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The addition of new sport-activities such as bowling, bass fishing and cheerleading is attracting a new group of student-athletes to participate. And it’s only just beginning.

Since its launch nearly five years ago, more than 500,000 coaches have registered for the online NHFS Coaching Education Program.

A track and field icon nationwide, Charles Ruter was a jack of all trades at numerous KHSAA championship events for more than a half century.
One of the things I have said from the moment I became Commissioner is I plan to shake things up and try something new. This isn’t something I took lightly - it’s not just change for change sake. As always, the best and most effective place to initiate change is the local level and this means adding sport-activity offerings for our member schools.

The Board of Control has been generous in its support, starting with the change it approved that allowed us to look at any sport or sport-activity that is offered by 10 percent of our member schools. What we found is the world has evolved and this organization must continue to evolve with it.

We have added bowling and next year will add cheerleading and bass fishing and hopefully soon after, archery. There’s really no reason to shy away from change. Studies have proven time and again that athletics are the No. 1 dropout prevention tool available in schools.

If there’s another group of students who yearn for a chance to compete, to be a part of a team and represent their community, those are the future community leaders we need to reach and nurture early. The lessons we learn and the reasons we play really haven’t changed much since our grandparents’ day. Only the sports we play. It’s our responsibility to keep up.

Credits

This quarter’s cover image is an action photo of Scott County bowler Brandon Hatton. Hatton claimed the first boys’ singles title at the Ebonite/KHSAA Bowling State Championships. Hatton recorded strikes in his last two frames and held off DuPont Manual’s Kiefer Hillerich 269-268 for the championship. The image on the cover was taken by Tim Webb, Tim Webb Photography.

The image on page 3 is of Jim Carter, Vice-President of Murray State University. Carter spoke at the press conference announcing Bass Fishing as a KHSAA sanctioned sport-activity. It was taken by Elden May. May also took the photo that appears on page 15.

The images on page 8 were from the 2011 KHSAA Officials Division Officials Recognition banquet and were taken by Tim Webb. Webb also took the action images on pages 10 and 14. The action images on pages 9, 17, 18, 19 and 23 were taken by Jim Osborn, Jim Osborn Photography.

The images on pages 21 and 23 were taken by Doug Thompson, The Sporting Times.
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Officials please plan to attend the annual KHSAA Officials’ Awards Banquet. The banquet (free to all licensed KHSAA officials in all sports) will be Sunday, May 6, 2012, at the KHSAA Office in Lexington. Social time will be from 4:30-5 p.m., with a buffet and awards program immediately following. Following are the 2012 Official of the Year nominees by sport.

**BASEBALL**
Brad Lambdin, Shaun Williams, Mike Wooten

**BASKETBALL**
Scott Bottoms, Judith Dyehouse, Tony Franklin

**FOOTBALL**
Jim Colwell, P.D. Harris, Joe Stephen

**GOLF**
Steve Houchen, Tom Oldendick, Dean Terry

**SOCCER**
Daniel Barber, Jeff Hall, Robin Joska

**SOFTBALL**
Jason Booth, Marty Gibson, Don Pack

**SWIMMING & DIVING**
Jay Grigsby, Kent Pleasants, Bill Sherrard

**TENNIS**
Karen Henson, Sarah Pendergrass, Greg Quenon

**TRACK & FIELD/CROSS COUNTRY**
Jim Johnson, Jack Keller, Patty Rouse

**VOLLEYBALL**
Doug Lunsford, Angie Reckers, Tim Sharp

**WRESTLING**
Joe Cattan, Robert Durham, Christopher Reeves

**SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR** -- TBA
September 15, 2011 at 9:30AM  
Theatre, KHSAA Offices - Lexington KY

Present Board Members: John Barnes, Anita Burnette, Art Davis, Ron Dawn, Alan Donhoff, Dana Guyer, Ozz Jackson, Jerry Keepers, Marvin Moore, Gene Norris, Boyd Randolph, Kelley Ransdell, Steve Riley, Stan Steidel, David Weedman.  
Absent Board Members: Bill Beasley, Carrell Boyd, Lea Prewitt.

KHSAA Staff: Julian Tackett, Michael Barren, Darren Bilberry, Rob Catron, Chad Collins, Butch Cope, Elder May, Angela Passafiume, and Marilyn Mitchell.

Guests Present: David Fatzinger, ihigh.com

Attachments can be found at the following link: http://www.khsaa.org/boardofcontrol/agenda/20112012/bocSeptember2011.htm

Call to Order: The Board of Control Meeting was called to order by President Alan Donhoff at 11:45 pm. following the completion of committee meetings.

Reflection: Anita Burnette gave the reflection to begin the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance: Art Davis led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion Passed: Consider approval of going into executive session per KRS 61.810 subsection (c) passed with a motion by **Ozz Jackson**, and a second by **Jerry Keepers**

Committee Report from the Ad Hoc Emerging Sports Implementation Committee (A)

Motion Passed: Approve the report of the Ad Hoc Emerging Sports Implementation Committee with no formal action taken during that meeting, passed with a motion by **Jerry Keepers** and a second by **Ozz Jackson**

Kelley Ransdell Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, John Barnes Yes, Carrell Boyd Absent, Anita Burnett Yes, Art Davis Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes, Bill Beasley Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Lea Prewitt Absent, Dana Guyer Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes.

Motion Passed: Consider approval of coming out executive session per KRS 61.810 subsection (c) passed with a motion by **Marvin Moore** and a second by **Ozz Jackson**, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, John Barnes Yes, Carrell Boyd Absent, Anita Burnett Yes, Art Davis Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes, Bill Beasley Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Lea Prewitt Absent, Dana Guyer Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes.

No action was taken during the executive session to review KHSAA legal matters.

