

## KHSAA COMPETITION RULES

### Governing Football

*(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

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

The Kentucky High School Athletic Association shall sponsor postseason competition in football, provided that ten (10) percent of the member schools declare intentions to participate in said competition. Member schools not desiring to participate in KHSAA sponsored postseason competition shall notify the Association office prior to July 15, by the Commissioner's office.

For the 2015 through 2018 playing seasons, the alignment for football is as follows:

##### CLASS 1A

- District 1 – Crittenden County, Fulton City, Fulton County, Russellville
- District 2 – Bethlehem, Campbellsville, Caverna, Fort Knox
- District 3 – Eminence, Frankfort, Holy Cross (Louisville), Kentucky Country Day
- District 4 – Beechwood, Bellevue, Dayton, Ludlow
- District 5 – Berea, Bishop Brossart, Bracken County, Nicholas County, Paris
- District 6 – Fairview, Paintsville, Raceland
- District 7 – Harlan, Lynn Camp, Pineville, Williamsburg
- District 8 – Hazard, Jenkins, Phelps, Pikeville, South Floyd

##### CLASS 2A

- District 1 – Ballard Memorial, Mayfield, Murray, Webster County
- District 2 – Butler County, Hancock County, McLean County, Owensboro Catholic, Todd County Central
- District 3 – Clinton County, Glasgow, Green County, Metcalfe County, Monroe County
- District 4 – Christian Academy-Louisville, DeSales, Shawnee, Washington County
- District 5 – Carroll County, Gallatin County, Owen County, Trimble County, Walton-Verona
- District 6 – Holy Cross (Covington), Lloyd Memorial, Newport, Newport Central Catholic
- District 7 – Danville, Lexington Christian, Middlesboro, Somerset
- District 8 – Allen Central, Betsy Layne, East Ridge, Leslie County, Prestonsburg, Shelby Valley

##### CLASS 3A

- District 1 – Caldwell County, Fort Campbell, Paducah Tilghman, Trigg County, Union County
- District 2 – Adair County, Edmonson County, Elizabethtown, Hart County, LaRue County
- District 3 – Bardstown, Central, Henry County, Moore, Thomas Nelson, Waggener
- District 4 – Boyle County, Garrard County, Lexington Catholic, Western Hills
- District 5 – Bath County, Fleming County, Lewis County, Pendleton County, Russell, West Carter
- District 6 – Belfry, Lawrence County, Pike County Central, Sheldon Clark
- District 7 – Breathitt County, Estill County, Knott County Central, Magoffin County, Morgan County, Powell County
- District 8 – Bell County, Casey County, Corbin, Jackson County

##### CLASS 4A

- District 1 – Calloway County, Hopkins County Central, Hopkinsville, Logan County, Madisonville-North Hopkins
- District 2 – Allen County-Scottsville, Franklin-Simpson, South Warren, Warren Central, Warren East
- District 3 – Breckinridge County, John Hardin, Valley, Western
- District 4 – Collins, Franklin County, North Oldham, Shelby County, Spencer County
- District 5 – East Jessamine, Marion County, Mercer County, Taylor County, West Jessamine
- District 6 – Clay County, Knox Central, Rockcastle County, Russell County, Wayne County
- District 7 – Bourbon County, Harrison County, Holmes, Mason

County, Scott

District 8 – Ashland Blazer, Boyd County, East Carter, Greenup County, Johnson Central, Rowan County

##### CLASS 5A

- District 1 – Apollo, Christian County, Graves County, Marshall County, Owensboro
- District 2 – Barren County, Bowling Green, Grayson County, Greenwood
- District 3 – Bullitt Central, Bullitt East, Nelson County, North Bullitt, Oldham County, South Oldham
- District 4 – Atherton, Doss, Fairdale, Fern Creek, Iroquois, Southern
- District 5 – Covington Catholic, Dixie Heights, Grant County, Highlands
- District 6 – Anderson County, Madison Southern, Montgomery County, Woodford County
- District 7 – Lincoln County, Pulaski County, South Laurel, Southwestern
- District 8 – Harlan County, Letcher County Central, North Laurel, Perry County Central, Whitley County

