



Commissioner's Notes

Participation ♦ Sportsmanship ♦ Integrity

May 2009

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FROM THE COMMISSIONER'S DESK



Hello everyone! The school year is winding down and we are fast approaching all of our spring championships.

As everyone is aware HB 383 was signed into law recently by Governor Steve Beshear. The Bill stipulated that the KHSAA and the Kentucky Department of Education staff coordinate a study of

"sports safety" to be completed no later than October 1, 2009. The *Sports Safety Work Group* has been put together and we hosted the first meeting of this committee at the KHSAA office on Monday May 4, 2009.

Current committee members include the following individuals: KDE members Michael Dailey, Brigitte Combs Stacy, and Darryl Thompson; KHSAA staff members, Commissioner Brigid DeVries and Assistant Commissioner Julian Tackett; KBE members Dorie Combs, Doug Hubbard, and Austin Moss; KHSAA Board members Lonnie Burgett, Dave Weedman, and Lea Prewitt; Warren County Superintendent Dale Brown; KMA members Dr. Pete Bowles, Dr. Michael Miller, Dr. Ben Kibler, and Dr. Philip Hurlley; Anderson County Football Coach Mark Peach; JCPS Director of Athletics and Activities Jerry Wyman; Certified Athletic Trainers, Sheri McNew, Greg Rose, Bob Barton, and Tom Steltenkamp. This committee has begun to work aggressively on this project in order to comply with the timeline of this legislation. Effective for the 2009-10 school year, at least one (1) person who has completed a Sports Safety course, shall be at every high school athletic practice and competition. While this may be a very short window time-wise to get this done, the KMA has really stepped up and have already begun working on the course to be utilized for the 2009-10 school year. The *Sports Safety Work Group* is assisting with this endeavor by reviewing items for inclusion in the Sports Safety Course. In addition this group will be analyzing all of the areas of "sports safety" outlined in the bill.

Once the Sports Safety Course for the 2009-10 school year is completed, you will receive a notice of its' availability on line, including instructions for your coaches so they can begin to complete the course in compliance with this legislation.

We are all hoping for a little more sunny weather and I wish you all a safe and dry spring sports championship season.

SPORTSMANSHIP HONOREES

Congratulations to the following regional winners who were selected and honored at the annual Forcht Group of Kentucky/KHSAA Sportsmanship Recognition Banquet Sunday, April 26. Jasmine Hall from Phelps and Will Barnes from Caldwell County were the statewide winners, each will receive a \$3,000 scholarship from Forcht Group of Kentucky.

Following are Regional winners:

- Region 1: Hannah Ellis (Marshall County), Blake Averill (St. Mary)
- Region 2: Auburn Sutton (Lyon County), Will Barnes (Caldwell County),
- Region 3: Chasity Henning (Breckinridge County), Chad Grubb (Butler County)
- Region 4: Lisa Ross (Warren Central), Joseph Eaton (Monroe County)
- Region 5: Kelsey Robinson (Nelson County), Chris Thomas (Taylor County)
- Region 6: Megan Geary (Brown), Doug Crawford (DeSales)
- Region 7: Avery Jones (DuPont Manual), Nicholas Jones (St. Xavier)
- Region 8: Kristen Guevara (Walton-Verona), Kory Brocius (Carroll County)
- Region 9: Alexa Abner (Newport Central Catholic), Steve Rickels (Holy Cross-Covington)
- Region 10: Bonnie Jo Dailey (Harrison County), Carson Craig (Pendleton County)
- Region 11: Rebekah Hamblin (Sayre), Daniel Griggs (Tates Creek)
- Region 12: Trey Edwards (Lincoln County), Stephanie Salyers (Southwestern)
- Region 13: Candace Kirby (South Laurel), Brian Muffly (Corbin)
- Region 14: Kayla Spencer (Wolfe County), Chris Hoover (Estill County)
- Region 15: Jasmine Hall (Phelps), Dillon Stiltner (Phelps)
- Region 16: Emily Collier (Bath County), Eric Craft (Greenup County).

DAWAHARES/KHSAA HALL OF FAME GOLF CLASSIC

The Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame Golf Classic is scheduled for Tuesday, **June 16** at the Marriott Griffin Gate in Lexington. At the outing the 2010 Hall of Fame induction Class will be introduced.

Anyone interested in participating, may contact Butch Cope at the Association office.

CLARIFICATION ON PERMISSABLE GEAR REMINDER ABOUT OFF SEASON FOOTBALL PRACTICE AND LEGAL EQUIPMENT

Case BL-25-17- What equipment can be worn, what activities can occur, and what restrictions are in place for football practice during the summer period and once official practice begins for the team.

Definitions

- 1) "Helmet-Only" activity is a practice period where only a helmet is worn. During this helmet-only period, no full contact drills or other activity can occur which would result in a player completing a tackle, or being blocked or tackled to the ground.
- 2) "Contact Practice" is practice during the legal period (after the first date of contact as determined in Bylaw 25) when the remainder of the football gear specified in the rule book is worn and activity during the session is not restricted with regard to contact.

The day following the last date of school or June 1, whichever is earlier, through June 24 is a Helmet-Only period.

1) During this period, a football player may wear a helmet during any football specific drill or session that is supervised or attended by any member of the high school coaching staff, but may wear no other gear as defined by NFHS Football Rule 1, Section 5.

