



# ESPORTS

## 2022 WINTER STATE CHAMPIONSHIP PRESENTED BY UK HEALTHCARE INSTRUCTIONS





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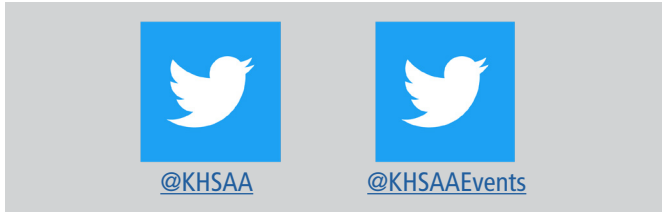
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**Throughout these instructions, portions that are different from previous seasons, or changed due to COVID-19, have been highlighted yellow.**

2280 Executive Drive | Lexington, Ky, 40505 | [www.KHSAA.org](http://www.KHSAA.org)

**KHSAA Staff**

- Commissioner ..... Julian Tackett
- Associate Commissioner ..... Butch Cope
- Assistant Commissioner ..... Darren Bilberry
- Assistant Commissioner ..... Sarah Bridenbaugh
- Assistant Commissioner ..... Joe Angolia
- General Counsel ..... Chad Collins
- Media Relations & Publications Director ..... Connor Link
- Information Technology Director ..... Rob Catron
- Event Services & Social Media Director ..... Jenny Elder
- Office Manager ..... Kara Howard
- Administrative Support Specialist ..... Jeremy Ison
- Administrative Support Specialist ..... Jeanie Molloy
- Physical Plant Director ..... Roy Tatum





## **BRIEF WELCOME**

Congratulations on behalf of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Board of Control and staff for advancing to the 2022 KHSAA State Esports Winter Championships presented by UK HealthCare.

Refer to this manual and the important website links included at the end of the document to guide you through preparation for your participation.

## **KHSAA CONTACTS**

The primary contact for Esports is Assistant Commissioner Joe Angolia ([jangolia@khsaa.org](mailto:jangolia@khsaa.org)).

If Mr. Angolia is for some reason not available, Information Technology Director Rob Catron ([rcatron@khsaa.org](mailto:rcatron@khsaa.org)) is the backup contact.

Media inquiries should be directed to Media Relations and Publications Director Connor Link ([clink@khsaa.org](mailto:clink@khsaa.org)).

Questions may also be directed to the KHSAA offices at (859) 299-5472 and any member of the staff should be able to refer you to the correct party.

## **COVID-19 GUIDANCE**

The KHSAA's complete "Healthy at Sports, Stage 5 - Partnering for Progress, Guidance for Continued Practice and Competition During the Pandemic" document can be found at the following link: <https://bit.ly/3zwQOeD>

In addition to specific guidance, this document includes guidance for all sports, officials and media. The information in this document should be thoroughly reviewed by all managers, participants and spectators attending a district or regional tournament.

Anyone attending or participating in a KHSAA regular season or postseason event should review their symptoms before arriving. Those that are ill or displaying any symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home.

Some differences in the guidance are necessitated by the differences in sports, facilities and geographic areas, which are pronounced during normal years and magnified this school year.

## **MASKS/FACE COVERINGS**

Masks/Face coverings for non-competitors and the requirements surrounding these items are a matter of local jurisdiction.

At minimum, any local or specific mask-requiring ordinance should also include a requirement for managers to post signage and make regular announcements.

## **COMPETITORS**

Due to safety concerns, competitors who are considered to be aerobically exercising should not be required to wear masks during competition.

## **WATER - PARTICIPANTS**

Coaches and athletes are reminded to bring their own water bottles as no community dispensers can be used.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH PROTOCOLS**

Each member school and event host is expected to adhere to public health standards regarding isolation and quarantine as well as the adopted Return to Play Protocol in the event of a positive test in a participant or team staff member.

The host site is responsible for adherence to COVID-19 guidelines in accordance with normal host site procedures.

## **QUALIFYING FOR PARTICIPATION IN CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The size of the postseason bracket for each sanctioned game is determined by the number of participating teams in each offering.

Teams advance through each round of postseason competition, with the semifinalists advancing to the in-person event at the



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UKFCU Esports Lounge at The Cornerstone on UK's campus.

## COMPETITION DATES, SCHEDULE, WEATHER, LOCATION

### DATES

The semifinals and finals of the 2022 KHSAA State Esports Winter Championships presented by UK HealthCare will be held Dec. 16 at the UKFCU Esports Lounge at The Cornerstone on UK's campus.

### SCHEDULE

A link to the complete time schedule is located at the end of this document.

### INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

In the event of inclement weather, it is the duty of the KHSAA, in consultation with the host facility, to make decisions in regards to postponement, rescheduling or cancelation, including getting proper notification to all teams, media outlets and schools.

