



STATE FINALS

FOOTBALL

2021 STATE FINALS INSTRUCTIONS

**FOR PARTICIPATING TEAMS
AND FANS**



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2280 Executive Drive | Lexington, Ky., 40505 | www.KHSAA.org

KHSAA Staff

Commissioner.....	Julian Tackett
Associate Commissioner.....	Butch Cope
Assistant Commissioner.....	Joe Angolia
Assistant Commissioner.....	Darren Bilberry
Assistant Commissioner.....	Sarah Bridenbaugh
General Counsel.....	Chad Collins
Communications & Social Media Director.....	TBA
Event Management Specialist.....	TBA
Information Technology Director.....	Rob Catron
Office Manager.....	Kara Howard
Administrative Support Specialist.....	Jeremy Ison
Administrative Support Specialist.....	Jeanie Molloy
Physical Plant Director.....	Roy Tatum

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

BRIEF WELCOME

Congratulations on behalf of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Board of Control and staff on winning your semi-state championship game and advancing to the UK HealthCare Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine State Football Finals.

Refer to this manual and the important website links included at the end to guide you through preparation for your participation in the state football championships.

KHSAA CONTACT LIST

Administrators and coaches should contact Commissioner Julian Tackett (jtackett@khsaa.org), Associate Commissioner Butch Cope (bcope@khsaa.org) or Mr. Tackett's Administrative Assistant Kara Howard (khoward@khsaa.org) at the KHSAA offices should they have any questions.

Media and statistics inquiries for this event should be directed to KHSAA Assistant Commissioner Joe Angolia (jangolia@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 AND ADJUSTMENTS

The KHSAA's complete "Healthy at Sports, Stage 4 - Perseverance, Guidance for Continued Practice and Competition During the Pandemic: Interscholastic Fall Sports" document can be found at the following link: <https://bit.ly/3jvElu7>

In addition to football 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.

REMINDER - 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.

Guidance is broken into three areas:

- **REQUIRED**- These standards are required at all sanctioned contests.
- **RECOMMENDED**- These standards are best practices during all contests during the pandemic and are therefore recommended for all contests. In a few cases, these will be **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED**.
- **CONSIDER**- While these items are also best practices during this time, local site discretion should be exercised to determine if these items are practical and feasible for use at the contest.

All items in the document should be interpreted as "CONSIDER" for local consideration unless otherwise noted.

These 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 covering information and portions of the football specific section of the document are included below.

MASKS/FACE COVERINGS

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

The COVID-19 protocols in place for the University of Kentucky home contest vs. New Mexico State on November 20 will apply for all games of the championships unless publicly rescinded prior to that time.

COMPETITORS

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

NON-COMPETITORS

- Non-Competitors, in compliance with current KDPH and CDC guidelines are recommended to wear masks in all indoor settings unless otherwise exempted (e.g., cannot wear a mask due to disability), regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status.

- In compliance with [current KDPH K-12 education guidance](#), "In general, people do not need to wear masks when outdoors, though mask use may be considered in outdoor settings that involve sustained close contact with other people who are not fully vaccinated."
- Any part of a venue that is not able to be open-air throughout the contest (i.e. press box facilities) should be considered indoors for the purpose of any local mask/face covering requirement.

PUBLIC HEALTH PROTOCOLS

Each member school 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.

PLAYER EQUIPMENT

TOOTH AND MOUTH PROTECTORS [RULE 1-5-1D(5)]

- All tooth and mouth protectors shall be attached to the helmet. (REQUIRED)

SPLASH SHIELDS, FACE SHIELDS, AND HELMETS WITH FACE MASKS (SECTIONS ADAPTED FROM THE NFHS SPORTS MEDICINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, POSITION STATEMENT, AUGUST 2020)

- Splash Shields may be attached to the inside of the helmet and inside of the face mask to prevent respiratory droplets from spreading.
- A splash shield attached inside a football helmet covering both the upper and lower parts of the inside of the helmet to cover the nose and mouth complies with the requirement provided the helmet is being worn.
- Face shields may be of a commercial brand or third-party created but must be absent of tint as concussion recognition remains critical.
- The NFHS SMAC does not recommend anything – mask/face covering or shield on the outside of any face mask for any sport but it should be worn on the inside of the face mask for risk minimization issues as they want the face mask in front of it.
- Plastic shields covering the entire face (unless integrated into the face mask and attached to the outside of the mask of the helmet and clear without the presence of any tint) are not allowed during the contest per NFHS rules.
- The NFHS SMAC is always concerned that any product or device that attaches to the helmet and/or face mask will void the National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE) certification and will automatically void the manufacturer's warranty and/or lead to the potential of an unintended injury. NOCSAE stated the following with regards to facial coverings attached to the face mask.
- A face covering attached to a faceguard would not automatically void the NOCSAE certification of compliance with our NOCSAE standard, assuming it does not attach permanently to the faceguard and has no rigid components that might protrude in to the facial area.
- The helmet/faceguard manufacturer has the ultimate final say as to what can and cannot be attached to their face mask without voiding any warranty protection.
- Please be aware of this information from the NOCSAE as it does apply to products that were not made by the manufacturer of the helmet and/or face mask: <https://bit.ly/3jbtHet>

OTHER PLAYER EQUIPMENT

Cloth masks/face coverings (that tie to the head or loop around the ears under the helmet) are permissible to be worn under the face mask.

Cloth face coverings are permissible for all coaches and team staff and all game administration officials.

Gloves are permissible for all coaches and team staff and all game administration officials.

OFFICIATING (RULES)

TEAM BOX (RULE 1-2-3G)

- The team box is extended on both sides of the field to the 10-yard lines (for both teams) for more space for the teams.
- The coaches' area (sideline to two yards off the field) is eliminated for 2021 and is a restricted area at all times except for a charged time-out to allow for freedom of movement and social distancing by officials, chain crews, and ball runners.

BALL (RULE 1-3-2)

- The ball should be cleaned and sanitized throughout the contest as recommended by the ball manufacturer (see FOOTBALLS AND FOOTBALL CLEANING section of this document).
- The ball holders should maintain social distanced at all times from members of the other team during the contest.

HELMET FACE MASKS/FACE SHIELDS [RULES 1-5-1A, 1-5-3C(4)]

- Cloth face coverings are permissible by players in the game.
- See the details of FACE SHIELDS AND HELMETS WITH FACE MASKS in this section and the details of the main document labeled MASKS/FACE COVERINGS for important details.

GLOVES (RULE 1-5-2B)

- Gloves are permissible but still must comply with Rule 1-5-2b by meeting either the NOCSAE Standard or the SFIA Specification.

INTERMISSION BETWEEN PERIODS AND AFTER SCORING (RULE 3-5-7L)

- The intermission will be one and one-half minutes between the first and second and the third and fourth periods and following a try, successful field goal or safety, and before the succeeding free-kick.

OFFICIATING (MECHANICS ADJUSTMENTS)

The position of the Umpire in a 5- and 7- person crew shall have the initial position in the offensive backfield, on the side of the center opposite the Referee, not completely outside the tackle, and closer to the line of scrimmage than the Referee.

The position of the Umpire in a 3- or 4- person non-varsity crew shall be 9 to 10 yards behind the defensive line of scrimmage.

The repositioning of the Umpire does not change any responsibilities and coverage assignments.

2021 KHSAA/UK ATHLETICS GAME DAY INFORMATION

KROGER FIELD MASK/FACE COVERING PROTOCOL

Regardless of vaccination status, all guests, staff and vendors will be required to wear a mask while visiting any of the indoor areas of UK's campus including indoor areas within Kroger Field.

