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# Commissioner's Notes

January 2007

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## FROM THE COMMISSIONER'S DESK



New Year Everyone! As we begin the New Year I am pleased to announce that the KHSAA has hired an Assistant Commissioner. Darren Bilberry replaces Assistant Commissioner Roland Williams who began his retirement effective January 1, 2007. Darren, formerly a teacher and coach at Henry Clay High

School will assume Roland's previous duties and will begin his tenure with the Association on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

I am pleased to say that there was an outstanding pool of candidates who applied for the position and am grateful for their interest in working with the Association.

## BYLAW 4 REMINDER

A key provision of Bylaw 4 should be reiterated to all school personnel at all grade levels in KHSAA school systems at this time of year. Once a student is promoted from grade eight to grade nine by the school, the student's four year (eight semester) limit begins to toll.

Students who are "held back" after being promoted from grade eight (8) are not only ineligible for high school sports (grade 9-12) at any level during the year they repeat, but lose the "senior" year as well as the four year count would be exhausted. School personnel should be mindful of this fact when parents request such action.

State regulations clearly call for the school to have the final say in promotion and retention decisions, and once the student has been promoted from grade eight, the four year count has begun.

## NATIONAL ANTHEM SINGERS

Any student or group of four students or less interested in singing the National Anthem at a session of either the National City/KHSAA Boys' Sweet Sixteen® or Houchens Industries/KHSAA Girls' Sweet Sixteen® Tournament, should submit a CD (a cappella) to Phyllis Sallee at the Association by February 23, 2007. The Association is particularly targeting previously underrepresented populations such as African-Americans.

Those individuals selected will be notified of their assigned session prior to each of the tournaments.

## TITLE IX SCHEDULING REGULAR SEASON BASKETBALL GAMES

In relationship to KHSAA Title IX regulations, there is a difference between "prime date" and "prime time" when dealing with the scheduling of girl's regular season home basketball games. "Prime date" deals with the playing of home games on either a Friday, Saturday or Sunday. "Prime time" deals with playing home games at a certain time/hour of the day or night.

Athletic Directors and coaches should remember that annually no less than 40% of all girls' regular season home basketball games must be played on "prime dates". The boy's regular season "prime date" percentages have no bearing on the girl's annually required 40%.

If a school decides to schedule boy/girl home basketball double-headers during the season, then the order of which gender plays second should be reflected as follows:

- One Double-Header, (Optional As To Which Team Plays Second)
- Two Double-Headers, (Girls Game Must Be Second At Least Once)
- Three Double-Headers, (Girls Game Must Be Second At Least Once)
- Four Double-Headers, (Girls Game Must Be Second At Least Twice)
- Five Double-Headers, (Girls Game Must Be Second At Least Twice)
- Six Double-Headers, (Girls Game Must Be Second At Least Three Times)
- Seven Double-Headers, (Girls Game Must Be Second At Least Three Times)
- Eight Double-Headers, (Girls Game Must Be Second At Least Four Times)
- Nine Double-Headers, (Girls Game Must Be Second At Least Four Times)
- Ten Double-Headers, (Girls Game Must Be Second At Least Five Times)

## ATHLETIC DIRECTORS CORNER

Happy New Year from the Kentucky High School Athletic Directors' Association. Be on the lookout for the registration materials for the 2007 KHSADA State Conference to be held May 9-11 at the Clarion in Louisville.

Be sure to nominate a Male and Female Athlete of the Year and Coach of the Year candidate as well as candidates for Distinguished Service Award in athletics. You may contact Mike Barren at Dunbar High School or Kathy Johnston at Bourbon Co. High School to submit your nominations.

## NATIONAL CITY SCHOLARSHIPS

National City Bank will again be awarding a total of 32 scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each, one each to a boy and girl from each of the 16 basketball regions.

The scholarships are open to athletes of all sports. The application form is posted on the KHSAA website under "Hot News". Deadline for applications is Feb. 23, 2007. Winners will be recognized at the Championship game of the National City/KHSAA Boys' State Basketball Tournament on March 24.

