

Scott Johnson Biography



Scott Johnson, - Class of 1974 - b. November, 1956 -High School Activities: Latin Club 3, 4 (President 3); Mirror Staff 3-4; Golf 2; WEPS.

Scott Johnson has served IHSA member schools as an Assistant Executive Director since July 2001. Johnson began his career in August 1994 as Data Processing Manager.

During his tenure at the IHSA, Johnson has managed the Association's internal and external computer operations, including the IHSA Web site, and served as editor of IHSA souvenir programs and other publications. Since 2002, Johnson has run the IHSA's team chess tournament. Johnson served as chairman of the NFHS Records Committee, which publishes the National High School Sports Record Book, from 2005 to 2009. He currently serves on the NFHS Technology Committee and is the IHSA's representative on the Board of Directors of the Peoria Riverfront Museum.

His love of high school sports history and records has earned him the unofficial title of IHSA historian. In 2002, the IHSA published a book written by Johnson and his wife, Julie Kistler. *Once There Were Giants* commemorates the Hebron Green Giants, who won the 1952 single-class basketball championship with an enrollment of just 98 students. Johnson edited and co-wrote *100 Years of Madness*, a history of the IHSA boys' basketball tournament that was published in 2007. He also initiated the IHSA Archives project, a large collection of films and videotapes of IHSA state final events available on YouTube.

Prior to joining the IHSA, Johnson worked for six years as a systems programmer in the University of Illinois' Computer-Based Education Research Laboratory, and before that for seven years at Control Data Corporation in Minneapolis.

He has been nominated for the Elgin Sports Hall of Fame for 2017 and his bio states: Scott Johnson (Elgin High 1974), nominated as a friend of sports, is recognized as one of the most influential technological innovators among state high school associations in the country. Scott has worked for/with the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) since 1994, first as a data

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processing manager and, presently, as an assistant executive director (since 2001). He built the IHSA website, served as editor of IHSA souvenir programs and other publications, has run the state chess tournament since 2002, and initiated IHSA's ARCHIVES and SCOREZONE projects. Johnson serves as the IHSA representative on the Board of Directors of the Peoria Riverfront Museum and also currently serves on the National Federation of High School Technology Committee. His unofficial title is "IHSA HISTORIAN" and has co-authored the books, *Once There Were Giants* (Hebron 1952 state basketball champions) and *100 Years of Madness* (the history of the IHSA basketball tournament). Locally, Scott compiled the Elgin High School Basketball Record Book that contains every game and most box scores in EHS basketball history through 1985 and has served as a reference for the ESHOF and local sportswriters for info on EHS players and teams. Johnson received the NFHS Citation Award from the National Federation of High School Associations in 2015, one of the most highly regarded achievements in high school athletics and the performing arts.

Johnson is a graduate of Elgin High School and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He and his wife Julie (Kistler, '74, a Notable Graduate of EHS) live in Bloomington IL.