

Commissioner's Notes

February 2005

PLEASE COPY AND DISTRIBUTE TO ALL ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL.

FROM THE COMMISSIONER'S DESK



The State Swimming and Diving Meet and the State Wrestling Championships are approaching fast and basketball "March Madness" is just around the corner. KHSAA staff is working diligently to prepare for these great events and we look forward to seeing you and your student athletes at any and all of them.

Spring sports practice begins February 15th and the Track and Field, Baseball and Softball Rules Clinics are being conducted now for coaches and officials. Please remind your coaches to double check their rosters to ensure that all participants are eligible by KHSAA rules.

Best wishes to you and your student athletes as they prepare for the upcoming state championships!

COUNTING BASKETBALL GAMES

It is critically important that no team violate KHSAA Bylaw 25, "Limitation of Seasons". As we get close to the end of the basketball season, we strongly encourage a mutual discussion among teams at the district tournament meeting, as it relates to any possible or potential problems that could conceivably exist. Let's all work together to see that no team plays too many regular season contests and that all student athletes are able to participate in post season play.

BYLAW 25 REMINDER AND CLARIFICATION

At the request of school personnel at KHSAA member schools, the Commissioner and staff have reviewed several inquiries regarding permissible activities during the school year. Following this review, the following list is attached to serve as a guide for member school representatives.

The following things CANNOT happen during the school year but prior to the first day of practice and the school still be in compliance with Bylaw 25-

A school, group of school representatives, and/or school or team-related booster group (including parents) paying the entry fee for a team into a league or tournament where a majority of the participants on a team or squad are from the same high school;

A school, group of school representatives, and/or school or team-related booster group (including parents) paying other necessary fees including

umpire payment and game or facility management where a majority of the participants on a team or squad are from the same high school;

A school, group of school representatives, and/or school or team-related booster group (including parents) providing or funding transportation for team members to go to games, or tournaments where a majority of the participants on a team or squad are from the same high school;

The wearing of school issued or school identifying apparel, including sleeves, jerseys, pants, catching gear or hats by players who have represented the school during the previous or any season during games or tournaments;

The use of the school facility for organized competition at which its students are participants and for which no rental/lease arrangement exists using comparable regional fair market values for use of the facility where a majority of the participants on a team or squad are from the same high school;

The use of the school baseball facility for organized competition at which its students are participants and at which members of the high school coaching staff are involved in coaching, facility management and preparation, or umpiring where a majority of the participants on a team or squad are from the same high school;

The use of the school nickname or school name on non-school issued apparel during this time;

Any involvement by the coaching staff in making game-like preparations for the school facility including but not limited to, baseline marking, outfield line marking, batter's box marking, maintenance of the mound and base cut-outs; or the use of school facilities and/or equipment for such setup. This does not preclude the coaching staff or others participating in non-sports specific off-season turf and facility maintenance.

DAWAHARES/KHSAA HALL OF FAME

Sixteen former high school coaches, athletes, officials and/or administrators make up the 18th class scheduled to be inducted into the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame at the Lexington Center, Tues., March 15, 2005.

A listing of this year's inductees is posted on the KHSAA website.

Tickets to the event may be purchased by contacting the KHSAA.

NATIONAL CITY SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE

National City Bank will be awarding a total of 32 scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each, one each to a boy and girl from each of the 16 basketball regions.

The scholarships are open to athletes of all sports. The application form is posted on the KHSAA website under "Hot News". Deadline for applications is Feb. 25, 2005. Winners will be recognized at the State Basketball Tournaments in March.

If you have any questions about the scholarship program, feel free to e-mail bcope@khsaa.org or call the KHSAA.

STATE SLOW PITCH TOURNAMENT DATE AND FORMAT CHANGE

The State Slow Pitch Softball Tournament originally scheduled for May 13 -14, 2005 has been changed due to a conflict with host facility commitments. The 2005 KHSAA State Slow Pitch Tournament has been rescheduled for May 21 at the RiverShore Sports Complex in Hebron, KY.

