



Commissioner's Notes

Participation ♦ Sportsmanship ♦ Integrity

January 2009

PLEASE COPY AND DISTRIBUTE TO ALL ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

FROM THE COMMISSIONER'S DESK



Hello everyone and here's hoping your New Year is off to a great start.

The KHSAA welcomes Elden May our new Sports Information Director who comes on board this month. Elden is a graduate of Lewis County High School and Northern Kentucky University. He has worked as a sports reporter for the Independent

Newspaper in Ashland, been an editor at the Ledger Independent in Maysville, and worked for Host Communications/IMG World College Division in Lexington. He comes to us most recently from state government as the Information Office Supervisor for the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Please note on your calendar that the 2009 state basketball tournament draws for the National City/KHSAA Boys and the Houchens Industries/KHSAA Girls events are scheduled for Friday, January 30th, 2009. The draw show will be aired on WKYT-TV Channel 27 at 1:00p.m.

As everyone knows the economy is very tight at this time and we are very pleased to announce the signing of two new corporate sponsors. State Farm Insurance has signed on as a general Association sponsor, and Pannell Swim Shop is now the title sponsor for the KHSAA State Swimming and Diving Championships. The cost of doing business continues to increase and these new sponsorships will help the Association maintain the current level of service to the member schools.

As always, feel free to contact any KHSAA staff member if you need assistance with any of our sponsored programs or activities!

NATIONAL ANTHEM SINGERS

Any student or group of four students or less interested in singing the National Anthem at a session of either the National City/KHSAA Boys' Sweet Sixteen® or Houchens Industries/KHSAA Girls' Sweet Sixteen® Tournament, should submit a CD (a cappella) to Phyllis Sallee at the Association by February 16, 2008. The Association is particularly targeting previously underrepresented populations and prefer, to highlight currently enrolled high school students.

Those individuals selected will be notified of their assigned session prior to each of the tournaments.

BYLAW 25 REMINDER ABOUT GAME COUNTING

Each year, isolated representatives of member schools face issues in potential violation due to correctly counting the contests allowed in Bylaw 25. Subsequently, coaches, athletes or athletic programs are faced with penalty situations. These violations are preventable.

Each coach in all sports should carefully review the Bylaw 25 limitations, including the case situations following the bylaw. For example, baseball and softball coaches need to be aware that all games played in an event (regardless of format) must count as the same level for all teams (varsity, JV, freshman, etc.).

Several sports have variations in tournament counting within their rules (i.e. basketball), and a thorough knowledge of the provisions of Bylaw 25 will keep coaches and other school personnel out of trouble.

The penalty for exceeding these limits is contained in Bylaw 25. The complete text of Sections 1-6 of this Bylaw is included for your review on page 3. If violations are discovered before tournament play begins, then the penalty is the removal of a team from championship play. If detected later, the individual coach of the team and/or the member school may be penalized in accordance with Bylaw 33. This includes but is not limited to, coaching suspension from contests, probation of teams and/or member schools and a dramatic reduction in future schedules to atone for the error.

Please be sure all representatives of your sports programs are aware of the contest and scrimmage limitations.

NATIONAL CITY SCHOLARSHIPS

National City Bank will again 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. 20, 2009. Winners will be recognized at the Championship game of the National City/KHSAA Boys' State Basketball Tournament on March 21.

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

KHSAA TICKET INFORMATION

The Association continues to accept orders for 2009 National City/KHSAA Boys' and Houchens Industries/KHSAA Girls' basketball tickets on the order forms mailed in November. We appreciate support of our events and hope you will order if you have not done so.

Contact the KHSAA office with any questions.

BYLAW 25. LIMITATION OF SEASONS

Sec. 1) General Provisions Concerning All Sports

1) Loss of School Time

No school time may be lost for travel to or from, or participation in, any regular season interscholastic athletic contest.

2) Schedule of Contests on Consecutive Days

Contests shall be scheduled so that there are not four consecutive days of competition on any Monday through Thursday period while school is in session.

