

# IHSAA News Release



Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc.

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## TICKETS

General admission tickets are \$10 per person and available to purchase online via [Tik-a-Tap](#) or at the Worthen Arena Ticket Office at Lower Level, Gate 1. Pre-school children admitted at no charge.

## DOORS OPEN

Doors open to spectators at 11:30 am ET on Saturday, one hour prior to the Opening Ceremonies.

## PARKING

Spectator parking is located just north of Worthen Arena. Please note that Ball State charges a \$5 all-day parking fee in the Worthen Arena lots. \$10 for vehicles that take up more than one parking space.

## WEBSTREAM

Saturday's competition will be streamed live by [IHSAAtv.org](#).

- Host Thad Vandeventer
- Analyst Camille Hayes
- Analyst Michelle Post

## TWITTER

Follow us @IHSAA1 and use hashtag #IHSAA



## THE 46TH ANNUAL IHSAA GYMNASTICS STATE FINALS

Saturday, March 10, 2018  
Worthen Arena, Ball State University, Muncie  
Opening Ceremonies, 12:30 pm ET  
Competition, 1 pm ET

Seven teams return from last year's field of state finalists including defending state champion Valparaiso along with four individual state champions as the 46th Annual IHSAA Gymnastics State Finals are contested Saturday at Worthen Arena on the campus of Ball State University in Muncie.

[Order of Competition](#) | [State Championship Records Book](#) | [State Tournament Results](#)

### ■ Defending Team Champion

Second-ranked Valparaiso is the defending state champion after winning its third state title in four years and state-leading 12th a year ago. All 12 have come under the guidance of coach Lorie Cook.

### ■ Defending Individual State Champions

Four individuals who stood at the top of the podium last year return this weekend seeking more state championship glory.

Sophia Hunzelman, Chesterton sophomore, is the defending all-around champ becoming the first freshman to win since 2005 and the eighth in the 45 years of the event. With another title on Saturday, she would become just the second gymnast to win the all-around crown in her first two years joining Valparaiso's Angie Cook in 1993 and 1994.

Hunzelman shared the uneven bars crown with Columbus East senior Adison Minor last season with both putting up scores of 9.65. Minor is the only participant on Saturday to have won the all-around at both the sectional and regional the last two weeks. She would become the third Columbus East gymnast to win the all-around and first since 2001 with another great effort on Saturday.

Valpo senior Rachel Moneta won the floor exercise with a 9.55 and was part of the Vikings championship team effort in 2017.

Columbus North senior Claire Thompson enters Saturday with five blue ribbon medals, the most of any participant in this year's state finals. She won the beam competition last year finishing second to Hunzelman in the all-around after winning the all-around, bars and beam in 2016. She was also part of the Bull Dogs state championship team as a sophomore in 2016.

■ Six schools have strung together multiple state finals appearances. Eleventh-ranked Fort Wayne Bishop Dwenger is making its record 19th consecutive appearance in the state finals and 23rd overall, the second-most in state history. Second-ranked Valparaiso is making its 16th straight visit and state-leading 25th. Fifth-ranked Columbus North returns for the 12th year in a row and eighth-ranked Homestead is making its fourth straight appearance. Top-ranked Chesterton and No. 3 Columbus East are each appearing for the third consecutive year.



## NOTABLES

### Former State Champions in Meet (2)

- Sophia Hunzelman (10) Chesterton (2017 All-Around, Bars co-champion)
- Adison Minor (12) Columbus East (2017 Bars co-champion).
- Rachel Moneta (12) Valparaiso (2017 Floor Exercise champion).
- Claire Thompson (12) Columbus North (2016 All-Around, Bars, Beam champion; 2017 Beam champion).

### Schools Represented (23)

Carroll (Fort Wayne), Chesterton, Columbus East, Columbus North, Crown Point, DeKalb, Elkhart Central, Fort Wayne Bishop Dwenger, Harrison (West Lafayette), Homestead, Huntington North, Indianapolis Scecina Memorial, Lafayette Jefferson, Logansport, McCutcheon, Merrillville, New Castle, North Montgomery, Pendleton Heights, Portage, Seymour, Valparaiso, Wawasee.

