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BRIEF HISTORY OF THE KHSAA

The Kentucky High School Athletic Association was organized in April, 1917. Charter members were Frankfort Boys' High of Louisville, Owensboro, Carrollton, Lexington, Carlisle, Anderson County, Monticello, Somerset, Ashland, Stanford, Paris, LaGrange, Morganfield, Danville, Clark County, Covington and Cynthiana.

BOARD OF CONTROL PAST OFFICERS

Since the founding of the organization, the officers have been as follows:

President: M.E. Ligon, 1917-1926; C.I. Henry, 1926-1928; G.O. Swing, 1928-1929; W.F. O'Donnell, 1929-1941; R.E. Bridges, 1941-1947; L.V. Ginger, 1947-1953; Carlos Oakley, 1953-1955; Russell Williamson, 1955-1960; Louis Litchfield, 1960-1961; W.H. Crowds, 1961-1962; K. G. Gillaspie, 1962-1963; Cecil A. Thornton, 1963-1964; Oran C. Teater, 1964-1965; Foster J. Sanders, 1965-1966; Sherman Gish, 1966-1967; Don R. Rawlings, 1967-68; Preston Holland, 1968-1969; Ralph C. Dorsey, 1969-1970; Don Davis, 1970-1971; Morton Combs, 1971-1972; Richard Vincent, 1972-1973; Frank B. Simpson, 1973-1974; W.P. Wheeler, 1974-1975; Louis Martin, 1975-1976; George E. Sauer, 1976-1977; Ray Story, 1977-1978; Jack Burkich, 1978-1979; Barney Thweatt, 1979-1980; Zeb Blankenship, 1980-1981; J.D. Minnehan, 1981-1982; Fairce Woods, 1982-1983; Charles D. Black, 1983-1984; Eldon Davidson, 1984-1985; Patrick Crawford, 1985-1986; Chester Turner, 1986-87; Frank Welch, 1987-88; Tom Buchanan, 1988-89; Sam Chandler, 1989-90; David Points, 1990-91; Alvis Johnson, 1991-92; Jack Portwood, 1992-93; Ray Story, 1993-94; Frank Cardwell, 1994-95; Ozz Jackson, 1995-96; Bob Rogers, 1996-97; Ken Cox, 1997-98; Stan Steidel, 1998-99; Eddie Saylor, 1999-2000; Roland Williams, 2000-01; Kathy Johnston, 2001-02; Eddie Saylor, 2002-03; Paul Dotson, 2003-04; James Sexton, 2004-05; Jerry Taylor, 2005-06; Gary Dearborn, 2006-2007; Donna Wear, 2007-2008; Lonnie Burgett, 2008-2009; Dave Weedman, 2009-2010; Kelley F. Ransdell, 2010-2011; Alan Donhoff, 2011-2012; Boyd Randolph, 2012-2013; Bill Beasley, 2013-2014; Carrell Boyd, 2014-2015; Jeff Saylor, 2015-2016; Scott Hawkins, 2016-2017; Jerry Wyman, 2017-2018; Donna Bumps, 2018-2019; Pete Galloway, 2019-2020; Darrell Billings, 2020-2021; Marlon Miller, 2021-2022; Matt Wilhoite, 2022-2023.

