



WRESTLING

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

PRESENTED BY UK HEALTHCARE

INSTRUCTIONS





2026 Wrestling State Championships presented by UK HealthCare

Table of Contents

WRESTLING SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS..... 1

Brief Welcome..... 1

KHSAA Contacts 1

Qualifying for Participation at State Final Rounds ... 1

Competition Date, Weather, Schedule, Location..... 1

 Date..... 1

 Schedule..... 1

 Venue and Address..... 1

Ticket Availability, Non Participant entry and Policies..... 1

 Purchasing Tickets 1

 Fan Entry 2

 Ticket Pricing and Configuration..... 2

 Complimentary Passes and Entry..... 2

Pre-Event and Site Logistics..... 3

 Conference Call 3

 Practice..... 3

 Lodging 3

 Parking 3

Team and Participant Admission Into Venue..... 3

 Participant Entry 3

 Team Party Entry-Non Participants..... 3

Venue Logistics..... 4

 Team Coolers..... 4

 Participant Equipment Bags..... 4

 Bedding..... 4

 Dressing/Locker Rooms..... 4

Conducting the Event 4

 Mats..... 4

 Substitutions/Roll-Ups 4

 State Competition Officials..... 4

 Growth Allowances/Weigh-ins..... 5

 Draw..... 5

Rules Points of Emphasis/Clarifications 6

 Competition Rules 6

 Designated Head Coach 6

Health Information 6

 Athletic Trainers..... 6

 Skin Checks 6

Post Event 6

 Results..... 6

 Trophies and Awards 6

 Finances and Expenses 6

Important Website Links 7

GENERAL WINTER INSTRUCTIONS FOR ALL SPORT AND SPORT ACTIVITIES 2

Supersedure Note 2

 Water..... 2

 Venue Safety 2

 Signage, Noisemakers, Balloons and Music..... 2

 Entry of Service Animals 2

Sportsmanship..... 3

Rosters 3

 Postseason Roster 3

Bylaw 22 Reminder 3

 Requirement to Accompany Team Members..... 3

Health Information 3

 Physical Exam Form..... 3

 Emergency Action Plan 4

 Athletic Trainers..... 4

 Inclement Weather Procedures 4

 Heat Illness Prevention 4

 Lightning/Thunder Policy 4

 Stoppage/Postponement 4

Videotaping, Media and Intellectual Property Rights 5

 General Media Rights 5

 School Media Credentials 5

 Traditional Media Credentials..... 5

 Media Rights Fee..... 6

 Telecast/Webcast Including NFHS Network Restrictions And Fees 6

 Music Copyright 6

 Filming..... 6

Event Merchandise..... 6

 Official KHSAA Championship Photos 6

Important Website Links 6

2280 Executive Drive | Lexington, Ky, 40505 | www.KHSAA.org

KHSAA Staff

Commissioner Julian Tackett

Sr. Assoc. Commissioner & Chief of Staff Butch Cope

Associate Commissioner Darren Bilberry

Assistant Commissioner Sarah Bridenbaugh

Assistant Commissioner Joe Angolia

Assistant Commissioner Abby Jackson

General Counsel & Board Counsel Chad Collins

Information Technology Director Rob Catron

Communications & Media Relations Director Brian Milam

Publications & Event Services Director Jenny Elder

Business Affairs & Operations Director..... Kara Howard

Sr. Admin. Asst. & Office Operations Manager..... Jeanie Molloy

Administrative Support Specialist Jeremy Ison

Administrative Support, Accounting..... Marilyn Mitchell

Administrative Assistant Sara McClain

Physical Plant Director Roy Tatum



[@KHSAA](https://twitter.com/KHSAA)



[@KHSAAEvents](https://twitter.com/KHSAAEvents)



WRESTLING SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

BRIEF WELCOME

Congratulations on behalf of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Board of Control and staff for advancing to the 2026 KHSAA Wrestling State Championships presented by UK HealthCare.

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 not available, Assistant Commissioner Darren Bilberry (dbilberry@khsaa.org) is the backup contact.