Masks will not be required in the concourse areas or in the upper or lower seating bowls of the stadium as well as outside club seating and suites with the windows open if you are fully vaccinated.

All fans are strongly encouraged to wear masks, regardless of vaccination status, while not actively eating or drinking.

Fans will not be required to show proof of vaccination to enter Kroger Field, however in accordance with CDC guidelines, unvaccinated fans should wear a mask at all times when around others.

When do unvaccinated individuals need to wear a mask at UK Athletics events?

- At all times, both indoors and outdoors

When do vaccinated individuals need to wear a mask at UK Athletics events?

- Vaccinated individuals are required to wear masks in all indoor spaces

What constitutes an indoor space at Kroger Field?

- Restrooms, Longship Club, Central Bank Club, inside of the Lexus Loge, the Central Bank Press Box, all elevators, the KFB Recruit Room, the Player/Guest Entrance, First Aid rooms, offices and any other spaces that are fully enclosed.

Do I need to wear a mask when entering Kroger Field gates?

- Individuals who are fully vaccinated will not be required to wear masks when entering through most gates.
- Masks do need to be worn by everyone through the following entrances: Suite lobbies, Commonwealth Tower Lobby, Recruit Room Lobby and the Player/Guest Entrance.

Am I expected to wear a mask while walking on the concourse and waiting in concessions lines?

- No, not in open air locations if you are vaccinated.
- Unvaccinated individuals need to wear a mask at all times both indoors and outdoors.

Do I need to wear my mask in restrooms?

- Yes, all are expected to wear a mask while inside restrooms or any indoor space.

Do children need to wear masks?

- Unvaccinated children ages 2-12 are expected to wear masks.
- Any child aged 12-18 that is fully vaccinated should follow the above mask guidelines.

Do I need to wear a mask in the seating bowl?

- If you are vaccinated you are not required to wear a mask in the seating bowl.

WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Prior to arriving on the UK campus, we encourage all fans to check their temperature and conduct a health self-screening. Fans who are ill should not attend.

For a complete listing of requirements known at this time, [click here for the ukathletics.com website page](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FANS

- No bags should be brought into the stadium unless compliance with the clear-bag requirement
 - Medical bags only permitted through special admissions entry
- Arrive early
- Limit time spent on the concourse – reduce loitering or congregating
- Utilize hand sanitizer and wash hands as frequently as possible
- Plan to use credit cards, no cash
- A digital game ticket is required to be on the premise of Kroger Field on football game days.
- If you feel ill, stay home.

PARKING REGULATIONS

A digital ticket to the event will serve as a parking pass to all of the general parking areas around the stadium.

UK Athletics' goal, in partnership with the KHSAA, is to provide safe parking environment for all ticket holders.

- Parking lots will open one-hour before kickoff.
- Spectators are strongly encouraged to physically distance, wear a proper mask, hand sanitize etc. and masking is required in specific areas as detailed above.
- Hand Sanitizer stations will be placed throughout the venue.
- Informational signs will be placed that will encourage policies
- Ticket holders will be encouraged to arrive when lots open and enter the stadium to avoid crowds
- Details on RV parking will be announced closer to the event.

KROGER FIELD GAME DAY CHANGES

The COVID-19 protocols in place for the University of Kentucky home contest vs. New Mexico State on November 20 will apply for all games of the championships unless publicly rescinded prior to that time.

KROGER FIELD A-Z

ANIMALS

- Animals or pets of any kind are prohibited with the exception of service animals. Service animals are welcome inside Kroger Field but must remain on a leash or harness at all times. If guests intend to bring a service animal to the stadium, please notify your ticket representative at the time of purchase so that an aisle seat may be reserved.

ATMS

- Located next to the public elevator doors on the lower concourse inside Gates 1 & 9. Credit cards are accepted at most concession stand and merchandise locations.

AUTOMOBILE ASSISTANCE

- Guests with minor automobile problems (jump start, flat tire, etc.) can seek game day assistance from AAA at (859) 255-7600.

BAG POLICY

- Please see the new Kroger Field [Clear Bag Policy](#)

CELL PHONES & COMPUTERS

- Cell phones, tablets and laptops are allowed in the stadium as long as their use does not interfere with other guest's enjoyment of the event. No devices can be plugged into the building's electrical outlets.

CODE OF CONDUCT

- In order to keep the state finals as enjoyable as possible for all, the KHSAA, in partnership with the University of Kentucky, asks that all patrons respect those around them. The University of Kentucky reserves the right to remove any individual from Kroger Field who displays conduct that may endanger or disrupt players, coaches, officials or other patrons. No refunds are given in such cases.

DIAPER CHANGING STATIONS

- Diaper changing stations are available in all public and family restrooms in Kroger Field.

DRONES

- The use of drones and any other unmanned or remote control aircraft is expressly prohibited both inside and in the vicinity of the Kroger Field complex on game day. Any such use is defined as a Violation of National Defense Airspace by the Federal Aviation Administration and violators may be subject to criminal penalties.

EMERGENCIES AND EVACUATIONS

- In the case of an emergency, please follow the instructions of any KHSAA or UK Athletics staff member and public address announcer, proceed to the nearest exit in a calm and safe manner. Guests should use the stairs and ramps as a means of evacuation. Elevators may not be working at the time.

ENTRY

- Fans are encouraged to make an early entry to Kroger Field for all games. Long lines develop at some stadium gates just prior to kickoff. Spectators can ease congestion by entering earlier.

FAMILY RESTROOMS

- There are family restrooms located on the lower concourse near sections 4 and 24.

FIRST AID LOCATIONS

- North side lower concourse near section 9 and South side lower concourse near section 22.

GAME FIELD

- In the interest of participant, staff and spectator safety, public access to the playing field, at any time, is strictly prohibited.

GOLF CARTS

- In the interest of safety for all guests and pedestrians, guests' golf cart use will be prohibited in the Kroger Field Complex to include all parking lots, sidewalks, streets, etc. This policy includes motorized scooters, coolers, mopeds etc. Guests are asked not to bring golf carts to the complex.

LOST CHILDREN

- Parents and guardians with a lost child should contact the nearest police officer, KHSAA staff member or UK Athletics staff member. If a child gets separated, he or she should notify the nearest police officer, KHSAA staff member or UK Athletics staff member.

NURSING MOTHERS

- There are six family restrooms located throughout the stadium that will accommodate nursing mothers. They are located on the lower concourse near section 4 and 24.

PETS

- Pets, with the exception for service dogs, are prohibited from entering Kroger Field and surrounding parking lots/tailgating areas.
- PHONE NUMBERS (area code 859)
 - First Aid - 859-323-3819
 - UK Police - 859-257-1616
 - University Switch Board - 859-257-9000

POLICE ASSISTANCE LOCATION

- Between Ramps 3 & 4 on the north lower concourse.

PROHIBITED AND PERMITTED ITEMS

- The following items are welcome inside: Unopened bottle of water, smaller than one liter; personal chair backs (maximum

width 18 inches); One bag per person, must be clear and not exceed 12 x 6 x 12, all bags are subject to search; small collapsible strollers that fit under a stadium seat (strollers are subject to search); camera lenses (maximum six (6) inches, no detachable lenses); service animals accompanied by guests with disabilities or a trainer.

- The following items are NOT welcome inside: Outside food and drinks, including alcoholic beverages; outside food and drink containers, including hard-shell koozies; all weapons, including firearms, carried either concealed or openly are prohibited items at UK's Kroger Field per KRS 237.115 (anyone in violation of this will not be granted entrance into Kroger Field); portable heaters & combustibles; glass, aluminum containers and ice chests; artificial noisemakers, irritants and laser pointers; all illegal substances, tobacco products and electronic cigarettes; large bags; pets; unmanned aircrafts; inflatables; poles, extensions or selfie sticks; backpacks; purses larger than a clutch that are not clear.

