



Commissioner's Notes

May 2011

A monthly newsletter from Commissioner Julian Tackett, Kentucky High School Athletic Association, 2280 Executive Drive, Lexington, Kentucky 40505 859-299-5472 • www.khsaa.org

HEAT INDEX REMINDER FOR SPRING SPORTS

With the unseasonably hot weather encountered during the first day of the regional baseball and softball tournaments, this is a good time to remind everyone that heat index readings are now required to be recorded for spring sports.

This action was recommended by the Kentucky Medical Association's Sports Medicine Advisory Committee in the fall and unanimously approved by our Board of Control earlier this year. This was also highlighted in the various spring sports rules clinics and during the required administrator meetings. The mandatory start date for readings began Friday, April 15. Here are the important details related to the implementation of this requirement in the spring sports.

The heat index form (GE 20, located at www.khsaa.org/forms/general.html on the KHSAA Web site) where each day's temperature needs to be recorded.

For all temperature, humidity and heat index readings, all data must be taken at the practice or competition site. It is not permitted to use media outlet temperatures or those provided online.

Once the temperature exceeds 82 degrees, the humidity must also be recorded on the form using a digital sling psychrometer. These devices have long been used in the fall sports, so member schools should already have them available. If replacements or additional equipment are needed, there are links to five different devices on the KHSAA website at <http://www.khsaa.org/sportsmedicine/heat/> and these devices are sometimes available at larger diverse inventory sporting goods outlets.

When the temperature and humidity are recorded at the point the temperature exceeds 82 degrees, there must be a determination as to the heat index.

If (as in 4 above), the heat index is to be determined, this can be done by using the chart at <http://www.khsaa.org/sportsmedicine/heat/heatindexchartcolor.pdf> (noting the intersection of temperature and humidity taken at the site) or by using a digital sling psychrometer that also calculates the heat index.

If the heat index is listed on the chart at <http://www.khsaa.org/sportsmedicine/heat/heatindexchartcolor.pdf>, then the heat index needs to be recorded on the form as well.

You must also record on the form the required alteration of activity. Those activity breakdowns are generally described on <http://www.khsaa.org/sportsmedicine/heat/heatindexchartcolor.pdf>, with breaks at a heat index on 95, 100 and 104.

All sports must cease when the heat index reading exceeds 104.

It is important to note that for baseball and softball, because



protective catching gear is required, games, as well as practice when the catcher is in gear, must be suspended when the heat index reaches 100. Coaches and administrators should carefully review game times and weather forecasts, particular for day time (likely weekend) competition, and make alternative plans in the case of suspension of lay.

The heat index forms must be returned (separate forms for each sport) immediately following the team elimination from postseason play.

If your coaches have any questions about application of the provisions, contact the sports contact at our office.

Baseball - Butch Cope, bcope@khsaa.org

Softball - Darren Bilberry, dbilberry@khsaa.org

Tennis - Mike Barren, mbarren@khsaa.org

Track and Field, Angela Passafiume, apassafiume@khsaa.org

SCHOOLS REMINDED ABOUT NEW ALIGNMENT APPROVAL IN VOLLEYBALL AND BASKETBALL

As many of you are aware, the Board of Control has been working toward a Volleyball Alignment that would mirror the other team sports (basketball, softball, baseball, etc.). With the continued growth in the number of teams we were able to expand to the full 64 districts. During this process, the comments we heard back again were to work toward common alignments. Following some work with the schools in a couple of areas of the state, the Board of Control adopted a new alignment beginning in 2012-13. There is no change to the alignment for the 2011 season.

Please note that there were three districts in Regions 13-14 ...that would have created two team districts, so we had to make slight adjustments in those two regions to prevent two team districts. As teams are added in these areas, we will come back and look at adjustments at that time. Please note that the KHSAA has mandatory seeding procedures for three team districts. Schools may not vote on any alternative plans.

We have also received final approval for volleyball and basketball counting of games. Volleyball teams will have a limit of 35 regular season contests while basketball will have a limit of 30 regular season games, regardless of tournament format.

The alignment beginning with the 2012 playing season (2012-2013 school year) may be found at <http://portal.khsaa.org/public/Meeting/Attachments/DisplayAttachment.aspx?AttachmentID=96747>

DAWAHARES/KHSAA HALL OF FAME GOLF CLASSIC

The Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame Golf Classic is scheduled for Wednesday, June 22 at the Marriott Griffin Gate in Lexington. At the outing, the 2012 Hall of Fame induction Class will be introduced.