Staff will utilize the KHSAA website and Twitter to provide updates as well as an emergency text notification system.

KHSAA officials will make every effort to learn the weather forecast prior to the start of competition as the safety of the public and participants will be the most important factor in any decision.

### VENUE AND ADDRESS

[The Cornerstone](#)

[401 S Limestone Street](#)

## TICKET AVAILABILITY AND POLICIES

### TICKETS

All state esports championships ticket prices are, in advance, \$11 each per session, plus electronic transaction fees that are not received by the KHSAA. Day of the event, the price is \$13 per session with fees.

Children five-and-under will be admitted free, but must still "purchase" the free ticket through GoFan.

All tickets will be sold online via GoFan, the KHSAA's official digital ticket vendor at [khsaatickets.org](https://khsaatickets.org).

Coaches listed in the school directory and student-athletes competing in the event will receive free admission. All other individuals will be required to purchase a ticket.

Only the KHSAA issued Commonwealth Card will be honored for admission for one individual plus a guest for the Superintendent, Principal and Athletic Director of each participating school.

No coaches association cards or licensed officials cards will be honored for admission at the state event.

Fans are required to purchase their tickets before they arrive to facilitate entry.

There will be no paper tickets sold at the walk-up gate or cash sales.

No screenshots shall be honored at any time.

GoFan's training page for buying and transferring the tickets is included as a link at the end of these instructions.

## PRE-EVENT LOGISTICS

### CONFERENCE CALL

There will be a web conference for participating coaches and athletic directors Monday, Dec. 12 at 2 p.m.

Additional instructions regarding the call will be sent via email.

Participants can set up from any location to join the conference and are encouraged to join by computer to view pertinent information, maps, etc.



## **PRE-CHAMPIONSHIP, ON-SITE MEETING**

There will be no mandatory, pre-competition meeting at the venue.  
Instead, teams should use the conference call to ask any questions.

## **PRACTICE**

Participating student-athletes will have access to the equipment in the UKFCU Esports Lounge to warm-up prior to their competition.

## **LODGING**

Schools will arrange lodging for their participants if needed and are responsible for all travel expenses, including lodging, for participation in the event.

Have your school's or Board of Education's Sales Tax Exempt Number with you at check-in to avoid sales tax from being added to the hotel bill.

## **PARKING**

General parking will be available in the Cornerstone Garage and is free during the event.

Team buses will off-load at the team entrance and then proceed to the team parking area, as outlined in the map at the end of these instructions.

## **BYLAW 22 REMINDER**

### **REQUIREMENT TO ACCOMPANY TEAM**

You are reminded that KHSAA Bylaw 22 requires a principal, coach or another approved individual of the school to be present along with any student-athlete who is representing a member school.

## **POSTSEASON ROSTERS, LIMITATIONS AND SUBSTITUTIONS**

### **POSTSEASON ROSTERS**

Schools have previously logged into the KHSAA website and designated the postseason roster, which is separate from the regular-season varsity roster.

Roster revisions had to be made before the first date of the postseason when online rosters were closed and considered final. Only students appearing on the school's postseason roster as of the first date of the postseason are eligible to participate in any round.

The online, postseason roster may be printed from the KHSAA website as the valid listing of available participants.

This roster information is also used for advance preparations for state qualifying teams.

### **SUBSTITUTIONS/LIMITATIONS**

Additional competitors registered through PlayVS with the competing team will be eligible as substitutes.

## **ADMISSION INTO VENUE**

### **PARTICIPANT, COACH AND ADMINISTRATOR ENTRY**

Teams should enter through the team pass gate.

Team members outside of the participants must purchase a ticket in advance through GoFan at [khsaatickets.org](https://khsaatickets.org).

Coaches must be listed on the KHSAA school page and have completed all of the Bylaw 25 coaching requirements in order to receive comp admission and must enter through the team pass gate.

All team members and coaches need to arrive at the venue together for admission.

### **FAN AND NON-COMPETING TEAM MEMBER ENTRY**

Everyone must enter and exit through the admission gate.



## **VENUE SAFETY**

Persons who attend KHSAA events may be injured as a result of the risks inherent in being a spectator at such events.

Please advise KHSAA or venue personnel of any situation you encounter which you or a team member feels should be addressed to minimize risk to all involved.

Any crowd control problems or acts of violence should be brought to the attention of the event staff, which will contact the appropriate authorities.

Attendance at events is a vital family and community based activity which is encouraged..

## **VENUE LOGISTICS**

### **SIGNAGE, BALLOONS AND NOISEMAKERS**

Signs/banners are permitted at the facility but must be of good taste and sportsmanship.

