



# **2015 Worth/KHSAA Softball State Tournament Instructions**

Kentucky High School Athletic Association  
2280 Executive Drive | Lexington, KY 40505  
859-299-5472 | [www.khsaa.org](http://www.khsaa.org)



# Kentucky High School Athletic Association

2280 Executive Drive ° Lexington, KY 40505 ° [www.khsaa.org](http://www.khsaa.org) ° (859)299-5472 (859)293-5999 (fax)

TO: KHSAA Softball State Championship Participating Teams

FROM: Assistant Commissioner Darren Bilberry

DATE: May 26, 2015

SUBJECT: 2015 Worth/KHSAA Softball State Tournament

The following are detailed instructions for those teams participating in the 2015 Worth/KHSAA Softball State Championship. We will be playing our Worth/KHSAA Softball State Tournament at Jack C. Fisher Park located in Owensboro, Kentucky on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, June 4-6, 2015. Sunday, June 7, 2015 is the rain day. We will begin play at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 4, 2014. All times are Central Standard Time.

**THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN ON THESE PAGES ARE VERY IMPORTANT. PLEASE READ THIS INFORMATION IMMEDIATELY AND CONTACT DARREN BILBERRY AT THE KHSAA OFFICES SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.**

The KHSAA will have representatives available prior to the championship games at the KHSAA offices (859) 299-5472 throughout the week of the state tournament. You can contact Darren Bilberry directly through a tournament mobile phone, (859) 333-5411.

Thanks again, and best of luck in the state tournament. See you in Owensboro.

**WORTH/KHSAA STATE SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT**  
**Owensboro Softball Complex, Jack C. Fisher Park**  
**Owensboro, Kentucky**  
**June 4-6, 2015**

**DIRECTIONS TO THE RAWLINGS/KHSAA STATE SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT**

Click the following link for directions to Jack C. Fisher Park Softball Complex <https://goo.gl/ErtbK6>

**ROOMING ACCOMODATIONS FOR TEAMS**

When teams know for certain that they will be participating in the 2015 Worth/KHSAA State Softball Tournament they will need to contact Mr. Jared Bratcher for their assigned motel accommodations.

**Mr. Jared Bratcher**  
**Owensboro-Daviess County Convention & Visitors Bureau**  
**215 East Second Street**  
**Owensboro, KY 42303**  
**(270) 316-3226 (Cell)**  
**(800) 489-1131 (Office)**  
**E-mail: [kybpa@yahoo.com](mailto:kybpa@yahoo.com)**

The rate for team rooms only will be \$79.00 plus tax. Once a team is given their assigned motel by Mr. Bratcher they may share it with their fans. We would recommend that you make your reservations in a prompt manner once you have your assignment from Mr. Bratcher. No school is guaranteed a specific hotel. SCHOOLS FAILING TO STAY WITHIN ASSIGNED LODGING ARRANGEMENTS WILL FORFEIT THE LODGING ALLOWANCE. The lodging allowance shall be \$13.00 per night due to the reduced rate as part of the Owensboro package, and will be paid for a maximum of 24 persons. No school *within* a forty-mile one-way distance from Owensboro will be reimbursed for lodging. Your school is responsible for all bills for lodging, and you will be reimbursed for the lodging allowance. Please have your school or Board of Education's Sales Tax Exempt number with you at check-in to allow the hotel to deduct the sales tax from the room bill.

**SCHEDULE OF GAMES (CST)**

|             |          |        |            |
|-------------|----------|--------|------------|
| Games 1-4   | Thursday | June 4 | 5:00 p.m.  |
| Games 5-8   | Thursday | June 4 | 7:00 p.m.  |
| Games 9-12  | Friday   | June 5 | 9:00 a.m.  |
| Games 13-16 | Friday   | June 5 | 11:00 a.m. |
| Games 17-20 | Friday   | June 5 | 1:00 p.m.  |
| Games 21-22 | Friday   | June 5 | 3:00 p.m.  |
| Games 23-24 | Friday   | June 5 | 5:00 p.m.  |
| Games 25-26 | Friday   | June 5 | 7:00 p.m.  |
| Games 27-28 | Saturday | June 6 | 9:00 a.m.  |
| Game 29     | Saturday | June 6 | 11:00 a.m. |
| Game 30     | Saturday | June 6 | 1:00 p.m.  |

The Worth/KHSAA State Championship Softball Game will be played Saturday June 6, at 1:00 p.m. CST. The second game, if necessary will immediately follow the completion of the first game.

**FIELD DIMENSIONS**

The fence distances at the Jack C. Fisher Softball Complex are 210 feet down the left field line, 210 down the right field line, and 210 to straight away center field.

### **WHEELCHAIR/A.D.A. ACCOMMODATIONS**

Efforts will be made to make a reasonable accommodation for those individuals who may need wheelchair access or other needs due to disability. Please see Darren Bilberry or Kerry Bodenheimer upon arrival for instructions. Due to insurance and other concerns, there will be NO wheelchairs allowed on the field level for any reason.

### **TICKET SALES**

"All Day Armbands" and "All Session Armbands" will be sold online in advance and at the park each day of the tournament. "All Day Armbands" will be \$10 per person on Thursday evening and \$10 per person on Friday and Saturday. Children under ten will be admitted free. "All Session Armbands" will be \$20 per person. **We will take both cash and credit as acceptable methods of payment.** There will be no reserved seats sold for the tournament. It is suggested that you bring a lawn chair. The gates will open at 4:00 p.m. CST on Thursday and 8:00 a.m. CST on Friday and Saturday. Please advise your fans that the gates will not open until this time. Fans will not be allowed to bring coolers and drinks into the park and ball diamond area. Tickets can be purchased online by clicking on the following link:

<https://2015khsaasoftball.eventbrite.com>

#### **Thursday (June 4)**

Session I – Gates will open at 4:00 p.m. CST

#### **Friday (June 5)**

Session II – Gates will open at 8:00 a.m. CST

#### **Saturday (June 6)**

Session III – Gates will open at 8:00 a.m. CST

### **COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS/PASSES/ADMISSION POLICY**

No passes other than those produced for the championships will be honored at the gate. Principal, Coach, Athletic Director, Official Passes or any other type of identification will not entitle the holder to admission. Each team will be provided 18 individual armbands which must be worn by the coaches and any auxiliary team personnel. The armband will need to be worn throughout the tournament. **They should not be removed.** Anyone not having the armband on will be required to purchase a new armband which will be sold at the ticket prices listed above. As stated in the KHSAA Tournament Rules only 21 participants may be in uniform and in the dugout. All other individuals must have a ticket for admission. Being in uniform will serve as admission for participants and they will not be required to wear an armband. When teams arrive at the park, entry should be made through the **Pass Gate** near the main entrance to the park. **The tournament rules in the KHSAA Handbook state that no player may be in uniform other than the twenty-one designated for that game.** Whether it is by different pants or a different top, the others must be unique. Violation of this rule jeopardizes liability and medical insurance coverage.

### **BUS PARKING**

Buses will drop off teams and team personnel at the team **pass gate**.

### **GENERAL PUBLIC PARKING**

Parking for the general public will be in the normal home game parking lots adjacent to the softball complex. Team bus drivers should enter as directed by the park personnel to minimize problems.

### **Plan B Parking**

If a large amount of rain prior to the tournament eliminates parking on the grass at Jack C Fisher Park, off site parking (Plan B) will be made available at Bellevue Baptist Church when all permanent parking spaces are occupied at the park. Shuttles will transport spectators to Jack C Fisher Park. Spectators are urged to arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the start of scheduled game times.

### **Plan B Directions**

Parking attendants will direct spectators to continue from the park entrance west on West Fifth Street Road. From there they should follow the KHSAA Parking Detour signs.

Turn South (left) on to Worthington Road

Turn West (right) on to Hwy 56

Bellevue Baptist Church will be 1 minute drive time on the left hand side.

Jack C Fisher Park  
3900 West Fifth Street Road  
Owensboro, KY 42301

Bellevue Baptist Church  
4950 State Route 56  
Owensboro, KY 42301

### **PRACTICE PRIOR TO TOURNAMENT, GAMES, WARM-UP TIME**

Teams that wish to practice prior to the tournament should contact **Lisa Adams at nearby Panther Creek Park (1-270-685-6142)** to schedule practice times. There will be no pre-tournament practice at Jack Fisher Park. Each participating team will be allowed 10 minutes infield practice the first time they play on Thursday. After that, we will make every effort to adhere to the time schedule and all pre-game warm ups will only take place in the outfield outside of the temporary fencing. No scheduled games will be started earlier than the designated time. When games get off schedule due to a previous game running late, the game will start fifteen minutes after the team running late has completed their game.