Vice President (converted to President-Elect in 2012-13): W.O. Hopper, 1917-1918; A. C. Pelton, 1918-1919; C.E. Skinner, 1919-1921; R.E. Hill, 1921-1922; C.E. Skinner, 1922-1923; J. L. Foust, 1923-1924; K.R. Patterson, 1924-1925; C.I. Henry, 1925-1926; J.D. Falls, 1926-1927; J.O. Lewis, 1927-1928; J.S. Brown, 1928-1929; J.D. Williams, 1932-1934; Tim Meinschein, 1934-1937; R.E. Bridges, 1937-1941; W.B. Owen, 1941-1947; T.K. Stone, 1947-1953; Russell Williamson, 1953-1955; Roy G. Eversole, 1955-1956; Louis Litchfield, 1956-1960; W.B. Jones, 1960-1961; K.G. Gillaspie, 1961-1962; Cecil A. Thornton, 1962-1963; Oran C. Teater, 1963-1964; Don R. Rawlings, 1964-1965; Preston Holland, 1965-1966; Don Davis, 1966-1967; Morton Combs, 1967-1968; Ralph C. Dorsey, 1968-1969; Foster J. Sanders, 1969-1970; W.H. Crowds, 1970-1971; James T. Dotson, 1971-1972; Frank B. Simpson, 1972-1973; W.P. Wheeler, 1973-1974; Louie Martin, 1974-1975; Arthur Hawkins, 1975-1976; Ray Story, 1976-1977; Norman Passmore, 1977-1978; Barney Thweatt, 1978-1979; Zeb Blankenship, 1979-1980; J.D. Minnehan, 1980-1981; Fairce Woods, 1981-1982; Robie Harper, 1982-1983; Eldon Davidson, 1983-1984; Robert L. Rogers, 1984-1985; Chester Turner, 1985-1986; Frank Welch 1986-87; Tom Buchanan, 1987-88; Sam Chandler, 1988-89; David Points, 1989-90; Alvis Johnson, 1990-91; Jack Portwood, 1991-92; Ray Story, 1992-93; Frank Cardwell, 1993-94; Ozz Jackson, 1994-95; Bob Rogers, 1995-96; Ken Cox, 1996-97; Stan Steidel, 1997-98; Eddie Saylor, 1998-99; Roland Williams, 1999-2000; Kathy Johnston, 2000-2001; Eddie Saylor, 2001-02; Paul Dotson, 2002-03; James Sexton, 2003-04; Jerry Taylor, 2004-05; Gary Dearborn, 2005-06; Donna Wear, 2006-2007; Michael J. Barren, 2007-2008; Dave Weedman, 2008-2009; Kelley F. Ransdell, 2009-10; Alan Donhoff, 2010-2011; Boyd Randolph, 2011-2012; Bill Beasley 2012-2013; Carrell Boyd, 2013-2014; Jeff Saylor, 2014-2015;

Scott Hawkins, 2015-2016; Jerry Wyman, 2016-2017; Donna Bumps, 2017-2018; Pete Galloway, 2018-2019; Darrell Billings, 2019-2020; Marlon Miller, 2020-2021; Matt Wilhoite, 2021-2022; Darrell Billings, 2022-2023.

Secretary-Treasurer: J.H. Way, 1917-1918; J.L. Foust, 1918-1922; R.E. Hill, 1922-1937; Ted A. Sanford, 1937-1947. A Constitutional amendment now classifies the full-time Commissioner of the Association as its Secretary-Treasurer.

KHSAA FULL-TIME EXECUTIVE STAFF

Association Executive Staff members have been:

Joe Angolia- Communications Director, 2012-2021; Assistant Commissioner, 2021-present

Michael Barren- Assistant Commissioner, 2008-2021

Jean Batsel- Office Manager, 1957-1982

Darren Bilberry- Assistant Commissioner, 2007-present

Larry Boucher- Assistant Commissioner, 1991-2008

Sarah Bridenbaugh Assistant Commissioner, 2015-present.

Dianne H. Caines- Assistant Commissioner, 1976-1978

Rob Catron- Information Technology Director, 2010-present

Chad Collins- General Counsel, 2010-present

Butch Cope- Sports Information Director, 1995-2002; Promotions & Media Relations Director, 2002-2008; Assistant Commissioner, 2008-2013; Associate Commissioner 2013-present

Earl Cox- Consultant for Corporate Sponsors, 1987-1992

Brigid L. DeVries- Assistant Commissioner, 1979-1994; Executive Assistant Commissioner, 1994-2002; Commissioner, 2002-2010

Brooks Downing- Sports Information Director, 1992-1995

Jenny Elder- Event Service and Social Media, 2022-present

George Fletcher- General Counsel, 2009-2010

Cheryl Goodwin- Office Manager (interim), 2010-2011

Kara Howard, Office Manager, 2021 to present.

Darlene Koszenski- Office Manager, 1999-2010

Connor Link, Publications and Media Relations Director, 2022-present

Leah Little- Director of Marketing, 2015-2018

Joe Billy Mansfield- Assistant Commissioner, 1949-1972; Commissioner, 1972-1976

Elden May- Sports Information Director, 2009-2012

Anne Wesley Mays- Office Manager, 1982-1999

Tom Mills- Assistant Commissioner, 1972-1976; Commissioner, 1976-1991

Marilyn Mitchell- Office Manager, 2012-2021

Angela Passafiume- Assistant Commissioner, 2010-2015

Jeff Rogers- Sports Information Director, 1991-1992

Ted A. Sanford- Commissioner, 1947-1972

Louis Stout- Assistant Commissioner, 1971-1992; Executive Assistant Commissioner, 1992-1994; Commissioner, 1994-2002

