

WRESTLING

2021-2022 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP INSTRUCTIONS

FOR MANAGERS AND PARTICIPATING TEAMS

Presented by UK HealthCare





KHSAA.org - @KHSAA - @KHSAAEvents



Table of Contents

Brief Welcome KHSAA Contacts	<u>3</u> 3
COVID-19 Guidance for Wrestling	2
Masks/Face Coverings	2
Public Health Protocols	<u>7</u>
Administrative and Venue Setup	Ξ <u></u>
Officiating (Mechanics) (Adopted for 2021-22)	4
Officiating (Rules) (Adopted for 2021-22)	4
Qualifying for Participation at State Final Rounds	Ā
Competition Date, Location and Schedule	5
Date	5
Schedule	5
Venue and Address	5
Postseason Rosters and Substitutions/Roll-Ups	5
Postseason Rosters	5
Substitutions/Roll-Ups	5
Pre-Event and Site Logistics	5
Conference Call	5
Practice	
Lodging	5
Parking	.5
Bylaw 22 - Requirement to Accompany	.6
Mats	. 6
Scoreboards	. <u>6</u>
Admission Into Venue	<u>6</u>
Participant Entry	<u>6</u>
Team Party Entry-Non Participants	. 6
Ticket Salés	. <u>6</u>
Fan Entry	. <u>6</u>
Team Coolers	. <u>7</u>
Bedding	· <u>/</u>
Venue Šafety	· <u>/</u>
Venue Logistics	<u>7</u>
Dressing/Locker Rooms	. /
Water - COVID-19 Guidance	4
Signage, Balloons and Noisemakers	
Conducting the Event	4
State Competition Officials Growth Allowances/Weigh-ins for 2022	· <u> </u>
Growth Allowances/weigh-ins for 2022	· <u>/</u>
Seeding Format/Scoring/Brackets/Order of Bouts	0 0
Rules Points of Emphasis/Clarifications	0 0
Competition Rules	0 0
Sportsmanship	0 0
Health Information	0
Athletic Trainers	
Physical Exam Form	2
Skin Checks	ġ
Emergency Action Plan	ġ
Inclement Weather Procedures	ģ
Videotaning Media and Intellectual Property Rights	ģ
Videotaping, Media and Intellectual Property Rights KHSAA.tv	5
General Media Rights	<u>9</u>
School Media Credentials	10
Traditional Media Credentials	10
Team Broadcasts	10
Media Rights Fee Telecast/Webcast Including NFHS Network Restrictions	10
Telecast/Webcast Including NFHS Network Restrictions	10
Music Copyright	11
Music Copyright Filming	<u>11</u>
Event Merchandise	<u>11</u>
Post Event	<u>11</u>

Results	11
Trophies and Awards	
Finances and Expenses	
Important Website Links	

Throughout these instructions, portions that are different from previous seasons, or changed due to COVID-19, have been highlighted yellow.



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KHSAA Staff

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BRIEF WELCOME

Congratulations on behalf of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Board of Control and staff for advancing to the 2022 KHSAA State Wrestling Championships Final Rounds.

Refer to this manual and the important website links included at the end of the document to guide you through preparation for your participation.

KHSAA CONTACTS

The primary contact for wrestling is Assistant Commissioner Joe Angolia (jangolia@khsaa.org).

If Mr. Angolia is for some reason not available, Assistant Commissioner Darren Bilberry (dbillberry@khsaa.org) is the backup contact.

They, along with Event Services and Social Media Director Jenny Elder (jelder@khsaa.org), will be on site throughout the event to assist you as needed.

Media inquiries should be directed to Media Relations and Publications Director Connor Link (<u>clink@khsaa.org</u>), who will also be on site throughout the event.

Questions may also be directed to the KHSAA offices at (859) 299-5472 and any member of the staff should be able to refer you to the correct party.

COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR WRESTLING

The KHSAA's complete "Healthy at Sports, Stage 4 - Perseverance, Guidance for Continued Practice and Competition During the Pandemic: Interscholastic Sports" document can be found at the following link: <u>https://bit.ly/3jvElu7</u>

In addition to wrestling specific guidance, this document includes guidance for all sports, officials and media. The information in this document should be thoroughly reviewed by all managers, participants and spectators attending a postseason event.

REMINDER - Anyone attending or participating in a KHSAA regular season or postseason event should review their symptoms before arriving. Those that are ill or displaying any symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home.

Guidance is broken into three areas:

- REQUIRED- These standards are required at all sanctioned contests.
- RECOMMENDED- These standards are best practices during all contests during the pandemic and are therefore recommended for all contests. In a few cases, these will be STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.
- CONSIDER- While these items are also best practices during this time, local site discretion should be exercised to determine if these items are practical and feasible for use at the contest.

All items in the document should be interpreted as "CONSIDER" for local consideration unless otherwise noted.

These differences in the guidance are necessitated by the differences in sports, facilities and geographic areas, which are pronounced during normal years and magnified this school year.

Masks/face covering information and portions of the wrestling specific section of the document are included below.

MASKS/FACE COVERINGS

Masks/face coverings for non-competitors and the requirements surrounding these items are a matter of local jurisdiction.

At minimum, any local or specific masking ordinance should also include a requirement for managers to post signage and make regular announcements.

COMPETITORS

• Due to safety concerns, competitors who are considered to be aerobically exercising should not be required to wear masks during competition.

NON-COMPETITORS

- Non-Competitors, in compliance with current KDPH and CDC guidelines are recommended to wear masks in all indoor settings unless otherwise exempted (e.g., cannot wear a mask due to disability), regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status.
- See the current CDC Guidance online.
- In compliance with current KDPH K-12 education guidance, "In general, people do not need to wear masks when outdoors,



though mask use may be considered in outdoor settings that involve sustained close contact with other people who are not fully vaccinated."

PUBLIC HEALTH PROTOCOLS

• Each member school and event host is expected to adhere to public health standards regarding isolation and quarantine as well as the adopted Return to Play Protocol in the event of a positive test in a participant or team staff member.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND VENUE SETUP

PRE-EVENT (ALL RECOMMENDED)

Rule 4-5 Weigh-in, social distancing must be maintained, mat-side weigh-ins are permissible to assist with this.

Each wrestler is to have a set of leg bands that will not be shared with others.

EVENT SETUP

Have hand sanitizer mat side or sanitizing wipes at the scorer's table.

Table workers may wear gloves.

Mats should be cleaned between matches.

Spacing between mats should be 10 feet, but shall be at least five feet between mat edges and ensure 10 feet between the wrestling circles per NFHS rules.

If chairs are used in coaches' corners, separate them to the fullest extent possible.

CONDUCT OF EVENTS (ALL RECOMMENDED)

Athletes should consider wearing masks/approved face coverings off the mat surface (before, after, and between susequent matches).

Coaches should consider wearing masks/approved face coverings at all times.

PRE AND POST EVENT (ALL RECOMMENDED)

Athletes should wear masks/face coverings in the team and individual staging area before each bout.

Wrestlers may remove their mask/face covering when called to the mat.

Hosts must insist on compliance with local protocols during the event.

Coaches and competitors shall assist with the disinfection of the wrestler's equipment after each match.

Pre- and post-match handshakes with opposing coaches should be eliminated.

OFFICIATING (MECHANICS) (ADOPTED FOR 2021-22)

Bring personal hand sanitizer and wash hands frequently.

May wear disposable gloves but if worn, consider changing after each match

Officials should follow all social distancing guidelines (pre- and post-meet conferences, talking to coaches, etc.)

OFFICIATING (RULES) (ADOPTED FOR 2021-22)

Rule 3-3 Signatures will not be required on score sheets, a verbal acknowledgment will be accepted and such acknowledgment is noted by the scorer.

Rule 5-13 Wrestlers do not have to appear on the mat to be awarded a forfeit.