Committee Report from the Executive Committee (A)

Mr. Donhoff reported that there was discussion held on a number of items that results in no action being taken. There was no action taken on the discussion of ejection penalties, and the committee accepted the soccer camp evaluation report. The committee took no action on the requests by St. Francis and Trinity (Louisville) High Schools regarding Bylaw 13, and will defer action on their requests until a later time. The committee asked the Commissioner and staff to coordinate a follow-up meeting with the individuals from Frankfort regarding the request related to athlete benefits. The other action items from the committee were to be dealt with using individual motions.

Motion Passed: Mr. Donhoff recommended acceptance of the report which passed with a motion by **Jerry Keepers** and a second by **Ozz Jackson**.

Kelley Ransdell Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, John Barnes Yes, Carrell Boyd Absent, Anita Burnett Yes, Art Davis Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes, Bill Beasley Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Lea Prewitt Absent, Dana Guyer Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes.

Discussion of Online vs. In Person Coach Education Class

Motion Passed: Following discussion of the alternatives related to Coaching Education, recommend acceptance of the Commissioner’s recommendation for revision of coaching education requirement to allow for the NFHS online course to be used to satisfy the requirement, at a cost of $75 per school. passed with a motion by **David Weedman** and a second by **Boyd Randolph**.

Kelley Ransdell Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, John Barnes Yes, Carrell Boyd Absent, Anita Burnett Yes, Art Davis Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes, Bill Beasley Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Lea Prewitt Absent, Dana Guyer Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes.

Discussion of fall-back policy, district reduces to two teams

Motion Passed: Recommend adoption of the Commissioner’s proposed two-team district emergency policy. passed with a motion by **David Weedman** and a second by **Ozz Jackson**. This policy will only implement if a previously established
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district with three or more teams ultimately ends with only two teams competing in the district tournament.
Kelley Ransdell Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, John Barnes Yes, Carrell Boyd Absent, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes, Bill Beasley Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Lea Prewitt Absent, Dana Guyer Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes.

Alteration of Championship Trophies
Motion Passed: Approve Commissioner’s recommendation for changes for 2011-2012 which will reduce the size of the basketball championship trophies and standardize all team sports to receive trophies of a similar size and shape, passed with a motion by David Weedman and a second by John Barnes.
Kelley Ransdell Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, John Barnes Yes, Carrell Boyd Absent, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes, Bill Beasley Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Lea Prewitt Absent, Dana Guyer Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes.

EBONITE Commitment as Title Sponsor for Bowling
Motion Passed: Recommend approval of the Ebbonite Sponsorship Proposal for Bowling passed with a motion by Ozz Jackson and a second by Boyd Randolph.
Kelley Ransdell Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, John Barnes Yes, Carrell Boyd Absent, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes, Bill Beasley Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Lea Prewitt Absent, Dana Guyer Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes.

Consider re-scheduling of November 17 meeting to November 15
Motion Passed: Approve change in meeting date from November 17 to November 15 due to multiple scheduling conflicts passed with a motion by Ozz Jackson and a second by David Weedman.
Kelley Ransdell Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, John Barnes Yes, Carrell Boyd Absent, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes, Bill Beasley Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Lea Prewitt Absent, Dana Guyer Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes.

Reports of Business (single motion to approve the reports)
Staff and Board of Control gave reports on the following individual items:
Volleyball Officials Camp Reconciliation and report
Soccer Officials Camp Reconciliation and report
iHigh Webcasting Report
iHigh External Corporate Report
NASO Meeting Report of seminars attended
NFHS Summer Meeting Report of seminars attended
NFHS Coaching Education Program Report (W)

Review Consent Agenda
Approve Minutes of the July, 2011 Regular Meeting
Transfers Report, July 1 to August 31, 2011 (W)
Board Budget Status Report through August 31, 2011
HB 327 Coaches to date (W)
The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) has reached a milestone with its online Coach Education Program as more than 500,000 individuals have now registered on the site at www.nfhslearn.com. Amazingly, this feat occurred in slightly more than five years since the start of the program. The 500,000th user was officially recorded on February 28.

The NFHS Coach Education Program Web site was launched on January 3, 2007 with The Fundamentals of Coaching and First Aid for Coaches. Since then, the program has added 24 more courses on a variety of topics.

Tim Flannery, CMAA, NFHS Director of Coach Education, said the 500,000 mark is important because it signals that a majority of interscholastic coaches are taking advantage of the program’s resources.

“The whole purpose of the program is to educate coaches on their roles in an educational-based setting,” Flannery said. “We are making good progress at reaching all coaches. Once we are connected with them, we can help them become better at what they do.”

Flannery estimates that there are about one million interscholastic coaches across the country. He said that goal-setting has been important throughout the program’s existence.

“We’ve surpassed every goal we have set annually, and we are well on our way to consistently reaching 100,000 unique visitors per year,” he said. “That growth will be great for the student-athletes because there is a good chance that each respective coach is receiving the proper training.”

The NFHS Coach Education Program was launched to keep costs down and promote learning among interscholastic coaches. There are currently 26 available courses, but Flannery estimates that there will be 35 or more by the end of 2012. He says the next step is getting coaches who have already taken the core courses to come back and utilize the other educational opportunities that the program has to offer.

“We don’t think it’s a one-and-done situation,” he said. “It’s an ongoing professional development program. No one course will make a large difference by itself, but over time, a combination of courses can. Now that we’ve connected to a majority of coaches, we need to encourage them to stay connected.”

In addition to the 500,000-user milestone, the free Concussion in Sports – What you Need to Know course has now been accessed by 400,000 people, making it the most-used course on the site. In addition to coaches, Flannery said parents and officials also are among the users of the free courses.

More than 220,000 people have taken the Fundamentals of Coaching course – one of two core courses, along with First Aid for Coaches. The NFHS also offers 13 sport-specific courses, eight elective courses and three free courses.

