



Commissioner's Notes

Participation ♦ Sportsmanship ♦ Integrity

August 2009

PLEASE COPY AND DISTRIBUTE TO ALL ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

FROM THE COMMISSIONER'S DESK



Hello everyone! It's time for a new school year to begin!

It was great to host the 150 plus high school principals, superintendents and other high school administrators in our building for the annual Administrators' Workshop on August 4th. It's always great to have the opportunity to meet with new

school administrators, and also have the opportunity to share information and visit with those who are returning to school districts after the summer break.

As I mentioned in the July C-notes the Constitution and Bylaws were approved by the Interim Joint Committee on Education at their July 13, 2009 and are in effect for the 2009-10 school year.

We are currently working to complete the 2009-10 KHSAA Handbook which includes those changes and can be printed and sent out to each high school Principal, Athletic Director and Superintendent. In the interim a copy of the Constitution, Bylaws and changes for this year are included in this mailing for your use until the new Handbook is sent to you at a later date.

School personnel are to be congratulated for their efforts to date in getting their coaches and other athletic personnel to complete the new on line Sports Safety Course. Over 5400 individuals have taken the course, which is remarkable and a credit to KHSAA member school personnel for taking the initiative to get it done in a timely fashion.

Our required Regional Principals Meetings begin next week and we look forward to getting out and visiting with many of you on-site at your schools. The location and times for these important meetings are listed in this edition of the C-notes and are also included on the KHSAA Events Calendar and Website.

Let's all have a great school year!

REPORTING OF SCORES TO SCOREBOARD

Remember to call in scores to the Scoreboard, 1-800-453-6882 at the completion of contests. Scoreboards are maintained in the fall sports of Volleyball, Boys' and Girls' Soccer and Football. If you have results from any fall sport, superlative performance or other note of news, you may submit that via e-mail to emay@khsaa.org for inclusion in the KHSAA weekly news release.

MEMBER SCHOOLS REMINDED ABOUT HEAT INDEX REQUIREMENT

The submission of the Heat Index Forms by each school participating in a fall sport is REQUIRED. The form, GE20, is to be maintained by each fall sports team on every day that a practice of any type is held. The form is available on the KHSAA web site, <http://www.khsaa.org/forms/ge20.pdf> or <http://www.khsaa.org/forms/ge20.doc>. The form and the chart are again enclosed in this mailing. Schools issuing equipment for use during the summer are reminded that the Heat Index provisions and restrictions are in place anytime school equipment is issued.

Complete information about the heat index plan and the manner in which data is to be collected can be found on the KHSAA web site, <http://www.khsaa.org> and then pull down the KMA/KHSAA Heat Information near the bottom of the page. The most important single document is the temperature chart, which allows for you to enter the temperature at the site of practice/play and the humidity, and it gives you the heat index. It is from that index that the determination must be made as to the removal of any equipment or the cessation of practice or play.

REQUIRED PRINCIPAL'S MEETINGS SCHEDULED

The required Principal's workshops have been scheduled for the 2009-2010 school year. Attendance at one of these workshops is mandatory for the Principal of each KHSAA member school, or a designated individual holding Principal's certification. There will be four regularly scheduled, regionally distributed meetings, in addition to the Athletic Administrators Workshop in August. In addition, through the outstanding cooperation of the conference organizers, we will also hold one of these meetings in conjunction with the KASSP Fall Conference.

The schedule for 2009-2010 will be:

- 8/11 Independence, Simon Kenton HS, 1:30 p.m.
- 8/13 Allen County-Scottsville 1:30 p.m.
- 8/18 Mt. Vernon, Rockcastle County HS, 1:30 p.m.
- 8/20 Pikeville, Pikeville HS, 1:30 p.m.
- 9/10 Louisville, Southern HS, 1:30 p.m.
- 10/15 Lake Barkley State Resort Park, 1:30 p.m..
- 11/5 Lexington, (in conjunction with KASSP Fall Conference, Marriott Griffin Gate, 9:00 a.m.)

p.m.

Registration information will be emailed to Principals, Athletic Directors and Superintendents in August with registration details.