### **INFIELD PRACTICE**

There will be **NO** infield practice while field maintenance is taking place.

### **SPECTATOR SEATING**

Teams and spectators are asked to be respectful of the opposing team's spectator area. It is generally accepted that the first base team will occupy seating from center back stop fence to their dugout. The third base dugout team should occupy from center backstop fence to third base. Sitting behind the temporary fence in the outfield is prohibited. If normal seating becomes crowded, the Tournament Staff may make the decision to allow seating behind the outfield fence.

### **HOME AND VISITING TEAM AND DUGOUTS**

The team in the top bracket of the tournament draw will occupy the third base dugout with the exception of the Championship Game. The home team will be designated by a coin toss during the pre-game meeting. Each team is expected to police their dugout area after each game.

### **CHAMPIONSHIP GAME**

The upper bracket winner will have the option to be the home team in the State Championship Game. In the event it is necessary to play a second game, the home team will be designated by a coin toss during the pre-game meeting

### **PLAYING RULES AND REGULATIONS (ALL TOURNAMENTS)**

National Federation Playing Rules will be utilized. A school may enter a team composed of twenty-one (21) players in each post-season tournament game.

### **GAME ENDING PROCEDURES/SPEED-UP RULES/RUN RULES/COURTESY RUNNERS**

In accordance with National Federation Softball Rule 4-2-2, the Mercy run rule will be observed. This allows a game to end anytime after 2 ½ or 3 innings when a team is 15 or more runs behind or 4 ½ or 5 innings when a team is 10 or more runs behind and has completed its turn at bat. Any post season contest that is suspended /interrupted shall be



continued from the point of suspension/interruption at a later time. It will be continued from the point of suspension/interruption, with the lineup and batting order of each team exactly the same as the lineup and batting order at the moment of suspension. The regular season tie-breaker procedure will **NOT** be used during the post season. The speed-up rules provisions, allowing for a courtesy runner for the pitcher and catcher when they reach base, **WILL** be used in all post season games.

### **UMPIRES**

The umpires will be approved and assigned by the Kentucky High School Athletic Association in accordance with Bylaw 20.

### **GAME BALLS**

For the tournament games, the Rawlings Company will be providing the Optic Yellow (12Y47L) softball (.47 COR).

### **TOWELS AND OTHER SUPPLIES**

The Association does not provide towels for the teams participating in the tournament. Your school will need to inform the participants to bring towels if they need one for any reason.

### **OFFICIAL STATS**

The Owensboro Parks and Recreation Department will provide official statistics for the games. Due to space constraints, there is no space provided for team statisticians in the press box. All team stat personnel must stay within the dugout during the entire game or be positioned in the stands. The line scores will be posted on the KHSAA web site at the conclusion of each day.

### **TRAINERS/DOCTORS AND EMERGENCY TREATMENT**

The Owensboro Parks and Recreation Department will be providing training services for the games. They will have a certified and/or student trainer on site at all times.

Each team is also entitled to have its own team doctor/trainer (they must utilize one of the eighteen armbands) and an ambulance will be available. Please feel free to utilize these important services that are provided by the representatives of the Owensboro community. Local hospital information and closest convenient care to Fisher Park information is as follows:

Owensboro Health Regional Hospital  
1201 Pleasant Valley Road  
Owensboro, KY 42303  
[270-417-2000](tel:270-417-2000)

Owensboro Health Convenient Care  
Ford Medical Plaza  
2211 Mayfair Avenue, Suite 101  
Owensboro, KY 42301  
[270-688-1351](tel:270-688-1351)

Should emergency medical treatment be necessary, the Daviess County Yellow Ambulance Service, provided by Owensboro Mercy Health Systems, will be transporting the injured person(s) to the area hospital. The member school administration is responsible for ensuring that parental permission to seek medical treatment is authorized from each participant. The Principal, Athletic Director and/or the Head Coach can use a copy of KHSAA Form GE04 (the physical exam form) for this purpose as this form contains appropriate language.

### **PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES**

Each school is to designate a representative to be on the field immediately following the game to receive the trophy and medals. It is hoped that the Principal, Athletic Director or Head Coach will perform this duty. No presentation of

any trophy will be made until the field of play is cleared of all fans, coaches and players. Please return to the dugout area as soon as possible following the game so the presentations can begin.

### **ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM**

The All-Tournament Team will consist of 14 players. The championship team will be guaranteed three players on the All -Tournament team one of which will also be the MVP. The runner-up team will be guaranteed three players on the All Tournament team. The two semi-finalists teams will be guaranteed two players each on the all tournament. One individual from the losing team of games 23, 24, 25, and 26 will also be selected.

### **SCHOOL MEDIA**

Each school is permitted one (1) school media pass at KHSAA State Championship events, valid only for a full-time staff member or a student for the sole purpose of reporting the events and for taking non-commercial pictures for yearbooks, newspapers, etc. Outside entities such as professional photographers, videographers or parents may not utilize the school media pass. This pass must be requested in advance of the start of the event through the online system (<http://khsaa.org/school-media-request-form/>).

### **TRADITIONAL MEDIA**

Traditional media members (print, TV, radio, online) interested in covering KHSAA State Championship events should apply for credentials through the KHSAA's online system. Applications should be submitted by the editor or director at each organization by going to <http://khsaa.org/news-stats-pubs/media-resources/media-credentials/>. Freelance photographers will not be granted access to KHSAA events unless the requisite media rights fee is paid.

### **MEDIA RIGHTS FEE**

Freelance/commercial photographers and radio stations interested in originating a broadcast of a KHSAA State Championship event, are subject to a media rights fee. Information regarding the media rights fee for each event is available through the online credentialing system (<http://khsaa.org/school-radio-station-designation-form/>).

### **TEAM BROADCASTS**

By paying the requisite fee, each school qualifying for a KHSAA State Championship event may designate one (1) radio station or website to originate an AUDIO-only broadcast of each game its affiliated school participates in. An official representative of the participating school shall designate to the KHSAA which station/website will be permitted to broadcast its game using the online system (<http://khsaa.org/school-radio-station-designation-form/>). The radio station/website shall then apply for championship credentials through the KHSAA's online credentialing system (<http://khsaa.org/news-stats-pubs/media-resources/media-credentials/>). Originating stations/websites will be subject to a media rights fee, which will be outlined through the online credentialing system. The KHSAA is the only entity permitted to originate or authorize a video broadcast of KHSAA State Championship events.

### **AWARD PHOTOS**

Due to the restriction prohibiting parents and spectators from being on the competition floor/court/venue, pictures of the awards presentation at all events will be available for download at no charge to participants, parents and fans within 72 hours of the completion of the event. These photos, and others taken during championship competition, can be accessed through KHSAA.org.

### **MEDIA/VIDEO TAPING/FILM**

There shall be no other videotaping of any softball tournament game, other than by KHSAA designees and credentialed media outlets or by persons whose entire taping unit can be contained within their seat and present no obstruction to other spectators. (No tripod, external power sources, or use of the Jack C. Fisher Park power sources).

### **POST GAME MEDIA INTERVIEWS**

All post games media interviews are to be done in the vicinity of the dugout. With the tight timetable, the field playing area needs to be cleared as soon as possible to prepare for the next game. Please inform your local media of the need to adhere to this restriction.

### **FAN BEHAVIOR AND ACTIONS**

No one outside of the team is to come on the playing field. Fans are to stay in the stands before, during and after the game. Please make several announcements to this effect to the student body during the week before the game.

### **SIGNS, BANNERS, NOISEMAKERS**

No posters or signs of any kind will be permitted to be adhered (with glue, tape string or other devices) by any official or unofficial school representative to any permanent surface of the park. No signage posted on behalf of a school may contain derogatory language or contain the name of the opponent or any of its players. Please make certain all pep, spirit and support organizations are aware of this rule.

No electronic amplification equipment will be allowed in the park (except band instruments used in conjunction with the official high school band and its performance), nor any other electronic, mechanical or semi-mechanical noisemaker.

**Fans will not be allowed to bring coolers and drinks into the facility.**

**There will be no sale or distribution of t-shirts or any other type of athletic apparel on the site with the exception of approved KHSAA vendors.**

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER STATEMENT**

With the possibility of inclement weather (to include thunder), we remind you that you should be prepared to move to a place of shelter in the event of bad weather conditions. Should it begin to rain, the games will continue on schedule unless there are signs of lightning or the umpires in consultation with tournament management determine that it is unsafe to continue. During the tournament we will be tracking and adhering to the heat index policies as well. Should weather conditions force a postponement or delay, you should immediately leave the bleacher area if necessary and heed any announcements made by tournament management. Should evacuation become necessary, please observe the directions given by uniformed officers as well as tournament officials. In accordance with adopted KHSAA policy, if the games are suspended, the minimum suspension will be 30 minutes after the last sight of lightning or sound of thunder. Persons leaving the park should seek shelter in their mode of transportation. In all circumstances, use prudent judgment in determining whether or not you should remain in the dugout or bleachers. When the decision is made to resume the games, there will be announcements made throughout the park area, and prior to the resumption of play; a fifteen minute warm-up period will be given to both teams.

