

The goal of this proposal is to allow for regional representation of the state, while also trying to fill the field with the best teams that didn't qualify automatically.

Proposal

The general set up of the current process would remain the same, teams would be assigned to a sectional site and grouping by the WIAA. However, there would be two(2) fewer sectionals per division. The top two teams at each sectional would qualify automatically to the state meet. The last four teams to qualify for each division would be come from the 3rd and 4th place teams at the sectionals. The four "additional" qualifiers would be selected from the 3rd and 4th place teams by a panel of coaches consisting of the WCCCA District Representatives. This panel would discuss the merits of each of these 16 teams in Division 1 and 12 teams in Division 2 and 3. The four "additional" qualifiers in each division would be announced on Sunday after sectional competition is completed.

General Information

Division 1 would be the largest 120 schools. They would be divided into eight(8) geographic representative sectionals with 15 teams each.

Division 2 would be the next largest 126 schools. They would be divided into six(6) geographic representative sectionals with 21 teams each.

Division 3 would be the remaining 150 schools. They would be divided into six(6) geographic representative sectionals with 25 teams each.

Rationale

The state meet should be a representation of the best of the entire state of Wisconsin. This means not only a geographic representation but also the best teams. There is no perfect way to do this and humans will always disagree on who is deserving from each section of the state. This proposal still has regional representative sectionals throughout the state and an extra qualifier component to try and satisfy both components of geography and best teams.

By staying with predetermined sectionals, coaches, runners and parents will have ample time to know where they are competing and against who and meet hosts will have time to organize, find workers and plan for hosting a sectional.

The committee would use any head to head competition from the year as a starting point of any discussion. Rankings, invitational results and other known comparisons would be used to select the four additional qualifiers. A 4th place team could not be selected unless the 3rd place team from their sectional was also selected, as head to head competition on the day matters.

Any coach who had their team involved in the additional qualifier discussion would recuse themselves for that division/gender discussion.

~~There would be no additional individual qualifiers and no replacement individual qualifies. For instance, runner A was an individual qualifier and their team is selected as an “additional” qualifier, there is no individual qualifier replacement. To offset the fewer sectionals, the top six individuals not on a qualifying team would be State Individual Qualifiers.~~

If any of the original six individual qualifiers from a sectional are a part of an additional qualifying team, they would be replaced by the next individual at that sectional so that there would be a total of six individual qualifiers from each sectional after the additional qualifying teams are announced.

Eligibility of teams for Additional Qualifier Spot

- 1) Only 3rd and 4th place teams from the Sectional Meet are eligible for consideration for at-large berth.
 - a. 16 teams would be eligible for consideration in D1
 - b. 12 teams would be eligible for consideration in D2 and D3

Criteria for Choosing Teams

- 1) Order of finish at the Sectional Meet – fourth place team would only be considered if third place team is selected for an at-large berth.
- 2) Head-to-head competition with more consideration given to meets later in the season.
- 3) Finishes against common teams from meets throughout the year, with more consideration given to meets later in the season.

Other Potential Criteria That May Be Considered

- 1) Strength of finish by sectional teams in prior year’s state meet.
- 2) Sectional team score compared to qualifying team scores.
- 3) Other data brought forth by district reps.

Process for Choosing Teams

- 1) After Sectional Meets are complete all district reps will meet virtually, as well as a representative from WIAA.
- 2) The WIAA representative will serve as moderator and compile results of votes when taken.
- 3) The committee will discuss the strengths of each team.
- 4) The district rep will present head to head results.
- 5) After discussion is complete, each member will get to vote for four teams to be at large berths. The results will be tabulated. Any team that receives a vote, will continued to be discussed. Any team not receiving a vote will be removed from the discussion.
- 6) The process will continue until the four teams for each division are selected.

- 7) Once the four teams are selected, the WIAA representative will announce the at large berths.