

**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**STAFF NOTE**

**Action/Discussion Item:**

702 KAR 7:065, Designation of Agent to Manage Middle and High School Interscholastic Athletics and Revisions in Kentucky High School Athletic Association Bylaws (Second Reading)

**Commissioner's Recommendation:**

The Commissioner recommends approval of 702 KAR 7:065.

**Rationale:**

To provide to the board the most recent amendments to 702 KAR 7:065 to consider for approval. The changes have been approved by the KHSAA membership and KHSAA Board of Control.

**Action Question:**

Should the board approve 702 KAR 7:065?

**Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 156.070  
702 KAR 7:065  
KHSAA Bylaws

**History/Background:**

***Existing Policy.*** 702 KAR 7:065 (included as attachment "A") designates the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) as the entity to manage middle and high school interscholastic athletics.

This regulation also requires that the Association conduct a biennial review of its Constitution and Bylaws at both the high school and middle school level, and such was done during the 2014-2015 school years by the KHSAA Board of Control.

The proposed changes to the high school portion of the regulation that received the requisite 2/3 vote (included as attachment "B") reflect items that were presented to the membership of the Association at its September 10, 2015 Annual Meeting of high schools. Items considered at this Annual Meeting are submitted both by the Board of Control as part of its annual Constitution and Bylaws review, and by the member high schools, and are reviewed by the Board of Control prior to the development of the final agenda. At the 2015 annual meeting of the member high schools, 202 schools were present; therefore, all proposals required 135 affirmative votes for passage. In accordance with the KHSAA Constitution and Policies and Procedures as well as the requirements of 702 KAR 7:065, any amendment receiving the requisite vote of the membership is to be considered by the Board of Control and a recommendation made to the Kentucky Board of Education for further action.

In accordance with these procedures, the following amendments to the KHSAA Bylaws for its high school members were approved by the listed votes. These amendments were favorably reviewed by the Local Superintendents Advisory Council at its meeting and have been considered by the Board of Control (BOC) of the KHSAA for implementation during the 2016-17 school year unless otherwise noted. These received the requisite vote of the Board of Control.

Proposal	Author	Purpose	Vote	BOC
2015-1	Proposed by the KHSAA Board of Control as part of the required annual review of all KHSAA Bylaws (702 KAR 7:065)	A proposal to amend Bylaw 6 to make an exception to the one-year period of ineligibility potentially invalid if the student is living with any athletic coach or member of the school staff or team members. <i>Rationale: Clearly, living with a coach, staff member or team member is an athletic advantage and should be grounds for the denial of the waiver of the period of ineligibility.</i> <i>Impact: Regulatory</i>	172 Yes, 23 No, 0 Abstain, 7 Present	Adopted by the Board of Control
2015-2	Proposed by the KHSAA Board of Control as part of the required annual review of all KHSAA Bylaws (702 KAR 7:065)	A proposal to amend Bylaw 6 to eliminate the provisions of the transfer rule that applied to students in grades 4-12 being further restricted on the transfer rule within the same year. <i>Rationale: This provision, enacted a couple of decades ago to deal with mid-year transfers, is likely not legally permissible to enforce due to the requirements of the KHSAA to have a Due Process Procedure for all students as it restricts discretionary waivers.</i> <i>Impact: Regulatory</i>	181 Yes, 14 No, 0 Abstain, 7 Present	Adopted by the Board of Control

The Board of Control and staff of the KHSAA also have thoroughly reviewed the bylaws, due process procedures and policies and procedures of the KHSAA and made clarifying language in many cases that do not change the intent, spirit or consequence of any rule or regulation in a continuing effort to ensure consistent application.

The KHSAA also is designated to manage interscholastic athletics at the middle school level. The Middle School Advisory Committee held its first meeting of the year in November and its second meeting on March 1, 2016. The committee recommended the following items be added to Sec. (3) of 702 KAR 7:065 related to the safety and welfare of student-athletes:

1. That this section contain the USA Football definitions where football drill work and practice activity shall be defined in the following five categories:
  - a. Level 0-“Air”- Players run a drill unopposed without contact;
  - b. Level 1-“Bags” – Drill is run against a bag or another soft contact surface;
  - c. Level 2-“Control” – Drill is run at assigned speed until the moment of contact; one player is pre-determined the ‘winner’ by the coach. Contact remains above the waist and players stay on their feet;
  - d. Level 3-“Thud” – Drill is run at assigned speed through the moment of contact; no pre-determined “winner”. Contact remains above the waist, players stay on their feet and a quick whistle ends the drill; and
  - e. Level 4-“Live Action”- Drill is run in game-like conditions and is the only time that players are taken to the ground.
2. Contact and non-contact shall be defined as follows: “Contact” will be defined as drills run at the Level 3- Thud and Level 4-Live Action level, and Drills run at the Level 0-“Air”, Level 1-“Bags” and Level 2-“Control” level shall be defined Bylaws 2015-2016 KHSAA HANDBOOK as “Non-Contact” All drills in shells (shorts, shoulder pads and helmets) shall be “Non-Contact”. In helmets-only, only Level 0-“Air” and Level 2-“Bags” drills may be conducted;

3. Middle School Football is required to have five (5) days in helmets, followed by three (3) days in helmets and shoulder pads followed by three (3) days in full equipment practice before engaging another group or opponent in full contact;
4. That beginning in June 2017, the period of June 25 to July 9 (inclusive) be a "Dead Period" for middle school athletics. Students may not receive coaching or training from school personnel (either salaried or non-salaried) and school facilities, uniforms, nicknames, transportation or equipment shall not be used each year in any sport or sport-activity during the period beginning with June 25, and going through July 9. School funds may not be expended in support of interscholastic athletics during this period. These restrictions shall not apply to post-season wrap-up activities, celebrations and recognition events relating to a spring sports team at a school; and
5. That beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, teams participating in middle school athletics as defined by 702 KAR 7:065, Sec. (3)(1) be required to use KHSAA licensed officials in the sports of baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, soccer, softball and volleyball.

The Middle School Advisory Committee continues to review changes deemed in the best interests of the student participants and will bring additional recommendations to the Kentucky Board of Education following thorough review.

The staff of the KHSAA certifies that the Board of Control and Middle School Advisory Committee have taken action on these items as documented by the minutes of Board of Control meetings.

**Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:**

KHSAA Board of Control  
KHSAA Annual Meeting Delegate Assembly  
Local Superintendents Advisory Council

All affected groups have concurred and approved the revisions.

**Contact Person:**

Julian Tackett, Commissioner  
KHSAA  
(859) 299-5472  
jtackett@khsaa.org



---

**Recommending Contact Person**



---

**Commissioner of Education**

**Date:**

June 2016

**Education and Workforce Development Cabinet**

**Kentucky Board of Education**

**Department of Education**

**(Amendment)**

**702 KAR 7:065. Designation of agent to manage middle and high school interscholastic athletics.**

RELATES TO: KRS 61.805 - 61.850, 156.070(2), 160.380, 160.445, 20 U.S.C. 1681

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 156.070(1), (2)

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 156.070(1) requires the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) to manage and control the common schools, including interscholastic athletics in the schools. KRS 156.070(2) authorizes the KBE to designate an agency to manage athletics. This administrative regulation designates an agent for middle and high school athletics; establishes the financial planning and review processes for the agent; and incorporates by reference the bylaws, procedures, and rules of the agent.

Section 1. The Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) shall be the Kentucky Board of Education's agent to manage interscholastic athletics at the middle and high school level in the common schools, including a private school desiring to associate with KHSAA or to compete with a common school.

Section 2. To remain eligible to maintain the designation as the agent to manage interscholastic high school athletics, the KHSAA shall:

(1) Accept four (4) at-large members appointed by the Kentucky Board of Education to its high school Board of Control;

(2) Sponsor an annual meeting of its member high schools;

(3) Provide for each member high school to have a vote on KHSAA constitution and bylaw changes submitted for consideration;

(4) Provide for high school regional postseason tournament net revenues to be distributed to the member high schools in that region participating in that sport, utilizing a share approach determined by the high schools within that region playing that sport;

(5) Provide for students desiring to participate at the high school level (regardless of level of play) to be enrolled in at least grade seven (7) unless the student has participated at the high school level prior to the 2014 - 2015 school year;

(6) Require its governing body to annually establish goals and objectives for its commissioner and perform a self-assessment and submit the results annually to the KBE by December 31;

(7) Advise the Department of Education of all legal action brought against the KHSAA;

(8) Permit a board of control member to serve a maximum of two (2) consecutive four (4) year terms with no region represented for more than eight (8) consecutive years;

(9) Employ a commissioner and evaluate that person's performance annually by October 31, and establish all staff positions upon recommendation of the commissioner;

(10) Permit the commissioner to employ other personnel necessary to perform the staff responsibilities;

- 1 (11) Permit the Board of Control to assess fines on a member high school;
- 2 (12) Utilize a trained independent hearing officer instead of an eligibility committee for a high  
3 school athletic eligibility appeal;
- 4 (13) Establish a philosophical statement of principles to use as a guide in a high school eligibility  
5 case;
- 6 (14) Conduct continual cycles of field audits of the association's entire high school membership  
7 which provides that each high school is audited regarding each school's compliance with 20  
8 U.S.C. Section 1681 (Title IX) and submit annual summary reports, including the highlighting of  
9 any potential deficiencies in OCR compliance to the Kentucky Board of Education;
- 10 (15) As a condition precedent to high school membership, require each member high school  
11 and superintendent to annually submit a written certification of compliance with 20 U.S.C.  
12 Section 1681 (Title IX);
- 13 (16) Conduct all meetings related to high school athletics in accordance with KRS 61.805  
14 through 61.850;
- 15 (17) Provide written reports of any investigations into possible violations of statute,  
16 administrative regulation, KHSAA Constitution, KHSAA Bylaws, and other rules governing the  
17 conduct of high school interscholastic athletics conducted by KHSAA or their designees to the  
18 superintendent and principal of the involved school district and school prior to being made  
19 public; and
- 20 (18) Not punish or sanction, in any manner, a school, student, coach, or administrator for  
21 allowing a student to play in an athletic contest or practice with the team during a time when

an order of a court of competent jurisdiction permits the student to participate or otherwise stays or enjoins enforcement of a KHSAA final decision on eligibility.

Section 3. To remain eligible to maintain the designation as the agent to manage interscholastic athletics at the middle school level, the KHSAA shall implement the following requirements for all participants in middle school interscholastic athletics and distribute these requirements to all middle schools and publish via the KHSAA Web site:

(1) Require that these provisions apply to all middle school interscholastic athletics. The following indicates that a team is representative of a school and classified as middle school athletics:

(a) The contest, event, or tournament is sponsored by a school or combined group of schools;

(b) Competitors wear a school issued uniform;

(c) The contest, event, or tournament is sponsored by an outside entity as a school entry event (advertised or promoted as a school event), whether or not an entry fee is required;

(d) A school entity pays an entry fee, for the student or team, including payment by booster organizations;

(e) A school representative accompanies the student-athlete or transports the student-athlete to the contest, event, or tournament;

(f) A member of a school coaching staff (designated or hired, whether paid or unpaid) is present and offering instruction, advice, evaluation, or refinement of skills or exercising other duties defined as coaching within the sport rules;

(g) Transportation to or from the contest, event, or tournament utilizes school provided or approved transportation;

(h) Competitors in the contest, event, or tournament wear apparel identifying them by the name of the school (formal, informal, or team nickname);

(i) Competitors in the contest, event, or tournament are provided resources (promotional or otherwise) by the school including school media recognition, signage, and items clearly indicative of school representation;

(j) Competition in a contest, event, or tournament has, in any form, jurisdiction of the local school board or school based decision making body, including financial or other approval control; or

(k) Competition in a contest, event, or tournament is covered by any school or school system provided or procured insurance policy;

(2) Require that any coach (head or assistant, paid or unpaid) desiring to coach interscholastic athletics at the middle school level:

(a) Meet the requirements of KRS 156.070(2)(f)2;

(b) Meet the requirements of ~~[- And]~~ KRS 160.380(4) and (6); and

(c) Provide to the school documentation of successful completion of successful completion of a C.P.R. course including the use of an Automatic External Defibrillator and the requisite First Aid Training, conducted by an instructor or program approved by a college or University, the American Red Cross, American Heart Association or other bona fide accrediting agency. Initial certification shall use in-person instruction and certification shall be timely and appropriately updated as required by the approving agency;

(3) Require the adherence to the following items regarding safety, sports medicine, and risk minimization for all interscholastic athletics at the middle school level:



(a) Each student, prior to trying for a place on a middle school athletic team, shall provide an annual medical examination, in accordance with KRS 156.070(2)(d), and shall use the form approved for use at the middle school level;

(b) All participants at the middle school level shall adhere to all sports medicine and risk minimization policies in use at the high school level that may be supplemented by the school, school district, conference, or association including:

1. Heat index and heat illness programs;

2. Wrestling weight management programs; ~~and~~

3. Concussion and other head injury policies including policies for minimizing impact exposure and concussion risks; and

4. Football Drill work and practice activity being defined in the following five categories:

(a) Level 0-“Air”-Players run a drill unopposed without contact;

(b) Level 1-“Bags” – Drill is run against a bag or another softcontact surface;

(c) Level 2-“Control” – Drill is run at assigned speed until the moment of contact; one player is

pre-determined the ‘winner’ by the coach. Contact remains above the waist and players stay on their feet;

(d) Level 3-“Thud” – Drill is run at assigned speed through the moment of contact; no pre-

determined “winner.” Contact remains above the waist, players stay on their feet and a quick whistle ends the drill;

(e) Level 4-“Live Action”-Drill is run in game-like conditions and is the only time that players are taken to the ground;

(f) Football Contact and non-contact practice shall be defined as follows: "Contact" will be defined as drills run at the Level 3-Thud and Level 4-Live Action level, and Drills run at the Level 0-"Air", Level 1-"Bags" and Level 2-"Control" level shall be defined as "Non-Contact". All drills in shells (shorts, shoulder pads and helmets) shall be "Non-Contact". In helmets-only, only Level 0-"Air" and Level 2-"Bags" drills may be conducted;

5. Middle School Football required to have five (5) days in helmets, followed by three (3) days in helmets and shoulder pads followed by three (3) days in full equipment practice before engaging another group or opponent in full contact; and

6. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, teams participating in middle school athletics as defined by Section 3(1), be required to use KHSAA licensed officials in the sports of baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, soccer, softball and volleyball;

(4) Create a permanent Middle School Athletics Advisory Committee. This committee shall:

(a) Be autonomous with respect to the Board of Control of the KHSAA;

(b) Be composed of no less than three (3) middle school representatives from each Supreme Court district as well as no less than three (3) at large representatives from throughout the state;

(c) Provide an opportunity for nonprofit athletic groups, parents, and others to participate and provide input on the sport, athletic event, or athletes involved in interscholastic activities through local school districts;

(d) Meet not less than twice annually to review current programs and policies; make recommendations for improvements to and participation in middle school interscholastic activities, as well as any changes in statute, administrative regulation, or policy related to

1 middle school interscholastic athletics; and assist in the development of model guidelines for  
2 schools, districts, conferences, and associations to be used in implementing a middle school  
3 athletic program; and

4 (e) Report regularly, not less than annually, to the commissioner of the KHSAA and issue, in  
5 conjunction with the commissioner, a formal written report annually to the Kentucky Board of  
6 Education with recommendations for changes in statute, administrative regulation, or policy;

7 (5) Require any organization conducting a school based event at the middle school level to  
8 submit the following, which shall be published and listed on the KHSAA Web site:

9 (a) Annual financial reports of all sanctioned and approved events sponsored by the  
10 organization; and

11 (b) Documentation of financial accountability including verification of federal status and tax  
12 documents including an annual IRS Form 990;

13 (6) Provide notice to the middle schools related to any program conducted by KHSAA related to  
14 educating school administrators about the provisions of 20 U.S.C. 1681, Title IX;

15 (7) Provide educational materials and a mechanism to facilitate the monitoring and tracking  
16 capabilities for the middle schools to ensure compliance with the provisions of KRS 160.445,  
17 and other requirements for coaches at the middle school level;