REVISED INTERPRETATION CONCERNING BYLAW 25 ISSUED FOR INDIVIDUAL SPORTS (GOLF, CROSS COUNTRY, SWIMMING, WRESTLING, TENNIS, TRACK AND FIELD)

Bylaw 25, the Limitation of Seasons, clearly defines what is legal during the school year and in some cases, after the school year is complete. The details of what is allowed in the off-season (i.e. in the fall before practice starts in winter or spring sports, in the spring after the end of fall sports, etc.) have been spelled out by interpretation in the Case Situations and are a result of interpretation by the Commissioner.

In consultation with the Board of Control, and following lengthy discussions with staff and representatives of member schools, revisions are being made as to what is allowed by coaches in individual sports during the non-Bylaw 25 periods. A thorough review of possible ramifications has been done by staff and the Board. Member school personnel have expressed concern in these sports as it relates to getting qualified coaches for the high school team due to regulations that restricted those who were involved in outside competition and play (including instruction and lessons) in these sports. These interpretations supersede all previously published interpretations and are in effect as of July 15, 2009. These interpretations DO NOT AFFECT the team sports of volleyball, soccer, football, basketball, baseball or fast pitch softball. School representatives must be very mindful of the provisions in Case Situation BL-25-7 (formerly BL-25-6) to be sure violations do not occur.

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 in baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball and volleyball?

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

Specific practice and participation 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 in baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball and volleyball. The Limitation of Seasons, Bylaw 25, affects all sports, however the out of season restrictions specifically limit coaches in baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball and volleyball. 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 alternate format of the sport (i.e. 3 on 3 basketball).

The provisions of the 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 in baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball and volleyball

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 (NEW)– 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 in the sports of Cross Country, Golf, Swimming, Wrestling, Tennis and Track?

Specific practice and participation 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. However, it is recognized that the very nature of the "individual sports" (i.e. Cross Country, Golf, Swimming, Wrestling, Tennis and Track and Field) is such that participation by individuals may continue during the year and have minimal impact on participation in other sports. 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. In the "individual sports" as detailed above, coaching is permitted in the non-season period provided the following provisions are met:

1) Participation may not be required of any student-athlete in any sport specific event outside the limitation of seasons during the school year. There may be no penalties assessed, expressed or implied for non-participation during that period by a student-athlete.;

2) School funds may not be expended (i.e. transportation provided, entry fees paid, uniforms worn, etc.);

3) Coaches must ensure that all representatives of the student-athletes, including parents, are aware that this outside season participation is optional and therefore, the KHSAA Catastrophic Insurance plan is not in effect.

4) 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 at a particular local school facility, in compliance with Bylaw 1 of the Association.

Case BL-25-7 (formerly CS 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 in the sports of baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball and volleyball?

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 in baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball and volleyball 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 in baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball and volleyball 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 in baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball and volleyball 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.

FINANCIAL AID RESTRICTIONS AND BYLAW 13 REMINDER

This is a reminder to all schools about KHSAA Bylaw 13. This bylaw (originally passed as Bylaw 7), originated from a bipartisan proposal between the public and non-public members of the KHSAA as a means codify past interpretations regarding financial aid. This proposal, originally written by the non-public members of the KHSAA, limits the ability of a student-athlete to participate if the accept merit or need-based aid in excess or prescribed limits.

Merit Aid is that aid given based on academic/test performance and may not include any athletic criteria. In addition, merit aid awards must be available to the entire student body (i.e. all of the graduating 8th graders at the same school or in the same school system), based on a standard test (i.e. the High School Placement or ACT tests have been used), and are limited in terms of the total award to twenty-five percent of the tuition at the member school.

Need Based Aid is that given based on analysis by one of six approved agencies, where the family income and other records are analyzed to determine the amount of aid that can be received by the student, compared with the total tuition and fees.

In the case of either type of aid, all must be under the care, custody and control of the school system, and aid may not be received directly from outside sources.

For a complete review of the Bylaw, see <http://www.khsaa.org/handbook/bylaws/bylaw13.pdf>

PENALTIES REVISED FOR DISQUALIFIED ADULTS, STUDENTS

Effective immediately, the penalty for an adult or student, under the jurisdiction of the game officials, who is ejected from a game has been revised. The purpose of the changes are two-fold. First, the Star Sportsmanship program (www.starsportsmanship.com) has been integrated into the penalty phase of this rule in order to offer personal development and remediation in the event of ejections. The second purpose of the changes is to continue to emphasize and reiterate the need for the conduct of adult coaches and other adults association with the team to model the behavior expected of the student-athletes.

