

Commissioner's Notes

APRIL 17, 2002

• PLEASE COPY AND DISTRIBUTE TO ALL ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL •

PUPIL ATTENDANCE AT STATE EVENTS

In recent months, schools have received different and sometimes contradictory recommendations and interpretations when they have asked about the counting of pupils at KHSAA sanctioned events for the purpose of attendance (funding), and for the purpose of determining excused/unexcused absences. On the request of several schools, this office sought clarification from the various entities within the Kentucky Department of Education on the status of the law and regulations governing these questions.

Primarily, these issues surround pupil attendance (both competitors and noncompetitors) at KHSAA sanctioned State Championship competition during days that school is in session for the local district. The following clarification was received and is therefore distributed to the membership to hopefully consolidate all prior answers and allow for consideration of any necessary Local Board of Education policies.

Per Kentucky Board of Education pupil attendance regulation, 702 KAR 7:125, to be counted in attendance at school, the student must be physically present, or one of the narrow exceptions must apply (for example, on homebound instruction or participating in a co-curricular activity, such as a field trip to a museum that is approvable under local school board policy).

If the student is attending or participating in an extra-curricular activity, such as a state championship level athletic activity, the law does not permit the student to be counted as in attendance at school and the student is not counted within ADA (average daily attendance) for state funding (SEEK) purposes.

When the student is participating in or attending an athletic event, the local school board (not school council) attendance policy controls as to whether it is counted as an excused or unexcused absence. For example, the local board policy might count as an excused absence participation on a high school athletic team that is playing in a state tournament, but not mere attendance by a non-team member (or the policy could also allow an excused absence for mere attendance with verification). The impact of excused versus unexcused absence is that with an excused absence the student has a right to have the opportunity to make up the missed school work, but has no such right with an unexcused absence.

If the school's team is involved in a very popular event, such as the state high school basketball tournament, and a significant portion of the student body will be attending the tournament and thus missing school, the local board has discretion as to whether to close school that day(s) in anticipation of low school attendance, and amend the school calendar to make up the instructional time.

If further clarification is needed relative to local policies which may be in place, please have the appropriate district personnel contact the Kentucky Department of Education.

NFHS NATIONAL STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE ATTENDEES

The following students have been selected to represent Kentucky at the National Federation of High School Association's 2002: *Making A Difference* Student Leadership Conference in Indianapolis, IN., in July. The group will also serve as advisors for the 2003 KHSAA *HYPE* Student Conference to be held in January in Lexington.

Ebony Wiley (Western); Brian Grieb (Atherton); Steffany Sholar (Christian County); Deanna Stephens (Greenup County); Peterson Grimes (Western); Jasmine Fogle (Marion County); Mary Ratliff (Montgomery County); Todd Broker (Murray); Michelle Collins (North Laurel); Megan Powell (Pendleton County); Leslie Gossage (Russell County); Chris Garrett (Tates Creek); Ryan Miller (Tates Creek); Jessica Ball (Nelson County); Kyle Bibb (Western Hills); Curtis Hartin-Freeman (Western); Meghan Bottom (Franklin County).

2002 & 2003 SOCCER SEASON IMPORTANT DATES

The 2002-2003 soccer season begins on Monday, August 19 and the start of the Soccer District Tournament is Monday, October 14, 2002. The Soccer Boys' and Girls' Championship Games are scheduled for Saturday, November 1.

Please note that the soccer season does not always revert to corresponding dates, particularly for the years of 2002-2003 and 2003-2004. For the 2003-2004 school year, the State Championship Games will be played on Saturday, November 1, 2003 (Regular Season starts on August 18 and the District Tournament starts October 13).

Future years are as follows: 2004-2005 school year - championship on Saturday, November 6, 2004 (Regular Season begins August 23 and District Tournament starts October 18); 2005-2006 school year - championship on Saturday, November 5, 2005 (Regular Season starts on August 22 and District Tournament starts October 17). Please make this note on your corresponding date calendar on page 106 of the 2001-2002 KHSAA Handbook.

FB, VB, SO SCHEDULES REQUIRED

Athletic Directors are advised that Fall sports schedules for Volleyball, Boys' Soccer, Girls' Soccer and Football may be entered online through the KHSAA website (www.khsaa.org) beginning April 15. All schedules are required to be entered by May 1. Use the "Member Schools" link on the website to access the schedule entry section. Your previously-issued school pass code is required.

BA, FP, SP TEAM PHOTOS

This is a reminder that team photos in the sports of baseball, slow pitch softball and fast pitch softball are due to the Association by April 30. To avoid a \$100 fine, please make sure your pictures (complete with identification) arrive at the Association prior to that date.

NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COACHES ASSOCIATION

In order to clear up confusion regarding various coaches associations and coaching education programs, some clarification is appropriate. Currently, there are three national coaches associations in the United States. They are as follows: the *National Federation Coaches Association (NFCA)*, the *official coaches association of the NFHS*; the *National High School Athletic Coaches Association (NHSACA)*; and the *National High School Coaches Association (NHSCA)*. Since last fall the National High School Coaches Association from Easton, Pennsylvania has been sending letters to school administrators promoting a coaches certification program at \$25.00 per coach.

