

**BYLAWS OF THE KENTUCKY HIGH SCHOOL
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

**BYLAW 9. BASKETBALL/FOOTBALL CONTESTANT
ON OTHER TEAMS, POSTSEASON AND ALL-STAR
GAMES**

Sec. 1) RESTRICTIONS FROM FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL THROUGH END OF SEASON

Any student who after enrolling in grade nine (9) has been a contestant in football or basketball at any level (grades 9-12) and has eligibility remaining in that sport may not participate on any non-school sponsored team or in any all-star game in that sport or any variation of that sport from the first day of school through the last scheduled contest played in that sport (including KHSAA sanctioned postseason) by that school unless it has been sanctioned by the Board of Control.

Sec. 2) RESTRICTIONS FOLLOWING THE END OF SEASON

Following the team's last scheduled game (including postseason), there are no restrictions on play in that specific sport for the student-athletes.

Case BL-9-1- Why are there restrictions on basketball and football participants that prevent them from playing in outside competition during the school year, prior to the end of their competitive seasons?

A restriction on non-school athletic participation protects students who choose to participate on their schools' athletic teams from exploitation by those who seek to capitalize on their skill and/or reputation. In addition, the restriction:

- (1) Avoids risks incident to participation in non-school athletic programs that may have inadequate administrative oversight;
- (2) Discourages outside entities from pressuring student-athletes to miss classes while competing on non-school teams or in non-school events;
- (3) Equalizes competition by reducing any unfair advantage of students who participate in non-school athletics may have over those who do not participate in outside events, and
- (4) Reduces distractions from academic preparation and other school responsibilities.

A non-school athletic participation restriction also provides some control over the trend towards year-round competitive sports seasons. The sanctioning process operates to reduce, or even eliminate, conflicts which may arise due to: time conflicts of practices, games, playoffs, differing coaching philosophies of the school coaching staff and the nonschool coaching staff, and team loyalty.

Case BL-9-2- What specifically is permissible, and not permissible for basketball players to participate in after the first day of school?

The following situations would be expressly prohibited:

- (1) Any play involving more than two (2) people at a time where score is kept, either among the players, on a flip scoreboard, digital scoreboard, or using any other device;
- (2) Any play involving a third party acting in the role of a contest official, whether or not the person is a licensed or approved official;
- (3) Any type of play against other players where the teams are selected either prior to arrival or after arrival, by any other method than simple player selection by the players themselves;
- (4) Any play at any event where school funds are expended for participation fees, travel or any other expense, including fees paid by booster organizations or any member of the coaching staff;
- (5) Any play where future play is predicated by the outcome of other play at or preceding the event; and
- (6) Any play at which players where school team identifying apparel of any type.

The following situations would be permitted:

- (1) Activity such as individual play or skill development or technique drills where neither score nor time are kept and future play is not predicated by results of other play;
- (2) "Pick-up" type of action initiated solely by players, and with

no coaches, event organizers, promoters of event sponsors having any involvement in the activity whatsoever; and
(3) Any individual instructional activity fully funded by the student participants at his/her own expense.

Case BL-9-3- For the purposes of Bylaw 9, when are the seasons for basketball and football?

For the interpretation of this rule, the basketball and football seasons are considered to start on the opening date of school. Student-athletes who have both been enrolled in grade nine, and participated in a contest at the high school level (freshman, JV or varsity) cannot participate in outside competition during this time.

Case BL-9-4- Does Bylaw 9 apply to participants in any sport other than basketball or football?

No. There are no restrictions on the student-athletes in sports other than football and basketball as it relates to outside competition during the season or prior to the season beginning.

Case BL-9-5- Does Bylaw 9 restrict a student who has not yet represented a school in basketball after enrolling in grade 9 from playing in an outside league or in any other organized competitive setting in basketball during the school year prior to the season?

No, not until he/she has been enrolled in grade nine and played for a team in a contest at any level (grades 9-12) within the school.

Case BL-9-6- Are there any exceptions to the participation restrictions in Bylaw 9 in fall basketball exposure events?

Yes. A member school, through its Principal or Designated Representative, may request to have the restrictions of Bylaw 9 waived for one weekend for specific boys' basketball team members. Such may not be done to allow play as a unit, and approval will only be given if it is apparent that the students are traveling as individuals. The weekends will only include the weekends in September that are in the open recruiting period for NCAA mens coaches.

For the girls, Bylaw 9 does not apply during the NCAA exempt weekend for non scholastic girls basketball events, which is September 27-29, 2013. There is no application necessary for girls to have that exemption.

Case BL-9-7- Are there any exceptions to the participation restrictions in Bylaw 9 for participation in Olympic Development Activities?

Yes, the Board of Control has authorized the Commissioner to consider, on a case by case basis, waivers to any restrictions contained in Bylaw 9 and Bylaw 23 that would allow participation by an enrolled student or employed coach in officially sanctioned U.S. Olympic Development activities. Such organizations as USA Basketball, USA Track and Field and other similar groups that have officially sanctioned activities can request, through the appropriate member school, that these restrictions be waived and participation allowed.