For an adult ejection (coach, assistant coach, or other adult present with the team or in the team area), the minimum penalty will be the next two regular season contests. The suspension may be extended based on the act by the ejected party. The second ejection during the same season will result in a minimum penalty of an additional two contest suspension, and a third suspension in the same season will result in suspension for the remainder of the regular and postseason. In addition, all ejected adult coaches or other team representatives shall complete the Star Sportsmanship program online within seven (7) days in order to again become eligible to coach during that season. If an ejected adult (non player) fails to complete the program within the requisite seven (7) days, the adult (non player) shall be suspended a minimum of one additional contest and the suspension shall then continue through the completion of the course.

For the ejection of a student-athlete, the minimum penalty will be the next regular season contest as in the past. The suspension may be extended based on the act by the ejected party. The second ejection during the same season will result in a minimum penalty of an additional two contest suspension, and a third suspension in the same season will result in suspension for the remainder of the regular and postseason. In addition, all student-athletes who are ejected shall complete the Star Sportsmanship program online prior to end of the regular season schedule. If a student-athlete fails to complete the program prior to the end of the regular season shall not be eligible for postseason competition.

HYPE STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Information for this year's HYPE Student Leadership Conference has been posted on the website. The Conference will be Wednesday, August 26 at The Lexington Center. Application deadline is Friday August 21.

TRANSFER FORM INFORMATION

July through October is one of the busiest times of the year for processing domestic and non-domestic student eligibility forms GE06 & GE07 (Transfer Forms) coming into the KHSAA office.

We appreciate your assistance in helping with the transfer process so we can provide you with rulings in a timely manner:

Transfer forms for the 2009-2010 school year can be downloaded from our website (www.khsaa.org, forms, general forms, GE6 [domestic] & GE7 [foreign exchange]). (Outdated transfer forms will be returned)

Review the transfer form and make sure the form is completely filled out by the sending and receiving school (Incomplete forms will be returned to the receiving school)

Include an accurate enrollment date (Postdated enrollment dates cannot be processed and will be returned to the receiving school)

Allow one week from the date you mail the form to the KHSAA before calling the office to check on the status (School personnel will receive priority)

Inform parents that all communications regarding the transfer status should be between them and the school (Not the KHSAA)

FAXed transfers are not accepted

Hand-delivered transfers are not accepted

Transfer forms must be signed ONLY by the principal or the designated representative (If signed by someone else, they will be returned)

All forms must have original signatures (no typed or scanned signatures)

If the previous residence is for sale, please provide backup documentation

If there has been a change of custody, please include a copy of the court ordered documents with the transfer Do not use a Post Office Box for either the sending or receiving school address

If questions #1 & #2 on page 2 are checked "NO" (student has never played in a varsity contest in any sport), the transfer form does not need to be sent to the KHSAA for processing. It should, however, be kept on file at the school

Foreign exchange transfers will be returned if they do not include the following paperwork, in addition to the GE7 transfer form:

Copy of the student VISA (must be the VISA, not a copy of the passport)

Copy of the J-1 Certificate of Eligibility For Exchange Visitor Status Form (DS-2019) Prepared by the Agency per the Guidelines of the US Department of State (must be the DS-2019 and not the stamp on the VISA)

Copy of the Financial Information Verification translated into English, verifying lines 26 and 29.

(This should be on the agency letterhead and include any verification that all fees (and those amounts must be listed) were paid by the natural parents for participation in the exchange program.)

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions about the transfer or appeal process, please contact Darlene Koszenski (Administrative Assistant to Commissioner Brigid L. DeVries) or Assistant Commissioner Darren Bilberry at 859-299-5472.

ATHLETIC DIRECTORS CORNER

Welcome back to school! Most of you are already on the job and gearing up for fall sports scrimmages and competitions. Good luck in the upcoming season!

If you would like to join the Kentucky High School Athletic Directors' Association, please contact Mitchell Irvin – Mitchell.irvin@oldham.kyschools.us.

The Conference Planning Committee will meet on September 28. If you have ideas or suggestions for the 2010 State Conference, please contact Jim Watkins – adwatt1@insightbb.com.