### **REMINDER**

**PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR NON-COMPETING STUDENTS THAT THEY ARE NOT TO COME ON THE PLAYING FIELD PRIOR TO, DURING, OR FOLLOWING THE GAME.**

### **REIMBURSEMENT POLICY**

An expense allowance will be calculated for lodging and meals and shall be paid for a traveling squad of 24 persons in the following manner.

### **LODGING**

**Schools failing to stay within assigned lodging arrangements will forfeit the lodging allowance.** The lodging allowance shall be \$13.00 per night (per person) due to the reduced rate as part of the Owensboro package, and will be paid for a maximum of 24 persons, and will be paid for only the nights that lodging is utilized. No school within a forty-mile one-way distance from Owensboro will be reimbursed for lodging. Your school is responsible for all bills for lodging, and you will be reimbursed the lodging allowance. Please have your school or Board of Education's Sales Tax Exempt number with you at check in to allow the hotel to deduct the sales tax from the room bill.

### **MEALS**

A meal allowance of \$5.00 per meal will be reimbursed for a maximum of 24 persons with the amount of meals corresponding to the use of housing and for a maximum of three meals per tournament day and additional meals for the travel day(s). Your school is responsible for all meal arrangements for your team,



### **TRANSPORTATION/MILEAGE**

The principal, coach or another member of the faculty shall accompany the team to all contests. His/her expenses, when he/she accompanies the contestants, shall be paid in the same manner as those of the contestants. The rate to be reimbursed for state championship play is \$1 per mile (round trip) for one bus.

## KHSAA COMPETITION RULES

### Governing Softball (Fastpitch)

*(Adopted by the Board of Control for all play in this sport)  
(Where these rules refer to the Commissioner, they shall refer to the Commissioner of the KHSAA. Sports specific duties may be appropriately delegated to a member of the Commission for the implementation of these rules. See Case Situations for specific rulings and interpretations used to administer these provisions)*

#### I) ASSIGNMENT OF SCHOOLS AND SEEDING

##### A) Alignment of Teams for Postseason Play

The Kentucky High School Athletic Association shall sponsor postseason competition in fastpitch softball for girls, provided that there is sufficient interest of the membership and such is approved by the Board of Control. The Commissioner shall divide the state into geographic sections with the approval of the Board of Control. The entire alignment shall be reviewed when the Board of Control conducts a realignment related to basketball. In the interim, newly added or deleted programs will be handled on a case by case basis by the Commissioner's office.

As of August 1, 2014, the alignment for girls' fastpitch softball is as follows:

##### REGION 1

District 1 - Carlisle County, Fulton City, Fulton County, Hickman County

District 2 - Ballard Memorial, Graves County, Mayfield

District 3 - McCracken County, Paducah Tilghman, St. Mary

District 4 - Calloway County, Marshall County, Murray

##### REGION 2

District 5 - Crittenden County, Livingston Central, Lyon County, Trigg County

District 6 - Henderson County, Union County, Webster County

District 7 - Caldwell County, Dawson Springs, Hopkins County Central, Madisonville-North Hopkins

District 8 - Christian County, Fort Campbell, Hopkinsville, University Heights

##### REGION 3

District 9 - Apollo, Daviess County, Owensboro, Owensboro Catholic

District 10 - McLean County, Muhlenberg County, Ohio County

District 11 - Breckinridge County, Hancock County, Meade County

District 12 - Butler County, Edmonson County, Grayson County, Trinity (Whitesville)

##### REGION 4

District 13 - Franklin-Simpson, Logan County, Russellville, Todd County Central

District 14 - Bowling Green, Greenwood, South Warren, Warren Central, Warren East

District 15 - Allen County-Scottsville, Barren County, Glasgow, Monroe County

District 16 - Clinton County, Cumberland County, Metcalfe County, Russell County

##### REGION 5

District 17 - Central Hardin, Elizabethtown, Fort Knox, John Hardin, North Hardin

District 18 - Caverna, Green County, Hart County, LaRue County

District 19 - Bardstown, Bethlehem, Nelson County, Thomas Nelson, Washington County

District 20 - Adair County, Campbellsville, Marion County, Taylor County

##### REGION 6

District 21 - Beth Haven, Fairdale, Holy Cross (Louisville), Pleasure Ridge Park, Valley

District 22 - Butler, Doss, Iroquois, Western

District 23 - Bullitt Central, Evangel Christian, Moore, North Bullitt, Southern

District 24 - Bullitt East, Fern Creek, Jeffersontown, Mercy (Girls), Whitefield Academy,

##### REGION 7

District 25 - Central, DuPont Manual, Portland Christian, Presentation (Girls), Shawnee

District 26 - Assumption (Girls), Louisville Collegiate, Male

District 27 - Atherton, Sacred Heart (Girls), Seneca, Waggener

District 28 - Ballard, Christian Academy-Louisville, Eastern, Kentucky Country Day

##### REGION 8

District 29 - North Oldham, Oldham County, South Oldham, Trimble County

District 30 - Anderson County, Collins, Eminence, Shelby County, Spencer County

District 31 - Carroll County, Gallatin County, Henry County, Owen County

District 32 - Grant County, Simon Kenton, Walton-Verona, Williamstown

##### REGION 9

District 33 - Boone County, Conner, Heritage, Cooper, Ryle

District 34 - Dixie Heights, Lloyd Memorial, Ludlow, St. Henry District, Villa Madonna

District 35 - Beechwood, Covington Latin, Holmes, Holy Cross (Covington), Notre Dame (Girls)

District 36 - Bellevue, Dayton, Highlands, Newport, Newport Central Catholic

##### REGION 10

District 37 - Bishop Brossart, Calvary Christian, Campbell County, Scott, Silver Grove

District 38 - Harrison County, Nicholas County, Pendleton County, Robertson County

District 39 - Augusta, Bracken County, Mason County, St. Patrick

District 40 - Bourbon County, George Rogers Clark, Montgomery County, Paris

##### REGION 11

District 41 - Frankfort, Franklin County, Western Hills, Woodford County

District 42 - Bryan Station, Henry Clay, Sayre, Scott County

District 43 - Lafayette, Lexington Catholic, Lexington Christian, Paul Laurence Dunbar, Tates Creek

District 44 - Berea, Madison Central, Madison Southern, Model

##### REGION 12

District 45 - Boyle County, Danville, Garrard County, Lincoln County

District 46 - Burgin, East Jessamine, Mercer County, West Jessamine

District 47 - Casey County, Pulaski County, Rockcastle County, Somerset

District 48 - McCreary Central, Southwestern, Wayne County

##### REGION 13

District 49 - Clay County, Jackson County, North Laurel, Oneida Baptist, Red Bird

District 50 - Corbin, South Laurel, Whitley County, Williamsburg

District 51 - Barbourville, Knox Central, Lynn Camp, Pineville

District 52 - Bell County, Harlan, Harlan County, Middlesboro

##### REGION 14

District 53 - Cordia, Jenkins, Knott County Central, Letcher County Central

District 54 - Buckhorn, Hazard, Leslie County, Perry County Central

District 55 - Breathitt County, Jackson City, Riverside Christian, Wolfe County

District 56 - Estill County, Lee County, Owsley County, Powell County

##### REGION 15

District 57 - Johnson Central, Magoffin County, Paintsville, Sheldon Clark

District 58 - Allen Central, Betsy Layne, Prestonsburg, South Floyd

District 59 - East Ridge, Pikeville, Shelby Valley

District 60 - Belfry, Lawrence County, Phelps, Pike County Central

##### REGION 16

District 61 - Bath County, Fleming County, Menifee County, Rowan County

District 62 - East Carter, Elliott County, Morgan County, West Carter

District 63 - Greenup County, Lewis County, Raceland, Russell

District 64 - Ashland Blazer, Boyd County, Fairview

#### B) District Seeding

1) For district tournaments that for whatever reason, fall to where only two teams the following shall govern:

a) The head to head results from the regular season shall determine the host team and number 1 seed for postseason play.

b) The number 1 seed shall host the district tournament (region if the sport does not have districts) and shall be the designated