The format for the Slow Pitch State Tournament has also changed. Only eight teams will advance to the KHSAA State Slow State Tournament after qualifying in Sub-State Tournaments the previous weekend.

2004-05 CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

Feb. 18-19	Swimming	UK Lancaster Aquatic Center, Lexington
Feb. 24-26	Wrestling	Frankfort Convention Center, Frankfort
March 16-19	National City/KHSAA Boys' Basketball	Rupp Arena, Lexington
March 23-26	Houchens Industries/KHSAA Girls' Basketball	WKU Diddle Arena, Bowling Green
May 21	Slow Pitch Softball	RiverShore Complex, Hebron
May 26-28	Fifth Third/KHSAA Boys' & Girls' Tennis	UK Boone/Downing Complex, Lexington
June 3-4	Boys' & Girls' Track	UK Shively Track, Lexington
June 10-11	Fast Pitch Softball	Jack Fisher Park, Owensboro
June 15-18	Fifth Third/KHSAA Baseball	Applebee's Park, Lexington

SPRING SPORTS REMINDER

The first spring sport contest date for tennis, track, baseball and softball is March 28. The Association will rigidly enforce out-of-season restrictions and penalize detected violations per Bylaw 25.

APRIL 15 TITLE IX DEADLINES

This is a reminder that the following forms relative to Title IX reporting MUST be submitted no later than April 15, 2005.

1. Form GE-19 (KHSAA Annual Verification of Title IX Procedures)
2. Forms T-1 through T-4 (Summary Forms for Determining Student Interests and Abilities)
3. Form T-35 (Budget Information)
4. Form T-36 (Budget Information)
5. Form T-41 (Checklist for the Overall Interscholastic Athletics Program)
6. Form T-60 (Updated Corrective Action Plan)
7. Form T-63, the student interest survey, which was previously required every year is now required on an every other year basis. The survey is not required in the 2004-05 report but will be required in 2005-06.

These Title IX forms are currently on the KHSAA website at www.khsaa.org, under the member school link.

BASKETBALL ROSTER ENTRY

Member schools now have the ability to enter boys and girls basketball rosters through the "Members Only" page on the KHSAA website, under the pull down option: Stats/Schedule/Roster/Info Entry/Edit Options. This should be done PRIOR to the district tournaments.

SCHOOL UPDATES

Please remember to keep your school information current on the KHSAA website. To make scheduling, coaching or other administrative changes to your school directory via the KHSAA web site (www.khsaa.org) use the "Member Schools Only" link and your passcode. You can update your school's information at any time.

FIRST CORBIN FINANCIAL/KHSAA SPORTSMANSHIP PROGRAM

Information for the First Corbin/KHSAA Sportsmanship Program went out to guidance counselors and athletic directors in late January.

One boy and one girl finalist from each region will be invited to attend the Recognition Banquet held May 15, 2005 at the Hyatt Regency in Lexington.

Each finalist receives a \$200 scholarship with the state winner receiving a \$3,000 scholarship, courtesy of First Corbin Financial Corporation.

CLARIFICATION ON PERMISSABLE GEAR DURING SUMMER FOOTBALL PRACTICE

Case BL25-18- What equipment can be worn and what restrictions are in place for football practice during the summer.

· From the period that begins the day following the last date of school or June 1, whichever is earlier, through June 24, a football player may wear a helmet during any football specific drill or practice session that is supervised or attended by any member of the high school coaching staff, but may wear no other gear as defined by NFHS Football Rule 1, Section 5.

· From June 25 to July 9, no gear may be issued by a school directly to a player from that school, and the full provisions of the dead period (Bylaw 26) must be observed.

· From July 10 to July 14, a football player may wear a helmet during any football specific drill or practice session that is supervised or attended by any member of the high school coaching staff, but may wear no other gear as defined by NFHS Football Rule 1, Section 5.

· Member school players and teams may participate in unlimited non-contact simulations / passing leagues / pass skeleton drills during the period between June 1 and July 14 (exclusive of the dead period as described in Bylaw 26) as play is not regulated in KHSAA sports at this time. However, schools should note that there are no insurance provisions in place at this time.