Media inquiries should be directed to Communications & Media Relations Director Brian Milam (bmilam@khsaa.org).

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.

QUALIFYING FOR PARTICIPATION AT STATE FINAL ROUNDS

GIRLS' COMPETITION

The top four (4) wrestlers in each weight class shall advance from the two-region combination regional to their drawn slot in the Feb. 28 Wrestling State Championships at Alltech Arena at the Kentucky Horse Park.

BOYS'/COED COMPETITION

The top four (4) wrestlers in each weight class shall advance from the region to their drawn slot in the Feb. 26-27 Wrestling State Championships at Alltech Arena at the Kentucky Horse Park.

- Any female who participated on a boys'/coed team at a region championship shall only compete in the boys'/coed state event.
- Females competing in the boys'/coed division will not be eligible for individual awards in the girls' competition.

COMPETITION DATE, WEATHER, SCHEDULE, LOCATION

DATE

The 2026 KHSAA Wrestling State Championships presented by UK HealthCare will be held Feb. 26-28 at Alltech Arena inside Kentucky Horse Park.

SCHEDULE

A link to the complete time schedule is located at the end of this section of these instructions.

VENUE AND ADDRESS

[Alltech Arena](#)

[Kentucky Horse Park](#)

[4089 Iron Works Pwky, Lexington, KY 40511 | \(859\) 233-4303](#)

TICKET AVAILABILITY, NON PARTICIPANT ENTRY AND POLICIES

PURCHASING TICKETS

All state championship tickets will be sold exclusively online via GoFan, the KHSAA's official digital ticket vendor, at <https://gofan.co/app/school/KHSAA?activity=Wrestling>.

Digital ticketing enhances convenience and safety for all fans, while providing flexibility and safeguarding against counterfeit tickets.

Schools already utilizing GoFan will have their school "tagged" to help with the ticketing process.



Fans are encouraged to purchase their tickets before they arrive to help ensure a smooth entry.

GoFan's training page for buying and transferring the tickets is included as a link at the end of this section of these instructions. Ticket holders will access their tickets on their phones and can transfer them electronically to other members in their party when necessary.

Spectators are strongly encouraged to download the GoFan mobile app and save the tickets through that app prior to arrival.

Tickets can be purchased via credit card at the admission gates to the site.

No tickets will be sold from the box office or on site using cash.

FAN ENTRY

All non-squad members (individuals other than the properly qualified coaches and participants) must enter and exit through the admission gate which opens at 8:30 a.m. ET on Thursday, 8 a.m. ET on Friday, and 8:30 a.m. on Saturday.

Any charges for parking will be included in the ticket fee.

No outside food or drink is permitted at Alltech Arena.

TICKET PRICING AND CONFIGURATION

GENERAL SINGLE DAY PURCHASE

- The price for one day will be lower, all fees included, if purchased prior to midnight on day of the event.
- The price increases after 12:01 a.m. on day of the event.
- Purchasers will be issued a wristband to be visibly worn all day to allow for re-entry to the facility.

TWO-DAY PURCHASE

- The price for two days of competition will be lower, all fees included, if purchased prior to midnight on day of the event.
- The price increases after 12:01 a.m. on day of the event.
- Purchasers will be issued a wristband to be visibly worn both days to allow for re-entry to the facility.

THREE-DAY PURCHASE

- The price for all three days will be lower, all fees included, if purchased prior to midnight day of the event.
- The price increases after 12:01 day of the event.
- Purchasers will be issued a wristband to be visibly worn all three days to allow for re-entry to the facility.

Kentucky Children's Hospital is sponsoring FREE tickets for all children 10-and-under.

- To receive these qualifying free tickets, you must "purchase" them through khsaatickets.org even though there will be no charge.
- Purchasers will be issued a wristband to be visibly worn all day to allow for re-entry to the facility.

COMPLIMENTARY PASSES AND ENTRY

Only the KHSAA issued Commonwealth Card will be honored for admission for one individual plus a guest for the Superintendent, Principal and Athletic Director.