18 (8) ~~[Beginning with the 2015-2016 school year,~~ require any student enrolled initially in grade  
19 five (5) through eight (8) during the 2015-2016 school year or thereafter who is repeating a  
20 grade for any reason, to be ineligible, during the school year that the grade is repeated, to  
21 compete in interscholastic competition involving students enrolled in grades six (6) through  
22 eight (8);

(9) ~~[Beginning with the 2015-2016 school year,]~~ require that any student who turns:

(a) Fifteen (15) years of age prior to August 1 of the current school year shall not be eligible for interscholastic athletics in Kentucky in competition against students exclusively enrolled in grades eight (8) and below;

(b) Fourteen (14) years of age prior to August 1 of the current year shall not be eligible for interscholastic athletics in Kentucky in competition against students exclusively enrolled in grades seven (7) and below; and

(c) Thirteen (13) years of age prior to August 1 of the current school year shall not be eligible for interscholastic athletics in Kentucky in competition against students exclusively enrolled in grades six (6) and below;

(10) Require each school, school district, conference, or association of schools to develop rules and limitations regarding student participation at the middle school level to include:

(a) A defined age limitation for participating students;

(b) A policy regarding the participation of students below grade six (6);

(c) A limitation on practice time prior to the season in any sport or sport activity which shall not exceed the practice time adopted for play at the high school level;

(d) A limitation on the number of school based scrimmages and regular season, school based contests in each sport or sport-activity, which shall not include post season contests and shall not exceed the allowable number of contests for that sport or sport-activity at the high school level; and

(e) A limitation on the length of the regular competitive season in each sport or sport-activity, not including any post season activities, which shall not exceed the length for that sport or sport-activity at the high school level;

(11) Conduct all meetings related to middle school athletics in accordance with KRS 61.805 through 61.850;

(12) Issue an annual report to the Kentucky Board of Education on the status of interscholastic athletics at the middle school level, including any recommendations for changes in statute, administrative regulation, or policy; ~~and~~

(13) Allow a school or school district to join a conference or association that has developed rules for any particular sport or sport-activity to satisfy the requirements of this administrative regulation; and

(14) Beginning in June, 2017, the period of June 25 to July 9 (inclusive) be a "Dead Period" for middle school athletics. Students may not receive coaching or training from school personnel (either salaried or non-salaried) and school facilities, uniforms, nicknames, transportation or equipment shall not be used each year in any sport or sport-activity during the period beginning with June 25, and going through July 9. School funds may not be expended in support of interscholastic athletics during this period. These restrictions shall not apply to postseason wrap-up activities, celebrations and recognition events relating to a spring sports team at a school.

Section 4. Financial Planning and Review Requirements. (1) KHSAA shall annually submit the following documents to the KBE by October 31:

(a) Draft budget for the next two (2) fiscal years, including the current year;

(b) End-of-year budget status report for the previous fiscal year;

(c) Revisions to the KHSAA Strategic Plan as a result of an annual review of the plan by the KHSAA governing body;

(d) A summary report of operations including summaries of financial, legal, and administrative actions taken and other items ongoing within KHSAA. This report shall also include a summary of items affecting:

1. Athletic appeals and their disposition, including the name of the individual, grade, school, and the action taken by KHSAA;

2. Eligibility rules;

3. Duties of school officials;

4. Contests and contest limitations;

5. Requirements for officials and coaches; and

6. Results of a biennial review of its bylaws that results in a recommendation for a change,

directing any proposals for change in association rules to be considered for vote by the member schools at the next legislative opportunity; and

(e) A review of all items which have been submitted to the membership for approval through the processes established in the KHSAA Constitution and the result of the voting on those issues.

(2) The KHSAA shall annually submit at the next meeting of the Kentucky Board of Education following receipt and adoption by the Board of Control, audited financial statements with the KHSAA Commissioner's letter addressing exceptions or notes contained in management correspondence, if any.

Section 5. Incorporation by Reference. (1) The following material is incorporated by reference:

(a) "KHSAA Constitution", 6/2013;

(b) "KHSAA Bylaws", 6/2016 [~~8/2/2015~~];

(c) "KHSAA Due Process Procedure", 6/2014;

(d) "KHSAA Board of Control and Officials Division Policies", 6/2016 [~~8/2/2015~~];

(e) "KHSAA Form BA101- Baseball Pitching Limitation", 4/2009;

(f) "KHSAA Form FB102- Football Financial Report", 9/7/2009;

(g) KHSAA Form GE01, "Application for Renewal of Membership", 5/2015;

(h) KHSAA Form GE02, "Application for New Membership", 5/2015;

(i) KHSAA Form GE04, "Athletic Participation Form, Parental and Student Consent and Release for High School Level (grades 9 - 12) Participation", 4/2015;

(j) KHSAA Form GE06, "Transfer Form – Citizens of the U.S. or U.S. Territories", 6/2016 [~~8/2/2015~~];

(k) KHSAA Form GE07, "Application for Foreign Exchange Student (Non Domestic) Eligibility", 8/2/2015;

(l) KHSAA Form GE08, "Application for Foreign Student, Non-Exchange (Non Domestic) Eligibility", 8/2/2015;

(m) "KHSAA Form GE14- Contract for Athletic Contests", 4/2014;

(n) KHSAA Form GE16, "Request for Statutory Waiver of Bylaw 2", 4/2014;

(o) "KHSAA Form GE19-Title IX Procedures Verification", 5/2011;

(p) KHSAA Form GE20, "Heat Index Measurement and Record", 4/2014;

(q) KHSAA Form GE35, "Request for Waiver of 20 Day Notice", 4/2014;

- 1 (r) "KHSAA Form GE36- Add. Info for Appeal", 5/2011;
- 2 (s) "KHSAA Form GE52- District Tournament Financial Report", 4/2014;
- 3 (t) KHSAA Form GE53, "KHSAA Regional Tournament Financial Report", 6/2015;
- 4 (u) "KHSAA Form GE69- Waiver – 15 Day Exceptions", 5/2011;
- 5 (v) KHSAA Form PPE/Physical Exam, "PPE- Physical Exam History/Physician Clearance Form
- 6 (Grades 6 - 12)", 4/2015;
- 7 (w) KHSAA Form PPE/Supplemental, "PPE- Physical Exam History Supplemental Form for
- 8 Athletes With Special Needs (Grades 6 - 12)", 4/2015;
- 9 (x) KHSAA Form SO112, "Semi-State Tournament Financial Report", 6/2015;
- 10 (y) KHSAA Form WR111, "Wrestling Skin Condition", 6/2015;
- 11 (z) KHSAA Form WR126, "Minimum Weight Certification Program Assessor Designation",
- 12 4/2014; and
- 13 (aa) "KHSAA Form MS01- Athletic Participation Parental and Student Consent and Release for
- 14 Middle School (grades 5-8) Participation", 4/2015.
- 15 (2) This material may be inspected, copied, or obtained, subject to applicable copyright law, at
- 16 the Office of Legal and Legislative Services, Department of Education, First Floor, Capital Plaza
- 17 Tower, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



This is to certify that the chief state school officer has reviewed and recommended this administrative regulation prior to its adoption by the Kentucky Board of Education, as required by KRS 156.070(5).

---

(Date)

---

Stephen L. Pruitt, Ph.D.  
Commissioner of Education

---

(Date)

---

Marcum, Chairperson  
Kentucky Board of Education

PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: A public hearing on this proposed administrative regulation shall be held on July XX, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. in the State Board Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Capital Plaza Tower, 500 Mero Street, Frankfort, Kentucky. Individuals interested in being heard at this meeting shall notify this agency in writing five working days prior to the hearing, of their intent to attend. If no notification of intent to attend the hearing is received by that date, the hearing may be canceled. This hearing is open to the public. Any person who wishes to be heard will be given an opportunity to comment on the proposed administrative regulation. A transcript of the public hearing will not be made unless a written request for a transcript is made. If you do not wish to be heard at the public hearing, you may submit written comments on the proposed administrative regulation. Written comments shall be accepted until July 31, 2016. Send written notification of intent to be heard at the public hearing or written comments on the proposed administrative regulation to Kevin C. Brown, Associate Commissioner and General Counsel, Office of Guiding Support Services, Kentucky Department of Education, 500 Mero Street, First Floor, Capital Plaza Tower, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601, phone 502-564-4474, fax 502-564-9321.

---

# BYLAWS OF THE KENTUCKY HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION GOVERNING HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPATION (GRADES 9-12)

---

---

## BYLAW 1. RESPONSIBILITY FOR ELIGIBILITY

---

### Sec. 1) PRINCIPAL REQUIREMENT

The Principal of a school shall be held ultimately responsible in all matters in the school that concern eligibility, and interscholastic athletics, and shall ensure that institutional control over the athletic program is maintained.

### Sec. 2) DESIGNATION OF DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE

- a) The Principal of each member school may annually designate an individual at the school to serve as the Designated Representative for the purpose of conducting the interscholastic program at that school.
- b) The Principal or Designated Representative shall sign all forms requiring authorized signature.
- c) If a member school principal fails to make the designation prior to August 31, the building principal shall automatically be the Designated Representative for the current year.

---

## BYLAW 2. AGE

---

### Sec. 1) AGE RESTRICTION

- a) Pursuant to KRS 156.070 (2) (e), a student who becomes nineteen (19) years old before August 1 shall be ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition at a KHSAA member high school.
- b) A student who becomes nineteen (19) on or after August 1 shall remain eligible for the entire school year.

### Sec. 2) WAIVER PROVISION

- a) The Ruling Officer and the Commissioner may waive the provisions of this bylaw and the student shall be eligible for high school athletics in Kentucky if the written documentation is provided to clearly demonstrate that the student:
  - (1) Qualified for exceptional children services and had an individual education program developed by an admissions and release committee (ARC) while the student was enrolled in the primary school program;
  - (2) Was retained in the primary school program because of an ARC committee recommendation; and
  - (3) Has not completed four (4) consecutive years or eight (8) consecutive semesters of eligibility following initial promotion into grade nine (9).
- b) The Ruling Officer and the Commissioner shall not adopt administrative procedures that allow for waiver of this rule under any other condition.

---

## BYLAW 3. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF YEARS

---

### Sec. 1) LIMIT OF FOUR YEARS

A student entering grade nine (9) for the first time in any high school shall have four (4) consecutive calendar years of eligibility from the date of first entry into grade (9) in any school provided the student is eligible according to this and all other Association bylaws. The eligibility shall conclude with the completion of the spring sports season following the fourth year. No additional eligibility may be granted in a case where the grant would allow a student to compete in all or part of the fifth competitive season in a single sport following the initial entry into grade nine (9).

### Sec. 2) ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY

The Ruling Officer and the Commissioner through the Due Process Procedure, may grant additional eligibility in the case where it has been documented by the attending physician, Principal and Superintendent that severe illness or injury has prevented the student from receiving necessary education services and the right to an education has therefore been impacted rather than simply the loss of athletic privilege. The documentation from the attending physician, Principal and Superintendent shall be from those involved with the student at the time of the original injury or illness. The grant of eligibility may only be made in the cases in which the student-athlete would remain eligible by all other Association bylaws. This provision shall not include additional eligibility strictly for loss of participation due to sports related injuries. No additional eligibility may be granted in a case where the grant would allow a student to compete in all or part of the fifth competitive season in a single sport following the initial entry into grade nine (9).

---

## BYLAW 4. ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

---

### Sec. 1) ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION WHILE LEGALLY ENROLLED IN GRADES 9-12

- a) On Friday of each grading period, a student enrolled in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) shall be legally enrolled in a member high school as a full-time student in at least four hours of instruction as provided in Kentucky Board of Education regulation 702 KAR 7:125 (of the six hours of instruction required) or the equivalent of four hours of instruction acceptable to graduation at the member school he or she desires to represent in order to be eligible for athletics.
- b) A student who is legally enrolled or connected with any other school than the one he or she represents shall not take part in any contest. In the case of an all-boys high school, girl cheerleaders from an affiliated neighboring girls school may be accepted.

### Sec. 2) ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION WHILE LEGALLY ENROLLED BELOW GRADE 9

- a) A pupil in grades 7-8 in the feeder pattern of a KHSAA member school under the same local Board of Education as the member school may play on the high school team (at any level of play) if that participation is not in conflict with Section (3) below, and the time so played shall not be counted on the four (4) year (eight (8) semester) limit.
- b) Students enrolled below grade seven (7) may not play on a high school team at any level.. EXCEPTION: A student below grade nine (9) may not participate on the varsity team in contests in the sports of football or soccer.

### Sec. 3) INELIGIBILITY FOR REPEATING STUDENTS

- a) A student having been enrolled in the seventh (7th) grade or in any grade through twelfth (12th) shall not be eligible for interscholastic athletics at the high school level (grades 9 through 12) for more than a total of one (1) year in each grade and applicable eligibility shall begin in the first year enrolled in that grade.
- b) A student repeating a grade for any reason is ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at the high school level (grades 9 through 12) during the second year in that grade. The penalty for violation of this rule shall be the loss of one of the four years of eligibility after initial entry

into grade nine (9).

#### Sec. 4) DEADLINE FOR ENROLLMENT

A student shall have legally enrolled as a bona fide full-time undergraduate student no later than twenty (20) school days after the beginning of the semester to be eligible during that semester.

### **BYLAW 5. MINIMUM ACADEMIC REQUIREMENT**

#### Sec. 1) PROPER GRADE LEVEL REQUIREMENT FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN GRADES 9 THROUGH 12 IN ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS

##### a) First Day of School Year Earned Credit Check

On the first day of each school year, a student shall have been legally enrolled as a full-time student during the previous grading period, and shall be on schedule to graduate with his or her class on the first day of school based on the number of credits officially recorded on the transcript. For the verification of this provision, all course work, including summer, distance/online and correspondence work, and final grades shall be complete by the first day of the school year for the student body. No course work completed after the first day of the school year for the student body shall be used to make this determination.

Any credit or course used to meet these standards must meet the following criteria:

- (1) Courses that are taught through distance learning, online, credit recovery, etc. shall be comparable in length, content and rigor to courses taught in a traditional classroom setting and shall not be intended as replacement for previously attempted course work;
- (2) Students may not skip lessons or test out of modules. For example, if a student is permitted to test out of portions of a repeated course, is exempted from certain modules, or is allowed to finish the course in an abbreviated time frame, such a course would not be acceptable for use in the reinstatement determination;
- (3) The instructor and the student shall have ongoing access to, and regular interaction with, one another for purposes of teaching, evaluating and providing assistance to the student throughout the duration of the course;
- (4) The student's work (e.g., exams, papers, assignments) shall be made available for evaluation and validation upon request;
- (5) Evaluation of the student's work shall be conducted by the appropriate academic authorities in accordance with the high school's established academic policies;
- (6) The course shall include a defined time period for completion and comparable to the same credit taught within the traditional school day;
- (7) The course must be acceptable for any student and the school's policies for such courses must be followed consistently for both student-athletes and non-athletes with no exceptions made for student-athletes;
- (8) The course must be substantially comparable, qualitatively and quantitatively (e.g., content, textbook, assessments, duration), to the course in the mainstream or regular curriculum;
- (9) The course credit must be recorded on the student transcript prior to the day before the defined Sec. 2 period for which reinstatement is desired (subsequent trimester, semester or school year dependent upon school defined curriculum); and
- (10) The course provider must have the work completed online accepted by the NCAA as part of its review of Division I and II athletes seeking to enroll at a college or University.

The determination for reinstatement of eligibility and first available date of practice available under Section 1(b) of this bylaw shall be based on the original published calendar submitted to the Kentucky Department of Education.

##### (1) Eligibility During First Year Following Initial Enrollment in Grade Nine (9)

For a student in the ninth grade to be considered to be on schedule to graduate, that student shall have been promoted from grade eight (8) to grade nine (9), and be in compliance with all other bylaws.

