FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: OCTOBER 18, 2010

FOOTBALL ALIGNMENT APPROVED WITH FINAL AMENDMENTS
District football alignments for each of the state’s six classes were approved with amendments at Monday’s KHSAA Board of Control meeting in Lexington.

The adopted alignment, which will run from 2011-14 with a mid-term adjustment after 2012, has seven schools in different districts than the original draft proposal based on feedback from the membership and discussion by the Board of Control. The most dramatic change involved a two-year experiment passed by the Board that placed Simon Kenton in a district with other northern Kentucky schools Boone County, Campbell County, Dixie Heights and Ryle. This allows Paul Laurence Dunbar to remain in a district alignment with Bryan Station, Henry Clay and Scott County. For playoff only, the fifth place team in District 6 (the northern Kentucky district) will occupy the No. 4 seed in District 2 (Central Hardin, Meade County and Nelson County).

Under the playoff rules adopted by the Board of Control in August, Class 6A and Class 1A have 32 teams each and all qualify for the playoffs. The other four classes will be divided evenly.

“It was important for the staff and the Board to receive constructive feedback through the open dialogue we had with our member schools on this issue,” said KHSAA Commissioner Julian Tackett. “To create effective solutions sometimes it requires some out of the box thinking and, to their credit, the Board decided to give this a try for the next two years.”

In other classification items approved by the Board,

• In Class 2A, Butler County will be in District 2, while Leslie County was placed in District 8.
• Russell’s request to move from Class 2A, District 8 to Class 3A, District 6 was granted.
• In Class 3A, Western Hills will play in District 5
• In District 5A, the Board granted Anderson County’s request to move from District 4 to District 6.

A final adopted football alignment listing is available at http://www.khsaa.org/football/realignment/20112014/final20112014alignment.pdf

BOARD APPROVES STATE CHAMPIONSHIP FOR BOWLING
Bowling will become a KHSAA sanctioned winter sport in the 2011-12 school year, complete with a state championship tournament for both boys and girls, the KHSAA Board of Control approved Monday.

The current school year will allow a period of observation by KHSAA staff of a non-sanctioned championship already held for schools that sponsor the sport, with full implementation of a KHSAA state championship the following year. More than 60 KHSAA member schools already offer the sport.

Bowling is the first varsity sport sanctioned by the KHSAA since fast pitch softball was added in 1995.
BOARD APPROVES MEASURE TO COUNT HIGHLANDS GAMES FROM 2004
The Board approved a motion to allow Highlands High School to count all games played during its 2004 season as wins (with the exception of the on-field loss to Cincinnati Elder on Sept. 5) and directed that the official records of the opponents remain unchanged.

“It is unfortunate that the KHSAA was unable to get a final ruling on the merits of this case before it being declared moot by the Court of Appeals as the rules at the time were pretty clear and the earlier Court of Appeals rulings indicated support for the ruling. But at the same time, after reviewing the timeline of the matter and the complexities and details of this case moving back and forth between administrative and various judicial levels, the Board felt compelled to honor Highlands’ request as long as it did not impact other member schools,” Tackett said. “It is my sincere hope that we can move forward from this point and focus our attention on today’s kids and today’s games.”

MORE COMPETITORS FOR SWIMMING & DIVING
The Board of Control also adopted a motion that will expand the number of competitors for the 2011 Pannell Swim Shop/KHSAA Swimming & Diving Championships. One additional heat will be included in the competition, raising the number of competitors in each event to 32 from 24. The fastest qualifying times will be used to determine the open positions in each event. The order of events for the 2011 meet was re-arranged and diving has been moved to the start of the three-day event on Thursday evening. The 2011 Pannell Swim Shop/KHSAA Swimming & Diving Championships will take place on Feb. 24-26 at the Ralph Wright Natatorium on the campus of the University of Louisville.

REGIONAL VOLLEYBALL AND SOCCER TOURNAMENTS THIS WEEK
Regional volleyball and boys’ and girls’ soccer tournaments begin on Monday night across the state and will continue throughout the week. The winners of each of the state’s 16 volleyball regions advance to the KHSAA State Volleyball Tournament at Bellarmine University in Louisville on Oct. 29-30.

Winners of the state’s 16 boys’ and girls’ soccer regions will advance to sub-sectional and sectional play next week with the final four teams competing in the KHSAA State Soccer Championships at Toyota Stadium in Georgetown on Nov. 3-4 and 6.

--KHSAA --

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS
October 29-30 KHSAA State Volleyball Tournament, Bellarmine University Knights Hall, Louisville
November 3-4, 6 KHSAA State Soccer Tournament, Toyota Stadium, Georgetown
November 13 KHSAA State Cross Country Championships, Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington

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.

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.