No coaches' association cards or KHSAA officials' ID cards will be honored at any gate.

Any individual not in uniform or wearing an admission wristband, will be required to have a ticket for admittance.

For the two-day boys' event, day one alternates that are in attendance on day one and weigh-in, will be granted free admission on the second day of the event whether or not they are rolled up.

No passes, other than those produced by the Association for the championships, will be honored at the pass gate.

Examples of passes NOT accepted include, principal passes and cards (other than the Commonwealth Card), coach passes and



cards, athletic director passes, official passes and any other type of identification.

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. 24.

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-championship meeting at the venue.

PRACTICE

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

LODGING

Team housing for the wrestling state championships is arranged through the Lexington Convention and Visitors' Bureau.

As part of the bid package from the city of Lexington, specific hotels listed as a link at the end of this section of these instructions (make sure to access the Wrestling tab across the bottom of the page once the link opens) have allotted teams a block of rooms at a discounted price.

Schools are responsible for all lodging bills.

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

PARKING

There is ample on-site general parking.

Kentucky Horse Park will charge a \$4 parking fee, which is included in the ticket price, of which, KHP retains the entire fee.

Buses dropping off participants will unload them on the south side of Alltech Arena (Alltech Way).

Spaces will be blocked off to allow buses to drop off participants.

After buses unload, they will proceed to the main parking lot in front of the arena and park in its lower section.

The bus driver can then enter through the pass gate at the participant entrance (Alltech Way) free of charge.

TEAM AND PARTICIPANT 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 and non-approved coaches, must purchase a ticket in advance through GoFan and enter through the general admission gate. These individuals will not be admitted until the arena opens for the general public.

TEAM PARTY ENTRY-NON PARTICIPANTS

Gates will open for coaches and wrestlers ONLY at 7:30 a.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

This includes regional fifth-place finishers who are alternates that must also weigh in to be admitted at no charge on day one. Day one alternates, that are in attendance on day one and weigh-in, will be granted free admission on the second day of the event whether or not they are rolled up.

Coaches packets may be picked up at the participant entrance of Alltech Arena at the same time.

Coaches meeting all Bylaw 25 KHSAA Coaching Requirements shall receive free admission based on team qualifiers:

- One (1) qualifier affords a maximum of two (2) coaches;
- Two (2) to six (6) qualifiers afford a maximum of four (4) coaches;



- Seven (7) to 10 qualifiers afford a maximum of five (5) coaches;
- 11 to 14 qualifiers afford a maximum of six (6) coaches.

This coaching hang tag must be worn at all times, including when desiring to be mat side.

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

Lost coaches tags will be replaced for \$24 or \$40 dependant upon at what point in the championship it is lost.

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

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

VENUE LOGISTICS

TEAM COOLERS

Teams may bring a single cooler into the facility solely for use by the athletes under the following conditions:

- These may only be brought through the team gate to be kept in the auxiliary area adjacent to the competition arena near team check-in
- These may not be taken into the seating area.

Individual coolers for fans are not permitted.

PARTICIPANT EQUIPMENT BAGS

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 Alltech Arena.

DRESSING/LOCKER ROOMS

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

One locker room is provided on site that does not have shower facilities.

CONDUCTING THE EVENT

MATS

Mats for the Wrestling State Championships presented by UK HealthCare will be provided by EZ Flex and member schools.

The KWOA and the KHSAA continue to provide the championship mat.

SUBSTITUTIONS/ROLL-UPS

Should a school have a wrestler finish in 1st through 4th place in the regional championship and they are unable to compete at the state championship due to schedule conflicts, injury or other documented reason, school representatives shall notify the KHSAA by noon ET on Wednesday, Feb. 25.

Failure to send proper notification of such a withdrawal will result in a penalty against the school in accordance with KHSAA Bylaw 27.

In the case of an athlete being unable to enter and being replaced, the remainder of the bracket will be "rolled-up," and the replacement wrestler will be seeded fourth.