PROJECTILES

- To ensure the safety of all guests and participants, the throwing of any objects is strictly prohibited. Guests identified throwing any objects are subject to ejection and potential prosecution.

RE-ENTRY POLICY

- As per KHSAA and UK Athletics policy, guests are not permitted to exit and re-enter Kroger Field on the same ticket.

SMOKING & TOBACCO

- The use of all tobacco products and electronic cigarettes is prohibited inside and outside on University of Kentucky's campus, including Kroger Field and surrounding parking lots.

STADIUM GATES

- As you enter/exit Kroger Field gates, please be extremely cautious of vehicle traffic in surrounding lots and follow instructions of parking lot attendants. Gates 2, 4 and 9 will open one (1) hour prior to kickoff.

STADIUM SEAT SAFETY

- Standing or stepping on stadium seats may lead to serious bodily injury.
- The KHSAA, in partnership with UK Athletics, requests, for your safety and other stadium guests, that you do not step, stand or use seats in a manner other than intended at Kroger Field.

UMBRELLAS

- Umbrellas may be brought to the stadium but may not be opened in the seating areas.

WATER

- Guests are permitted to enter with one unopened bottle of water smaller than a liter through the entry gates at Kroger Field.

WEAPONS

- All weapons, including firearms, carried either concealed or openly are prohibited items at UK's Kroger Field per KRS 237.115. Anyone in violation of this will not be granted entrance into Kroger Field.

COMPETITION DATES, LOCATION, SCHEDULE AND PRE-EVENT

The 2021 UK HealthCare Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine State Football Finals will be held Dec. 3-4 at Kroger Field on the campus of the University of Kentucky in Lexington.

A complete timetable and schedule of events for these championships is posted on the football page of the KHSAA website.

It is advisable to be familiar with this timetable and adhere to the restrictions that are in place.

FRIDAY, DEC. 3

- 1A Championship - 12 p.m. ET
- 2A Championship - 4 p.m. ET
- 4A Championship - 8 p.m. ET

SATURDAY, DEC. 4

- 3A Championship - 12 p.m. ET
- 5A Championship - 4 p.m. ET

- 6A Championship - 8 p.m. ET

PRACTICE/WARM-UP

There is no practice time allowed on Kroger Field's playing surface prior to the game other than the prescribed 40 minute warm-up period.

On the day of the contest, teams may not be on the field wearing any football equipment (including turfs, helmets, pants or pads) prior to 50 minutes before kickoff for any game, with no exception regardless of the length of the previous game.

This 50-minute time period allows for a 40-minute warm-up time with five (5) minutes remaining for pregame introductions.

Schools violating this policy face the possibility of a fine or other punishment permissible by KHSAA Bylaw 27.

CONFERENCE CALL

There will be a web conference for participating coaches and athletic directors at 9 a.m. ET on the Monday prior to the championships.

Additional instructions regarding the call will be sent via email once the field is set.

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

It is highly advisable to join the call from a computer in order to be able to review instructions and documents, however it is not necessary to have each participant shown on camera.

REQUIRED FORMS SUBMISSION

FB125 - PARTICIPATING TEAM INFORMATION FORM

- By noon on the Monday of championship week, the Athletic Director or Designated Representative from all participating teams must submit form FB125 (Participating Team Information Form), which is included as a link at the end of these instructions.
- This form asks for information on contact info, housing, cheerleaders, school broadcast radio designation and sideline heaters

FB143 - RADIO FREQUENCY FORM

- As detailed in these instructions, The KHSAA will provide field phones (headsets) from portaphone.com for use by the coaches in the finals.
- Due to a wide variety of interference in lower range radio signals, these units are in the 900mhz spectrum.
- If your school intends to use other wireless devices (for headsets or for hudl sideline communication, etc.) you will need to complete the FB143 form by Tuesday to be given to the frequency coordinator for the event.

FB134 - TWO-DEEP FORM SUBMISSION

- Each team is to complete a tentative two-deep form and submit using the spreadsheet link at the end of these instructions.
- This information will be provided on the KHSAA website and to the media for preparation.
- There is no penalty for adjusting the lineup through the week due to injury or coaching decision, but integrity in the form's completion is an expectation.

SI103 - SCHOOL MEDIA REQUEST FORM

- Schools may request a single student media pass using this form, if submitted prior to the deadline described in the team conference call.
- The link for this request is at the end of these instructions.

STATISTICS

- All schools should ensure that all game statistics have been updated including the semifinal contests prior to the close of business on Monday,
- Contact Assistant Commissioner Joe Angolia with any questions.

PRE-EVENT MATERIALS SHIPPED TO EACH SCHOOL

FOOTBALLS

- On Monday of the championship week, representatives of the host school are to be shipped four (4) Spalding Alpha footballs to be given to the winning team.

- These balls may be used in the championship game or be retained by the school for future use.
- The balls are provided courtesy of Spalding as part of its long-term KHSAA sponsorship package.

MATERIALS TO BE PICKED UP AT KROGER FIELD

- Athletic Directors or Designated Representatives may pick up all materials for their schools inside the Commonwealth Tower Lobby at the Media Check-In area two hours before kickoff.
- These items include all team-party passes as well as commemorative tags for all participants listed on the postseason roster.

DIRECTIONS TO STADIUM

Address: 1540 University Drive, Lexington, Ky., 40506-0222

Participating teams should note the published maps on the KHSAA website, which are also included as a link at the end of these instructions.

There are many directional references (North, South, East, West) within the maps and stadium.

For those familiar to Lexington, but not the stadium, the following should help:

- The South side of the stadium is the Alumni Drive side, furthest from downtown.
- The North side of the stadium is parallel to Cooper Drive, closest to downtown.
- The East end of the stadium is parallel to Nicholasville Road.
- The West end of the stadium is parallel to Bates Creek Road.
- Team Loading and Unloading - Gate 1 is at the northwest corner of the stadium, Cooper Drive side, near the indoor training facility, while Gate 9 is at the southeast corner of the stadium, Alumni Drive/Nicholasville Road.
- While the team, cheerleaders and official party will enter Gate 1, the only other pass gate will be at the Commonwealth Tower Lobby.

TEAM PARTY PARKING

Clearly identified team busses will not need parking passes after unloading but need to follow the parking map to the bus parking area on Farm Road.

Parking passes are not necessary as parking is provided at no charge with a ticket or credential.

SUPERINTENDENT, PRINCIPAL, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

The main building Principal, Athletic Director and Superintendent will be admitted through the Commonwealth Tower lobby pass gate by showing a current year Commonwealth Card.

The entry via Commonwealth Card will not entitle either position to admission into club level seating (Longship or Central Bank) (and will not permit field access.

If field access is desired for the Superintendent, Principal or Athletic Director, these individuals must be issued one of the Team Party passes.

BUS DRIVERS

All drivers of band, cheerleader and other support personnel busses should be directed to the online maps which are included as links at the end of these instructions.

Bus drivers must be prepared at any time to move the team bus, particularly if it is not parked in compliance with the published maps.

Bus drivers should proceed to the Commonwealth Tower Lobby for admission ticket at media check-in.

LOADING AND UNLOADING

Teams will load and unload players, and equipment trucks will load and unload equipment at Gates 1 and 9 before proceeding to the Farm Road parking area unless otherwise directed by University personnel.

Bus drivers must pay attention to the route maps as well as parking attendants to ensure smooth flow of traffic, patrons and team members.

