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

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## BYLAW 1. RESPONSIBILITY FOR ELIGIBILITY

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### Sec. 1) PRINCIPAL REQUIREMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL

- a) 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.
- b) The member school principal is ultimately responsible for all aspects of the athletic program, whether it is rules enforcement and reporting or eligibility certification.
- c) Each member school through its Principal and Designated Representative exercise the principles of institutional control in order for the Association to continue as a fully functioning membership organization and in order for the school to remain a member.
- d) There are several principles that go into the concept of maintaining institutional control:
  - (1) Control shall first be defined in common sense terms and is best summarized by the school having in place the proper policies to ensure that violations do not occur, and if they do occur, the Principal exhibiting the leadership and duty to correct the problems and prevent recurrence.
  - (2) In general, violations do not result from a lack of institutional control if there are adequate preventive measures in place that are properly monitored and followed, and if swift action is taken.
  - (3) Several factors demonstrate a lack of institutional control including, but not limited to:
    - a. failure to implement proper preventive procedures;
    - b. failure by members of the designated athletic staff to thoroughly investigate and report violations;
    - c. failure to adequately disseminate and distribute compliance information;
    - d. failure to adequately distribute compliance duties to allow for effective control;
    - e. failing to make clear to all coaches and participants that rules violations will not be tolerated;
    - f. failing to fully investigate and file reports as requested when potential violations are reported; and
    - g. a head coach failing to create a compliant atmosphere with the assistant coaches.
- e) The KHSAA staff is to enforce the rules based on the following general premises:
  - (1) KHSAA regulations and information are readily available to the member schools and the general public;
  - (2) the Principal or Designated Representative properly distributes information, rules manuals, communication, forms, and other needed materials to the members of the athletics staff;
  - (3) that meaningful education programs are conducted within the schools to ensure compliance; and
  - (4) Student-athletes are properly informed about rules prior to and during participation.
- f) The compliance history of a school and its cooperative spirit during any investigation or inquiry will factor into any penalty decision regarding violations as sanctions under Bylaw 27 are being considered.

### 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 to conduct the interscholastic program at that school.
- b) The Principal or Designated Representative shall sign all forms requiring an authorized signature.
- c) If a member school principal fails to make the designation before August 31, the building principal shall automatically be the Designated Representative for the current year.

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## BYLAW 2. AGE

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### Sec. 1) AGE RESTRICTION

- a) Under 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 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 the waiver of this rule under any other condition.

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## BYLAW 3. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF YEARS

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### Sec. 1) LIMIT OF FOUR YEARS

- a) 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.
- b) The eligibility shall conclude with the completion of the spring sports season following the fourth year.
- c) 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

- a) 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 basic education services

- and the right to an education has therefore been impacted rather than simply the loss of athletic privilege.
- b) 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.
  - c) The grant of eligibility may only be made in the cases in which the student-athlete would remain eligible by all other Association bylaws.
  - d) This provision shall not include additional eligibility strictly for loss of participation due to sports-related injuries.
  - e) 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).

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## **BYLAW 4. ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS**

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### **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 all-girls' school may be accepted.
- c) A student is ineligible for the first year following enrollment at a member school if that student leaves the former school with documented obligations (including financial). The student shall remain ineligible until the conclusion of one year from the date of enrollment or documentation that the obligations have been satisfied.

### **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 Sec. 3 below, and the time so played shall not be counted on the four (4) year (eight (8) semester) limit.
- b) For a school to be considered a "feeder" school (and therefore "connected"), it must be under the same local board of education as the member school and enroll students exclusively below grade nine.
- c) A student enrolled at a nonfeeder school shall not be considered to be enrolled at a feeder school irrespective of past enrollment patterns of that nonfeeder school.
- d) School districts with multiple schools may not establish an "open choice" option to serve as a feeder pattern for athletics.
- e) Applying for admission to a school does not waive this definition as there is a clear line between applying and being enrolled.
- f) School and school districts may choose to define a more restrictive feeder pattern for its middle schools to high schools which if violated, constitute the student not being "connected" and therefore ineligible.
- g) In a school district with multiple high schools, absent a specific otherwise adopted feeder pattern, the residence of the student-athlete within the district student assignment plan shall determine the school at which the student may participate if such participation is permitted by local policy.
- h) A student is ineligible for the first year to participate for a member school if that student leaves the former school with documented obligations (including financial). The student shall remain ineligible until the conclusion of one year from the date of enrollment or documentation that the obligations have been satisfied.
- i) Students enrolled below grade seven (7) may not play on a high school team at any level.
- j) A student below grade nine (9) may not participate on the varsity team in contests in the sports of football or soccer.
- k) All other participation by legally enrolled students in high school level teams, practices, scrimmages or contests by students legally enrolled in grades seven (7) and eight (8) who are eligible by all other bylaw provisions is at the discretion of the school-based decision-making council or local board of education at the member school.

### **Sec. 3) INELIGIBILITY FOR REPEATING STUDENTS**

- a) A student having been enrolled in the seventh (7th) grade or any grade through twelfth (12th) shall not be eligible for interscholastic athletics at the high school level (freshmen, junior varsity or varsity, 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.