- home team, even if unable to host the game at their home site due to facility requirements in the sport.
- 2) For district tournaments with three teams, the district tournament shall be seeded in accordance with the following three-team seeding rules:
    - a) The competing teams within a district shall, by majority vote, determine if the schools are required to play each other once or twice during the regular season. These games will produce a uniform means of ranking the teams by seed within these districts.
    - b) The team with the highest seed (one seed) receives a bye in the district tournament, and advances to the championship game.
    - c) The remaining two teams would play in the first round of the district tournament with the loser of that game being eliminated.
    - d) In the case of a two-way tie for the district winning position,
      - (1) The tie-breaking mechanisms (in order) shall be:
        - a. In districts that have decided to play each other only once in district play, the winner in the game played between the tied district opponents would have the higher finishing position.
        - b. In districts that have decided to play each other twice in district play, the winner in the second game played between the tied district opponents would have the higher finishing position.
      - e) In the case of a three-way tie for the district winning position, the tie would be resolved in the following manner. If any of the tie-breakers results in one of the teams being ahead of the other two, the tie is broken. If any of the tie-breakers result in two teams remaining ahead of the third, then the two-way tie breaker shall be used to determine the winner between those two.
        - (1) In districts that have decided to play each other only once in district play, the tie shall be broken by blind draw. The team drawn first in the draw shall be considered the highest seed (one seed).
        - (2) In districts that have decided to play each other twice in district play, the tie-breaking mechanisms (in order) shall be:
          - a. If the tie remains between all three teams, the record in the second game played against all district opponents involved in the tie.
          - b. If the tie remains between all three teams, the record in the first game played against all district opponents involved in the tie.
          - c. If the tie remains between all three teams, then the total points allowed in all seeded games shall be the next tie-breaker.
          - d. If the tie remains between all three teams, then the total points allowed in the second of each of the seeded games shall be the next tie-breaker.
          - e. If the tie is still unbreakable, then a blind draw among the three teams shall break the tie. In this case, the team drawn first in the draw shall be considered the highest seed (one seed)
          - f. Additional tie-breaking mechanisms could be added, and would be uniform for all three-team districts.
      - f) In the event of game re-scheduling or cancellation, the original game schedule shall determine which game is "second" for tie-breaking purposes.
    - 3) For district tournaments with four or more teams, the district tournament brackets may be drawn by random lot or placed into the bracket using a seeding system. A majority vote (recorded in writing) of the Principals, Athletic Directors or Designated Representatives of the schools in the district is required in order to make or change seeding decisions. In the absence of any documentation, minutes or other verification, the districts shall not be seeded. The rules concerning the seeding of a district with four or more teams are as follows:
      - a) The decision to seed and the method used in seeding (including all tie-breakers) shall be determined by majority vote of the participating teams in the district and the manager shall record this vote in writing and submit it to the Association.

The representatives making the written declaration shall decide all issues related to seeding,

    - b) Seeding methods shall be determined prior to the start of the regular season, recorded in writing with a copy provided to the KHSAA, and shall remain in place until a majority vote of the participating schools rescinds or changes the seeding decisions. Such changes to the district seeding plan may not be made for the current year once play has begun in the regular season.
    - c) In the event of dispute, the current copy on file with the KHSAA shall prevail in determining resolution.
    - d) Seeding plans may, at the discretion of the majority vote of the schools, stipulate a particular team to a particular seeded position.
    - e) It shall be the district tournament manager's responsibility to update the Association with respect to any changes to the seeding decision or method being used and any relevant tiebreakers. In the absence of this documentation, consultation with, and written verification and documentation from, prior year tournament managers, will be utilized by staff to assist with interpretation and clarification.
    - f) There are no statewide rules on a seeding method once the determination has been made to seed. Some of the more common and recommended means of seeding is the record of games played within a district provided all teams have played all other teams. In that case, each district shall adopt tie-breaking procedures in the event that the primary method of seeding results in a tie or other situations arise which cause an alteration in the scheduled seeding method. Among the more common tie-breaking methods are:
      - (1) seeding by overall win-loss record;
      - (2) seeding by win-loss record in specific contests,
      - (3) seeding by a rating/ranking from a statewide poll,
      - (4) seeding by a majority vote,
      - (5) seeding by a committee,
      - (6) seeding a specific team (s) into a position to avoid scheduling complications and issues, and
      - (7) seeding by a rating turned in by each school.
    - g) If win-loss records are used for seeding, the records used shall be the records as of midnight Wednesday prior to the Monday of the week of the district tournament. Teams and school representatives may meet during the regular season to discuss tournament operations (i.e. dates, times, sites, tournament personnel needs, etc.). However if an organizational meeting is held prior to the published date on the calendar, no discussions may be held regarding the bracketing or pairings of specific teams unless all mandated seeded games have been played prior to the meeting.
    - h) Seeded games unable to be played for any reason (with the exception of verified forfeited contests) prior to the published deadline for seeded games shall be recorded as a win and a loss for both teams in computing seeded position.
    - i) If a change in the alignment of teams moves a single new team into a previously seeded district during the current school year, the previous decision as to seeding shall prevail. If the new team enters the alignment following the completion of all game contracts and the new team is unable to schedule all required opponents, the new team shall be seeded in the last position for the current season, and shall be included in seeded game scheduling for the subsequent seasons. If a single change in the alignment occurs prior to the end of the previous school year, the district teams will conduct a new vote as to seeding.
    - j) If a change in the alignment of teams moves more than one team into a seeded district, the district teams shall conduct a new vote as to seeding. A tie vote will result in the seeding decision being not seeded.
    - k) If the Board of Control approves a total realignment of teams within a district, the teams in the district shall conduct a new vote as to seeding. A tie vote in this situation shall result in the district being not seeded.
    - l) Once a vote has been conducted for the district to be seeded, all required contests shall be considered to be contracted for the seeding requisite number of contests. If school

representatives do not notify all schools in the district of their intent NOT to participate by the first day of practice, the contest shall be played or a forfeit declared. Where a fee is not specified, a \$1000 default forfeiture fee will be assessed for non-played contests

## II) DATES AND SITES FOR POSTSEASON COMPETITION

### A) Dates for Play

- 1) District tournament play shall begin not later than Monday of the week on the KHSAA Calendar for district tournaments. Permission may be obtained from the KHSAA office to start later than that date only in the event of facility conflicts. Tournaments may begin on the weekend prior if the schools concur and it alleviates facility conflicts.
- 2) Region tournament play shall begin not later than Tuesday of the week on the KHSAA Calendar for region tournaments. Permission may be obtained from the KHSAA office to start later than that date only in the event of facility conflicts.
- 3) All tournaments shall be held on or as near the dates indicated on the Memorandum Calendar as local conditions permit. Any exceptions shall be approved by the Commissioner.

### B) Sites for Play

- 1) District tournament sites shall be selected by a site selection plan approved by a unanimous vote of the schools eligible to compete in each district tournament. If a district is unable to resolve conflict over the plan, the Commissioner shall establish a plan.
- 2) Only schools which are members of the Association prior to January 1 of the year in which the tournament is held, and having a schedule of ten (10) or more softball games shall be allowed to vote for the district tournament location or participate in the tournament.
- 3) Criteria to be considered by the schools for the district tournament include but are not limited to:
  - a) satisfactory capacity within the facility to safely accommodate past (five years) and expected attendance numbers;
  - b) an officials dressing room;
  - c) adequate parking for projected attendance; and
  - d) meet the published site selection criteria for softball as posted on the KHSAA website.
- 4) The Commissioner shall determine region tournament sites. Schools interested in hosting a region tournament shall submit their request through a meeting of the Principals or Designated Representatives of all schools in the region and shall supply information relating to the listed criteria for hosting. The Commissioner's office may use this site selection plan as a guide, but is not bound by this plan in determining the sites.
- 5) A two-thirds vote is necessary to adopt any plan for recommending the region tournament sites and voting shall include all schools within a region, not simply the schools playing in a particular year's event.
- 6) Criteria to be considered by the schools for recommending regional tournament sites include but are not limited to:
  - a) satisfactory capacity within the facility to safely accommodate past (five years) and expected attendance numbers;
  - b) an officials dressing room;
  - c) adequate parking for projected attendance; and
  - d) meet the published site selection criteria for softball as posted on the KHSAA website.
- 7) The schools in the district and the region shall agree on the amount of proceeds (if any) that is to be kept by the host school as well as limitations on expenses by the host school; determining the fixed amount or percentages to be given to each school that participates; the fixed amount or percentages to be given to each team in the region not competing in the tournament; and the disbursement of any proceeds from commissions, parking, advertising and any other revenue related to the tournament but not directly related to ticket, program or novelty sales. Resolution as to disputes on any of these issues may be facilitated by the Commissioner's office and if agreement cannot be reached, may be considered by the Board of Control.
- 8) The Board of Control shall determine the site of the state tournament after receiving the Commissioner's recommendation, and shall be guided by necessary hotel facilities, playing

facilities, and community/area support.

