



Commissioner's Notes

Participation ♦ Sportsmanship ♦ Integrity

November 2008

PLEASE COPY AND DISTRIBUTE TO ALL ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

FROM THE COMMISSIONER'S DESK



Hello everyone! It's hard to believe that another state championship event has come and gone. Bellarmine was the host site for our State Volleyball Tournament this year and it was an outstanding event. We had several firsts with this year's tournament. Assistant Commissioner, Butch Cope managed his first State Volleyball Tournament. We had a tie in

with breast cancer awareness with our *Pass-Pink-Cure!* initiative which was a big hit. Pink was the color of the day with the tournament staff, workers and officials decked out in pink throughout the tournament. The fans showed their support by using pink shakers in the stands. For the first time we televised, the semi-final and championship match on Insight Cable Network, which was aired on a delayed basis. Will Engle of the AVCA along with Mitzi Donhoff from the KVCA coordinated an awards program in conjunction with the tournament honoring the 16 regional coaches and players of the year. Also, for the first time we had a sellout crowd for the Championship Match.

High school volleyball has really grown since it began in 1979 with about 65 schools participating. In those days there were only two areas of the state involved and they were from northern Kentucky and Louisville. There appears to be a lot of interest at the high school level with 250 schools participating this year. I can honestly say that all areas of the state are represented with high school volleyball participation, and the skill level has improved greatly since 1979.

November is an important month and in particular this year, with the presidential election looming large. Here's hoping you feel the way I do, and that regardless of whether your preferred presidential candidate won or lost, we all need to continue to be grateful to be American's, and be a part of this important process.

State Soccer and Cross Country are around the corner. I hope to see you at one of these events if not before, and have a Happy Thanksgiving!

TITLE IX WORKSHOP DATES

The KHSAA has set Thursday November 20, 2008 and Wednesday December 3, 2008 as the dates for the Title IX Workshops for the 2008-2009 school year. The November workshop will take place at Madisonville Community College from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. CST. The December workshop will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Lexington from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

GOLF FIRST CONTEST DATE 2009

This is a reminder to all administrators and golf coaches regarding the first playing date for the 2009 golf season. As many of you are scheduling for the 2009 playing season, we have received calls regarding an earlier start date. The first golf contest may take place beginning August 3, 2009 as printed in the KHSAA Event Calendar and in the corresponding dates section of the Handbook. Last year the KHSAA Board of Control approved a three day earlier start time due to course availability with regard to the Ryder Cup. This was a one time exception with the understanding of returning to the corresponding date start of season in 2009.

BASKETBALL SCHEDULING

Bylaw 25 addresses the method of counting basketball games against the limit. In summary, here is the rule.

Each team may count a maximum of two tournaments as one game each in a "shortcut fashion" (where each and every game doesn't have to be counted against the limit of games) provided that a school plays no more than four games in any one tournament;

Each game in any tournament beyond the limit of four games shall be counted against the limit of games;

The total game limit (including two tournament shortcuts) is 23 games. This could be 21 single games and two "shortcut" tournaments (where neither tournament has a team playing more than four games), 22 single games and one shortcut tournament (where a team doesn't play more than four in that tournament) or it could be 23 single games;

There is no limit to the number of tournaments that can be entered by a team, but only two may be counted in a "shortcut" fashion, all other contests must be counted game for game.

No member school shall play more than twenty-three (23) basketball games during the regular season. A maximum of two (2) tournaments may be included in any manner other than counting each game played against the limit of twenty-three (23) games. Any two tournaments played during the regular season may be counted as one game per tournament against the limit of twenty-three (23) provided that neither tournament necessitates the team playing more than four (4) games. Any game played over the limit of four in any one tournament shall be counted against the limit of twenty-three (23) games.

Please feel free to contact KHSAA staff if you have questions regarding clarifications on the counting of contests.

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 was adopted and approved by the KHSAA Board of Control:

"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' 2009-10 games by December 31, 2008.

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 (December 1, 2008 for the 2008-09 season), appeals will not be allowed based on improperly submitted scheduling information and/or untimely posting of schedules.

For Example:

On Monday, December 1, 2008 (first legal playing date for the 2008-09 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 2008-09 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 2009-10 regular season will be reduced to 19. The total allowable number of 2009-10 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)

ATHLETIC DIRECTORS CORNER

The National Conference of Athletic Directors is in San Diego, December 13 – 16. Log onto www.nfhs.org for registration information.

If you have not yet joined the Kentucky High School Athletic Directors' Association or if you need to renew your membership contact Mitchell.irvin@oldham.kyschools.us

Visit our website www.khsada.org for state organization information.

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 **1-800-453-6882** and is toll free.

While it is a Board policy that the membership cooperate with the data collection on the scoreboard or be subject to penalty, it has been proven by the membership time and again that they desire to voluntarily cooperate with this project.