Julian Tackett- Sports Information Director, 1984-1991; Business Affairs Director, 1991-1995; Assistant Commissioner, 1995-2008; Executive Assistant Commissioner, 2008-2010; Commissioner, 2010- Present

Ken Tippet- Consultant for Fund Raising, 1992-2008

Dan White- Event Management Specialist, 2018-2021; Communications and Social Media Director, 2021-2021

Roland Williams- Assistant Commissioner, 2002-2007

Billy V. Wise- Assistant Commissioner, 1969-1981; Executive Assistant Commissioner, 1981-1991; Commissioner, 1991-1994

HISTORIC HIGHLIGHTS

The Association started with 18 members in 1917 and this number increased to a high of 572 in 1936-37. There were 285 members in 2020-21. Consolidation of schools has been largely responsible for the decrease in membership in recent years.

Highlights in the history of the Association are:

YEAR	EVENT
1916-1917	KHSAA organized
1917-1918	First Boys' State High School Basketball Tournament

YEAR	EVENT
1919-1920	Track Sanctioned as KHSAA Boys' Sport
	First Unofficial Track and Field Championship Held at Stoll Field following World War I
1920-1921	Ten District Tournaments Held
	First Girls' State High School Basketball Tournament
1921-1922	State Divided into 16 Districts
1923-1924	State Divided into 18 Districts
1926-1927	State Divided into 24 Districts, 6 Regions
	A and B Classification Adopted For All Tournaments
	Unofficial Track and Field Championships moved to Georgetown College (Georgetown College Relays) due to construction of new facility at UK
1927-1928	State Divided into 32 Districts, 8 Regions
1930-1931	State Divided into 64 Districts, 16 Regions
	A and B Classification Discontinued for State Basketball Tournament
	First Boys' State Tennis Tournament sanctioned by KHSAA
	First Boys' State Track and Field Meet sanctioned by KHSAA
1931-1932	Girls' State Basketball Tournament Discontinued
1932-1933	A and B Classification Discontinued for All Tournaments
1933-1934	Eight Semester and Twenty-Year Age Limit Rules Put Into Effect
1934-1935	Board of Control Membership Increased to Five
1937-1938	Plan for Registering and Training Officials Adopted
	Officials' Clinics in Football and Basketball Begun
	Board of Control Membership Increased to Six
	Secretary Takes Over Management of State Basketball Tournament
	Printing of Association Magazine Authorized
	Regional Track Meets Made Part of State Program
1938-1939	National Federation Basketball Rules Adopted
	KHSAA Protection Fund Incorporated
	First Boys' State Golf Tournament
1939-1940	Association Joins National Federation
	First Boys' State Baseball Tournament
1941-1942	Board of Control Membership Increased to Seven
1942-1943	Number of Districts Doubled, With 16 Regions and 4 Sections
1943-1944	Sectional Tournaments Discontinued
1944-1945	Number of Districts in Region Reduced to 4
1945-1946	First KHSAA Sponsored Boys' State Swimming Meet
1946-1947	Full-Time Commissioner Elected (Ted Sanford)
	Board of Control Membership Increased to Eight
	Rules Recodified
1947-1948	Number of Basketball Games Limited
	Sanction Rule Strengthened
	Commissioner Authorized to Determine Regional Tournament Sites
1948-1949	Assistant Commissioner Added to State Office Staff (Joe Billy Mansfield)
1949-1950	Classes Adopted for Boys' State Swimming Meet
1950-1951	Regional Golf and Tennis Tournaments Made Part of State Program
1951-1952	Awards and Amateur Rule Adopted
1952-1953	First KHSAA Sponsored Boys' State Cross Country Meet
1953-1954	District and Regional Basketball Trophies Standardized
1954-1955	Office Building Erected (Rose Street, Lexington)
1955-1956	Regional Cross Country Made Part of State Program
1956-1957	Coaches Required to Attend Rules Clinic