## III) TOURNAMENT MANAGERS, MEETINGS AND PAIRINGS

### A) Selection of Tournament Manager

- 1) The principal of the host school shall designate an official of the school to serve as the manager for each district tournament. The Commissioner will appoint a manager for each of the region tournaments.
- 2) It is the duty of each district and region tournament manager to invite representatives of the participating teams in the tournament to a meeting held for the purpose of making tournament plans.
- 3) It is an explicit duty of each tournament manager to inform the association IMMEDIATELY as to the bracket / pairings / entries / results when requested by KHSAA staff and according to the time deadlines provided including the actual site of the tournament if it is not held at the school. In addition, it shall be the duty of the manager of each contest in soccer, volleyball, football, basketball, baseball and softball to contact the KHSAA Scoreboard with the final results following each contest. This is in addition to fulfilling local media requests. The receipts of a tournament can be assessed a fine (levied against the manager) for failure to comply with these provisions.
- 4) The Commissioner shall serve as the manager for the state tournament and may appoint as many assistant managers as deemed necessary to manage the event. The Commissioner will direct a drawing and all of the business necessary to conduct the state tournament.

### B) Tournament Meeting

- 1) The representatives of the schools participating in each tournament, by majority vote, shall set the dates and times of the games, and make all other arrangements necessary to conduct the tournament.
- 2) The district meetings shall be held in the school designated as the tournament host not later than the Wednesday prior to the week of the tournament as specified on the KHSAA Calendar. These meetings may be held earlier by mutual agreement of all teams.
- 3) The Region meeting shall be held on Sunday afternoon immediately following the district tournaments not prior to 2:00 local time in the school designated as the host. These meetings may be held earlier by mutual agreement of all teams, but not prior to the completion of all district tournament games. The site for future regional tournaments is not an issue for this meeting unless the Principal or the Designated Representative as listed on the KHSAA website is present for all teams in the region (not limited to the competing teams).

### C) Tournament Pairings

- 1) The principal or his/her representative shall conduct the drawing for each school.
- 2) District (non-seeded): The pairings for the district tournament shall be made in accordance with the following procedure, with all byes being arranged to be in the first round:
  - a) The appropriate bracket shall be used for team placement according to the number of teams entering the tournament:
    - (1) For three (3) teams, the bracket is seeded by rule and form BR103 shall be used;
    - (2) For four (4) teams, the unseeded BR104 shall be used;
    - (3) For five (5) teams, the unseeded BR105 shall be used;
    - (4) For six (6) teams, the unseeded BR106 shall be used;
    - (5) For seven (7) teams, the unseeded BR107 shall be used;
    - (6) For eight (8) teams, the unseeded BR108 shall be used;
    - (7) If more than eight (8) teams are in the district bracket, contact the KHSAA offices for assistance in utilizing the unseeded BR116 bracket.
  - b) The participants may determine the order in which the bracket positions will be drawn in any manner agreeable to the majority. This could be alphabetically by school name, alphabetical by some other variable, totally random (a draw to determine the order of draw) or any other method for which agreement is reached. However, such agreement may NOT determine the bracket positions, only the drawing order.
- 3) The participants shall then draw for the non-BYE positions in the bracket. For example, in a five team bracket, the draw shall be for positions 1, 3, 5, 6 and 7.



- d) The home team shall be determined by the bracket form.
- e) The games of the tournament shall be played in the order listed on the bracket unless unanimous agreement is reached among the competing teams due to facility logistics concerns.
- f) The district champion and the runner-up of each single elimination tournament shall advance to the region tournament.
- 3) District (seeded): After seeding positions have been determined, the seeded bracket pairings shall be observed. The teams shall be placed in the proper position of the appropriate single elimination bracket. The brackets (from top down) are as follows:
  - a) 2 Team - The district tournament shall then be a single game, with the winner being advanced to the region tournament as the district winner (regardless of the regular season results).
  - b) 3 Teams (seeded by rule) – Seed 2 plays 3, Seed 1 plays winner of Seed 2 vs. Seed 3 for championship.
  - c) 4 Teams - Seed 1 plays 4, 2 plays 3, winners meet for championship.
  - d) 5 Teams - Seed 5 plays 4, 1 plays winner of 5 vs. 4, 2 plays 3, remaining winners meet for championship.
  - e) 6 Teams - Seed 4 plays 5, 3 plays 6, 1 plays winner of 4 vs. 5, 2 plays winner of 3 vs. 6, remaining winners meet for championship.
  - f) 7 Teams - Seed 4 plays 5, 2 plays 7, 3 plays 6, 1 plays winner of 4 vs. 5, 2 vs. 7 winner plays 3 vs. 6 winner, remaining winners meet for championship.
  - g) 8 Teams - Seed 1 plays 8, 4 plays 5, 2 plays 7, 3 plays 6, 1 vs. 8 winner plays 4 vs. 5 winner, 2 vs. 7 winner plays 3 vs. 6 winner, remaining winners meet for championship.
  - h) The district champion and the runner-up of each single elimination tournament shall advance to the region tournament.
- 4) Region: The pairings for the region tournament shall be made in accordance to the following procedure.
  - a) The participants may determine the order in which the bracket positions will be drawn in any manner agreeable to the majority. This could be alphabetically by school name, alphabetical by some other variable, totally random (a draw to determine the order of draw) or any other method for which agreement is reached. However, such agreement may NOT determine the bracket positions, only the drawing order.
  - b) In a region tournament with participants from four districts, the district winners will draw for positions 1, 3, 5 and 7 in a standard eight-team bracket. Each corresponding runner-up team will draw for a position in the opposite bracket.
  - c) In a region tournament with participants from three districts, the draw shall be conducted as follows. The format will follow a standard eight-team bracket with two byes, those falling into positions 2 and 7. The district winners shall draw for positions 1 and 8 in the bracket. The district winner not drawing a bye shall draw for a position in slots 3 through 6. The district runner-up to the district champion drawing for position in slots 3 through 6 will draw into one of the two remaining slots in the bracket opposite the district winner, and the remaining two runner-up teams will be placed opposite their corresponding district winners in the remaining two slots in the bracket.
  - d) In a region tournament with participants from two districts, the draw shall be conducted as follows. The district winners will draw for positions 1 and 3 in a standard four-team bracket. Each corresponding runner-up team will be placed in the position in the opposite bracket from the district winner.
  - e) In regions where the drawing of district boundaries result in two or three districts, the Board of Control may approve an alternate format in order to allow for a full eight-team bracket in the region tournament.
  - f) The winner of each region tournament shall advance to the state tournament.
- 5) State. The Commissioner shall conduct a blind draw to determine the pairings for the state tournament. The winner of each of the sixteen (16) region tournaments shall advance to the state tournament.
- 6) Regardless of any vote or consensus of the competing teams, any bracket not drawn in accordance with the above procedures

may be directed to be corrected, including the replay of contests, by the Commissioner's office.

#### IV) ELIGIBILITY TO ENTER TOURNAMENT PLAY AND SUBSTITUTIONS

##### A) Roster Requirement

- 1) Each school shall enter an unlimited number of contestants on an electronic roster via the KHSAA website and online participation tracking system by the published deadlines.
- 2) This roster may be revised throughout the regular season and shall serve all roster purposes in these rules.
- 3) On the first day of postseason play, these rosters shall be locked so that no additional players may be added, deleted or revised following this date, thereby creating the final eligibility list for tournament play.
- 4) After this time, the only revision allowed will be to correct a documented clerical error as approved by the Commissioner.

##### B) Withdrawal after draw

- 1) No school which enters a district, region or state tournament (draws for place) shall withdraw from the tournament or forfeit any of its games, but shall play its entire tournament schedule.
- 2) If a school withdraws from a district, region or state tournament at any time following the draw for district tournament positions or after the pairings have been determined in a seeded district, that school shall be penalized in accordance with Bylaw 27.

##### C) Photo Requirement

Each school shall submit a properly identified team photograph in compliance with published deadlines and directives.

##### D) Per Game Roster/Substitutions

- 1) A school may enter a team composed of twenty-one (21) players in each postseason tournament game from the roster submitted online.
- 2) The twenty one (21) players shall be designated each game, and no other players may be in uniform and tournament management may limit the total number of individuals in the dugouts.

##### E) Minimum Number of Contests

To be eligible to compete in the district, region or state tournament, a member school team shall have competed in at least ten games during the regular season.

##### V) UMPIRES / OFFICIALS

A) Umpires for all KHSAA sponsored championship competition shall be assigned by the Commission in compliance with the Federal Court Decree of 1971 (1987, 2007).

B) Umpires assigned for championship play shall comply with the published provisions of the KHSAA Officials Guidebook.