The signs/banners must be handheld or attached in a manner not to damage the existing structure. The signs/banner shall not cover any corporate signage or obstruct the view of patrons.

Amplified noisemakers or items that replicate game management cues are not permitted inside the facility. These items include, but are not limited to: air horns, electronic amplifiers, portable sound systems, instruments that require additional electricity, game clock horns and whistles.

Artificial noisemakers of any kind are not permitted inside the facility per NFHS rules.

Balloons, which can block the view of other patrons, are not permitted at the event.

Only venue provided amplified music is permissible, but only during pre-competition, natural and planned breaks and the team provided performance music.

## **CONDUCTING THE EVENT**

PlayVS representatives on-site will coordinate the start time for each match.

League of Legends, Smash Ultimate, Madden and Mario Kart will be played in a best-of-3 format. Rocket League is best of seven.

The semifinal winners will advance to the state finals, which will also be played at the UKFCU Esports Lounge.

## **RULES POINTS OF EMPHASIS/CLARIFICATIONS**

### **COMPETITION RULES**

National Federation (NFHS) competition rules and PlayVS guidelines will be utilized without exception.

### **SPORTSMANSHIP**

The KHSAA requires officials to enforce sportsmanship rules.

High school athletics emphasize positive values and all parties have worked hard to create a sense of teamwork, respect, responsibility and perspective.

We remind you that officials expect good behavior and will quickly penalize misconduct.

We encourage and appreciate your help in letting this competition reflect mutual respect among all participants and officials.

## **HEALTH INFORMATION**

### **ATHLETIC TRAINERS**

The Association will use the services of the UK HealthCare to provide trainers for the State Esports Championships.

Athletic Training Staff will be available beginning one (1) hour prior to the first match and remain available throughout the day.

### **PHYSICAL EXAM FORM**

Schools are reminded that they are responsible for ensuring parental permission to seek medical treatment is authorized for each participant.



The Principal, Athletic Director or Head Coach can use a copy of KHSAA Form GE04 (Physical Exam Form) for this purpose. The form contains appropriate emergency treatment permission and should be brought for each athlete at the competition.

### **EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN**

KHSAA staff will, in consultation with the athletic training staff and venue personnel, develop an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for this event and the plan will be available upon arrival from the athletic training staff.

If an athlete or fan is in need of emergency medical attention, contact the nearest KHSAA staff member, official, UK HealthCare trainer or venue staff so emergency medical services can be reached.

An AED will be located at the team check-in area.

## **VIDEOTAPING, MEDIA AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

### **KHSAA.TV**

The championship matches will be webcast through Twitch and the NFHS Network, available at [KHSAA.tv](https://www.khsaa.tv).

Subscription plans for the NFHS Network are available for \$11.99 a month.

A monthly subscription entitles users to every broadcast by the KHSAA and the more than 45 participating state associations.

### **GENERAL MEDIA RIGHTS**

At all levels of competition during postseason play, control of media access and location at those contests is with the KHSAA, and as such, there are necessary policies and restrictions concerning this event and these provisions will be vigorously enforced.

The intellectual property, corporate, broadcasting and media rights to all postseason rounds belong exclusively to the KHSAA, including titling agreements and sponsorships.

Control of media access and location at all levels of postseason play is with the KHSAA.

At all levels of KHSAA sponsored postseason events, including district, regional, first round, second round, quarterfinal and state competition, allowances shall be made for television media to record video of the contests, without play-by-play, at no charge as long as the sole purpose is for newscast highlights.

At all levels of KHSAA sponsored postseason events, including district, regional, first round, second round, quarterfinal and state competition, allowances shall be made for other media outlets to be admitted to the contests as long as the sole purpose is for reporting of the actions taking place at the contest and promoting the event.

Participating teams in KHSAA events shall be allowed to record the contest, for coaching purposes only, if space is available with such availability at the discretion of the KHSAA and may be required to sign a waiver indicating that the KHSAA shall be held blameless for any and all liability to those parties involved in the video recording.

Any video recording must not violate existing, acknowledged, written copyright protection or intellectual property agreements and cannot be broadcast in any form, including internet and social media.

If space is deemed available, the KHSAA has the right to designate a specific area for video recording and no video recording will be allowed outside of that area.

The determination of space availability is solely with the KHSAA and shall be equitable for all teams.

A freelance/commercial photographer is any person, including a school employee, not representing an established media outlet or a person who will capture images from the event.

### **SCHOOL MEDIA CREDENTIALS**

Each school is permitted one (1) school media pass at KHSAA State Championship events, valid only for a student or full-time school employee, for the sole purpose of reporting the events for school internal publications. Admission into the event is granted with this pass; however, the individual is only permitted in areas where fans are allowed.

Outside entities such as professional photographers, videographers or parents may not utilize the school media pass.