If a vacated bracket position is unable to be filled by an alternate from the same regional championship, the option will roll in random order to another regional championship.

The random order will be determined and announced by the KHSAA and posted on its website.

Coaches are advised to weigh-in any 5th-place regional championship finisher in case of replacement the day of the state championship.



STATE COMPETITION OFFICIALS

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

GROWTH ALLOWANCES/WEIGH-INS

In 2026, for the boys'/coed competition, a ONE-POUND growth allowance will be added to the weight classes for day two qualifiers.

In 2026, for the girls' competition, there will be no growth allowance for this single day event.

Official weigh-ins are set to begin at 8:30 a.m. ET on Thursday and Saturday, and 8 a.m. Friday at Alltech Arena.

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 previously distributed information from KHSAA and NFHS playing 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.

At approximately 9:40 a.m. on Thursday, wrestlers will assemble in the staging area for the Parade of Champions.

At approximately 9:10 a.m. on Saturday, wrestlers will assemble in the staging area for the Parade of Champions.

Complete instructions for the parade will be provided to coaches prior to the event.

DRAW

BOYS'/COED DRAW

For the Boys'/Coed Wrestling State Championships, the Commissioner shall draw each weight class individually for the pairings at the state championship.

The base draws will be posted on the KHSAA website on Monday, Feb. 23.

The format will be a blind draw with the 1st-place finisher from each regional championship drawing a 4th-place finisher from another regional championship.

These regional champions will not be paired with a 4th-place competitor from their own regional championship in an opening match or be placed in the same bracket with the runner-up from their regional championship.

The 2nd-place competitors cannot draw a 3rd-place finisher from their own regional championship.

As soon as possible and practical, the state championship entries will be posted on the KHSAA website.

For the state finals, the sequence of matches will be drawn that morning.

GIRLS' DRAW

For Girls' Wrestling State Championships, brackets will be a random draw table wherein the number four (4) wrestler from one regional championship will be paired against the number one (1) wrestler from another region championship and the number two (2) wrestler from one region championship will be paired against the number three (3) wrestler from another region championship.

A random draw will be conducted to pair the regions using the table below, where the draw will specify which region in each weight class represents regions A, B, C and D as listed below.

- Region A - 1st Place vs. Region B - 4th Place
- Region D - 2nd Place vs. Region C - 3rd Place
- Region B - 1st Place vs. Region A - 4th Place
- Region C - 2nd Place vs. Region D - 3rd Place
- Region D - 1st Place vs. Region C - 4th Place
- Region B - 2nd Place vs. Region A - 3rd Place
- Region C - 1st Place vs. Region D - 4th Place
- Region A - 2nd Place vs. Region B - 3rd Place

Regions A, B, C, and D will be assigned randomly for each weight class.



The Final Random Draw will be published following Region Championship competition.

RULES POINTS OF EMPHASIS/CLARIFICATIONS

COMPETITION RULES

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

POINT PENALTY

For the purpose of Rule 8-1-5 and 8-1-6 dealing with unsportsmanlike conduct, any member of the officiating staff for the event, whether or not involved in a current match, may apply these provisions to a participating wrestler or coach. The Assistant Commissioner responsible for wrestling shall also have the ability to, as a championship official, apply the provisions and penalties of 8-1-5 and 8-1-6 based on the actions of a coach.

DESIGNATED HEAD COACH

If your school lists multiple head coaches, one must be designated to the tournament manager to receive any assessed penalties.

HEALTH INFORMATION

ATHLETIC TRAINERS

The Association will use the services of UK HealthCare, as well as Alpha Event Medicine, to provide trainers and EMS services for these KHSAA state championships.

Teams are permitted to bring their own trainer given this information is provided prior to the state championship event to UK HealthCare's [Jenne DeAngelis](#).

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 this section of these instructions.

POST EVENT

RESULTS

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

KHSAA staff will make every effort to keep results posted on the video board near the main entrance.

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

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.