YEAR	EVENT
1957-1958	Board Given Authority to Set Up Football Championship Plan
1958-1959	First Football Championships
	Requirements of Coaches Increased
1959-1960	First State Tennis Tournaments for Girls
1960-1961	First Football Districts Established
1961-1962	First State Swimming Meet for Girls
	First State Rifle Championship
1962-1963	Wrestling Made Part of State Program
1963-1964	Delegate Assembly Adopts 19th Birthday Age Limit, New Rule to Take Effect in 1968
1964-1965	First State Golf Tournament for Girls
1965-1966	First State Track Meet for Girls
	Classes Adopted for Boys' Track
1966-1967	First State Gymnastics Meets for Boys and Girls
	First Required Registration of Baseball Officials
	Classes Adopted for State Cross Country Meet
1967-1968	Regional Wrestling Tournaments Made Part of State Program
1968-1969	Classes Adopted for Girls' Track
	Age Rule Modified
	Second Assistant Commissioner Added to State Office Staff (Billy Wise)
	First Registration of Wrestling Officials
1970-1971	New Office Building Erected (Cooper Drive)
	Landmark Federal Court Ruling Issued Concerning Staff Structure and Officiating
1971-1972	Board of Control Membership Increased to Ten
	Third Assistant Commissioner Added to State Office Staff (Louis Stout)
	First Boys' State Soccer Tournament Held
	J.B. Mansfield named KHSAA's second Commissioner
1973-1974	First State Fencing Tournaments Held
1974-1975	Girls' State Basketball Tournaments Revived
	First Girls' State Cross Country Meet Held
1975-1976	First Female Assistant Commissioner Hired for Office Staff (Dianne Caines)
	Tom Mills named KHSAA's third Commissioner
	Football expands to four enrollment based classes
1976-1977	Spring Football practice abolished by vote of membership at Annual Meeting
1977-1978	The State Board of Education delegated the authority to the Kentucky High School Athletic Association for the management of the interscholastic athletic program of the secondary schools
	KHSAA employees holding position that requires college degree, per statute, placed in Kentucky Teachers Retirement System
	KHSAA employees holding position that does not require college degree, by Executive Order of the Governor, placed in Kentucky Employees Retirement System
1978-1979	First State Volleyball Tournament Held
	First Registration of Volleyball Officials
	First School Dues Increase for membership in Association history
1979-1980	Registration of Track Officials
1980-1981	Change to Meters from Yards in Track
1981-1982	Limitation of Season Placed on All KHSAA Sponsored Events
1982-1983	First Girls' State Slow Pitch Softball Tournament
	First Registration of Softball Officials

YEAR	EVENT
1983-1984	Sports Information Director added to State Office Staff (Julian Tackett)
1984-1985	Academic All-State Program Created for students maintaining 3.25 or higher GPA while playing varsity (Honorable Mention) or 3.75 or higher GPA while playing varsity (First Team)
	Sweet 16® Academic Scholarships created to be awarded at Boys and Girls State Basketball Tournaments
1985-1986	Kentucky-Indiana Championship Series - "Mid-America Classic" Begun
1986-1987	First Consultant for Corporate Sponsors Hired by State Office (Earl Cox)
	Agreement reached with Dawahares to sponsor Dawahares - KHSAA Sports Hall of Fame with first inductions scheduled for 1988 in conjunctions with Boys' Basketball Tournament
	Ted Cook Tire of London, Dawahares of Kentucky, H & W Sports Shop of Campbellsville and Monticello, and Dutch's Chevrolet in Mt. Sterling sign on as first official KHSAA Corporate Partners
	First females (Sandy Allen, Louisville and Liz Trabandt, Russell) elected to KHSAA Board of Control
1987-1988	Twenty-six former participants, coaches, officials and contributors inducted as the first class of inductees for the Dawahares-KHSAA Hall of Fame
1989-1990	Ground is broken for the new KHSAA Headquarters (Executive Drive), which will house the offices of the Association, as well as nearly 15,000 square feet of space for the Dawahares-KHSAA Hall of Fame and Museum and meeting space
1990-1991	Billy Wise named KHSAA's fourth Commissioner
	Board of Control approves newly appointed Commissioner's recommendation to create a Director of Business Affairs, to create focus on streamlining operations, reducing debt, and maintaining high quality championship events during tough financial times. Sports Information Director Julian Tackett agrees to assume that position.
1991-1992	Dawahares agrees to a four year contract extension as the sponsor of the Hall of Fame. In return, the family purchases/provides the new furniture for the KHSAA office building and Hall of Fame
	The KHSAA moves into its third headquarters building, located on Executive Drive off Winchester Road near the junction of Interstates 75 and 64
	First Girls' State Soccer Tournament held
	Board of Control expanded to sixteen members to include four non-school members following Department of Education Blue Ribbon review
1992-1993	Second dues increase for member schools in Association history
1993-1994	Louis Stout named KHSAA's Fifth Commissioner to begin in 1994-95, first African-American Commissioner of the Association
	Board of Control closes on a staff coordinated long-term debt refinancing package designed to stabilize the finances of the Association following new building construction
	First Registration of Fast Pitch Umpires
1994-1995	First Girls' State Fast Pitch Softball Tournament held as transition begins for switch from Slow to Fast Pitch competition following passage of HB290
	Board approves fourth Assistant Commissioner position following review of internal staff duties