Rule 6-1 Regular matches in dual meets or tournament competition, may consist of three periods with the first period being one minute and the second and third should be two minutes in length.

Rule 6-1 Regular season matches in dual meets or tournament competition may require a 30-second separation of wrestlers between periods.

Rule 6-5-2 The referee is not required to declare the winner by raising the winning wrestler's hand.

QUALIFYING FOR PARTICIPATION AT STATE FINAL ROUNDS

The top eight (8) per class at each First Round will advance to George Rogers Clark High School.



COMPETITION DATE, LOCATION AND SCHEDULE

DATE

The 2022 KHSAA State Wrestling Championships Final Rounds will be held Feb. 25-26.

SCHEDULE

A link to the complete time schedule is located at the end of this document.

VENUE AND ADDRESS

George Rogers Clark High School

2745 Boonesboro Rd., Winchester, Ky., 40391

POSTSEASON ROSTERS AND SUBSTITUTIONS/ROLL-UPS

POSTSEASON ROSTERS

Schools have previously logged into the KHSAA website and designated the postseason roster, which is separate from the regular-season varsity roster.

Roster revisions had to be made before the first date of the postseason when online rosters were closed and considered final.

Only wrestlers appearing on the school's postseason roster as of the first date of the postseason are eligible to participate in any round.

Schools must use the KHSAA system and not rely on the TrackWrestling Software to maintain the list of rostered wrestlers.

The online, postseason roster may be printed from the KHSAA website as the valid listing of available wrestlers.

This roster information is also used for advance preparations for state qualifying teams.

SUBSTITUTIONS/ROLL-UPS

In the event that a wrestler is not able to participate at the final rounds due to injury or other reasons beyond the control of the wrestler, no replacement or alternate wrestlers will take their place and a hole will be left in the bracket.

Due to replacement wrestlers not being utilized, there will be no need for bracket roll-ups in 2022.

PRE-EVENT AND SITE LOGISTICS

CONFERENCE CALL

There will be a brief web conference for participating coaches and athletic directors at 2 p.m. ET on Tuesday, Feb. 22.

Additional instructions regarding the call will be sent via email once the field is set.

Participants can set up from any location to join the conference and are encouraged to join by computer to view pertinent information, maps, etc.

There will be no mandatory, pre-tournament meeting at the venue.

PRACTICE

There will be no opportunity for on-site practice time individually or as a team.

LODGING

Schools will arrange lodging for their contestants if needed and are responsible for all travel expenses, including lodging, for participation in the event.

Have your school's or Board of Education's Sales Tax Exempt Number with you at check-in to avoid sales tax from being added to the hotel bill.

A listing of hotels with rooms being held for the State Wrestling Tournament, including rates, is included as a link at the end of



these instructions.

PARKING

General parking will be available in the lower lot on the backside of the GRC Arena. Due to school being in session on Friday, the general public should not pak in the main lot in front of the school.

Team buses will off-load at the team entrance and then proceed to the team parking area.

BYLAW 22 - REQUIREMENT TO ACCOMPANY

You are reminded that KHSAA Bylaw 22 requires a principal, coach or another approved individual of the school to be present along with any student-athlete who is representing a member school.

MATS

Mats for the State Wrestling Championsips Final Rounds were provided by George Rogers Clark High School and Montgomery County.

The KWOA is also providing the championship mat it purchased in collaboration with the KHSAA.

SCOREBOARDS

The KHSAA has been able to secure four (4) scoreboards for the tournament and their inclusion makes it more enjoyable for coaches, wrestlers and fans alike.

KHSAA staff will make every effort to keep results posted on the video boards in the corners of the arena.

In addition, updated scoring will be available via KHSAA.org and TrackWrestling.

ADMISSION INTO VENUE

PARTICIPANT ENTRY

Upon arrival at team check-in, a KHSAA representative will assist the head coach in validating their participating wrestlers. Team members outside of the participating wrestlers must purchase a ticket in advance through GoFan for entry. The process for athlete entry will be the same as used for the State First Round.

