

Kentucky High School Athletic Association

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

November 19, 2013

Principal Willie Foster Bullitt East High School 11450 Hwy 44 East Mt. Washington, KY 40047

Re: Violation of Bylaw 24 (formerly Bylaw 26), Dead Period

Dear Mr. Foster,

This office received a letter and follow-up phone calls/emails from your school through its Athletic Director at the close of the 2013 summer period with the results of your preliminary investigation into violation of Bylaw 24 (formerly Bylaw 26, Dead Period) by members of the Girls Basketball staff. It was the conclusion of that report that violations of KHSAA rules did in fact occur.

Bullitt East High School has confirmed that there were violations of Bylaw 24 (formerly Bylaw 26, Dead Period) to varying degrees were committed by coaches Coach Chris Stallings, Coach Christal Scott, Coach Steve Gajdik.

I want to thank you for your thorough review of this situation; careful and thoughtful consideration of possible penalties for the violation(s); and the continuing and ongoing efforts by the school to discover and find remedy for any other problems discovered during this internal review.

BYLAWS AT ISSUE

The complete text of all of the effected bylaws (and relevant interpretations) are listed below, and attached to this letter:

Bylaw 1 (Responsibility for Eligibility) states that the Principal is ultimately responsible in all matters at the school that concern interscholastic athletic eligibility;

Bylaw 24 (formerly Bylaw 26, Dead Period) states the specific restrictions for all coaches being involved in any manner with students who have participated previously for the team, as well as other enumerated restrictions during the period of June 25 to July 9 (inclusive).

Bylaw 27 (Penalties) specifies the range of penalties when such are imposed for violations.

FINDINGS

The fundamental premise of a member organization such as the KHSAA is self-policing and institutional control. Your immediate response to possible problems, and aggressive remedy proposed demonstrate that you realize the importance of this obligation. As such, this violation is treated as an isolated incident with respect to the application of penalties.

Based on your report, I concur with your findings that the violations of Bylaw 24 (formerly Bylaw 26) did in fact occur. Participation by teams while schools fail to comply with the KHSAA Bylaws is a very serious violation. The member schools, including Bullitt East, have agreed to abide by the Bylaws of the KHSAA which are indisputable when there is information to prevent this types of occurrence.

Bullitt East High School proposed stern penalties for these violations. This cannot go unnoticed or not be properly acknowledged. Those penalties proposed by the school include:

- 1. A written REPRIMAND for Coach Chris Stallings;
- 2. A one-game SUSPENSION for Coach Christal Scott;
- 3. A three-game SUSPENSION for Coach Steve Gajdik:
- 4. The disbanding of the AAU team, "East Lady Chargers", and all school support of any kind for that team/organization;

- 5. An internal restriction wherein no paid or non-paid coach may be involved (as a condition of acceptin a high school position) in any outside team where rising 7th and 8th graders within the feeder pattern will participate; and
- 6. An institutional FINE of \$250 to be assessed to the Girls Basketball program.

CONCLUSIONS AND PENALTIES

As Commissioner of the KHSAA, I direct that the following be imposed:

- 1. The KHSAA will accept all recommended penalties by Bullitt East High School. These type of sanctions, proposed by the school, are appropriate penalties to ensure that in this specific situation, students are not penalized for the action or lack of action by adults:
- 2. Bullitt East High School shall direct a school wide coaches (all sports) and administrators meeting (or may subdivide that meeting into seasonal coaches) to educate all coaches on the bylaws and rules of the KHSAA, specifically and particularly, the requirements surrounding the KHSAA Dead Period; and
- 3. These specific coaches at Bullitt East High School are placed on PROBATION through the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

With the acceptance and completion of the imposed penalties, this matter shall be considered closed. However, it must be reiterated that any additional violations discovered by the school through exercising due diligence must be reported accordingly. This office remains committed to its assistance for your athletic program and offers it complete resources, including personnel, to assist the school with this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS

Bullitt East High School may appeal the Commissioner's ruling in accordance with the KHSAA Due Process Procedure. Please note that, under the KHSAA Due Process Procedure, this is considered a "Board Matter", and as such, any appeal would go directly to the KHSAA Board of Control.