All NFHS Coach Education courses are available at www.nfhslearn.com.
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Vice-President Boyd L. Randolph
Commissioner Julian Tackett

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Carrell Boyd
Ozz Jackson
Gene Norris
Boyd Randolph
Kelley Ransdell
Stan Steidel
David Weedman

Audit/Finance
Carrell Boyd, Chairperson
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Dana Guyer
Ozz Jackson
Jerry Keepers
Marvin Moore
Kelley F. Ransdell

Regulation Adoption/Legislative
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John Barnes
Art Davis
Alan Donhoff
Gene Norris
Lea Prewitt
Steve Riley
Stan Steidel
Dave Weedman

Officials Policy
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John Barnes
Art Davis
Alan Donhoff
Jerry Keepers
Gene Norris
Boyd Randolph
Steve Riley
Stan Steidel

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Jerry Keepers
Gene Norris
Boyd Randolph
Kelley F. Ransdell

Team Sports
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Carrell Boyd
Alan Donhoff
Marvin Moore
Lea Prewitt
Steve Riley
Dave Weedman

Title IX Education and Compliance
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Carrell Boyd
Anita Burnette
Ron Dawn
Dana Guyer
Ozz Jackson
Kelley F. Ransdell
Dave Weedman

SPECIAL PURPOSE COMMITTEES
Ad Hoc Emerging Sports Implementation Committee
Boyd Randolph, Chairperson
Bill Beasley
Carrell Boyd
Ron Dawn
Dana Guyer
Alan Donhoff
Ozz Jackson
Lea Prewitt
Steve Riley

Ad Hoc Personnel Schedule Review Committee
Alan Donhoff, Chairperson
Bill Beasley
Carrell Boyd
Marvin Moore
Boyd Randolph
Kelley Ransdell
Dave Weedman

Hall of Fame Screening
THIRD YEAR (2013 CLASS) OF BOARD OF CONTROL
John Barnes
Carrell Boyd
Gene Norris
Boyd Randolph
STAFF
Butch Cope, Chair
Angela Passafiume
Elden May
Julian Tackett
MEDIA
Jennifer Smith (Newspaper)
Wes Strader (Radio)
Steve Moss (Television)
Dawahare Rep

Hall-of-Fame Selection Committee
All Board Members Meet in Work Session
All KHSAA Executive Staff Members
Dawahare Rep

Museum/Hall of Fame Development
(inactive at this time)
Bill Beasley, Chairperson
Carrell Boyd
Ron Dawn
Dana Guyer
Ozz Jackson
Lea Prewitt
Boyd Randolph
Kelley F. Ransdell
Dave Weedman

FOURTH YEAR BOARD (2012 CLASS, WHISTLE BLOWER COMMITTEE
Bill Beasley
Anita Burnette
Ron Dawn
Ozz Jackson
Marvin Moore

SECOND YEAR BOARD (2014 CLASS, NFHS SUMMER MEETING (PLUS PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT)
Art Davis
Alan Donhoff
Jerry Keepers
Lea Prewitt
Boyd Randolph
Dave Weedman
TBA
New KHSAA Sport-Activities

Bowling, Cheerleading and Bass Fishing add to growing championships

It was a warm, sunny morning in late February and KHSAA Commissioner Julian Tackett sat at his desk, part smile, part smirk and shook his head at all that had happened since the announcement. He needed a moment to process it all.

“Did you ever think it would have blown up like this? I thought it might get a line or two in the newspaper but this is crazy. The Seattle Times mentioned it and there’s a radio station in Dallas that wants to know about this. Dallas…yeah, that Dallas.”

The announcement was the addition of bass fishing as a KHSAA sanctioned sport-activity starting in the 2012-2013 school year. Standing at the press conference podium filled with the fishing’s foremost authorities, flanked by rods, reels and even a boat, Tackett said the latest thing sure to set Kentucky high school athletics on its ear.

The immediate reaction was predictable. The issue was trending on Twitter within the hour. Responses from the peanut gallery ranged from smh (shaking my head) to ‘This is my home state folks.’ The overwhelming response, though, sounded similar to this: ‘Cool! I so wish they had this when I was in high school. I would have ruled.’

Since he ascended to the Commissioner’s chair in June of 2010, Tackett has not shied away from speaking his mind on the subject of new sport-activities, even if he is met with skeptical looks and the occasional sarcastic remark. It’s the give and take of such instances he relishes because it challenges the status quo, forces unconventional thought. Bowling? Fishing? Why on earth would the KHSAA do that? Why not?

The reason is simple – participation.

“One thing I have said until I’m blue in the face is that we are not going to hang on just basketball and track. Then came baseball and swimming, then golf and tennis, then wrestling, then softball and it has grown from there.

“ ‘The whole time we were just offering what kids liked to play. These new sport-activity offerings are just things that kids like to do today. It just happens it’s not the traditional ‘stick and ball’ sports and I think that’s great.”

The impetus for the sport-activity expansion began with a policy decision. In the spring of 2011, the KHSAA Board of Control revisited a policy that required at least 20 percent of all member schools to sponsor a particular sport before the KHSAA could sanction a championship. This number was revised to 10 percent, as long as the sport was offered in at least four of the state’s 16 regions.

This change coincided with the triennial survey, a questionnaire conducted by the Association of its member schools once every three years, gauging interest in a wide variety of potential sports and sport-activities.

The most recent triennial survey brought back four new possibilities – bowling, bass
Bowling was added for the 2011-12 school year while bass fishing and cheer have been approved for 2012-13. Archery has also been given approval by the Board of Control but a firm timeline is not set for implementation.

“Before we add a championship for a new sport or sport-activity, there’s a lot of questions we have to answer first. First and foremost, what will it cost the Association and what will it cost our schools? Second, is there enough support for it long-term and are our member schools really serious about adding it? It’s easy to check “yes” on a survey but are they willing to add coaches, pay for transportation and the startup costs to get it off the ground when the time comes? Third, is it something that there’s interest in statewide or is it hot in one small area? This is where the Board’s decision really cleared some things up.”

