

KENTUCKY HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Commissioner's Notes

Nov. 22, 1999

PLEASE COPY AND DISTRIBUTE TO ALL COACHES AND ATHLETIC PERSONNEL

NEXT BOARD OF CONTROL MEETING

The next regularly-scheduled Board of Control meeting will be held on Jan. 12-13, at the KHSAA Office in Lexington. This meeting will follow the KHSAA Annual Delegate Assembly meeting (Jan. 12) at the Hyatt Regency in Lexington. Contact the KHSAA for a meeting agenda.

KHSAA BOARD APPROVES TOURNAMENT SITES

Also at its November meeting, the Board of Control approved sites for future State Championship Tournaments in Boys' and Girls' Golf, Fast Pitch Softball and Baseball.

The Board awarded the 2000 Girls' State Golf Tournament to Glasgow Country Club and the Boys' State Golf Tournament to Barren River State Park. The 2001 Girls' State Golf Tournament will be held at London Country Club with the Boys' State Tournament to be played at Eagle's Nest Country Club in Somerset.

All venues will be hosting the State Golf Tournament for the first time. The 1999 Girls' and Boys' Tournament were held in Richmond at Arlington Country Club and Gibson Bay Golf Course, respectively.

The 2000 and 2001 Girls' State Fast Pitch Softball Tournaments were awarded to the City of Jeffersontown and Jeffersontown High School and will be played at Skyview Park.

Jeffersontown and Skyview Park had previously served host to the Fast Pitch Softball event in 1998. Last year's State Fast Pitch Tournament was held at Panther Creek Park in Owensboro.

The 2001 and 2002 State Baseball Tournaments were awarded to the City of Lexington in conjunction with the Lexington Area Sports Authority and the University of Kentucky and will be played at Cliff Hagan Stadium.

UK and Lexington are no stranger to the State Baseball Finals, having last hosted the 1999 State Finals. The 2000 State Baseball Tournament had previously been awarded to Lexington, LASA and UK.

DEADLINE FOR DELEGATE PROPOSALS

This reminder that the KHSAA Annual Delegate Assembly meeting is scheduled for Wed., Jan. 12, at the Hyatt Regency in Lexington. The deadline for proposals to be presented to the delegates is Wed., Dec. 1 (to the KHSAA Office). Correspondence with the request for the name of each member school's delegate will be forthcoming.

KHSAA TITLE IX VISITS

KHSAA staff and legal counsel have started visiting member schools to assist and counsel school administrators and personnel on compliance with Title IX.

The KHSAA will be contracting additional assistance in the near future to help in conducting the audits for Title IX compliance. Member schools will be notified of the contracted individuals once training is completed. We hope that each member school/district has developed a Title IX Compliance Committee as was requested during the 1998 school year to work with the schools regarding equity within interscholastic athletic programs.

The visits are a series in which 20% of the membership will be visited each year over the next five years. At each visit, a public meeting is also held to answer any general questions, of school officials and KHSAA staff.

In the near future, all member schools will be forwarded a copy of the auditing instrument.

TICKET PROGRAM SURVEY OF MEMBER SCHOOLS

At the November Board of Control meeting, Host/USA, Inc., made a presentation to the Board of Control regarding a program in which free printed tickets would be provided to all member schools for use at any event. The Board gave Host/USA permission to survey member schools regarding interest in participation in the program. Surveys will be forthcoming from the USA group. Your participation and a reply is appreciated.

DAWAHARES/KHSAA HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS

The KHSAA Board of Control has approved updated policies and procedures regarding nominations for selection into the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame. A new nomination form along with instructions for nomination is available on the KHSAA Internet site (www.khsaa.org/hallfame). ALL previous nominators are required to submit a new form complete with requested support documentation information. The KHSAA has notified those who had nominated individuals or the individuals themselves that a new form is required.

ALL PARTIES SHOULD ATTEND APPEALS HEARINGS

Again, at the encouragement of the Board of Control and Staff, all parties involved in an appearance before the Hearing Officer should attend the appeal. Attendance is encouraged to allow a school or individual(s) an opportunity to respond to statements made during the hearing.