TEAM PARTY ENTRY-NON PARTICIPANTS

The team check-in gate will open at 9 a.m. ET at George Rogers Clark on Friday, and 8 a.m. on Saturday.

All team members and coaches should arrive at the venue together for admission.

Admission for other individuals, including non-competing wrestlers, additional staff or others will require paid admission through <u>khsaatickets.org</u>.

A limit of two (2) individuals may be present in their corner and no additional persons will be allowed in the corners.

Coaches' credentials are not media credentials and do not provide access to take photos or video.

TICKET SALES

All state wrestling championship final rounds ticket prices are \$15 per day, plus electronic transaction fees that are not received by the KHSAA. There is also a discounted all-session pass for \$25.

A link for fans to purchase the digital tickets will be emailed to the Athletic Director and head coach of each participating school to be distributed.

Tickets will be available through khsaatickets.org.

All state wrestling championships final site tickets will be sold online via GoFan, the KHSAA's official digital ticket vendor.

Fans are required to purchase their tickets before they arrive to facilitate entry and minimize congregation of those waiting.

There will be no paper tickets sold at a walk-up gate or cash sales.

Ticketholders will be given a wristband that should be worn at all times and will be valid for re-entry.



No screenshots shall be honored for admission at any time.

FAN ENTRY

Everyone must enter and exit through the admission gate which opens at 10 a.m. ET on Friday, and 8:30 a.m. on Saturday. Children five-and-under will be admitted free, but must still "purchase" the free ticket through GoFan. GoFan's training page for buying and sharing tickets is included as a link at the end of these instructions.

TEAM COOLERS

Teams may bring a single cooler into the facility only through the team gate to be kept in the auxiliary warm-up gym adjacent to the competition arena, but may not be brought onto the arena floor.

Individual coolers for fans are not permitted.

Athletes may bring in their equipment bags, but due to safety concerns, they are subject to being searched.

Any equipment bags and all gear must remain with the athlete at all times.

BEDDING

Air mattresses or other forms of "bed rolls" will not be permitted inside George Rogers Clark High School.

VENUE SAFETY

Persons who attend KHSAA events may be injured or become ill as a result of the risks inherent in being a spectator at such events.

Please advise KHSAA or venue personnel of any situation you encounter which you or a team member feels should be addressed to minimize risk to all involved.

Any crowd control problems or acts of violence should be brought to the attention of the event staff, which will contact the appropriate authorities.

Attendance at events is a vital family and community based activity which is encouraged.

VENUE LOGISTICS

DRESSING/LOCKER ROOMS

Locker rooms for changing immediately before or after a match, but not for team conferences, are provided inside the auxiliary gym that do not have shower facilities.

Participants should arrive at the venue dressed and ready to compete.

WATER - COVID-19 GUIDANCE

Coaches and athletes are reminded to bring their own water bottles and no community dispensers can be used.

Refer to the "All Sports Guidance" section of the "Healthy at Sports" document <u>(https://bit.ly/3qMfBEe)</u> for multiple references to water, hydration and food guidelines.

SIGNAGE, BALLOONS AND NOISEMAKERS

Signs/banners are permitted at the facility, but must be handheld and be of good taste and sportsmanship.

The signs/banner shall not cover any corporate signage or obstruct the view of patrons.

Amplified noisemakers or items that replicate game management cues are not permitted inside the facility. These items include, but are not limited to: air horns, electronic amplifiers, portable sound systems, instruments that require additional electricity, game clock horns and whistles.

Artificial noisemakers of any kind are not permitted inside the facility per NFHS rules.

Balloons, which can block the view of other patrons, are not permitted at the event.

Only venue provided amplified music is permissible, but only during pre-competition, natural and planned breaks.



CONDUCTING THE EVENT

STATE COMPETITION OFFICIALS

Officials presiding over the event are licensed and assigned by the KHSAA.