YEAR	EVENT
1996-1997	First KHSAA Summer Dead Period for interscholastic athletics following Blue Ribbon Panel review
	Spring football practice reinstated by Annual Meeting to be effective in 1998
1997-1998	KHSAA enters agreement with Host/USA Collegiate for the sports marketing firm to represent the Association
	KHSAA, along with NewsCall (Richard Farmer and Tom Stephens), forms and manages first statewide radio network for boys' and girls' state basketball tournaments
	Sub-Section game added in Boys' State Soccer
1998-1999	Board of Control closes on refinancing at long term debt anniversary to lock in long term debt rate for duration of loan on building
	Ticket receipts for Boys' State Basketball Tournament surpass \$1 Million mark for first time
1999-2000	KHSAA begins visiting membership to educate and assist with Title IX, visiting approximately 20% of members each year for a five year period
	Sub-section game added in Girls' State Soccer
2000-2001	Houchens Industries signs on as first title corporate sponsor for the Girls' State Basketball Tournaments to be held in Bowling Green.
	The Board of Control approves a student sportsmanship/leadership conference to be held in conjunction with the Association's Annual Delegate Assembly in January, 2002. The conference, titled HYPE 2002, will be open to all student-athletes across the state and is the first such endeavor by the Association.
2001-2002	The first annual student sportsmanship/leadership conference (HYPE 2002) was held in conjunction with the Association's Annual Delegate Assembly in January. Over 400 student-athletes from across the state attended the conference in Lexington.
	Brigid L. DeVries named KHSAA's Sixth Commissioner, first female Commissioner of the Association.
	Board of Control approves a staff proposal to move the State Baseball championships to the new Applebees Park, home of the Class 1A Lexington Legends professional baseball club.
	Butch Cope named KHSAA's first Director of Promotions and Media Relations to further emphasize the Association's commitment to its corporate sponsorship sales and to market the Association through its public relations efforts.
	After more than 30 years on staff, Commissioner Louis Stout announces his retirement effective June, 2002.
	Bardstown Athletic Director and Coach Roland Williams selected as newest KHSAA Assistant Commissioner.
2002-2003	Big Blue Nation signs on as the first title corporate sponsor for the State Baseball Tournament held in Lexington.
	Board of Control and staff embark of first wholesale realignment of basketball regions and districts since the early 1970s, with the objectives to minimize three-team and six-team districts; eliminate teams being able to draw into the regional tournament; where possible, leave teams in their original regions; eliminate overcrowding of the 9th region; and set about a geographic alignment that could be, at least for regional boundaries, the same in all team sports (except football), and all individual sports with enough participating schools.