KHSAA HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Following is the office schedule for the Association during the upcoming Holidays in which the office will be closed.

Thanksgiving

Thurs., Nov. 25 and Fri., Nov. 26

Christmas

Wed., Dec. 22, closing at Noon for staff Christmas Lunch.

Thurs., Dec. 23 and Fri., Dec. 24

New Year's

Thurs., Dec. 30 and Fri., Dec. 31.

All other days, the office will have normal 8:30-4:30 (ET) hours.

COUNT FOR BA/SB TOURNAMENTS

This is a reminder that the amendment to Bylaw 25 passed the Delegate Assembly and was approved by the Board of Control. The increase in the number of baseball/softball tournaments counted in a shortened manner is not in effect for the 1999-2000 (2000 season) school year. Pending State Department of Education approval, the amendment will be in place for the 2000-2001 school year (2001 season). Please make sure your coaches continue to count tournament games using the same procedure as in the past. If you have questions, you may contact Asst. Commissioner Larry Boucher (Softball) or Asst. Commissioner Julian Tackett (Baseball) at the KHSAA (606)299-5472.

BASEBALL BAT RULE CHANGE DELAYED

The Executive Board of the National Federation has delayed any change in the baseball bat rule for the 2000 season. The issue will be revisited by the committee in the future. Any change that is made will be announced through the Commissioner's Notes and the Athlete.

FIRST BASEBALL CONTEST MARCH 27

A misprint in the 1999-2000 KHSAA Memorandum calendar lists March 21 as the first date for a baseball contest. The correct date is Mon., March 27 (along with fast pitch softball, slow pitch softball and track). District Tournaments are correctly listed as May 22-27, 2000.

BASKETBALL TEAM PHOTOS DUE FEB. 1

This reminder that all schools competing in postseason play in boys' and girls' basketball are to submit a team picture to the Association by Tues., Feb. 1.

Photos should be original prints. Faxed copies, tearsheets from your game program, laser copy prints and newspaper clippings are not acceptable. You may choose to e-mail the file. The file should be scanned at a resolution of at least 300 dpi and should be saved in one of the following file format extensions (.TIF, .JPG, .GIF).

Failure to comply could result in a fine of \$100 per photo not received.

MEDICAL SYMPOSIUM INFORMATION

The KHSAA web site includes the 1998 and 1999 attendance listings for the Medical Symposium (www.khsaa.org, then click Medical Symposium Information). Each head coach in all KHSAA sports/activities (including cheer), in order to be eligible to coach in post season, must attend one of these meetings once every two years. New coaches hired after the last day of school for the 1998-99 school year can wait until the summer of 2000 to attend. This rule is strictly enforced through self-enforcement by member schools. After checking your roster of coaches, those deficient in this requirement should be self reported to the Association and appropriate penalty action will be taken.

COACHING EDUCATION ATTENDANCE INFORMATION AND CLASS SCHEDULE

On the KHSAA web site is the current list (through September) of those coaches who have completed all requirements for the coaching education program (www.khsaa.org, then click Coaching Education Information). Districts and schools are reminded that this is a pre-hire requirement, and prior to coaching in the first contest, all coaches must have attended. There is a period of time determined by the testing service to complete both exams. All coaches in a school (Level I or II) and all Level III non faculty assistants, with the exception of those teaching coaches (Level I) who have been on the school system faculty since 1995-96, must attend the course. This particular certification is permanent, so once the requirement has been completed, it is not necessary to be repeated if a coach changes districts.

In analyzing our first four years of this requirement, many coaches have taken the course, and yet failed to complete BOTH of the required examinations. These exams scores can also be checked on the KHSAA web site by using the same coaching education link. If a coach has passed the NFICEP test, but failed to complete the bylaws test, the coach may contact Julian Tackett or Vicky Fields at the KHSAA office for permission to re-take the bylaws test, however there will be a \$20 processing fee which is paid to the NFICEP office. If a coach has failed to pass the NFICEP test within the required time, the course must be taken again, with full payment of the fee required.

