



# Kentucky High School Athletic Association

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## **KHSAA STATE TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS SITE CHANGED**

**LEXINGTON** – The 2006 Kentucky High School Athletic Association State Track & Field Championships have been moved to Jon R. Akers Stadium at Paul Dunbar High School in Lexington, KHSAA Asst. Commissioner Julian Tackett announced late today. Pending the agreement on contractual details, the move will allow the meet to be held on schedule, June 2 and 3.

The State Track & Field Meet was originally scheduled to be held June 2-3 at the University of Kentucky's Shively Track Complex in Lexington, but those dates conflict with a potential NCAA Baseball Regional at UK. The State Meet has historically utilized portions of Cliff Hagan Stadium, including concession, ticketing and restroom facilities which would not be available in the event of a collegiate baseball game. In addition, limited parking on site at the facility and the need for a smooth flow of schools buses and fan traffic added to the concerns.

"With the size of the crowd, the number of participants that are involved with the State Track & Field Meet, the tremendous list of logistical arrangements and the desire of our office to support UK's efforts to a host a potential NCAA Baseball Regional, we have to make this change and make it now," Tackett said. "I am sure there will be details to fine tune and we will stretch Dunbar's beautiful facility to the max, but the ability to keep the meet at a very easily accessible campus in the city of Lexington and Dunbar's experience in managing large events will help minimize the disruption and changing of plans to our competitors and fans."

"The KHSAA and the University of Kentucky have long partnered to host successful state high school championships, as we have with other Universities and Colleges in the state. With the continued success of the sports programs at Kentucky institutions, this is not altogether unexpected and we certainly respect and understand the need to prioritize their student-athletes and the ability to utilize their home facilities," Tackett concluded.

Paul Dunbar has hosted major track events in the past, including the Fayette County Championships, state middle school meets and the KHSAA regional meet. Seating at Akers Stadium is listed at 3,600.

**-- KHSAA --**