YEAR	EVENT
2003-2004	National City signs on as first title corporate sponsor for the Boys' State Basketball Tournaments to be held in Lexington.
	The Championship games of both the Houchens/KHSAA Girls' State Basketball Tournament and the National City/KHSAA Boys' State Basketball Tournaments are telecast live through the state with an agreement with Insight Communications.
	Leachman Buick & GMC of Bowling Green signs on as first title corporate sponsor for the Boys' & Girls' State Golf Tournaments, a deal that is to begin in 2004 which would eventually be extended through 2024.
	After first five years of project, KHSAA completes first visit cycle to all KHSAA member schools, completing on-site reviews of athletics facilities and policies to assist membership in complying with Title IX
	Board of Control approves final basketball realignment after nearly two years of meetings, discussions and revisions.
2004-2005	Without state financial assistance, KHSAA staff and retired educator consultants begin second visit cycle to all KHSAA member schools, to complete on-site reviews of athletics facilities and help educate about policies to assist membership in complying with Title IX
2006-2007	Last sanctioned State Slow Pitch Softball Tournament held.
	Football expands to six enrollment based classes beginning with the 2007 playing season.
	With the advent of six classes in football, all sports that are classified are to be referred to by a number followed by "A", not repetitive A's in historical records.
	Debt retired on the mortgage on the KHSAA office building.
	Darren Bilberry hired as Assistant Commissioner following retirement of Assistant Commissioner Roland Williams
2007-2008	Board of Control approves transition from outside legal counsel to full-time, in-house General Counsel, effective for the 2009-2010 school year.
	Butch Cope, Director of Promotions & Media Relations, promoted to Assistant Commissioner.
	Former Paul Dunbar Athletic Director Michael Barren hired as Assistant Commissioner
2008-2009	Pannell Swim Shop becomes first title partner for KHSAA State Swimming and Diving Championships
	Elden May, a veteran of State Government service, hired as Sports Information Director
	Lexington Attorney George Fletcher hired as in-house General Counsel
	Association launches unprecedented education effort in response to 2009 HB383 by deploying on-line course for coach's safety training. More than 10,000 coaches complete course in the first year.
	After more than 30 years with the KHSAA, Commissioner Brigid DeVries announces her retirement, effective July 9, 2010.
2009-2010	Julian Tackett becomes the seventh Commissioner in the KHSAA's 93-year history, effective June 1, 2010.
	Board of Control approves transitioning of part-time IT consultant to create full-time Information Technology position for 2010-2011.
2010-2011	Customer service specialist Rob Catron hired as Information Technology Director

YEAR	EVENT
	Former Assumption Athletic Director Angela Passafiume hired as Assistant Commissioner.
	LRC staffer Chad Collins hired as General Counsel.
	Second HYPE Student Leadership Conference added to annual schedule to service more outstanding students.
	Board of Control converts to digital board meetings, promoting effective stewardship of KHSAA funds.
2011-2012	Bowling Green-based Russell Athletic becomes the first title sponsor of the KHSAA Commonwealth Gridiron Bowl.
	Rawlings becomes the first title sponsor of the State Softball Tournament.
	First Girls' and Boys' State Bowling Championships held with Ebonite as the first title sponsor.
	KHSAA completes second visit cycle to all KHSAA member schools, completing on-site reviews of athletics facilities and policies to assist membership in complying with Title IX
2012-2013	Joe Angolia hired as Communications Director in November.
	First Archery, Competitive Cheer and Bass Fishing Championships are held.
	Without state financial assistance, KHSAA staff and retired educator consultants begin third visit cycle to all KHSAA member schools, to complete on-site reviews of athletics facilities and help educate about policies to assist membership in complying with Title IX
	The first state champion in the Association's history was decided on a Sunday with the championship game of the Boys' State Basketball Tournament played on 3/10/13 due to a scheduling conflict with the host facility contracted to host a Kentucky basketball contest (Florida).
	Butch Cope, Assistant Commissioner, promoted to Associate Commissioner.
	Board of Control adopts 2011-2017 Strategic Plan, including revised Mission Statement and Vision Statement.
	KHSAA begins work to regulate middle school athletics at the direction of KBE through legislative review of Kentucky General Assembly.
	KHSAA completed transition to digital on-demand printing of game programs, improving operational efficiency.
2013-2014	Field Hockey is adopted as a sport, beginning with the 2014-2015 season.
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	Rifle Marksmanship approved as a sport-activity by the Board of Control, with phase-in of state event to follow collaboration with related groups.
	KHSAA internalizes its web streaming production and produces webcasts of championship events through khsaa.tv at KHSAA.org; partners with First String Media and PrepSpin.com for onsite production.
2014-2015	First Field Hockey state championship is held.
	Board of Control approves hiring of first in-house Marketing Director, transitioning from outsource provider.
	Former Kentucky Gymnastics Head Coach and former iHigh.com sales lead Leah Little hired as first Marketing Director
	Through a partnership with Special Olympics Kentucky, the KHSAA implemented its first unified sports opportunities at the 2015 Track & Field State Meet.