### Competing for Team Championship (9)

Carroll (Fort Wayne), Chesterton, Columbus East, Columbus North, Fort Wayne Bishop Dwenger, Homestead, Portage, Seymour, Valparaiso.

### Returning Teams from 2017 (7)

Carroll (Fort Wayne), Chesterton, Columbus East, Columbus North, Fort Wayne Bishop Dwenger, Homestead, Valparaiso.

### Consecutive State Finals Appearances

19: Fort Wayne Bishop Dwenger  
16: Valparaiso  
12: Columbus North  
4: Homestead  
3: Chesterton, Columbus East

### Sectional Champions (6)

Carroll (Fort Wayne), Chesterton, Columbus East, Elkhart Central, McCutcheon, Richmond.

### Regional Champions (3)

Chesterton, Carroll (Fort Wayne), Columbus North.

### Sectional All-Around Champions

- Jordan Bush (11) Chesterton
- Mia Clark (9) Harrison (West Lafayette)
- Adison Minor (12) Columbus East
- Analena Vanderzwaag (11) Elkhart Central
- Sophia Wright-Turflinger (12) FW Bishop Dwenger
- Cassandra Zehr (11) Pendleton Heights

### Regional All-Around Champions

- Whitney McKeon (11) Valparaiso
- McKinley Carroll (10) Carroll (FW)
- Adison Minor (12) Columbus East

## MCCOY HOODLEBRINK NAMED OUTSTANDING GYMNASTICS OFFICIAL

Brenda McCoy Hoodlebrink of Hagerstown is the recipient of the 2018 Interscholastic Athletic Official Award for excellence in the sport of gymnastics. Brenda will be honored in a special ceremony at Saturday's state finals tournament.



Each year, the Indiana High School Athletic Association, in cooperation with the National Federation of Interscholastic Officials Association, recognizes and honors an outstanding official in each of 11 sports during the school year. Each year, multiple individuals are nominated for the Outstanding Official of the Year award. While many

deserving nominees are submitted, only one is selected by his or her officiating peers in each sport.

Brenda graduated from Hagerstown High School and completed her Bachelors in Accounting at St. Mary of the Woods. In over 30 years of experience as a gymnastics official, she has worked 24 sectionals, 20 regionals, and 13 state finals, including today's state championship meet. Brenda and her husband, Jim, have four children: Tyler (24), Erin (22), Geoffrey (20), and Aimee (18).

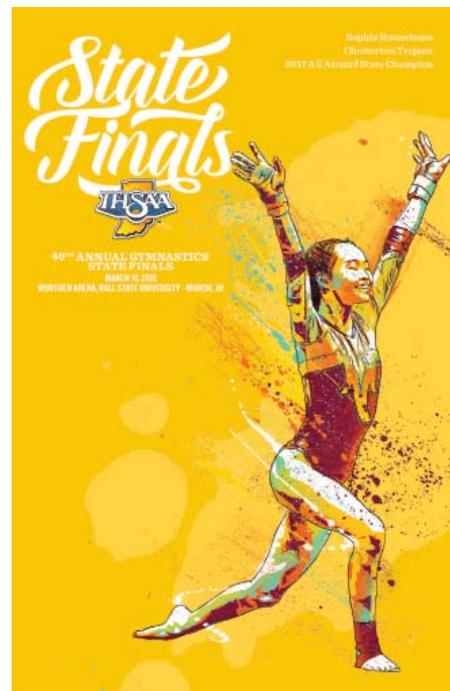
Brenda was selected for this honor by a committee representing the officials' associations. In Indiana there are 26 associations made up of men and women who assist in providing wholesome, worthwhile, and healthy activities for the student athletes in our state. Statewide, there are more than 8,000 officials licensed by the IHSAA in 11 sports.

### State Tournament Participation

Fifty-four athletes representing 23 different schools will compete in this weekend's event. Sectionals began two weeks ago with 78 schools and 525 participants.

