

2280 Executive Drive ° Lexington, KY 40505 ° www.khsaa.org ° (859)299-5472 (859)293-5999 (fax)

January 2, 2012

Elmer Thomas Principal Madison Central HS 705 N 2nd St Richmond, KY 40475 1259

Dear Mr. Thomas,

This is in response to the situation which occurred November 21, 2011, when Coach Robert Cooksey decided to remove his team from the court with his dissatisfaction with the officiating in a scrimmage contest. As is clearly stated in Bylaw 11 regardless of the opinion of the officiating this is not an option a coach may choose. While it would have been better if Lincoln County had informed Madison Central of the situation regarding the officials, training, and scrimmage opportunity, in reality it still doesn't excuse the conduct of Coach Cooksey.

Had this been a regular season contest Coach Cooksey would have been suspended from competition however with it being a scrimmage and the season having already started, it appears an institutional penalty against the girls basketball program is more appropriate. Therefore the girls basketball program and its head basketball coach are reprimanded by this Association for the unsportsmanlike conduct and issued an administrative fine of \$250. This fine must be paid prior to the conclusion of regular season play in order for the team to be eligible for post season competition.

Again I would encourage you to remind all of your coaches that of all the options they have with dissatisfaction with officiating including the proper administrative channels, removing the team from the field or court is not one of the available remedies.

If you have any further questions please feel free to write or call.

#### **NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS**

An aggrieved party may appeal this decision in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B and the KHSAA Due Process Procedure. Bylaw 33 & Bylaw 11 appeals go directly to the KHSAA Board of Control.

Sincerely,

Julian Tackett Commissioner



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January 2, 2012

W. Ledman Jewell III 115 Blackstone Trace Taylorsville, KY 40071

Dear Mr. Jewell,

Thank you very much for the information you submitted in your November 18<sup>th</sup> letter. Certainly the assignment of tickets and location is not an easy task, in particular when the member schools are given priority. I appreciate you submitting these tickets for our review. At this point I do not know why the individuals who purchased these tickets from Harrison County High School, chose to make them available on the open market outside. It could very well be the coaches were going to be unable to attend and simply put them up for sale. I realize there may be legitimate (and illegitimate) reasons why people sell the tickets they've acquired in advance and I sometimes think our school administrators don't realize that with the priority they've been given on seating, it is grossly unfair to make those tickets available out front when in fact people who have advance ordered don't have that quality seat.

Again I appreciate you bringing this to our attention. We will continue to maintain the priority for our member schools sitting in the center three sections and again reiterate to all school representatives to maintain the integrity of those higher priority seats.

If you need anything else please feel free to write or call.

Sincerely,

Julian Tackett Commissioner

JT:mm

XC: Brad Allison, Harrison County



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January 2, 2012

Sam Meaux Principal Tates Creek HS 1111 Centre Pkwy Lexington, KY 40517

Dear Mr. Meaux,

I'm in receipt of a letter dated December 6, 2011 concerning the dance team at Tates Creek High School. Obviously dance is not one of the KHSAA sanctioned sports so it does not appear to be under our jurisdiction. We will therefore take no action regarding this matter unless you inform me that you have discovered problems related to your cheerleading program within the KHSAA. If you need our assistance in anyway, please feel free to write or call.

Sincerely,

Julian Tackett Commissioner

JT:mm

XC: Butch Cope, Assistant Commissioner

Joe Ruddell, Athletic Director Tom Shelton, Superintendent



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January 2, 2012

Scott Shipp, Athletic Director Grant County HS 715 Warsaw Road Dry Ridge, KY 41035 9407

Dear Mr. Shipp,

This is in response to your self report of October 28, 2011 concerning illegal practice by a member of the middle school program with the student athletes at Grant County.

While it is apparent that this particular activity that occurred after October 15<sup>th</sup> may have been an inadvertent violation it is none the less a violation that placed at risk the insurance coverage for all student athletes involved in the practice and could have led to much more dire and serious consequences should an injury or other problem have occurred.