Sincerely,

Julian Tackett Commissioner

JT:mm

xc: KHSAA Executive Staff and Board of Control Superintendent Keith Davis

Athletic Director Troy Barr

Kevin Brown, Kentucky Board of Education

Attachments:

Bylaw 1 (Responsibility for Eligibility)

Bylaw 24 (formerly Bylaw 26, Dead Period)

Bylaw 27 (Penalties)

KY High School Athletic Association

2280 Executive Drive Lexington, KY 40505

Voice:

859-299-5472

Fax:

859-293-5999

Bill To:

Bullitt East High School 11450 Highway 44 East Mt. Washington, KY 40047



Invoice Number: 09044

Invoice Date:

Nov 20, 2013

Page:

1

Customer ID	Customer PO	Payment	Terms
Bullitt East HS	PR Willie Foster	Net 10	Days
Sales Rep	Shipping Method	Ship Date	Due Date
JT	Best Way		11/30/13

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Subtotal

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Sales Tax

Total Invoice Amount

250.00

Check/Credit Memo No:

Payment/Credit Applied

TOTAL

\$250.00

Bullitt East High School

11450 Highway 44 East - Mt. Washington, KY - 502-869-6400 - Fax 502-538-8368

TO:

Commissioner Julian Tackett

FROM:

Willie Foster, Principal

Troy Barr, Athletics Director

RE:

Self-Reported: Dead Period Violation 2013

DATE:

November 14, 2013

Bullitt East High School was made aware of a possible dead period violation of our girls' basketball program in August. The violation occurred during the summer of 2013 and included all 3 paid coaches within our girls' basketball program. After investigating and reporting the violation to the KHSAA we have concluded the violation did occur and would like to recommend the following self-imposed sanctions:

*Head Coach Chris Stallings:

Written Reprimand

*JV Coach Christal Scott:

1 Game suspension at the level she is head coach

*Freshman Coach Steve Gajdik:

3 Game suspension at the level he is head coach

*\$250.00 fine

To be paid to KHSAA by the staff

We would like to include the following institutional sanctions:

- Disbanding of the AAU team "East Lady Chargers"
- No paid or volunteer assistant coach within our girls' program may coach any AAU team at the 7th or 8th grade level with players in our feeder system for the next 2 years 2014, 2015







Tackett, Julian < jtackett@khsaa.org>

RE: Bullitt East

1 message

Barr, Troy <troy.barr@bullitt.kyschools.us>
To: "Tackett, Julian" <jtackett@khsaa.org>

Wed, Sep 11, 2013 at 10:31 AM

Julian,

I met with Coach Stallings and Coach Scott yesterday to update them on the investigation. There are a few points that they made me aware of that are worth mentioning.

#1 Coach Scott and Coach Stallings are brother and sister, Coach Scott's daughter is a participant on the AAU team that practiced and competed. Not sure that makes a difference but I think we left the brother, sister, daughter thing out of our letter.

#2 Coach Scott was not at any of the practices that occurred over the dead period. I have confirmed that she was on a family vacation at the time and met the team in Florida on July 8 for the tournament.

#3 Coach Gadjik was the only coach present at the dead period practices.

I'm not sure why Coach Scott did not make me aware of this at the time, I feel she assumed that since she was the head coach of the team she was ultimately responsible.

Not sure if this hurts or helps but felt it was worth mentioning.

Thanks.

Troy Barr
Athletic Director
Bullitt East High School
troy.barr@bullitt.kyschools.us
502-533-5283 cell

From: Tackett, Julian [jtackett@khsaa.org]
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 2:39 PM

To: Barr, Troy **Cc:** Foster, Willie

Subject: Re: Bullitt East

Thanks Troy. I hope to finalize that one in coming days. Was going to talk to you and Willie about penalties specifically for the violating coach and then deal with an institutional penalty (likely a fine). You know as a coach there is absolutely no excusable reason why that restriction wasn't known. And it doesn't seem fair at all to penalize the young ladies in any way. We will talk, I hope to finalize in next couple of weeks along with several others.

On Mon, Sep 9, 2013 at 10:42 AM, Barr, Troy <troy.barr@bullitt.kyschools.us> wrote:

Julian,

We self reported some violations of the dead period by our girl's basketball staff from this past summer in August. We wanted you to know of the steps we have taken regarding this incident to ensure it does not happen again.

- 1. All coaches will be reminded of the dead period dates during our pre-season coaches meetings. All coaches will be contacted by email and text message at the beginning of the dead period to remind them that "no contact" is a non-negotiable in regards to the dead period.
- 2. We are requiring the dismantling of our youth AAU program named "East Lady Chargers". Any new program must be developed by individuals outside of our coaching staff and must use a name that in no way signifies any relationship to Bullitt East High School.
- 3. No member of any coaching staff (paid or volunteer) may coach a youth AAU team with members of Bullitt East High School on the team or players from any of our feeder systems.
- 4. Any infractions regarding items #2 and #3 will be punished severely and possibly result in termination of coaching duties at Bullitt East.

We understand that the KHSAA has yet to rule on this and that other sanctions may / will apply.

Thanks,

Troy Barr
Athletic Director
Bullitt East High School
troy.barr@bullitt.kyschools.us

Please let me knowif I can be of further assistance.