Anyone interested in participating, may contact Butch Cope (bcope@khsaa.org).

SCHOOLS REMINDED OF CRITICAL NEED TO UPDATE INFORMATION

At this time of year, administrators and coaches are changing schools, retiring, moving to other careers, etc. This is a critical time for the KHSAA to keep its information up to date about your school.

If you are an administrator leaving your school, please take the time to update your information one last time by going through the Members Login on the KHSAA web site to update the information as of now.

Much effort has been expended by staff and the member schools over the last year in making sure of the accuracy of the information, and your cooperation is greatly appreciated. If you need password assistance, contact Marilyn Mitchell at the KHSAA (mmitchell@khsaa.org).

FALL SPORTS SCHEDULES DUE

This is a reminder to all schools that Fall Sports Schedules (Volleyball, Boys' & Girls' Soccer and Football) were due to be entered through the KHSAA website by May 14. If you have not done so, please log on and enter your schedules immediately. If you need assistance with schedule entry, please contact Marilyn Mitchell mmitchell@khsaa.org. or Elden May at emay@khsaa.org.

SPORT UPDATES

Baseball

Kentucky National Insurance is the new title sponsor of the State Baseball Tournament which was announced April 26 in conjunction with the State Draw. Also, game times have been released and posted for the Kentucky National Insurance State Baseball Tournament to be held June 13-18 in Lexington.

Soccer

Soccer is the fifth-most popular sport for boys and girls at the high school level. According to the 2009-10 High School Athletics Participation Survey, 391,839 boys are involved in soccer and 356,116 girls participate in the sport.

Softball

The KHSAA State Softball Tournament will take place on June 9-11 at Jack Fisher Park in Owensboro. The bracket and tournament schedule have been posted to the KHSAA website at <http://www.khsaa.org/fastpitchsoftball/2011/2011statefastpitchbracket.pdf>.

Tennis

The 2011 KHSAA State Tennis Championships wrapped up over the Memorial Day weekend at the Boone/Downing Tennis Center and the Sayre Athletic Complex in Lexington. The first year of the new team championship match format was well-received as St. Xavier won the boys title and Assumption won the girls' team title.

Track and Field

The first year of the three-day format for the KHSAA State Track and Field Championships last week at Owsley Frazier Park was a success, despite the cool, wet weather on the first day of competition. A new addition to the program, adaptive events for wheelchair athletes, allowed three new competitors to enjoy the thrill of competition. Lucas Cannon of Fleming County, Johnathon Patrick of Magoffin County and Kayla Spurgeon of Butler County competed in the shot put and 100 meter dash events. Their competitive spirit and appreciation for an opportunity to showcase their skills are memories that will last a lifetime for anyone fortunate enough to witness it.

Volleyball

The KHSAA will be sponsoring a Volleyball Officials Camp in conjunction with the Volleyball Coaches Association Coaches Clinic and the Bluegrass State Games. Details will be forwarded once finalized, but the tentative date is July 28-29 in Lexington.

Wrestling

The Board of Control has directed the KHSAA staff to enter into negotiations for a new venue for the wrestling state championships. More will be announced in the coming days.

Wrestling

The most significant changes in weight classes in high school wrestling in 23 years will take place in the 2011-12 season. The 14 weight classes approved by the NFHS for 2011-12 are as follows: 106 (pounds), 113, 120, 126, 132, 138, 145, 152, 160, 170, 182, 195, 220 and 285. Three middle weight classes – 145, 152 and 160 – were retained, although they are 7-8-9 in order now rather than 8-9-10. The largest weight class (285 pounds) remains unchanged as well.

REMAINING 2010-11 KHSAA CHAMPIONSHIP DATES

June 10-11	Softball	Fisher Park, Owensboro
June 13-18	Kentucky National Insurance/ KHSAA Baseball	Whitaker Bank Ballpark, Lexington

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 9-11 KHSAA State Softball Tournament
Jack Fisher Park, Owensboro
- June 13-18 Kentucky National Insurance/KHSAA
State Baseball Tournament
Whitaker Bank Ballpark, Lexington
- June 22 Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame Golf Classic
Marriott Griffin Gate, Lexington
- June 25-July 9 Dead Period
- June 28-July 2 93rd Annual NFHS Summer Meeting
Philadelphia, PA

Thanks for all of your continued support!



Julian Tackett