GENERAL FAN PARKING

Access to all parking is in the lots as detailed on the maps on the KHSAA website.

Parking will be provided at no charge for those holding an admission ticket.

Parking lots are anticipated to open one (1) hour prior to kick-off of the first game each day.

LODGING

VisitLEX - The Lexington Convention and Visitor's Bureau - has coordinated the assignment of teams to housing for this year's finals.

No housing allowances are provided to teams within 40 miles of the site and if those teams desire housing, they must make their own accommodations.

Schools are responsible for all lodging bills.

School administrators should contact John Pohl, VisitLEX's Director of Sports and Equine Sales, at (859) 749-2101, regarding your pre-arranged housing for the finals if you have issues.

Mr. Pohl has been in contact with all semifinal teams and you are reminded to follow the directions to be sure you are able to obtain housing, if desired.

The complete listing of assigned hotels will be placed online after arrangements and team assignments are finalized.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

Amplified sound systems of any type, even if used by cheerleaders.

Animals of any type.

Any form of laser light shone toward a participant at any time, including players, coaches, officials and field-level administrators.

Band music or performance played at any time other than pregame, halftime, post-game and timeouts.

Electronic amplification equipment (except official band instruments).

Electronic, mechanical or semi-mechanical noisemakers, including stereos, speakers, cannons, fireworks, electronic horns, tanks, etc. used anywhere outside of the locker room.

Large field level objects, including oversized mascots that obstruct or could obstruct the view of any fan, participant or media representative.

Posters/signs/placards adhered to any permanent surface with any glue or adhesive material (signs may be attached to railing as long as done with easily removable string, tape or rope and doesn't obstruct existing signage and must be removed immediately following the contest).

Posters/signs/placards that contain derogatory language or sayings or negatively refer to the name of an opponent or member of the team.

Posters/signs/placards that are blocking the view of any patron.

Tobacco-related products by players, coaches, support personnel (i.e., managers and trainers), game personnel (officials, chain crews and table crews) and staff during warm-ups and competition (including banquets, press conferences, post-game interviews, and at all stadium areas).

The tobacco prohibition is applicable to all activities at the venue including press box areas and locker rooms.

Umbrellas (if opened during play).

No recorded music or other type of reproduction subject to copyright restrictions will be permitted.

BYLAW 22 - REQUIREMENT TO ACCOMPANY

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.

TICKETING, CONFIGURATION AND ENTRY

PURCHASING TICKETS

All state football finals tickets will be sold online via GoFan, the KHSAA's official digital ticket vendor, at khsaatickets.org.

Schools already utilizing GoFan will have their school "tagged" as soon as the semifinals are over to help with the ticketing process.

Fans are encouraged to purchase their tickets before they arrive to help ensure a smooth entry.

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

All tickets sold will be general admission.

All state football finals ticket prices are \$15 each, plus any applicable credit card and convenience fees, except for the Longship Club (formerly Woodford Reserve Club) where tickets are \$25 per game with complete indoor access.

Each game is a separately ticketed event.

Sets of tickets for all six games will be available through Tuesday, November 30, 2021.

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

No coaches' association cards or KHSAA officials' ID cards will be honored at the gate.

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

Upon entering the stadium, there will be no readmittance without the purchase of a new ticket.

DIGITAL TICKETING ONLY

- The KHSAA has transitioned to digital ticketing for all state events this season, including the state football finals.
- Digital ticketing enhances convenience and safety for all fans, while providing flexibility and safeguarding against counterfeit tickets.
- Digital tickets will provide quick and contactless entry to Kroger Field, which is the most sanitary and efficient way to enter the stadium.
- Tickets will only be issued via digital delivery.
- Ticket holders will access their tickets on their phones and can transfer them electronically to other members in their party when necessary.
- Mobile help locations will be set up on the exterior of the stadium at the Guest Services booths to assist spectators with Wi-Fi connectivity and accessing their tickets.
- Spectators are strongly encouraged to download the GoFan mobile app and save the tickets through that app prior to arrival.

BOX OFFICE OPERATIONS

- No tickets will be sold from the box office or on site.
- Tickets are available in advance of your arrival and until the entry to the stadium via khsaatickets.org
- Advance ticket sales will be promoted.
- There will be a help center /resolution center between gates 9 & 10, and near gate 4.

SEATING BOWL CONFIGURATION

Upper stadium seating will not be utilized and are inaccessible during this event.

Only the lower level seating bowl will be utilized for the finals.

Seating Configuration maps are located on the KHSAA website.

CLUB SEATING

Both clubs are located on the side of the field assigned to the Home Team (highest RPI).

LONGSHIP CLUB

- The KHSAA will utilize the Longship Club (formerly Woodford Reserve Club) and those premium seats are sold at a higher price.
- Tickets in the Longship Club has access to a dedicated concession stand and the games can be viewed from inside the club in case of inclement weather.

CENTRAL BANK CLUB

- The KHSAA will use the Central Bank Club (formerly Field Club) and those will be general admission seats, sold first come, first serve until sales capacity has been reached.
- Tickets in Central Bank Club do not have a game view from inside the club.
- The home team (highest RPI) will have a 48-hour window starting Saturday morning using a private link to purchase tickets for the area behind their bench located in the Central Bank Club.

- After the 48-hour window has ended, the remaining unsold tickets will be listed as available for either team to purchase.

ENTERING KROGER FIELD

Gates will open one (1) hour prior to kickoff for each game.

Ticket holders are encouraged to arrive early.

Fans should enter any gate an signage will direct fans to the appropriate side of the stadium.

When departing the stadium, fans should exit via the same gate through which they entered.

Physical distancing reminders will be visible in gate lines and points of entry to allow the proper distance between fans.

All bags must adhere to the UK Athletics Clear Bag policy.

All bags and items are subject to being searched.

Fans with necessary medical bags will only be permitted through special admissions entry at Gate 9.5.

Security at all Kroger Field gates will remain the same as in the past with the security check taking place outside the stadium gates prior to tickets being scanned.

Spectators are encouraged not to bring bags to limit the amount of touch points upon entry.

You are subject to being asked these questions at or near the entrance:

- Do you have a new cough, runny nose, congestion, headache or sore throat unrelated to seasonal allergies?
- Do you have shortness of breath?
- Do you have new muscle aches/pain/fatigue unrelated to training/workouts?
- Have you had nausea, vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours?
- Have you experienced a new loss of taste or smell?
- Have you been in close contact with a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19?
- Have you had any fever greater than 100.0 or chills in the last 24 hours?

Fans are welcome to bring stadium seats or seat cushions to the game; the seats or cushions should be no wider than 18 inches.

Exposure to COVID-19 is an inherent risk in any public location where people are present. We cannot guarantee you will not be exposed during your visit to Kroger Field.

STADIUM GATES

- Gates 2, 4 and 9 will be open on game day.
- The Commonwealth Tower Lobby will also be open for media and Longship Club ticketed patrons.

GENERAL TICKET SALES

General Admission tickets are \$15 in advance of Tuesday of the championship week, and will be \$20 the remainder of the week.

The home team will have access to the seats adjacent to the Central Bank Field Club on the South Side (Alumni Drive) side behind the team bench for the regular General Admission price.

Tickets in the Longship Club will be available for either team to purchase for \$25 per seat in advance of Tuesday of the championship week and will be \$30 after that point.

Tickets are digital only and are encouraged to be purchased in advance using the links on www.khsaatickets.org.

Children two (2) and under are admitted free.

Any individual not in uniform as a participant or holding a team-party credential will be required to have a ticket for admittance.

COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS/PASSES

No passes, other than those produced by the Association for the championships, will be honored at the gate.

