FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MARCH 6, 2012

EBONITE INTERNATIONAL TO SPONSOR KHSAA BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Ebonite International, a worldwide leader in manufacturing of bowling balls and equipment, has agreed to a three-year arrangement to serve as title sponsor of the KHSAA Bowling State Championships, KHSAA Commissioner Julian Tackett announced on Tuesday.

“We are excited to have a company with the name recognition within their industry such as Ebonite come forward and want to invest time and dollars into the Commonwealth’s youth,” said Tackett. “We are excited to add bowling as a varsity sport-activity and this first season has added much excitement and thrills for an entirely new group of student-athletes. It’s a great relationship – a company with Kentucky roots extending a hand to Kentucky student-athletes to create something truly special.”

Ebonite is the largest manufacturer of bowling balls and equipment in the world, with locations in Columbia, Tenn., Lakewood, Colorado and Hopkinsville. The company has become one of the most recognized names in bowling through its Ebonite product line, as well as OPTYX, Hammer, Robby’s, VanTech and Galaxy Lanes. The company’s title sponsorship of the KHSAA Bowling State Championships runs for three years.

“Few people realize that the world’s largest bowling consumer products company resides in the Commonwealth of Kentucky,” said Bob Reid, Ebonite International Vice-President for Sales and Marketing. “We were ecstatic when we heard that Kentucky would join the list of states offering bowling as a varsity sport-activity and our Ebonite brand is honored to sponsor what will soon become one of the most exciting state tournaments in all of sports. We can’t wait to be there!”

The first Ebonite/KHSAA Bowling State Championships will be held on Thursday and Friday, March 22-23, at Executive Strike and Spare in Louisville. Regional competitions began over the weekend and will continue through March 17.

“Ebonite has long been a supporter of youth bowling,” said Brenda Green, Ebonite International Marketing Services Manager. “We were thrilled to commit to varsity bowling in Kentucky as well. There are so many opportunities in bowling now at the high school and collegiate level, and Kentucky students now have a share in those opportunities. The State Championships are going to be a really special event for everyone who attends.”

HOUCHENS INDUSTRIES/KHSAA GIRLS SWEET 16® THIS WEEK

Diddle Arena in Bowling Green will be the center of girls’ basketball in the commonwealth as the 51st Houchens Industries/KHSAA Girls’ Sweet 16® gets underway Wednesday. Four games will be played on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, with game times scheduled for noon and 1:30 for the afternoon sessions and 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. for the evening sessions. The semifinals are scheduled for 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 10, with the championship game slated for 8 p.m. the same night.
Rockcastle County is the defending champion while a total of three teams (Hopkinsville, Muhlenberg County, Glasgow) will be making their first appearance in the Sweet Sixteen®.

PNC FOUNDATION/KHSAA SWEET 16® SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS
Following are the 2012 winners of the PNC Foundation Sweet 16 scholarships. As part of its title sponsorship of the Boys’ Sweet 16®, PNC will present each with a one-time $1,000 scholarship. Winners will be recognized during the first round of the tournament in which the region they represent plays.

Region 1 – Shain Ross (Mayfield), Tory Fehrenbacher (Marshall County)
Region 2 – Warron Sutton (Lyon County), Lauren Stull (Webster County)
Region 3 – Evan Pollock (Breckinridge County), Morgan Miller (Owensboro)
Region 4 – Zach Imel (Bowling Green), Shelby Ray (Glasgow)
Region 5 – Joshua Koontz (Bethlehem), Dierra Bell (John Hardin)
Region 6 – Logan Pruitt (Bullitt East), Maegan Arnold (Pleasure Ridge Park)
Region 7 – Shayne Snyder (Atherton), Fianna Ford (Ballard)
Region 8 – Kameron Shams (North Oldham), Victoria Silcox (Oldham County)
Region 9 – Eric Schieman (Covington Catholic), Madison Foley (St. Henry)
Region 10 – Nathan Ryan (Pendleton County), Morgan Bach (St. Patrick)
Region 11 – Hunter Conner (Model), Ashley Hinkle (Madison Central)
Region 12 – Travis McEachen (Burgin), Julia Higginbotham (Mercer County)
Region 13 – Hunter Williams (Williamsburg), Kaitlyn Kreitzer (Red Bird)
Region 14 – Ryan Goodwin (Powell County), Lauren Little (Leslie County)
Region 15 – Colby Hatfield (Phelps), Kashenna Wolford (Phelps)
Region 16 – Clay Woford (Ashland Blazer), Casey Hutchinson (Fairview)

-- KHSAA --
For more information contact Elden May at 859-299-5472