



Kentucky High School Athletic Association

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Sports News

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FORCHT BANK TO SPONSOR STATE BASEBALL; APPLEBEE'S PARK TO HOST THROUGH 2012

Forcht Bank has signed a three year agreement to serve as title sponsor of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association's State Baseball Tournament, KHSAA Commissioner Brigid DeVries announced during a press conference held at Applebee's Park on Thursday. In addition, Commissioner DeVries and Alan Stein of the Lexington Legends announced that the park will continue to serve as host site of the event through 2012.

"We are extremely pleased to announce both the partnership with Forcht Bank to serve as title sponsor and to continue our partnership with Applebee's Park and the Lexington Legends," Commissioner DeVries said. "It is a strategic goal of the Association to continue to find ways of financial support to not only fund various championships, but assist in the overall funding for all of our programs. We've had an association with Forcht Group since 2004 and look forward to working with Terry Forcht, Dorsey Hall, Eddie Woodruff, Michael Goins and the rest of the banking staff for a successful partnership.

"Alan Stein is Mr. Baseball and his love for the game and the desire to host our baseball tournament has allowed us to stage the event in a premiere facility and provide the participants, families and fans with memories that will last a lifetime. Applebee's Park is a perfect home to the event and we appreciate the continued commitment from the Legends and general manager Andy Shea as well as Alan Stein," DeVries concluded.

Forcht Bank has 34 banking centers throughout Kentucky with more than \$1 billion in total assets, making it one of the top 10 bank holding groups based in Kentucky. Forcht Bank's name represents the founder, Corbin businessman Terry E. Forcht and his commitment to community based banking across the Commonwealth. Forcht Bank is headquartered in Lexington.

"Our commitment to sports and the community is owed to Terry Forcht," Forcht Bank President & CEO Dorsey Hall said. "Sponsoring this tournament will help further these ideas."

Applebee's Park first served host to the event in 2002, when Covington Catholic knocked off Trinity (Louisville), 5-3 in the championship. This year will mark the seventh consecutive year that Applebee's Park will host the event.

"Bringing and maintaining pro baseball in Lexington has helped high school kids improve," Lexington Legends President & CEO Alan Stein said. "Kids playing baseball will continue to dream of making it to Applebee's Park and playing in the tournament."

"Having the agreement between the KHSAA and the Legends is one of the biggest events at Applebee's Park," Legends General Manager Andy Shea said. "You can't put a price on what it means to the kids."

Lexington Mayor Jim Newberry issued the following statement on the continuance of the event being in Lexington. "Lexington is proud to host the State Baseball Tournament," Mayor Newberry said. "It is great to have an opportunity to welcome these outstanding young people and their families to our city. I would like to express my appreciation to the sponsors, Applebee's Park and KHSAA officials who have made this possible."

The dates for this year's Forcht Bank/KHSAA State Baseball Championship are June 12-14 with all four quarterfinal games on Thursday. Semifinals will be played on Friday and the State Championship is scheduled for Saturday.

BASKETBALL TICKETS

Tickets to the 2008 National City/KHSAA Boys' and Houchens/KHSAA Girls' State Basketball Tournaments continue to be on sale through the KHSAA office and online at khsaa.org. At this time, only full tournament sets of tickets (one ticket to each of the eight sessions) are available. Lower arena seats are priced at \$116 each and upper arena seats are priced at \$66 each. Tickets will be on sale through the KHSAA until Feb. 22 for the boys' and March 7 for the girls' event. Beginning Feb. 25 all ticket sales for the boys' event will only be available through the Rupp Arena box office and/or ticketmaster.com.

Individual session tickets for the boys' event are now on sale through ticketmaster.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

Feb. 25-March 1	District Basketball Tournaments
March 3-8	Regional Girls' Basketball Tournaments
March 3-11	Regional Boys' Basketball Tournaments
March 14	KHSAA Special Board of Control Meeting, Bowling Green
March 12-15	Houchens/KHSAA Girls' State Basketball Tournament, WKU, Bowling Green
March 19-22	National City/KHSAA Boys' State Basketball Tournament, Rupp Arena, Lexington
April 12	Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame Induction Banquet, Lexington

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About the Kentucky High School Athletic Association

The Kentucky High School Athletic Association was organized in 1917 and is the agency designated by the Kentucky Department of Education to manage high school athletics in the Commonwealth. The Association is a voluntary nonprofit 501 3(c) organization made up of 280 member schools both public and private. The KHSAA sanctions state championships in 19 sports, licenses and trains over 3,900 officials, provides catastrophic insurance for its member school student athletes as well as overseeing coaching education and medical symposium programs.