Once a sport or sport-activity is approved and a championship is sanctioned, it then becomes a learning experience for all involved—Association staff, member school personnel and even coaches. The last championship sanctioned by the KHSAA prior to bowling was softball in 1983 (the state changed from slow pitch softball to fast pitch and held the first championship in 1995), which pre-dated the longest tenured KHSAA staff member (Tackett) by a year.

Not only did bowling require tournament rules and procedures, but it also required a geographical alignment for postseason as well as educational requirements for coaches as outlined in Bylaw 27.

“I hesitate to say we were starting from scratch but we were about as close to it as you can get,” said KHSAA Assistant Commissioner Angela Passaianne. “We did have a good amount of history to draw from in the way we have aligned and managed our other sports in the past. Plus, we were fortunate to draw from the expertise of people at other state associations who have sponsored a bowling tournament for some time now. You try to take this hodgepodge of information, refine it and make it into something workable for the first year. Then you can see what works and what doesn’t. And it is constantly being revised and adjusted.”

When organizing a championship the knowledge and assistance from those familiar who work with a sport on a daily basis has proven invaluable. Part of the success of high school athletics in Kentucky is the unique skill set that supporters and existing officials of each group bring to the table and new sport-activities are no exception.

Often before it reaches sanctioning status a sport-activity already has some sort of existing configuration or central governing body that provides competition to member schools, usually at the club level. School bowling clubs competed for a title, thanks to a season-ending tournament organized by the Kentucky Bowling Proprietors Association.

The same has been true for cheerleading with KAPOS, which held its first championship in 1955. The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife has held an archery tournament for elementary, middle and high school students as part of its Archery in Schools program. And, in the spring of 2011 Murray State University sponsored a bass fishing invitational at Kentucky Lake that drew 88 teams, including more than 50 from Kentucky high schools.

“ ‘We’re fortunate to be able to work with the folks that have invested so much time and resources into giving these kids a chance to compete already. It’s not easy to get something like this off the ground and I salute these groups for taking on such a challenge and doing it for these kids,” Tackett said. “On our side of it, I think it would be crazy for us to not at least listen to their stories and seek their input on how they do things and invite them to become a part of the KHSAA family. We are fortunate in the fact that we have world class officials right here in our own state in nearly every sport and sport-activity that we sanction. Thanks to them you have a high level of professionalism and respect already built in."

Thus far the addition of new sport-activities has been received with much enthusiasm from member schools. Part of the reason for this, according to Tackett, is the pool of new student-athletes it involves.

“You’re getting more kids involved and, like we always say, high school athletics is the number one dropout prevention tool we have in schools. That’s a new group of kids that are now going through grade checks and have to stay out of trouble at school. It’s a new group of kids that get to represent their school community and learn team building and leadership skills,” Tackett said. “The part that makes it so easy for coaches and administrators to get behind is we’re drawing in an entirely new group of kids who were not already participating in athletics at school. It’s a movement that took several years but kids spoke volumes simply by participating in something they liked to do and now the adults have listened.”
The Commissioner’s baseball advisory committee meeting was called to order by Assistant Commissioner Butch Cope at 11:00 am. on Jan. 19, 2012, at the KHSAA Office in Lexington.

Present were L.W. Barnes, Khristian Elliott, Jeff Schulkens, Jeff Ely, David Dawson, Bryan Dean, Les Broady, Marc Taylor, Scott Willard, Todd Driskell, Tom Greer, Andy Strain, Mike Quinn, Bill Miller, Asst. Commissioner Butch Cope, Asst. Commissioner Angela Passafiume, and Marsha Day.

Absent were Randy Keeton, Mac Whitaker, Craig Delk, and Hager Easterling.

Mr. Cope explained to the committee that Assistant Commissioner Angela Passafiume was present because she was the backup Assistant Commissioner for baseball and if for any reason he (Mr. Cope) could not be reached they could contact her with their questions, issues, etc.

Mr. Cope informed the committee that L.W. Barnes and Todd Driskell would rotate off the committee at the end of this year and would be recognized at the 2012 Kentucky National Insurance/KHSAA State Baseball Tournament.

Mr. Cope sought input from the group for consideration with regard to any rule change proposal. There were no topics discussed.

Mr. Cope reminded the committee that the Board of Control approved spring sports to adhere to the heat index beginning last year. He also told the committee that it was the responsibility of the home team administrator to monitor the heat index and must be monitored at contests and practices. Bill Miller asked about moving the start date and/or play the state at two sites simultaneously, so they wouldn’t run into the heat problem. Mr. Cope said with the expansion of the tournament he felt like it is best to keep all teams at one site due to facility costs and overall experience for all teams.

There was discussion on Bylaw 25. The KHSAA sent out an email on the changes in interpretation on Bylaw 25 and it will be discussed in the online rules clinic. Mr. Cope went over Bylaw 25 with the committee and asked for feedback. Marc Taylor said it had been great for them in the rural area because it allowed students to condition more. David Dawson thinks it is early to evaluate and needs to be monitored for some time and then evaluated. Mike Quinn informed the committee that their principal told the coaches they will be monitoring if they feel it will work. Mr. Cope also said that anytime you can get students in your facility it is a good thing (you can coach them) where as outside your facility they are only getting lessons. Todd Driskell asked about implementing a rule that states if you play for a high school team you can’t play for an outside team. Mr. Cope advised that would require a bylaw change. Bill Miller asked if the dead period could start right after the state baseball tournament. Again, Mr. Cope advised that would require a bylaw change.

Andy Strain started a discussion on umpire pay for regular season and postseason. Ms. Passafiume said it deals with having two officials for regular season games to three officials for postseason games and that the KHSAA set the minimum with local associations adding on travel. Mr. Strain stated that some areas pay travel for the officials and some don’t.