AWARDS PRESENTATIONS

- Participation in the awards ceremony is NOT optional and is an expectation when entering the championship.
- 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 and member schools are responsible for all expenses incurred for participation.



The KHSAA underwrites the expenses of facility rental, security, first aid, officials and event workers and charges no school or individual entry fee for this event.

IMPORTANT WEBSITE LINKS

- [KHSAA Wrestling Site](#)
- [Media Rights Fees Payment](#)
- [GoFan Ticket Training](#)
- [GoFan Digital Event Tickets](#)
- [Skin Condition Form](#)
- [Championship Time Schedule](#)
- [Hotel Information](#)
- [Media Credential Request Form](#)





Table of Contents

GENERAL WINTER INSTRUCTIONS FOR ALL SPORT AND SPORT ACTIVITIES **2**

Supersedure Note **2**

 Water..... **2**

 Venue Safety **2**

 Signage, Noisemakers, Balloons and Music..... **2**

 Entry of Service Animals **2**

Sportsmanship..... **3**

Rosters **3**

 Postseason Roster **3**

Bylaw 22 Reminder **3**

 Requirement to Accompany Team Members..... **3**

Health Information **3**

 Physical Exam Form..... **3**

 Emergency Action Plan **4**

 Athletic Trainers..... **4**

 Inclement Weather Procedures **4**

 Heat Illness Prevention **4**

 Lightning/Thunder Policy **4**

 Stoppage/Postponement **4**

Videotaping, Media and Intellectual Property Rights **5**

 General Media Rights..... **5**

 School Media Credentials..... **5**

 Traditional Media Credentials..... **5**

 Media Rights Fee..... **6**

 Telecast/Webcast Including NFHS Network Restrictions And Fees **6**

 Music Copyright **6**

 Filming..... **6**

Event Merchandise..... **6**

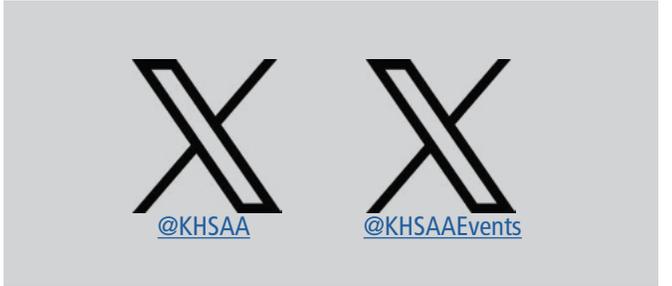
 Official KHSAA Championship Photos **6**

Important Website Links **6**

2280 Executive Drive | Lexington, Ky., 40505 | www.KHSAA.org

KHSAA Staff

Commissioner Julian Tackett
 Sr. Assoc. Commissioner & Chief of Staff Butch Cope
 Associate Commissioner Darren Bilberry
 Assistant Commissioner..... Sarah Bridenbaugh
 Assistant Commissioner Joe Angolia
 Assistant Commissioner Abby Jackson
 General Counsel & Board Counsel Chad Collins
 Information Technology Director Rob Catron
 Communications & Media Relations Director Brian Milam
 Publications & Event Services Director Jenny Elder
 Business Affairs & Operations Director..... Kara Howard
 Sr. Admin. Asst. & Office Operations Manager Jeanie Molloy
 Administrative Support Specialist Jeremy Ison
 Administrative Support, Accounting..... Marilyn Mitchell
 Administrative Assistant Sara McClain
 Physical Plant Director Roy Tatum





GENERAL WINTER INSTRUCTIONS FOR ALL SPORT AND SPORT ACTIVITIES

SUPERSEDURE NOTE

The information in these instructions supersedes any information previously distributed.

In many cases, these rules have been revised over the last couple of years through the pandemic to the point where time has not permitted complete overhaul and revision of the competition rules.

All involved should review items such as tiebreakers and procedures for competition and consider this document authoritative.

Contact the primary event contact with any additional questions.

WATER

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

VENUE SAFETY

Persons who attend KHSAA events may be injured 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 fellow spectator 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.