##### CLASS 6A

- District 1 – Daviess County, Henderson County, McCracken County, Muhlenberg County, Ohio County
- District 2 – Central Hardin, Meade County, North Hardin
- District 3 – Butler, DuPont Manual, Male, Pleasure Ridge Park, St. Xavier
- District 4 – Ballard, Eastern, Jeffersontown, Seneca, Trinity (Louisville)
- District 5 – Conner, Cooper, Ryle
- District 6 – Boone County, Campbell County, Simon Kenton
- District 7 – Bryan Station, Henry Clay, Paul Laurence Dunbar, Scott County

District 8 – George Rogers Clark, Lafayette, Madison Central, Tates Creek

Not Placed in Alignment – McCreary Central

For postseason competition, in Class 1A, 5th place team from District 8 as the 4th place in District 6 for playoff brackets, 5th place team from District 5 will not advance to playoffs.

For postseason competition, in Class 6A, 5th place from District 1 as the 4th place in District 2 for playoff brackets; 5th place from 3 would become the 4th place in 5 for playoffs in odd numbered years; 5th place from 3 would become the 4th place in 6 for playoffs in even numbered years; 5th place from 4 would become the 4th place in 6 for playoffs in odd numbered years; 5th place from 4 would become the 4th place in 5 for playoffs in even numbered years.

#### B) Enrollment and Criteria for Determining Classes for the 2015 through 2018 playing seasons.

- 1) The basis for determining the schools to be placed in Class 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A and 6A will be the average boys enrollment, including all non-graded special education students, in grades 9-12 for the four most recent years available for the entire membership at the time of classification (including 2013-2014 enrollments).
- 2) Initial classification for the 2015-2018 period is based on enrollment data verified by the Kentucky Department of Education for the four years through the enrollment of the , 2010-2011, 2011-2012, 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school years.
- 3) The enrollment data used to determine the class boundaries shall be obtained from the Kentucky Department of Education or other verifiable sources in the case of nonpublic schools.
- 4) The classification shall be for a four-year period, which may be extended by the Board of Control. The alignment will be reviewed upon receipt of the 2015-2016 school year enrollment information from the Kentucky Department of Education for possible adjustment to begin with the 2017 playing season. In order to be considered for adjustment, the four-year average enrollment (including 2015-16) would have to be within the boundaries of another class, and the school shall have had at least a 10% change in four year average enrollment during the two-year period.
- 5) The schools shall be placed in enrollment ranked order (by boys four grade enrollments, after adjustment for single-sex schools).
- 6) The minimum number of teams necessary for a full bracket in

the playoff system (32 teams) shall be placed in the highest class (6A) and the lowest enrollment class (1A). The remaining schools shall then be placed into approximately equal divisions in classes 2A through 5A.

