



Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc.
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NEWS RELEASE

January 24, 2012

IHSAA STATEMENT ON BOWMAN ACADEMY BASKETBALL INCIDENT

On January 14, 2012, Thea Bowman Leadership Academy participated in a boys' basketball contest with Detroit Consortium High School in the Dorian Dawkins Show Your Heart Memorial Classic in Saginaw, Michigan. In the third quarter of this contest, a bench clearing incident took place where student athletes and adult coaches from both schools entered onto the playing floor. Upon restoring order, a decision was made by tournament officials to terminate the contest prior to its normal conclusion.

The Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc. maintains by-laws that speak to the administrative responsibilities of a member school during interscholastic competition as well as the conduct, character and discipline of students and coaches. Commissioner Bobby Cox and Assistant Commissioner Phil Gardner conducted a meeting with Chief Academic Officer Gwendolyn Adell and Athletic Director and Boys' Basketball Coach Marvin Rea on Monday, January 23, 2012 to review specific details of this incident and to chart a course of correction to insure future incidents of this nature are eliminated.

It is with regret yet purpose the following sanctions have been issued to Thea Bowman Leadership Academy:

- The Thea Bowman Leadership Academy Boys' Basketball program is placed on probation through the conclusion of the 2012-13 winter season. This probation is a severe type of warning. It is official notice that serious violations have occurred, are a matter of record and future, similar incidents will not be tolerated.
- The suspensions issued by Thea Bowman Leadership Academy and already served by student athletes of the boys' basketball team are accepted by the IHSAA as immediate sanctions imposed on offending individuals.
- The contest was stopped during the third quarter and was never restarted. This contest shall be forfeited by Thea Bowman Academy and be reflected as a loss on the boys' basketball record for the 2011-12 season.
- The administration of Thea Bowman Leadership Academy shall continue to work with the boys' basketball program to insure acts of this nature are eliminated with a focus on proper behaviors in an education based athletic setting.

The IHSAA commends the administration of Thea Bowman Leadership Academy for their cooperation in this matter along with their commitment to reinforce and require proper sportsmanlike behavior from its representatives.

About the Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc. (IHSAA)

Founded in 1903, the purpose of the Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc. (IHSAA) is to encourage, regulate and give direction to wholesome amateur interschool athletic competition between its 408 member schools. The Association

provides state championship tournament series in 20 sports, 10 for girls and 10 for boys. Approximately 160,000 student athletes participate in IHSAA sports on an annual basis.

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