##### VI) CHAMPION, TROPHIES AND AWARDS

###### A) Champion

- 1) The champion of each district and region tournament will be the team undefeated in a single elimination tournament.
- 2) The champion of the state tournament will be the winning team in a double elimination tournament.

###### B) Trophies and Awards

- 1) Trophies will be given to each district and region tournament winner and runner-up.
- 2) The trophies at the district and region shall be paid from the gate receipts of that tournament.
- 3) The state tournament champion, runner-up, and semi-finalists shall receive a trophy and twenty-four (24) individual medals.
- 4) An All-Tournament team will be selected at the state tournament including a Most Valuable Player.
- 5) The Association will bear the costs of all trophies at the state tournament.

##### VII) FINANCES, PASSES

###### A) District and Region

- 1) The participating schools may adopt by majority vote, any plan that they desire for the distribution of receipts. All gross receipts prior to any distribution shall include any applicable advance payment made by teams to help offset event costs.
- 2) If no plan can be agreed upon, the following shall prevail:
  - a) A mileage fee of \$1.00 per team per mile for each necessary trip should be allowed for travel expense. An allowance for one meal at \$5.00 per team member per trip to the tournament should be allowed.
  - b) The host school shall be allowed fifteen (15) percent of the gross ticket receipts derived from the district or region

tournament for rental of the gymnasium and other services rendered to include setup and clean-up charges and for paying documented incidental bills related to the tournament that are approved by the participating teams.

- c) Prior to any additional distribution, the gross receipts, less the host designated share outlined in subsection (2), shall be reduced by team travel expenses and the amounts paid for game officials and trophies.
- d) The remainder of the profit shall be divided among the schools participating in the tournament and the non-participating schools in accordance with previously approved plans.
- e) The host school should be allowed the profits made on programs, concessions, parking, etc.

#### B) State

- 1) The Association will finance the state tournament. The following allowances will apply if the receipts from the tournament make them justifiable, otherwise, the Board of Control will determine the allowance.
- 2) Expenses will be paid for meals, lodging and travel for each team through breakfast on the day following elimination from the tournament for each team.
- 3) The state tournament squad for purposes of reimbursement shall be limited to twenty-four (24) persons, including the principal, coaches, team members and other personnel.
- 4) Schools failing to stay in the motel/hotel assigned by the Association shall forfeit the lodging allowance. Schools within forty (40) one-way miles will not be provided a lodging allowance, but will be considered commuting teams. Commuting teams shall be paid an allowance in accordance with pre-tournament instructions.
- 5) The rate to be reimbursed for state championship play is \$1 per mile (round trip), \$5 per meal per person, and a maximum of \$13 per person per night for lodging as approved.
- 6) After all expenses have been paid, the Kentucky High School Athletic Association shall retain profits from each state tournament.
- 7) The competing teams in the state tournament will be afforded passes to accommodate a traveling party of forty (40), to include the school principal(s) and other administrators, the coaching staff, the team members in uniform (maximum 21) and the support staff for the team. No additional passes will be issued.

### VIII) SPECIAL TOURNAMENT AND REGULAR SEASON RULES

#### A) Playing Rules

- 1) All games shall be played using the NFHS Softball Rules as published by the NFHS in Indianapolis. Additional rules, governed by State Association adoption provisions in the National Federation Playing Rules or otherwise developed by the Association may be implemented in contests played in Kentucky and will be distributed to the membership when relevant.
- 2) Detailed and binding instructions, both for managers and participating teams, shall be published on the KHSAA website.

#### B) Specifications for Fields and Game Balls

- 1) The specifications for recommended and required standards for fields to be used in tournament play may be developed by Association staff and Advisory Committees and approved by the Board of Control.
- 2) The twelve (12) inch softball shall be utilized in all regular season and postseason contests.
- 3) The Association may enter into a contract to restrict the use of a ball in tournament play to a specific brand or model.

#### D) Time Limit

There shall be no time limit on regular or postseason varsity softball contests.

#### E) Speed-Up Rules

All softball contests shall utilize the optional speed-up rules allowed by the National Federation such as courtesy runners for the pitcher and catcher upon reaching base and any other speed-up rules mandated by the National Federation including a "run rule" where run differential determines the end of the contest.

#### F) Interrupted Games

- 1) If a game is interrupted in tournament play or in regular season play, and is subsequently to be completed, it will be reset at the same point, same inning, same out or outs, same balls and strikes, same batter or number of batter in the batting order.

- 2) If a game is interrupted and cannot be resumed that day, three choices exist for completing the game:

- a) If agreed by both teams, terminate game with score as it exists if such is allowable by the playing rules of the NFHS, and if such agreement is reached at the site, it shall be considered final;
- b) If agreed by both teams, resume game at point of interruption at a mutually agreed date and time, provided that the date and time decision is finalized at the site prior to the teams departing, and if such agreement is reached at the site, it shall be considered final; or
- c) If agreement cannot be reached, resume the game on the next available playing date for both teams that does not conflict with specific local board policies (i.e. Sunday play), does not violate the Bylaw 23 prohibition on playing games on consecutive days (Monday through Thursday) and based on schedules as published as of the interrupted game. If one of the competing teams on the first available date chooses for any reason not to play, that team shall be considered to have forfeited the contest. If both teams choose not to play on the first available date, the contest shall be officially recorded as a double forfeit and if it is a seeded district game, the required procedure utilized to determine counting toward seeding position.

- 3) If a game is interrupted and is to be resumed:

- a) The same officials are expected to return to complete contest;
- b) Substitute officials shall be paid the local policy board mileage add-on only;
- c) Local associations shall develop policy on compensation of substitute officials, such as pooling game fees, etc.;
- d) Officials have no say in the postponement decisions, except to moderate discussion;
- e) Officials and coaches should involve not solely coaches, but school administrators in the decision;
- f) All involved shall remember that this situation is caused by elements such as weather that are uncontrollable by anyone, and keep the discussions in that perspective; and
- g) There shall be no guarantee that infield will take place prior to the resumption of the interrupted game.

- 4) If a game is interrupted and unable to be completed, it shall be counted against all applicable game limits, including total number of games and all pitching restrictions.

#### G) Complete Game and Run Rule

- 1) In regular season, and postseason, a complete game of 6 1/2 or 7 innings shall be played unless other National Federation rules or rules adopted by state association and permitted by National Federation playing rules (as detailed in item 4 below) apply to the situation.
- 2) One or both games of a double header may be shortened to five innings by mutual agreement of the two coaches prior to the game.
- 3) For all games, regular season and postseason, a fifteen (15) run differential between teams after three or more complete innings (including after the top half if the home team is ahead) shall constitute a complete game.
- 4) For all games, regular season and postseason, a ten (10) run differential between teams after five or more complete innings (including after the top half if the home team is ahead) shall constitute a complete game.

#### H) International Tie-Breaker

- 1) The international tie-breaker (ITB) system shall be used in all regular season games if the game is still tied after nine complete innings. By mutual agreement of the two competing coaches, the ITB may be used in the 8th and 9th innings if the score is tied after seven complete innings.
- 2) The provisions of the ITB are:
  - a) If a game is tied after nine complete innings of play (or innings 8 and 9 by mutual agreement), the game shall continue in the 10th inning using the International Tie-Breaker (ITB) system.
  - b) At the start of each half-inning beginning in the top of the 10th (or 8th and 9th by mutual agreement), the offensive team will begin its turn at bat with the player scheduled to bat ninth in that half inning being placed on second base. If the Pitcher or Catcher is that ninth batter, then a courtesy



runner may be used. A substitute may also be legally inserted for the runner.

3) The ITB shall not be utilized in postseason play.

I) Double First Base

1) The double first base provisions of the NFHS playing rules shall be utilized in all regular season games hosted by KHSAA member schools at school owned facilities.

2) The double first base provisions of the NFHS playing rules shall be utilized in all rounds of KHSAA championship play.

J) Heat Index

All play shall adhere to the KHSAA Heat Index Program. For postseason play, it is the responsibility of the host site manager to ensure and track the heat index and report it accordingly to the KHSAA.

K) Deadline to Start Contest

No contest shall be started in a postseason contest after 11:00 p.m. local time at any contest site.