- 7) The Board shall attempt to ensure that districts do not fall below four (4) teams and that travel distance is the primary determinant in both alignment decisions, and decisions involving playoff pairings.
  - 8) The highest and lowest enrollment average from each class shall form the bounds of the class for the purpose of making adjustments after two years or for adding new teams.
  - 9) If there are an odd number of schools or the number of schools is not evenly divisible by the number of classes, the extra teams shall be placed from the lowest class first, up to the highest class. For example, if there were 154 teams to divide into the middle four (4) classes, there would be 39 in 4A and 5A, and 38 in 2A and 3A.
  - 10) If the ranking and division leaves two or more teams with equal enrollments at the dividing point for class division, the Board of Control shall determine which teams go into each class. First preference is to use enrollment data at levels other than the top four (4) grades to determine the class boundaries. If the enrollment data does not yield a clear conclusion, the teams going into each class shall be drawn by random chance by drawing by lot or by coin toss.
  - 11) The Board shall give schools, once the ranked enrollments are determined by prior to placement into geographic districts, an opportunity to play to a higher class. Following the receipt of the playing up decisions, the lowest teams in the classes into which teams have played up shall be offered the opportunity to play in the class the playing up team has vacated, thereby re-drawing the enrollment boundary line. A maximum of three teams from the bottom of the class will be offered this opportunity for the slots needed in the lower class due to playing up. As an example, if three teams request to play up to Class 3A from 2A, then a maximum of five teams would be offered the opportunity to play in Class 2A, with the options in ranked order starting with the smallest school, until three have accepted, or five had been offered the opportunity.
  - 12) No other request (than the requests necessitated by playing up) to play into a lower district than the enrollment boundaries indicate, will be considered.
  - 13) If at any time during the classification period, a school withdraws from playoff competition, it shall not be eligible to participate in the playoffs until the odd numbered playing season.
  - 14) Newly added schools will be placed in the alignment on a case by case basis.
- C) Declaring a District Champion
- 1) Class 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A and 6A will be divided into two semi-states with four regions in each semi-state, and those four regions having two districts in each region.
  - 2) To be eligible to be champion, runner-up, third place or fourth place position of a district, a team shall play all other teams assigned to their district.
  - 3) The champion, runner-up, third place or fourth place position in each district shall be determined by the win-loss record based upon the games played against opponents in the district. Only games scheduled by contract prior to the first legal playing date and played before the first weekend of the state playoffs shall be used in determining a district winner or runner-up.
    - a) TIE-BREAKER (two teams). In the case of a tie for the champion, runner-up, third place or fourth place position between two teams based upon the win-loss record, the team that won the game contested between the two tied teams shall be declared the winner.
    - b) TIE-BREAKER (more than two teams). Should three or more teams tie for the a district position based upon the win-loss record, the position shall be determined by the following:
      - i) If one of the teams has defeated each of the other teams tied in games contested between them, that team shall be declared to hold the highest position, and the winner of the game between the remaining teams (if less than four) shall be declared the second highest position. In the event of

more than three teams being tied, where one has defeated each of the tied teams, that team shall be declared the highest position, and the tie-breaking procedure shall be re-applied for the remaining tied teams.

- ii) If the tie remains, each team tied for the position shall receive one point for each game won by any four of their defeated opponents in all games, except for the games played between any two of the tied teams. All games played shall be counted in applying the tie-breaking procedure, including out of state games, with the exception that a defeated school may be counted only once in the procedure regardless of the number of games played against that particular school. Teams awarded forfeit victories (whether or not a forfeit fee is paid) may count the defeated opponents of the forfeiting team, provided the game was not replaced on the schedule.
  - iii) If the tie remains after application of provision (ii), an additional defeated opponent's wins will be added to the point total for each team until the tie is broken and the winner of the tied position declared, or until all games are exhausted.
  - iv) If the tie for the position involves only three teams, and the application of (ii) and (iii) results in one team being declared the winner of the tied position based on point totals, the highest point total from the application of (ii) and (iii) between the two remaining tied teams shall be declared to hold the next position.
  - v) If the tie for the championship involves more than three teams, and the application of (ii) and (iii) results in one team being declared the winner of the tied position based on point totals, the procedure shall then be re-applied to determine the next position.
  - vi) If the tie for the position involves more than three teams, and the application of (ii) and (iii) results in two teams remaining tied for the position based on points, the head to head game played between them shall break the tie, and head to head competition will break any remaining ties.
  - vii) If a tie results after application of all provisions of the above plan, the tie shall be broken by the Commissioner.
- II) DATES AND SITES FOR POSTSEASON COMPETITION
- A) Dates for Play
- 1) Playoff competition will begin on the Friday or Saturday three weeks prior to Thanksgiving Day.
  - 2) All playoff contests shall be held on Friday unless there exists a mutual agreement between the schools to hold the game on another day due to field conditions or availability, availability of officials, or in the mutual best interests of the competing teams.
- B) Sites for Play
- 1) All playoff contests shall be played at sites that meet any adopted required field standards approved by the Board of Control.
  - 2) The first place team from the paired districts on the cross bracket chart (see Section III of the Competition Rules) shall serve as the host school for the first round game against the fourth place team from the paired district, the second place team from the paired districts on the cross bracket chart shall serve as the host school for the third place team from the paired district.
  - 3) In the second round the winner of the game between first and fourth place cross bracketed teams will play the winner of the game between the second and third place cross bracketed teams.
  - 4) All other districts will use the same playoff pattern.
  - 5) In all games in the second round, the team with the highest seeded position (finishing position in the district) shall serve as the host school for the game.
  - 5) The highest seed (finishing position in the district) shall serve as the host school the region championship game (third round).
  - 6) Should teams with the same seeding meet in the third round, the team representing the even-numbered District shall serve as the host school the games in even-numbered years, while the team representing the odd-numbered District shall host the game in odd-numbered years. If the paired districts are both even or both odd, the highest numbered district shall host the game in even numbered years and the lowest numbered district