GROWTH ALLOWANCES/WEIGH-INS FOR 2022

For 2022, there was a ONE-POUND growth allowance added to each weight class after the regional tournaments for those that qualified for the State First Round.

An ADDITIONAL ONE-POUND growth allowance will be added to the weight classes for those that advance to the state championship final round on the first day.

An additional pound will be added to the weight classes for the day two qualifiers.

Official weigh-ins are tentatively set to begin at 9:45 a.m. ET on Friday at George Rogers Clark, and 8:30 am on Saturday.

Make sure your travel plans allow for timely arrival as NFHS rules state that all athletes must be prepared to weigh-in at the scheduled time.

In accordance with the competition rules, the scale will close for each weight class when the first competitor of the succeeding class weighs in.

The Scale will close immediately after the last 285 pound wrestler weighs in.

SEEDING

State Championship Final Round brackets will be seeded utilizing the Trackwrestling/FloSports system described below:

The top eight (8) wrestlers in each weight class shall advance from the first round to their seeded slot in the final round.

In the event that a wrestler is not able to participate in the state final round tournament due to injury or other reasons beyond the control of the wrestler, the opening will not be filled and a bye will result.

The final round bracket will be bracketed by the following criteria for each weight class:

- Semi-State 1 1st Place vs. Semi-State 2 8th Place
- Semi-State 1 4th Place vs. Semi-State 2 5th Place
- Semi-State 2 2nd Place vs. Semi-State 1 7th Place
- Semi-State 2 3rd Place vs. Semi-State 1 6th Place
- Semi-State 2 1st Place vs. Semi-State 1 8th Place
- Semi-State 2 4th Place vs. Semi-State 1 5th Place
- Semi-State 1 2nd Place vs. Semi-State 2 7th Place
- Semi-State 1 3rd Place vs. Semi-State 2 6th Place

A model bracket for the state final round is found on the KHSAA website at the link at the end of these instructions.

FORMAT/SCORING/BRACKETS/ORDER OF BOUTS

The state final rounds will be conducted as a full-wrestleback format (1st through 8th place) in each weight class.

The final round tournament will be scored as its own event.

Weigh-ins and bouts prior to the finals will be conducted in bracket order, beginning with the lowest class.

A complete set of tournament brackets will be available and updated throughout the event at KHSAA.org.

All weight classes will have the 1st seed wrestle the 8th seed, 2nd seed wrestle the 7th seed, 3rd seed wrestler the 6th seed, and the 4th seed will wrestle the 5th seed.

There will be no exclusion for wrestlers from the same region meeting in a specific round.

RULES POINTS OF EMPHASIS/CLARIFICATIONS

COMPETITION RULES

National Federation (NFHS) competition rules will be utilized without exception.



SPORTSMANSHIP

The KHSAA requires officials to enforce sportsmanship rules.

High school athletics emphasize positive values and all parties have worked hard to create a sense of teamwork, respect, responsibility and perspective.

We remind you that officials expect good behavior and will quickly penalize misconduct.

We encourage and appreciate your help in letting this competition reflect mutual respect among all participants and officials.

HEALTH INFORMATION

ATHLETIC TRAINERS

The Association will use the services of University of Kentucky Sports Medicine to provide trainers for the state wrestling tournament final rounds.

Athletic training staff will be available beginning one (1) hour prior to the first scheduled matches and remain available throughout the day.

Any school desiring admission of its own certified trainer shall contact Rob Ullery with UK Sports Medicine in advance of the event.

PHYSICAL EXAM FORM

Schools are reminded that they are responsible for ensuring parental permission to seek medical treatment is authorized for each participant.

The Principal, Athletic Director or Head Coach can use a copy of KHSAA Form GE04 (Physical Exam Form) for this purpose.

The form contains appropriate emergency treatment permission and should be brought for each athlete at the competition.

SKIN CHECKS

The KHSAA will provide medical staff to make skin checks during weigh-ins.

If needed, please have an updated KHSAA Form WR111 (Skin Condition Form) available for their review. A link to that form is included at the end of these instructions.

EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

KHSAA staff will, in consultation with the athletic training staff and venue personnel, develop an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for this event and the plan will be available upon arrival from the athletic training staff.

If an athlete or fan is in need of emergency medical attention, contact the nearest KHSAA staff member, official, University of Kentucky Sports Medicine trainer or venue staff so emergency medical services can be reached.

An AED will be located at the team check-in area.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

In the event of inclement weather, it is the duty of the KHSAA, in consultation with the host facility, to make decisions in regard to postponement, rescheduling or cancelation, including getting proper notification to all teams, media outlets and schools.

Staff will utilize the KHSAA website and Twitter to provide updates as well as an emergency text notification system.

KHSAA officials will make every effort to learn the weather forecast prior to the start of competition as the safety of the public and participants will be the most important factor in any decision.

VIDEOTAPING, MEDIA AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

KHSAA.TV

All bouts will be webcast through the NFHS Network, available at <u>KHSAA.tv</u>, and for Gold subscribers to <u>TrackWrestling.com</u>. Subscription plans for the NFHS Network are available for \$10.99 a month.



A monthly subscription entitles users to every broadcast by the KHSAA and the more than 45 participating state associations.

GENERAL MEDIA RIGHTS

At all levels of competition during postseason play, control of media access and location at those contests is with the KHSAA, and as such, there are necessary policies and restrictions concerning this event and these provisions will be vigorously enforced.

The intellectual property, corporate, broadcasting and media rights to all postseason rounds belong exclusively to the KHSAA, including titling agreements and sponsorships.

Control of media access and location at all levels of postseason play is with the KHSAA.

At all levels of KHSAA sponsored postseason events, including district, regional, semi-state, quarterfinal and state competition, allowances shall be made for television media to record video of the contests, without play by play, at no charge as long as the sole purpose is for newscast highlights.

At all levels of KHSAA sponsored postseason events, including district, regional, semi-state, quarterfinal and state competition, allowances shall be made for other media outlets to be admitted to the contests as long as the sole purpose is for reporting of the actions taking place at the contest and promoting the event.

Participating teams in KHSAA events shall be allowed to record the contest, for coaching purposes only, if space is available with such availability at the discretion of the KHSAA and may be required to sign a waiver indicating that the KHSAA shall be held blameless for any and all liability to those parties involved in the video recording.

Any video recording must not violate existing, acknowledged, written copyright protection or intellectual property agreements and cannot be broadcast in any form, including internet and social media.

If space is deemed available, the KHSAA has the right to designate a specific area for video recording and no video recording will be allowed outside of that area.

The determination of space availability is solely with the KHSAA and shall be equitable for all teams.

SCHOOL MEDIA CREDENTIALS

Each school is permitted one (1) school media pass at KHSAA State Championship events, valid only for a student or full-time school employee, for the sole purpose of reporting the events and for taking non-commercial pictures for yearbooks, school publications, etc.

Outside entities such as professional photographers, videographers or parents may not utilize the school media pass.

This pass must be requested in advance of the start of the event through the online system using Form SI103 which is included as a link at the end of these instructions.

TRADITIONAL MEDIA CREDENTIALS

Traditional media members (print, TV, radio, online) interested in covering KHSAA State Championship events should apply for credentials through the KHSAA's online system, which is included as a link at the end of these instructions.

The deadline to apply is Thursday, Feb. 24 at 5 p.m. ET

Applications should be submitted by the editor or director at each organization.

Complete information should be submitted for all attendees (including unique email addresses and cell phone numbers), as the KHSAA will use these methods to communicate information surrounding the event.

KHSAA Media policies are outlined online at - https://khsaa.org/news-stats-pubs/media-resources/media-credentials/

TEAM BROADCASTS

By paying the requisite fee, each school qualifying for a KHSAA State Championship event may designate one (1) radio station or website to originate an AUDIO-only broadcast of each game its affiliated school participates in.