Examples of passes NOT accepted include, principal passes and cards, coach passes and cards, athletic director passes, official passes and any other type of identification.

WHEELCHAIR/A.D.A. ACCOMMODATIONS

Accommodations will be made at the venue for persons in wheelchairs and those otherwise unable to utilize the traditional stadium seating.

Due to insurance and other concerns, there will be NO patron wheelchairs allowed on field level.

All requests for accessible seating shall be handled by the ticketing staff at Gate 9.5.

A shuttle will be available for patrons parking in the green accessible parking lot and needing to go to the ticket office.

CLEARING THE STANDS BETWEEN GAMES

Each game fits into a distinct, ticketed session. Therefore, audible efforts will be made to clear the stands between games.

The Longship and Central Bank Field Club seating areas will be cleared following each game as well.

OFFICIAL TEAM PARTY ADMISSION

GENERAL TEAM PARTY PROVISIONS

Each school will be provided 50 team-party credentials with field-level access only during its respective game, including warm-ups and postgame.

These credentials will be included in the team packet picked up inside the Commonwealth Tower Lobby or shipped to each team based on the Conference Call discussion.

These are the ONLY field-level credentials provided and must be worn by ALL individuals that are not uniformed players, including all on-field members of the coaching staff and school administrators.

Photographers and videographers may not use these credentials and those individuals issued these credentials may not have photo equipment.

Any team traveling to a game on the day in which they are not competing should contact the Commissioner's office via fb@khsaa.org to confirm arrival and seating logistics.

All other persons entering the stadium other than as a group must have a ticket and may not be on field level.

PARTICIPANT ADMISSION

Up to 80 players in uniform will be admitted to the stadium at Gates 1 and 9 (based on the assigned side of the stadium) following team drop off.

Extra players above the limit of 80 listed on the postseason roster will need to purchase tickets via khsaatickets.org.

FIELD-LEVEL ADMINISTRATORS

Each team is to complete Form FB125 (Participating Team Information Form), included as a link at the end of these instructions, to be given to security and local law enforcement in case of any issues with fans or for when administrative support is needed from the school.

Teams must use Team Party passes for these administrators.

These allow school administration to be on the field in front of their school's section to assist with crowd control as needed.

Administrators are expected to make themselves known to field-level KHSAA staff in case they are needed.

FIELD LEVEL COACHES AND OTHERS IN TEAM BOX

All members of the traveling party (including the head coach) must wear their team party credential unless they are in full competition uniform, including shoulder pads.

This includes coaches, managers, doctors, bus drivers, non-dressing players and all other personnel wanting access to the games and field.

Individuals needing field access, but not in playing uniform, will need to be issued a Team Party Credential from the allotment given to each team.

This field access is only for the areas between the 10-yard lines and cannot be used for still photography or video purposes.

Team Party access is only good for the game in which the credential holder's team is playing.

No one may come onto the playing field without a Team Party Credential, before, during or after the contest.

Administrators should include coaches, coaches' wives/husbands, administrators, etc., in their plans for distributing the passes.

If using a Team Party credential, each person will be required to stay within the team box except for performing necessary functions (statistics, team doctors, etc.).

Credentialed persons are liable for a penalty should they be out of the box for any other reason.

No person under 13 is permitted on the sideline and there is no allowance for baby strollers or other child carrying device even when accompanied by an adult.

School's are accountable for the conduct of all persons in the team box with regards to the competition rules.

When in doubt, non-essential persons to the playing of the game should be in the stands.

COACHING BOX PASSES AND REGULATIONS

Coaching Box Passes must come from the 50 team-party credentials and include field-level access during the contest.

Team Party Credentials must be worn by these individuals if they come down to the sideline before, during or after the game.

All coaches in the box must be on the school's approved list, meeting all Bylaw 25 criteria.

Photographers and videographers may not use these credentials and those issued these credentials may not have photo equipment.

TEAM VIDEO PASSES AND REGULATIONS (COACHING PURPOSES ONLY)

Up to two (2) persons holding Team Party passes may access the video deck by going to Gate 1 and using Elevator 13.

Team Party Credentials must be worn by these individuals if they come down to the sideline before, during or after the game.

The team video permitted under these provisions may not be sold to other individuals or entities.

CHEERLEADERS ADMISSION AND LOCATION

A total squad of 35 cheerleaders in uniform or combination of cheerleaders and dance team members, including coaches, will be given entry to the stadium.

The group must arrive together to be admitted.

Any cheerleaders above the limit of 35 must purchase a ticket and will not be permitted on the sideline.

Who composes these groups and their composition is a local school decision.

Cheerleaders are to be located at the discretion of the school.

Cheerleaders may not be on the concrete cart path behind the team benches and are to place no personal belongings/bags on field level due to space constraints.

Cheerleaders on the playing field may NOT do any stunting due to proximity to the cart path and sideline walls.

The squad, with coaches, must enter AS A GROUP.

BAND ADMISSION AND LOCATION

Pep bands are permitted, but are required to purchase a ticket for each member and band director.

There are no participant number limits on bands at outdoor events but all current research should be utilized for spacing and distancing from non-members.

No one associated with the band is permitted on the playing field.

ADMINISTRATIVE, FIELD SETUP AND VENUE LOGISTICS

TEAM BOX AND ROSTER LIMITATIONS

Rules revisions regarding the team box will be marked for each contest with either temporary or permanent markings.

Rosters are restricted to a limit of 80 players in uniform and participating in warm-ups and competition.

All non-uniformed team members who are not essential to game management should be seated in the bleachers or general seating area and able to socially distance from other groups.

The number of non-essential personnel who are on the field level throughout the contest should be limited and will not exceed the number of passes allowed.

GENERAL HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

Everyone should have a drink container that is not shared.

It is a recommendation to eliminate the normal "circle" huddle for those teams that use a huddle and to utilize a choir huddle (example listed at <https://bit.ly/3aWReNw>).

FOOTBALLS AND FOOTBALL CLEANING

All footballs should be regularly and routinely cleaned.

Balls should be managed by competent individuals (ball managers) who are capable of the rigors of keeping them sanitized without game delay.

The ball may be switched as often as the ball managers can efficiently allow for sanitization and return, up to and including changing balls each play.

Spalding Sport Ball cleaning recommendations follow CDC, state, and local guidelines for health and safety.

PREGAME AND COIN TOSS PROCEDURES

During the pregame field inspection period, perform the coin toss, limit attendees to the referee, umpire, and the head coach from each team.

Maintain social distancing as much as feasible and practical while performing all pregame responsibilities with all officiating crew members, game administration staff, line-to-gain crew, clock operators, individuals handling the balls during the game, and team personnel.

For the overtime procedure, use the same procedure as used at the start of the contest for the coin toss.

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING SECURITY PROCEDURES

Be aware that when you enter the event, bags, purses and packages are subject to be searched.

In the event that an item is found to be contrary to the security practices implemented by Local and Federal law enforcement authorities, you may be forced to return items to your car and/or hotel prior to entering the stadium.

The individuals involved with this determination are adhering to applicable Federal, State and Local guidelines and your cooperation is appreciated.

Please arrive to the stadium in time to allow the venue to properly execute its security plan.

The KHSAA will adhere to the [SEC Clear Bag Policy](#).

LOCKER ROOMS

Teams should note that the locker rooms will not be available until two (2) hours prior to game time.

Only individuals with the team party or players in uniform will be allowed in the locker room.

Please inform parents and/or boosters of this important, safety driven restriction.

Team shall practice social distancing and follow time constraints within their locker rooms to follow state and local government guidelines.

