

Iowa Activities Director Mentor Leadership Program Process

Program Overview

The Iowa Activities Director Mentor Leadership Program serves first year Activities Directors. The program seeks to promote excellence in athletic administration. Through the Iowa Activities Director Mentor Leadership Program, new ADs will build their leadership skills, develop strategies and systems, enhance resiliency, create a collaborative culture, expand reflective habits, and engage in best professional practices. The Mentor's essential duties will include providing expertise, guidance, insight, strategies, suggestions, support, and systems.

Program Connections & Expectations

AD Professional Development Opportunities

Throughout the year professional development opportunities are scheduled. These opportunities involve face-to-face meetings with Mentors and Mentees. New AD Workshops I & II will include representatives from the Iowa High School Athletic Directors Association, Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union, and the Iowa High School Athletic Association. Updates from each organization and sessions specific to the core responsibilities and essential duties of athletic administration will be presented. The Fall IHSADA District Meetings and the IHSADA State Convention are additional events for professional development, relationship building, and networking. The IHSADA AD Toolbox Mentor Leadership Program Folder is another resource for professional development with access to informational documents.

Monthly Mentor Leadership Virtual Meetings

Each month, new Activities Directors will meet with their Mentor in a virtual session to share successes and challenges, ask questions, explore "Tips of the Month", examine processes, and discuss strategies and solutions.

Site & Game Day Visits

The Mentor Leadership Program includes Mentor on site visits to schools. These visits offer the Mentor the opportunity to relationship build and connect and support the new AD in their district environment. In addition, the visits provide the Mentor the opportunity to connect with School Administrators and to advocate for the new AD.

Phone & Email Correspondence

New ADS will have the Mentor as a resource throughout the year. The Mentor will be a source for information and support, sharing experiences, serving as a sounding board, and offering feedback. Mentors will initiate contact each mid-month.

Surveys & Program Development

Surveys will be a tool for program review and development. Mentors and new ADs will be asked to complete three surveys - Fall, Winter, and Spring. The results provide for Mentor Leadership Program adjustments to best meet the needs of developing new athletic administrators and to further program objectives and best practices.

IHSADA Mentor Contacts

Tom Lipovac

Harley Schieffer

Brent Buttjer

Matt Weis