##### (2) Eligibility During Second Year Following Initial Enrollment in Grade Nine (9)

For a student in the second year following initial enrollment in grade nine (9) (normally grade 10) to be on schedule to graduate, that student shall have received twenty (20) percent of the requirements of the school/district for graduation (credits officially posted to the transcript) prior to the first day of the second year following initial enrollment in grade nine (9), and be in compliance with all other bylaws.

##### (3) Eligibility During Third Year Following Initial Enrollment in Grade Nine (9)

For a student in the third year following initial enrollment in grade nine (9) (normally grade 11) to be on schedule to graduate, that student shall have received forty-five (45) percent of the requirements of the school/district for graduation (credits officially posted to the transcript) prior to the first day of the third year following initial enrollment in grade nine (9), and be in compliance with all other bylaws.

##### (4) Eligibility During Fourth Year Following Initial Enrollment in Grade Nine (9)

For a student in the fourth year following initial enrollment in grade nine (9) (normally grade 12) to be on schedule to graduate, that student shall have received seventy (70) percent of the requirements of the school/district for graduation (credits officially posted to the transcript) prior to the first day of the fourth year following initial enrollment in grade nine (9), and be in compliance with all other bylaws.

##### (5) Eligibility In Districts of Innovation

For a student participating in a school in an approved district of innovation as referenced in KRS 156.108 and KRS 160.107, in lieu of complying with subparagraph 1-4 above, the district shall develop and submit for approval to the Commissioner, a plan to monitor the yearly progress of students that provides for an accurate assessment of being on schedule to graduate at the beginning of each year. Such plan shall consider solely the documented record of the student's academic progress and may not include speculative factors for future periods.

##### b) One-time Reinstatement of Students Failing to Meet Normal Progress Requirements on First Day of School

###### (1) One-time Reinstatement of Students Failing to Meet Normal Progress Requirements and being ineligible for one school year: -

The eligibility of a student failing to meet the provisions of subparagraph 1-4 above may be reinstated a maximum of one time. This reinstatement is possible by the student passing twenty-five (25) percent of the requirements of the district for graduation during the year he or she is ineligible due to the provisions of Sec. 1(a) above. Courses taken via audit, credit recovery or like program to gain credit for previously deficient class work, or any other less than full-term methods shall not be used for purpose of this reinstatement. Any online/distance credit used in this calculation shall meet the criteria of Sec. 1(a)(1) through Sec. 1(a)(10) of this bylaw. Eligibility to practice and compete in scrimmages or contests shall be effective with the first day of the subsequent school year or the first date in which he or she complies with Sec 1(a) above. He or she, upon reinstatement, shall remain eligible as long as he or she passes twenty-five (25) percent of the requirements of the district for graduation during each subsequent year, and remains compliant with Sec. 1 and Sec. 2 of this bylaw.

###### (2) One-time Reinstatement of Students Failing to Meet Normal Progress Requirements and being ineligible for one semester:

The eligibility of a student failing to meet the provisions of subparagraph 1-4 of Sec. 1 may be reinstated a maximum of one time in schools

operating on a two-semester credit recording system. This reinstatement is possible by the student passing fifteen (15) percent of the requirements of the district for graduation during the semester in which he or she is ineligible due to the provisions of Sec. 1. Such verification will be made by reviewing solely credits officially posted on the transcript. He or she, upon reinstatement, shall remain eligible as long as he or she passes fifteen (15) percent of the requirements of the district for graduation during each subsequent semester or becomes compliant with Sec. 1(a) above, and remains compliant with Sec. 1 and Sec. 2 of this bylaw. Courses taken via audit, credit recovery or like program to gain credit for previously deficient class work, or any other less than full-term methods shall not be used for purpose of this reinstatement. Any online/distance credit used in this calculation shall meet the criteria of Sec. 1(a)(1) through Sec. 1(a)(10) of this bylaw. Eligibility to practice and compete in scrimmages or contests shall be effective with the first day of the semester based on the district's official original calendar submitted to the Kentucky Department of Education following the recording of the credits to the student's permanent record or the first date in which he or she complies with Sec 1(a) above.

(3) One-time Reinstatement of Students Failing to Meet Normal Progress Requirements and being ineligible for one trimester:

The eligibility of a student failing to meet the provisions of subparagraph 1-4 in Sec. 1 may be reinstated a maximum of one time in schools operating on a three-trimester credit recording system. This reinstatement is possible by the student passing ten (10) percent of the requirements of the district for graduation during the trimester in which he or she is ineligible due to the provisions of Sec. 1. Such verification will be made by reviewing solely credits officially posted on the transcript. He or she, upon reinstatement, shall remain eligible as long as he or she passes ten (10) percent of the requirements of the district for graduation during each subsequent trimester or becomes compliant with Sec. 1(a) above, and remains compliant with Sec. 1 and Sec. 2 of this bylaw. Courses taken via audit, credit recovery or like program to gain credit for previously deficient class work, or any other less than full-term methods shall not be used for purpose of this reinstatement. Any online/distance credit used in this calculation shall meet the criteria of Sec. 1(a)(1) through Sec. 1(a)(10) of this bylaw. Eligibility to practice and compete in scrimmages or contests shall be effective with the first day of the trimester (based on the district's official original calendar submitted to the Kentucky Department of Education) following the recording of the credits to the student's permanent record or the first date in which he or she complies with Sec 1(a) above.

(4) Eligibility In Districts of Innovation

For a student participating in a school in an approved district of innovation as referenced in KRS 156.108 and KRS 160.107, in lieu of complying with subsections (a) and (b) above, the district shall develop and submit for approval to the Commissioner, a plan to monitor the progress of students that provides for an accurate assessment of being back on schedule to graduate at the beginning of a credit period while ineligible. Such plan shall consider solely the documented record of the student's academic progress and may not include speculative factors for future periods.

Sec. 2) CONTINUAL PROGRESS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

On a weekly basis, a student shall be making continual progress during the school year in order to be eligible to participate in athletics during the subsequent week (Monday through Sunday period) and through the next opportunity to examine grades in this manner. Absent any other determination, this weekly check of grades shall be conducted on each Friday of each grading period or on the last day of classes preceding that particular Friday if no classes are conducted on that particular Friday. Courses taken via audit, credit recovery or like program to gain credit for previously deficient class work, or any other less than full-term methods shall not be used for purpose of this reinstatement. Any online/distance credit used in this calculation shall meet the criteria of Sec. 1(a)(1) through Sec. 1(a)(10) of this bylaw.

(1) Weekly Eligibility Standard for Students Enrolled in Grades 9-12:

To be making continual progress, a student shall have passed in four hours of instruction units as defined by Kentucky Board of Education regulations (of the six hours of instruction required) during the previous credit period that closed during the school year (trimester or semester). To be making continual progress the student shall also be passing cumulatively for the current credit period in at least four hours of instruction as defined by Kentucky Board of Education regulations (of the six hours of instruction required) or the equivalent of four hours of instruction acceptable to graduation. Courses taken via audit, credit recovery or like program to gain credit for previously deficient class work, or any other less than full-term methods shall not be used for purpose of this reinstatement. Any online/distance credit used in this calculation shall meet the criteria of Sec. 1(a)(1) through Sec. 1(a)(10) of this bylaw.

(2) Weekly Eligibility Standard for Students Enrolled in Grades Below 9 participating for a KHSAA member school:

A pre-secondary school student (grades 4-8) participating in athletics representing a KHSAA member school shall be passing in at least two-thirds of the subjects in which he or she is currently enrolled and be in compliance with all other bylaws in order to be eligible.

(3) Eligibility In Districts of Innovation

For a student participating in a school in an approved district of innovation as referenced in KRS 156.108 and KRS 160.107, in lieu of complying with subparagraph (1) and (2) above, the district shall develop and submit for approval to the Commissioner, a plan to monitor the weekly progress of students that provides for an accurate assessment of academic progress for the year. Such plan shall consider solely the documented record of the student's academic progress and may not include speculative factors for future periods.

Sec. 3) SPECIAL RECITATIONS/ADJUSTMENTS

Special tests or recitations shall not be given for the purpose of making the student eligible.

---

## BYLAW 6. TRANSFER RULE- CITIZENS OF THE U.S. OR U.S. TERRITORIES

---

Sec. 1) DOMESTIC STUDENT TRANSFER

- Any student who has been enrolled in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) and has participated in any varsity contest in any sport at any school while maintaining permanent residence in the United States or a United States territory following enrollment in grade nine (9) and who then transfers schools shall be ineligible for interscholastic athletics at any level in any sport for one year from the date of last participation in varsity interscholastic athletics.
- The Ruling Officer and Commissioner have discretion (but are not required) to waive the period of ineligibility set forth above if one or more of the following exceptions in Section 2 has been met.
- A student awaiting a ruling regarding eligibility shall not be eligible to compete, including practice, during the periods defined by Bylaw 23.

Sec. 2) DISCRETIONARY EXCEPTIONS FOR WAIVER

- REASSIGNMENT BY BOARD OF EDUCATION- The period of ineligibility may be waived if the student has changed schools through a properly documented reassignment of the Board of Education to another school. To meet this exception for a reassignment, reasons for the assignment may include the closing or opening of a school due to consolidation, merger, opening of a new school, or another type of opening or closing or

assignment through KRS 158.6455 or other applicable adopted regulation. In the case of a school closing or consolidation, such assignment may be to the public school district should a private, parochial or independent school close. For a multiple school district reallocating students to existing schools in a revised manner (redistricting), the exception shall be valid only on the first day of school for the student body following implementation of the redistricting plan, and does not apply before or after that date due to optional choices offered by the district.

Determinations of whether a student shall be granted a waiver pursuant to this exception shall be based on the circumstances existing as of the date of enrollment at the new school.

- b) **TRANSFER FROM NONMEMBER SCHOOL** – The period of ineligibility may be waived for a student transferring from a nonmember school located in Kentucky whose athletic participation has been limited primarily to other nonmember schools.

Determinations of whether a student shall be granted a waiver pursuant to this exception shall be based on the circumstances existing as of the date of enrollment at the new school.

- c) **MILITARY ASSIGNMENT**- The period of ineligibility may be waived for a student transferring in a situation where documentation is presented to verify that the change in education and living arrangements is directly related to an order from any branch of the United States military service, including the reserve components. Special verification may be requested including documentation of a Permanent Change of Station or Change of Duty Status. This may also include the case where the transfer is made necessary by implementation of the Interstate Compact on Education Opportunity for Military Children.

- d) **BONA FIDE CHANGE IN RESIDENCE**- The period of ineligibility may be waived if there has been a bona fide change in residence by the parents and student that precedes a student's change of schools.

For purposes of this bylaw, a bona fide change of residence means the uninterrupted moving of the permanent residence of the entire family unit of the student as composed when the student was eligible at the sending school (including one or both parents if at that residence) from one school district or defined school attendance area into another school district or defined school attendance area prior to a change in enrollment of the student. To be considered bona fide, the change must remain uninterrupted for the entire period during which the student would have been ineligible if the exception was not applied. A student who becomes emancipated does not have a bona fide change of residence by virtue of his or her emancipation and change of residence for purposes of satisfying this exception.

Determinations of whether a student shall be granted a waiver pursuant to this exception shall be based on the circumstances existing as of the date of enrollment at the new school.

- e) **DIVORCE**- The period of ineligibility may be waived in the event of a dissolution of marriage (i.e. a final and legally binding divorce decree from a court of competent jurisdiction) or properly recorded legal separation (i.e. a legally binding separation decree from a court of competent jurisdiction) of the parents and a change in the residence of the student pursuant to a court order granting custody of the child to one of the parents with whom the student shall reside.

The grant of this waiver shall only apply to the member school in the school district in which the residence of the custodial parent is located.

Determinations of whether a student shall be granted a waiver pursuant to this exception shall be based on the circumstances existing as of the date of enrollment at the new school.

- f) **CHANGE IN SOLE CUSTODY**- The KHSAA shall not recognize guardianship or similar arrangements made, for purposes of this bylaw. The period of ineligibility may be waived if it is shown that custody of the student has been taken from one or both parents and given to the other parent or a third person by a court of competent jurisdiction and under circumstances indicating: (1) the parent(s) are unfit or (2) the court finds that the health and welfare of the student would be better served by the change in custody.

The grant of this waiver shall only apply to the member school in the school district in which the residence of the custodial parent is located.

Determinations of whether a student shall be granted a waiver pursuant to this exception shall be based on the circumstances existing as of the date of enrollment at the new school.

- g) **CHANGE IN JOINT CUSTODY** - In the event joint custody is awarded to both parents, for purposes of this bylaw, the student shall initially be eligible where either parent resides. The eligibility of a student may be restored one time if, after establishing eligibility and complying with the initial court order granting joint custody, a student relocates to permanently reside with the other custodial parent.

The grant of this waiver shall only apply to the member school in the school district in which the residence of the custodial parent is located.

After this one time move by the student to the other custodial parent all subsequent moves between parents shall require a period of ineligibility of one year.

Determinations of whether a student shall be granted a waiver pursuant to this exception shall be based on the circumstances existing as of the date of enrollment at the new school.

- h) **DEATH**- The period of ineligibility may be waived in the event the death of one or both of the student's custodial parents creates the circumstances that the transfer to another secondary school is deemed appropriate.

Determinations of whether a student shall be granted a waiver pursuant to this exception shall be based on the circumstances existing as of the date of enrollment at the new school.

- i) **BOARDING SCHOOLS**- The period of ineligibility may be waived for a student entering a boarding school on a full-time basis as a boarding school student, or a student returning from a boarding school to the school attended immediately prior to enrollment in the boarding school; where attendance in the boarding school was required by order of the court or by recommendation of the principal of the school attended immediately prior to attendance at the boarding school.

A boarding school is defined as a school that has an enrolled resident boarding school population in the ninth through 12th grades of at least fifty (50) percent of the full-time student body for each of the last four years.

A boarding school must have appropriate dormitory facilities to house, feed and provide general living accommodations for boarding students, and must have properly trained supervisory personnel on duty at all times.

A boarding school must be recognized as a boarding school in its own literature and must be verified by the Kentucky Department of Education and/or the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

A boarding student, to qualify for the exception, must spend at least an average of five (5) days per week living and boarding on campus while school is in session. Coaches and other individuals employed by or associated with a boarding school's athletic program shall not serve as the boarding supervisor or otherwise live with boarding students in school housing.

Only those schools that qualify as boarding schools as defined herein may provide any assistance for room and board to students who participate in interscholastic athletics and only if such assistance is based on financial need. In no other schools may room and board expense be included in the determination of school expenses and financial need.

The Ruling Officer is required to have verification that the move to or from the boarding school is by order of the Principal (sending) or a court of

competent jurisdiction in order for this exception to apply.

Determinations of whether a student shall be granted a waiver pursuant to this exception shall be based on the circumstances existing as of the date of enrollment at the new school.

- j) CESSATION OF SCHOOL PROGRAM- The period of ineligibility may be waived in the event of a school remaining open but notifying the Association in writing that it is discontinuing its varsity participation in an Association sponsored sport (regular and postseason) in which the student had previously participated after enrolling in grade nine (9).

**Sec. 3) SPECIFIC RESTRICTIONS FOR DENIAL OF WAIVER FOR THOSE SATISFYING DISCRETIONARY WAIVER PROVISION(S) IN SECTION 2**

A waiver of the period of ineligibility is not required to be granted for those students satisfying one of the exceptions in Sec 2:

- a) If the satisfying of one of the exceptions is used or manipulated for the purpose of gaining athletic eligibility;
- b) If the change in schools is to nullify or circumvent implementation of Board of Education, School Based Decision Making or school imposed policy which would have resulted in the student's ineligibility at the sending school in accordance with KHSAA Bylaws or Competition Rules;
- c) If the satisfying of one of the exceptions by the student and the parent(s) does not reasonably precipitate a transfer to the new school; or
- d) If the change in schools is motivated in whole or part by a desire to participate in athletics at the new school, including:
  - (1) If a student participates on a school team that is coached by a coach associated in that same sport at a high school, and the student then transfers to the member school where the coach is employed (paid or volunteer at any level); or
  - (2) If a student participates on a nonschool (i.e. AAU, American Legion, club settings, summer program, etc.) team that is affiliated with or coached by a coach associated in that same sport at a member school and the student then transfers to the member school where a coach is employed (paid or volunteer at any level) or
  - (3) If the student resides with any athletic coach or any other member of the school staff or team member (including parents and boosters).