shall serve as the host school for the game in odd numbered years.

- 7) For the semi-state round (fourth round), the champion of region 1 will play the champion of Region 2 while the champion of Region 3 will play the champion of Region 4. The team representing the even-numbered Region shall serve as the host school for the games in even-numbered years, while the team representing the odd-numbered Region shall serve as the host school for the game in odd-numbered years.
- 8) Winners of the fourth round games will play for the class championships.
- 9) The Board of Control may review and consider for revision, the playoff pairings at any time during the alignment period.
- 10) The site of all games during the first four rounds in all classes shall be determined by the designated home team. The Board of Control may review and consider this provision for revision at any time during the alignment period.
- 11) The Board of Control shall determine the site of the state finals after receiving the Commissioner's recommendation, and shall be guided by necessary hotel facilities, playing facilities, and community/area support.

### III) TOURNAMENT MANAGERS AND PAIRINGS

#### A) Manager

- 1) The Principal of the home school or his/her designee shall serve as the manager for each game of the football playoffs with the exception of the final game in each class, and shall be responsible for ensuring that the game arrangements are complete.
- 2) The principals of the competing schools, or their representatives shall agree on all matters pertaining to the game, including but not limited to, date and starting time, admission charges, expenses, and allocation of reserved seat tickets for the game. Disagreement on any of these items shall be referred to the Commissioner, whose decision in the matter shall be final.
- 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 baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, soccer, softball and volleyball 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 football playoff finals and shall handle all arrangements for the games. The Commissioner may appoint as many assistant managers as deemed necessary to manage the event.

#### B) Tournament Pairings

- 1) The top four teams as determined by intra-district records after all tie breakers have been applied will qualify for the championship playoffs. The finishing position within the Region shall hereinafter be referred to as the "seeded position".
- 2) For the 2015 through 2018 seasons, the playoffs shall be cross bracketed beginning with the first round in accordance with the following chart, and such chart shall form the order of the bracket for the five rounds of the playoffs. In the chart, the first column represents the Class and Region label for playoff awards and bracketing.

Region	2015	2016	2017	2018
1A-R1	D1 vs. D2	D1 vs. D2	TBD	TBD
1A-R2	D3 vs. D4	D3 vs. D4	TBD	TBD
1A-R3	D5 vs. D6	D5 vs. D6	TBD	TBD
1A-R4	D7 vs. D8	D7 vs. D8	TBD	TBD
2A-R1	D1 vs. D2	D1 vs. D2	TBD	TBD
2A-R2	D3 vs. D4	D3 vs. D4	TBD	TBD
2A-R3	D5 vs. D6	D5 vs. D6	TBD	TBD
2A-R4	D7 vs. D8	D7 vs. D8	TBD	TBD
3A-R1	D1 vs. D2	D1 vs. D2	TBD	TBD
3A-R2	D3 vs. D4	D3 vs. D4	TBD	TBD

