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BOARD ADOPTS NEW SOCCER ALIGNMENT

Beginning with the 2012 season, regional alignments for boys’ and girls’ soccer will resemble those of the other sanctioned team sports in a measure approved at Wednesday’s meeting of the KHSAA Board of Control.

“This is an important step in the progression of soccer and one that will allow the sport to grow into a strong geographical alignment like the rest of the team sports,” said KHSAA Assistant Commissioner Michael Barren. “We hope the closer proximity of districts and regions will allow schools that may have been hesitant to add the sport to go ahead and do it now.”

The adopted alignment has 16 regions with district alignments based on feedback from the membership and discussion from the Board of Control.

“Though this alignment may appear somewhat non-traditional in that regions do not have uniform district sizes, it will allow new schools to add the sport and increase our participants,” said KHSAA Commissioner Julian Tackett.

The new soccer alignment is as follows:

**REGION 1**
- District 1 - Ballard Memorial, Community Christian (Paducah), Heath, Lone Oak, Paducah Tilghman, Reidland, St. Mary
- District 2 - Calloway County, Graves County, Marshall County, Mayfield, Murray

**REGION 2**
- District 5 - Crittenden County, Lyon County, Trigg County
- District 6 - Henderson County, Union County, Webster County
- District 7 - Caldwell County, Dawson Springs, Hopkins County Central, Madisonville-North Hopkins
- District 8 - Christian County, Fort Campbell, Hopkinsville, University Heights

**REGION 3**
- District 9 - Apollo, Daviess County, Owensboro, Owensboro Catholic
- District 10 - McLean County, Muhlenberg County, Ohio County,
- District 11 - Breckinridge County, Meade County, Butler County, Grayson County

**REGION 4**
- District 13 - Franklin-Simpson, Logan County, Russellville, Todd County Central
- District 14 - Bowling Green, Greenwood, South Warren, Warren Central, Warren East
- District 15 - Barren County, Glasgow, Monroe County, Clinton County

**REGION 5**
- District 17 - Central Hardin, Elizabethtown, Fort Knox, John Hardin, North Hardin
- District 18 - Hart County, LaRue County, Marion County, Taylor County
- District 19 - Bardstown, Bethlehem, Nelson County, Thomas Nelson (2012), Washington County,

**REGION 6**
- District 21 - Fairdale, Holy Cross (Louisville), Pleasure Ridge Park, Valley
- District 22 – Butler, DeSales, Doss, Iroquois, Western,
- District 23 - Bullitt Central, Evangel Christian, Moore, North Bullitt, Southern
- District 24 - Bullitt East, Fern Creek, Jeffersontown, Mercy (Girls), Whitefield Academy,

**REGION 7**
- District 25 - Central, DuPont Manual, Presentation (Girls), St. Francis
BOARD APPROVES BOWLING ALIGNMENT
The KHSAA Board of Control also approved a bowling alignment, beginning with the 2012 season. The alignment divides the state into eight regions. A total of 75 schools are fielding teams this season with five additional schools that have indicated they plan to field a team in the 2013-14 season added to the alignment.
“It is exciting to see an alignment adopted that sets up the regional framework of a brand new sport,” said KHSAA Assistant Commissioner Angela Passafiume. “Bowling is the first new sport added by the Association since 1983 so everyone is excited to be a part of something new and watch it evolve almost daily.”

This is the first year the KHSAA has offered bowling as a sanctioned sport. Regionals will take place the weekend of March 16-17 with the Ebonite/KHSAA Bowling State Championships taking place on Thursday and Friday, March 22-23 at Executive Strike and Spare in Louisville.

“I can’t properly say how much I appreciate the support the bowling centers and schools have given to Angela and our office during this implementation,” Tackett said.

The adopted bowling alignment is as follows:

**REGION 1** - (WESTERN KENTUCKY) – Bowling Green, Graves County, Greenwood, Paducah Tilghman, South Warren, Warren Central, Warren East

**REGION 2** - (MID KENTUCKY) – Campbellsville, Central Hardin, Green County, John Hardin, Nelson County, North Hardin, Taylor County

**REGION 3** - (SOUTH JEFFERSON) – Bullitt Central, Bullitt East, Butler, DeSales, Doss, Fairdale, Fern Creek, Jeffersontown, * (Louisville) Holy Cross, Mercy, Moore, North Bullitt, Pleasure Ridge Park, *Southern, *Valley


**REGION 5** - (EAST NORTHERN KENTUCKY) – Bishop Brossart, Campbell County, Dayton, Highlands, Newport, Newport Central Catholic, Simon Kenton, Scott