**Sec. 4) OTHER TRANSFERRING STUDENT RESTRICTIONS AND PROCEDURES**

- a) The Commissioner's office may appoint or hire a committee or investigator to conduct any inquiry or investigation concerning any issues arising under this bylaw or any other bylaw.
- b) If any member school files a written objection to the factual validity of the certification before the conclusion of the period of time to which the period of ineligibility would normally apply, along with the specific, detailed basis for the objection, then a complete investigation shall be conducted by the KHSAA and a ruling shall be issued through the Commissioner's office.
- c) A student is ineligible for athletics in this state if he or she transfers from another state if the student was or would have become ineligible in the state from which he or she transfers.

---

**BYLAW 7. TRANSFER RULE- FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS**

---

**Sec. 1) FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS (NONDOMESTIC)**

- a) Foreign exchange students desiring to participate in high school athletics (grades 9-12) at any level in Kentucky shall be considered ineligible for the first calendar year following enrollment.
- b) Foreign exchange students who have been ineligible for an entire calendar year after being enrolled in a high school in Kentucky become eligible to represent that school immediately following the conclusion of the one-year period, and remain eligible through graduation if compliant with all other KHSAA Bylaws.
- c) A student awaiting a ruling regarding eligibility shall not be eligible to compete, including practice, during the periods defined by Bylaw 23.

**Sec. 2) EXCEPTION FOR PLACEMENT THROUGH APPROVED EXCHANGE PROGRAMS UTILIZING A J-1 EDUCATION VISA**

**a) Approved Programs**

Foreign Exchange Students in possession of a J-1 education Visa attending KHSAA member schools may have the period of ineligibility waived in the event that the student is placed in a KHSAA member school under the auspices of approved student exchange programs. Member student exchange programs (agencies) of the Council on Standards for International Education Travel (CSIET) who are members in good standing with CSIET shall be considered approved agencies. An individual placed by an agency approved by CSIET may be denied eligibility in the event that it is documented that the agency has failed to assign students to schools by a method that ensures that no student, school or interested party has influenced the assignment for athletic or other purposes.

**b) Waiver of Period of Ineligibility**

In order to be considered for a waiver, the following conditions shall exist:

- (1) The student shall be in compliance with all U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service regulations and placed through an approved program as in Sec. 2(a) above;
- (2) The student shall be in the first year as an exchange student in the United States and placed through an approved program as in Sec. 2(a) above;
- (3) The student shall not be a graduate of the 12th or terminating grade or its equivalent in either the U.S. or his or her home country;
- (4) The student shall be in possession of a complete transcript of records that has been translated into English prior to the request for eligibility;
- (5) The student shall be in possession of a J-1 student education visa issued by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service;
- (6) Placement in the KHSAA member school is random, and the student has not been a "direct placement" into a KHSAA member school. For the purposes of the J-1 visa, a "direct placement" is one in which either the student or the sending organization in the foreign country is party to an arrangement with any other party, including school personnel, for the student to attend a particular school or live with a particular host family;
- (7) The student's host family shall not pay any tuition or fee normal to the attendance at the KHSAA member school, all fees shall be paid by the student's family;
- (8) All travel fees shall be paid by the student's family;
- (9) The student's host family from the initial date of entry into the United States through the end of the time period as an exchange student shall not include members of the coaching or athletic staff at the KHSAA member school at which participation is desired and shall not include exchange agency representatives; and
- (10) The student, the principal or designated representative of the member school, and a representative of the placement agency shall sign and attest to certification that the athlete complies with the eligibility rules of the KHSAA and shall not be eligible under any circumstances for more than one year of athletic participation if the first year period of ineligibility is waived.



- (11) Any payments to the host family by the placing agency shall be made solely by the exchange agency, and in compliance with the regulations and requirements of CSIET;
- (12) The facts supporting a waiver pursuant to this rule shall be based on the circumstances existing as of the date of enrollment at the new school.

### Sec. 3) EXCEPTION FOR PLACEMENT THROUGH APPROVED EXCHANGE PROGRAMS UTILIZING AN F-1 EDUCATION VISA

#### a) Approved Programs

Foreign Exchange Students in possession of an F-1 education Visa attending KHSAA member schools may have the period of ineligibility waived in the event that the student is placed in a KHSAA member school under the auspices of approved student exchange programs or a valid F-1 exchange agreement under the auspices of the Department of Homeland Security. Member student exchange programs (agencies) and schools of the Council on Standards for International Education Travel (CSIET) who are members in good standing with CSIET shall be considered approved agencies/schools. An individual placed by an agency/school approved by CSIET may be denied eligibility in the event that it is documented that the agency has failed to assign students to schools by a method that ensures that no student, school or interested party has influenced the assignment for athletic or other purposes.

Other entities may be approved by the Board of Control, but such approval must be granted prior to the placement of any student in a KHSAA member school. To be otherwise considered for approval by the Board of Control, a foreign exchange program (agency) shall assign students to schools by a method that ensures that no student, school or interested party may influence the assignment for athletic or other purposes and shall formally request approval of the Board of Control through the Commissioner's office.

#### b) Waiver of Period of Ineligibility

In order to be considered for a waiver, the following conditions shall exist:

- (1) The student shall be in compliance with all U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service regulations and placed through an approved program or school as in Sec. 3(a) above;
- (2) The student shall be in the first and only year as an exchange student in the United States and placed through an approved program as in Sec. 2(a) above;
- (3) The student shall not be a graduate of the 12th or terminating grade or its equivalent in either the U.S. or his or her home country;
- (4) The student shall be in possession of a complete transcript of records that has been translated into English prior to the request for eligibility;
- (5) The student shall be in possession of an F-1 student education visa issued by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service and a properly completed I-20;
- (6) When enrolled in a public (A1, D1, F1) school, the student shall be required to pay the public school district the full unsubsidized, per capita cost of providing the education, as reported to the Kentucky Department of Education. The full, unsubsidized per capita cost of education (for each student) is the district cost of providing education to each student in the school district where the public school is located. When enrolled in a nonpublic (J1, M1, R1) school, the student shall be required to pay the nonpublic school the full amount of the highest listed tuition for attendance at that member school, and shall not be eligible for any merit or need based aid as defined in Bylaw 13 or any otherwise permitted tuition reduction within the guidelines of the member school;
- (7) The full, unsubsidized, per capita cost of education shall be listed under "tuition" on the student's Form I-20. If the Form I-20 does not include the cost of tuition, the student must have a notarized statement, signed by the designated school official (DSO) who signed the Form I-20, stating the full cost of tuition (unsubsidized per capita cost of education) and that the student paid the tuition (unsubsidized per capita cost of education) in full. The unsubsidized cost payment is mandatory and school systems cannot waive the requirement. Federal law does not allow a student in F-1 status to attend public secondary school without paying this cost, which must be paid in all cases. Any payments to the local school district for this unsubsidized cost payment shall be made by the student and may not be made by any individual with any direct or indirect connection to the member school;
- (8) Placement in the KHSAA member school is random, and the student has not been a "direct placement" into a KHSAA member school. For the purposes of the F-1 visa, a "direct placement" is one who is known to be trying out for/to play an interscholastic varsity sport, or for whom participation in athletics was a known motivating factor at the time of application;
- (9) The student's host family shall not pay any tuition or fee normal to the attendance at the KHSAA member school, all fees shall be paid by the student's family;
- (10) All travel fees shall be paid by the student's family;
- (11) The student's host family from the initial date of entry into the United States through the end of the time period as an exchange student shall not include members of the coaching or athletic staff at the KHSAA member school at which participation is desired and shall not include exchange agency representatives; and
- (12) The student, the principal or designated representative of the member school, and a representative of the placement agency shall sign and attest to certification that the athlete complies with the eligibility rules of the KHSAA and shall not be eligible under any circumstances for more than one year of athletic participation if the first year period of ineligibility is waived.
- (13) The facts supporting a waiver pursuant to this rule shall be based on the circumstances existing as of the date of enrollment at the new school.

### Sec. 4) EXTENSION OF ELIGIBILITY BEYOND ONE YEAR IF WAIVER GRANTED

Any student having made election to apply for the waiver of the first year of ineligibility and having been granted a waiver of the normal period of ineligibility under Section 1 above shall not be eligible, under any circumstances, for more than one (1) school year while enrolled in grades 9 -12 in Kentucky.

### Sec. 5) SPECIFIC RESTRICTIONS RESULTING IN DENIAL OF WAIVER

Satisfying of one of the exceptions in this Bylaw shall not be considered valid and a waiver of the period of ineligibility shall not be granted if:

- a) The change in schools is to nullify or circumvent implementation of Board of Education, School Based Decision Making or school imposed policy which would have resulted in the student's ineligibility at the sending school;
- b) The satisfying of one of the exceptions occurs after the enrollment at the new school;
- c) The change in schools is motivated in whole or part by a desire to participate in athletics at the new school;
- d) The satisfying of one of the exceptions is used or manipulated for the purpose of gaining athletic eligibility; or
- e) The satisfying of one of the exceptions by the student and the parent(s) does not reasonably precipitate a transfer to the new school.

### Sec. 6) ELIGIBILITY OF OTHER FOREIGN STUDENTS

This Bylaw covers only foreign exchange students entering the United States with a J-1 or F-1 Visa. Regulations relating to all other foreign students



are contained in Bylaw 8.

---

## **BYLAW 8. TRANSFER RULE- NON-EXCHANGE FOREIGN STUDENTS**

---

### **Sec. 1) FOREIGN STUDENTS (NONDOMESTIC) NOT COMING THROUGH EXCHANGE PROGRAMS**

- a) Foreign students (nondomestic) desiring to participate in high school athletics (grades 9-12) at any level in Kentucky shall be considered ineligible for the first calendar year following enrollment.
- b) Foreign students who have been ineligible for an entire calendar year after being enrolled in a high school in Kentucky become eligible to represent that school immediately following the conclusion of the one-year period, and remain eligible through graduation if compliant with all other KHSAA Bylaws.
- c) A student awaiting a ruling regarding eligibility shall not be eligible to compete, including practice, during the periods defined by Bylaw 23.

### **Sec. 2) DISCRETIONARY EXCEPTIONS FOR WAIVER**

- a) **ENTIRE FAMILY RELOCATION** - The period of ineligibility may be waived if the entire family unit is relocating from a foreign country. In this case, the student(s) may be declared eligible by documenting the move of the permanent residence of the entire family of the student and the student's parents into the school district or defined school attendance area prior to the enrollment of the student. The facts supporting a waiver pursuant to this rule shall be based on the circumstances existing as of the date of enrollment at the new school.
- b) **REFUGEE/POLITICAL ASYLUM** - The period of ineligibility may be waived if the members of a family from a foreign country are relocating due to a declaration of asylum or seeking refuge due to acknowledged conflict. In this case, student(s) may be declared eligible by documenting the move into the school district or defined school attendance area by virtue of the policies of the United States Department of State prior to the enrollment of the student. The facts supporting a waiver pursuant to this rule shall be based on the circumstances existing as of the date of enrollment at the new school.

### **Sec. 3) SPECIFIC RESTRICTIONS RESULTING IN DENIAL OF WAIVER**

Satisfying of one of the exceptions established in this Bylaw shall not be considered valid and a waiver of the period of ineligibility shall not be granted if:

- a) The change in schools is to nullify or circumvent implementation of Board of Education, School Based Decision Making or school imposed policy which would have resulted in the student's ineligibility at the sending school;
- b) The satisfying of one of the exceptions occurs after the enrollment at the new school;
- c) The change in schools is motivated in whole or part by a desire to participate in athletics at the new school;
- d) The satisfying of one of the exceptions is used or manipulated for the purpose of gaining athletic eligibility; or
- e) The satisfying of one of the exceptions by the student and the parent(s) does not reasonably precipitate a transfer to the new school.

---

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

---

### **Sec. 1) BASKETBALL**

- a) Restrictions from First Day of School through Day Prior to the First Day of Practice

- (1) From the first day of school through the day prior to the first legal day of practice, no student who after enrolling in grade nine (9) has subsequently been a contestant in basketball at any level (grades 9-12) and has eligibility remaining in basketball may participate in:
  - a. any manner on any nonschool sponsored team in basketball;
  - b. any all-star game in basketball;
  - c. any type of organized competition in basketball or variation of basketball with the exception of competition that meets the camp restrictions as detailed below in subsection (2); or
  - d. any other event not sanctioned by the Board of Control:
- (2) Permissible competition by males during this period shall include only those camps that are held on the campus of an NCAA or NAIA member institution or conducted by a single NCAA or NAIA member institution within a 100-mile radius of the NCAA or NAIA member institution's campus, when the only available coaches in attendance for the purpose of evaluation are the employed coaches of that institution.
- (3) Permissible competition by females during this period shall include only permitted evaluations held nonscholastic women's basketball events during the weekend designated for evaluation by NCAA coaches.

- b) Restrictions from First Day of Practice through last legal date Day Prior to the First Day of Practice

- (1) From the first day of school through the last scheduled contest played in basketball (including KHSAA sanctioned postseason) by the school, no student who after enrolling in grade nine (9) has been a contestant in basketball at any level (grades 9-12) and has eligibility remaining in basketball may participate in any manner on any nonschool sponsored team in basketball; in any all-star game in basketball; or any type of organized competition in basketball or variation of basketball unless it as been sanctioned by the Board of Control.

- c) Restrictions following the End of Season

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

### **Sec. 2) FOOTBALL**

- a) Restrictions from First Day of Practice through last legal date Day Prior to the First Day of Practice

- (1) From the first day of school through the last scheduled contest played in football (including KHSAA sanctioned postseason) by the school, no student who after enrolling in grade nine (9) has subsequently been a contestant in football at any level (grades 9-12) and has eligibility remaining in football may participate in:
  - a. any manner on any nonschool sponsored team in football;
  - b. any all-star game in football; or
  - c. any type of organized competition in football or variation of football unless it as been sanctioned by the Board of Control.

- b) Restrictions following the End of Season

- (1) Following the team's last scheduled game (including postseason), there are no restrictions on play in football for the student-athletes with the exception of the published restrictions on the issuance of equipment detailed in Bylaw 23.

---

## **BYLAW 10. AMATEUR/AWARDS**

---

### **Sec. 1) GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR AWARDS**

- a) Awards governed herein and received by a student-athlete while enrolled in a member school or awards received prior to enrollment.
- b) Awards for participation in special events (postseason tournaments) and established regional or national recognition awards (Mr./Miss Basketball, All-State, etc.) may be presented only by the management of the event, awards program, or by a school that has had or will have a team or individual participate in the event or sport, subject to the limitations in Sec. 3.
- c) An organization, business firm or other outside agency may recognize a student-athlete's outstanding performance in a particular contest or during a particular time by presenting an award, subject to the limitations in Sec. 3.
- d) Awards presented by a member school conference, or approved agency shall be uniform for all team members receiving the award.
- e) Cash or any other award that an individual cannot receive under these rules may not be forwarded in the individual's name to a different agency or individual.

#### Sec. 2) AMATEUR STATUS AND IMPERMISSIBLE AWARDS

In order to remain eligible, a student who represents a member school in an interscholastic sport shall be an amateur (and maintain amateur status) in that sport. An amateur athlete is one who engages in athletic competition solely for the physical, mental, social and pleasure benefits derived from said participation.