## CASE SITUATIONS RELATED TO THE COMPETITION RULES of the KENTUCKY HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

*Specific case situations are contained in this section of the KHSAA Handbook which are interpretations and rulings which have been made by the Commissioner in accordance with applicable provisions of the KHSAA Constitution. These interpretations supplement the printed rules but do not in any manner substitute for the actual rule. Many of these rulings have established precedent for the interpretation or enforcement of these provisions, and remain in place until further altered, re-interpreted, or otherwise set aside. Specific inquiries not addressed by published interpretations should be submitted in writing to the Commissioner of the KHSAA, 2280 Executive Drive, Lexington, KY 40505. Interpretive questions or eligibility rulings shall be requested and issued in writing.*

### **Case CR-1- What is the purpose of the Competition Rules of the KHSAA?**

*In many sports and sports activities, there are decisions that have to be made to establish a framework for competition. These rules (different than the Playing Rules) establish alignments, bracketing provisions and championship arrangements. In all cases, the Board of Control has final jurisdiction over the Competition Rules.*

### **Case CR-2- What are the current championships of the KHSAA?**

*The KHSAA sponsors (sanctions) sports championship events in the fall, winter and spring seasons. Fall championships are considered to be cross country (boys and girls), field hockey, golf (boys and girls), soccer (boys and girls), volleyball (girls), and football (combined); winter championships are basketball (boys and girls), wrestling (combined) and swimming and diving (boys and girls); spring championships are baseball (boys), softball (fastpitch for girls), tennis (boys and girls) and track and field (boys and girls)*

*In addition, the KHSAA sponsors (sanctions) a state championship in the Sport Activities of Archery (combined), Bass Fishing (combined), Bowling (Boys and Girls) and Cheer (All Girl and Coed divisions).*

### **Case CR-3- What sports and sport activities are insured by the KHSAA?**

*The KHSAA Board of Control will purchase Catastrophe Insurance, using the member dues and tournament receipts, to insure the student-athletes who compete in the sanctioned sports and sport activities of the KHSAA. In addition, students serving in a support capacity at those sponsored events (managers, trainers, sideline cheerleaders (providing they comply with the NFHS rules restrictions).*

*Such insurance coverage shall be in force from the first day of the Bylaw 23, Limitation of Seasons in a sponsored sport or sport activity, through the last day, provided such competition complies with all parts of the Bylaw and its individual competitors comply with all applicable KHSAA bylaws. The deductible for this policy shall be published in a timely manner to ensure that the school and student-athletes have adequate opportunity to comply with Bylaw 12.*

*The KHSAA Board of Control will purchase General Liability Insurance, using the member dues and tournament receipts, to provide for General Liability coverage for the Association and its agents and assignees, in all KHSAA sponsored competition in all sports (postseason) for which the Association sponsors a championship. The Commissioner shall ensure through all forms of due diligence, that all levels of these sponsored championships are conducted in accordance with applicable KHSAA Competition Rules in order to maintain the integrity of the policy.*

### **Case CR-4- How many schools are required to agree to participate in KHSAA sponsored postseason competition in order for the Association to hold a championship in that sport or sport-activity?**

*Fifty (50) member schools located in at least three (3) different basketball regions shall agree to field a team in order that*

*the Association consider sponsoring a championship. The achievement of this percentage is no guarantee of the development of a championship as the Board of Control must consider fiscal and legal consequences such as the Association budget, the budget of the member schools and the impact on such things as Title IX.*

*Twenty-five member schools located in at least three (3) different basketball regions shall participate each year in order that the Association maintains a championship.*

*These criteria may be waived by the Board of Control in order to sponsor a championship in any sport that does not conflict with state or federal law and which provides additional participation opportunities exclusively for females.*

*The Association shall survey the membership every three years to determine interest in new offerings.*

### **Case CR-5- Who is in control of the media and press at KHSAA sponsored competition?**

*1) The intellectual property, corporate, broadcasting and media rights to the State championship rounds of the KHSAA postseason championships belong exclusively to the KHSAA, including titling agreements and sponsorships. No member school may approve or sign an agreement that includes rights to state contests (delayed or live).*

*2) The intellectual property, corporate, broadcasting and media rights to the postseason rounds prior to the state finals belong exclusively to the KHSAA, including titling agreements and sponsorships. No member school can sign an exclusive agreement for a postseason round (District, Region, semi-state) without agreement between the schools and approval of the KHSAA Office.*

*3) The intellectual property, corporate, broadcasting and media rights to the postseason rounds prior to the state finals belong exclusively to the KHSAA, but are assigned to the Principal of each institution for management and control. No member school shall sign an exclusive regular season agreement that would "Shut out" its opponent from any audio, video streaming or having the opportunity to do so.*

*4) At all levels of competition during postseason play, control of media access and location at those contests is with the KHSAA. In general, the management of those rights may be assigned to the manager at the host KHSAA member school for the district, region and sectional (semi-state) competition.*

*5) At all levels of competition, including district, region, sectional, and state competition in KHSAA sponsored tournaments and meets, managers are to make allowances for members of the media to tape portions of the contests at no charge to the media outlet, as long as the taping is for the sole purpose of news highlights.*

*6) Outlets desiring to tape the contest for broadcast or telecast shall seek the permission of the event manager, and the manager has the right to set and collect any fee which may be deemed appropriate as an offset to any perceived lost ticket revenue.*

*7) At the state level, all negotiations for rights to broadcast or telecast shall be initiated with the Communications Director and the Commissioner, and shall be approved by the Commissioner.*

### **Case CR-6- Who is empowered to make decisions at KHSAA tournaments when inclement weather forces postponement of contests or events?**

*While it would be ideal if all parties could meet and agree on any re-scheduling of games necessitated by inclement weather or other natural events, this may not be practical. It is the duty of the tournament manager to make decisions with regards to re-scheduling in the event of postponement and ensure that all teams, media outlets and schools are properly notified.*

### **Case CR-7- Is it possible for a winner and corresponding runner-up in baseball, basketball, field hockey, soccer, softball or volleyball district tournament to meet before the final region game?**

*No, because they are to be placed in opposite brackets.*

**Case CR-8- Is there a mandatory brand of game ball to be used in postseason play in baseball, basketball, football, softball?**

Yes, the Association has a long-term agreement with Rawlings Sporting Goods and Worth Sports to provide specific balls for the state championship tournament, and the Commissioner's office can provide specifications upon request.

In all postseason contests in these sports, a Rawlings brand ball (or Worth brand in softball) with the proper NFHS authenticating mark shall be used. There is no requirement that a KHSAA logo appear on the ball, or that all balls except for these specific models be disallowed.

For 2014-2015, those ball numbers are:

Boys Basketball - CNTR295-KY

Girls Basketballs - CNTR285-KY

Baseball - R100KY and RKHSAA

Softball - Worth PX2RYL-KY

Football - ST5H-KY-B Hybrid and PRO5-KY-B PRO5.

**Case CR-9- Is there a mandatory brand of game ball to be used in postseason play in soccer?**

Yes, the Association has a long-term agreement with Select Sports America to provide specific balls for the state championship tournament, and the Commissioner's office can provide specifications upon request.

In all postseason contests in these sports, a SELECT brand ball with the proper NFHS authenticating mark shall be used. There is no requirement that a KHSAA logo appear on the ball, or that all balls except for these specific models be disallowed.

For 2014-2015, those ball numbers/identifiers are:

Boys and Girls Soccer - ROYALE

**Case CR-10- Is there a mandatory brand of game ball to be used in postseason play in volleyball?**

Yes, the Association has a long-term agreement with Baden to provide specific balls for the state championship tournament, and the Commissioner's office can provide specifications upon request.

In all postseason contests in these sports, a Baden brand ball with the proper NFHS authenticating mark shall be used. There is no requirement that a KHSAA logo appear on the ball, or that all balls except for these specific models be disallowed.

For 2014-2015, those ball numbers/identifiers are:

Volleyball - Perfection VXSEC-210 Leather or Composite

**Case CR-11- Are there any restrictions on the scheduling and playing of games in a "seeded district" in baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, or volleyball?**

Yes. Principals, Athletic Directors and Coaches should consult the Competition Rules related to each of these sports for more specific dates for tournament meetings and allowances for scheduling of these meetings. All games involved in the calculation of a seed position SHALL be played on or before the Wednesday prior to the start of postseason play. Games played after that time SHALL NOT factor into the seeded position.

**Case CR-12- How are the tournament sites selected for district tournament sites for baseball, basketball, soccer, softball in the event that agreement cannot be reached on a site selection plan?**

If a site selection plan cannot be reached on first round (normally district) tournaments, the Commissioner will intervene and establish a rotation plan subject to appeal to the Board of Control. The site selection plan shall be confirmed by annual balloting during the season and reported to the Association along with seeding decisions. Rotating the tournament sites does not necessarily mean that each school shall host the tournament at that school's home site, but that each school, with available proper and adequate facilities, shall have the opportunity to host the tournament, even if an alternative site is required due to site requirements within a given sport.