There was discussion about coaches having problems with officials and what they could do and who they could contact. Mr. Cope told the committee if they have an issue with an official they should contact their assigner first then the KHSAA office.

It was brought to the attention of the committee that someone needed to check the lighting specs at Green County High School. Mr. Cope advised this would be addressed.

There was some discussion on Alignment for the 2012-2013 school year.
The committee discussed middle school students playing varsity baseball as eighth graders then transferring as freshman and being eligible to play.

Les Broady made a motion to adjourn, seconded by David Dawson. The meeting adjourned at 12:10.
The Commissioner’s Football Advisory Committee met at the KHSAA offices in Lexington on February 21, 2012. All members were present except: Coach Tim Schlosser (Franklin Simpson).

The meeting began with a review of the procedural items such as expense forms, membership listings, tournament rules and the Bylaw 25 provision. Following this discussion there was a lengthy review of the National Federation rules and discussion about playing rules. Discussion was held with the coaches about potentially experimenting with four men on either side of the kicker on the kick off as well as a rule that would state the kicking team could not block until they were eligible to recover the ball. There was general consensus that these rules might help player safety but no real push for experimentation. There was also discussion of the removal of loss of down for offensive pass interference from the playing rules however, it was decided that this needed to wait until that was an NFHS rule change.

There was minimal discussion regarding mechanics of officials and the traditional discussion of consistency among policing of the sidelines. The coaches felt that they had no real issue with the enforcement of the sideline restrictions provided they were enforced the same everywhere.

The next discussion went to general review of situations including the aftermath of the Pleasure Ridge Park criminal case and civil case, and discussion of the video exchange rules. Coaches were reminded that the video exchange rules are in place for all games during the season and that violators of the provision should be reported to the Association. It will be considered a violation of Bylaw 11 and enforced under Bylaw 33.

The next section of the meeting dealt with preseason concerns. There was a lengthy discussion regarding two issues that the coaches are fairly strong in their opinions about.

1. There was a desire to allow eighth graders to participate in spring football. Commissioner Tackett reminded the coaches that one of the problems with that provision is that there are a number of eighth grade students who in practicing with a high school team, might be practicing away from the team they might end up playing for. This is especially a problem in the districts that have more than one school. The coaches agreed that they would continue to review the situation to determine if a good proposal could be developed.

2. There was discussion of the spring practice proposal that was to be developed which would allow schools to designate the dates for spring football and it was hoped that this could be implemented for the 2011 season.

The discussion regarding the alignment and playoffs centered on the fourth round sites. There was a great deal of discussion regarding the fourth round games, in particular the condition of the fields where the games are being played. Part of the committee agreed to try and perhaps place the 1-3A games at smaller facilities and maybe the 4-6A games to be placed at the college facilities.

However, as discussion continued, the focus became the condition of the field and not necessarily being neutral on the site. The consensus of the group was to ask the KHSAA Staff to come back with a model for their next meeting (2012) where minimum field standards for fourth round games could be adopted. Similar to the baseball procedures this would allow many schools to maintain a home game or at least play in a nearby stadium and not force teams to go to where both teams were without their home fans. Many issues were discussed and a careful review of the current West Virginia model was done as well as KHSAA baseball standards.

There was a feeling that other things that were not on the existing standards such as video location and the designation of a game manager were also important. The most important criteria the committee reached consensus about was the presence of an
all weather surface. While there’s recognition that some people do a very good job of maintaining a natural surface, the problems created with the Thanksgiving weekend game deciding who gets to go to the State Finals outweighed the home field advantage on a well maintained field. The committee identified at least 43 artificial surfaced fields in the state of Kentucky at this point and the general consensus was that they are spread out enough the state to where a requirement for artificial surface could be put into place. It was agreed that once the standards were developed KHSAA Staff would then conduct a survey of the schools to make sure they had every possible site listed.

There was then discussion about the state finals site selection. The Commissioner informed the committee that discussions had begun with a potential title sponsor that would allow the tournament to remain in Bowling Green. It was the unanimous consent of the committee that the move to Bowling Green placed the playoffs in an appropriate size venue and that the atmosphere was certainly an improvement over the past years.

There was then an open discussion that different topics to be brought back to committee members. The first discussion dealt with the proliferation of middle school contests and in particular a post season format that requires students to play multiple games in the same week. Commissioner Tackett reported that the medical association had already begun to be involved in this case and with the fact that perhaps too many games were being played and a study is going to be done regarding applying the high school restrictions and rules to the middle school level.

Mr. Tackett also pointed out however that there are no restrictions on playing games within a week at the high school level those are simply common sense provisions that have been implemented by the high schools. Member Buchanan brought forth results of an informal survey he had done where different coaches had made various comments about systems. The coaches were split on whether the playoff pairings should be rotated or played within district.

A couple of coaches have pointed out that they would prefer not to continually go to the same site while still others wanted to stay home so that travel bills were curtailed. There was also a request to look at opening back June for passing league competition in school based competition between teams. At this point it was the second year of the phase in of Bylaw 26 amendments and it was agreed that after that second year (2011), we could perhaps do a better assessment.

Several coaches made the note that they were concerned about the displeasure of college coaches with the June restrictions.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned.
The KHSAA Volleyball Assigning Secretary Committee Meeting was called to order by KHSAA Assistant Commissioner Butch Cope at 1 pm. on July 14, 2011 at the KHSAA offices in Lexington.

Present at the meeting were: Michael Melton, Eldridge Rogers, Barry Barnes, Sharan Bornhorn, Paul Pietrowski, Mike Holt, Adam Rider, Paul Lewis, Nancy Funk, and Marsha Day. Absent from the meeting were: John D. Smith, James Mills, and Robert Staggs.

The meeting began with Mr. Cope asking the committee members to complete travel vouchers and update information for mailings, etc.