If you have any questions about the scholarship program, e-mail [bcope@khsaa.org](mailto:bcope@khsaa.org) or call the KHSAA.

## REMINDER ABOUT SCRIMMAGE LIMITS AND PRACTICE REGULATIONS

Recently, we have received several inquiries from schools about using males in practice for girls basketball against members of the girls' basketball team. If this occurs, the members of the squad are practicing against students (regardless of the grade level) who are not eligible to be on the eligibility list for the girls team, and therefore, each time this is done, the school has utilized one of its allowable two scrimmages. And schools are reminded that once the first official game has been played, there are no more opportunities for scrimmages by members of the team.

There are a myriad of reasons why this practice is not permitted, not the least of which is the fact that Bylaw 25 precludes the activity. Schools should also be mindful that using outside members in a situation like this certainly could be viewed as depriving females at the younger or less talented levels of participation opportunities.

Please contact the office should you have any questions.

## NFHS NATIONAL STUDENT LEADERSHIP ATTENDEES NOMINATIONS

Great News! After a two year hiatus, the National Federation of State High Schools (NFHS) has resurrected its national Student Leadership Conference. The event is scheduled for July 20-22, 2007, at the Indianapolis Hilton in Indianapolis, Ind.

The KHSAA will again take part in this great event and we ask for your help. The Association will choose four students (two boys and two girls) to attend. Thanks to sponsorship from T-Mobile, the entire event is being provided FREE OF CHARGE. Meals, housing and transportation from Lexington to Indianapolis are all covered.

If you have a student that would be interested in applying for one of the spots to attend the conference, please contact Butch Cope ([bcope@khsaa.org](mailto:bcope@khsaa.org)) at the KHSAA. Information was also included in the December Commissioner's Notes. Application forms are due to the KHSAA by Friday, Feb. 23. The KHSAA will then review the applications and announce those selected by March 9.

These students will attend the NFHS Conference and then serve as advisors and staff the KHSAA HYPE Student Leadership in August of 2007. Please keep the following in mind when selecting a student for nomination:

- Student Delegates are preferred to be entering grades 10-11-12 in the fall of 2007
- Students should possess demonstrated leadership skills
- Students should be willing to take conference information and skills back to his/her local school and state and communicate with others
- Students should be able to relate to students from a wide variety of social groups
- Students should possess a high level of motivation and enthusiasm
- Students should be capable of being an effective presenter and/or facilitator

## REPORTING OF SCORES AND SCHEDULE ENTRY

We ask that member school personnel review your baseball, basketball (boys and girls), and softball schedules to make sure any game updates have been added. Schedules are to be entered on the KHSAA website through the "Member School Only" link.

Please remember to call in the scores of contests to the KHSAA/Riherd's Scoreboard immediately following each contest. The number is **1-800-715-8388** and is toll free.

## 2006-07 KHSAA RULES CLINICS

It is an Association requirement that each licensed official and head coach attend a rules interpretation clinic conducted by the KHSAA (ByLaw 26, Sec. 2). Officials who have not met the requirement will not be permitted to officiate any postseason contest. Coaches who have not met the requirement will not be permitted to coach any postseason contest. For 2006-07, approved KHSAA rules clinic sites and dates. ALL TIMES ARE LOCAL. Some times have been adjusted due to staff covering clinics in the wake of the retirement of one member of the Executive Staff.

### BASEBALL

(All Times are 7 p.m. local, unless noted otherwise)

- 1/24 Independence, Simon Kenton H.S. (\*\*)
- 1/27 London, North Laurel H.S. (10:30 a.m.)
- 1/28 Georgetown, Scott County H.S. (3 p.m.)
- 1/29 Hodgenville, Larue County H.S.
- 2/1 Louisville, Christian Academy
- 2/3 Paintsville, Johnson Central H.S. (9 a.m.)
- 2/10 Owensboro, Daviess County H.S. (9 a.m.) (\*\*)
- 2/11 Benton, Marshall County H.S. (3:30 p.m.) (\*\*)
- 2/20 Lexington @ KHSAA, Make-Up Clinic (\$75 Fine) (1:30 p.m.)

