



APR 17 2014

April 15, 2014

Mr. Julian Tackett
Commissioner, KHSAA
2280 Executive Drive
Lexington, KY 40505



Dear Commissioner Tackett:

The 30th edition of the Bluegrass State Games (BGSF) is only a few months away and as we are preparing to celebrate our past, we are also feverishly preparing for the future. The KHSAA and the BGSF have enjoyed a long and healthy relationship throughout the years and we truly appreciate that partnership. For many years, we have worked in close concert to the benefit of both organizations.

The purpose of this letter is to request the KHSAA consider expanding our existing relationship. Currently, the KHSAA recognizes three BGSF sport exemptions in its bylaws, cross country, volleyball and soccer. We request expanding that exemption to include all KHSAA sanctioned sports, except boys and girls basketball. Although we feel we could be of great service to the high school basketball community, we recognize present issues would make that difficult for the KHSAA to grant.

By granting these exemptions, we will not only grow the BGSF participation among Kentucky's youth, but can extend similar benefits to the KHSAA, coaches, players and officials, that we provide under our current exemptions, such as:

- Opportunity for officials' training and evaluation at no cost to the KHSAA
- Opportunity for schools to compete against teams outside their own region
- Opportunity to participate in a trusted event with a proven track record
- Opportunity for student-athletes to better prepare for their upcoming seasons

We understand that each KHSAA sport has its own guidelines and nuances that would need to be taken into account. What we ask is for the KHSAA to allow the BGSF to propose a plan for each sport and make a determination on each individually.

Thank you in advance for taking time to consider this request and I am available at your convenience to further discuss.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terry Johnson".

Terry Johnson
Executive Director,
Bluegrass Sports Commission/Bluegrass State Games