Teams are asked to be proactive regarding use of the locker room by arriving dressed in competition equipment, excluding shoulder pads and helmets.

- School administrators and coaches will be in charge of enforcing these guidelines.

A representative of the school and the KHSAA playoff staff will inspect the locker room before and after the game.

It is expected that each of the locker rooms will be left in the same condition after the game as before the game.

The KHSAA will take whatever action is necessary, including fining the particular school and assessing the cost for cleanup, to those schools leaving the locker room in unsatisfactory condition.

The KHSAA employs a great deal of security for the championships, as well as assistants to help with the locker rooms.

It is strongly suggested that schools use a "valuables bag" to be taken to the team bench for added security.

LOCATION OF TEAMS, BENCHES, LOCKER ROOM ASSIGNMENTS

Locker Rooms are subject to change if necessary due to physical plant restrictions.

Friday, December 3, 12 p.m. ET

- Class 1A, highest RPI
 - Benches and fans on the SOUTH side of the field, where the Longship and Central Bank Field Club seating is located
 - Locker Room 2
- Class 1A, Second highest RPI
 - Benches on the NORTH side of the field
 - Locker Room 4

Friday, December 3, 4 p.m. ET

- Class 2A, Highest RPI
 - Benches and fans on the SOUTH side of the field, where the Longship and Central Bank Field Club seating is located
 - Locker Room 1
- Class 2A, Second highest RPI

- Benches on the NORTH side of the field
- Locker Room 3

Friday, December 3, 8 p.m. ET

- Class 4A, Highest RPI
 - Benches and fans on the SOUTH side of the field, where the Longship and Central Bank Field Club seating is located
 - Locker Room 2
- Class 4A, Second highest RPI
 - Benches on the NORTH side of the field
 - Locker Room 4

Saturday, December 4, 12 p.m. ET

- Class 3A, Highest RPI
 - Benches and fans on the SOUTH side of the field, where the Longship and Central Bank Field Club seating is located
 - Locker Room 1
- Class 3A, Second highest RPI
 - Benches on the NORTH side of the field
 - Locker Room 3

Saturday, December 4, 4 p.m. ET

- Class 5A, Highest RPI
 - Benches and fans on the SOUTH side of the field, where the Longship and Central Bank Field Club seating is located
 - Locker Room 2
- Class 5A, Second highest RPI
 - Benches on the NORTH side of the field
 - Locker Room 4

Saturday, December 4, 8 p.m. ET

- Class 6A, Highest RPI
 - Benches and fans on the SOUTH side of the field, where the Longship and Central Bank Field Club seating is located
 - Locker Room 2
- Class 6A, Second highest RPI
 - Benches on the NORTH side of the field
 - Locker Room 3/4

TENTS

Teams are not prohibited from sideline tents to protect video equipment, but should be cognizant of fan sight line obstruction and may be asked to move to an alternate location.

HOME AND VISITOR AND JERSEYS

The highest rated team per the playoff RPI shall be the home team and the lower RPI rated team shall be the visiting team.

In all games, the visiting team shall wear its white jerseys.

In all games, the home team shall wear its dark jersey, clearly contrasting to white.

FIELD ACCESS RESTRICTIONS

Per KHSAA policy, no coach - high school, collegiate or professional - may be on the playing surface from the start of official warm-ups through the end of the contest.

The only exception to this policy is for coaches of participating high school teams.

OFFICIALS

In compliance with the Federal Court Decree, the Commissioner will assign all officials.

The officials will be announced by the Kentucky High School Athletic Association during the finals week.

Officials will be assigned based upon performance review and advancement of teams during the playoffs.

Copies of the assignments will be posted for review on the KHSAA website no later than Wednesday before the contests.

WARM-UPS

Warm-up time will start 50 minutes prior to kickoff before each game.

PRE-GAME INTRODUCTIONS

There will be no introductions of individual players or teams.

Teams will proceed to their sideline following warm-ups.

Final instructions for procedure will be communicated by the team attendants.

TIMEOUTS

NFHS timeout rules will be used at this event.

All timeouts will be one minute and 15 seconds (1:15) in length, including timeouts after a score.

There will be NO media timeouts during the games.

HALFTIME

Unless otherwise revised prior to the contest, halftime will be 15 minutes for each game.

Schools will be notified upon arrival if halftime is to be extended, but such shall not be extended to more than twenty minutes.

FIELD CONDITIONS, GOAL POSTS, HASH MARKS

Kroger Field is a synthetic surface.

Goal posts at the state finals are set at the college width, which has been consistent since the mid-1970s.

Based on the goal post width, the hash marks will be 60 feet from the sidelines, slightly toward the middle of the field from the normal high-school dimensions.

In the event of inclement weather, the KHSAA and game officials will make any determinations with regard to field conditions and playability.

FIELD PHONES

PROVIDED HEADSETS (FIELD PHONES)

- The KHSAA will provide wireless headsets for each team.
- Each set is configured with four on one channel, four on another channel and one unit that is switchable between the two.
- Teams desiring to use the KHSAA equipment can coordinate that with their team attendant.
- KHSAA headsets may only be checked out by an approved and qualified coach.
- Schools utilizing the KHSAA provided headsets are responsible for the full cost of replacement for any damaged headsets or equipment.

Each school may use its own wireless or wired communication for this event.

Schools utilizing their own equipment will not have equal access provisions in the event that their headsets are not working as this is solely a school issue.

Schools are advised that most generally available equipment owned by member schools will have communication issues due to frequency restrictions around the stadium.

Any school using its own equipment to communicate shall provide specific frequency information using KHSAA Form FB143 to the Association prior to Thursday as the Association will retain a frequency coordinator to help mitigate conflicts in frequencies.

GAME BALLS AND BALL PERSONS

FOOTBALLS

- For the championship games, Spalding will be providing four (4) footballs which will be sent to the participating schools.
- In collaboration with Spalding, and for 2021 ONLY, the requirement of the use of a Spalding brand ball is suspended due to continued issues in the supply chain of getting balls delivered.
- Spalding balls will continue to be provided to the championship teams for their use.
- Participating teams shall use any legally approved Spalding brand football in all playoff games if inventory is available.
- The game balls used must contain the NFHS authenticating mark and must be a Spalding brand football if inventory is

available.

- The game balls used must contain the NFHS authenticating mark and must be a Spalding brand football if inventory is available.
- Violations of this policy will result in penalties under Bylaw 27 including but not limited to, a maximum fine for the school in noncompliance. (SUSPENDED FOR 2021 DUE TO COVID RELATED SUPPLY ISSUES)
- There is no requirement that the ball contain a KHSAA logo.

BALL PERSONS

- Each team is to be prepared to provide ball persons for both sides of the field to help with game administration.
- These individuals will be provided with identifying vests which must be returned following the game.
- Under no circumstances are the ball persons to go onto the playing field as they are to relay the ball to the official next to them on the sidelines.

TOWELS

The Association does not provide towels for the teams participating in the playoffs.

Postgame showers will not be available.

CONDUCTING THE EVENT

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

In the event of inclement weather, it is the duty of the KHSAA to make pre-game decisions with regards to postponement or rescheduling, including getting proper notification to all teams, media outlets and schools.

Once the game has begun and after, emergency implementation decisions will come from UK.

Staff will utilize the KHSAA website, Twitter and the KHSAA text notification system to provide updates.

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

WATER - COVID-19 GUIDANCE

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

Refer to the "All Sports Guidance" section of the "Healthy at Sports" document (<https://bit.ly/3nnFr0o>) for multiple references to water, hydration and food guidelines.