The most current information about upcoming course dates is always located on the KHSAA web site (same as above). If you have questions about the testing or past attendance of one or more of your coaches, contact Julian Tackett or Vicky Fields at the KHSAA. Please remember this is a pre-hire requirement with no provision for waiver.

SCHOOL MEDIA CREDENTIALS FOR STATE EVENTS

This reminder that schools advancing to state tournament play are asked to request credentials PRIOR to the event. A letter from the school principal (on school letterhead) is required including the name(s) of the individual(s). Each school is limited to three (3) credentials. This includes yearbook, newspaper, journalism class personnel or video yearbook personnel. Students or other representatives showing up at the gate will not be issued media credentials. Schools involved with the ihigh.com project are reminded that any credentials issued to students count toward each school's three allotted maximum.

CALL IN BASKETBALL GAME SCORES

This is a reminder that each school is required to call in the final score of each of its basketball games (boys' and girls' varsity) to the KHSAA Football Scoreboard at 1(888)366-8706. Home or Away, win or lose, schools are required to call following the completion of the contest. A long-standing sportsmanship agreement that the home team will call isn't always followed, especially when the home team loses.

MOLTEN OFFICIAL BASKETBALL

This reminder, Molten remains the official basketball for the Kentucky High School Athletic Association for both boys' and girls' basketball (B7I-W for boys and B6L-W for girls). Molten balls are required for district, region and state tournament play. The current "ball" contract expires with at the end of this school year - June 2000. Coaches are advised to wait on purchasing any new balls for the 2000-2001 season until the new contract has been awarded. Schools will be notified through the Commissioner's Notes and the Athlete when the new contract is final.

Should you have any questions regarding official balls of the KHSAA, contact Ken Tippett at the Association office. Following is a listing of the official balls by sport.

Soccer - Molten
Volleyball - Molten
Football - Wilson
Boys' & Girls' Basketball - Molten
Slow Pitch Softball - Wilson
Tennis - Wilson
Fast Pitch Softball - Wilson
Baseball - Wilson

Information regarding the purchase or location of Molten Balls may be obtained by calling Chuck Saul or Tonya at 1-800-722-5124.

NO PRACTICE/PLAY PRIOR TO BEING RULED ELIGIBLE

According to Bylaw 6, Sec. 3 - Period of Ineligibility, Students who are ineligible may not practice or play until ruled eligible by the Commissioner.

Q/A - May a student who has transferred practice or play with the team prior to being ruled eligible? No. If a participant has transferred, and represented a member or non member school at the varsity level after enrolling in grade nine (9) thereby being subject to the rule, he/she is ineligible under the provisions of Bylaw 6 until the proper administrative channels have been completed including the KHSAA Form 6 being signed by the Commissioner. He/she may not try-out, practice, or participate in games or scrimmages until being ruled eligible, and minimum practice periods (i.e. ten days for football) do not begin accumulating until the ruling is complete. Ineligible persons practicing with the team jeopardize the insurance coverage of all participants and the liability coverages of the school, school system and individual coverages.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON WEB

This is a reminder that the KHSAA website (www.khsaa.org) continues to expand and contains useful information. Open Job/Dates information, coaching education classes and medical symposium schedules are among the information available.

UPCOMING CLINICS SCHEDULE

TR - Thurs., Dec. 2 - Louisville, St. Xavier HS, 7 p.m.
TR - Mon., Dec. 6 - Paducah Tilghman HS, 7 p.m.
TR - Tues., Dec. 7 - Madisonville, Hopkins Co. Central HS, 7 p.m.
BK - Wed., Dec. 8 - Make-Up Clinic (\$50 Fine) Lexington, KHSAA Office, 1:30 p.m.
WR - Wed., Dec. 8 - Make-Up Clinic (\$50 Fine) Lexington, KHSAA Office, 3 p.m.
TR - Wed., Dec. 8 - Bowling Green HS, 7 p.m.
BK - Wed., Dec. 15 - Make-Up Clinic (\$50 Fine) Lexington, KHSAA Office, 1:30 p.m.