· From July 15 through the July 31, a player may wear a helmet and shoulder pads during any football specific drill or practice that is supervised or attended by any member of the high school coaching staff, but may wear no other gear as defined by NFHS Football Rule 1, Section 5.

· In addition, it was specified that it should be recommended that both the helmet and shoulder pads be worn during the July 15 to first date of contact period in order to acclimate the player to the heat and the changes in body temperature brought on by additional pads and equipment.

· Beginning with the first legal date of contact practice, August 1, all other pads can be worn as defined in Rule 1-5.

· With the exception of the Dead Period, nothing about this interpretation prevents a school from allowing equipment to be issued to students for them to attend individual camps at other sites.

· Any activity in the summer prior to July 15 or any activity contradictory to the rules and regulations of the Association (including the interpretations as published), renders all insurance provisions null and void and places the member school, its coach and all of its players at risk for litigation and other problems.

· Nothing about any of the interpretations prevents smaller group learning experiences, individual camp attendance (outside of the dead period), team camp attendance (within the contact window and subject to the scrimmage limitations).

CLARIFICATIONS ON SPRING FOOTBALL PRACTICE

Case BL-25-20- Has the Board of Control adopted additional recommendations governing spring football practice?

Yes, there are several additional criteria that must be met in order to conduct the practice sessions.

1) The practice window starts on the Monday following the teams' elimination from basketball postseason play (the last basketball team, boys or girls, representing that school);

2) No student below grade nine may participate;

3) No seniors may participate;

4) Dates must be reported to the KHSAA on supplied forms;

5) Only those students eligible, with insurance coverage and current physical may participate;

6) Intrasquad games may be held but must be counted as one of the ten practice sessions; and

7) There can be no school or coach imposed penalty for any player who chooses not to participate and there may be no required participation by any person on a spring sports eligibility list or any other person not appearing on a spring sports eligibility list;

Case BL-25-21- Are football playing schools required to hold spring football practice?

No, this is strictly an optional practice period.

Case BL-25-22- What is postseason play as defined in spring practice period?

The "elimination from post-season play in basketball" means the elimination of both boys' and girls' teams from post season play in basketball. For example, if a boys' basketball team loses the first game of a district but the girls' remain alive into regional and/or state play, the spring practice period cannot begin until the girls are eliminated.

PROTECTIVE GYM FLOOR COVERS

Dunlap Industries has protective gym floor covers available free to schools for the cost of the hem on the outer edge. Protective covers are used to prevent scuffing and damage to gym floors. All shipping costs are free. For more information call Gene Stephan at (530)274-0685.

REMAINING RULES CLINICS SCHEDULES

Following is a listing of remaining in-season rules clinics.
To view a full listing of clinics in all sports, go to the
KHSAA website at www.khsaa.org.

BASEBALL

(All times are 7 p.m., unless noted otherwise)

2/13 Versailles, Woodford Co. HS, 3 p.m.

2/20 Elizabethtown, John Hardin HS, 3 p.m.

4/14 Make-Up (\$75 Fine) Lexington, KHSAA Office, 7
p.m.

SOFTBALL

(All times are 6:30 p.m., unless noted otherwise)

2/8 Bardstown HS

2/9 Louisville, Christian Academy HS, 5:30 p.m.

4/14 Make-Up (\$75 Fine) Lexington, KHSAA Office, 1:30
p.m.

TRACK

(All times are 7 p.m., unless noted otherwise)

2/9 Louisville, Christian Academy HS, 7:30 p.m.

2/16 Somerset, Pulaski Co. HS

2/20 Elizabethtown, John Hardin HS, 5 p.m.

2/23 Covington Catholic HS

2/27 Paintsville, Johnson Central HS, 3 p.m.

3/1 Lexington, Paul Dunbar HS

4/13 Make-Up (\$75 Fine) Lexington, KHSAA Office, 7
p.m.