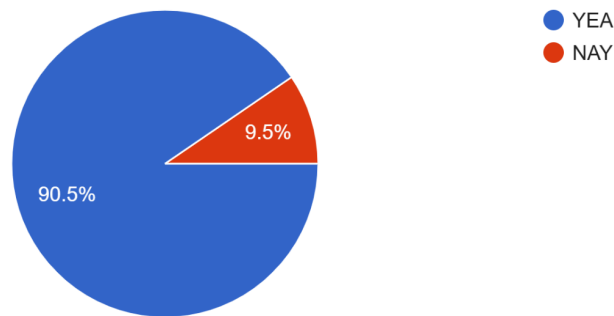
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSAL (to be voted on today)

- Constitutional Amendment regarding the HOF voting cycle and the creation of reserve funds (2/3s majority of voting members of association needed to pass constitutional amendment)
 -  HOF Article XIII Amendment
 - Key Points:
 - Money, matching the cost of the HOF banquet from the preceding year, is put aside every year for 3 years (beginning this year) to cover the cost of 3 years of HOF Banquet in the case that the IHSGCA ceases to operate
 - That reserve will be looked after by the HOF committee to ensure that the HOF ceremonies continue for 3 years. And if the Association ceases to operate, will donate all remaining funds according to the philanthropy code in the constitution.
 - HOF inductees will have the choice to be inducted in the same year they were voted in or opt for the following year.
 - 1 Pro:
 - Allowing inductees to be inducted the same year they are voted in. (Flexibility)
 - 1 Con:
 - Requires us to put away funding in reserve that may need to be used elsewhere.

- Voting will be done through google form tonight or tomorrow morning.
- Voting took place electronically through a google form.
- Ballot was sent to ALL ELIGIBLE MEMBERS. (Full Members, whose dues were paid and who had attended at least 2 virtual + 1 in person, 3 virtual, or 2 in-person meetings between September and April, and Hall of Fame Members (no dues) who had attended at least 2 virtual + 1 in person, 3 virtual, or 2 in-person meetings.
- Voters were given 24 hours to submit their vote. Ballot was emailed at 9:00pm on May 1 with voting closing at 9:00pm on May 2.
- **The Amendment passes, 19-2, with over $\frac{2}{3}$ majority voting in favor.**
 - Funds will be moved to a separate savings account matching the total cost of the previous years HOF banquet at the following Steering Committee Meeting - May 12, 2025.
 - Inductees (voting will take place at Sectionals) can choose to have their HOF ceremony this year or the following year.

In Favor of Passage of the Amendment

21 responses



Updates/News:

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Open Coaching Positions

Head Coach Positions: 2026


- **HINSDALE CENTRAL** Will be looking for a new coach as CJ Johnson will be retiring. Open teaching position as well, though not sure what subject. Reach out to CJ Johnson or Neil Krupika for more information.
- **Hoffman Estates High School** as Ryan Brown will be stepping away from coaching. Also means it may be time to look for a **new State meet site**.
- Hoffman Estates will also be looking for a Girls Team head coach
- There may be a teaching position available at HE, any interested parties should reach out to the AD Steve Lacni < slacni@d211.org >

Assistant Coach Positions:

- **Hoffman Estates - Dave Calish** will be retiring. Also, may further indicate our need for a new State Meet site as Dave was also the State Finals Meet director.

For the good of the Membership/New Business:

- ***Regular Season Judging Assignments for 2026 could potentially operate under one assignment chair*** in order to avoid scheduling conflicts, and better help organize our judging assignments for future seasons. There are only about 24-27 teams and much easier to manage under one meet assigner.
 - Might get to a point where we have to fund parts of our program . Previously officials paid through Nisoc traditionally, would this be affected if we have to start funding an assigner?
 - ADs like just “pushing the button” on Arbiter. It is much easier.
 - Ryan Brown - Interested in the position if Bob or Greg do not want to do it.
 - Greg Gebhardt, being one of the current assigners, is interested in maintaining his role as the assigner and would likely be the recommended choice. Though discussion should occur, and, if other nominees are brought forward, a vote should be conducted. This would not conclude the matter as most Conferences need to interview the assigner candidate. However the vote on the assigner would allow us to make a recommendation to the Conferences about who our single assigner would be.
 - Motion (Keith Mukai - Seconded by Adrian Batista): Motion that we vote that the association recommends that conferences coalesce to a single assigner.
 - Yay: 14
 - Nay: 0
 - Abstain: 1
 - Though this vote gives an idea of where the Association stands, it was requested that Members be given more time to consider this decision and gather more information on whether condensing to 1 assigner would be viewed by AD’s and Athletic Departments favorably. In the case that AD’s are in favor, or have no opinion that this would bring negative attention to the sport, we would provide them with a recommended candidate.
 - Right To Play Act (IL House Bill 3037) - Allows athletes to play both club and high school at the same time
 - However this has also been done for years. Club gymnasts have competed at the same time as high school. However, athletes could not compete at the national and the state series at the same time (they had to choose).
 - The IHSA does not like this bill because it weakens some of their “power” to approve or deny Club-to-HS crossovers.
 - Coaches should look at the Bill 3037 and, as it may positively affect our, and other sports. They should make their voices heard by calling their State Rep.

- Please examine the following links, (provided by Howie Rubin)
- <https://ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=3037&GAID=18&GA=104&DocTypeID=HB&LegID=161314&SessionID=>
- <https://news.wttw.com/2025/04/16/pared-back-right-play-bill-advances-general-assembly-awaits-senate-action>
- <https://capitolnewsillinois.com/news/right-to-play-bill-that-would-affect-high-school-athletes-advances-in-house/amp/>
- <https://www.sj-r.com/story/news/state/2025/04/17/pared-back-right-to-play-bill-advances-in-illinois-legislature/83127340007/>
- National Meet Discussion
 - Mike Naddour has reached out inviting Illinois to the national meet. It is in Virginia Beach, VA on June 4th *tentatively*. Potential to support this? What can the Association offer to athletes who do want to compete at this?
 - It is not USAG
 - Freshmen - Seniors could be allowed to compete
 - National Meet – Tabled for now, but something that should be discussed in the future as it could positively impact athletes' experience
- Current 2025 Scores:  2025 Boys Scores
- **Are there any questions about rules that are unclear?**
 - - [Rulebook 2025-2028](#) - [Interps 2025](#)
- **Rich Larsen** (long-time York coach, judge and one of our HOF members), is going to be inducted into the Iowa State Athletic Hall of Fame this October.
His college career:
 - NCAA Champion on High Bar (1975) 9.70 in Finals
 - Big Eight Champion on high bar (1975)
 - All-American on high bar (1975)
 - Iowa Team co-captain (1975)
 - Ended career with school record on vault at 9.70
 - Member of four Big Eight champion teams (1972-1975)
 - Member of two NCAA Championship teams (1973, 1974)
 Here is a link to a brief photo gallery:
<https://admin.cyclones.com/galleries/letterwinners-club/richard-larsen/3272>
- **Garry Denk Memorial information:**
 - Friday, May 23, 2025
 - St. Norbert's Church - 1809 Walters Ave. Northbrook, IL 60062

- Visitation from 12:00pm - 1:00pm
- Mass/Service from 1:00pm-2:00pm

- Celebration of Life to follow immediately at:
- Sunset Ridge Country Club - 2100 Sunset Ridge Rd Northfield, IL 60093
- Light appetizers and refreshments from 2:30pm-4:30pm

- If anybody is so inclined to finding a way to help and support his family as Garry has three kids (2 in college and 1 sophomore at GBN), there is a GoFund me page, but please do not feel obligated.

- [Supporting the Family of Garry Denk](#)

Conference Reps

- **CSL: Ryan Dul** rdul@glenbrook225.org
- **MSL: Jason Brandenburg** JBRANDENBURG@D211.ORG
- **WSC: Bill Cordts** bcordts@leyden212.org
- **Independent: CJ Patton** cpatton@lphs.org

Meeting Adjourn: 8:44pm