An athlete forfeits amateur status and athletic eligibility in a sport by:

- a) Competing for money (cash) or other monetary compensation (allowable travel, meals and lodging expenses may be accepted). This includes any cash award for athletics participation. An individual may not receive a cash equivalent item (i.e., an item that is negotiable for cash or other services, benefits or merchandise) for athletic participation;
- b) Receiving any award or prize of monetary value not approved within the permissible awards;
- c) Accepting gift certificates and merchandise items that cannot be properly personalized;
- d) Capitalizing on athletic fame by receiving money or other gifts of monetary value not specifically approved by Section 2 or 4 of this rule (scholarships to institutions of higher learning are specifically exempted if paid directly to the institution);
- e) Capitalizing on athletic fame by the use of a specific athlete(s) likeness to promote a specific business or organizational entity unrelated to interscholastic athletics;
- f) Signing a professional playing contract in that sport; or
- g) Accepting in excess of a nominal standard fee or salary for instructing, supervising or officiating in an organized youth sports program or recreation, playground, or camp activities. "Organized youth sports program" includes both school and nonschool programs.

#### Sec. 3) PERMISSIBLE AWARDS

- a) The total value of any award presented for competition while representing the member high school during the season as defined by Bylaw 23 shall not exceed \$300, except awards presented by the Association or a member school for participation in KHSAA sponsored postseason events.
- b) The total value of any award received by a student-athlete participating in an event while not representing the school at any time shall conform to the regulations of the recognized amateur athletic organization(s) associated with the event. If no limit exists for the amateur organization, the limit shall be \$300.

---

### BYLAW 11. FINANCIAL AID

---

#### Sec. 1) DEFINITIONS FOR THIS BYLAW

- a) Tuition— means the amount of necessary fees, costs and other charges to attend a member school as determined by that member school's published scale of charges. The tuition at the member school shall be the same for all students in like situation irrespective of participation in athletics and shall include applicable room and board expenses.
- b) Classification of Schools— means the classification of the member schools as follows: (1) A1— District operated general program or multi-program schools; (2) D1— Kentucky Department of Education operated schools (Blind and Deaf); (3) F1— Federal Dependent Schools; (4) J1— Roman Catholic schools; (5) M1— Other Religious schools and (6) R1— Private nonchurch related schools.
- c) Public Schools— means the member schools receiving funding from the Kentucky Department of Education or comparable federal sources. Public schools shall include the member schools which are classified as A1, D1 or F1.
- d) Nonpublic Schools— means the member schools not receiving funding from the Kentucky Department of Education or comparable federal sources. Those schools shall include the member schools which are classified as J1, M1 and R1.
- e) Nonpublic School Zone— means the zone to which each nonpublic school is assigned. The four current nonpublic school zones are Covington, Lexington, Louisville and Owensboro. These nonpublic school zones shall be comprised of the counties contained in the geographic alignment related to the archdiocese of the same name.
- f) Nonpublic School Governing Board— means the entity having oversight over the member school. For purposes of this bylaw, the "governing board" of a nonpublic school shall be determined by the school type. For J1 schools, the "governing board" shall be the archdiocese and geographic references shall be the counties included in the nonpublic school zone of the school. For the R1 and M1 schools, the "governing board" shall be as defined by the governance structure of the institution.
- g) Immediate Family— means the student and the student's father, mother, brother, sister, step-father, step-mother, step-brother, step-sister, husband, wife, aunt, uncle, grandparent.
- h) Financial Aid— means any and all aid given to a student which reduces tuition, including awards, grants, work study, reductions and waivers.
- i) Need-Based Aid— means the amount of financial aid that an independent financial analysis of the student's financial aid application demonstrates that the student needs to pay tuition to attend a member school, provided the analysis is performed by an agency approved by the Board of Control.
- j) Merit Aid— means financial aid awards given by the member school based solely on academic/test performance which are available to the entire student body through a competitive application process and that the selection of the recipient(s) is based on published objective criteria which may not include athletic achievement or ability.
- k) Merit Aid Test— means the academic assessment or placement test approved by the Board of Control prior to its administration.
- l) Merit Aid Test Window— means the range of dates submitted by each member school for the administration of the merit aid test.
- m) Financial Records— means the records related to any financial aid analysis of the student including the immediate family's records of the method and sources for all tuition payments.

#### Sec. 2) IMPERMISSIBLE FINANCIAL AID

A student shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics if the student:

- a) Receives financial aid beyond the limits defined in Section 1(a) except for merit and need-based aid allowed under this bylaw, and waivers of tuition for nondomestic students meeting all federal laws and regulations who are ruled eligible under Bylaw 7 or Bylaw 8;
- b) Receives merit aid based on an unapproved merit aid test;
- c) Receives merit aid based on a merit aid test not administered on an approved merit aid test date;
- d) Receives merit aid greater than twenty-five percent (25%) of the tuition at the member school;
- e) Receives merit aid from a member school that has already given merit aid to the greater of five (5) percent of its student body or five students;
- f) Receives financial aid that is not available to the entire student body by published objective criteria;
- g) Receives financial aid from a funding source that is not under the custody and control of the member school or its governing board;
- h) Receives any financial aid other than the permitted need-based aid or merit aid detailed above from a member school, any other entity governed by that member school's governing board or any representatives of the member school;
- i) Receives any financial aid that is indirectly or directly related to athletic achievement or ability;
- j) Has any part of the financial obligation to the member school paid directly or indirectly by individuals outside of the student's immediate family; or
- k) Does not agree to complete disclosure of financial records as defined in this bylaw upon request of the KHSAA and its officials, employees and agents.

#### Sec. 3) FINANCIAL AID RESTRICTIONS AND REPORTING

All member schools shall annually report detailed financial aid information to the KHSAA including:

- a) Tuition schedule or other fees applicable to the student body at the member school;
- b) The merit aid test being utilized by the school and the merit aid test date; and
- c) A detailed listing of the amount of financial aid awarded by the member school including:
  - (1) The need-based aid each student-athlete is eligible to receive based on the report of the approved independent agency;
  - (2) The merit aid given to each student and the qualifying score used to make the determination;
  - (3) The amount of need-based aid awarded to each student; and
  - (4) A specific listing of the sports in which each student participates.

#### Sec. 4) SPECIAL PROGRAM REVIEW PROCESS

A member school may petition the Board of Control for approval of a specific program existing prior to the adoption of this rule or a program that can be documented to be unrelated to athletics that does not create an advantage to the school and provided that program is available to all students within the school based on objective criteria.

---

### **BYLAW 12. PHYSICAL EXAMINATION, PARENTAL CONSENT AND INSURANCE**

---

#### Sec. 1) PHYSICAL EXAMINATION AND PARENTAL CONSENT REQUIREMENTS

- a) The Superintendent or Principal shall have each student who is trying for a place as a participant on a sport or sport-activity team present a physician's certificate signed by a physician, physician's assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, or chiropractor (if performed in the scope of practice as defined in KRS Chapter 312) which shall state that he or she is physically fit to participate without undue risk.
- b) The parent's consent for the child's participation and acknowledgment of receipt of the eligibility rules as promulgated by the Association and Kentucky Board of Education regulations in writing shall be required on KHSAA Form GE04.
- c) The permission shall acknowledge that the student and the parents are aware of the education material available from the KHSAA, Centers for Disease Control, and other agencies regarding the nature and risk of concussion and head injury, including the continuance of play after concussion or head injury.

#### Sec. 2) REQUIREMENT FOR INSURANCE

- a) A student, prior to participation or trying for a place on a sports or sport-activity team shall have in place medical insurance with coverage limits up to the deductible of the KHSAA Catastrophic Insurance program and that insurance shall remain in force throughout participation.
- b) It shall be the responsibility of each member school to ensure and certify that each student has insurance coverage throughout the school year.

---

### **BYLAW 13. AGREEMENT REGARDING PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL CONTRACTS**

---

#### Sec. 1) RESTRICTIONS ON SIGNING A PROFESSIONAL CONTRACT

- a) A student of a KHSAA member school shall not sign a professional baseball contract until the day following his graduation, or if he has left school, until the day following the graduation of his class; nor shall any representative of professional baseball initiate or participate in any negotiations which would violate the student's high school athletic eligibility; except that a student that has been out of school one year or longer may, with the consent of his or her parents, apply to the Major League Baseball Commissioner for permission to sign a contract and if, in the judgment of the Major League Baseball Commissioner, the circumstances justify it, he shall approve the application and so notify all major league baseball clubs.
- b) A player may be signed to a professional contract fifteen (15) days subsequent to the day of the Major League Baseball Commissioner's notice.
- c) Any school whose employee or official encourages or collaborates in negotiations that violate this agreement shall be penalized in accordance with Bylaw 27.

---

### **BYLAW 14. OTHER ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND REGULATIONS**

---

#### Sec. 1) GRADUATES AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

Any student who has graduated from a secondary school, or who has ever played on a college team, is thereafter ineligible to play on a high school team.

#### Sec. 2) PRACTICE OF INELIGIBLE STUDENTS

A student awaiting a ruling regarding eligibility under Bylaws 6, 7 or 8 shall not be eligible to compete, including practice, during the periods defined by Bylaw 23. All other practice by ineligible student-athletes who are otherwise permitted to be on the sport or sport-activity roster of the member school shall be determined by the member school.

#### Sec. 3) ASSUMED NAME

If a player enters a contest under an assumed name or when not properly certified, he or she shall be permanently ineligible, and his or her school

shall be penalized in accordance with the provisions of Bylaw 27.

---

## **BYLAW 15. PRACTICE OF SPORTSMANSHIP**

---

### **Sec. 1) SPORTSMANSHIP OBLIGATION**

- a) It is the clear obligation of principals, coaches, faculty members, boards of education, and all official representatives of member schools to practice the highest principles of sportsmanship and the ethics of competition in all interscholastic relationships with fans, officials, players, coaches, official representatives of member schools, and the general public.
- b) The Commissioner and the Board of Control shall have the full authority to suspend the coach, student, or any member school whose representatives may be convicted on competent evidence of the violation of this obligation.
- c) Any violation of this rule in any interscholastic contest shall be immediately reported to the Commissioner's office by the principal(s) of the school(s) involved, and by the game officials who work in the contest.
- d) The schedule of contest(s) for a player or coach to be suspended shall be set by the schedule at the time of the ejection and contest(s) may not be added or deleted after the suspension to alter the contests during which the penalty is then served.

### **Sec. 2) ILLEGAL EQUIPMENT/VIDEOTAPING**

- a) It shall also be considered a violation of this rule if any school or school representative(s) uses or allows the use of illegal equipment which gains a competitive advantage in the contest and which is expressly prohibited by the rules adopted for that sport.
- b) This shall also include the on-site recording of past or future opponents in any electronic form without the expressed consent of all involved teams.
- c) A violation of this provision may result in penalization by the Commissioner's office in accordance with the provisions of this bylaw and in accordance with KHSAA Bylaw 27.

### **Sec. 3) REQUIREMENT FOR REINSTATEMENT**

- a) Any student, coach, or official team representative ejected from an interscholastic contest due to a violation of this obligation shall be disqualified from athletic competition until reinstated by the Commissioner or one of the Assistant Commissioners.

### **Sec. 4) REPORTING REQUIREMENT AND PERMANENT SUSPENSION**

- a) The name of the student or coach shall be reported to the Commissioner's office by the principal of the school that student attends.
- b) When an official disqualifies a student or coach, he or she shall report the disqualification to the principal or his or her representative and to the KHSAA office.
- c) If the Commissioner finds upon investigation that the offense was sufficiently serious, the offender shall be permanently disqualified.

---

## **BYLAW 16. RECRUITMENT/UNDUE INFLUENCE**

---

### **Sec. 1) PROVISIONS ON RECRUITING/UNDUE INFLUENCE**

- a) A pupil (domestic or foreign) at any grade level shall not be recruited to a member school of the KHSAA for the purpose of participating in athletics. Recruiting is defined as an act, on behalf of, or for the benefit of, a school, including impermissible contact, which attempts to influence a student to transfer to a member school for the purpose of participating in athletics, including the offer of improper benefits not available to all members of the student body.
- b) It shall also be defined as recruiting to provide improper benefits not available to all members of the student body to an already enrolled student to influence that student to remain at a member school including recruitment under the guise of academics.
- c) An athletic coach or any other member of the school staff or team member (including parents and boosters) shall not influence a student even if the student, his or her parents or any intermediary from another school makes the initial contact. In this situation, a coach or staff member (paid or unpaid) should immediately refer the person(s) to the school principal.
- d) Influencing a student shall include the promise or instilling the expectation of an athletic advantage, playing time, employment of the student or the student's parents or relatives, housing for the student or the student's parents, scholarships or financial aid for which other members of the student body are not generally eligible, providing other improper benefits, making improper contacts or any other material or athletic reward for which other members of the student body are not generally eligible.
- e) A school official utilizing an intermediary including a peer, another school employee, a student, a parent or a citizen, for the purpose of recruiting a student-athlete shall be in noncompliance.

### **Sec. 2) PENALTY**

- a) Any representative of a member school knowingly allowing the recruitment of a student for the purpose of participating in athletics or who should have known of this recruitment shall be guilty of willful neglect of duty, misconduct, or breach of contract.
- b) This shall apply not only to coaches, but also to personnel supervising coaches, including an athletic director, an assistant principal, a principal, an assistant superintendent, a superintendent or a school board member.
- c) This requirement shall also apply to students or their parents.

---

## **BYLAW 17. CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY**

---

### **Sec. 1) VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY**

- a) The principal or Designated Representative of the school shall be responsible for certifying the eligibility of all contestants.
- b) Before certifying the eligibility of a player, a principal or Designated Representative shall verify the player's age and all other requirements contained in these Bylaws.
- c) The statement of facts concerning a player on the eligibility list of his or her first year of competition shall be considered authoritative and may not be changed in later eligibility lists for that year or in later years except to carry out the purposes of the Bylaws in providing a cumulative record, or, when authorized by the Commissioner to correct an error.
- d) Prior to the certification of the eligibility of a student, the principal or Designated Representative shall have on file the physician's certificate, the parental consent, and the parental acknowledgment required by Bylaw 12.

### **Sec. 2) DUTY OF A NEW PRINCIPAL OR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE**

A new principal or Designated Representative before certifying to the eligibility of his or her players, if there is reason to question any of the information, shall secure from the Commissioner's office, a copy of the original certification for that player.

### Sec. 3) ANNUAL PARTICIPATION LIST

- a) Each principal or Designated Representative of a member school shall submit to the Commissioner at the end of the school year (not later than May 30) a list of the names of all students who participated in any first team contest in any sport during the season.
- b) This participation list shall be submitted on a form supplied by the Association, and shall be completed in its entirety for each student.

### Sec. 4) CERTIFICATION OF INELIGIBLE PLAYER

If any school plays an ineligible player when the facts were available and could have been known to a principal or Designated Representative, that school shall be penalized in accordance with the provisions of Bylaw 27.

---

## BYLAW 18. SUPPLYING INFORMATION AND REPORTS

---

### Sec. 1) SUBMISSION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

- a) A superintendent, principal, student, or Designated Representative shall, when requested, supply the Commissioner with any information related to the athletic program at a member school.
- b) A failure to comply within a reasonable time may forfeit the school's membership in the Association, or the school may be penalized in accordance with approved Association penalty codes.

### Sec. 2) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION

- a) Each member school shall annually certify that it will comply with any and all of the rulings of the Commissioner, Assistant Commissioners, Hearing Officer and Board of Control as they relate to the athletic program at a member school.
- b) This compliance shall include student eligibility matters, Board policy directives related to health and safety of student-athletes, and other programs as may be instituted by the convened Board of Control.

### Sec. 3) REQUIRED REPORTS

- a) Each principal or Designated Representative shall file with the Commissioner, during, or at the end of each school year, all participation lists and all other reports required by the Association.
- b) A membership certificate shall not be issued to any school until the provisions of this bylaw have been fulfilled.

---

## BYLAW 19. COMPARABLE OPPORTUNITIES

---

### Sec. 1) REQUIREMENT FOR MEMBER SCHOOLS TO SPONSOR

- a) If a member school sponsors or intends to sponsor an athletic activity that is similar to a sport for which NCAA members offer an athletic scholarship, the school shall sponsor the athletic activity or sport for which the scholarships are offered.
- b) The athletic activities that are similar to sports for which NCAA members offer scholarships are: Girls' fastpitch softball as compared to slow pitch.