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 August 15, 2009 at the KHSAA office 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. University of Kentucky announcer Carl Nathe will serve as the lead clinician.

For more details, including costs and what is included in the registration, go to the "Hot News" link on the KHSAA website at www.khsaa.org or the NASPAA web site at www.naspaa.net.

2009 REMAINING FALL 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. ALL TIMES ARE LOCAL.

REMAINING CLINICS

Cross Country

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

8/7 to 8/31, for 2009-2010, the Cross Country Clinic will be online for makeup only and may be viewed by coaches and officials for the makeup fee (\$75) during this period

9/1 to 9/30, for 2009-2010, the Cross Country Clinic will be online for makeup only and may be viewed by coaches and officials for the makeup fee (\$300) per the Bylaw 33 schedule during this period. After this time, postseason penalties per Bylaw 33 will apply.

Football

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

8/7 to 8/31, for 2009-2010, the Football Clinic will be online for makeup only and may be viewed by coaches and officials for the makeup fee (\$75) during this period

9/1 to 9/30, for 2009-2010, the Football Clinic will be online for makeup only and may be viewed by coaches and officials for the makeup fee (\$300) per the Bylaw 33 schedule during this period. After this time, postseason penalties per Bylaw 33 will apply.

Golf

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

8/18, London, South Laurel HS

8/20, Paintsville, Johnson Central HS

8/27, Independence, Simon Kenton HS

8/28 to 8/31, for 2009-2010, the Golf Clinic will be online for makeup only and may be viewed by coaches and officials for the makeup fee (\$75) during this period

9/1 to 9/11, for 2009-2010, the Golf Clinic will be online for makeup only and may be viewed by coaches and officials for the makeup fee (\$300) per the Bylaw 33 schedule during this period. After this time, postseason penalties per Bylaw 33 will apply.

Soccer

(All Times are 7:00 p.m. local, unless noted otherwise)

8/10, Lexington, Bryan Station HS

8/11 to 8/31, for 2009-2010, the Soccer Clinic will be online for makeup only and may be viewed by coaches and officials for the makeup fee (\$75) during this period

9/1 to 9/30, for 2009-2010, the Soccer Clinic will be online for makeup only and may be viewed by coaches and officials for the makeup fee (\$300) per the Bylaw 33 schedule during this period. After this time, postseason penalties per Bylaw 33 will apply.

Volleyball

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

8/5, London, South Laurel HS

8/10, Paintsville, Johnson Central HS

8/11 to 8/31, for 2009-2010, the Volleyball Clinic will be online for makeup only and may be viewed by coaches and officials for the makeup fee (\$75) during this period

9/1 to 9/30, for 2009-2010, the Volleyball Clinic will be online for makeup only and may be viewed by coaches and officials for the makeup fee (\$300) per the Bylaw 33 schedule during this period. After this time, postseason penalties per Bylaw 33 will apply.

2009-2010 KHSAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Oct. 5-7	Leachman Buick GMC-KHSAA Boys' Golf	Bowling Green Country Club
Oct. 8-10	Leachman Buick GMC-KHSAA Girls' Golf	Bowling Green Country Club
Oct. 30-31	Girls' Volleyball	Regents Hall, NKU Highland Heights
Nov. 4-5, 7	Boys' & Girls' Soccer	Toyota Stadium, Georgetown
Nov. 14	Boys' & Girls' Cross Country	Ky. Horse Park, Lexington
Dec. 4-5	Football	LT Smith Stadium, WKU Bowling Green
Feb. 12-13	Pannell Swim Shop Swimming	U of L Ralph Wright Natatorium, Louisville
Feb. 18-20	Wrestling	Frankfort Convention Center, Frankfort
March 10-13	Houchens/KHSAA Girls' Basketball	WKU Diddle Arena, Bowling Green
March 17-20	PNC/KHSAA Boys' Basketball	Rupp Arena, Lexington
May 27-29	Boys' & Girls' Tennis	UK Boone/Downing Complex, Lexington
June 4-5	Boys' & Girls' Track	U of L Owsley Frazier Park, Louisville
June 11-12	Fast Pitch Softball	Jack Fisher Park, Owensboro
June 14-19	Forcht Bank/KHSAA Baseball	Applebee's Park, Lexington