



Commissioner's Notes

February 2012



A monthly newsletter from Commissioner Julian Tackett, Kentucky High School Athletic Association, 2280 Executive Drive, Lexington, Kentucky 40505 859-299-5472 • www.khsaa.org

Just to prove we are never as smart as we think we are, athletic directors and coaches throughout the state keep one eye on their team and the other on the calendar, planning for every possible contingency once the nasty January weather rolls in. After the past three years such planning would be a smart bet but so far this year we have received a break from Mother Nature. Let me stress the words 'so far.'

This also seems like a perfect metaphor for coaches who are attempting to put the finishing touches on a memorable season, whether it's the high hopes for postseason success or the scrawny group of undersized youngsters that have learned how to play the game. Nothing comes together without a plan. No matter what we think might happen, we plan because it's the closest thing we can create to an instruction manual for life's events. Everybody plans, even if they say they don't or even if they detest the idea of a regimented schedule.

Coaches plan every practice and every scenario that might happen throughout a contest. How confident would anyone be in the closing seconds of a game if the coach looked at the players and said, "Take the ball out and see what happens?" Administrators also plan, from attendance projections all the way down to fuel for the district's buses.

The Association is no different. For example, this year's state wrestling championships move to a new venue, Alltech Arena at the Kentucky Horse Park. Rob Minerich and the great folks at the Frankfort Convention Center set the bar incredibly high and we want to continue that tradition. We have spent countless hours on planning, as well as many visits to the arena to get an idea of how to best approach this event. While it might be impossible to account for everything, it's essential that we try. Remember, in football the Hail Mary is a great play when it succeeds, but it shouldn't be the cornerstone of the offense.

We encourage everyone to come out and support our state's wrestlers, swimmers and divers this month. The KHSAA State Wrestling Championships are Feb. 17-18, while the Pannell Swim Shop/KHSAA State Swimming and Diving Championships are Feb. 23-25 at the Ralph Wright Natatorium in Louisville.

And, as always, not only do we appreciate your attendance but we also appreciate your feedback.

HELP RECOGNIZE ATHLETIC TRAINERS MONTH!

All of us are aware of the many pieces of the puzzle that are necessary to have a successful athletic event. I want to make sure that as you set up medical coverage for all postseason events, that you get a Certified Athletic Trainer to provide coverage. It would be a great solution if you had one available every practice and competition, but that is something for which you must determine feasibility. March is National Athletic



Training month. Consider asking your games announcers to make announcements that support this profession. A copy of sample announcements are attached to this month's issue. If any of the fine folks from the Kentucky Athletic Trainers Society can be of help, please give them a call!

PNC FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION ONLINE

Applications for the 2012 PNC Foundation Sweet 16® scholarships are now available on the KHSAA web site. The PNC Foundation will be awarding 32 one-time \$1,000 scholarships to one boy and one girl from each of the state's 16 regions. The scholarship is open to any senior student-athletes who participated in any KHSAA sanctioned sport (including cheer). Scholarships will be based on excellence in three areas - academic achievement, leadership and school and community service.

For an application, please visit the KHSAA web site at <http://www.khsaa.org/forms/bk148.pdf>

The application process will remain open until Friday, Feb. 24.

KHSAA LOOKING FOR ANTHEM SINGERS

In preparation for the 2012 Houchens Industries/KHSAA Sweet 16® Girls State Basketball Tournament and the PNC/KHSAA Sweet 16® Boys State Basketball Tournament, the KHSAA is seeking students to sing the national anthem before each session.

If you have a student or small group (less than 12) who

would be capable of performing in front of a large audience while representing your school, please contact Darren Bilberry or Phyllis Sallee and submit a sample of their previous anthem performance.

SPORT UPDATES

Baseball, Softball, Tennis and Track

Rules clinics are now online and free through the end of February. Beginning March 1, there is a late make-up fine of \$100. Please make sure you take advantage of this open window. The rules clinic is currently only required by the Head Coach and he must be logged in to received credit. The use of some other coach or administrator's e-mail is not permitted and credit will not be received.