### Sec. 2) REQUIREMENTS TO DEMONSTRATE ATTEMPTS TO SPONSOR:

- a) To qualify as having "sponsored" a sport, a school shall be able to demonstrate the following:
  - (1) If similar versions of a particular sport exist and there are differences in the scholarship opportunities at the NCAA level in that sport, a survey shall be taken of the student population at reasonable times and places to determine the level of interest in the sport(s); and
  - (2) If that survey reveals sufficient interest to field the normal squad required for play in the particular sport, and if any version of the sport is to be played, the school shall make facilities, staff and other allowances to properly field a team in the version of the sport for which the NCAA members offer scholarships.

---

## BYLAW 20. OFFICIALS DIVISION OF THE ASSOCIATION

---

### Sec. 1) OFFICIALS WHO LICENSE:

- a) Any person who officiates in baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, soccer, softball (slow and fast pitch), swimming, volleyball and wrestling in grades 9 through 12 between member schools of the Association shall be licensed by the Commissioner and shall carry an official card indicating that licensing.
- b) All officials in baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball and volleyball shall be required to join a local officials association as described in the KHSAA Officials' Guidebook.

### Sec. 2) REQUIREMENT TO USE LICENSED OFFICIALS

- a) Only officials licensed with the Officials Division of the Association shall be assigned or employed to officiate in baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, soccer, softball, volleyball or wrestling in all competition involving grades nine (9) through twelve (12).
- b) The Commissioner may approve exceptions to this policy in writing.

### Sec. 3) OFFICIAL SCRATCHES

- a) A member school shall have the privilege of scratching a limited number of officials (scratches) that it does not desire to have as contractors on the athletic contests of that school.
- b) The amount of scratches per school/coach is determined by the Regional Policy Board and in accordance with policies adopted by the Board of Control.
- c) Scratches properly submitted in a timely fashion shall be honored by the Assigning Secretary and the officials shall not be assigned to a home, away or neutral site contest in the sport during that season.

### Sec. 4) RULES CLINICS

Each official licensed with the KHSAA shall annually attend at least one rules interpretation clinic (in person or online) conducted by representatives of the KHSAA in the sport in which he or she is licensed.

### Sec. 5) CANCELLATION OF OFFICIATING LICENSE

The KHSAA may cancel or refuse the license renewal of any official in any sport for cause as detailed in the KHSAA Officials Guidebook.

### Sec. 6) ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICIATING ASSIGNMENTS

- a) An official shall accept assignments in the amount of time and in the manner prescribed by the local officials association to which he or she belongs.
- b) The penalty for an official's failure to work an assigned game, unless providentially prevented from doing so, may be cause for up to a one-year suspension in that sport.

Sec. 7) VIOLATION OF ASSIGNING CONTRACTS

The Board of Control shall protect both the officials and the schools against violations pertaining to assignments.

Sec. 8) LOCAL POLICY BOARDS/COMMITTEES

The Commissioner may establish as many bureaus as deemed necessary in each sport in order to assign officials to games in accordance with the Federal Court Decree of 1971 and policies adopted by the Board of Control.

Sec. 9) GOVERNANCE

The Officials Guidebook and the Board of Control Adopted Policies and Procedures shall govern all officials licensed with the KHSAA.

Sec. 10) COACHES/OTHERS CONNECTED NOT TO OFFICIATE

Coaches or persons connected with the competing schools shall not officiate at contests, unless the written consent of all competing schools is given.

---

## BYLAW 21. PROTESTS

---

Protests against the judgement decisions of contest officials made during the course of game or meet shall not be considered.

---

## BYLAW 22. CONTESTS, SANCTIONS, RULES, FORFEITURES, FACULTY TO ACCOMPANY

---

Sec. 1) CONTESTS AGAINST IN-STATE OPPONENTS

- a) KHSAA member schools may only compete in contests in KHSAA-sanctioned sports against schools located in Kentucky that are current members of the KHSAA.
- b) Any KHSAA member school that engages in an athletic contest in a KHSAA-sanctioned sport with a school located in Kentucky that is not a member of the Association shall be subject to all penalties contained in Bylaw 27.
- c) All contests within Kentucky played by KHSAA member schools in a KHSAA sanctioned sport shall be governed by the rules and regulations established by the Board of Control. Approval for any exemptions shall come through the Commissioner.

Sec. 2) WITH SCHOOLS IN OTHER STATES

- a) All opponents of KHSAA schools in all contests in baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, soccer, softball and volleyball shall be current members of the NFHS voting state association of that state or shall be opponents who are not eligible to be members of that home state association that is a voting member of the NFHS but are permitted to play the member schools in that state.
- b) Member schools of the KHSAA shall adhere to all restrictions contained in the National Federation of State High School Associations' sanctioning policy when playing any contest or scrimmage against an out of state opponent in a KHSAA-sanctioned sport.
- c) All contests within Kentucky in a KHSAA-sanctioned sport against schools from out of state that are played by KHSAA member schools shall be governed by the rules and regulations established by the Board of Control. Approval for any exemptions shall come through the Commissioner.

Sec. 3) CONTRACTS

- a) Official written contracts supplied by the office of the Commissioner (or approved electronic substitutes), shall be used for all contests between members of the Association, and the contract shall include statements to the effect that contracting parties are members of the Association.
- b) The Association shall not undertake to enforce oral contracts or oral agreements to changes in written contracts, or contracts that do not use the official written contract form.
- c) The recipient of a contract for an athletic contest between two member schools of the KHSAA shall return the contract, either signed or unsigned, to the sender within thirty (30) days after having received it. The contract shall become void if not returned within this time period.
- d) All contracts between member schools shall contain a specific date for each contest covered in the contract. A contract in which the words "corresponding date" appears, rather than a specific date, shall not be enforced.
- e) The superintendent, principal or Designated Representative shall countersign all contracts to engage in interscholastic contests. Contracts signed by any other individual will not be enforced by the KHSAA.
- f) Provisions may be made for a forfeit fee to be paid by the school that fails to follow the terms of a contract. The Commissioner shall suspend from the Association a school that fails to pay during the same season a stipulated forfeit fee, and the suspension shall remain in effect until the Board of Control removes it.
- g) If a written contract using the official contract form is canceled by reason of suspension of the school, the Board of Control shall determine the financial liability involving the suspended school.

Sec. 4) RULES GOVERNING CONTESTS

- a) National Federation of State High School Association Rules shall govern all contests involving member schools if an official set of rules is issued for that sport.
- b) Unless modified through the competition rules adopted by the Board of Control, contests in tennis shall be governed by the rules of the United States Tennis Association (USTA) and contests in golf shall be governed by the rules of the United States Golf Association.
- c) The Board of Control shall adopt competition rules for all sport-activities in which the KHSAA conducts a championship.

Sec. 5) WAIVING OF RULES

School officials of member schools shall not by mutual agreement waive or modify any of the rules of the Association (including playing rules) for any contest sanctioned by the Association.

Sec. 6) FAILURE TO PLAY A SCHEDULED CONTEST

If a school fails to carry out its contract to play a regularly scheduled contest, the contest shall be forfeited to the offended school.

Sec. 7) REQUIREMENT TO ACCOMPANY TEAM TO CONTESTS

The principal, coach or another individual approved by the local Board of Education shall accompany the team to all contests. His or her expenses, when he or she accompanies the contestants, shall be paid in the same manner as those of the contestants. Individuals fulfilling this requirement shall adhere to the requirements of KRS 161.185.

---

## BYLAW 23. LIMITATION OF SEASONS

---

Sec. 1) GENERAL PROVISIONS CONCERNING ALL SPORTS AND SPORT-ACTIVITIES

a) Playing During School Hours

School Time shall not be lost for travel to or from, or participation in, any regular season interscholastic athletic contest.

b) Schedule of Contests on Consecutive Days

Contests shall be scheduled so that there are not four consecutive days of competition on any Monday through Thursday period while school is in session.

c) Specific Definitions for Ending of School

For all interpretations and regulations concerning the ending of the school year, including restrictions on coaching involvement, the end of the school year shall be defined as the earlier of the last day of school or May 31.

d) Specific Penalties for Violations - Too Many Contests

Any school violating provisions of this Bylaw by playing too many contests shall be penalized in accordance with Bylaw 27 but shall remain eligible for tournament play during the current season.

e) Specific Penalties for Violations- Too Many Scrimmages

Any school violating scrimmage limitations may be placed on probation, prohibited from participating in preseason scrimmages in that sport for two (2) seasons, and may be prohibited from taking part in KHSAA state championship competition or other penalties in accordance with Bylaw 27. The second violation shall result in automatic suspension.

f) Organized Play and Involvement of Members of the Coaching Staff Out of Season

(1) During the school year but outside the defined limitations for each sport or sport-activity, the following activity is expressly prohibited on the campus of a member school if the competition involves at least fifty (50) percent of the normal playing squad being from that member school (e.g., 6 or more in football or soccer, 3 or more in basketball, 5 or more in baseball or softball):

- a. coaches may not coach members of that school's team;
- b. member school facilities may not be used for organized competition;

(2) Members of the high school coaching staff (paid or unpaid) shall not be prohibited from sport specific observation and evaluation (but not coaching) of any player who has played for a grade nine (9) through grade twelve (12) team (freshman, junior varsity, varsity) from the first day of school through the last day of school provided that play is under the direct control of the same local board of education as the coach is employed and provided that play is not in conflict with other KHSAA bylaws.

Sec. 2) SPORTS SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- BASEBALL- BOYS

a) Following the opening day of school, there shall be no organized baseball practice prior to February 15.

b) There shall be no more than two (2) scrimmages or practice games prior to the first regular season contest of that year.

c) The first game shall not take place prior to the Wednesday of the first state basketball tournament.

d) The season shall consist of a maximum of thirty-six (36) games to be played prior to the beginning of KHSAA state championship competition (district).

e) The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the Saturday preceding the first KHSAA Tournament (District, Region or State), with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA sanctioned tournament play. Following elimination, there shall be no further practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.

Sec. 3) SPORTS SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- BASKETBALL- BOYS AND GIRLS

a) Following the opening day of school, there shall be no organized basketball practice prior to October 15.

b) Prior to the opening game of regular season play, a basketball team may have only two (2) scrimmages or practice games with players other than members of the squad.

c) The first basketball game shall not take place prior to the Monday twelve weeks before the week of district tournament.

d) The season shall consist of a maximum of thirty (30) games to be played prior to the beginning of KHSAA state championship competition (district).

e) The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the Saturday preceding the first KHSAA Tournament (District, Region or State), with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA sanctioned tournament play. Following elimination, there shall be no further practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.

f) The Board of Control may waive provision(s) (b) or (d) of this Bylaw to allow member schools to participate in Hall of Fame Classic contests. Rules on participation in the Classic shall be made by the Board of Control and published in the Athlete Magazine as a part of the official record of the Association.

Sec. 4) SPORTS SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- CROSS COUNTRY- BOYS AND GIRLS

a) The first organized practice for the fall varsity (grades 9-12) season shall not take place prior to July 15.

b) There shall be no more than two scrimmage or practice meets prior to the first regular season contest of that year.

c) The first meet of the season shall not take place prior to the Monday nine weeks before the week of the Regional Cross Country Meet.

d) The season shall consist of a maximum of thirteen (13) meets including invitational meets to be held prior to the beginning of KHSAA state championship competition (region).

e) The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the day prior to the first day for varsity level competition in KHSAA sanctioned postseason events, with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA sanctioned tournament play. Following elimination, there shall be no further practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.

Sec. 5) SPORTS SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- FIELD HOCKEY- GIRLS

a) The first organized practice for the fall varsity (grades 9-12) season shall not take place prior to July 15.

b) There shall be no more than two (2) scrimmages or practice games prior to the first regular season contest of that year.

c) The first match shall not take place prior to the Friday prior to the Monday nine weeks before the week of the Regional tournament.

d) The season shall consist of a maximum of twenty-four (24) games to be played prior to the beginning of KHSAA state championship competition (region).

e) The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the Saturday preceding the first KHSAA Tournament (District, Region or State), with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA sanctioned tournament play. Following elimination, there shall be no further practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.

Sec. 6) SPORTS SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- FOOTBALL

a) Organized practice shall be structured in football as follows:

(1) Football drill work and practice activity shall be defined in the following five categories:

Level 0-"Air"-Players run a drill unopposed without contact;



- Level 1-"Bags" – Drill is run against a bag or another soft-contact surface;  
Level 2-"Control" – Drill is run at assigned speed until the moment of contact; one player is pre-determined the 'winner' by the coach. Contact remains above the waist and players stay on their feet;  
Level 3-"Thud" – Drill is run at assigned speed through the moment of contact; no pre-determined "winner." Contact remains above the waist, players stay on their feet and a quick whistle ends the drill; and  
Level 4-"Live Action"-Drill is run in game-like conditions and is the only time that players are taken to the ground.

(2) Contact and non-contact shall be defined as follows:

"Contact" will be defined as drills run at the Level 3-Thud and Level 4-Live Action level, and Drills run at the Level 0-"Air", Level 1-"Bags" and Level 2-"Control" level shall be defined as "Non-Contact"

All drills in shells (shorts, shoulder pads and helmets) shall be "Non-Contact".

In helmets-only, only Level 0-"Air" and Level 1-"Bags" drills may be conducted

(3) From the end of the season through the day prior to the first day of spring practice; and from the last day after spring practice through May 31:

- Schools shall not issue football equipment included in NFHS Rule 1-5 other than the helmet (provided only enrolled students are present at the activity) with the exception of an all-star game or individual camp as detailed;
- Schools shall not organize or participate in any football activities that allow players to be in football gear included in NFHS Rule 1-5 other than the helmet, even if contact does not occur; and
- No session shall be held where attendance is taken or where attendance is implicitly or explicitly required.
- The KHSAA catastrophic insurance provided by the Association is not in effect during this period; and
- Heat index monitoring guidelines shall be complied with during any activity.

(4) From June 1 through June 24:

- Schools shall not issue football equipment included in NFHS Rule 1-5 other than the helmet, with the exception of an all-star game or individual camp as detailed;
- Schools shall not organize or participate in any football activities that allow players to be in football gear included in NFHS Rule 1-5 other than the helmet, even if contact does not occur;
- Activity during this period shall not include contact (Level 3-"Thud" or Level 4-"Live Action");
- No session shall be held where attendance is taken or where attendance is implicitly or explicitly required;
- The KHSAA catastrophic insurance provided by the Association is not in effect during this period; and
- Heat index monitoring guidelines shall be complied with during any activity.

(5) During the period beginning on the day immediately following the dead period (Bylaw 24), July 10 through July 31:

- Schools may participate in non-contact interscholastic simulations (i.e. 7 on 7) and such participation does not count against scrimmage limitations provided that the first practice in full gear has not been conducted and drills using Level 3-Thud and Level 4-Live Action Level have not been conducted;
- The school issued helmet may be used during these activities, but no other equipment included in NFHS Rule 1-5 may be used;
- The KHSAA catastrophic insurance is in effect for these simulations if other schools are involved; and
- Heat index monitoring guidelines shall be complied with during any activity.