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

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### **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
  - (1) 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.
  - (2) For the verification of this provision, all course work, including summer distance/online and correspondence work, and final grades shall be completed and posted to the transcript by the first day of the school year for the student body.
  - (3) No course work completed after the first day of the school year for the student body shall be used to make this determination.
  - (4) Any credit or course used to meet these standards must meet the following criteria:
    - a. 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 a replacement for previously attempted course work;
    - b. 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;
  - c. 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 course;
  - d. The student's work (e.g., exams, papers, assignments) shall be made available for evaluation and validation upon request;
  - e. Evaluation of the student's work shall be conducted by the appropriate academic authorities in accordance with the high school's established academic policies;
  - f. The course shall include a defined time period for completion and comparable to the same credit taught within the traditional school day;
  - g. 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;
  - h. The course must be substantially comparable, qualitatively and quantitatively (e.g., content, textbook, assessments, duration), to the course in the mainstream or regular curriculum;
  - i. The course provider must have the work to be 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; and
  - j. The course credit must be recorded on the student transcript before the day before the defined Sec. 2 period for which reinstatement is desired (subsequent trimester, semester or school year dependent upon school defined curriculum).
- (5) The determination for reinstatement of eligibility and first available date of practice available under Sec. 1(b) of this bylaw shall be based on the originally published calendar submitted to the Kentucky Department of Education.
- (6) **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 comply with all other bylaws.
- (7) **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.
- (8) **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.
- (9) **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.
- b) **Reinstatement of Students Failing to Meet Normal Progress Requirements on the First Day of School**
- (1) **Reinstatement of Students Failing to Meet Normal Progress Requirements and being ineligible for one school year:**
- a. The eligibility of a student failing to meet the provisions of Sec. 1(a) of this bylaw may be reinstated in schools operating on a year-long credit recording system. 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.
  - b. Such verification will be made by reviewing solely credits officially posted on the transcript.
  - c. 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.
  - d. Any full-term online/distance credit used in this calculation shall meet the criteria of Sec. 1(a)(4) of this bylaw.
  - e. Eligibility to 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) of this bylaw.
  - f. 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 or becomes compliant with Sec. 1(a) of this bylaw.
- (2) **Reinstatement of Students Failing to Meet Normal Progress Requirements and being ineligible for one semester:**
- a. The eligibility of a student failing to meet the provisions of Sec. 1(a) of this bylaw may be reinstated 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.
  - b. Such verification will be made by reviewing solely credits officially posted on the transcript.
  - c. 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 the purpose of this reinstatement.
  - d. Any full-term online/distance credit used in this calculation shall meet the criteria of Sec. 1(a)(4) of this bylaw.
  - e. Eligibility to compete in scrimmages or contests shall be effective with the first day of the subsequent 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) of this bylaw.
  - f. 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) of this bylaw.
- (3) **Reinstatement of Students Failing to Meet Normal Progress Requirements and being ineligible for one trimester:**
- a. The eligibility of a student failing to meet the provisions of Sec. 1(a) may be reinstated 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.
  - b. Such verification will be made by reviewing solely credits officially posted on the transcript.
  - c. 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 the purpose of this reinstatement.

d. Any full-term online/distance credit used in this calculation shall meet the criteria of Sec. 1(a)(4) of this bylaw.

e. Eligibility to compete in scrimmages or contests shall be effective with the first day of the subsequent 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) of this bylaw.

f. 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) of this bylaw.

#### Sec. 2) CONTINUAL PROGRESS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

a) Every week, a student shall be making continual progress during the school year 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.

b) 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.

c) 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 the purpose of this reinstatement. Any online/distance credit used in this calculation shall meet the criteria of Sec. 1(a)(4) of this bylaw.

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

a. 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).

b. 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.

c. 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 the purpose of this reinstatement. Any online/distance credit used in this calculation shall meet the criteria of Sec. 1(a)(4) of this bylaw.

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

A pre-secondary school student (grades 7-8) 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 to be eligible.

#### Sec. 3) ELIGIBILITY IN DISTRICTS OF INNOVATION

a) 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 Sections (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.

b) Such plan shall consider solely the documented record of the student's academic progress and may not include speculative factors for future periods.

#### Sec. 4) SPECIAL RECITATIONS/ADJUSTMENTS

Special tests or recitations shall not be given to make the student eligible.

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### **BYLAW 6. TRANSFER RULE- CITIZENS OF THE U.S. AND D.C. AND OTHER STUDENTS PREVIOUSLY ENROLLED IN MEMBER SCHOOLS**

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#### Sec. 1) DOMESTIC STUDENT TRANSFER

a) 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 the varsity (first team) level in that sport for a period of one year from the date of last participation.

b) 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 following enrollment in grade nine (9) who has been previously granted eligibility under the provisions of Bylaw 7 or Bylaw 8 and who then transfers schools shall be ineligible for interscholastic athletics at the varsity (first team) level in that sport for a period of one year from the date of last participation.

c) 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 Sec. 2 has been met.

#### Sec. 2) DISCRETIONARY EXCEPTIONS FOR WAIVER (Evidence supporting the desired exception shall be presented with the original request to the Association by the member school)

a) 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.

(1) To meet this exception for a reassignment, reasons for the assignment may include the closing or opening of a school due to consolidation, merger, the opening of a new school, or another type of opening or closing or assignment through KRS 158.6455, KRS 160.040 or other applicable adopted regulation.

(2) 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.

(3) 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 the implementation of the redistricting plan and does not apply before or after that date due to optional choices offered by the district.

(4) Determinations of whether a student shall be granted a waiver under this exception shall be based on the circumstances existing as of the date of enrollment at the new school.

(5) Reassignment may include assignment due to the application of the provisions of 701 KAR 8:010 to a public charter school as defined in KRS 160.1590.

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.