### SOFTBALL

(All Times are 6:30 p.m. local, unless noted otherwise)

- 1/22 Hebron, Conner H.S.
- 1/25 Hodgenville, Larue County H.S.
- 1/27 London, North Laurel H.S. (9:00 a.m.)
- 1/27 Danville, Centre College (w/KSCA Conference/KHSAA Umpires and registered coaches only) (2:00 p.m.) (\*\*)
- 1/29 Louisville, Christian Academy
- 1/30 Georgetown, Scott County H.S.
- 2/3 Paintsville, Johnson Central (11:00 a.m.)
- 2/10 Owensboro, Daviess County H.S. (11 a.m.) (\*\*)
- 2/11 Benton, Marshall County H.S. (2:00 p.m.) (\*\*)
- 3/7 Lexington @ KHSAA Make Up Clinic (\$75 Fine) (1:30 p.m.)

### TRACK & FIELD

(All Times are 7 p.m. local, unless noted otherwise)

- 1/28 Georgetown, Scott County H.S.
- 2/5 Paintsville, Johnson Central H.S.
- 2/6 Independence, Simon Kenton H.S.
- 2/7 Hodgenville, Larue County H.S.
- 2/8 London, North Laurel H.S.
- 2/10 Owensboro, Daviess County H.S. (1 p.m.) (\*\*)
- 2/11 Benton, Marshall County H.S. (7 p.m.)
- 2/13 Louisville, Christian Academy
- 2/22 Lexington @ KHSAA, Make Up Clinic (\$75 Fine)

(\*\*) – indicates a revised date and or site from original listing

## REMINDER ABOUT LEGISLATION PASSED AT ANNUAL MEETING

In October, the Delegates of the KHSAA passed several proposals that in the future, will revise the counting of meets for baseball, softball and track, as well as various changes to eligibility rules.

These changes have NOT been approved by the Kentucky Board of Education and the earliest they can go into effect is the 2007-2008 school year. The KHSAA office will advise the membership when and if these items are approved.

For 2007, note that Indoor Track may have four meets (not including Mason-Dixon games) that must be completed on or before Saturday, March 10, 2007.

Outdoor track meets for the 2007 season can begin on March 26, and may include a total of 15 outdoor meets.

For 2007, note that Baseball and Softball remain limited to 30 games, and that three tournaments may be counted in a shortcut fashion per Bylaw 25.

Contact the KHSAA office if you need further clarification.

## BASKETBALL PHOTOS DUE

Please note basketball team photos **AND** rosters are due by February 16. In an effort to help all member schools, we ask that you enter your rosters now.

For photos, please go to the "Members Only" page on the KHSAA website and use the "Upload Photo" feature. If mailing a photo, the photo **MUST BE AN ORIGINAL**. Faxed copies, copies of photos, newspaper copies, or laser printer printouts **ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE**. Failure to submit the photo will result in a fine as permitted by KHSAA Bylaw 33, and this will be administered.

Rosters should also be entered on the "Members Only" page using the "Enter Team Rosters" link.

For assistance with the entry of either item contact Marilyn Mitchell at the Association or [mmitchell@khsaa.org](mailto:mmitchell@khsaa.org)

## KHSAA CHAMPIONSHIP DATES

Feb. 9-10	Swimming	U of L Ralph Wright Natatorium
Feb. 15-17	Wrestling	Frankfort Convention Center, Frankfort
March 14-17	Houchens Industries/KHSAA Girls' Basketball	WKU Diddle Arena, Bowling Green
March 21-24	National City/KHSAA Boys' Basketball	Rupp Arena, Lexington
May 19	Slow Pitch Softball	RiverShore Sportsplex, Hebron, KY
May 24-26	Fifth Third/KHSAA Boys' & Girls' Tennis	UK Boone/Downing Complex, Lexington
June 1-2	Boys' & Girls' Track	TBA
June 8-9	Fast Pitch Softball	Skyview Park, Jeffersontown
June 13-16	Fifth Third/KHSAA Baseball	Applebee's Park, Lexington