OTHER RULES EMPHASIS, REMINDERS, BANDS

PLAYING RULES

National Federation Playing Rules will be utilized without exception.

OVERTIME

The NFHS recommended tie-breaking procedure (10-yard series) will be used in the event the contest is tied at the end of regulation.

BAND REMINDERS

Pep busses may drop off students holding tickets at any available entry gate.

Cheer and band busses should plan on dropping the students near Gates 1 and 9 (based on the side of the field on which the team is sitting) on the directional map before proceeding to the Farm Road parking area.

The playing of the National Anthem will be the responsibility of the KHSAA.

By rule, the band is not to play or cheers be given when the ball is live and particularly when the opposing team has the ball and the ball is about to become live.

Drums, cymbals, bells and mechanical noisemakers shall not be used to assist cheering.

Band directors should coordinate performances if such is desired.

The home team shall have the ability to perform first.

All band performances must be from the stands.

HEALTH INFORMATION

ATHLETIC TRAINERS, DOCTORS

Information from University of Kentucky Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine, led by Rob Ullery, will be provided to each of the competing teams.

Mr. Ullery will be in touch with each team early in the week of the finals to communicate not only with the school representatives, but with the assigned medical staff from your school.

Each team is also entitled to have its own team doctor available, but must make any field-level accommodations for the doctor with one of the Team Party credentials if sideline access is desired.

An ambulance will be on site, as well as first aid stations in the stadium.

A trainer will be provided and stationed outside the end zone during all games.

Trainers will be available for consultation one (1) hour before each game, as well as during and after the contest.

EMERGENCY TREATMENT

Ambulance services will be on call/on site for this event.

First Aid and Emergency Responders are provided for patrons through Kroger Field resources, including an AED unity.

Field Level AEDs will be located in the training staff headquarters and in the field level KHSAA office.

Should emergency medical treatment be necessary, the injured person(s) will be transported to A.B. Chandler Hospital, 800 Rose Street, Lexington, KY 40506.

The member school administration is responsible for ensuring that the parental permission to seek medical treatment is authorized for each participant.

The Principal, Athletic Director and/or the Head Coach can use a copy of KHSAA Form GE04 (the physical exam form) for this purpose, as this form contains appropriate language and should be brought for each athlete to the finals.

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 in which you or a team member feels should be addressed to minimize risk to all involved.

ATC's from UK Healthcare will be on site with ambulance services on-call.

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

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.

SPORTSMANSHIP

GENERAL SPORTSMANSHIP

The Kentucky High School Athletic Association requires officials to enforce sportsmanship rules.

High school athletics emphasize positive values.

All parties have worked hard to create a sense of teamwork, respect, responsibility, and perspective.

Officials expect good behavior and will quickly penalize misconduct.

Let this competition reflect mutual respect among all participants and officials.

Participating teams shall notify your non-competing students and fans that they are not to come on the playing field prior to, during, or following the game.

Any member school who has students relocate to a specific section of the stadium to rendezvous with team members; has team members enter the stands following the game, or has members of its cheering section enter the field en masse following the game will be penalized as a violation of KHSAA Bylaw 15 (Practice of Sportsmanship).

Teams cannot leave the field to go into the stands and meet parents.

FAN BEHAVIOR AND ACTIONS

The Field-Level Administrators are expected to assist in ensuring that fans do not come onto the playing field.

Please make regular announcements to the student body regarding stadium damage and restricted items.

Remind fans which side of the stadium your team has been assigned and distribute copies of the parking locator maps.

No one is to come onto the playing field without being in uniform or wearing a Team Party credential.

Fans, including parents, are to stay in the stands before, during and after the game.

Please make certain you inform your student body and the team family that the school will be financially liable for damage to any part of the stadium.

Note that all fans entering the stadium are subject to the search of any personal belongings, including purses, bags, carry-alls, back packs, etc.

Schools will be penalized to the fullest extent of KHSAA Bylaw 27 as a violation of Bylaw 15 for violations of these provisions.

Parents may meet team members following the game outside of the stadium gates.

MEDIA AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

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, semi-state, 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, semi-state, 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 and re-sell them to anyone, including team members, the families or the general public.

COVID-19 MEDIA RESTRICTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Media access may be limited, especially if there are capacity limits.

Establish a limit on the number of credentialed media members at each event (number of passes per outlet, priority to those who regularly cover, home/visitor split, etc.).

Encourage media members to RSVP in advance of the event so that you can allocate space accordingly and grant access to any media on a "waiting list."

In team sports (baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, soccer, softball and wrestling), inform the visiting Athletic Director of the number of spaces available for the visiting team media.

The press box should be limited to essential personnel only, with all individuals respecting social distancing (consider additional accommodations outside if necessary).

Pressbox windows and doors should remain open so as not to restrict airflow.

If the press box is totally enclosed, it should be considered an inside venue for the purpose of any COVID-19 mask / face covering local restrictions.

No non-working individual may be in the working press area, including spouses, family members, and others.

Interview opportunities may be limited during the week.

Disseminate as much information online as possible (limit handouts).

Limit field access to working media members only (those who are actively performing work assignments).

Incorporate easily identifiable credentials to ensure only authorized personnel are in restricted areas.

If radio space is limited to the home team, try to facilitate a shared feed of the home team's broadcast if possible.

Interviews should only be conducted if social distancing protocols can be followed.

Be mindful that no agreement can be made exclusive per adopted regulation, which precludes an audio broadcast by the visiting team.

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.

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.

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.

The individual receiving the School Media Pass shall be admitted into the game via credential which may be picked up inside the Commonwealth Tower Lobby between Gates 10 and 11.

No School Media Pass will be issued at the gate the day of the game without advance application.

Persons issued a School Media Pass are not permitted in the team box (between the 10-yard lines).

There is to be NO cheering or team support from approved school media representatives.

Photographers retained by the school, school system or booster organizations may not be issued a School Media Pass but must use the traditional media credentialing system to apply for credentials.

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.

The deadline to apply is Friday, Oct. 22 at 5 p.m. ET.

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.

Media outlets may be limited during this 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/>

TEAM BROADCASTS

The KHSAA is the only entity permitted to originate or authorize a video broadcast of any type at KHSAA State Championship events.

By paying the requisite fee, each school qualifying for a KHSAA State Championship event may designate one (1) radio station or website to originate an AUDIO-only broadcast of each game its affiliated school participates in.

An official representative of the participating school shall designate to the KHSAA which station/website will be permitted to broadcast its game using the Participating Team Information Form included at the end of these instructions.

The radio station/website shall then apply for championship credentials through credentials.khsaa.org.

Additional area radio stations desiring to air a game can contact Joe Angolia (jangolia@khsaa.org) for information about embedding the KHSAA's Mixlr channel broadcast into its website.

MEDIA BROADCASTS/FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER RIGHTS FEES

Freelance/commercial photographers and radio stations interested in originating a broadcast of a KHSAA State Championship event are subject to a media rights fee and will not be granted access to KHSAA events unless the requisite media rights fee is paid.

Information regarding the rights fee for the state finals is available through KHSAA Form SI106.

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 semi-state, 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 Communications Director for approval by the Commissioner.

MUSIC COPYRIGHT

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

WEBCAST/INTERNET BROADCAST OF GAMES (AUDIO AND VIDEO)

The KHSAA will stream all six (6) games and is the exclusive home for such live webcasts, which will also be a part of the NFHS Network and available on a subscription basis.

Audio from the KHSAA broadcasts will be streamed live for all games as well at KHSAA.net.

The audio and video links can be found at KHSAA.org by clicking on KHSAA.tv (streaming) and KHSAA.net (audio) and are also listed at the end of these instructions.