YEAR	EVENT
2015-2016	Former Paul Dunbar Girls' Basketball Coach Sarah Bridenbaugh hired as Assistant Commissioner.
	Veteran Hall of Fame high school journalist Mike Fields joins KHSAA as first non-employee blog writer
	Spalding/Dudley becomes official ball supplier to KHSAA for Baseball, Softball, Basketball and Football
	Girls' Sweet 16® is played in Northern Kentucky for the first time, with the games taking place at BB&T Arena in Highland Heights.
	KHSAA reports record levels of participation in its sports and sport-activities
	Sponsorship of Association events hit record levels
	First Louis Stout scholarship recipients announced
	Triennial survey results indicate membership interest in addition of Dance championship for 2017-2018
2016-2017	Association celebrates its Centennial year with recognition at all championships
	Whitaker Bank expands its commitment to the KHSAA and Kentucky student-athletes by becoming the title sponsor of the State Baseball Tournament.
	Third dues increase for member schools in Association history to be effective in 2017-2018, with a commitment to review every four years to remain a long-term viable organization.
	In partnership with Midway University, the KHSAA and Midway create the Midway University/ KHSAA Female Athlete-of-the-Year award in each sport in which a female champion is declared, as an initiative to highlight the outstanding accomplishments of female athlete.
2017-2018	Association collaborates with Kentucky Association of Basketball Coaches and Kentucky Basketball Hall of Fame to celebrate 100 years of Kentucky high school basketball.
	Football championships move to Kroger Field in Lexington (formerly Commonwealth Stadium) and games set attendance records for the championship weekend.
	Staff and audit assistants complete third complete cycle of visits to member schools to assess facilities and assist with Title IX compliance.
	Board of Control approves creation of additional Executive Staff position to streamline day to day sports management operations surrounding the Association championships
	Additional Event Management Position created and University of Pikeville Asst. AD Dan White named to fill position as Event Management Specialist beginning August, 2018.
	Triple Threat Award created to recognize students who participate in a fall, winter and spring sport at the varsity level representing their school
	After many years of service, Marketing Director Leah Little retires from that position, and the Commissioner announces it will not be filled and fund-raising will be outsourced.
	KHSAA completes third visit cycle to all KHSAA member schools, completing on-site reviews of athletics facilities and policies to assist membership in complying with Title IX
	Board of Control approves contract with PlayVS to enter into four-year experiment with an Esports championship through the NFHS Network.
2018-2019	First Esports Championships conducted in cooperation with NFHS Network and PlayVS

YEAR	EVENT
	eLLe Marketing in Lexington retained to market KHSAA Corporate partner program
	Girls Basketball tournament held in historic Rupp Arena for the first time, with contract scheduled to run through 2024.
2019-2020	Record or near-record crowds flock to KHSAA events in the fall and early winter season.
	March 12, 2020, the Girls' Sweet Sixteen® becomes the first event postponed and later canceled (after five game were player) due to the global pandemic related to COVID-19 and the novel coronavirus.
	Boys' and Girls' Sweet Sixteen® tournaments canceled after a lengthy postponement and no practice or competition is held in spring sports for the remainder of the school year due to the pandemic.
2020-2021	Through partnerships with a variety of stakeholders, Association able to conduct all of its championships during global pandemic with event capacity restrictions
	A first round of state play is added for golf to ensure that the number of regional qualifiers remains at current levels while ensuring the event can be conducted with its current practice round, two-play round format.
	While many events had attendance restrictions, record viewership through NFHS Network partnerships allowed more fans than in prior years to have access to championships
	State Volleyball format revised to create a state first round tournament game to aid with travel issues around schools due to the pandemic, a format to be evaluated in the future for permanent consideration.
	Staff expansion in anticipation of additional championships being added results in two new staff members, Connor Link and Jenny Elder, splitting event communication duties following the promotion of long-time Communications Director Joe Angolia to Assistant Commissioner.
2021-2022	For the first time since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, events returned to full capacity throughout the school year.
	The Association partners with Teall Property Group (TPG) to sell its corporate sponsorship packages in an arrangement ensuring additional financial stability without cost to the member schools.
	In-person Regional Meetings of the membership draw record crowds as turnover in athletic administration remains high post-pandemic.
	Historic results in the Triennial Survey are announced which will lead to the additional of a girls' wrestling championship, an officially sanctioned indoor state track championship with further study of the results during 2022-2023 to determine additional action.
	Changes made in state wrestling to ensure the number of region qualifiers remains high while addressing faciility concerns post-pandemic.

AWARDS

The Kentucky High School Athletic Association presents or has presented, a variety of awards through its history. Those include:

KHSAA BOARD OF CONTROL RECOGNITION

Individual awards of appreciation are presented to each member of the Board of Control as they complete their term on the Board of Control and upon the completion of a term as President of the Board of Control.