You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today. --Abraham Lincoln

Julian Tackett, Commissioner Kentucky High School Athletic Association

jtackett@khsaa.org 859-299-5472 (phone) 859-293-5999 (fax)

Twitter: jtackettkhsaa



Berren Mohael embarren@hisaa.org>

FW: Message from KMBT_552

Limessage

Barr, Troy <troy.barr@bullitt.kyschools.us>

Wed, Aug 7, 2013 at 12:08 PM

To: "mbarren@khsaa.org" <mbarren@khsaa.org>

Cc: "Foster, Willie" <willie.foster@bullitt.kyschools.us>

Mike,

Attached is all the information I could gather regarding our Dead Period infraction. I have attached an email from our previous athletic director to all coaches at our school regarding the upcoming dead period as well as the game schedule listing the game played on July 9th. Our principal, Mr. Foster and I want you to know we are both embarrassed at the situation and will accept any penalty that the KHSAA feels is appropriate.

Please call with any questions. 502-533-5283

Troy Barr Athletic Director Bullitt East High School troy.barr@bullitt.kyschools.us 502-533-5283 cell

From: BEHS.Reception.Right.Copier@bullitt.kyschools.us [BEHS.Reception.Right.Copier@bullitt.kyschools.us]

Sent: Wednesday, August 07, 2013 12:12 PM

To: Barr, Troy

Subject: Message from KMBT_552

SBEHS_Recep13080711110.pdf

To: Mr. Michael Barren KHSAA

Fr: Troy Barr BEHS

Re: Dead Period 2013

Mr. Barren,

Bullitt East High School would like to report a dead period infraction that occurred during this past summer within our girls' basketball program. During this time our head coach <u>Chris Stallings</u> and both assistants, <u>Steve Gadjik</u> and <u>Christal Scott</u> were involved with illegal contact with players in varying degrees. The players in question are <u>Lindsey Duvall</u>, <u>Regan Williams</u> and <u>Alyssa Peak</u>. All three players are incoming freshmen and participated on our varsity roster in the winter of 2012-2013 as 8th graders.

- During the period of June 25 to July 9 coach <u>Steve Gadjik and Christal Scott</u> held practices with an 8th grade AAU team at an off campus site in preparation for the AAU national tournament. A total of 3 practices were held during this time. Dates were unable to be determined.
- On July 9th Coaches <u>Gadjik</u> and <u>Scott</u> both coached the team in the AAU national tournament in Orlando Florida.
- On July 9th Head Coach <u>Chris Stallings</u> attended and watched the game involving the 3 players listed. It is important to note that <u>Coach Stallings</u> niece is also on this team and she requested his presence at the game.
- The remainder of the tournament was held outside of the dead period dates.
- No players were transported by coaches and school funds were not utilized in any way for participation, lodging, or food.

Please call me or email if you have questions.

Troy Barr

Athletic Director BEHS CELL 502-533-5283



2013 AAU Girls Basketball National Tournament Orlando, FL

8th Grade Division II

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Courts: 1-6 = HP Fleidhouse 7-12 = Jostens Center

13-18 = Orlando Sports Center 26-31 = The Big House

Dead Period reminder

Blackburn, Robert

Sentr Stinday, June 23, 2013 12:21 AM

To (dustarm20@yahoe.com); Debold, David; Hall, Shannon; Ritter, Adam; Whelan, Kevin; Wood, Breeann; Vincent, Darrell; Oder, Andy, Girls Golf [aoder@windstream.net]; Hoffman, Ricky, Softball [besoftball@yahoe.com]; Whelan, Kevin, Bowling [bowl1@windstream.net]; Cindy Allen, Archery [callen254@windstream.net]; Stallings, Chris; Barrett, Daniel; Armstrong, Dustin; Ed Fisher, Volleyball [edward.fisher@ge.com]; Ed Fisher, Volleyball [fish13golf@gmail.com]; Bowles, Jeff; Sawyers, Jonah; Downs, Kyle; Flischel Meyer, Laura, Swimming [laura.meyer@ge.com]; Raley, Lenny; Brangers, Michael; Fulghum, Nate; Blackburn, Robert; Gentry, Steven, Girls Soccer [steven.gentry@Insightbb.com]; Barr, Troy

Coaches:

Not trying to beat this to death, but a reminder that the dead period will begin tonight (Sunday) at Midnight.....running through July 9th. Enjoy you're family and the time off. As a general rule if you think an incidental contact is against the rules of the dead period it probably is. If you have a question......call Troy, haha just kidding, give me a call.

And finally.....THANKS TO YOU GUYS/GALS FOR MAKING MY JOB SO EASY.....I appreciate each and every one of you, thanks for the last 7 years......

Yours in Bullitt East Sports, Bob

Bob Blackburn
Athletic Director
Bullitt East High School
robert.blackburn@bullitt.kyschools.us
502-869-6475 Fax (502) 538-8368