2) Member school coaches and other representatives should note that there are no insurance provisions in place at this time.

From June 25 to July 9, no football gear as defined by NFHS Football Rule 1, Section 5 may be issued by a school directly to a player from that school, and the full provisions of the dead period (Bylaw 26) must be observed.

July 10 to the first day of contact is a Helmet-Only period.

1) During this period, a football player may wear a helmet during any football specific drill or session that is supervised or attended by any member of the high school coaching staff, but may wear no other gear as defined by NFHS Football Rule 1, Section 5.

From the first permissible date of contact practice (the earlier of August 1 or seven week days before the start of school) through the conclusion of the season is a Contact Practice Period.

1) Beginning on the first permissible date, all other pads can be worn as defined in Rule 1-5 and full contact practice may begin for all individuals who have previously had five days of supervised non-contact practice in order to become acclimated to heat.

2) Players must have five days out of pads to become acclimated to heat.

3) Beginning with the first permissible date of contact practice, teams cannot conduct multiple contact practice sessions on consecutive days. If multiple contact practices

(up to a maximum of two) are held on a day, then only one contact practice session can be held on the following day.

4) Once full contact practice has begun, there is not a restriction on the number of non-contact practices conducted on any day.

Reminders

1) With the exception of the Dead Period, nothing about these interpretations prevents a school from allowing equipment to be issued to students to attend individual camps at other sites without members of the coaching staff.

2) Nothing about any of the interpretations prevents individual camp attendance by players using school owned equipment outside of the dead period or team camp attendance within the contact window and subject to the scrimmage limitations.

3) Legal, on campus, non-contact, non-interscholastic activity within defined parameters is covered by the KHSAA catastrophic insurance beginning July 15.

4) Any other activity in the summer prior to the first day of contact practice as well as any activity conducted contrary to the equipment and scrimmage is not covered by the KHSAA Catastrophic Insurance Plan.

5) Any activity contradictory to the rules and regulations of the Association (including the interpretations as published), potentially renders all insurance provisions null and void.

SCHOOLS REMINDED OF CRITICAL NEED TO UPDATE INFORMATION

At this time of year, administrators and coaches are changing schools, retiring, moving to other careers, etc. This is a critical time for the KHSAA to keep its information up to date about your school.

If you are an administrator leaving your school, please take the time to update your information one last time by going through the Members Login on the KHSAA web site to update the information as of now.

Much effort has been expended by staff and the member schools over the last year in making sure of the accuracy of the information, and your cooperation is greatly appreciated. If you need password assistance, contact Marilyn Mitchell at the KHSAA (mmitchell@khsaa.org).

FALL SPORTS SCHEDULES DUE

This is a reminder to all schools that Fall Sports Schedules (Volleyball, Boys' & Girls' Soccer and Football) are due to be entered through the KHSAA website by May 15. If you need assistance with schedule entry, please contact Marilyn Mitchell at the KHSAA.

ATHLETIC DIRECTORS CORNER

If you missed the Kentucky High School Athletic Directors' Conference this year, you missed a GREAT ONE! Great fellowship, great food, great Leadership Training Program courses, great workshops and breakout sessions, great facilities and vendors, great fun! Make plans for next year's conference now! The dates are April 20 - 23, 2010 at the Fern Valley Conference Center in Louisville. Look for photos and other information soon on the website - www.khsada.org

If did not receive the latest Athletic Directions electronically, contact Jim Watkins - www.adwatt1@insightbb.com

WELCOME TO MUHLENBERG COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

The KHSAA would like to welcome Muhlenberg County High School as well as bid a fond thank you to North and South Muhlenberg's membership. These schools will consolidate to form Muhlenberg County High School beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, and be immediately eligible for postseason play.

Muhlenberg County will compete in the following sports –
Baseball (District 10, Region 3)
Basketball (District 10, Region 3)
Cross Country (Class 3A, Region 1)
Football (Class 6A, District Region 1)
Golf (Boys Region 2, Girls Region 2)
Soccer (District 7)
Swimming (Region 1)
Fast Pitch Softball (District 10, Region 3)
Tennis (Region 3)
Track (Class 3A, Region 1)
Volleyball (District 10, Region 3)

REMAINING KHSAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

May 21-23	Boys' & Girls' Tennis	UK Boone/Downing Complex, Lexington
May 22-23	Boys' & Girls' Track	U of L Owsley Frazier Park, Louisville
June 5-6	Fast Pitch Softball	Jack Fisher Park, Owensboro
June 11-13	Forcht Bank/KHSAA Baseball	Applebee's Park, Lexington

CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN MOVES TO FULL MEMBERSHIP

Congratulations to Cornerstone Christian Academy (CCA) in Shelbyville. CCA has been a probationary member for the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 school years, and will be a full member in 2009-2010 and eligible for postseason play in KHSAA events.

CCA currently fields teams in boys' and girls' basketball, boys' and girls' cross country, boys' soccer, and boys' and girls' track. CCA will be (provided that will enter a team in postseason play) placed in District 30 in basketball, Class 1A, Region 5 in cross country and track; and District 16 in soccer.

The Athletic Director, Kim Wuich, can assist schools in differing alignments in working them into the schedule for any required seeded games and can be reached at the school phone, 502-633-4070.