3) Specific Definitions for Ending of School

For all interpretations and regulations concerning the ending of the school year, including restrictions on coaching involvement, the end of the school year shall be defined as the earlier of the last day of school or May 31.

4) Specific Penalties for Violations - Too Many Contests

Any school violating provisions of this Bylaw by playing too many contests may not be eligible for state championship competition or may be otherwise penalized. For the determination to be made that the limit has been exceeded, it shall be reported in writing and received by the KHSAA prior to 12:01 a.m. (midnight) ET on the first day of the postseason tournament series as established by the KHSAA Memorandum Calendar. If detected and verified, the team exceeding the limit shall be ineligible for postseason play and may be further penalized in accordance with Bylaw 33. If the report is made after that point, the team shall be penalized in accordance with Bylaw 33 but shall remain eligible for tournament play during the current season.

5) Specific Penalties for Violations - Too Many Scrimmages

Any school violating scrimmage limitations may be placed on probation, prohibited from participating in preseason scrimmages in that sport for two (2) seasons, and may be prohibited from taking part in KHSAA state championship competition or other penalties in accordance with Bylaw 33. The second violation will result in automatic suspension.

6) Involvement of Members of the Coaching Staff Out of Season

Members of the high school coaching staff (paid or unpaid) shall not be prohibited from sport specific observation and evaluation (but not coaching) of any player who has played for a grade nine (9) through grade twelve (12) team (freshman, junior varsity, varsity) from the first day of school through the last day of school provided such play is under the direct control of the same local board of education as the coach is employed and provided such play is not in conflict with other KHSAA bylaws.

GOLF FIRST CONTEST DATE 2009

This is a reminder to all administrators and golf coaches regarding the first playing date for the 2009 golf season. As many of you are scheduling for the 2009 playing season, we have received calls regarding an earlier start date. The first golf contest may take place beginning August 3, 2009 as printed in the KHSAA Event Calendar and in the corresponding dates section of the Handbook.

Last year the KHSAA Board of Control approved a three day earlier start time due to course availability with regard to the Ryder Cup. This was a one time exception with the understanding of returning to the corresponding date start of season in 2009. At its December, 2008 meeting, the Board did not approve the waiver for the 2009 start date. Any school may submit a proposal to change Bylaw 25 - Limitation of Seasons to get this put on the Annual Meeting agenda. Deadline for submission of proposals is May 1, 2009.

ATHLETIC DIRECTORS CORNER

Registration information for this year's Kentucky High School Athletic Directors' Conference has recently been mailed. If you are not a member of the KHSADA and would like the information, please contact Jim Watkins, Conference Director at adwatt1@bellsouth.net. If you would like to receive KHSADA membership information, please contact Mitchell Irvin at mitchell.irvin@oldham.kyschools.us. If you are know of any new vendors who would like to exhibit at this year's conference, please contact Phil Rison at phil.rison@montgomery.kyschools.us.

19 Kentucky Athletic Directors and one KHSAA staff member attended the NFHS 38th Annual Conference for Athletic Directors in San Diego, CA in December. While the weather was dreary for Southern California, spirits were high and great information was shared and learned.

REMAINING KHSAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Feb. 13-14	Pannell Swim Shop/KHSAA Swimming	U of L Ralph Wright Natatorium, Louisville
Feb. 19-21	Wrestling	Frankfort Convention Center, Frankfort
March 11-14	Houchens/KHSAA Girls' Basketball	WKU Diddle Arena, Bowling Green
March 18-21	National City/KHSAA Boys' Basketball	Rupp Arena, Lexington
May 21-23	Boys' & Girls' Tennis	UK Boone/Downing Complex, Lexington
May 22-23	Boys' & Girls' Track	U of L Owsley Frazier Park, Louisville
June 5-6	Fast Pitch Softball	Jack Fisher Park, Owensboro
June 11-13	Forcht Bank/KHSAA Baseball	Applebee's Park, Lexington

2008-09 KHSAA RULES CLINICS

It is an Association requirement that each licensed official and head coach attend a rules interpretation clinic conducted by the KHSAA (ByLaw 26, Sec. 2). Officials who have not met the requirement will not be permitted to officiate any postseason contest. Coaches who have not met the requirement will not be permitted to coach any postseason contest. For 2008-09, approved KHSAA rules clinic sites and dates. ALL TIMES ARE LOCAL.