**REGION 6** - (WEST NORTHERN KENTUCKY) – Beechwood, Boone County, Cooper, Covington Catholic, Dixie Heights, Holy Cross (Covington), Notre Dame, Lloyd Memorial, St. Henry

**REGION 7** - (MIDDLE KENTUCKY) – Bourbon County, Bryan Station, Harrison County, Henry Clay, Lexington Catholic, Lafayette, Tates Creek, Paul Dunbar, Paris, Scott County

**REGION 8** - (SOUTH CENTRAL KENTUCKY) – Corbin, East Jessamine, Fleming County, George Rogers Clark, Lee County, Madison Central, Madison Southern, Montgomery County, Rowan County, West Jessamine, Wayne County (11)

*Indicate teams who are not playing in 2011-2012 but will add a team for 2012-2013

**BOARD ADOPTS BEST OF FIVE FORMAT FOR POSTSEASON VOLLEYBALL**

Beginning in the 2012 season all postseason volleyball matches will be determined in a best of five format, a change from the best of three that is currently used. The change, approved by the KHSAA Board of Control, affects volleyball at the district, region and state levels of competition and bring Kentucky in line with NFHS rules. For regular season matches the format defaults to a best of five but schools may mutually agree beforehand to play best of three.

“The measure approved by the Board is something that mirrors the adopted format reflected in the NFHS playing rules,” said KHSAA Assistant Commissioner Butch Cope. “Most of the states, and all of our neighboring states, currently use this format to determine their champions. We also understand concerns voiced from our school administrators about keeping student-athletes out late on school nights so we still allow the option for schools to agree on a format that is best for them for regular season matches.”
NELSON COUNTY COMPETES IN DIFFERENT CLASS FOR FOOTBALL
Nelson County High School will compete in Class 4A in the football postseason beginning with the 2012 season. The move was precipitated by a split that will occur next year with the opening of Thomas Nelson High School. Nelson County’s projected enrollment will drop it to class 4A, while Thomas Nelson will not compete in district play next year. Since the split comes in the middle of a two-year scheduling cycle, next year Nelson County will honor its existing contracts, while contests from its finalized 2012 schedule will be randomly selected before the season as district games and computed as part of the Class 4A district standings.

“Mid-contract realignment changes are always difficult but this alternative will allow for the students at Nelson County not to be shortchanged in terms of playing for the district but not force a large number of schools to change schedules six months before the season starts,” said Tackett.

LAWRENCE COUNTY STAYING PUT FOR NOW
The KHSAA Board of Control discussed a request from Lawrence County High School and the Lawrence County Schools to change districts within the 15th Region. Following consideration of the request, and input from the superintendents of the various districts, the Board’s Team Sports Committee tabled the request and will review the request again at its April meeting. Nothing has been changed at this time relative the composition of the district in the 15th Region in the sports of baseball, basketball, softball and volleyball.

BOARD CLARIFIES POLICY ON ALCOHOL SALES AT CHAMPIONSHIP VENUES
Following a detailed study of championship event venues that offer alcohol sales, the Board voted on Wednesday to adopt the following policy on behalf of the KHSAA, that no alcohol is to be sold at any KHSAA state tournament venue (including district, region, section, subsection and state) that is leased or provided to the KHSAA for the purpose of conducting a state championship while that championship is being conducted.

As part of the resolution the Board also recommended that member schools make all school property, including contest and practice sites, as well as vehicles used by the participants, alcohol-free zones. The KHSAA, and any of its agents acting on behalf of the Association, will continue to not accept free or paid advertising in any form from any manufacturer of tobacco or alcoholic beverages.

WINTER SPORTS MEDIA CREDENTIAL REQUEST FORMS NOW AVAILABLE
Media credential request forms for the 2012 Pannell Swim Shop/KHSAA Swimming and Diving Championships, the KHSAA State Wrestling Championships, and the Ebonite/KHSAA Bowling Championships are now available on the KHSAA web site at http://credentials.khsaa.org. Credential request forms for the 2012 Houchens Industries/KHSAA Girls Sweet 16® State Basketball Tournament and 2012 PNC/KHSAA Boys’ Sweet 16® State Basketball Tournament will be available on Friday at the same link.

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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 279 member schools both public and private. The KHSAA sanctions state championships in 21 sports, licenses and trains over 4,100 officials, provides catastrophic insurance for its member school student athletes and oversees coaching education and medical symposium programs.