### INDIANA HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASTICS FINAL COACHES POLL (2/21/18)

1. Chesterton (4)	60
2. Valparaiso	53
3. Columbus East	52
4. Carroll (Fort Wayne)	49
5. Columbus North	46
6. Crown Point	37
7. Northwestern	35
8. Homestead	29
9. Portage	27
10. Merrillville	25
11. Fort Wayne Bishop Dwenger	20
12. McCutcheon	13
13. Elkhart Central	9
14. DeKalb	5
15. Wawasee	4
16. Seymour	1



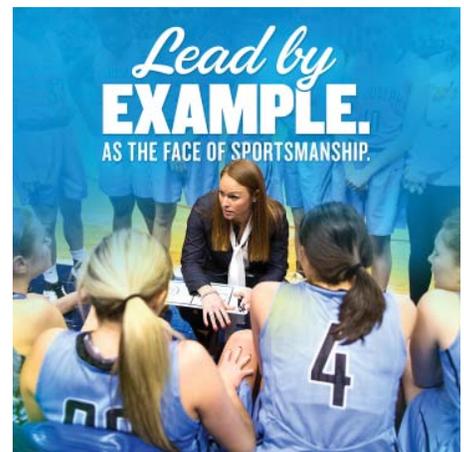
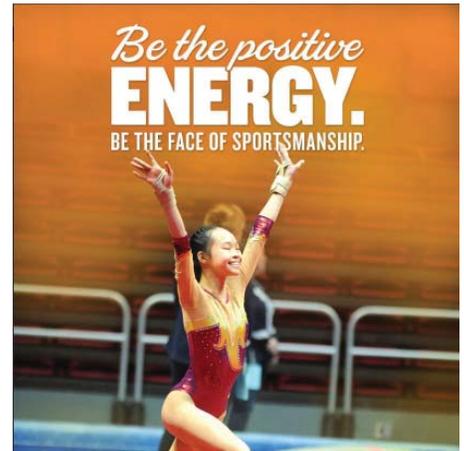
## 2017-18 IHSAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

### FALL SPORTS

Sept. 29-30	<b>GIRLS GOLF</b> <i>Prairie View Golf Club, Carmel</i> Team: Zionsville Individual: Kayla Bengel, Plainfield
Oct. 13-14	<b>BOYS TEAM TENNIS</b> <i>North Central HS, Indianapolis</i> Team: Carmel
Oct. 20-21	<b>BOYS SINGLES &amp; DOUBLES</b> <i>Park Tudor HS, Indianapolis</i> Singles: Patrick Fletchall, Carmel Doubles: Will Emhardt & Drew Weigel, Park Tudor
Oct. 27-28	<b>BOYS &amp; GIRLS SOCCER</b> <i>Sellick Bowl, Butler University, Indianapolis</i> <i>Carroll Stadium, IUPUI, Indianapolis</i> Class A Girls: Evansville Mater Dei Class A Boys: Fort Wayne Canterbury Class 2A Girls: Evansville Memorial Class 2A Boys: Evansville Memorial Class 3A Girls: Penn Class 3A Boys: Harrison (West Lafayette)
Oct. 28	<b>BOYS &amp; GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY</b> <i>LaVern Gibson Course, Terre Haute</i> Girls Team: Zionsville Girls Indiv: Emma Wilson, Greencastle Boys Team: Carmel Boys Indiv: Gabe Fendel, Hamilton SE
Nov. 4	<b>VOLLEYBALL</b> <i>@ Worthen Arena, Ball State Univ, Muncie</i> Class A: Lafayette Central Catholic Class 2A: Andean Class 3A: New Castle Class 4A: Avon
Nov. 24-25	<b>FOOTBALL</b> <i>Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis</i> Class A: Pioneer Class 2A: Southridge Class 3A: Evansville Memorial Class 4A: East Central Class 5A: Columbus East Class 6A: Ben Davis