3A-R3	D5 vs. D6	D5 vs. D6	TBD	TBD
3A-R4	D7 vs. D8	D7 vs. D8	TBD	TBD
4A-R1	D1 vs. D2	D1 vs. D2	TBD	TBD
4A-R2	D3 vs. D4	D3 vs. D4	TBD	TBD
4A-R3	D5 vs. D6	D5 vs. D6	TBD	TBD
4A-R4	D7 vs. D8	D7 vs. D8	TBD	TBD
5A-R1	D1 vs. D2	D1 vs. D2	D1 vs. D2	D1 vs. D2
5A-R2	D3 vs. D4	D4 vs. D5	D3 vs. D5	D3 vs. D4
5A-R3	D5 vs. D6	D3 vs. D6	D4 vs. D6	D5 vs. D6
5A-R4	D7 vs. D8	D7 vs. D8	D7 vs. D8	D7 vs. D8
6A-R1	D1 vs. D2	D1 vs. D3	D2 vs. D1	D1 vs. D4
6A-R2	D3 vs. D4	D2 vs. D4	D4 vs. D6	D3 vs. D2
6A-R3	D5 vs. D6	D5 vs. D7	D3 vs. D5	D5 vs. D8
6A-R4	D7 vs. D8	D6 vs. D8	D8 vs. D7	D7 vs. D6

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

#### A) Roster Requirement

- 1) Each school shall enter an unlimited number of contestants on the postseason electronic roster via the KHSAA website and its 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 or is placed into bracket via results) 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 an unlimited number of players in each postseason tournament game from the roster submitted online.
- 2) Tournament management may limit the total number of individuals on the sideline due to risk management concerns.

#### E) Minimum Number of Contests

To be eligible to compete in postseason competition, a member school team shall have competed in games against all teams in a district during the regular season.

#### V) UMPIRES / OFFICIALS

- 1) Officials for all KHSAA sponsored championship competition shall be assigned by the Commission in compliance with the Federal Court Decree of 1971 (1987, 2007).
- 2) Officials assigned for championship play shall comply with the published guidelines of the KHSAA Officials Guidebook.

#### VI) CHAMPION, TROPHIES AND AWARDS

##### A) Champion

- 1) The champion of each district in each class will be the team finishing first in the regular season district play.
- 2) The champion of each region in each class will be the winner of the games during the third playoff round.
- 3) The champions of each semi-state in each class will be the winner of the games during the fourth playoff round.
- 4) The champion of each class shall be the winner of the game played in the final game

##### 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.
- 3) The state tournament champion, runner-up, and semi-finalists

shall receive a trophy and fifty-nine (59) individual medals.

- 4) A Most Valuable Player will be selected each championship game.
- 5) The Association will bear the costs of all trophies at the state tournament.

#### VII) FINANCES AND PASSES

##### A) FIRST, SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH ROUND

- 1) The proceeds of all playoff games, with the exception of the final game in each class, will be used to defray the expenses of the visiting team, officials, trophies, and other necessary expenses. All gross receipts prior to any distribution shall include any applicable advance payment made by teams to help offset event costs.
- 2) If no agreement can be reached on lodging, meal, and travel expenses, it is recommended that the gross gate be divided evenly between the teams after the payment of officials and trophies. This encourages the visiting team to minimize the travel expenses and the home team to control game costs and eliminates the perception of inflated costs by either the traveling team or home management.
- 3) There shall be no allowable expense for field or facility rental unless such can be documented by the payment of rental to an outside entity. If such allowable expense is to be paid, the amount shall be the exact amount paid to the outside entity.
- 4) If no other agreement can be reached, using the state expense allowance is recommended. For the third and fourth round, schools are encouraged to consider a mileage allowance to be paid to the visitors prior to the gate split due to the potential of substantial travel distances involved.