BASEBALL

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

- 1/28 London, North Laurel HS
- 1/29 Independence, Simon Kenton HS
- 1/31 Paintsville, Johnson Central HS, 9 a.m.
- 2/2 Cecilia, Central Hardin HS
- 2/3 Louisville, Christian Academy
- 2/7 Mayfield HS 3 p.m.
- 2/8 Morgantown, Butler County HS, 3 p.m.
- 2/9 Frankfort, Western Hills HS
- 3/25 Lexington, KHSAA Office, Make-Up Clinic, 1:30 p.m. (\$75 Fine)

SOFTBALL

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

- 1/31 Danville, Centre College (w/KSCA Conference), 4 p.m.
- 1/25 Morgantown, Butler County HS, 1 p.m.
- 1/28 Independence, Simon Kenton HS
- 1/29 London, North Laurel HS
- 1/31 Paintsville, Johnson Central HS, 11 a.m.
- 2/2 Louisville, Christian Academy
- 2/3 Cecilia, Central Hardin HS
- 2/7 Mayfield HS 1 p.m.
- 2/10 Frankfort, Western Hills HS
- 3/24 Lexington, KHSAA Office, Make-Up Clinic (\$75 Fine), 1:30 p.m.

TRACK & FIELD

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

- 2/5 Cecilia, Central Hardin HS
- 2/7 Mayfield HS, 5 p.m.
- 2/8 Morgantown, Butler County HS, 5 p.m.
- 2/10 Independence, Simon Kenton HS
- 2/11 London, North Laurel HS
- 2/12 Louisville, Christian Academy
- 2/15 Paintsville, Johnson Central HS, 3 p.m.
- 2/17 Frankfort, Western Hills HS
- 3/24 Lexington, KHSAA Office, Make-Up Clinic (\$75 Fine)

BASKETBALL PHOTOS AND ROSTERS DUE

Please note basketball team photos are due by February 16. In an effort to help all member schools, we ask that you enter your rosters now.

For photos, please go to the "Members Only" page on the KHSAA website and use the "Upload Photo" feature. If you experience technical problems, you may also e-mail the photo provided it has been scanned at a minimum DPI of 300 and is not bitmapped. The file should be saved with a file extension of .jpg, .gif, or .tif. Faxed copies, copies of photos, newspaper copies, or laser printer printouts ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE. **Also include the "photo ID", who's who left to right.**

Rosters are entered on the "Members Only" page using the "Enter Team Rosters" link. The roster will remain open until the first day of play in the district tournament at which time all rosters will be locked, and no additional players may be added.

For assistance with the entry of either item contact Marilyn Mitchell at the Association or mmitchell@khsaa.org

REPORTING OF SCORES

Please remember to call in the scores of contests to the KHSAA/Riherd's Scoreboard immediately following each contest. The number is **1-800-453-6882** and is toll free.

While it is a Board policy that the membership cooperate with the data collection on the scoreboard or be subject to penalty, it has been proven by the membership time and again that they desire to voluntarily cooperate with this project.

CHEERLEADING RISK MANAGEMENT FOR BASKETBALL/VOLLEYBALL

The 2008-09 NFHS Spirit Rules include the following:

Rule 2 Section 1 Article 8

Stunts must not be performed during a basketball or volleyball game when the ball is in play, including free throws in basketball and just prior to the serve in volleyball.

Rule 2 Section 1 Article 13

Spirit participants must not stand behind the free throw land extended during a basketball game.