### WINTER SPORTS

Feb. 9-10	<b>GIRLS SWIMMING &amp; DIVING</b> <i>IU Natatorium, IUPUI, Indianapolis</i> Team: Carmel
Feb. 16-17	<b>WRESTLING</b> <i>Bankers Life Fieldhouse, Indianapolis</i> Team: Indianapolis Cathedral
Feb. 23-24	<b>BOYS SWIMMING &amp; DIVING</b> <i>IU Natatorium, IUPUI, Indianapolis</i> Team: Carmel
Feb. 24	<b>GIRLS BASKETBALL</b> <i>Bankers Life Fieldhouse, Indianapolis</i> Class A: Marquette Catholic Class 2A: Central Noble Class 3A: Northwestern Class 4A: Warren Central
March 10	<b>GYMNASTICS</b> <i>Worthen Arena, Ball State University, Muncie</i>
March 24	<b>BOYS BASKETBALL</b> <i>Bankers Life Fieldhouse, Indianapolis</i>
<b>SPRING SPORTS</b>	
June 1	<b>GIRLS TRACK &amp; FIELD</b> <i>Robert C. Haugh Track &amp; Field Complex, Indiana University, Bloomington</i>
June 2	<b>UNIFIED TRACK &amp; FIELD</b> <i>Robert C. Haugh Track &amp; Field Complex, Indiana University, Bloomington</i>
June 2	<b>BOYS TRACK &amp; FIELD</b> <i>Robert C. Haugh Track &amp; Field Complex, Indiana University, Bloomington</i>
June 1-2	<b>GIRLS TEAM TENNIS</b> <i>North Central HS, Indianapolis</i>
June 8-9	<b>GIRLS SINGLES &amp; DOUBLES</b> <i>Park Tudor HS, Indianapolis</i>
June 9	<b>SOFTBALL</b> <i>Bittinger Stadium, Purdue University, West Lafayette</i>
June 12-13	<b>BOYS GOLF</b> <i>Prairie View Golf Club, Carmel</i>
June 15-16	<b>BASEBALL</b> <i>Victory Field, Indianapolis</i>



### MEDIA INFORMATION

**TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR:** Connie Walters  
**ASSISTANT TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR:** Barbi Kern  
**TOURNAMENT ADMINISTRATOR:** Sandra Walter, Assistant Commissioner

**MEDIA HOST:** IHSAA Sports Information Director Jason Wille will be on hand to assist you in your coverage of the event.

**PARKING:** Please note that Ball State charges a \$5 all-day parking fee in the Worthen Arena lots. \$10 for vehicles that take up more than one parking space.

**MEDIA CREDENTIALS:** Media Credentials: Deadline is Thursday, March 8, 2018, 4 pm ET. The 2017-18 IHSAA State Finals Media Credential issued previously this year is good for admission. For those news organizations without credentials and planning to cover the gymnastics state finals, please apply by e-mailing your request (with name of individual applying) to IHSAA Sports Information Director Jason Wille at [jwille@ihsaa.org](mailto:jwille@ihsaa.org). E-mail requests MUST originate from a recognized business account; e-mails from personal accounts (ie: yahoo.com, aol.com, etc.) will not be accepted. Approved media credential requests may be claimed at the ticket windows inside Lower Level, Gate 1 of Worthen Arena. Please have proper identification available.

**MEDIA SERVICES:** Complimentary copies of the official state finals program will be available and includes the order of participants in each event. The facility also is equipped for free wireless internet access. Worthen Arena's Media Work Room is located at Room 203 on the Main Level. Electrical power and phone lines will be available for use there.

**MEDIA SEATING:** An open seating policy will be used on Saturday at the north end of the competition area.

**PHOTOGRAPHERS:** During the event, please use discretion when photographing the athletes as your camera strobe can pose a danger to the safety of the athletes during their performances. With the exception of the IHSAA's Official Photographer from "Champions Illustrated", all photographers should remain off the floor until all competition has concluded.

**RESULTS:** Copies of the official results will be distributed at the meet's conclusion and will also be posted to the IHSAA website at [IHSAA.org](http://IHSAA.org).