



2023-24 Annual Report
CT INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE BOARD OF CONTROL
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Boys/Girls Basketball Shot Clock

The CIAC Board of Control unanimously approved the use of a 35-second shot clock for the 2023-2024 boys and girls basketball season. Member schools were given several opportunities to have officials work with their shot clock operators prior to the season. There were a few challenges with the implementation of the new shot clock guidelines but, overall, the first year went very well.

NFHS Game of the Week

CIAC kicked off a program to highlight high school sports contests across the state. Using a \$50,000 grant from the NFHS Network, the CIAC partnered with WELI radio and WWAX TV to broadcast local high school games throughout all three sports seasons. George “The Coach” DeMaio was the play-by-play voice for all of the broadcasts, which included football, boys/girls basketball, ice hockey, softball and baseball.

Southwest Conference Proposal – Start Date of Fall Season

The CIAC Board of Control approved the Southwest Conference proposal which called for an earlier start date for several fall sports beginning in fall 2024. This change will allow more time for state tournaments to be played in soccer, field hockey and volleyball. These tournaments will start earlier and avoid potential three games in a five-day span.

CAS-CIAC Hall of Honor

On the evening of Thursday, April 18, CAS-CIAC inducted a class of six individuals into its Hall of Honor. The induction ceremony took place at the TPC River Highlands in Cromwell. The esteemed Hall of Honor class of 2023-2024 included Joseph Canzanella, Dave Johnson, Dr. V. Everett Lyons, Jr., Dave Maloney, Dr. Roseanne O’Brien Vojtek, and Dr. Steven Wysowski. This is the seventh class of inductees.

CAAD Boys and Girls Lacrosse Proposal – Expand from Three to Four Divisions

The CAAD Boys and Girls Lacrosse proposal to move from three to four tournament divisions was approved by the CIAC Board of Control. With the increased number of schools playing the sport of lacrosse (17 more boys teams since 2010; 19 more girls teams since 2019), both the CIAC Boys and Girls Lacrosse Committees endorsed the move.

CIAC Sheff Committee Considerations

The CIAC Sheff Committee met several times this year. The committee proposed that the CIAC permit charter/magnet schools to partner with a public high school located close to its school to serve as the designated option for school sports. In this scenario, students attending charter/magnet schools would no longer be allowed to play back at their sending district once a charter/magnet school has designated a partner public high school.

The idea would be to run this option as a pilot program in the 2024-2025 school year to determine its effectiveness at meeting the needs of Scheff district charter/magnet schools. If the CIAC Sheff Committee deemed this option a success, it would develop a proposal for CIAC Board of Control consideration that would establish an affiliate CIAC membership allowing the program to continue in the 2025-2026 school year and beyond.

School of Choice Designation Committee

The School of Choice Designation Committee met during January to consider a proposal from several vo-ag school principals. This proposal focused on what constitutes a school of choice. The School of Choice Designation Committee made the following recommendations to the CIAC Board of Control which were all approved.

- Add to the CIAC Handbook a passage that explains how a school is designated as a school of choice.
- Approve the proposal submitted to the committee by several vo-ag principals which requests that vo-ag high schools should not be classified as schools of choice and, therefore, not be subject to the CIAC's "success in tournament factor." The CIAC Board of Control gave a one-year approval for this proposal.

Sportsmanship

The CIAC remains focused on sportsmanship through the work of the CIAC Sportsmanship Committee and our sport committees. A proposal which enhanced the penalty for any coach who is disqualified from a game was submitted by the CIAC Sportsmanship Committee and approved by the CIAC Board of Control. The CIAC Boys/Girls Basketball Committee also submitted a proposal which requires any student-athlete who receives a technical foul to be removed from the game for "a tick of the clock" to allow the student-athlete to compose himself/herself and to prevent the situation on the court from escalating.