(6) Preseason acclimation and acclimatization and during season practice in football shall be as follows:

- Heat index monitoring guidelines shall be complied with during any activity;
  - Beginning July 10, the first legal organized practice wearing a helmet may be conducted. The first five (5) days of organized practice shall be in helmets only and the total practice time in helmets shall not exceed three (3) hours. Only Level 0-"Air" and Level 1-"Bags" drills shall be conducted. The KHSAA catastrophic insurance is in place for these drills and practice sessions;
  - Beginning July 22, practice may be conducted in shells (shorts, helmets, shoulder pads) for each player who has had at least five days in helmets only. Only Level 0-"Air", Level 1-"Bags" and Level 2-"Control" drills shall be conducted. No single practice session shall be longer than three (3) hours. The KHSAA catastrophic insurance is in place for these drills and practice sessions;
  - Beginning August 1, practice may be conducted in full gear for all players who have had at least three practices wearing shells (helmets and shoulder pads). Level 0-"Air", Level 1-"Bags", Level 2-"Control", Level 3-"Thud" and Level 4-"Live action" drills may be conducted however Level 3-"Thud" and Level 4-"Live action" drills may only be conducted in one practice per day; and
- e. Beginning July 22, practice periods shall adhere to the following restrictions:
- Shall not have multiple contact practices on any day where Level 3-"Thud" and Level 4-"Live action" drills are conducted;
  - On days when two practices of any type are held, a total limit of 5 hours per day of practice, not including the mandatory break shall be allowed, with no single practice exceeding three (3) hours. Water breaks, rest breaks and injury treatment shall not count against the 5-hour limit. Weight training, conditioning, required meetings, required sport and skill specific film study, and teaching period/walk through simulations without equipment shall count against 5-hour limit;
  - On days when only one practice of any type is held, a total limit of 3 hours per day of practice shall be allowed. Water breaks, rest breaks and injury treatment shall not count against the 3-hour limit. Weight training, conditioning, required meetings, required sport and skill specific film study, and teaching period/walk through simulations without equipment shall count against 3-hour limit;
  - A 3-hour break is required after a contact practice where Level 3-"Thud" and Level 4-"Live action" drills are conducted during which no activity shall be held and the athletes are located where cooling and recovery is possible. During this break, there shall be no gear worn, and no activity that in any way simulates football or football drills. This restriction is in place regardless of where the practice occurs including camps, home practices, or other workout areas. This period is solely for rest/recovery;
  - Weight training, conditioning, meetings, film study, and teaching period/walk through simulations without equipment shall not be conducted during the three-hour required break;
  - Beginning on Monday of the week the first scrimmage is played by the school, each school may participate in "Thud" or "Live Action" drills and game time simulations (not including contests or legal scrimmages) for no more than ninety-minutes per team, per week;
  - A non-contact simulation (7 on 7) or any other type of competition against another school in any form shall not be held with the exception of the two (2) allowed scrimmages, and the allowable games;
  - After the opening day of the school year, a school shall not conduct multiple on-field practice sessions on the same day; and
  - All schools shall upon request, submit any required documentation to verify the proper execution of the practice regulations, including



scrimmage, contact, and Heat/Humidity Measurement and Compliance Programs.

- b) After August 1 and prior to the opening varsity game of the season, there shall be no more than two (2) scrimmages or practice games per member school (grades 9-12) with players other than members of the squad.
- c) The first game shall not take place prior to the Friday eleven (11) weeks prior to the week of the first round of the football playoffs.
- d) The season shall consist of a maximum of ten (10) regular season games and the opportunity to play regular season games shall conclude at the end NFHS corresponding week 17. Any school may play one of the allowable regular season games during Week 0 (normally NFHS corresponding week 7) provided that the total schedule does not exceed ten (10) regular season games and that the allowable number of scrimmages is reduced to one.
- e) Provided that at least one classification within the KHSAA conducts playoffs that last five (5) weeks, any school that chooses to compete for a district title and is placed in a classification where only four (4) weeks are needed to complete the playoffs may play an additional regular season contest (total of 11 contests), the last of which shall be played during the first round of the playoffs for the other classifications.
- f) The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the Saturday preceding the first KHSAA Tournament (District, Region or State), with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA sanctioned tournament play. Following elimination, there shall be no further practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.
- g) Each player, in order to be eligible to participate against another school and to become acclimatized and acclimated, shall have taken part in a minimum of five (5) practices over five (5) days in helmets only, three (3) practices in helmet and shoulder pads over three (3) days followed by three (3) contact practices over three days. A contact practice on the date of a contest shall not count as one of the required practices in allowing the student to play in that contest.
- h) Each football school may elect to conduct spring football practice under the following conditions:
  - (1) A school may conduct ten (10) spring practice periods of not more than two (2) hours in length and not more than one practice per day over ten (10) days during three consecutive calendar weeks, which shall be chosen by the school on or before December 15;
  - (2) Failure to submit the schedule by December 15 will result in a loss of the ability to conduct spring football practice.
  - (3) The three consecutive calendar weeks shall not begin prior to the Monday following the school's elimination from postseason play in basketball, and shall not conclude later than the last day of school on the original school calendar.
  - (4) Any period of time when school is not in session on a week day, including testing and breaks, shall not count as one of the ten (10) permitted days, and practice shall not be conducted on those days.
  - (5) All equipment authorized by the football playing rules may be used during this period.
  - (6) There shall be no interscholastic competition during this period, and all participants shall be eligible according to all KHSAA eligibility rules.
  - (7) Once dates are established by the school, the dates shall not be changed except by request of the member school Principal, and only if the newly requested period begins not later than the Monday following the conclusions of the originally scheduled school spring break.
  - (8) Practice sessions shall conform to the following rotation of types of practice:
    - a. Two days Non-Contact (0-"Air", 1-"Bags", 2-"Control");
    - b. Two days Contact (3-"Thud", 4-"Live Action");
    - c. One day Non-Contact (0-"Air", 1-"Bags", 2-"Control");
    - d. Two days Contact (3-"Thud", 4-"Live Action");
    - e. One day Non-Contact (0-"Air", 1-"Bags", 2-"Control"); and
    - f. Two days Contact (3-"Thud", 4-"Live Action").
  - (9) A student below grade nine or in grade 12 shall not participate;
  - (10) Only students currently eligible by all KHSAA rules including Bylaws 2 through 12 may participate;
  - (11) Intrasquad games may be held but shall be counted as one of the ten practice sessions; and
  - (12) Any student who has neither participated in organized competition in a KHSAA sanctioned winter or spring sport, nor has documentation of supervision by a coach qualified under Bylaw 25 in a minimum of 8 conditioning workouts after the previous season and before the start of spring practice (including competition on a competitive weight lifting team at the school), shall have two (2) days of practice in helmets only and two (2) additional days in shells (helmets and shoulder pads) for acclimation prior to wearing the remainder of the allowable football gear;
  - (13) There shall be no mandatory participation (including school or coach imposed penalty) by any person on a spring sports eligibility list (or entering any spring sport scrimmage or contest) or any other student desiring not to participate.
- i) Following the season and until organized practice begins for the next season, no football gear other than the helmet may be issued used by a member of the team for any activity except for the approved spring football practice period and issuance of gear to a specific individual for attendance/participation in a specific event at an off campus facility.
  - (1) Football gear as defined in NFHS rule 1-5 (including shoulder pads and other protective gear) may be issued to a player who has previously played for the team to participate in an individual camp or all-star game between the last day of the previous season and before July 31 provided no more than four players from any school participate in the same sessions at that camp.
  - (2) The gear shall be returned by the individual immediately following the camp. No football gear as defined in NFHS rule 1-5 (including shoulder pads and other protective gear) may be issued for any event involving any person not enrolled at that school that is held at a KHSAA member school or at a facility utilized for games by a member school except for the all-star game/individual camp exception detailed above. This includes camps sponsored by outside entities if a member school's coaches are present or any equipment is issued to participants.
  - (3) There is no opportunity for any team activity in football gear at camps where representatives of any other school are present except for the noncontact game simulations as detailed above. There is no allowance for full contact camps for teams or issuing other equipment to individuals except as detailed in the all-star game/individual camp exception.
- j) The Board of Control may waive provision(s) (b) or (d) of this Bylaw to allow member schools to participate in Hall of Fame and Museum contests. Rules on participation in the Classic shall be made by the Board of Control and published in the Athlete Magazine as a part of the official record of the Association.

#### Sec. 7) SPORTS SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- GOLF- BOYS AND GIRLS

- a) Organized practice shall not take place prior to July 15.
- b) There shall be no more than two (2) practice matches prior to the first regular season contest of that year.
- c) The first match shall not take place before the Friday prior to the Monday of the week nine weeks prior to the first round of the KHSAA sanctioned postseason play.
- d) The season shall consist of a maximum of twenty (20) rounds of golf against other school representatives (minimum nine holes) to be played

prior to the beginning of KHSAA state championship competition (region). Any team reaching this limitation shall have its regular season end immediately. Any forfeit fees necessitated by match cancellations after this date shall be paid, and the forfeit win shall NOT be counted against the game limit for the opponents.

- e) The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the day prior to the first day for varsity level competition in KHSAA sanctioned postseason events, with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA sanctioned tournament play. Following elimination, there shall be no further practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.

**Sec. 8) SPORTS SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- SOCCER- BOYS AND GIRLS**

- a) The first organized practice for the fall varsity (grades 9-12) season shall not take place prior to July 15.
- b) There shall be no more than two (2) scrimmages or practice games prior to the first regular season contest of that year.
- c) The first match shall not take place prior to the Monday eight weeks before the week of district tournaments.
- d) The season shall consist of a maximum of twenty-one (21) games to be played prior to the beginning of KHSAA state championship competition (district).
- e) The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the Saturday preceding the first KHSAA Tournament (District, Region or State), with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA sanctioned tournament play. Following elimination, there shall be no further practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.

**Sec. 9) SPORTS SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- SOFTBALL- GIRLS (FASTPITCH)**

- a) Following the opening day of school there shall be no organized practice prior to February 15.
- b) There shall be no more than two (2) scrimmages or practice games prior to the first regular season contest of that year.
- c) The first game shall not take place prior to the Wednesday of the first state basketball tournament.
- d) The season shall consist of a maximum of thirty-six (36) games to be played prior to the beginning of KHSAA state championship competition (district).
- e) The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the Saturday preceding the first KHSAA Tournament (District, Region or State), with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA sanctioned tournament play. Following elimination, there shall be no further practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.

**Sec. 10) SPORTS SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- SWIMMING AND DIVING- BOYS AND GIRLS**

- a) Following the opening day of school, there shall be no organized practice prior to October 1.
- b) There shall be no more than two (2) practice meets prior to the first regular season contest of that year.
- c) The first meet shall not take place prior to November 15.
- d) The season shall consist of a maximum of fifteen (15) meets to be held prior to the beginning of KHSAA state championship tournament competition (region).
- e) The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the day prior to the first day for varsity level competition in KHSAA sanctioned postseason events, with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA sanctioned tournament play. Following elimination, there shall be no further practice or competition during the remainder of the academic school year.

**Sec. 11) SPORTS SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- TENNIS- BOYS AND GIRLS**

- a) Following the opening day of school, there shall be no organized practice prior to February 15.
- b) There shall be no more than two (2) practice matches prior to the first regular season contest of that year.
- c) The first match shall not take place prior to the Wednesday of the first state basketball tournament.
- d) The season shall consist of a maximum of twenty-two (22) matches to be held prior to the beginning of KHSAA state championship tournament competition (region). Any forfeit fees necessitated by match cancellations after this limit is reached shall be paid, and the forfeit win shall NOT be counted against the game limit for the opponents. Any four (4) invitational tournaments shall count as one (1) match each against this limit. All dual matches shall count as one (1) match each against this limit.
- e) The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the day prior to the first day for varsity level competition in KHSAA sanctioned postseason events, with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA sanctioned tournament play. Following elimination, there shall be no further practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.

**Sec. 12) SPORTS SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- INDOOR AND OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD- BOYS AND GIRLS**

- a) Following the opening day of school, there shall be no organized practice prior to December 1.
- b) There shall be no more than two (2) practice meets held by each team and these shall be held on or before the Monday of NFHS calendar week 38.
- c) The first meet (indoor or outdoor) shall not take place before the Monday of NFHS Calendar Week 28.
- d) The season shall consist of a maximum of nineteen (19) meets, to be held prior to the beginning of KHSAA state championship tournament competition (region). All meets, regardless of format or being an indoor or outdoor meet, shall count against the limit of meets.
- e) The opportunity to participate in regular season outdoor contests season shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the day prior to the first day for varsity level competition in KHSAA sanctioned postseason events, with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA sanctioned tournament play. Following elimination, there shall be no further practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.

**Sec. 13) SPORTS SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- VOLLEYBALL- GIRLS**

- a) The first organized practice for the fall varsity (grades 9-12) season shall not take place prior to July 15.
- b) There shall be no more than two (2) scrimmages or practice games prior to the first regular season contest of that year.
- c) The first match shall not take place prior to the Monday nine weeks before the week of district tournament.
- d) The season shall consist of a maximum of thirty-five (35) matches to be played prior to the beginning of KHSAA state championship tournament competition (district).
- e) The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the Saturday preceding the first KHSAA Tournament (District, Region or State), with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA sanctioned tournament play. Following elimination, there shall be no further practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.

**Sec. 14) SPORTS SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- WRESTLING- BOYS**

- a) Following the opening day of school, there shall be no organized practice prior to October 15.
  - b) There shall be no more than two (2) practice meets prior to the first regular season contest of that year.
  - c) The first match shall not take place prior to the Monday of Corresponding Week 21.
  - d) The season shall consist of a maximum of seventeen (17) matches in each weight class to be held prior to the beginning of KHSAA state championship tournament competition (region). Tournaments or contests involving three (3) or more schools shall count as one (1) match toward the match limit.
  - e) The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the day prior to the first day for varsity level competition in KHSAA sanctioned postseason events, with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA sanctioned tournament play. Following elimination, there shall be no further practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.
  - f) The KHSAA and the National Federation of State High School Associations shall establish official weight classes.
- Sec. 15) SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- OTHER SPORT-ACTIVITIES- ARCHERY**
- a) The first organized practice shall not take place prior to October 1.
  - b) The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the day prior to the first day for varsity level competition in KHSAA sanctioned postseason events, with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA sanctioned tournament play. Following elimination, there shall be no further official practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.
- Sec. 16) SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- OTHER SPORT-ACTIVITIES- BASS FISHING**
- a) The first organized practice shall not take place prior to October 1.
  - b) The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the day prior to the first day for varsity level competition in KHSAA sanctioned postseason events, with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA sanctioned tournament play. Following elimination, there shall be no further official practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.
- Sec. 17) SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- OTHER SPORT-ACTIVITIES- BOWLING**
- a) The first organized practice shall not take place prior to October 1.
  - b) The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the day prior to the first day for varsity level competition in KHSAA sanctioned postseason events, with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA sanctioned tournament play. Following elimination, there shall be no further official practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.
- Sec. 18) SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- OTHER SPORT-ACTIVITIES- COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING (INTERSCHOLASTIC SPIRIT)**
- a) The first organized practice shall not take place prior to July 15.
  - b) The opportunity to enter competitive cheerleading contests ends at all levels (grades 9-12) for that academic year on April 1, with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA sanctioned tournament play. Following elimination, there shall be no further official practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.

---

## **BYLAW 24. SUMMER SPORTS AND SPORT-ACTIVITIES**

---

**Sec. 1) SCHOOL TEAM PLAY IN SUMMER (NON DEAD PERIOD)**

Member schools may participate in sanctioned play during the summer to complete spring seasons in baseball, softball, tennis and track and may begin sanctioned regular season play and practice as defined by Bylaw 23 prior to the opening of school in cheerleading, cross country, field hockey, football, golf, soccer and volleyball. Only participants eligible during the spring semester may compete on the school teams. All KHSAA eligibility rules apply, and full control of the summer program shall remain with the participating high school and the principal of that school.

**Sec. 2) RESTRICTIONS ON FOOTBALL AND BOYS' BASKETBALL**

Students shall not participate in any organized team activity or organized or semi-organized team competition in football in any format between the earlier of the last day of school and June 1 through the day prior to the start of the dead period. During this period, students may participate in activities such as weight training, skill development, individual camps (with per team limits on participation) and accepted open gym or field activities where no inter-school competition is involved.

Students shall not participate in any organized team activity or organized or semi-organized team competition in boys' basketball between the end of the dead period and July 31. During this period, students may participate in activities such as weight training, skill development, individual camps (with per team limits on participation) and accepted open gym/field activities where no inter-school competition is involved.

**Sec. 3) SUMMER DEAD PERIOD**

Students may not receive coaching or training from school personnel (either salaried or non salaried) and school facilities, uniforms, nicknames, transportation or equipment shall not be used each year in any KHSAA sanctioned sport or sport-activity during the period beginning with June 25, and going through July 9. School funds may not be expended in support of interscholastic athletics in any KHSAA sanctioned sport during this period. These restrictions shall not apply to postseason wrap-up activities, celebrations and recognition events relating to a spring sports team at a school which participated in KHSAA state championship play in that particular sport during that particular year.