The principals of Bylaw 33 and institutional control call for the schools to create a system that will not only prevent violation, but help identify and rectify violations should they occur. It's apparent that you have addressed this situation internally however as part of the Association's official action, I'm directing you to submit to this office in writing any changes in procedures you have made to prevent such reoccurrence. These changes could involve written policies distributed to coaches, meetings held with coaches to reaffirm the rules, or any other proactive stance you might take.

With regard to Bylaw 33 concerning this situation the girl's basketball program at Grant County High School is hereby fined \$200 as an administrative fine for the allowing of illegal practice and the violation of Bylaw 9. Upon receipt of the fine for this violation this matter shall be considered closed.

#### **NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS**

An aggrieved party may appeal this decision in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B and the KHSAA Due Process Procedure. Bylaw 33 & Bylaw 11 appeals go directly to the KHSAA Board of Control.

If you have any further questions please feel free to write or call.

Sincerely,

Julian Tackett Commissioner



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December 16, 2011

Noah Combs 114 East Cedar Dr. Pikeville, KY 41501

Dear Noah,

I apologize for the length of time this has taken to get this in writing to you. But I certainly appreciate you talking to me the evening I called you about the situation at the State Golf Tournament.

Obviously your participation experience, certainly in my eyes, was diminished by the way a situation was handled following the first day of play. It is our objective in conducting each of our championships for every participant to have an optimal participation experience. Certainly that experience should not be lessened by the actions of adults. But as in all endeavors sometimes our striving to make things the best is not completely successful.

I will tell you that based on the situation that occurred with your starting times, procedures have been implemented for the future to prevent reoccurrence. Again, I'm sorry for the situation if it in any way made you feel that your participation experience was not optimal and pledge to you that we will continue to try to keep as our highest priority the positive experience of participating in a KHSAA Championship, for all student athletes.

Again wish you the best of luck and look forward to seeing you in next year's regional and state tournaments.

Sincerely,

Julian Tackett Commissioner

JT:mm

XC: Steve and Teresa Combs .
KHSAA Executive Staff



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January 9, 2012

Jason Stamm The Oldham Era 202 S First St., Suite1 La Grange, Ky. 40031

Dear Mr. Stamm,

This is in regard to your concern of conduct that occurred following the Oldham County/St. Xavier sub sectional soccer match. Assistant Commissioner Michael Barren did quite a bit of research on this and I know has talked to most of the officials involved. I have also talked to some of the individuals involved and unfortunately I don't think that we are going to be able to reach a definitive conclusion as to what happened. It ultimately comes down to "he said, she said" in terms of exactly what transpired. Because it occurred at one of our events, it bothers me that the incident occurred. I am just not going to be able to get verifiable facts as to what happened specifically and even the names of the specific individuals involved.

To illustrate the problem there is an assertion from you that the individual who was involved in potentially contacting you had a KHSAA windbreaker on or some type of top on with our identifying mark. The only person we have talked to at the game that had that type of clothing on was the spouse of the assigning secretary from Louisville who you have already said was not the person who bumped you. I would remind you that the officials who are independent contractors retained by our office have no obligation to speak to the media. There is no requirement that they answer questions. Obviously the veteran officials like to maintain positive relationships and many of them will enter into exchanges informally to try to help clarify things, but I still want you to understand that there is no obligation. I also think that we will remind our assigners to stay out of any commentary as well and we will do so at their next available meeting.

I appreciate the time you've taken and the seriousness to which you view what happened. We too view it as serious and I hope you realize that failing to reach a definitive conclusion does not lessen the concern that we have that the incident occurred in the first place.

If you need anything else from this office I trust you will feel to write or call.

Sincerely,

Julian Tackett Commissioner

JT:mm

XC: Tony Cotten, Publisher

**Executive Staff** 



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January 18, 2012

Bob Gibson, Athletic Director Woodford County HS 180 Frankfort Street Versailles, KY 40383 1149

Dear Bob,

I wanted to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence regarding the violation of Bylaw 25 within your baseball program. It is very apparent how serious you view this violation by the aggressive action you took within your own school and school system. The evidence indicates that you have taken great steps to insure such violation does not occur and have sanctioned your own personnel in a very appropriate manner related to enforcement of Bylaw 25.

As such there is no need for additional penalties on the part of the KHSAA, and you may consider this matter closed. We always appreciate the open line of communication and tremendous support from Woodford County High School.