Mr. Cope discussed the rules clinic dates and regular and postseason dates for this year. He also informed the committee there would be two specific clinics online this year, one for coaches and one for officials.

There was a short discussion on the game contest count. Mr. Cope told the committee that most surrounding states play 3 out of 5 games and the Volleyball Advisory Committee had supported a proposal to present to the Commissioner and Board of Control to adopt 3 of 5 play at the varsity level beginning in 2012-2013.

The committee discussed the volleyball officials’ camp in conjunction with the Bluegrass State Games July 28-29, 2011. Mr. Cope told the committee that Becky Oakes of the NFHS and Sandy Seary of the IHSA would be guests at the camp. This camp must be attended once every four years to be eligible to officiate the State Volleyball Tournament beginning in 2014. Beginning in 2015, it must be attended once every four years to be eligible for assignment to officiate in Regional and State Tournament play. Mr. Cope asked the committee for suggestions of additional topics that need to be covered in the volleyball camp.

Mr. Cope asked the committee to provide feedback on responsibilities and rotation of officials for the State Tournament. There was lengthy discussion on mileage pay for officials. Some are seeing gas prices have an impact on where an official is sent or accepting assignments. A few committee members said travel was combined with the officials’ pay.

Mr. Cope asked the committee to send a schedule of their meetings to him to hopefully attend throughout the state.

There was some discussion on officials blocking schools and/or coaches. Some regions say they are allowed to block and others say they aren’t allowed to block. Mr. Cope will follow up with the Commissioner and Officials Division Assistant Commissioner on this subject.

Mr. Cope shared at the NFHS Volleyball Meeting update during the NFHS Summer Meeting, there was some discussion on the NCAA change in sequence of signals. The sentiment in the room by most State Association representatives was to leave as it is.

The committee then watched the NFHS Rules Interpretation online.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.
November 15, 2011 at 8:30AM  
Theatre, KHSAA Offices - Lexington


KHSAA Staff: Julian Tackett, Michael Barren, Darren Bilberry, Rob Catron, Chad Collins, Butch Cope, Elden May, Angela Passafiume, and Marilyn Mitchell.

Attachments can be found at the following link: www.khsaa.org/boardofcontrol/agenda/20112012/bocnovember2011.htm

Call to Order: the Board of Control Meeting was called to order by President Alan Donhoff at 10:45 a.m. following the completion of committee meetings.

Reflection: Was given by Bill Beasley
Pledge of Allegiance: Was led by Lea Prewitt
Motion Passed: Consider approval of going into executive session per KRS 61.810 subsection (c) passed with a motion by Kelley Ransdell and a second by Marvin Moore. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Carrell Boyd Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Absent, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes.

Motion Passed: Consider approval of coming out of executive session per KRS 61.810 subsection (c) passed with a motion by Bill Beasley and a second by Art Davis. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Carrell Boyd Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Absent, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes.

No Action was taken during the executive session to review KHSAA legal matters.

Review Consent Agenda
Approve Minutes of September, 2011 Regular Meeting
Transfers Report July to October 31, 2011 (W)
Other eligibility rulings including fines and Penalties, July 1, 2010 through October 31, 2011 (W)
HB 327 Coaches to date (W)
NFHS Coaching Education Program Report (W)

Committee Report from the Regulation Adoption and Legislative Committee (A)
Passage of Annual Meeting Proposals
Motion Passed: Approve a motion to formally recommend to the Kentucky Board of Education that the 12 items that passed during the voting session of the Annual Meeting be approved for inclusion in the KHSAA Bylaws. Passed with a motion by Boyd Randolph and a second by David Weedman, John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Carrell Boyd Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Absent, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes.
Schools are inadvertently violating Bylaw 28, possibly an outdated provision of the KHSAA Bylaws regarding scheduling of competition. Board recommends staff to put together proposal(s) for future years. Various events were discussed.

Motion Passed: Direct staff to develop proposal(s) for annual meeting. Passed with a motion by Boyd Randolph and a second by Stan Steidel. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Carrell Boyd Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Absent, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes.

Request from Red Bird High School
Red Bird High School has made a request to play nonmember schools due to its dwindling enrollment. Historically, there would be no advantage gained by this allowance according to the Athletic Director.

Motion Passed: Deny the request. Passed with a motion by Steve Riley and a second by Art Davis. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Carrell Boyd Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Absent, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes.

Consider implementation waiver for Start of Golf Season for 2012 based on Annual Meeting voting
With the passage of the proposal to start the golf season three days earlier than past seasons, the 2012 season would be 3 days shorter than 2012 and beyond.

Motion Passed: Approve the allowance for schools to hold regular season golf matches beginning on the Friday, nine weeks prior to the Monday of postseason play. Passed with a motion by Stan Steidel and a second by David Weedman. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Carrell Boyd Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Absent, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes.

Discuss Policy Related to Alcohol at event sites
Motion Passed: Direct Commissioner to develop Board policy specific to KHSAA sanctioned events, with recommendations on each event. Passed with a motion by Boyd Randolph and a second by Stan Steidel. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Carrell Boyd Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Absent, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes.

Request for International Play by Sayre High School During the Dead Period
Request for Sayre to play with the presence of its head coach during the Dead Period. If approved, there would likely need to be an in-kind reciprocation of the dates as the Dead Period has been fairly consistently applied.

Motion Passed: Deny the request for international travel, with the coach during the Dead Period. Passed with a motion by Boyd Randolph and a second by David Weedman. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley No, Carrell Boyd Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Ron Dawn No, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Absent, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes.

Motion Failed: Adopt the recommended changes to a 3 of 5 format for the 2012-2013 season, including warm-up time standardization, game match format, and officials pay. Failed with a motion by Ozz Jackson and a second by Marvin Moore. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley No, Carrell Boyd No, Anita Burnette No, Art Davis No, Ron Dawn No, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers No, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Absent, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph No, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley No, Stan Steidel No, David Weedman Yes.

