

KENTUCKY HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION



SPORTS NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **JUNE 11, 2003**

FIELD CONDITIONS, RAIN PUSH BACK STATE SOFTBALL START TIMES

Start times for the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Fast Pitch Softball State Tournament have been revised, Asst. Commissioner Roland Williams has announced.

The tournament remains scheduled for this Friday and Saturday, June 13-14 at Tie Breaker Park in Hopkinsville. However, games that were scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. have been pushed back to begin at 3 p.m. Play on Saturday will continue at 10 a.m. with the new start time for the State Championship at 4 p.m.

"Due to current field conditions and rain over the last couple of days and the forecast for rain over the next few hours and with advisement from the Hopkinsville-Christian County Recreation Commission and Pam Rudd of Tie Breaker Park, we will begin first round games at 3 p.m. Central Time," Williams said.

The Association is asking that all interested parties continue to visit the KHSAA website at www.khsaa.org for any time changes during the tournament that may be required due to weather.

"We are making the change in the best interest for the students and fans. This has been a rainy spring and we appreciate the work that Hopkinsville and the Christian County Parks Department is doing in helping us make sure we have adequate playing conditions for the teams," Williams concluded.

Following are the revised first round schedule of games:

Friday, June 13 – 3 p.m. (CT)

Owensboro Catholic (34-5-1) vs. Hazard (18-7) – Field 1; Montgomery Co. (30-7) vs. Trimble Co. (20-14) – Field 2; North Laurel (31-10) vs. Pleasure Ridge Park (24-6) – Field 5; Russell (32-8) vs. Greenwood (29-5) – Field 4.

Friday, June 13 – 4:30 p.m. (CT)

Murray (22-10) vs. Mercy (25-6) – Field 1; Meade Co. (21-17) vs. Dixie Heights (26-12) – 4:30 p.m.; Belfry (21-13) vs. Hopkins Co. Central (28-6) – Field 5; Franklin Co. (27-13) vs. Middlesboro (35-2) – Field 4.

Tickets - \$6 per session; All-Session Ticket is \$12 (good for all three sessions)

Session I - begins with 3 p.m. games (gates open at 2 p.m.)

Session II – begins at 7 p.m. (must be in park before 7 p.m. to avoid additional admission charge)

Session I – Saturday all day (gates open at 9 a.m.)

STATE FAST PITCH PRESS BOX

The KHSAA website will be updated throughout the tournament including scores and any schedule adjustments that may occur due to weather. However, should you wish to contact a member of the Association staff, the phone number to the press box at Tie Breaker Park is (270)887-4022.

BIG BLUE NATION NAMED TITLE PARTNER FOR STATE BASEBALL

Big Blue Nation will serve as title partner for next week's Kentucky High School Athletic Association State Baseball Tournament, Commissioner Brigid DeVries has announced. The event, scheduled for June 18-21 at Applebee's Park in Lexington shall officially be referenced as the Big Blue Nation/KHSAA State Baseball Tournament.

This marks first time the Association and its marketing partner iHigh, Inc. have secured title partnership for the State Baseball Tournament and only the third time an Association State Championship has honored such a deal.

"We are excited about our partnership with Big Blue Nation for the State Baseball Tournament," Commissioner Brigid DeVries said. "They were involved with the KHSAA during our boys' and girls' state basketball tournaments and really stepped up to the plate for our baseball championship. The continued and increased involvement shows a true commitment to high school sports."

"We are honored and delighted to be the first-ever title sponsor of the KHSAA State Baseball Championship Tournament," said Brian Poe, CEO for Big Blue Nation. "This aligns perfectly with our charter to promote and support Kentucky High School Athletics and establish Big Blue Nation as the most powerful name in Kentucky Sports."

“With the expansion to eight teams and a four day format, a first class facility in Applebee’s Park and the Big Blue Nation partnership, our baseball championship has hit a new level,” DeVries concluded.

The KHSAA has an agreement with Houchens Industries for 2003-06 for title partnership of its Girls’ Sweet 16® State Basketball Tournament. In 1999, Valvoline served as title partner for the Boys’ & Girls’ State Soccer and State Football Championships.

SEMI-STATE BASEBALL

Baseball enters the Semi-State series in preparation for next week’s Big Blue Nation/KHSAA State Baseball Tournament to be played at Applebee’s Park. Semi-State games are scheduled for Thursday and Friday, June 12-13 and feature a best-of-three games format. Each schedule is posted on the Association website under the baseball link and then the State Baseball Bracket link. Scores will be posted on the Association website on the scoreboard link as they are received.

STATE BASEBALL TICKETS

Tickets for next week’s Big Blue Nation/KHSAA State Baseball Tournament are available through the Applebee’s Park ticket office. Tickets are priced at \$6 in advance and \$7 at the gate. Premium seating is \$10. Call (859) 422-7867 for tickets.

DAWAHARES/KHSAA HALL OF FAME GOLF OUTING

The annual Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame golf outing will be held Monday, June 16 at Connemara Golf Course in Nicholasville. The 2004 induction class will be announced at that time as well as introduced at the luncheon after play. There are a few spots remaining. For more information on participation, contact Ken Tippett at the KHSAA at (859)299-5472. The induction class will be posted on the Association website and released Monday evening.

HOW TO GET INFO/NOTES IN RELEASES

The KHSAA requests assistance from its member schools and media outlets to aid in the compilation and dissemination of notes of interest, coach’s association polls and upcoming events in all sports. Information should be forwarded to the KHSAA, attention Butch Cope. You may e-mail (bcope@khsaa.org) the information or fax it to the KHSAA at (859)293-5999. Information received will be reviewed and published at the discretion of the Association. The KHSAA strives to publicize all of its sports to the fullest extent and appreciates any and all assistance.