Sincerely,

Julian Tackett Commissioner



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January 18, 2012

Perry Sangalli, President St. Xavier HS 1609 Poplar Level Rd Louisville, KY 40217 1343

Dear Dr. Sangalli,

This is in response to your report regarding the mailing house error with communication that went out to ninth grade students enrolled in various schools. Your researched explanation and prompt reporting clearly indicates to me that this was an inadvertent situation. I don't think anyone could draw the assumption there was any intent on the part of St. Xavier High School to commit any infraction or to do anything that might be perceived as a violation to Bylaw 10.

Your quick response not only to us, but to direct the mailing house to rectify the situation, again reiterates the inadvertent nature of this particular problem. Therefore it seems inappropriate for this office to consider action and this will not be considered a violation of Bylaw 10 with respect to St. Xavier High School.

Again, thank you very much for the thorough nature in which you investigated the situation.

Sincerely,

Julian Tackett Commissioner

JT:mm

XC: Alan Donhoff, Athletic Director

**Executive Staff** 



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January 18, 2012

Bill Dennison, Principal North Hardin HS 801 South Logsdon Pkwy Radcliff, KY 40160 1931

Dear Mr. Dennison,

This is in response to your letter received on December 1, 2011 concerning allegations of violation of Bylaw 10 by Jerome Davison. According to your report and the coaches commentary, this violation appears to be an inadvertent, however obvious violation of Bylaw 10. As such we will consider the suspension of one game for your coach that was imposed by the school to be the appropriate penalty for this violation.

At this point no further penalty is being considered and you may consider the matter closed. As you point out in your letter however, I trust you will caution Davison and the remainder of your staff of the need to adhere to Bylaw 10 and the consequences for failing to do so in the future.

Sincerely,

Julian Tackett Commissioner



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January 18, 2012

Tim Roark, Principal Knox Central HS 100 Panther Way Barbourville, KY 40906 1497

Dear Mr. Roark,

This is in response to your self-report of a violation of Bylaw 4 of the KHSAA by allowing an ineligible student to participate in both practice and contests in tennis. As you realize a violation of this type is very serious in nature as it jeopardizes insurance coverage for all existing students and places the school, team and individuals in a position of tremendous liability simply due to the inadvertence of allowing an ineligible player.

It is apparent from your report and reaction that you have now proceeded with the proper paper work to ensure the student eligibility is resolved. As a result of the inadvertent participation the boy's tennis program at Knox Central is issued the following penalties:

- 1. The boy's tennis program at Knox Central is hereby issued an administrative fine of \$250.
- 2. The student athlete is suspended the first three matches of the 2012 season.
- 3. The boy's tennis program is issued a warning with regard to Bylaw 33 and its constitutional control and we will accept your declaration that you have reminded staff and reiterated the proper procedures so that such violation does not occur again.

Thank you very much for your prompt response to this situation and for bringing this matter to closure. Upon receipt of the fine and the completion of the student's suspension, you may consider this matter to be closed.

#### NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS

Sincerely,

Julian Tackett Commissioner



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January 18, 2012

Danny Osborne, Principal Owen County HS 2340 Highway 22 East Owenton, KY 40359 9804

Dear Mr. Osborne,

This is in response to information received in this office by Assistant Commissioner Angela Passafiume regarding potential violations to Bylaw 5 within the athletic program at Owen County High School. Bylaw 5 and the requirement for academic integrity is one of the most sacred Bylaws within the Association. Without question the academic progress of students must be monitored carefully and must continually be a point of emphasis with coaches and players. It is apparent from the report submitted and information gathered through Ms. Passafiume's review, that Owen County High School failed to check grades for a period of time during the fall of 2011. With that being in mind the following institutional sanctions are being levied against the athletic program at Owen County High School:

- 1. The entire athletic program is placed on probation for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year. It is important to note that probation does not restrict playing in contests but is an official warning against future violations. I can assure you future violations will not be handled in this manner.
- 2. The athletic program at Owen County High School is issued an administrative fine of \$400. This fine is to be paid prior to the beginning of championship play in winter sports 2011-2012 in order for teams to be eligible to compete in those sports.
- 3. The administration at Owen County High School shall provide written copies of revised policies procedures and practices which prevent this violation from recurring.
- 4. It is my understanding that there may be specific students who were allowed to play in contests that have now been determined to be ineligible. If such is the case, each of these contests must be forfeited to the opponent. In writing your summary report to the Association on what is going to happen in the future to prevent these problems, please include a list of games and the related forfeiture letters to the opposing team.

