IHSAA throws Washington soccer team a curve

DES MOINES - The Iowa High School Athletic Association changed the pairings for the Class 3A boys state soccer tournament on Wednesday and gave the Washington Warriors a new opponent, just one day before the event begins.

Washington will face Iowa City West - not Bettendorf - in the quarterfinals at 5 p.m. Thursday at the Cownie Soccer Park in Des Moines.

Paul James, the activities director at Washington, said the IHSAA made a mistake when it originally seeded the teams. The IHSAA had Bettendorf as the No.5 seed and Iowa City West as the No.6 seed, when it should have been just the opposite.

Washington has been the No.4 seed all along, paired to face the No.5 seed in the opening round. The Warriors thought they'd play Bettendorf, but now they'll face lowa City West instead.

lowa City West originally thought it would face No.3 seed Dowling Catholic on Thursday, but now Bettendorf will play Dowling.

The seedings are based on a points formula, based on victories. The IHSAA made a mistake in its original computations.

The new pairings do not affect Cedar Rapids Kennedy. The Cougars will face West Des Moines Valley in the opening round on Thursday.

Here are the compelte first-round pairings, with all games Thursday at 5 p.m.:

No.1 West Des Moines Valley (20-1) vs. No.8 Cedar Rapids Kennedy (14-5) No.4 Cedar Rapids Washington (16-3) vs. No.5 Iowa City West (15-4) No.2 Johnston (18-1) vs. No.7 Sioux City West (14-3) No.3 Dowling Catholic (16-3) vs. No.6 Bettendorf (14-3-2)