(1) Determinations of whether a student shall be granted a waiver under 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.
- (1) 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 the 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.
- (1) 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.
  - (2) 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.
  - (3) To be considered bona fide, the change in residence must reasonably precipitate the change in schools in that a student cannot delay transferring schools after a change in residence for an unreasonable period of time. The change in residence must clearly have a compelling impact on the need to change schools for the exception to be granted.
  - (4) A student who becomes emancipated does not have a bona fide change of residence by his or her emancipation and change of residence for purposes of satisfying this exception.
  - (5) Determinations of whether a student shall be granted a waiver under 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.
- (1) 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.
  - (2) Determinations of whether a student shall be granted a waiver under 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.
- (1) 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.
  - (2) Determinations of whether a student shall be granted a waiver under 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.
- (1) 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.
  - (2) 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.
  - (3) 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.
  - (4) Determinations of whether a student shall be granted a waiver under 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.
- (1) Determinations of whether a student shall be granted a waiver under 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.
- (1) 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.
  - (2) 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.
  - (3) A boarding school must be recognized as a boarding school in its literature and must be verified by the Kentucky Department of Education or the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.
  - (4) 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.
  - (5) 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.
  - (6) 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.
  - (7) 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 for this exception to apply.

- (8) Determinations of whether a student shall be granted a waiver under 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).
- k) ANTI-BULLYING EXCEPTION- The period of ineligibility may be waived for a student when it is documented, at the time of the original transfer eligibility submission, that a student is a victim of bullying as defined in KRS 158.148 and in which bullying has been documented to the school district in accordance with the statute and local board of education-related regulations, and as a result of this documented harassment, intimidation or bullying, the student is compelled to transfer, provided:
- 1) The school district's and member school's anti-bullying policies and procedures have been substantially followed and complied with and a copy of which policies have been provided to the KHSAA along with the request for eligibility; and
  - 2) The school district or member school secures the appropriate releases from the student/student's parents authorizing the member school to provide a complete record of the events and circumstances on which the policies and procedures were initiated, and the member school provides such records at the time of the transfer ruling request submission including:
    - a) A specific, detailed report of the prohibited incident(s);
    - b) An outline of the procedures used to respond to and investigate the reported incident(s);
    - c) A copy of the findings that were a result of the complaint process and investigation;
    - d) A specific, detailed disciplinary procedure for any individual found guilty of harassment, intimidation or bullying;
    - e) All reports of notification to parents or guardians of any student involvement in the incident(s); and
    - f) A report of the intervention strategies and remedial action the school has undertaken to assist the student and redress the complaint.
  - 3) In concurrence with KRS 158.148, this exception shall not be used for any isolated incidents or alleged incidents of bullying, nor as a means to prohibit civil exchange of opinions or debate or cultural practices protected under the state or federal Constitution where the opinion expressed does not otherwise materially or substantially disrupt the education process, nor can this exception be used in cases where there has been no contemporaneous reporting of the alleged bullying harassment or intimidation.

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

A waiver of the period of ineligibility is not required for a student satisfying one of the exceptions in Sec. 2 if documentation exists in the record that the transfer is motivated in whole or part by a desire to participate in athletics at the new school. This documentation of actions occurring anytime after enrollment in grade nine (9) includes but is not limited to:

- a) A coach employed at the receiving school, paid or volunteer at any level, or another employed individual, paid or volunteer at any level, who is acting in a coaching role including instruction or training of any type and who, before the transfer of the student:
- (1) Coached the student at a former school;
  - (2) Provided sport-specific instruction (paid or unpaid) without the expressed consent of the prior enrolled school;
  - (3) Coached the student on a nonschool (i.e., AAU, American Legion, club settings, summer program, etc.) team;
  - (4) Provided general athletic or activities instruction, including weight training and supervised conditioning without expressed permission from the prior enrolled school; or
  - (5) Provided housing or assistance with housing.
- b) The student in question or family, before transferring to the new school:
- (1) Received impermissible contacts or improper benefits as defined in Bylaw 16;
  - (2) Sought to be coached by the coach(es) at the new school;
  - (3) Expresses dissatisfaction with the philosophy, policies, methods, or actions of a coach or administrator about interscholastic athletics;
  - (4) Sought additional playing time or opportunities or having shown dissatisfaction with the amount of participation or role of participation at former school;
  - (5) Resided with any athletic coach or any other non-relative who is a member of the school athletic or administrative staff or team member (including parents and boosters); or
  - (6) Has had all or part of the housing or residence logistics influenced, coordinated or manipulated by a member of the school athletic or administrative staff or team member (including parents and boosters);
- c) The change in schools is to nullify or circumvent:
- (1) Documented obligations (including financial obligations) to the sending school;
  - (2) Implementation of Board of Education, School-Based Decision Making or ~~school-imposed~~ school-imposed policy which would have resulted in the student's ineligibility at the sending school by KHSAA Bylaws or Competition Rules; or
  - (3) A conflict with the philosophy or action of an administrator, teacher, or coach relating to sports.

~~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 to gain 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 by 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 but not limited to:~~
- ~~(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);~~
  - ~~(2) If a student receives instruction (paid or unpaid) from a coach associated in that same sport at a high school without the expressed consent of the enrolled school, and the student then transfers to the member school where the coach is employed (paid or volunteer at any level);~~
  - ~~(3) 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~~

~~(4) If the student resides with any athletic coach or any other member of the school staff or team member (including parents and boosters);~~

~~e) If the change is to nullify or circumvent documented obligations (including financial) obligations to the sending school and the student shall remain ineligible until the earliest of the conclusion of one year from last varsity participation or documentation that the obligations have been satisfied.~~

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.