KHSAA COMMISSIONER'S CITATION AWARD

This award may be presented to individuals selected for distinguished service and dedication to high school athletics. A listing of past winners shall be maintained at the KHSAA offices and on the KHSAA website.

GAME GUY/GAL AWARD

Starting in 1949, the KHSAA has presented an award (trophy) to the individual athlete (boy or girl) who has overcome a handicap to participate in interscholastic athletics.

Nominations are to be received in the KHSAA office by April 1 and the Commissioner and the Association staff make the selection. The award was suspending in 2004.

TED SANFORD AWARD

This award is sponsored by the Louisville Courier-Journal, and is selected by a committee at the Boys' State Basketball Tournament.

The award is given to the participant in a Boys' State Basketball Tournament who excels in four areas: basketball ability, sportsmanship, academic accomplishments, and citizenship.

The award also includes a \$1,000 scholarship to the college or university of the recipient's choice.

J. B. MANSFIELD AWARD

This award is sponsored by the Louisville Courier-Journal, and is selected by a committee at the Girls' State Basketball Tournament.

The award is given to a participant in the Girls' State Basketball Tournament who excels in four areas: basketball ability, sportsmanship, academic accomplishments, and citizenship.

The award also includes a \$1,000 scholarship to the college or university of the recipient's choice.

SWEET SIXTEEN® ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS (BOYS AND GIRLS)

The first academic scholarship awards were given at the 1985 tournament.

That year, one scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00 was presented at both the boys' and girls' tournament.

Since that time scholarships have been given to worthy participants from a variety of sources and KHSAA Corporate Partners.

Each participating school is requested to submit the grade point average, list of activities and community involvement on each of its nominated participants.

The Commissioner and members of the staff select the recipients.

ACADEMIC ALL-STATE PROGRAM

Initiated in 1985, the KHSAA annually awards to students in the state of Kentucky "Academic All-State" recognition in conjunction with a corporate partner. The awards, in the form of certificates.

The awards are presented to students who have maintained a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.25 on a four-point scale. Those students are awarded "Honorable Mention" recognition.

Students maintaining a 3.75 cumulative average on a four-point scale are designated "First Team."

The awards are based on cumulative grade point averages from the time of enrollment in ninth grade, are given only to varsity participants, and only to participants who are enrolled in grades nine through twelve.

MIDWAY UNIVERSITY/KHSAA FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Since 2017-2018, Midway University and the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) have partnered to present the Female Student-Athlete of the Award in each of the sports and sport-activities that KHSAA offers championships to female

competitors.

School administrators and/or coaches can nominate through KHSAA any qualified female high school student-athlete. Players can be nominated and win in more than one sport and are eligible to be nominated and win in multiple years of competition.

A panel of judges selected by Midway University and the KHSAA will review all nominations and make the selection of each individual sport Female Student-Athlete of the Year. The nominations will be judged on 60 percent weighting of overall athletic achievement, 20 percent academic achievement and 20 percent community service/leadership. In the event of a tie, the judges will have the discretion to select the final winner.

Nominees must have an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher to qualify and be academically eligible to play in the season in which they are/were nominated.

Individual winners in each sport will be eligible for the overall Athlete of the Year Award, and winners are recognized at an annual luncheon on Midway University's campus.

TRIPLE THREAT PROGRAM

In an effort to continue the national emphasis and the KHSAA's own efforts to de-emphasize sports specialization in the athletic culture, the Association launched the "Triple Threat Award" program in May of 2018 to recognize those students who participate in high school athletics year round.

The award, which is given to student-athletes who participate in a KHSAA sport or sport-activity on the varsity level during each season of the academic year (fall/winter/spring), was first presented for 2017-18.

To be considered for the award, the student must compete be on the varsity roster of a sport or sport-activity for a team in each of the three sports seasons. For this award:

The fall sports are Cross Country, Field Hockey, Football, Golf, Soccer and Volleyball;

Winter sports are Basketball, Bowling, Competitive Cheer, Dance, Swimming and Diving, Wrestling and the initial Esports season of the year; and

Spring Sports are Archery, Baseball, Bass Fishing, Softball, Tennis, Track and Field and the second Esports season of the year.

The awards are based solely on each member school's rosters that are submitted through the KHSAA's online system, as that is the only permitted determinant for athletic eligibility (including team eligibility).