The school media pass may not be used for taking pictures that will later be sold as these individuals need to apply for a freelance/commercial photographer pass and pay the requisite fee.



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This pass must be requested in advance of the start of the event through the online system using Form SI103 which is included as a link at the end of these instructions.

### **TRADITIONAL MEDIA CREDENTIALS**

Traditional media members (print, TV, radio, online) interested in covering KHSAA State Championship events should apply for credentials through the KHSAA's online system. A link to the credential application is included at the end of these instructions.

Applications should be submitted by the editor or director at each organization.

Complete information should be submitted for all attendees (including unique email addresses and cell phone numbers), as the KHSAA will use these methods to communicate information surrounding the event.

Freelance/commercial photographers, as defined herein, will not be granted access to KHSAA events unless the requisite media rights fee is paid.

KHSAA Media policies are outlined online at - <https://khsaa.org/news-stats-pubs/media-resources/media-credentials/>

### **MEDIA RIGHTS FEE**

Freelance/commercial photographers as defined in these instructions and radio stations interested in originating a broadcast of a KHSAA State Championship event are subject to a media rights fee.

Information regarding the fee for each event is available through the online credentialing system.

### **TELECAST/WEBCAST INCLUDING NFHS NETWORK RESTRICTIONS**

The KHSAA is a full member of the NFHS Network and as such, restrictions exist on all postseason levels.

A telecast, as used in these instructions, is a video, live or delayed account, including play-by-play, of any contest over the air.

A webcast, as used in these instructions, is a video, live or delayed account, including play-by-play, of any contest distributed using the internet.

The KHSAA is the only entity permitted to produce live or delayed video from state championship events including first round, second round, quarterfinal and state rounds, and is the sole authority for approval of any other.

No entity, unless given prior approval by the KHSAA shall be permitted to produce video telecasts or broadcasts, with the exception of approved media outlets solely recording highlights for news use.

No entity, including media members, may stream live video content during postseason events including the use of social media products such as Facebook® Live.

The mandated minimum fee schedule will be published annually by the Commissioner's office on the KHSAA website.

For all postseason play, all questions regarding live or delayed broadcast or telecast policies, including requests for approval shall be referred to the Media Relations and Publications Director for approval by the Commissioner.

### **MUSIC COPYRIGHT**

KHSAA schools are reminded to adhere to all music copyright laws.

### **FILMING**

External power sources may not be used by patrons.

Spectators may film with a hand-held camera from the spectator area, but may not in any manner transmit live video through any resource, including personal social media accounts.

Violators are subject to removal.

### **EVENT MERCHANDISE**

KHSAA State Championship apparel will be available for sale at the event and online at the following link - [khsaa.teamip.com](https://khsaa.teamip.com).

TeamIP is the exclusive vendor of championship apparel, please look for their display on-site.

No outside merchandise representative of the event may be produced by any other entity and sold or distributed at the





championship venue.

## **POST EVENT**

### **RESULTS**

Results will be announced at the competition site and posted on the KHSAA website.

### **TROPHIES AND AWARDS**

Teams placing first through fourth place in each game will be awarded a team trophy.

Individual medals will be given to the top-4 finishers in Madden '23.

### **FINANCES AND EXPENSES**

There is no school reimbursement for this event.

Member schools are responsible for all expenses incurred for participation.

The KHSAA underwrites the expenses of facility rental, security, first aid, judges and event workers.

## **IMPORTANT WEBSITE LINKS**

- [KHSAA Esports Website](#)
- [Healthy at Sports, Stage 5 - Partnering for Progress, Guidance for Continued Practice and Competition during the Pandemic](#)
- [Media and Professional Photographer Credentials](#)
- [Student Media Credential](#)
- [GoFan Training](#)
- [Parking and General Directions to Cornerstone \(UK\)](#)
- [Directions to Cornerstone \(UK\)](#)
- [Cornerstone \(UK\) Bus Route](#)
- [Championship Schedule](#)



**THE KENTUCKY OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY TEAMING UP WITH THE KHSAA TO DRIVE HOME A LIFE-SAVING MESSAGE FOR ALL MOTORISTS –  
BUCKLE UP AND PUT THE PHONE DOWN.**

**THESE BASIC SAFETY PRACTICES MAKE A CONSIDERABLE DIFFERENCE IN PREVENTING CRASHES AND LESSENING THE SEVERITY OF INJURIES AND THE NUMBER OF DEATHS ON OUR ROADWAYS. EACH YEAR IN KENTUCKY, DISTRACTED DRIVING RESULTS IN MORE THAN 50,000 CRASHES, MORE THAN 15,000 INJURIES AND APPROXIMATELY 200 DEATHS. [LEARN MORE AT KYHIGHWAYSAFETY.COM.](#)**