Basketball

As the postseason approaches, we remind schools to update their basketball rosters on the school's page of the website. These rosters will be used as your postseason eligibility list.

Bowling

Information about the regional tournaments has been posted on the website. This includes postseason sites and dates, as well as postseason instructions. The Ebonite/KHSAA State Bowling Tournament will be March 22 and 23 (Thursday and Friday) at Executive Bowl in Louisville.

Cheer

This reminder to all administrators that cheer coaches are required to adhere to all Bylaw 27 requirements, including the online sports safety course. Please make sure your staff has completed all requirements withing the bylaw. Coaches failing to complete all requirements will not be eligible to coach at the KAPOS State Event and could face penalties within Bylaw 33 for non-compliance.

Soccer

Don't forget you should have your "new" district coaches meeting by the March 1 deadline. You must submit new site selection plans and seeding policies to the KHSAA.

Swimming & Diving

Regional events have been held and the 2012 Pannell Swim Shop/KHSAA State Swimming & Diving Championships will be contested on Feb. 23-25 at the Ralph Wright Natatorium on the campus of the University of Louisville. The diving preliminaries only will be held on Thursday, with the swimming events taking place on Friday. Both swimming and diving final events will take place on Saturday.

Track

State tournament dates - Class 1A Thursday, May 17; Class 2A Friday, May 18 and Class 3A on Saturday, May 18. All meets will be held at the Owsley Frazier Park at the University of Louisville.

Volleyball

The Board of Control approved playing formats for all levels beginning with the 2012-2013 school year. Varsity play will be best 3 of 5 sets to 25 with the fifth and deciding set to 15. Schools by mutual agreement may choose to play 2 of 3 sets in the regular season. Junior Varsity play will be best 2 of 3 sets

to 21 and Freshman play best 2 of 3 sets to 17. A standard warm-up time for all levels was also adopted using the 4-4-4-2-1 format, matching what is used at the State Tournament. Additional details with regard to official pay were included in an e-mail sent out following the Board meeting. This will be reviewed in the Volleyball Rules Clinic in the fall.

Wrestling

The 2012 State Wrestling tournament has moved to Alltech Arena at the Kentucky Horse Park on Feb. 17-18. Information, including maps and Area Housing Accommodations are on the State Wrestling page, <http://www.khsaa.org/wrestling/state.html>

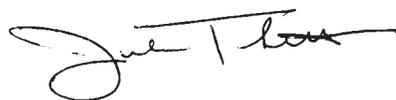
REMAINING 2011-12 KHSAA CHAMPIONSHIP DATES

Feb. 17-18	Wrestling	Alltech Arena at Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington
Feb. 23-25	Pannell Swim Shop/ KHSAA Swimming & Diving	Wright Natatorium, Louisville
March 7-10	Houchens Industries/ KHSAA Girls' Basketball	E.A. Diddle Arena, Bowling Green
March 14-17	PNC/KHSAA Boys' Basketball	Rupp Arena, Lexington
March 22-23	Ebonite/KHSAA Boys' and Girls' Bowling	Executive Bowl, Louisville
May 17-19	Boys' & Girls' Tennis	Lexington
May 17-19	Boys' & Girls' Track and Field	Owsley Frazier Cardinal Park, Louisville
June 7-9	Rawlings/KHSAA Softball	Jack C. Fisher Park, Owensboro
June 4-9	Kentucky National Insurance/KHSAA Baseball	Whitaker Bank Ballpark, Lexington

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb. 17-18 KHSAA State Wrestling Championships, Alltech Arena, Lexington
- Feb. 23-25 Pannell Swim Shop/KHSAA State Swimming and Diving Championships, Ralph Wright Natatorium, Louisville

Thanks for all of your continued support!



Julian Tackett



TRAINERS

(Once during warm-ups or during halftime)

March is National Athletic Training month. Let's give a round of applause for the athletic trainers for the participating schools tonight and all they do to keep our student-athletes safe. If you are interested in a career in athletic training or would like to know more about athletic training please contact the Kentucky Athletic Trainers Society and visit their website at www.kyats.com.