Upon completion of all of these tasks including receipt of the administrative fine you may consider this matter closed, however, again I would remind you the number one priority of the Association is to maintain academic integrity and the failure to do a grade check is certainly an error which cannot be allowed to be repeated.

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Julian Tackett Commissioner



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January 18, 2012

Gene Heffington, Athletic Director Montgomery County HS 724 Woodford Dr Mount Sterling, KY 40353 9505

Dear Mr. Heffington,

This is in response to your self-report of a violation of Bylaw 9 of the KHSAA by allowing an ineligible student to participate in both practice and a junior varsity contest. As you realize a violation of this type is very serious in nature as it jeopardizes insurance coverage for all existing students and places the school, team and individuals in a position of tremendous liability simply due to the inadvertence of allowing an ineligible player.

It is apparent from your report and reaction that you have now proceeded with the proper paper work to ensure the student eligibility is resolved. As a result of the inadvertent participation the boy's basketball program at Montgomery County is issued the following penalties:

- Depending upon the final score the junior varsity game versus Menifee County on November 29 is to be forfeited. If Montgomery County was victorious in this game notification should be made in writing to the Menifee County High School that this game was forfeited and a copy shall be submitted to the KHSAA to place with this information.
- 2. The boy's basketball program at Montgomery County is hereby issued an administrative fine of \$250. The use of administrative fine is a clear and desirable alternative in the event that further penalties against student athletes are deemed to be inappropriate. It certainly does not seem appropriate to further penalize this student-athlete for the actions or lack of actions of adults in responsible positions.
- 3. The boy's basketball program is issued a warning with regard to Bylaw 33 and its constitutional control and we will accept your declaration that you have reminded staff and reiterated the proper procedures so that such violation does not occur again.

Thank you very much for your prompt response to this situation and for bringing this matter to closure. Upon receipt of the fine and the letter regarding the Menifee County junior varsity game, you may consider this matter to be closed.

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Sincerely,

Julian Tackett Commissioner



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January 17, 2012

Sam Harp, Athletic Director Danville HS 203 E Lexington Ave Danville, KY 40422 1599

Dear Mr. Harp,

This is in response to your-self report of a violation of Bylaw 5 of the KHSAA by allowing an ineligible student to participate in both practice and a junior varsity contest. As you realize a violation of this type is very serious in nature as it jeopardizes insurance coverage for all existing students and places the school, team and individuals in a position of tremendous liability simply due to the inadvertence of allowing an ineligible player.

It is apparent from your report and reaction that you have now proceeded with the proper paper work to ensure the student eligibility is resolved. As a result of the inadvertent participation the boy's soccer program at Danville is issued the following penalties:

- 1. Depending upon the final score, the junior varsity game versus Pikeville on August 27 is to be forfeited. If Danville was victorious in this game notification should be made in writing to the Pikeville High School that this game was forfeited and a copy shall be submitted to the KHSAA to place with this information.
- 2. The boy's soccer program at Danville is hereby issued an administrative fine of \$250. The use of administrative fine is a clear and desirable alternative in the event that further penalties against student athletes are deemed to be inappropriate. It certainly does not seem appropriate to further penalize this student athlete for the actions or lack of actions of adults in responsible positions.
- 3. The boy's soccer program is issued a warning with regard to Bylaw 33 and its constitutional control and we will accept your declaration that you have reminded staff and reiterated the proper procedures so that such violation does not occur again.

Thank you very much for your prompt response to this situation and for bringing this matter to closure. Upon receipt of the fine and the letter regarding the Pikeville junior varsity game, you may consider this matter to be closed.