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## BYLAW 7. TRANSFER RULE- STUDENTS HAVING J-1/F-1 STATUS

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Sec. 1) FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS (NONDOMESTIC)

- a) Any student with J-1 or F-1 status (VISA) who initially enrolls into a KHSAA member school and desires participation in sports within the first year of enrollment at a KHSAA member school shall be considered ineligible the varsity (first team) level for the first calendar year following enrollment.
- b) Any student with J-1 or F-1 status (VISA) who initially enrolls into a KHSAA member school and who has been ineligible for an entire calendar year after being enrolled in a high school in Kentucky shall become eligible to represent that school immediately following the conclusion of the one-year period, and remain eligible through graduation while enrolled in that school if compliant with applicable federal student-exchange regulations for the specific VISA and all other KHSAA Bylaws.
- c) Any student with J-1 or F-1 status (VISA) who has not been enrolled for an entire calendar year in a high school in Kentucky and subsequently changes schools shall have transfer eligibility status considered under the provisions of this bylaw.
- d) Any student with J-1 or F-1 status (VISA) who has been enrolled for an entire calendar year in a high school in Kentucky and subsequently changes schools shall have transfer eligibility status considered under the provisions of Bylaw 6.

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 if 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 if 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- To be considered for a waiver, the following conditions shall exist:
  - (1) The student shall comply 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 have a complete transcript of records that has been translated into English before the request for eligibility;
  - (5) The student shall have 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 J-1 visa, a "direct placement" is one in which either the student or the sending organization in the foreign country is a 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 placement must remain uninterrupted for the entire period during which the student would have been ineligible if the waiver was not granted;
  - (8) 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;
  - (9) All travel fees shall be paid by the student's family;
  - (10) The student's host family from the initial date of entry into the United States through the end of the 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;
  - (11) 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; and
  - (12) 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.

- c) The facts supporting a waiver under 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 if 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 before 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- 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. 3(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 have a complete transcript of records that has been translated into English before the request for eligibility;
  - (5) The student shall have 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 11 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 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 placement must remain uninterrupted for the entire period during which the student would have been ineligible if the waiver was not granted;
  - (10) 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;
  - (11) All travel fees shall be paid by the student's family;
  - (12) No members of the coaching or athletic staff (paid or unpaid) at the KHSAA member school or school system at which participation is desired has had no role in the entry into school including acting as SEVIS local contract or registrar;
  - (13) The student's host family from the initial date of entry into the United States through the end of the 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
  - (14) 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.
- c) The facts supporting a waiver under 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 an 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 Sec. 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

A waiver of the period of ineligibility is not required for a student satisfying one of the exceptions in Sec. 2 if documentation exists in the record that the transfer is motivated in whole or part by a desire to participate in athletics at the new school. This documentation of actions occurring anytime after enrollment in grade nine (9) includes but is not limited to:

a) A coach employed at the receiving school, paid or volunteer at any level, or another employed individual, paid or volunteer at any level, who is acting in a coaching role including instruction or training of any type and who, before the transfer of the student:

- (1) Coached the student at a former school;
- (2) Provided sport-specific instruction (paid or unpaid) without the expressed consent of the prior enrolled school;
- (3) Coached the student on a nonschool (i.e., AAU, American Legion, club settings, summer program, etc.) team;
- (4) Provided general athletic or activities instruction, including weight training and supervised conditioning without expressed permission from the prior enrolled school; or
- (5) Provided housing or assistance with housing.

b) The student in question or family, before transferring to the new school:

- (1) Received impermissible contacts or improper benefits as defined in Bylaw 16;
- (2) Sought to be coached by the coach(es) at the new school;
- (3) Expresses dissatisfaction with the philosophy, policies, methods, or actions of a coach or administrator about interscholastic athletics;
- (4) Sought additional playing time or opportunities or having shown dissatisfaction with the amount of participation or role of participation at former school;
- (5) Resided with any athletic coach or any other non-relative who is a member of the school athletic or administrative staff or team member (including parents and boosters); or
- (6) Has had all or part of the housing or residence logistics influenced, coordinated or manipulated by a member of the school athletic or administrative staff or team member (including parents and boosters);

c) The change in schools is to nullify or circumvent:

- (1) Documented obligations (including financial obligations) to the sending school;
- (2) 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 by KHSAA Bylaws or Competition Rules; or

(3) A conflict with the philosophy or action of an administrator, teacher, or coach relating to sports.

Satisfying 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) If the satisfying of one of the exceptions is used or manipulated to gain 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 by 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 but not limited to:
  - (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);
  - (2) If a student receives instruction (paid or unpaid) from a coach associated in that same sport at a high school without the expressed consent of the enrolled school, and the student then transfers to the member school where the coach is employed (paid or volunteer at any level);
  - (3) 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
  - (4) If the student resides with any athletic coach or any other member of the school staff or team member (including parents and boosters).

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

This Bylaw covers only foreign exchange students entering the United States having J-1 or F-1 status. Regulations relating to all other foreign students are contained in Bylaw 8.

### **BYLAW 8. TRANSFER RULE- NON-U.S. STUDENTS NOT HAVING J-1/F-1 STATUS**

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

- a) Any student who is not from the United States or the District of Columbia and does not have J-1 or F-1 status (VISA) and who initially enrolls into a KHSAA member school and desires to participate in sports at the varsity level Kentucky shall be considered ineligible at the varsity (first team) level for the first calendar year following enrollment.
- b) Any student who is not from the United States or the District of Columbia and does not have J-1 or F-1 status (VISA) and who has been ineligible for an entire calendar year after being enrolled in a high school in Kentucky shall become eligible to represent that school immediately following the conclusion of the one-year period, and remain eligible through graduation while enrolled in that school if compliant with all other KHSAA Bylaws.
- c) Any student who is not from the United States or the District of Columbia and does not have J-1 or F-1 status (VISA) who has not been enrolled for an entire calendar year in a high school in Kentucky and subsequently changes schools shall have transfer eligibility status considered under the provisions of this bylaw.
- d) Any student who is not from the United States or the District of Columbia and does not have J-1 or F-1 status (VISA) who has been enrolled for an entire calendar year in a high school in Kentucky and subsequently changes schools shall have transfer eligibility status considered under the provisions of Bylaw 6.

