

# Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Daniel Klett

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library  
*Sports Stories – IHSA Oral History project*

Interview # SIH-A-L-2016-065

Daniel Klett, who has experiences with Illinois sports and the IHSA as a student, coach, principal and official, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Sports Stories-IHSA Oral History project*.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Dec. 22, 2016 Location: Wauconda High School, Wauconda, IL

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: \_\_\_\_\_

Edited by: \_\_\_\_\_

Interview being  
processed

Total Pages: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Time: 1:55 / 1.92 hrs.

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The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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# Abstract

Daniel Klett, *Sports Stories-IHSA*, SIH-A-L-2016-065

**Biographical Information Overview of Interview:** Dan Klett was born in August, 1966 in Elmhurst, Illinois. He graduated from Glenbard East High School in Lombard, Illinois in 1984, where he was on the school's football, wrestling, and tennis teams. He earned an Associate degree from the College of DuPage in 1986, and a BS degree from Eastern Illinois University in 1990. (In 1997 Dan received a MS degree in Educational Administration from EIU.) Dan started his teaching career at Lowpoint-Washburn, where he taught high school science classes, and coached high school softball and junior high volleyball from 1991-1993. He then moved to Sullivan Community School District 300 where he again taught science, was the middle school athletic director and coached high school football and junior high volleyball from 1993-1997. From 1997-2002 Klett was the Dean of Students and Assistant Athletic Director at Woodstock High School. Dan also coached baseball and was a volunteer football coach, which included a state championship team. Moving to Wauconda High School in 2002, Dan became the assistant principal and then principal, where he still served at the time of the interview. Klett was involved with the IHSA's Legislative Commission from 2005-2009. Since 2009, he has served on the IHSA Board of Directors, including as Secretary (2011) and then President from 2012-2017, where he continues at this time.

This interview covers Dan's involvement with the IHSA through the eyes of a student athlete, sports official, coach, high school principal, and a long time IHSA Board Member and Legislative Commission member since 2005. Dan also served one year as IHSA Secretary and had a four year stint as IHSA President, from 2012-2016. Klett discusses the challenges and impact of the non-boundary school multipliers, the formation of cooperative teams in certain sports, the expansion of class championships, the movement of state championship sites, the challenges of non-school club sports, increased attention to sports safety, expanding programs for handicapped students, and the importance of non-sport IHSA activities such as music, speech, journalism, bass fishing, and the scholastic bowl. The complex nature of residency transfer policies were also covered, as was the relationship between the IHSA and the Chicago Public Schools. Dan also addressed the ever changing conference realignment for football. Finally, he reviewed the IHSA governance model. Dan's breadth of experience offers a unique perspective.

**Subject Headings/Key Words:** Illinois High School Association; multiplier for non-boundary schools; selecting championship sites for high school sports; IHSA residency and transfer policies; relationship between football and conference alignments;

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