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Sincerely,

Julian Tackett Commissioner



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January 18, 2012

Mark Rogers, Athletic Director Bullitt Central HS 1330 Highway 44 E Shepherdsville, KY 40165

Dear Mr. Rogers,

This is in response to your self-report of a violation of Bylaw 4 of the KHSAA by allowing an ineligible student to participate in both practice and two freshmen contests. As you realize a violation of this type is very serious in nature as it jeopardizes insurance coverage for all existing students and places the school, team and individuals in a position of tremendous liability simply due to the inadvertence of allowing an ineligible player.

It is apparent from your report and reaction that you have now proceeded with the proper paper work to ensure the student eligibility is resolved. As a result of the inadvertent participation the volleyball program at Bullitt Central is issued the following penalties:

- Depending upon the final scores, both freshmen games are to be forfeited. If Bullitt Central was victorious in either or both games, notification should be made in writing to the opposing schools that the game was forfeited and a copy shall be submitted to the KHSAA to place with this information.
- 2. The volleyball program at Bullitt Central is hereby issued an administrative fine of \$250. The use of administrative fine is a clear and desirable alternative in the event that further penalties against student athletes are deemed to be inappropriate. It certainly does not seem appropriate to further penalize this student athlete for the actions or lack of actions of adults in responsible positions.
- 3. The volleyball program is issued a warning with regard to Bylaw 33 and its constitutional control and we will accept your declaration that you have reminded staff and reiterated the proper procedures so that such violation does not occur again.

Thank you very much for your prompt response to this situation and for bringing this matter to closure. Upon receipt of the fine and the letter regarding the games played, you may consider this matter to be closed.

#### **NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS**

Sincerely,

Julian Tackett Commissioner



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January 18, 2012

Art Davis, Principal Paducah Tilghman HS 2400 Washington St Paducah, KY 42003 3206

Dear Mr. Davis,

This is in response to your self-report of a violation of Bylaw 9 of the KHSAA by allowing two ineligible students to practice in football. As you realize a violation of this type is very serious in nature as it jeopardizes insurance coverage for all existing students and places the school, team and individuals in a position of tremendous liability simply due to the inadvertence of allowing an ineligible player.

It is apparent from your report and reaction that you have now proceeded with the proper paper work to ensure the student eligibility is resolved. As a result of the participation, the football program at Paducah Tilghman is issued the following penalties:

- 1. The football program at Paducah Tilghman is hereby issued an administrative fine of \$250. The use of administrative fine is a clear and desirable alternative in the event that further penalties against student athletes are deemed to be inappropriate. It certainly does not seem appropriate to further penalize this student athlete for the actions or lack of actions of adults in responsible positions.
- 2. The football program is issued a warning with regard to Bylaw 33 and its constitutional control and we will accept your declaration that you have reminded staff and reiterated the proper procedures so that such violation does not occur again.

Thank you very much for your prompt response to this situation and for bringing this matter to closure. Upon receipt of the fine you may consider this matter to be closed.

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Sincerely,

Julian Tackett Commissioner



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January 18, 2012

Kevin Combs, Principal Oldham County 1150 N Highway 393 Buckner, KY 40010 0187

Dear Mr. Combs,

This is in response to your self-report of a violation of Bylaw 9 of the KHSAA by allowing an ineligible student to participate in both practice and a junior varsity contest in softball. As you realize a violation of this type is very serious in nature as it jeopardizes insurance coverage for all existing students and places the school, team and individuals in a position of tremendous liability simply due to the inadvertence of allowing an ineligible player.

It is apparent from your report and reaction that you have now proceeded with the proper paper work to ensure the student eligibility is resolved. As a result of the inadvertent participation the fast pitch softball program at Oldham County is issued the following penalties:

- 1. The fast pitch softball program at Oldham County is hereby issued an administrative fine of \$250. The use of administrative fine is a clear and desirable alternative in the event that further penalties against student athletes are deemed to be inappropriate. It certainly does not seem appropriate to further penalize this student athlete for the actions or lack of actions of adults in responsible positions.
- 2. The fast pitch softball program is issued a warning with regard to Bylaw 33 and its constitutional control and we will accept your declaration that you have reminded staff and reiterated the proper procedures so that such violation does not occur again.

Thank you very much for your prompt response to this situation and for bringing this matter to closure. Upon receipt of the fine, you may consider this matter to be closed.

#### **NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS**

Sincerely,

Julian Tackett Commissioner