SANCTION CLARIFICATION

The following is a reminder on the requirements for sanctioning contests for KHSAA member schools. The KHSAA requires member schools to participate only in sanctioned athletic events. Many are unaware or confused about just what the term *sanctioned* means. The following is an attempt to explain.

Regular season single contests conducted by, and between, local school systems in Kentucky and made within the Constitution and Bylaws of the KHSAA and for which an outside organizations does not derive a profit from ticket sales. are considered to be sanctioned. The same is true about post season tournaments conducted by the KHSAA for the purpose of awarding a district, region, section, sub section, semi state and/or state championship. In the case of multi-team tournaments or events held during the sports season, the KHSAA is authorized to review the particulars to determine if members are allowed to participate. That determination is made upon review of how the tournament/event format relates to the Constitution and Bylaws. Contests that fall within the Constitution Article VIII are to be approved by the KHSAA for participation by member schools. In the case of teams that are invited from several states, it then becomes incumbent on each state to rule on the eligibility of schools from their particular state.

Part of the reason for emphasis in this area concerns monitoring compliance with Bylaw 23. The relevant portion of Bylaw 23 states "No member school shall take part in any tournament, game, or contest from which any outside organization derives a financial profit from ticket sales. For this reason, KHSAA schools must be very careful about entering an event and not complying with all sanctioning rules.

One of the most commonly asked questions about sanctioning is: "Why?" Sanctioning provides an assurance to schools that the students will not be exploited. While the vast majority of tournaments provide wholesome competition in an educational setting, there have been abuses, especially in some of the high profile tournaments. In some of those tournaments, large amounts of money are made due to high school athletes. Many times, these events are wrapped in the cloth of sweet charity, yet promoters pocket large administrative fees. There have also been cases where schools are promised accommodations and meals, only to have them disappear once they arrive on site. This has happened to some teams, while other schools received preferential treatment at the same event.

The role of the KHSAA in this process is not only to handle administrative approval within the Constitution and protect schools from violations, but to protect the very fiber of school based amateur competition. Questions on process and forms should be directed to Marilyn Mitchell, mmitchell@khsaa.org. Bylaw and specific allowances may be directed to the Assistant Commissioner with

responsibility over the sport or to Commissioner Brigid DeVries.

2008-2009 WINTER 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.

BASKETBALL

11/12 Lexington, KHSAA Office, Make-up (\$75 Fine), 7:00 p.m.

SWIMMING & DIVING

11/10 Lexington, KHSAA Office,
Make-Up Clinic (\$75 Fine), 1:30 p.m.

REMAINING KHSAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

| | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Nov. 5-6, 8 | Boys' & Girls' Soccer | Toyota Stadium, Georgetown |
| Nov. 15 | Boys' & Girls' Cross Country | Ky. Horse Park, Lexington |
| Dec. 12-13 | Football | Papa John's Cardinal Stadium, Louisville |
| Feb. 13-14 | Swimming | U of L Ralph Wright Natatorium, Louisville |
| Feb. 19-21 | Wrestling | Frankfort Convention Center, Frankfort |
| March 11-14 | Houchens/KHSAA Girls' Basketball | WKU Diddle Arena, Bowling Green |
| March 18-21 | National City/KHSAA Boys' Basketball | Rupp Arena, Lexington |
| 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 |

OPEN GYM/OPEN FIELD RULE

Case BL-25-5– What are the restrictions for a coach being involved in coaching of his/her own players during the school year before the first legal practice date, after the last date for playing a contest?

The provisions of that rule state that during the school year and prior to the first legal practice date, there shall be no practice or play as a team or individuals under the instruction, direction or teaching of a member of the coaching staff.

Specific practice and play dates are in place for each sport, and the interpretative season is the academic school year as far as coaching limitations. This limit on coaching involvement BEGINS ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL AND ends on the earlier of the day following the last day of school or May 31. The Limitation of Seasons, Bylaw 25, affects all sports. This restricts the coach in any sport from being involved coaching students in another team from that sport from that school. For example, the girls' coach cannot coach the boys' team in outside competition, or vice-versa. In addition, during this restricted period, the high school coach cannot coach athletes in an alternative format of the sport (i.e. 3 on 3 basketball, Greco or freestyle wrestling, select soccer, etc.)

The provisions of that rule state that following the team's last regular season contest, there shall be no further practice or play as a team or individuals under the instruction, direction or teaching of a member of the coaching staff for the remainder of the school year or until after May 31, whichever is earlier, with the exception of practice and play for the KHSAA tournament. The published exception to this restriction is that the team and coaches may continue to practice through elimination from KHSAA sanctioned post-season play.