---

## **BYLAW 25. REQUIREMENT FOR COACHES AND OTHERS WORKING WITH HIGH SCHOOL TEAMS INCLUDING ATHLETIC DIRECTORS**

---

**Sec. 1) DEFINITIONS**

**a) Level 1 Coaches**

An individual seeking a coaching position at the high school level shall be categorized as Level 1 if that individual is a certified teacher and member of the regular school system faculty and meets the following criteria prior to assignment to coaching duties:

- (1) Is employed a minimum of three (3) regular periods for teaching classes, which may include physical education;
- (2) Is employed for supervision of study halls; or
- (3) Is exercising responsibilities in other activity assignments within the school schedule.

**b) Level 2 Coaches**

An individual seeking a coaching position at the high school level shall be categorized as Level 2 if that individual meets the following criteria

prior to assignment to coaching duties and does not meet the qualifications of Level 1:

- (1) Shall be a high school graduate and 21 years of age as detailed in KRS 156.070(f)(2);
- (2) Shall not be a violent offender or convicted of a sex crime as defined by KRS 17.165 that is classified as a felony;
- (3) Shall submit to a criminal record check under KRS 160.380;
- (4) Shall meet one of the following additional qualifications:
  - i. Have graduated from a public or accredited high school and hold a provisional or standard teaching certificate;
  - ii. Have completed sixty-four semester hours of college credit from an accredited college or university as documented by an official transcript;
  - iii. Be a graduate from a public or accredited high school and be in compliance with the local district standards for serving as an approved substitute teacher as approved by the Education Professional Standards Board; or
  - iv. Be a graduate from a public or accredited high school and complete all Board of Control prescribed electives as detailed. Level 2 coaches approved under this shall complete these requirements prior to coaching in the first interscholastic contest; and
- (5) Prior to assuming duties, Level 2 coaches shall successfully complete training provided by the local school district. The training shall include information on the physical and emotional development of students of the age with whom the Level 2 coach will be working, the district's and school's discipline policies, procedures for dealing with discipline problems, and safety and first aid training. Follow up training shall be provided annually.

c) Head Coach

As referred in this regulation, the head coach at the high school level shall be the head varsity coach designated by the school or Board of Education unless otherwise noted in the bylaw.

d) Athletic Director

As referred in this regulation, the Athletic Director is a classified or certified position or contractor hired to oversee work related to the interscholastic athletic program.

Sec. 2) HIRING AND EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR COACHING POSITIONS AT THE HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL

a) Required Level

Level 1 or 2 individuals (head and assistant) may be assigned as the head or assistant coach in any sport or sport-activity (including cheerleading).

b) KHSAA Member School Obligations in Hiring

- (1) The Superintendent shall ensure that all assignments for coaching duties comply with all applicable state and local policies.
- (2) The hiring process shall ensure that in considering those individuals seeking coaching duties, the most qualified individual shall be assigned. In considering qualifications, the qualifications desired for the position, the references, interviews and experience of those seeking the duties, and the education background shall be considered.

c) Compensation for Coaches at the High School Level

Any person assigned to coaching duties at any level (grades 9-12) shall be duly employed through the respective board of education and the entire coaching salary shall be paid through that board in accordance with local Board of Education policy.

Sec. 3) POST HIRE REQUIREMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTINUING COACHING DUTIES

a) C.P.R. and AED Training for Coaches at the High School Level

All coaches (head and assistant) at any level in all sanctioned sports and sport-activities (including cheerleading) shall provide documentation of successful completion of a C.P.R. course including the use of an Automatic External Defibrillator and the requisite First Aid Training, conducted by an instructor or program approved by a college or University, the American Red Cross, American Heart Association or other bona fide accrediting agency. Initial certification shall use in-person instruction and certification shall be timely and appropriately updated as required by the approving agency.

b) Coaches Education Program for Coaches at the High School Level

- (1) A Coaches Education Program has been approved as the coaching education program in Kentucky. The program shall include a course of study to include a KHSAA approved Coaches Education Program, KHSAA rules information and local district policies. The cost of attending the KHSAA Coaches Education Program shall be the responsibility of the individual coach(es). Local school districts or local schools may, upon successful completion of all coaching education requirements including all examinations, reimburse the coaches for the expense of attending the course.
- (2) Level 1 individuals assigned to duties as a coach (head or assistant), who are hired as a member of the school system faculty for the first time following the 1995-96 school year shall take and complete all requirements for the Kentucky Coaches Education Program as detailed in Section b(1) above within one year of the initial assignment to coaching duties or prior to the legal start of practice for the next competitive season in any particular sport to which the individual is assigned, whichever occurs first.
- (3) Level 2 individuals (Sec. 1, subsection b(4)) assigned to duties as a coach (head or assistant) shall take and complete all requirements for the KHSAA Approved Coaches Education Program as detailed in Section b(1) above within one year of the initial assignment to coaching duties or prior to the legal start of practice for the next competitive season in any particular sport to which the individual is assigned, whichever occurs first.

c) Sports Safety Training and Medical Symposium Updates for Coaches at all Interscholastic Levels

- (1) Each coach (head and assistant, including cheerleading) at all levels (grades 9-12) shall be required to complete a sports safety course and medical symposium update consisting of training on how to prevent common injuries.
- (2) All member schools of the KHSAA shall pay the necessary expenses of coaches for the required attendance at the sanctioned sports safety course and sports medicine symposium update.
- (3) The course shall meet the following criteria:
  - i. The content of the course shall include the elements specified in KRS 160.445 including the risk of concussion and head injury;
  - ii. The course shall be taught by a Certified Athletic Trainer, Registered Nurse, Physician or Physician's Assistant licensed to practice in Kentucky;
  - iii. The course material and content shall be updated every thirty (30) months; and
  - iv. Each coach having completed the course shall re-certify by taking the course not less than once every two (2) years.
- (4) Successful completion of the course shall constitute a passing score.
- (5) Each coach of a sport or sport-activity at all interscholastic levels shall have successfully completed the sports safety course and medical symposium update prior to assuming coaching duties.
- (6) The penalty for noncompliance with this section shall be suspension from coaching duties.

d) KHSAA Rules Clinic for Coaches at the High School Level

- (1) All coaches (head and assistant) shall annually attend at least one rules interpretation clinic conducted by representatives of the KHSAA in the sport in which they coach and the school desires to enter a team in postseason play, provided these clinics are conducted under the authorization of the Commissioner.
- (2) The penalty for noncompliance with this section shall be suspension from coaching duties in all contests for a period not to exceed one year or any penalty otherwise included in Bylaw 25.

e) Continual Education and Improvement

As approved by the school or school system, each coach shall be required to demonstrate attendance and participation in continual improvement activities involving the teaching of skills and tactics, evaluation of opponents, and opportunities for adaptation of updated systems to enhance the student participation experience.

**Sec. 4) HIRING AND EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR ATHLETIC DIRECTORS AT THE HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL**

- a) All persons designated as high school Athletic Directors shall comply with any adopted regulations as governed by the local Board of Education.
- b) Compensation for Athletic Directors at the High School Level  
Any person assigned to duties as an Athletic Director at the high school level (grades 9-12) shall be duly employed through the respective board of education and the entire salary shall be paid through that board in accordance with local Board of Education policy.

**Sec. 5) POST HIRE REQUIREMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTINUING DUTIES AS AN ATHLETIC DIRECTOR**

- a) Continual Education and Improvement for Athletic Directors hired for the first time prior to August 1, 2016:
  - 1) Each Athletic Director shall be required to annually demonstrate attendance and participation in continual improvement activities involving twelve (12) hours of educational programs validated by local board approved credit and produced by:
    - a. The Kentucky High School Athletic Association;
    - b. the Kentucky High School Athletic Directors Association;
    - c. The National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association; or
    - d. The Kentucky Department of Education.
- b) Continual Education and Improvement for Athletic Directors hired for the first time after August 1, 2016:
  - 1) For the first three years holding the position of Athletic Director, each Athletic Director shall be required to annually demonstrate attendance and participation in continual improvement activities involving eighteen (18) hours of educational programs validated by local board approved credit and produced by:
    - a. The Kentucky High School Athletic Association;
    - b. the Kentucky High School Athletic Directors Association;
    - c. The National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association; or
    - d. The Kentucky Department of Education.
  - 2) After completing three years holding the position of Athletic Director, each Athletic Director shall be required to annually demonstrate attendance and participation in continual improvement activities involving twelve (12) hours of educational programs validated by local board approved credit and produced by:
    - a. The Kentucky High School Athletic Association;
    - b. The Kentucky High School Athletic Directors Association;
    - c. The National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association; or
    - d. The Kentucky Department of Education.

---

**BYLAW 26. RULINGS, REPORTING OF VIOLATIONS**

---

**Sec. 1) REQUESTS FOR RULINGS**

The principal or Designated Representative shall direct all requests for rulings and interpretations to the Commissioner in writing. In all cases in which players are involved, the names of the players and all possible pertinent information shall be given.

**Sec. 2) REPORTING OF VIOLATIONS**

Any person wishing to report a violation of the KHSAA Constitution, Bylaws or Competition rules shall do so in writing. If evidence is presented to warrant an investigation, the Commissioner shall ensure that an investigation is performed. The Commissioner's office shall notify the principal or superintendent of the protested school, telling him or her the exact nature of the charges made. If an investigator is appointed to gather evidence in connection with the protest, he shall provide a copy of the report to the Commissioner, and a copy shall be made a part of the official school records with the Association and shall be made available to the principal or superintendent of the schools involved upon request.

---

**BYLAW 27. IMPOSITION OF PENALTIES**

---

**Sec. 1) AUTHORITY TO PENALIZE**

- a) If Association rules and regulations have been violated, penalties may be imposed on the offending schools or individual within the defined parameters of this bylaw, the KHSAA Due Process Procedure, and KRS Chapter 13B. These penalties may be by the Commissioner's office, the KHSAA Hearing Officer or the Board of Control dependent upon the specifics of the bylaw, KHSAA Due Process Procedure, or KRS Chapter 13B.
- b) Each member school of the KHSAA through its Principal shall ensure that its athletic program remains compliant with KHSAA rules and that there is institutional control over the interscholastic athletic program.

**Sec. 2) EXCEPTION TO PENALTY AUTHORITY FOR COURT ORDERED PLAY**

A member school, student, coach, or administrator shall not be punished or sanctioned, in any manner, by the KHSAA for allowing a student to play in an athletic contest or practice with the team during a time when an order of a court of competent jurisdiction permits the student to participate or otherwise stays or enjoins enforcement of a final KHSAA decision on eligibility.

**Sec. 3) RESPONSIBLE PARTIES**

Any member elementary or secondary school or school employee or official who knowingly allows participation of an ineligible player under the provisions of this bylaw, or who, through reasonable diligence, should have known of that ineligibility, shall be considered in noncompliance with state accreditation standards or guilty of willful neglect of duty or breach of contract. This provision shall apply not only to coaches, but also to personnel supervising coaches including an athletic director, an assistant principal, a principal, an assistant superintendent, a superintendent, or a

school board member.

#### Sec. 4) PENALTY OPTIONS

For violation of any rule or regulation by any member school or school designated staff, student-athlete, official, or other representative, the penalty as may be called for under the specific rule or regulation, or, in case no specific penalty is called for, disciplinary action, including warning, reprimand, probation, suspension, or payment of a fine may be imposed.

##### a) FINE

- (1) A fine may be levied in lieu of, or in addition to, any other penalty imposed upon the school and may only be levied against a member school.
- (2) The Board of Control shall adopt a schedule of fines and publish said schedule annually in the Association Handbook.
- (3) The fine schedule shall also include any amounts paid by the Association or received by the school as a result of postseason competition.
- (4) A fine shall not be levied against any individual within the interscholastic athletic program but may only be levied against the member school and only for selected violations as determined by the Board of Control.

##### b) FORFEIT

- (1) The forfeit of contests or meets may be included in penalties assessed for violation of Association rules.
- (2) In addition, if a student is declared ineligible, all contests in which he or she has played while ineligible shall be forfeited to the opposing team.

##### c) WARNING

A warning may be issued which is written notification that a violation, or an inexcusable or unethical action, has occurred, is a matter of record, and that the action shall not be repeated.

##### d) LETTER OF REPRIMAND

- (1) A written reprimand of the individual, program, or school may be issued if a violation of the rules has occurred which was preventable.
- (2) The action is a matter of record, and warnings that repeat actions of this type may be cause for further penalty.

##### e) PROBATION

- (1) Probation is a more severe penalty and may be described in the following manner. Normally, an individual or a school on probation is on conditional Association membership, but may be permitted to engage in a regular schedule, sanctioned events, or district, regional and state championships. This is provided that the individual or school has taken steps to ensure the problem which placed the individual or school on probation has been alleviated and will not re-occur.
- (2) Additionally, a school on probation may be restricted to limits on scrimmages, regular season contests or postseason competition as may be deemed appropriate.

##### f) SUSPENSION

- (1) An individual participant, coach, specific sport or school may be suspended from competition or from scrimmage participation.
- (2) This penalty may range from the elimination of individual or team(s) participation in games, tournaments, meets or state championship competition, to suspension of the school from the Association.
- (3) Individuals or teams suspended may not engage in contests with member schools of the Association, or with any other school that is a member of another state associated with the National Federation of State High School Associations.

##### g) REIMBURSEMENT

- (1) A fine may be levied equal to the amount of itemized legal fees expended by the Association in defense of its rules in a court of law in cases where a school or school system is directly or indirectly involved in the legal challenge of an association rule which has passed via the proper Constitutional process and in which case, the Association prevails in court.
- (2) If the Association, its Commissioner, or other persons associated or employed by the Association are named as a party, or if the Association intervenes in any action to enforce a ruling, bylaw or other provision, it shall be presumed that the school where the student attends or the coach or other person is employed or is otherwise associated or connected, is involved in the legal challenge.
- (3) The presumption of involvement may be rebutted by clear and convincing evidence.
- (4) Involvement includes providing testimony, staff, staff legal counsel or funds for counsel, or direct filings by or on behalf of the school or school system.
- (5) If the Association conducts an investigation regarding any player, coach, assistant coach, paraprofessional, booster, supporter or other person associated with a team, program or member school, and the investigation results in any penalty being imposed by the Association, the school may be required to pay all costs of that investigation.
- (6) The costs may include the costs, fees and expenses charged by an investigator, and the costs, fees and expenses charged by the Association's legal counsel.

##### h) PERMANENT SUSPENSION

Any coach, participant or other school representative may be permanently suspended from involvement in interscholastic athletics in this state if found by competent and conclusive evidence to be guilty of assaulting a sports official.

##### i) REDISTRIBUTION

If a school is found to have used an ineligible competitor and as an extension to the fine penalty listed above, it may be directed that a portion or all of the net proceeds received from a postseason contest or tournament be returned to the host or redistributed to the other contest or tournament participants.

##### j) VACATE/STRIKE

If a school is found to have used an ineligible competitor, it may be directed that Individual records and performances be vacated or stricken; team records and performances including place finishes be vacated or stricken; or Individual or team awards be returned to the Association.

##### k) SHOW CAUSE ORDER

An individual coach (head or assistant, paid or unpaid) or athletic department representative (including all school employed personnel) may be issued a show-cause order for violations of KHSAA bylaws. Such order may also be issued for coaches, athletic department representatives or other personnel who fail to file complete information as requested, file false, misleading or inaccurate information or otherwise impede the discovery of facts related to a matter under review. This order may specify that for a period of time, any KHSAA imposed penalties against the coach, athletic department representative or school employed personnel will remain in force if the person is hired by another KHSAA member school. The Principal or Designated Representative of the new school desiring to hire the individual must submit in writing, the acceptance of these sanctions. If the member school wishes to avoid the sanctions imposed on that individual, the Principal or Designated Representative of the member school must appear before the Board of Control and show cause as to why the member school should not be penalized.