COACHING EDUCATION CLASS SCHEDULE

Following is a listing of the upcoming coaches education classes. This list is also available on the KHSAA Website (www.khsaa.org).

Sat., Dec. 11 - Berea HS, beginning at 8:30 a.m.
Contact Steve Riddle, (606)986-4911 or 986-1202
Tues., Jan. 17 - Lafayette HS, beginning at 9 a.m.
Contact Karen Vanover, (606)381-3477
Sat., Feb. 5 - Harrison County HS, beginning at 8:30 a.m.
Contact Faye Thornton, (606)234-7117

STUDENT-ATHLETE GRADE CHECK REMINDER

This clarification involves student-athlete eligibility regarding Bylaw 5 - Minimum Academic Requirement (Page 10, 1999-2000 KHSAA Handbook). Grade checks should reflect the cumulative grade earned by the student at that particular point (each Friday) in the semester or officially recorded grading period. It is not the student-athlete's grade for each particular week. If a student-athlete is ineligible at the end of the grading period (each Friday), the athlete is ineligible until the next grading period when school is in session.

Q&A - May a student-athlete that was originally ineligible at the grade check period count intersession work to obtain eligible status? No. Not if school is not in full session. The student-athlete shall remain ineligible until the next grade check when school is in full session.

NATIONAL FEDERATION SANCTIONING

This reminder that beginning with this school year (1999-2000) there are new procedures adopted by the National Federation for sanctioning out-of-state contests. Schools hosting are to complete the new sanctioning form and include a processing fee in the amount of \$50. The fee should be made payable to the National Federation and sent to the KHSAA. The KHSAA is responsible for forwarding the form and fee to the National Office. Schools that are participating in out-of-state contests are required to complete a sanction form, but not required to pay the processing fee. Please call the KHSAA with any questions.

STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS SCHEDULE

Following is the date/time schedule for the 1999 KHSAA/Valvoline State Football Championships. The games will be played Friday and Saturday, Dec. 3-4, at the Kentucky Fair & Expo Center's Cardinal Stadium in Louisville. First Round playoff dates/sites for all four classes will be available on the KHSAA Internet site (www.khsaa.org) on Mon., Nov. 1.

All Times are Local to Site (ET)

Fri., Dec. 3

Class A Championship – Noon

Class AA Championship – 4 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 4

Class AAA Championship – Noon

Class AAAA Championship – 4 p.m.

KHSAA INTERNET UPDATE

As most of you are aware, the KHSAA's use of the internet continues to expand as we put more and more of our information on the KHSAA web site. For that reason, we encourage you to continually review this site and its contents.

The KHSAA is also excited to be able to continue to expand its total strategy with regards to the use of the internet. With that in mind, we want to make sure you are aware of where we stand in the process –

- We continue to expand our own web site, adding more items each day. The site is totally developed by staff and under our control, and contains little "fluff" and deals more with the content needed by our schools and officials.

- We continue to use Mr. Frank Riherd for production of the exclusive KHSAA scoreboard for football, basketball, baseball and softball, and for 2000-2001 with the help and support of the membership and KentuckyConnect.com, we will add volleyball and soccer.
- We have negotiated an agreement with CyberSportsUSA in which that company has provided basketball stats software to all KHSAA member schools (mailed last week). This software does many things including allowing the Association to receive the stats reports from its members, as well as an innovation totally new to the market, the web casting of games. This process keeps a running score and stats box from the games on your own home page during the game. Install it and try it out!
- We also continue to explore our partnership with ihigh.com. Right now, we know that many of you have been bombarded by offers from people to produce web sites and get you to subscribe. We ask that should you choose to go to a commercial site to produce your school's web page, that you use ihigh.com. For details, contact Kris Comstock at kris.comstock@ihigh.com. Your info from CyberSports can be linked to the ihigh site, etc., eliminating duplication of efforts.

Our primary goal as we continue to develop our strategy is to avoid repetition. In that way, we can make your job, and ours more streamlined and efficient. If you have an athletic site and would like us to link to it, send the proposed link to jtackett@khsaa.org.