Motion Failed: Leave rule as current and allow schools to choose to play 2 of 3 or 3 of 5. Include provision to expedite game and warm up time, request waiver to maintain
compliance with NFHS, failed with a motion by Stan Steidel and a second by Anita Burnette. John Barnes No, Bill Beasley No, Carrell Boyd Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff No, Dana Guyer Absent, Ozz Jackson No, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore No, Gene Norris Absent, Lea Prewitt No, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell No, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman No.

Motion Passed: Request a clarification from the NFHS to continue with 3 of 5 game format and regular season options passed with a motion by Stan Steidel and a second by Art Davis. John Barnes No, Bill Beasley Yes, Carrell Boyd Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff No, Dana Guyer Absent, Ozz Jackson No, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore No, Gene Norris Absent, Lea Prewitt No, Boyd Randolph No, Kelley Ransdell No, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman No.

Consider Requirement for Double First Base - Fast Pitch

There was discussion of the possibility of implementation of the use of the double first base which has been recommended for fast pitch softball for risk management and injury prevention.

Motion Passed: Approve the requirement for the use of a double first base for all postseason competition and regular season competition hosted by member schools. Passed with a motion by Ozz Jackson and a second by Marvin Moore. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Carrell Boyd Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Absent, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes.

Discuss Draft Soccer Alignment

The soccer alignment is the last of the team sport alignments to be addressed in the Board’s review of team sports alignments. The current regional alignment in Eastern Kentucky is a deterrent to schools adding teams because of the extreme amount of required travel. Putting teams in their natural geographic alignment would encourage schools to add without as much travel burden. In addition, the Board’s planned goal remains that all schools be in the same region for all team sports, even if not in the same district.

Motion Passed: Distribute possible alternative alignment (with option 2 for Regions 13-14 as drafted) for input by the membership for adoption in January, 2012 with a directed schedule moratorium between now and then. Passed with a motion by Ozz Jackson and a second by David Weedman. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Carrell Boyd Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Absent, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes.

Review of Winter Sports

There was a brief review of the status of the Wrestling, Swimming and Basketball Seasons.

Correspondence

6. Adjourn

Motion Passed: Consider approval of adjourning meeting passed with a motion by Ozz Jackson and a second by Art Davis. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Carrell Boyd Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Absent, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes.

Reports of Business (single motion to approve the reports)

- Current Operations and Investigations
- Bowling Alignment for 2011-2012
- Status Report on Archery
- Status Report on Fishing
- Status Report on Cheer

Motion Passed: Following discussion of these reports, approve submission of all reports passed with a motion by Alan Donhoff and a second by Art Davis. John Barnes Yes, Bill Beasley Yes, Carrell Boyd Yes, Anita Burnette Yes, Art Davis Yes, Ron Dawn Yes, Alan Donhoff Yes, Dana Guyer Absent, Ozz Jackson Yes, Jerry Keepers Yes, Marvin Moore Yes, Gene Norris Absent, Lea Prewitt Yes, Boyd Randolph Yes, Kelley Ransdell Yes, Steve Riley Yes, Stan Steidel Yes, David Weedman Yes.
## School Penalty Update

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<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Date Rec.</th>
<th>Bylaw</th>
<th>Description</th>
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Meet The Staff
Phyllis Sallee
Admin. Support Specialist
Hometown: Lexington
Been with KHSAA Since: 2002
Responsibilities: Title IX Annual Revisit and Education Reports Project, Administrative Staff Support for the sports and duties assigned to Assistant Commissioner Darren Bilberry.
One thing people may not know:
Being a people person comes easy to Sallee. She learned it at a young age, growing up in a family that included nine brothers and sisters. The lessons learned included patience and standing up for her beliefs, another trait picked up almost at birth as the daughter of a minister.
"It taught me to deal with all sorts of different people and personalities and be flexible," said Sallee. "Even now there’s times I think about all my brothers and sisters and wonder - how did we get so many different personalities when they all came from the same parents?"
But she wouldn’t trade her family for anything. "Having that many brothers and sisters was - in a word - awesome."

Meet The Board
Stan Steidel
Rep. for Regions 9-10
Hometown: Cold Spring
Occupation: Athletic Director, Holmes High School
Spouse: Louise
Children: Melanie, Jennifer, Elizabeth (deceased)
Previous Positions: Has spent more than 35 years of service to northern Kentucky as a teacher, coach and administrator in the Dayton and Covington Public School Districts.
Current Board Term: 2011-2015
One thing people may not know:
Steidel is known statewide as the the father of the Touchstone Energy All ‘A’ Classic but he earned a reputation as an impeccable organizer long before that. Steidel serves as Executive Secretary of the Northern Kentucky Athletic Conference. During his time with the organization, Steidel helped expand the conference offerings to include every sport currently sanctioned by the KHSAA. In addition to the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame, Steidel is a member of the Greater Cincinnati Basketball Hall of Fame and the Brawton-Parker College Athletic Hall of Fame.

Meet The Board
Bill Beasley
At-Large Rep.
Hometown: Henderson
Occupation: Owner, Beasley Enterprises, LLC
Spouse: Charlene
Children: Kim and Sheryl
Previous Positions: General Manager and President, Kentucky Hydra Power, owner PartsForIndustry.com.
Current Board Term: 2008-2012
One thing people may not know:
Though Beasley continues to make his mark in the business world, once being hailed as one of the Top 50 Small Distributors in the United States, he is able to get things done by being a consensus builder. Beasley oversaw the growth at Murray State as a longtime member of the Board of Regents and later served on the Board of Regents for the Kentucky Community and Techical College System during its transition from 1999-2005. These days Beasley serves as as President/CEO of the Purchase Regional Industrial Park Authority in addition to his work with the Pritchard Committee and KHSAA Board of Control. He also finds time to manage the family farm in Henderson.