No other entity will be permitted to produce live video from the 2021 UK HealthCare Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine State Football Finals, with the exception of approved media outlets solely recording highlights for news use.

No entity, including media members, may stream live video content during state level events including the use of social media products such as Facebook® Live and Periscope (via Twitter®).

FILMING/VIDEO RECORDING

There shall be no filming (or other digital recording) of any football playoff final, other than by media members credentialed by the KHSAA or those involved with the approved coaching tape.

Credentialed outlets' entire recording unit must be contained within their seat and present no obstruction to other spectators.

Those wishing to film the game from field level for postgame highlights must wear a KHSAA Photographer/Videographer vest and stay within the marked media area. Media members are not permitted inside the team box.

FAN FILMING

Spectators may film with a handheld camera from the general seating areas.

No live streaming is allowed through any platform.

No external power sources or Kroger Field power sources may be used by patrons.

Violators are subject to removal.

KHSAA.TV AND KHSAA.NET

The semifinals and finals will be webcast live at [KHSAA.tv](https://www.khsaa.tv) through the NFHS Network, which is a subscription-based service.

Subscription plans for the NFHS Network are available for \$10.99 a month. A monthly subscription entitles users to every broadcast by the KHSAA and the more than 45 participating state associations.

A free audio-only feed of the games will also be available online through KHSAA.net and Mixlr (<http://mixlr.com/khsaa/>), which has a corresponding app available for iOS and Android devices.

PHOTOGRAPHY

The KHSAA employs commercial photographers to take pictures during the championships, including, pre and postgame events and action shots during the game.

These photographs will be online for sale through the KHSAA photos site within 72 hours of the completion of the finals, using the link at the end of these instructions.

All commercial photographers (anyone selling their photos) should be directed to the KHSAA for credentialing, and not through any school media pass.

All photographers who will sell their work, regardless of contract holder, must come through the credentialing system and will pay a rights fee.

OFFICIAL STATISTICS

The KHSAA provides official statistics for the games.

Official stats will be available live on the KHSAA website and a final box score will be posted following the game.

Due to space constraints, there is no space provided in the press box for team statisticians.

MEDIA INTERVIEWS DURING CHAMPIONSHIPS

KHSAA DIGITAL AND ONLINE NETWORK

- During the pregame, a representative of the KHSAA radio network may visit with each coach as a means of introduction and identification.
- This will facilitate the pregame, halftime and postgame interviews.
- This interview will be done outside the locker room.

DURING GAME AND SPECIAL PROGRAM

- Any media member desiring special accommodations, including the "wiring" of a coach, etc., must seek permission through KHSAA Communications Director Joe Angolia (jangolia@khsaa.org) as this is precluded by rules due to event copyrights and equal access policies.
- Please direct any inquiries for interviews/accommodations of this type to Mr. Angolia.
- School officials and members of the athletic and coaching staffs are not permitted to make exceptions to this policy.

PREGAME AND LOCKER ROOM

- The KHSAA does not allow individuals with media credentials inside team locker rooms for any reason to ensure equal access for all reporters, irrespective of gender or media type.
- School officials and members of the athletic and coaching staffs are not permitted to make exceptions to this policy.
- Pregame interviews by media representatives should be done outside of the locker rooms.

CORPORATE PRESENCE AND LOGOS

The 2021 UK HealthCare Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine State Football Finals is under exclusive rights with several major companies regarding promotional material and equipment.

As such, the KHSAA is legally compelled to enforce the restrictions of those contracts and will take whatever action necessary, including confiscation of items for the duration of the finals, in order to protect those agreements.

All first references should be to the "UK Healthcare Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine State Football Finals."

Second and subsequent references can be to the "UK Healthcare State Football Finals" for brevity.

The official name of the championship venue is Kroger Field.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

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

No member school may approve or sign an agreement that includes rights to state contests (delayed or live).

The Commissioner is the manager of all state championship play.

EVENT MERCHANDISE

KHSAA State Championship apparel will be available for sale at the event and online post event via the [TeamIP link](#) on all pages of the KHSAA website.

TeamIP is the exclusive vendor of championship apparel, please look for their tent at the championship event to purchase memorabilia.

No outside merchandise representative of the event may be produced by any other entity and sold or distributed inside the playing facility.

Pre-printed or otherwise produced shirts or novelty items commemorating the championship victory or participation are not permitted in the stadium.

Persons attempting to bring such items into the stadium will have those items confiscated by event personnel.

POST EVENT

RESULTS

Scores and statistics will be posted on the KHSAA/Rihards Scoreboard and on the KHSAA website following each game.

TROPHIES AND AWARDS

Team attendants will assemble teams and awards will be brought to the recipients.

Teams should stay in their assigned area.

- The state champion will receive a team trophy and 59 medals.
- The state runner-up will receive a team trophy and 59 medals.

One member of the championship team will be designated by the Head Coach of that team as the "Most Valuable Player."

POSTGAME INTERVIEWS AND MEDIA NEEDS

All postgame interviews will be conducted in a designated area near Gate 12 (no interviews may be conducted prior to or on field).

- Following the game, there will be a brief (five minutes or less) period for teams to spontaneously react to the game's ending.
- As the teams complete acknowledgment of one another and the trophy presentation has occurred, KHSAA representatives will take the winning coach and two players to the concourse ramp at Gate 12 where a temporary interview area will be provided.
- The coach and players will be in marked areas for up to 10 minutes of questions, with all media representatives asked to maintain appropriate distances from both each other and the coach/player representatives.
- When a period has completed for questions for the winning school, the coach and two players from the runner-up team will be brought to the area for a similar procedure.
- KHSAA event staff will coordinate these interviews.
- Media representatives may place digital recording devices in the proximity of those being interviewed but are asked not to be close to the coaches or players during the interview process.
- Sound amplification will be provided in this area.
- It remains our goal to help all outlets get the material they need in a timely manner while respecting the current public health conditions.
- Any additional interviews should be conducted as the team is exiting the stadium, while maintaining social distancing.
- We appreciate your cooperation with this process.

FANS, PARENTS AND PLAYERS AFTER THE GAME

Parents should wait outside of the Kroger Field gates if they wish to see their student-athlete after the game.

There is to be no gathering in Kroger Field parking lots post championship games.

The school representatives designated on Form FB125 (using the link at the end of these instructions) will be contacted should any student member of the cheering section exhibit conduct such that local police must get involved.

Security shall assist in getting the teams to the locker room IMMEDIATELY following the games.

There is NOT an opportunity for special pictures with trophies, players going into the stands, etc.

Teams will be penalized in accordance with Bylaw 27 for players attempting to climb or otherwise go into the stands following the game.

EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

There are no reimbursements planned for travel that will be distributed to participating schools in KHSAA championship events for the 2021-2022 school year.

The expense reimbursement policy is under review for future years in all association state events.

DAMAGE TO FACILITY

The KHSAA will take whatever action is necessary, including fining the particular school and assessing the cost for repair, to those schools leaving the seating area in a damaged condition or destroying any arena property, including fences, gates and barriers that can be directly attributed to the student body or representatives of the school.

IMPORTANT WEBSITE LINKS

- [KHSAA Football Website](#)
- [Healthy at Sports - Stage 3 - Performance, Return to Competition: Considerations for Fall Sports, Football](#)
- [FB134 - Two-Deep Roster Form](#)
- [FB125 - Participating Team Information Form](#)
- [FB143 - Radio Frequency Form](#)
- [Media Credential Form \(Non-School Media\)](#)
- [SI103 - School Media Credential Request Form](#)
- [KHSAA.tv \(Video\)](#)
- [KHSAA.net \(Audio\)](#)