#### 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 before the enrollment of the student. The facts supporting a waiver under 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 the policies of the United States Department of State before the enrollment of the student. The facts supporting a waiver under 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

A waiver of the period of ineligibility is not required for a student satisfying one of the exceptions in Sec. 2 if documentation exists in the record that the transfer is motivated in whole or part by a desire to participate in athletics at the new school. This documentation of actions occurring anytime after enrollment in grade nine (9) includes but is not limited to:

- a) A coach employed at the receiving school, paid or volunteer at any level, or another employed individual, paid or volunteer at any level, who is acting in a coaching role including instruction or training of any type and who, before the transfer of the student:
  - (1) Coached the student at a former school;
  - (2) Provided sport-specific instruction (paid or unpaid) without the expressed consent of the prior enrolled school;
  - (3) Coached the student on a nonschool (i.e., AAU, American Legion, club settings, summer program, etc.) team;
  - (4) Provided general athletic or activities instruction, including weight training and supervised conditioning without expressed permission from the prior enrolled school; or
  - (5) Provided housing or assistance with housing.
- b) The student in question or family, before transferring to the new school:
  - (1) Received impermissible contacts or improper benefits as defined in Bylaw 16;
  - (2) Sought to be coached by the coach(es) at the new school;
  - (3) Expresses dissatisfaction with the philosophy, policies, methods, or actions of a coach or administrator about interscholastic athletics;
  - (4) Sought additional playing time or opportunities or having shown dissatisfaction with the amount of participation or role of participation at former school;
  - (5) Resided with any athletic coach or any other non-relative who is a member of the school athletic or administrative staff or team member (including parents and boosters); or
  - (6) Has had all or part of the housing or residence logistics influenced, coordinated or manipulated by a member of the school athletic or administrative

staff or team member (including parents and boosters);

c) The change in schools is to nullify or circumvent:

(1) Documented obligations (including financial obligations) to the sending school;

(2) 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 by KHSAA Bylaws or Competition Rules; or

(3) A conflict with the philosophy or action of an administrator, teacher, or coach relating to sports.

Satisfying 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) If the satisfying of one of the exceptions is used or manipulated to gain 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 by 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 but not limited to:

(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);

(2) If a student receives instruction (paid or unpaid) from a coach associated in that same sport at a high school without the expressed consent of the enrolled school, and the student then transfers to the member school where the coach is employed (paid or volunteer at any level);

(3) 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

(4) If the student resides with any athletic coach or any other member of the school staff or team member (including parents and boosters).

## **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 Before the First Day of Practice

(1) From the first day of school through the day before the first legal day of practice, no student, who after enrolling in grade nine (9) has subsequently been a contestant in basketball at that school at any level (grades 9-12) and has eligibility remaining in basketball, may not 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 except competition that meets the camp restrictions as detailed below in subsection (2);

d. sports-specific instruction by a member of a member school coaching staff or another individual with a direct connection to a member school without the documented authorization of the student's enrolled school principal or designated representative, or

e. any other event not sanctioned by the Board of Control.

(2) Permissible competition by males during this period shall include:

a. 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 evaluation are the employed coaches of that institution; and

b. attendance at a one-day exposure event during the period beginning with the first date of the NCAA men's recruiting period (contact and evaluation periods) and through October 14 and only for events solely funded by the student and his family that cannot extend over multiple days.

(3) Permissible competition by females during this period shall include:

a. permitted evaluations held at nonscholastic women's basketball events during contact periods designated for permissible evaluation by NCAA coaches.

b. attendance at a one-day exposure event during the period beginning with the first date of the NCAA women's recruiting period (contact and evaluation periods) and through October 14 and only for events solely funded by the student and her family that cannot extend over multiple days.

b) Restrictions from First Day of School through the Last Scheduled Contest

(1) From the first day of school through the last scheduled contest played in basketball (including KHSAA-sanctioned postseason contests) by the school, no student who, after enrolling in grade nine (9) has been a contestant in basketball at that school 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 has 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 except the published restrictions in Bylaw 23.

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

a) Restrictions from First Day of Practice through Last Scheduled Contest

(1) From the first day of practice with the school through the last scheduled contest played in football (including KHSAA-sanctioned postseason contests) by the school, no student who, after enrolling in grade nine (9) has subsequently been a contestant in football at that school, 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 has 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 except the

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

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### **Sec. 1) AMATEURISM AND STATUS**

- a) 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.
- b) An amateur athlete is one who engages in athletic competition solely for the physical, mental, social, and pleasure benefits derived from said participation and not material gain.
- c) An athlete forfeits amateur status and athletic eligibility in a sport by:
  - (1) Competing for money (cash) or other monetary compensation (allowable travel, meals and lodging expenses may be accepted) including any cash or cash equivalent item (i.e., an item that is negotiable for cash or other services, benefits or merchandise) for athletic participation;
  - (2) Receiving any award or prize of monetary value not approved within the permissible awards;
  - (3) Accepting gift certificates and merchandise items that cannot be properly personalized;
  - (4) Capitalizing on athletic fame by receiving money or other gifts of monetary value not specifically approved by Sec. 2 or 4 of this rule (scholarships to institutions of higher learning are specifically exempted if paid directly to the institution);
  - (5) Capitalizing on athletic fame by the use of a specific athlete(s) likeness to promote a specific business or organizational entity including expressly or implicitly endorsing commercial products or services;
  - (6) Failing to return player equipment or uniforms issued by a school team when the season for that sport concluded, or when the student's continued participation on such team concluded;
  - (7) Signing a professional playing contract in that sport; or
  - (8) Accepting more than 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. 2) AWARDS AND LIMITATIONS**

