FROM THE COMMISSIONER’S DESK

March Madness is in full swing and final preparations are under way for the Houchens/KHSAA Girls’ Sweet 16® at Diddle Arena, March 14-17, 2007 and the National City/KHSAA Boys’ Sweet 16® at Rupp Arena in Lexington March 21-24, 2007.

Congratulations are in order for newly elected Board of Control members. The newly elected members are:

Kelly Crain, Superintendent, Fleming County School female at-large member representing Regions 9-16.
Stan Steidel, Covington Schools, representing Section 5 (Regions 9 & 10).
Dr. Fred Carter, Superintendent, Glasgow Schools representing Section 2 (Regions 3 & 4).

Special thanks are in order for outgoing Board of Control members Paula Goodin, Chuck Broughton, and current president Gary Dearborn for their many contributions and hard work during their tenure on the Board.

Good luck to everyone who is still on the road to the Boys’ or Girls’ Sweet 16®.

SPRING PHOTOS DUE

Please note baseball and softball team photos AND rosters are due by April 1.

For photos, please go to the “Members Only” page on the KHSAA website and use the “Upload Photo” feature. You may also e-mail the photo provided it has been scanned at a minimum DPI of 300 and is not bitmapped. The file should be sent as an attachment and saved with a file extension of .jpg, .gif, or .tif. If mailing a photo, the photo MUST BE AN ORIGINAL. Failure to submit the photo will result in a fine as permitted by KHSAA Bylaw 33, and this will be enforced.

Rosters must 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.

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 freshman, JV, or varsity sports during the year they repeat, but lose the “senior” year as well since the four year count would be exhausted once they finish eleventh (11) grade. 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.

FUTURE BOYS’ AND GIRLS’ BASKETBALL STATE TOURNAMENT DATES

As planning is now fully underway for the 2007 school calendars, we have received a great many inquiries from school and school systems regarding the scheduling of the state basketball tournaments during the next few years. In May (2005), the Board of Control approved the advance schedule of dates and it was distributed to the membership.

Advance Dates for National City/KHSAA Boys’ Sweet Sixteen® (site contracted through 2014 to be held at Rupp Arena in Lexington). (Parenthetic number refers to NFHS Standard Calendar Week Number)
2007 3/21-3/24 (38)
2008 3/19-3/22 (38)
2009 3/18-3/21 (37)
2010 3/17-3/20 (37)
2011 3/16-3/19 (37)

Advance Dates for Houchens/KHSAA Girls’ Sweet Sixteen® (site contracted through 2011 to be held at Diddle Arena in Bowling Green) (Parenthetic number refers to NFHS Standard Calendar Week Number)
2007 3/14-3/17 (37)
2008 3/12-3/15 (37)
2009 3/11-3/14 (36)
2010 3/10-3/13 (36)
2011 3/9-3/12 (36)
PRIME DATE SCHEDULING GIRLS’ BASKETBALL

In an effort to provide KHSAA member schools with a more definitive procedure regarding scheduling regular season girls’ “prime date” basketball games, the following policy has been adopted and approved by the KHSAA Board of Control:

“Beginning with the 2007-08 school year, the KHSAA will audit all girls’ regular season basketball schedules (hereinafter “current schedule”). These annual audits will begin with the first legal regular season playing date. Based on that audit, in the case that a school’s total home games for girls’ do not reflect at least 40% of those girl’s home games being played on Friday night, Saturday or Sunday, the following penalty will be in place:
The school’s boys’ regular season total game schedule for the following school year’s basketball season will be reduced by two games in comparison with the current boys’ schedule. The overall two contest reduction must be achieved by reducing boys’ home games.

In the case that a school does not have any home games, the two game penalty will be applied to away games.

In the unfortunate event that this penalty is imposed, the offending school shall consider the game a forfeit with respect to KHSAA Bylaws and must comply with the provisions of Bylaw 24 as it relates to forfeit fees and other penalties, but the game may not be replaced on the offending team’s schedule.

Schools may not schedule or enter additional tournaments from the benchmark year as a means of circumventing the penalties within this policy. The school will be notified of this reduction in their total number of allowable boys’ 2008-09 games by December 31st.

NOTE: It is important that schedules be posted on the KHSAA website accurately and on time. Equally important is the accurate designation and entry of which games are involved in tournaments, classics, festivals and other multi-game events.

Once the first legal playing date audit begins (November 26, 2007 for the 2007-08 season), appeals will not be allowed based on improperly submitted scheduling information and/or untimely posting of schedules.

