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KHSAA FOOTBALL SIX CLASS PLAYOFF ALIGNMENT RELEASED

LEXINGTON – At its July 11 meeting, the Board of Control of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association approved a draft six-class playoff system in football to be distributed to the schools for play beginning with the 2007 playing season. Also at the meeting, the Board approved distribution of the following preliminary draft alignment to its member schools, the media and public through the Association website following verification of the status of pending school consolidations and enrollment number review.

As with previous alignments in other sports, member schools will have a period of time to respond with written comments for the Board to review. Member schools have until Monday, August 7 to respond in writing as the Board will review and consider correspondence at its August 21 meeting. Adoption of the alignment by the KHSAA Board could come as early as the August 21 meeting, but at the latest, at the Board's September meeting.

"If adopted, this represents the most significant change in the alignment of football schools and the football playoff system since 1975 when we expanded from three to four classes," said Assistant Commissioner Julian Tackett who handles the sport on a day to day basis for the KHSAA. "Many options were considered and reviewed over the last few years as the staff, Board of Control and the Football Advisory Committee continually review the championship playoff format including adjustments to the current system, and expansion of classes. In the end, this system appears to accomplish the most objectives put forth during review." Commissioner Brigid DeVries noted, "This draft culminates months and years of work by various KHSAA representative groups and attempts to strike a balance between the traditions of the past and the desire for change and expansion which was a goal of many KHSAA constituent groups." "More than anything, it puts football on par with other sports in which a vast majority of the participating teams have postseason opportunities".

The complete draft alignment, school locator maps and the cover letter to the member schools can be found at <u>http://www.khsaa.org/football/</u>.

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