SIGNAGE, NOISEMAKERS, BALLOONS AND MUSIC

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

The signs/banners must be handheld or attached in a manner not to damage the existing structure.

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

Amplified noisemakers or items that replicate competition management cues are not permitted to include, but not be limited to:

- Indoor
 - o Air horns
 - o Electronic amplifiers
 - o Portable sound systems
 - o Whistles
 - o Game clock horns simulator
- Outdoor
 - o Air horns
 - o Whistles
 - o Game clock horns simulator

Managers should confiscate items if used with the managers determining if they are returned post championship.

Balloons, which can block the view of other patrons, are NOT PERMITTED at the event. They should be popped or returned to a vehicle, not allowed into the venue.

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

ENTRY OF SERVICE ANIMALS

Service animals are important and valued professionals that serve the needs of owners and must be present at all times.

Because service animals are essential for specific individuals, we wanted to make all attendees aware of the definitions and guidelines in place to make certain service animals present as well as to ensure the well-being of all individuals in attendance at KHSAA championship events.



Service animals are the only animals the general public may bring into the indoor and outdoor facilities of a KHSAA championship.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) defines a service animal as a dog who has been trained to perform a task directly related to an individual's disability.

Upon entry to a championship, owners of service dogs may be asked questions as recommended by the ADA to ensure the owner access to their service animal.

The training a service animal receives distinguishes it from other animals and there may be questions about the training provided to the animal and service for which it provides.

Emotional support animals, therapy animals, and other pets are not considered service animals and will not be granted entry to KHSAA events.

In Kentucky, misrepresentation of an assistance animal is a violation with a fine up to \$1,000.

The owner will be responsible at all times for the conduct of the service animal.

Thank you for respecting the training and necessity of service dogs and helping us keep all guests safe when visiting a KHSAA championship event.

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.

ROSTERS

POSTSEASON ROSTER

Postseason participants must be designated from the freshmen, junior varsity or varsity rosters, which are maintained through the KHSAA member school website throughout the regular season.

Roster revisions must be made before the first date of the postseason when online rosters are closed and considered final.

No additional players may be added to the roster following that deadline, including those teams that advance to the state tournament.

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

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

BYLAW 22 REMINDER

REQUIREMENT TO ACCOMPANY TEAM MEMBERS

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.

HEALTH INFORMATION

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.



EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

UK HealthCare Sports Medicine is the official Sports Medicine Partner for the KHSAA State Championships.

KHSAA staff will, in consultation with UK HealthCare Sports Medicine and venue personnel, develop an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for this event.

The on-site training staff will be responsible for any necessary monitoring of the wet bulb globe temperature and notification to KHSAA staff and the contest officials for determinations of any necessary adjustment to activity.

If an athlete or other team member is in need of emergency medical attention, contact the nearest KHSAA staff member, official, trainer or venue staff so emergency medical services can be immediately contacted.

An AED (and in many events, multiple AEDs) will be on site for use in the event of an emergency.

A text notification will be sent each morning to coaches, athletic directors, KHSAA staff, UK HealthCare trainers and workers of the event detailing the location of all AEDs.

ATHLETIC TRAINERS

For KHSAA state opening round events, host sites will be responsible for providing athletic trainers.

The Association will use the services of UK HealthCare to provide trainers for the KHSAA state final sites, and in the event of disagreement, this group shall serve as the primary determinant of medical next steps.

Athletic Training Staff will be available beginning one (1) hour prior to the event and remain available throughout the day.

For team sports - basketball, baseball, field hockey, football, soccer, softball, and volleyball - individual school Athletic Trainers should be included in the distribution of Team Party passes.

For other sport and sport activities, see the sport-specific section of these instructions for bringing a team trainer.

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 regarding 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.

HEAT ILLNESS PREVENTION

It is the responsibility of UK HealthCare on-site training staff to monitor the wet bulb globe temperature and notify on-site staff and contest officials for determinations of any necessary adjustment to activity.