**Case CR-13- Is there a deadline for a district host school in baseball, basketball, soccer, softball or volleyball to select a playing site if the school home site doesn't meet the requirements for holding the tournament?**

Yes. Through various rules and rulings in past years, every school

in a specific district alignment shall have an opportunity to serve as the host for the tournament. Each school may, of course, decline that opportunity. However, this requirement ensures that on a periodic basis, all schools get to share in the concession and parking proceeds, host share of the ticket receipts and other benefits that come from serving as the host. It is recognized that all schools in a given alignment grouping will not meet the tournament specifications.

For this reason, the following steps shall be taken by the schools in the district-

- 1) The schools shall meet and decide what facilities can hold the attendance of the last five years of the tournament based on the fan followings of the schools, and satisfy other logistical needs such as accessibility, parking, etc. (agreed sites). In addition, all sites must meet any adopted site criteria for the sport that has been approved by the Board of Control. If there is a disagreement, the Board of Control can serve as the final resolution and KHSAA staff shall assist in that determination.
- 2) The discussion on site applicability is separate from the ability to "host", that is being the tournament manager, operating concessions, etc. as all schools shall be given that opportunity to host, just not necessarily at a site that cannot accommodate the event.
- 3) From that list of agreed sites, the rotation of sites is to be considered, factoring in of course, that all schools shall be given a chance (if they want) to host, even if it isn't played at the host school's home playing facility.
- 4) In a year when the designated host's home facility does not meet the specifications for holding the tournament, the final selection as to the playing site rests with the designated host school. That school has sole discretion to make that decision, but is compelled to choose only from the list of agreed facilities as mentioned in (1) above.
- 5) In a year when the designated host school's home facility does not meet the specifications for holding the tournament, the designation shall be made by September 20 in volleyball and soccer; January 1 in basketball; and April 15 for baseball and softball.

**Case CR-14- How are the contest sites selected for region tournaments/meets/contests?**

The Commissioner establishes all regional sites. The Commissioner shall be generally guided by a site selection plan approved by a 2/3 vote of themember schools in the region, but is not compelled to assign the event to that site specified in the plan, and shall only assign to the sites meeting specified sports specific criteria.

Changes to a requested site selection plan shall be confirmed by balloting of the Principals or Designated Representatives of the member schools.

**Case CR-15- May a name be added to the roster or entry form after the first day of postseason competition?**

No, changes cannot be made unless otherwise provided in the competition rules for a specific sport. The principal shall check the online roster in all sports and sport-activities to ensure that all players are on the list as the rosters are locked after postseason play begins. For individual sports using the published entry list and/or forms, the specific sport tournament rules will address any options for substitution or correction, if such options exist.

**Case CR-15- How is it determined that a meet counts against the four meet minimum in Track and Field or Cross Country?**

In order to count as a meet for the four meet minimum a meet shall be a meet which rises to the standard of counting as a meet towards the interpretations of Bylaw 23. In addition, in Cross Country, the distance would be a minimum of 2500 meters and a maximum of 5000 meters and involved entries from two or more schools. To count towards the minimums, the meets may be at the varsity or nonvarsity level in terms of meet structure. It shall be counted in the same manner for all competitors (varsity, JV or freshman). The school approved or provided uniform shall be worn in this competition. In accordance with Bylaw 22, a school representative shall



accompany the team.

**Case CR-16- If a Cross Country Meet is interrupted by weather, can other races be run that day?**

Yes. The particular interrupted race is considered complete and counts both towards meet limits and participation minimums. If other competition can resume after required delays, that is permissible. Only races actually started can count towards meet limits or participation minimums.

**Case CR-17 - Are there policies on participation by boys on girls' teams and vice-versa?**

Yes. See the Board of Control policies for complete details on page 26 of <http://khsaa.org/handbook/20142015/policies.pdf>.

**Case CR-18 - Are there policy statements or recommendations from the Commissioner's office on postgame activity by teams and individuals?**

Yes. Several sports have "traditions" regarding postgame handshakes, etc. by team members (both en masse and as individuals), but none of them have such action dictated by playing rules. While it is an obvious sign of sportsmanship and civility, many incidents have occurred both in Kentucky (more than two dozen in the last three years in Kentucky alone) and throughout the country, where fights and physical conflicts have broken out during these postgame handshakes. And this is not restricted to specific sports.

Unfortunately, the adrenaline and effort required to participate in the sport sometimes seems to deplete the supply of judgement available to participants. And this can be particularly problematic when there is a lack of an appropriate level of adult supervision, or counterproductive actions by the adults involved with the team.

During 2013-14, the following directors were issued by the Commissioner to the membership for all of the schools and officials regarding post game in baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball, volleyball and wrestling:

Following the contests, officials are to quickly and efficiently leave the playing facility following all rules mandated duties and ensure that the rules book mandated jurisdiction ends promptly. There is no need for officials to secure the game balls, shake hands with the coaches or players, or stick around the playing area for any other reason.

Officials have no role in what goes on in postgame, including handshakes, etc. after jurisdiction has ended. Officials also have NO role in administering this time period. Officials choosing to involve themselves in postgame activities will be penalized appropriately;

Game management and the administration of the participating team(s) are solely responsible for what happens after the contest is concluded.

Certain interaction is required by the NFHS playing rules (i.e. the awarding of a bout winner in wrestling). Other postgame rituals such as handshakes, etc. must be closely monitored by school officials and are not a part of the game regulated by game officials. However, any unsportsmanlike conduct occurring during this time will subject the coach/player to penalties and discipline; and

The coaches and administration of the teams are always responsible for the individual conduct of the members of the team following the contest and shall be held accountable for such.

Henceforth, any incidents by an individual squad member (including coaches) or group of squad members that results in unsporting acts immediately following the contest will result in a penalty against the member school athletic program, and additional penalties against the individuals or schools as deemed appropriate following investigation.

**Case CR-19 - Who pays for the trophies for KHSAA postseason Competition?**

In all sports and sport-activities, with the exception of Bass Fishing, Golf and Tennis, the host of the event is responsible for the payment of trophies and is permitted to take that amount for the standard trophies ordered by the Association from gate receipts. Those not charging a fee for admission are permitted to assess each member school for entry into the event to help

cover these and other costs, but such assessment shall be included in any financial settlement published for the event.

**Case CR-20 - Are financial reconciliation reports required to be submitted to the KHSAA after KHSAA postseason events?**

Yes. All levels of KHSAA postseason event require a financial reconciliation.

**Case CR-21 - Has the Board of Control adopted a position statement or policy on the realignment / alignment of teams?**

Yes. On a perpetual basis, the Commissioner shall ensure that staff maintains a current alignment of teams in each sport with the following review points considered:

If a single school adds a team (or individuals) or deletes a team (or all individuals), the alignment may be revised on an ongoing basis by the Commissioner;

The Board of Control may, at its own discretion, choose to realign all teams participation in a sport or sport activity based on input from the Commissioner;

A realignment may also be caused by a previously adopted alignment having an expiration of its valid period. This is especially important in the enrollment based sports (classified sports). Cross Country/Track and Field and Football are aligned on a four-year alignment period;

Cross Country and Track and Field shall have the same alignment;

Football shall be aligned based on the average four-year enrollment of boys in the school, including the year in which the realignment project is completed, and the final alignment shall attempt to result in a final product being adopted at least twelve (12) months notice to the member schools for scheduling;

Cross Country/Track and Field shall be aligned on a not less than every four year basis, using the average four-year enrollment of total students in the school, including the year in which the realignment project is completed; and Specific parameters about each sport alignment shall be contained in the Competition rules for the Sport or Sport Activity.

Whenever a sport or sport activity is to be realigned, the Board shall direct the Commissioner to produce the necessary information as to seed discussion by the Board of Control. The criteria and factors to be used in developing a draft alignment shall adhere to the following steps:

Identification as to whether or not enrollment classifications will be used;

Plot/Diagram the location of all competing schools;

Begin by looking at geographic clusters of schools. Geography (including specific travel route information) is an important criteria for placement in groups (regions, districts, etc.), but is not the sole determinant for placement;

Travel routes must be reviewed as a potential factor, as well as the identification of the existence of multiple travel routes; In the non-classified team sports (baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, volleyball), the basketball alignment should be an initial framework, specifically the region boundaries;

If possible in the non-classified team sports, the district boundaries should be important element, but the level of participation of the schools in the district must be factor;

The unique factors of each sport, particularly the individual sports, must be reviewed including facilities; and

The participation and alignment history, both individual and teams, is a factor in consideration, but not the final determinant;

When reviewing alternative suggestions for alignments, the Board shall prioritize the requests from the membership that effect the requesting school over those suggestions that result from suggestions about other schools without effecting the suggesting school.

The following factors are NOT to be considered:

Past success or failure;

Enrollment (in a non-classified sport);

Socio-economic status and student body composition;

*Type of school (A1, D1, F1, J1, M1, R1); and  
Specific desires of coaches (input must be from administrative  
level).*