For Example:
On Monday, November 26, 2007 (first legal playing date for the 2007-08 season) Jones High School’s regular season girls’ basketball schedule reflects they are not playing 40% of their girls’ total number of home games on Friday night, Saturday or Sunday.

During that same 2007-08 season, the boys’ total number of all regular season games played is 23 as defined by Bylaw 25. Within this 23 count, there are 21 single games being played and two tournaments counted in a reduced fashion per the rule. The boys’ team played six regular season home single games.

Due to non-compliance with the 40% requirement for girls’, Jones High School’s total number of allowable boys’ regular season single games (not including or involving the allowable two tournaments that may be counted in a reduced fashion) for the 2008-09 regular season will be reduced to 19. The total allowable number of 2008-09 regular season home games may not exceed four.

Scheduled boy/girl double-headers, at any time during the season, should reflect starting game times, for the girls’ games as follows:

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

KHSAA CHAMPIONSHIP DATES

| March 14-17 | Houckens 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 | Paul Dunbar, Lexington |
| June 8-9 | Fast Pitch Softball | Skyview Park, Jeffersontown |
| June 13-16 | Fifth Third/KHSAA Baseball | Applebee’s Park, Lexington |
FUTURE REGULAR SEASON BASKETBALL SCHEDULING

Several calls have come into the office about scheduling for 2007-2008 and 2008-2009. As has been noticed to the schools on several occasions, and detailed to the basketball coaches at the rules meetings for at least two years, the 2008-2009 season dates include a contraction of the season by one week. The NCAA corresponding date changes along with NFHS changes including their periodic rollover, necessitated a revised corresponding date chart. These dates have been clearly printed in the handbook for the last two years, and are readily available on the KHSAA web site.

For 2007-2008, the following are the comparison and corresponding dates. Please note that in 2008-2009 (and through at least 2010-2011), there are no corresponding dates to the current first playing week. Hence, it is currently labeled Week 0 as it is not always available and adjustment may be needed. Schools scheduling games and attempting to keep games during the same basic week, should go straight across the scheduling line.

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
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<td>2/3-2/9 (32)</td>
<td>2/1-2/7 (31)</td>
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ATHLETIC DIRECTORS CORNER

The awesome Kentucky High School Athletic Directors’ State Conference is May 9 – 11 at the Clarion Hotel in Louisville. If you did not receive information email Jim Watkins at adwatt1@bellsouth.net. Be on the lookout for a reminder of the Leadership Training Program courses that will be taught in conjunction with the conference.

Good luck to teams who progress through the regional and state basketball tournaments!

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SPORTS PUBLIC ADDRESS ANNOUNCERS’ CLINIC

In cooperation with the KHSAA, the National Association of Sports Public Address Announcers (NASPAA), the professional association for sports public address announcers, will be conducting a clinic on April 28, 2007 at Paul Dunbar High School in Lexington. The clinic is for announcers who announce junior high/middle school, high school, college and youth sports. Anyone who would like to learn how to announce, including high school and college students as well as individuals interested in being a substitute announcer is encouraged to attend.

The four-hour clinic (8:00 a.m. 12:00 noon) will cover virtually every aspect of announcing, including sportsmanship and promoting a positive environment, and dealing with emergency situations, all of which have liability implications. Various group activities will also be conducted, providing attendees with practical hands-on experience. Morehead State Announcer Chuck Rist will serve as the lead clinician. Rist has been behind the microphone at Morehead for more than 20 years, and has served the 16th region tournament for the past 8 seasons.

For more details, including costs and what is included in the registration, go to the NASPAA web site at www.naspaa.net.

CHANGES IN OFFICIALS FEES

At the September 2006 Board of Control Meeting the Board approved the following motions effective for the 2007-2008 school year as part of their every-other-four years review of the fee paid to each sport:

- Increase the regular season Baseball officiating fee from a minimum of $42.50 to $46, without any offsetting cuts in mileage by local and regional policy boards, effective with the 2007-08 season.
- Increase the regular season Fast Pitch Softball officiating fee from a minimum of $37.50 to $41.00 without any off-setting cuts in mileage by local and regional policy boards, effective with the 2007-2008 season.
ADDITIONAL MAKE-UP CLINIC
SCHEDULED IN TRACK AND FIELD

Due to several inclement weather postponements, an additional makeup-clinic has been scheduled in Track and Field. The clinic will be conducted at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, March 26, at the KHSAA offices.