This is not the NFHS Coaches Education Program or a program that any state association currently requires or uses. We do not know the quality or effectiveness of the program and ask that you ask questions and obtain answers before consider becoming involved in this program. Consider asking the following questions:

- How is the course delivered?
- What materials does the coach receive?
- Is the course approved by the National Council for accreditation of Coaching Education (NCACE)?
- How often is the course revised and updated?
- Is this course required for interscholastic coaches in any state?

If you have any questions regarding this matter do not hesitate to contact the KHSAA office (859) 299-5472.

IMPORTANT CLARIFICATION ON SB 142

Recently, the Kentucky General Assembly passed SB142, which was originally introduced to affect adult day health care. In the latter stages of the legislative session, an amendment was added to the bill which has a dramatic effect on KHSAA Bylaw 2 in that it allows for the performance of sports physical exams by a physician, physician assistant, advanced registered nurse practitioner, or chiropractor (working within the scope of his/her practice as defined by state law).

This provision will go into effect, assuming no additional legislative action occurs (it was signed by the Governor on April 9) on July 15, 2002. It is important to note that all physical exams administered prior to that date must be signed solely by a Medical Doctor or Doctor of Osteopathy. After the effective date of the statute, the other health care providers will be legally able to sign the physical exams, should a school choose to allow that to occur. The Association will address further correspondence and recommendations on this legislation at a later date, but prior to July 15. Until that point in time, the KHSAA forms that are on line, and acceptable permission forms, will only reflect the signature of a physician.

For the full text of the bill, go to the Legislature's web site, <http://www.lrc.state.ky.us/record/02rs/SB142.htm>.

BA-FP SCOREBOARDS

Please remember to call the KHSAA scoreboard at 1-888-366-8706 IMMEDIATELY after the completion of every baseball and fast pitch softball game.

REGIONAL TRACK SITES

Class A Region 1 Manager	Murray HS Jimmy Harrell
Class A Region 2 Manager	Fort Knox HS Karl Olive
Class A Region 3 Manager	Scott HS Barry Binkley
Class A Region 4 Manager	Eastern Kentucky University Frank Miklavcic
Class A Region 5 Manager	Cumberland College John Harris
Class A Region 6 Manager	Bob Amos Park Elizabeth White
Class AA Region 1 Manager	Paducah Tilghman HS Art Davis/Cecil Ward
Class AA Region 2 Manager	Warren East HS Adam Cross
Class AA Region 3 Manager	Henry County HS Linda Sarrett
Class AA Region 4 Manager	Eastern Kentucky University Randy Crist
Class AA Region 5 Manager	Rowan County HS Roy Wright
Class AA Region 6 Manager	Leslie County HS Tim Koogler
Class AAA Region 1 Manager	Henderson County HS Ryan Reusch
Class AAA Region 2 Manager	North Hardin HS James Webb
Class AAA Region 3 Manager	Ballard HS Don Goodwin
Class AAA Region 4 Manager	Scott HS Jerry Mohr
Class AAA Region 5 Manager	Eastern Kentucky University Frank Miklavcic
Class AAA Region 6 Manager	Pulaski County HS Gordon Bocock

KHSAA HANDBOOK UPDATES

It is not too early to begin updating school information for the 2002-2003 KHSAA Handbook. Updates should be done online through the Association website (www.khsaa.org), using the "Member Schools" link. Please update everything that pertains to your school (coaches names, addresses, sports sponsored, principal's name, phone/fax numbers, etc.) to assist us in providing the most up-to-date information. The deadline for the printing of the 2002-2003 Handbook is Aug. 2.

KHSAA FORMS UPDATE

The standard forms packet will be updated on line prior to April 30. This includes the parental permission forms, game contracts, eligibility lists for those schools continuing to use them, and other necessary forms. We will notify all schools via email when the forms have been updated and are ready to download.

TENNIS AND TRACK INFORMATION

Tennis and track coaches and all school personnel should note that all post season play information is now available on the KHSAA website.

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REGIONAL TENNIS SITES

Region 1 (B&G) Chad Gamble Tennis Center, Paducah
Manager Larry Heflin

Region 2 (B&G) Kerejakes Park Bowling Green HS
Manager Bernie Howard

Region 3 (B&G) Moreland Park, Kentucky Wesleyan
Manager Brenda Clayton

Region 4 (B&G) University Courts, Elizabethtown
Manager Andrea Atcher

Region 5 (B) Fern Creek Park
Manager Tim Amshoff

Region 5 (G) Sacred Heart HS
Manager Donna Moir

Region 6 (B) St. Xavier HS
Manager Joe Kroh

Region 6 (G) Mercy Academy (Tentative)
Manager Mark Evans

Region 7 (B) University of Louisville (Tentative)
Manager Mark Henry

Region 7 (G) University of Louisville (Tentative)
Manager Bill Raney

Region 8 (B&G) University of Kentucky
Manager Terry Johnson

Region 9 (B&G) Eastern Kentucky University
Manager Jerry Johns

Region 10 (B&G) Whitley County HS
Manager Bob Duricko

Region 11 (B&G) Ashland Tennis Center
Manager Tracey Edwards

Region 12 (B) Boone Woods, Boone County
Manager Steve Sparks

Region 12 (G) Lloyd Memorial HS
Manager Laura Conley

Region 13 (B&G) Georgetown College and Scott Co. Park