##### B) STATE FINALS

- 1) The Association will finance the final game in each class. Expenses for lodging and meals and an allowance for team travel will be paid to each participating school. The squad for expense reimbursement purposes shall be limited to fifty-nine (59) persons, including the principal, coaches, team members, cheerleaders, cheer sponsor and other personnel.
- 2) 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.
- 3) The rate to be reimbursed for state championship play is \$1 per mile (round trip) for two vehicles, \$5 per meal per person, and a maximum of \$13 per person per night for lodging as approved.
- 4) After all expenses have been paid, the Kentucky High School Athletic Association shall retain profits from each state tournament.
- 5) At the state finals, only a squad of fifty-nine (59) persons, including all support personnel shall be included in the expense reimbursement. Cheerleaders from participating schools will be admitted in uniform to each contest.

#### VIII) SPORTS SPECIFIC COMPETITION RULES

##### A) Playing Rules

- 1) All games shall be played using the NFHS Football 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) Tied Games

If the score is tied at the end of any game, it will be broken in accordance with the National Federation 10-yard tie-breaking procedure enumerated in the Football Rules Book.

##### C) Choice of Ends of Field and Use of Field in Warm-ups

- 1) The visiting team shall have the choice as to the end of the field on which they want to warm up.
- 2) No warm-up activity by either team may extend past the 45-yard line (in the direction of the 50-yard line).
- 3) During pre-game warm-up activity, not team may be beyond its own 45 yard line and the mid-field area must remain vacant. Unsporting activity between the 45-yard lines will be penalized

by the contest officials, and if not penalized by the officials, may be penalized by the Association in accordance with Bylaw 27 as a violation of Bylaw 15.

##### D) Officials Jurisdiction

Game officials shall assume jurisdiction over the contest one hour before time for the game.

##### E) Specifications of 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 Association may enter into a contract to restrict the use of a ball in tournament play to a specific brand or model.

##### F) Running Clock Provisions

- 1) The Association shall utilize provisions of the National Federation playing rules which allow for the clock to continue running (with the exception of a charged timeout) when the score reaches a 36-point differential in any contest.
  - a) Any time the score differential reaches 36 points or more, the following changes will be made regarding rules determining when the clock will be stopped or started. The clock shall continue to run from the point that the differential occurs (without regard to a later return to less than the differential) with the following clarifications:
    - b) The clock SHALL STOP when an official's timeout is called as in the following specific 3-5-7 occurrences, and shall subsequently start on the READY FOR PLAY signal:
      - (1) For measurement of a possible first down,
      - (2) When captains and coaches are notified of the time remaining,
      - (3) For a player who appears to be injured,
      - (4) For a player in need of equipment repair,
      - (5) When a coach-referee conference occurs,
      - (6) After a foul, to administer a penalty,
      - (7) For any unusual delay in getting the ball ready to play,
      - (8) Following the try, successful FG or safety.,
      - (9) A score occurs. Following a try, field goal, or safety, the clock shall start on the ready for play. Following a 6-point touchdown, the clock shall remain stopped for the PAT, but shall resume on the ready for play for the ensuing kickoff,
    - c) The clock SHALL STOP when an official's timeout is called as in the following specific 3-5-7 occurrences, and shall subsequently start on the SNAP:
      - (1) For unusual heat or humidity which may create a health risk to the players,
      - (2) For an approved TV/radio timeout,
      - (3) A charged timeout is called,
      - (4) At the end of a period
      - (5) The clock shall NOT stop when an official's timeout is called as in the following specific 3-5-7 occurrences:
        - (6) When a first down is declared,
        - (7) Following a change of team possession,
        - (8) To dry or change the game ball.

- 2) The use of this rule does not preclude the use of NFHS Rule 3-1-3 that reads: "A period or periods may be shortened in any emergency by agreement of the opposing coaches and the referee. By mutual agreement of the opposing coaches and the referee, any remaining periods may be shortened at any time or the game terminated."