- a) This bylaw governs all awards received by a student-athlete while enrolled in a member school or awards received before enrollment.
- b) 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.
- c) The following are permissible awards:
  - (1) 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 participating in the event or sport, subject to the limitations herein;
  - (2) 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 herein;
  - (3) Awards presented by a member school conference, or approved agency shall be uniform for all team members receiving the award;
  - (4) Any award received for competition while representing the member high school during the season as defined by Bylaw 23 that does not exceed a value of \$300;
  - (5) Any award presented by the member school or by the Association for participation in KHSAA sponsored postseason events;
  - (6) Any award received by a student-athlete participating in an event while not representing the school at any time that conforms 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; and
  - (7) A scholarship award to attend an institution of higher education after high school paid directly to the school.
- d) The following are impermissible awards:
  - (1) Cash, gift certificates and merchandise items that cannot be properly personalized;
  - (2) Any award or prize of monetary value not approved within the permissible awards and
  - (3) An improper benefit as detailed in Bylaw 16, Sec. 1(b)..

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## **BYLAW 11. FINANCIAL AID**

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### **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 before 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 Sec. 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) Is more than sixty (60) days deficient in the payment of tuition, necessary fees, costs and other charges for attending a member school without corresponding documentation and revised needs analysis form;
- 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.

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

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#### 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 a concussion or head injury.

#### Sec. 2) REQUIREMENT FOR INSURANCE

- a) A student, before 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.

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

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#### 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 after 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

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

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### **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) A student ineligible by any of Bylaws 2 through 14 may not participate in varsity competition in the defined sports at the varsity level.
- b) A student ineligible under the provisions of Bylaw 4, Sections 1(a), 1(b) or 2; or Bylaws 12, 13, or 14; and those students failing to meet the requirements of the Competition rules related to safety regulations as defined may not practice with the high school team at any level or participate in non-varsity competition.
- c) 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 if applicable through these and other regulations.

### **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.

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

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### **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 the 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.

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

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### **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 to participate 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 to participate 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, to recruit a student-athlete shall be in noncompliance.

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

- a) Any representative of a member school knowingly allowing the recruitment of a student to participate 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.

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

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### **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) Before 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 a 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.

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## **BYLAW 18. SUPPLYING INFORMATION AND REPORTS**

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### **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.

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## **BYLAW 19. COMPARABLE OPPORTUNITIES**

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### **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 activity that is similar to sports for which NCAA members offer scholarships is 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.

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## **BYLAW 20. OFFICIALS DIVISION OF THE ASSOCIATION**

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### **Sec. 1) OFFICIALS WHO LICENSE:**

Any person who officiates in baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, soccer, softball (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.

### **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 by policies adopted by the Board of Control.

**Sec. 4) RULES CLINICS**

Each official licensed with the KHSAA shall annually attend/complete 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 and Board of Control Policies.

**Sec. 6) ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICIATING ASSIGNMENTS**

a) An official shall accept assignments for contests in grades 9-12 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 related to assignments.

**Sec. 8) LOCAL POLICY BOARDS/COMMITTEES**

The Commissioner may establish as many bureaus as deemed necessary in each sport 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.

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## **BYLAW 21. PROTESTS**

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

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

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**Sec. 1) CONTESTS AGAINST IN-STATE OPPONENTS**

a) KHSAA member schools may only compete in contests in KHSAA-sanctioned sports against:

(1) Schools located in Kentucky that are current members of the KHSAA; and

(2) Students of a non-member at-home private school, or team of students from non-member at-home private schools provided the non-member at-home private schools, and students comply with the following:

a. A non-member at-home private school's team and students shall comply with the eligibility rules for student-athletes, including Bylaws 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10 and 12;

b. A coach of a non-member at-home private school team shall comply with all of the provisions of Bylaw 25;

c. This provision shall not allow a non-member at-home private school's team to participate in a sanctioned district, region, section, semi-state or state tournament as sanctioned by the KHSAA; and

d. This provision does not allow eligibility for a recognition, award, or championship sponsored by the KHSAA.

b) Any KHSAA member school that engages in an athletic contest in a KHSAA-sanctioned sport with a school, not in compliance with Sec. 1(a) above shall be subject to all penalties contained in Bylaw 27.

c) Any student not eligible to represent a KHSAA member school at the varsity level shall not participate in any varsity event managed by a KHSAA member school.

d) 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) CONTESTS WITH SCHOOLS FROM OTHER STATES, CANADA, AND MEXICO**

a) Any student not eligible to represent a KHSAA member school at the varsity level shall not participate in any varsity event managed by a school in another 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 (including Canada and Mexico) 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.

d) The KHSAA member school is responsible for ensuring the legality of the opponents and that the procedures of the NFHS sanctioning policy are followed.

**Sec. 3) FOREIGN TEAMS**

a) KHSAA member schools may compete in contests against schools from foreign countries other than Canada and Mexico provided such contest are properly sanctioned through the National Federation of State High School Associations' sanctioning policy if such sanction is required.

b) KHSAA member schools may not compete in contests against non-school teams from foreign countries or those listed as a club team on any international registry.

c) The KHSAA member school is responsible for ensuring the legality of the opponents and that the procedures of the NFHS sanctioning policy are followed.

