

Commissioner Julian Tackett and the KHSAA Board of Control,

Simon Kenton High School is writing to the KHSAA and the Board of Control in regards to the 2015-2018 KHSAA Football Alignment Draft. Simon Kenton High School requests that the Board of Control look at the 6A playoff pairings rotation and consider this proposal.

Class 6A Playoff Alignment Proposal:

We feel the new Class 6A alignment now allows for true geographic pairings for regional playoff competition more so than in years past. Therefore, we ask the KHSAA and the Board of Control to consider allowing Class 6A to be paired in the playoffs the same way the other 5 classes are paired. We propose the following Regional alignment.

Region 1= District 1 & 2- Western Kentucky Region (8 teams)

Region 2= District 3 & 4- Louisville Region (10/8 teams with the 2 5th place going to N KY)

Region 3= District 5 & 6- Northern Kentucky Region (6/8 teams with the 2 Louisville teams)

Region 4= District 7 & 8- Lexington Region (8 teams)

Semi-final Round= Region 1 vs. Region 2

Region 3 vs. Region 4

If this playoff alignment is followed, it would allow the Semi-Final round to consist of 1 team from each of the 8 team regions in the 4th round.

We feel this makes sense for several reasons. It is very sound geographically. Creating geographically sound regional alignment would allow for strong rivalries to be established, it will help playoff revenue for all schools, and it will relieve travel issues that could potentially impact schools from all 8 districts. The only schools that would be forced to travel outside of their region for the first three rounds of the playoffs would be the two fifth place teams from Louisville. Eight of the ten Louisville Schools will be playing in the Louisville Region, all six of the Northern Kentucky schools would be playing in the Northern Kentucky Region, all eight of the Lexington teams would be playing in the Lexington Region, and all eight of the Western Kentucky Schools would be playing in the Western Kentucky region. The only playoff travel that would be required outside of the region would be for the semifinal round.

The other benefit from following this playoff pairing system would be that the 2 Louisville schools travelling to compete as the #4 seeded teams in northern Kentucky would not have to play a team from their district in the first three rounds of the playoffs. This is a real possibility if the northern Kentucky districts are matched up with the Louisville districts in the first round. A Louisville team could potentially play a district opponent in the first round.

We feel that this would benefit all 4 regions and would save all the schools potential travel issues and be more consistent with the other classes throughout the state which allows for rivalries to be created through the playoffs. This would eliminate the problem with rotating regional changes in Class 6A on a yearly basis. With the current alignment the only class throughout the state that changes pairings in the playoffs is 6A.

If you have any questions regarding this proposal please do not hesitate to call or email me. I appreciate your consideration of this proposal. Thanks for your time and commitment to Kentucky high school football.

Jeff Marksberry
Athletic Director
Simon Kenton High School