##### G) Interrupted Games

- 1) Refer to NFHS Playing Rule 3-1-4 as KHSAA has authority to determine procedure for game ending.
- 2) If a game is interrupted and cannot be resumed, three choices exist-
  - a) Terminate game with score as it exists;
  - b) Resume game at point of interruption at a mutually agreed date and time. This decision shall be finalized at the site prior to team departure.
  - c) Resume the game on the following calendar day, unless published Board policies prohibit such play, in which case it shall be played the following day.
- 3) If a game is interrupted
  - a) Same crew of officials is 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.
- H) Videotaping Standard and Procedures and Video Exchange Policy:
- 1) All Visiting teams will be given the same area to record from as the home team.
  - 2) All exchange video should be recorded digitally with a digital Camera.
  - 3) All exchange video should be recorded in DVD format or Online
  - 4) All exchange video shall be recorded using a Tripod.
  - 5) All exchange video shall be recorded from the highest possible point in the stadium
  - 6) All exchange video shall be recorded so that the teams numbers are visible
  - 7) All exchange video shall be recorded from the huddle to z few seconds past the end of the play (5-10 seconds).
  - 8) If the team is a no huddle team, the video shall begin recording before any shifts or motions and continue past the end of the play (5-10 seconds).
  - 9) If there is a penalty, the video shall continue to record until the penalty has been enforced.
  - 10) All exchange video shall be recorded from the deepest offensive back to the safety to begin the play, then zooming in closer to the play in order to see the numbers on the players as the play progresses.
  - 11) On all Punts and Punt returns, the video should NOT follow the ball. The video should begin with a wide view showing both the punt and punt return teams, and then zoom in to the return team after the ball is punted and received.
  - 12) On all Kickoffs and Kick Returns, the video should NOT follow the ball. The video should begin with a wide view of both the kickoff and return teams and then zoom in to the return team after the returner has received the ball.
  - 13) The video shall show the down and distance with a short shot of the downs marker between plays.
  - 14) The video shall show the scoreboard after every score, at each timeout, and between quarters.
  - 15) All teams shall make available at least 2 tapes to exchange (choice made by the opponent)
  - 16) All teams shall exchange an updated roster, clearly indicating offensive and defensive starters.
  - 17) All Video shall be available by 8 am on the day following the game if online exchange is utilized, or by noon on the day following the game if there is a physical exchange of video.
- I) Location of Home Team / Fans
- 1) It is a home game management decision as to which side of the field is designated for home team fans and which side is designated for visiting team fans.
  - 2) The home team benches shall be located on the side of the field designated to the home team fans and the visiting team benches shall be located on the side of the field designated for visiting team fans.
- J) Band or other school Provided Music During Live Ball
- 1) The band is not to play or cheers be given when the ball is alive by rule.
  - 2) Persons subject to the rules, including bands, shall not create any noise that prohibits a team from hearing its signals. Drums, cymbals, bells and mechanical noisemakers shall not be used to assist cheering.
- K) Presence of a Doctor and Ambulance at Games
- 1) It is recommended that a doctor be on site and available at all regular season games.
  - 2) At all playoff games, the home school shall be responsible for providing a doctor to be present.
  - 3) At all regular season and postseason games, the designated home school shall ensure that an ambulance is available (on site or properly notified of game date and time to be "on-call") to service the needs at the game and an emergency plan is distributed to all teams.
- L) Use of Visible Play Clocks
- 1) During the regular season, if a host school has a twenty-five second clock on both ends of the playing field and both are operable, they are to be used without mutual agreement of the opponent.
  - 2) During the regular season, if a host school has a twenty-five second clock at only one end of the field, the host school must acquire permission from the visiting team before the clock may be used. The officials, absent a clock malfunction, may not order the play clock not to be used.
  - 3) During the playoffs, if a host school has a twenty-five second clock on both ends of the playing field and both are operable, they are to be used.
  - 4) During the playoffs, if a host school has a twenty-five second clock at only one end of the field, the clock shall not be used.
  - 5) The 25-second field clocks are the official delay of game timepieces.
  - 6) The 25-second clock operator will work under the supervision of the BJ and will report to him before the game for instructions in or near the officials' dressing room.
  - 7) The 25 Second Clock Operator will be instructed to:
    - a) Set the clock display to 25 seconds before the game starts.
    - b) Start 25-second clock on the Referee's Ready-for-Play signal or Wind-the-Clock signal, whichever comes first.
    - c) Leave display at '00' seconds if there is a delay of game penalty called until Referee has completed his signals to the press box after enforcing the delay of game penalty.
    - d) Reset display immediately to 25 seconds when ball is put in play (snapped) if there is no delay foul called.
    - e) Reset display to 25 seconds anytime Referee interrupts 25-second count and gives the reset signal (palm up with pumping arm motion).
    - f) Turn off both displays should either 25 second clock malfunction or become inoperative. Both 25- second clocks will not operate again until the problem is corrected and both 25-second clocks are working. Both coaches will be notified immediately if the 25-second clock is no longer official. The 25-second count will then be kept on the field by the BJ on his watch. When doing this, BJ raises his hand when 10 seconds remain in the 25-second count.
    - g) Do not use 25-second clock when less than 25 seconds remain in any period if the game clock IS running. If 25-second clock is mistakenly started in this situation, DO NOT stop game or game clock to correct. If the game clock is not running when less than 25 seconds remaining in any period, then the 25-second clock is used.
    - h) NOTE: If the 25-second clock is erroneously started, it shall be stopped immediately. The BJ may be asked to help the Referee determine the amount of time lost when the clock is stopped for reasons beyond the circumstances of either team. The amount of time run off the 25-second clock can be used to determine the amount of lost time
- M) Spirit/Pep Line for Introductions, Warm-up Areas
- 1) Regular Season
    - a) During the regular season, A team's spirit line is not to extend onto any part of the other team's half of the playing field and area leading up to the playing field.
    - b) A team's half of the field will be the side on which its team bench is located, with the playing field and area leading up to the playing field being dissected equally down its length. This includes the end zones.
    - c) No spirit line is to extend over the forty-five-yard line.
    - d) No players, coaches, team attendants, or anyone associated with the opposing team is to enter or interfere with the opponent's spirit line.
  - 2) Postseason
    - a) In games during the playoffs, played on neutral fields, spirit lines will not be allowed onto the playing field including the end zones.