**Sec. 4) 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 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) Schools in districts that vote to seed regular season play shall by that action, be entering into a contract, even if a written contract is not executed. Schools agreeing to participate in football postseason playoffs shall, by that action, be entering into a contract, even if a written contract is not executed. The Board of Control shall determine the default forfeit fee for any school failing to play a seeded district game (for any reason) or failing to play a district football game for a team that has previously opted to participate in postseason playoffs.
- h) If a written contract using the official contract form is canceled because of suspension of the school, the Board of Control shall determine the financial liability involving the suspended school.

#### Sec. 5) 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. 6) WAIVING OF RULES

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

#### Sec. 7) FAILURE TO PLAY A SCHEDULED CONTEST

- a) If a school fails to carry out its contract to play a regularly scheduled contest, the contest shall be forfeited to the offended school.
- b) If a school uses a participant in any contest and that student is ineligible, the contest shall be forfeited.

#### Sec. 8) 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.

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### **BYLAW 23. LIMITATION OF SEASONS**

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#### 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 an automatic suspension.
- f) Organized Play and Involvement of Members of the Coaching Staff Out of Season During the School Year
  - (1) Coaches (paid or unpaid) shall not coach (give instruction in any manner or evaluate) members of that school's team during competition on the campus of a member school if the activity involves at least fifty (50) percent of the normal playing squad being from any member school (e.g., 6 or more in football or soccer, 3 or more in basketball, 5 or more in baseball or softball); and
  - (2) Member school facilities shall not be utilized for organized competition against another organized group that involves students enrolled at a member school;
  - (3) Sport-specific coaching (observation, instruction, and evaluation) of any player from a team at that school is permitted provided that player is enrolled in that school or a defined feeder pattern school under the same local board of education as the coach is employed and provided that play is not in conflict with other KHSAA bylaws; and
  - (4) With the permission of school administration, coaching (observation, instruction, and evaluation) of students from the school team is permitted at facilities not located on the campus of a member school.
  - (5) Member school facilities may be utilized during the school year outside of the defined limitation of seasons for semi-organized play both in and not in the presence of that school's coaches, provided:
    - a. No activity may be mandatory for team members;
    - b. No penalty may exist for team members failing to participate;
    - c. No activity may be restricted solely to team members;
    - d. No activity may involve students involving students who are not currently enrolled in the school and are not currently enrolled in a school within

the defined feeder pattern under the same local board of education without the expressed written consent of the Principal or Designated Representative of that student's enrolled school, and

e. No activity may simulate competition with the presence of officials, scoreboard/clock usage or other game like conditions.

g) The Board of Control may adjust the start and end dates of a specific season by majority vote if an agreed facility location for a specific state event is unavailable or conducting the event during that specific time frame is not deemed in the best interest of the member schools.

**Sec. 2) SPORTS SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- BASEBALL- BOYS**

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

b) There shall be no more than two (2) scrimmages or practice games before the Monday following the last state basketball tournament.

c) The first game shall not take place before the Monday nine weeks before the week of the district tournament.

d) The season shall consist of a maximum of thirty-six (36) games to be played before 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 the 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 before October 15.

b) Before 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 before the Monday twelve weeks before the week of the district tournament.

d) The season shall consist of a maximum of thirty (30) games to be played before 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 the 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 before July 15.

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

c) The first meet of the season shall not take place before the Monday nine weeks before the week of the region meet.

d) The season shall consist of a maximum of thirteen (13) meets to be held before 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 before 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 the 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 before July 15.

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

c) The first match shall not take place before the Monday nine weeks before the week of the region tournament.

d) The season shall consist of a maximum of twenty-four (24) games to be played before 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 the 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:

a. "Level 0" or "air" means that players run a drill unopposed and without contact;

b. "Level 1" or "bags" means that a drill is run against a bag or another soft contact surface;

c. "Level 2" or "control" means that a drill is run at the assigned speed until the moment of contact; one (1) player is predetermined the winner by the coach; contact remains above the waist, and players stay on their feet;

d. "Level 3" or "thud" means that a drill is run at the assigned speed through the moment of contact; there is not a predetermined winner; contact remains above the waist; players stay on their feet, and a quick whistle ends the drill; and

e. "Level 4" or "live action" means that a 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:

a. "Contact" means that drills are run at Level 3, thud, or Level 4, live action; and

b. "Non-contact" means that drills are run at Level 0, air; Level 1, bags; or Level 2, control.

(3) Football contact and non-contact practice shall use the appropriate clothing and equipment (including current certification/recertification of equipment as stipulated by the manufacturer) for the level of drill, including:

a. A drill conducted in helmets-only shall be a Level 0, air, or Level 1, bags;

b. A drill conducted in shells (shorts, shoulder pads, and helmets) shall be a non-contact drill; and

c. A contact drill shall be conducted in full equipment.

(4) 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 with other schools where no more than seven players are participating simultaneously as detailed between July 10 and July 31.

(5) 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.