Coaching is defined as any activity by the coach at any time the athletes are participating in that coach's sport in a setting in which skills are taught, refined, or practiced. Coincident participation by a coach and an athlete in a sport such as a golf outing, where the coach and athlete(s) are not entered as a entry or group, or in an activity such as distance running with many runners and yet no direct coaching, would not specifically be considered coaching. It would however, be a violation of the Limitation of Seasons if the coach provided entry information relative to outside competition in which he/she was also a participant, encouraged or required student-athlete participation in these outside events; or if any school funds were expended (i.e. transportation provided, entry fees paid, uniforms worn, etc.) It would also be a violation during this time for the coach to utilize players from his/her team while instructing or evaluating others in camps, clinics, combines or other sport-specific activities in the coach's sport.

Coaches resigning, retiring or being otherwise relieved of coaching following a sports season who then coach competitors from that school in outside preparation or

competition in that sport during the school year or dead period would render themselves ineligible to be rehired the following year to coach a team at that school in that sport regardless of a change in employment status. A coach resigning, retiring or being otherwise relieved of coaching following a sports season does not relieve himself/herself of the responsibilities such as medical symposium attendance if in fact that are rehired for the following year.

Coaches may not coach the school participants in organized non-school sports competition in that sport during the school year in that sport. The high school coach or any assistant coach (paid or unpaid) may not coach members of the high school team in a league outside of the school's regular season competition during the school year, regardless of the type of league. It would also be a violation during this time for the coach to utilize players from his/her team while instructing or evaluating others in camps, clinics, combines or other sport-specific activities in the coach's sport.

The following activities are restricted during the school year prior to the first day of practice regardless of the specific situation"

1) Except during the particular sports defined season as stipulated in KHSAA Bylaw 25, no coach in a sport may "coach" a student-athlete in any setting within the high school (grades 9-12), if that student-athlete has previously represented the high school (varsity, jv, or freshman) and if sports specific skills are being taught, refined, developed or evaluated.

2) This restriction includes all members of the athletic staff, paid or unpaid, but does not restrict supervisory duties assigned by the building Principal during activities governed by local school. assignments This restriction also prohibits the delegation or assignment of activities by any member of the coaching staff to other individuals, including student-athletes who may or may not be participating.

3) Supervisory activities outside the local school are not the jurisdiction of the Association, however all coaching restrictions are in effect whether the activity is conducted within, or outside of, the school.

4) From the first day of school through the first legal practice (for winter and spring sports) and from the day following the elimination of a team from KHSAA sanctioned postseason play through the end of the school year, no coach in a sport may "coach" a student-athlete in any setting within the high school (grades 9-12), or outside the school, if that student-athlete has previously represented the high school at any level in that sport and if sports specific skills are being taught, refined, developed or evaluated.

5) There is no insurance coverage (catastrophic medical or other) expressed or implied by the KHSAA for any athletic session in any sport outside of the practice and play periods as defined by Bylaw 25.

6) No activity during the school year, outside of the defined sports season, may be required for the student-athlete in that particular sport. There may be no penalties assessed, expressed or implied for non-participation during that period by a student-athlete.

7) There may be no organized activity (where sports specific skills are being taught, refined, developed or evaluated) that is restricted solely to the members or prospective members of any sports team. It is a violation during this time for the coach to utilize players from his/her team while instructing or evaluating others in camps, clinics, combines or other sport-specific activities in the coach's sport.

8) All other restrictions related to the scheduling, composition, pool of available personnel, and other logistical arrangements are the jurisdiction of the building Principal for any activity held within that local school facility, in compliance with Bylaw 1 of the Association.

9) No activity outside the defined Limitation of Seasons for a specific sport may be mandatory for student-athletes.

Case BL-25-6- Are there restrictions on activities by a team or team members during the school year outside of the defined Limitation of Seasons based on the number participating together?

Yes, the following activities are also restricted during the school year prior to the first day of practice if the activities are sport specific and a majority of the participants on a team or squad are from the same high school (one half of the normal playing unit):

1) A school, group of school representatives, and/or school or team-related booster group may not pay the entry fee for a team into a league or tournament;

2) A school, group of school representatives, and/or school or team-related booster group may not pay other necessary fees including umpire payment and game or facility management;

3) A school, group of school representatives, and/or school or team-related booster group may not provide or fund transportation for team members to go to games, or tournaments;

4) School issued or school identifying apparel, including sleeves, jerseys, pants, catching gear or hats may not be worn by players who have represented the school at any time at any level;

5) The school facility may not be used for organized competition at which the school's students are participants and for which no rental/lease arrangement exists using comparable regional fair market values;

6) The school facility may not be used for organized competition at which the school's students are participants and at which members of the high school coaching staff are involved in coaching, facility management and preparation, or umpiring/officiating;

7) The school nickname or school name may not be used on school issued or non-school issued apparel;

8) The coaching staff may not be involved in making game-like preparations for the school facility including but not limited to, baseline marking, outfield line marking, batter's box marking, maintenance of the mound and base cut-outs;

or use of school facilities and/or equipment for such setup. This does not preclude the coaching staff or others participating in non-sports specific off-season turf and facility maintenance.