Member School News
Mason County pulls together tourney for Murphy’s memory

In more than three decades of service to the community of Maysville, Mike Murphy was on the field or in the gym almost every night.
In addition to driving the bus, keeping the clock and marking the playing field, among other tasks, Murphy was serving as the head baseball coach at Mason County when he passed away suddenly in February of 2011.
Officials and administrators at Mason County made sure his contributions were recognized with the first U.S. Bank/Mike Murphy Classic basketball tournament played over three days in late December.
For the first edition, the schedule featured teams that all had some connection to Murphy over the years.
In addition to Mason County and St. Patrick (Murphy’s alma mater), Ashland Blazer (head coach Buddy Biggs was a former Mason County assistant), Madison Central (head coach Allen Feldhaus Jr. is a Mason County graduate), Cooper (head coach Tim Sullivan coached at both Mason County and St. Patrick), Russell County (head coach Willie Feldhaus is a Mason County graduate), Pike County Central (head coach Kelly Carwile was a Mason County assistant) and Simon Kenton (the Pioneers and Mason County played in the state championship game in 1981, the first for either school).
Mason County head coach Chris O’Hearn told The Ledger Independent that he hopes it becomes an annual event.
“We just want to honor (Murph’s) memory,” said O’Hearn. “We think it’s gonna be a neat thing.”
Charles Ruter
(1920-2012)

In one respect high school athletics in Kentucky has been lucky to utilize the expertise of so many nationally respected officials who call the Commonwealth home.

The track and field community and high school athletics as a whole lost one of its staunchest allies with the passing of Charles Melton Ruter on Feb. 4. Ruter died at the age of 91 from complications of kidney failure.

Known by many as simply Charlie, Ruter was a jack-of-all-trades, a man who became the backbone of any event, thanks to his behind-the-scenes contributions. Whether as the official scorer for the Boys’ Sweet 16® from 1963 until 2004 and the Girls’ Sweet 16® from 1992 to 2004 or as a meet manager for the KHSAA state track and field meet, or as a starter at the KHSAA State Cross Country meet, Ruter’s contributions to high school athletics spanned the generations.

Though Ruter excelled in many areas, track and field became his passion. Ruter became a world renowned track and field official, with experience in the 1984 Los Angeles and 1996 Atlanta Olympics. He also officiated the NCAA Division I outdoor championships for 15 years and the indoor championships for 18 years. He also officiated the Goodwill Games in 1990 and 1998. He started the Mason-Dixon games in 1960 and watched it grow into one of the premier track and field events in the nation, attracting such names as Wilma Rudolph, Bob Hayes and Bob Beamon.

All the while, Ruter never lost his passion for the high school level. He worked more than 50 KHSAA state track and field meets, many of them in helping with the management of the meet.

“Charlie touched more lives at the interscholastic level than we will ever know,” said KHSAA Commissioner Julian Tackett. “This work as a principal, coach, teacher, official and event worker allowed so many people the privilege of knowing and learning from him. His mentoring of younger officials is legendary throughout the world, and the unparalleled success of our cadre of track officials on a national scale is a direct reflection on his dedication. His passing is truly a great loss for our state.”

Ruter grew up across the river from Louisville in New Albany, Ind., graduating in 1939. He went to Western Kentucky State Teachers College that fall (now WKU) on a basketball scholarship. He played for legendary coach E.A. Diddle from 1939-43 and was a member of the school’s 1942 NIT Runner-Up squad. Ruter also ran track at the school and his contributions to the sport were so widespread that the track at WKU now bears his name.

A veteran of World War II, Ruter served in the United States Navy, where he saw action in the Pacific. After his tour ended in 1946, Ruter served a variety of roles for the Naval Reserves in the Louisville area until his retirement.

Upon his graduation from Western Kentucky State Teachers College in 1946, Ruter spent a lifetime in education in Jefferson County, first as a teacher at Okolona, Fern Creek and Eastern High Schools, and later as an administrator within the district, where he dealt with such diverse issues as transportation, community relations, internal affairs and auxiliary services. Ruter also served as basketball and baseball coach during his time at Fern Creek from 1948-54.

Even with a highly demanding schedule as a track and field official in later years, Ruter stayed close to his basketball roots. He was the official scorer for the Kentucky Colonels in the old American Basketball Association and the scorer for every NCAA Tournament game ever played in Freedom Hall.

Ruter is survived by his wife of 67 years, Ruth. He was laid to rest in Resthaven Memorial Park.

Kelly Gentry
(1975-2011)

While a student-athlete, a coach or an administrator is often associated with one school or town, a community shares an official with an entire region. Perhaps it is no surprise that the entire 12th Region mourned the loss of official Kelly Gentry this season.

Gentry, 36, of Bee Lick, passed away on November 10 following a battle with thyroid cancer. Gentry dedicated more than half his life to officiating as a KHSAA licensed baseball, basketball and football official. He worked 17 years in baseball, 13 years in basketball, 12 in football.

When he wasn’t officiating Gentry enjoyed fox hunting, watching any kind of sports and WWE Wrestling. He was a lifelong fan of the Cincinnati Reds, the Kansas Jayhawks and the University of Kentucky baseball team.

The Lake Cumberland Basketball Officials Association paid tribute to Gentry by wearing pink whistles for all varsity basketball games in the 12th Region during the week of Jan. 9-14 to raise awareness for cancer survivors and victims.

“The LCBOA has lost a dear friend and fellow official. It truly has made each of us realize how fragile life is and to cherish each day that we have,” said Scott Bottoms, longtime 12th Region official in the Danville Advocate-Messenger.

Gentry is survived by his parents, Glen and Glenda Gentry of Bee Lick and one sister, Shandra Gentry Rowe.
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