



# Kentucky High School Athletic Association

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## **BOARD OF CONTROL ENDORSES COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION ON JUNIOR RYDER CUP PARTICIPANTS**

In a conference call on Friday, September 10, the Board of Control, at the request of Commissioner Julian Tackett, reviewed a potential issue related to participation in the postseason golf tournaments by Emma Talley of Caldwell County and Justin Thomas of St. Xavier High School. Talley and Thomas were two of twelve individuals in the nation selected to participate in the Junior Ryder Cup, the most prestigious amateur golf representing the United States.

The event is being held September 27 and 28 at the Gleneagles Resort in Gleneagles, Scotland, and requires travel by the two students, who have represented their schools continually during this regular season, at the time of the scheduled regional tournaments. The Board approved Tackett's recommendation that in the event that the teams from these two schools do not qualify for the state tournament, the two individuals would be added to the state tournament as individual participants. If the teams qualify, a waiver is not necessary as any individual on the regular season participant list can substitute on a qualifying team.

"It seems nearly unconscionable that we would ask these two individuals, who have represented their school all season and throughout their careers, to choose between representing their country and representing their school at the most exciting time of the year", Tackett said. "Working with Assistant Commissioner Butch Cope, who formerly headed our golf operations, we worked the last few weeks to find a way for these two to be able to play in our state tournament should they desire to do so, and not impact any other student-athlete. It would be different if this were any other event, or if these were not regular season participants throughout the year. It seems like the perfect win-win situation that benefits kids, which should always be our primary objective where possible."

Both Talley and Thomas have already played an 18-hole competitive round on the respective regional courses that will be used for their school, and that score will be used to place them in first-day pairings should the waiver be necessary.

## **RIHERDS.COM NAMED KHSAA TROPHY VENDOR FOR TWO YEARS**

Riherds.com, a Kentucky-based trophy vendor located in Smiths Grove, will be supplying championship awards and trophies for KHSAA championship events for the 2010-11 and 2011-12 school years. Riherds was founded in 1948 as a sporting goods business and expanded to include trophies and awards under the direction of Frank B. Riherd. The company enjoyed a partnership with the KHSAA for more than three decades through the mid-1990s. Mr. Riherd sold the company to children Frank T. Riherd and Lilly Wheet in 2003 and the company was renamed Riherds.com. While the company maintains a store in Smiths Grove, much of the business comes from Internet transactions around the world and the company has a proven track record with distance shipping and delivery. The Riherds.com Web site began in 1997.

"We are excited about the awards contract coming back to Kentucky," said Frank Riherd Jr. "Being physically closer to the schools we'll be able to give a level of support that an out-of-state supplier simply can't do."

Riherds will supply trophies, medallions and plaques for district, region and state competition for each of the 19 sports offered by the KHSAA. Conference Medal and Trophy, a company headquartered in Pocasset, Mass., had supplied awards and trophies for KHSAA events for the past 12 years. That contract was not extended past the 2009-2010 school year at the recommendation of Commissioner Tackett due to a thorough review of performance



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and quality control issues that saw a reported increase in delivery issues during the spring and summer of 2010. A complete proposal process for a long-term contract will take place during 2011 to be in effect beginning with the 2012-2013 school year.

"Stability in the suppliers working with our high schools is of great value, but we found that last spring, there were simply too many reported issues to ignore and that a change was necessary immediately. Thankfully, our new vendor is one of the very few nationwide companies with a track record to handle an order the magnitude of ours, with the complex shipping and delivery requirements and the need for constant emphasis on high quality," said Tackett. "In addition, it doesn't hurt that the company gets the vast majority of its wood materials for the hundreds of awards from Kentucky, and provides an economic benefit to the state while serving our schools. We are also excited that they are able to keep the majority of our current design intact, but in addition, able to utilize the latest engraving and print technology to ensure constant improvement."

## **ANNUAL MEETING OF DELEGATES SCHEDULED FOR SEPT. 20**

The 2010 Annual Meeting of KHSAA member school delegates is set for Monday, Sept. 20 at the Lexington Center. Six proposals will be voted on by the membership. The meeting begins with three professional development breakout sessions at 8 a.m. The voting session on proposals will begin at 11:30 a.m. with results posted on the KHSAA website at the end of the day.

A complete agenda of the meeting, including the proposals, is available on the KHSAA website at [www.khsaa.org/annualmeeting](http://www.khsaa.org/annualmeeting).

**--KHSAA --**

*For any questions or further information about this or any KHSAA release please contact Elden May, Sports Information Director at 859-299-5472 or [emay@khsaa.org](mailto:emay@khsaa.org).*

### *About the Kentucky High School Athletic Association*

The Kentucky High School Athletic Association was organized in 1917 and is the agency designated by the Kentucky Department of Education to manage high school athletics in the Commonwealth. The Association is a voluntary nonprofit 501 3(c) organization made up of 278 member schools both public and private. The KHSAA sanctions state championships in 19 sports, licenses and trains over 4,100 officials, provides catastrophic insurance for its member school student athletes as well as overseeing coaching education and medical symposium programs.