The manager should be aware of the policies and work in conjunction with the licensed or certified athletic trainer hired to work the event in monitoring the Heat Illness prevention program.

The detailed medical policies are online and a link at the end of this general section.

LIGHTNING/THUNDER POLICY

Tournament staff of any outdoor sports or activities, or indoor sports with non-grounded pools, working with the certified athletic trainer and facility staff, shall monitor and adhere to the KHSAA Board adopted policy in regard to lightning and thunder.

All competitions shall be suspended at the first sound of thunder or sight of lightning and shall be suspended a minimum of 30 minutes following any subsequent sound/sighting.

If it is anticipated that the storm will pass, competition may resume following a 15-minute warm-up period.

The detailed medical policies are online and a link at the end of this general section.

STOPPAGE/POSTPONEMENT

It's the duty of the tournament staff, in consultation with the officials and certified trainers, to make decisions regarding resumption or re-scheduling.

In the event of stoppage or postponement, all parties must work together to ensure that all teams, media outlets and schools are properly notified.



While it's imperative to adhere to the scheduled postseason dates, the safety of all parties involved is always the top priority.

VIDEOTAPING, MEDIA AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

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, first round, second round, 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, first round, second round, 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.

A freelance/commercial photographer is any person, including a school employee, not representing an established media outlet or a person who will capture images from the event.

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 for school internal publications.

Space permitting, school media may be granted floor photography access consistent with traditional media access.

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

The school media pass may not be used for taking pictures that will later be sold as these individuals need to apply for a freelance/commercial photographer pass and pay the requisite fee.

This pass must be requested in advance of the start of the event through the online credentialing system linked 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. A link to the credential application is included at the end of these instructions.

The deadline to apply is 3 p.m. the day before competition begins.

Applications must 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.

Media outlets may be limited during this event.

Freelance/commercial photographers, as defined herein, will not be granted access to KHSAA events unless the requisite media rights fee is paid.



KHSAA Media policies are outlined online at - credentials.khsaa.org

MEDIA RIGHTS FEE

Freelance/commercial photographers as defined in these instructions 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 AND FEES

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

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 first round, second round, 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 Media Relations and Publications 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 post event - khsaa.teamip.com.

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

No outside merchandise representative of the event may be produced by any other entity and sold or distributed inside the playing facility.

OFFICIAL KHSAA CHAMPIONSHIP PHOTOS

The KHSAA pays for professional photography coverage of the event.

Official championship photos will be available for purchase through the KHSAA's online photo gallery within 72 hours of the completion of the event, khsaaphotos.org.

IMPORTANT WEBSITE LINKS

- Athletic Participation Form, [GEO4](#), English
- Athletic Participation Form, [GEO4](#), Spanish
- [Media Credential Request and Guidelines](#)
- [GoFan Ticket Training](#)



**2025-26 Winter State Championships
presented by UK HealthCare**

- [Sports Medicine Policies from KHSAA Board Policies](#)
- [NFHS Network Mandatory Minimum Fees for Webstreaming](#)



**THE KENTUCKY OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY TEAMING UP WITH THE KHSAA TO DRIVE HOME A LIFE-SAVING MESSAGE FOR ALL MOTORISTS –
BUCKLE UP AND PUT THE PHONE DOWN.**

THESE BASIC SAFETY PRACTICES MAKE A CONSIDERABLE DIFFERENCE IN PREVENTING CRASHES AND LESSENING THE SEVERITY OF INJURIES AND THE NUMBER OF DEATHS ON OUR ROADWAYS. EACH YEAR IN KENTUCKY, DISTRACTED DRIVING RESULTS IN MORE THAN 50,000 CRASHES, MORE THAN 15,000 INJURIES AND APPROXIMATELY 200 DEATHS. [LEARN MORE AT KYHIGHWAYSAFETY.COM.](http://KYHIGHWAYSAFETY.COM)



SHINDIG-IN!

Order for the whole group online or with our app.



ORDER.RAISINGCANES.COM