b) The Association will designate warm-up areas for the championship games.

N) Use of Nontraditional Film Locations

- 1) It is an individual team decision as to whether or not filming is done from any location other than the press box and locations stipulated by the video standards.
- 2) No coach utilizing a nontraditional locations may have direct communication with the coaching staff from the opening kickoff until the conclusion of the game relative to the contents of what is being filmed or observed.

O) 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.

P) 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.

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) Contact the KHSAA Communications Director with questions.

### **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, soccer, softball and volleyball?**

Yes, the Association has a long-term agreements with multiple sponsors. Staff at KHSAA can assist with specific model numbers, although use of specific numbers is not mandated.

In all postseason contests in baseball, softball, football and basketball, a Rawlings brand ball (or Worth brand in softball) with the proper NFHS authenticating mark shall be used for There is no requirement that a KHSAA logo appear on the ball, or that a specific ball number be used.

In all postseason contests in soccer, a SELECT Sports 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 a specific ball number be used.

In all postseason contests in volleyball, 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 a specific ball number be used.

**Case CR-9- 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-10- 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-11- 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-12- 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 the member 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-13- 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-14- 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-15- 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-16 - Are there policies on participation by boys on girls' teams and vice-versa?**

Yes. See the Board of Control policies for complete details.

**Case CR-17 - 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-18 - Who pays for the trophies for KHSAA postseason Competition?**

In all sports and sport-activities, 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 or other agreed fees. 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-19 - 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-20 - 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).