



# Kentucky High School Athletic Association

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: AUGUST 31, 2009**

### **GAME TIMES FOR 2009 COMMONWEALTH GRIDIRON BOWL FINALIZED**

Game times for the 2009 Commonwealth Gridiron Bowl were approved the KHSAA Board of Control at a special August meeting.

The action begins on Friday, Dec. 4 at 11 a.m. central time with the Class 4A championship. The Class 2A championship follows at 3 p.m. with the Class 5A championship game scheduled to kick off at 7 p.m.

Saturday's contests will also kick off at 11 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. The Class 3A championship game will be played first, followed by the Class 1A title game. The Class 6A championship will be the final game of the weekend.

All games will be played at the newly renovated Houchens/L.T. Smith Stadium on the campus of Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green. The Commonwealth Gridiron Bowl will be played at WKU in 2009 and 2010 after more than 30 years in Louisville.

### **HYPE STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE A BIG SUCCESS**

The annual HYPE/KHSAA Student Leadership Conference enjoyed one of the largest turnouts in its nine-year history as 461 students participated.

The conference held on Wednesday, Aug. 26 Heritage Hall in Lexington, featured teamwork exercises, sportsmanship initiatives and the chance to discuss current issues. Following an opening address from KHSAA Commissioner Brigid DeVries, students participated in breakout sessions that included leadership presentations by former University of Kentucky basketball player Cameron Mills and the Kentucky National Guard. Students also had a chance to get hands-on team building experience through activities organized by UPS. Sarah Funston, a softball player for Morehead State University and a college facilitator at the National Federation of High Schools conference, challenged students to think critically and determine what qualities are common to good leaders. Conference organizer Butch Cope has patterned the conference after the annual NFHS Student Leadership Conference in Indianapolis and has seen the effect the experience has had on Kentucky's student ambassadors when they return home to put on their own event.

"We've been at capacity each year and we're looking at ways of expanding it or taking it regionally to get even more people involved," said Cope. "We license and train coaches and officials, so this ties right back into our overall mission of helping student-athletes."

### **SPORTS SAFETY WORK GROUP MEETING**

The Sports Safety Work Group will hold a meeting Sept. 1 at 10 a.m. at the KHSAA office in Lexington.

### **SOCCER STATS BEGIN THIS WEEK, FOOTBALL NEXT WEEK**

Cumulative season statistics for boys' and girls' soccer will be published on Thursday, Sept. 3 and will continue each week through the end of the season. The first weekly football statistics will be published on Thursday, Sept. 10, following week three on the season calendar (some schools began play in week zero). Statistics and other sports specific information may be found on the KHSAA website ([www.khsaa.org](http://www.khsaa.org)).

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### **UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS**

September 1	Sports Safety Work Group Meeting, KHSAA Office, Lexington
September 14-15	Regular KHSAA Board of Control Meeting, KHSAA Office, Lexington
September 22	KHSAA Annual Meeting of Delegates, Lexington Center, Lexington