An official representative of the participating school shall designate to the KHSAA which station/website will be permitted to broadcast its game using SI113 (School Audio Broadcast Designation Form).

The radio station/website shall then apply for championship credentials through the KHSAA's online credentialing system.

Originating stations/websites will be subject to a media rights fee, which will be outlined through the online credentialing



system.

MEDIA RIGHTS FEE

Freelance/commercial photographers and radio stations interested in originating a broadcast of a KHSAA State Championship event are subject to a media rights fee.

Information regarding the fee for each event is available through the online credentialing system.

TELECAST/WEBCAST INCLUDING NFHS NETWORK RESTRICTIONS

The KHSAA is a full member of the NFHS Network and as such, restrictions exist on all postseason levels.

All bouts will be webcast through the NFHS Network behind a monthly subscription paywall and for Gold subscribers to <u>TrackWrestling.com</u>.

A telecast, as used in these instructions, is a video, live or delayed account, including play by play, of any contest over the air.

A webcast, as used in these instructions, is a video, live or delayed account, including play by play, of any contest distributed using the internet.

The KHSAA is the only entity permitted to produce live or delayed video from state championship events including semi-state, quarterfinal and state rounds, and is the sole authority for approval of any other.

No entity, unless given prior approval by the KHSAA shall be permitted to produce video telecasts or broadcasts, with the exception of approved media outlets solely recording highlights for news use.

No entity, including media members, may stream live video content during postseason events including the use of social media products such as Facebook® Live.

The mandated minimum fee schedule will be published annually by the Commissioner's office on the KHSAA website.

For all postseason play, all questions regarding live or delayed broadcast or telecast policies, including requests for approval shall be referred to the Communications Director for approval by the Commissioner.

MUSIC COPYRIGHT

KHSAA schools are reminded to adhere to all music copyright laws.

FILMING

External power sources may not be used by patrons.

Spectators may film with a hand-held camera from the spectator area, but may not in any manner transmit live video through any resource, including personal social media accounts.

Violators are subject to removal.

EVENT MERCHANDISE

KHSAA State Championship apparel will be available for sale at the event and online at the following link - https://bit.ly/3qSUlfw.

TeamIP is the exclusive vendor of championship apparel, please look for their display at the competition to purchase memorabilia.

No outside merchandise representative of the event may be produced by any other entity and sold or distributed at the championship venue.

POST EVENT

RESULTS

Results will be available through the wrestling page of the KHSAA website, with updated brackets to be posted as well.

TROPHIES AND AWARDS

Trophies and awards will be given to the top four (4) teams and top eight (8) individuals in each weight class.

Wrestlers should stay in the awards area immediately following the conclusion of their medal bout in order to participate in the awards presentation.



Participation in the awards ceremony is NOT optional and is an expectation when entering the tournament.

- Coaches, Athletic Directors and others are not permitted to use cameras or camera phones to take pictures during the awards presentation.
- Only credentialed media members are permitted to take pictures during the ceremony.

After all awards are completed and venue tear down has begun, credentialed participants and coaches from the top four (4) teams may take additional celebratory pictures.

FINANCES AND EXPENSES

There is no school reimbursement for this event.

Member schools are responsible for all expenses incurred for participation.

The KHSAA underwrites the expenses of facility rental, security, first aid, judges and event workers.

IMPORTANT WEBSITE LINKS

- <u>KHSAA Wrestling Site</u>
- <u>Competition Rules</u>
- <u>"Healthy at Sports, Stage 4 Perseverence, Perseverance, Guidance for Continued Practice and Competition During the</u> <u>Pandemic: Interscholastic Sports"</u>
- KHSAA Media Policies
- <u>COVID-19 Media Guidance</u>
- Media Rights Fees Payment
- <u>GoFan Digital Event Tickets</u>
- GoFan Ticket Training
- <u>Skin Condition Form</u>
- Tournament Time Schedule
- GE04 (Physical Exam Form) (Spanish Version)
- Hotel Information
- Media Credential Request Form