- (6) From the end of the season through the day before the first day of spring practice; and from the last day after spring practice through May 31:
  - a. Schools shall not issue football equipment included in NFHS Rule 1-5 except an all-star game or individual camp as detailed;
  - b. Schools shall not organize or participate in any football activities that allow players to be in football gear included in NFHS Rule 1-5 even if contact does not occur;
  - c. No session shall be held where attendance is taken;
  - d. No session shall be held where attendance is implicitly or explicitly required;
  - e. No session shall be held where other schools or organized teams are present and involved in any activity;
  - f. The KHSAA catastrophic insurance provided by the Association is not in effect during this period; and
  - g. Heat index monitoring guidelines shall be complied with during any activity.
- (7) From June 1 through June 24:
  - a. Schools shall not issue football equipment included in NFHS Rule 1-5, except an all-star game or individual camp as detailed;
  - b. Schools shall not organize or participate in any football activities that allow players to be in football gear included in NFHS Rule 1-5, even if contact does not occur;
  - c. No session shall be held where attendance is taken;
  - d. No session shall be held where attendance is implicitly or explicitly required;
  - e. No session shall be held where other schools or organized teams are present and involved in any activity;
  - f. The KHSAA catastrophic insurance provided by the Association is not in effect during this period;
  - g. Heat index monitoring guidelines shall be complied with during any activity; and
  - h. Activity during this period shall not include Level 2-“Control”, Level 3-“Thud”, or Level 4-“Live Action”;
- (8) Non-contact interscholastic simulations during the period beginning on the day immediately following the dead period (Bylaw 24), July 10 and continuing through July 31:
  - a. Schools may participate in non-contact interscholastic simulations with other schools where no more than seven players are participating simultaneously during this period, and such participation does not count against scrimmage limitations provided that the first practice in full gear has not been conducted;
  - b. The school issued helmet may be used during these activities, but no other equipment included in NFHS Rule 1-5 may be used;
  - c. Activity may be required of team participants including the monitoring of attendance;
  - d. The KHSAA catastrophic insurance is in effect for these simulations if other schools are involved;
  - e. Heat index monitoring guidelines shall be complied with during any activity; and
  - f. Activity through the end of the non-contact simulations shall not include Level 3-“Thud”, or Level 4-“Live Action”.
- (9) Preseason acclimation and acclimatization beginning July 10:
  - a. Heat index monitoring guidelines shall be complied with during any activity;
  - b. The KHSAA catastrophic insurance is in place for these drills and practice sessions;
  - c. Beginning July 10, the first legal organized practice wearing a helmet may be conducted;
  - d. The first five (5) days of organized practice shall be in helmets only;
  - e. During the first five (5) days in helmets only, the total practice time in helmets shall not exceed three (3) hours; and
  - f. During the first five (5) days in helmets only, only Level 0-“Air” and Level 1-“Bags” drills shall be conducted;
    - i. Water breaks, rest breaks, and injury treatment shall not count against the 3-hour limit; and
    - ii. 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;
  - g. Following the first five days, on days when the maximum of two practices of any type is held, a total limit of 5 hours per day of practice, not including the mandatory break shall be allowed;
    - i. Water breaks, rest breaks, and injury treatment shall not count against the 5-hour limit; and
    - ii. 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;
- (10) Beginning July 22 through July 31:
  - a. Practice may be conducted in shells (shorts, helmets, shoulder pads) for each player who has had at least five days in helmets only;
  - b. Only Level 0-“Air”, Level 1-“Bags” and Level 2-“Control” drills shall be conducted before the final non-contact interscholastic simulation;
  - c. Following the final non-contact interscholastic simulation, only Level 0-“Air”, Level 1-“Bags”, Level 2-“Control” and Level 3-“Thud” drills shall be conducted;
  - d. No person may participate who is not on the school roster at that time;
  - e. No single practice session shall be longer than three (3) hours;
  - f. Multiple contact practices shall not be held on any day where Level 3-“Thud” drills are conducted;
  - g. On days when the maximum of two practices of any type is held, a total limit of 5 hours per day of practice, not including the mandatory break shall be allowed;
    - i. Water breaks, rest breaks, and injury treatment shall not count against the 5-hour limit; and
    - ii. Weight training, conditioning, required meetings, required sport and skill specific film study, and teaching period/walk through simulations without equipment shall count against the 5-hour limit;
  - h. On days when only one practice of any type is held, a total limit of 3 hours per day of practice shall be allowed;
    - i. Water breaks, rest breaks, and injury treatment shall not count against the 3-hour limit; and
    - ii. Weight training, conditioning, required meetings, required sport and skill specific film study, and teaching period/walk through simulations without equipment shall count against the 3-hour limit;
  - i. A 3-hour break is required after a contact practice where Level 3-“Thud” drills are conducted during which no activity shall be held, and the athletes are located where cooling and recovery is possible;
    - i. 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; and
  - ii. Weight training, conditioning, meetings, film study, and teaching period/walk through simulations without equipment shall not be conducted during the three-hour required break; and
  - j. The KHSAA catastrophic insurance is in place for these drills and practice sessions.
- (11) 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).
- a. 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;
  - b. No person may participate who is not on the school roster at that time except for the allowable scrimmage(s);
  - c. No single practice session shall be longer than three (3) hours;
  - d. Multiple contact practices shall not be held on any day where Level 3-“Thud” or Level 4-“Live Action” drills are conducted;
  - e. On days when two practices of any type is held, a total limit of 5 hours per day of practice, not including the mandatory break shall be allowed;
    - i. Water breaks, rest breaks, and injury treatment shall not count against the 5-hour limit.
    - ii. Weight training, conditioning, required meetings, required sport and skill specific film study, and teaching period/walk through simulations without equipment shall count against the 5-hour limit;
  - f. On days when only one practice of any type is held, a total limit of 3 hours per day of practice shall be allowed.
    - i. Water breaks, rest breaks, and injury treatment shall not count against the 3-hour limit.
    - ii. 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
  - g. 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.
    - i. 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;
    - ii. Weight training, conditioning, meetings, film study, and teaching period/walk through simulations without equipment shall not be conducted during the three-hour required break;
  - h. The KHSAA catastrophic insurance is in place for these drills and practice sessions;
- (12) Beginning 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;
- (13) After the opening day of the school year:
- a. A school shall not conduct multiple on-field practice sessions of any type on the same day; and
  - b. No single practice session shall be longer than three (3) hours;
- (14) 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.
- (15) Following the season and until organized practice begins for the next season (other than the Dead Period as defined in Bylaw 24, no football gear 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:
- a. 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 all-star game between the last day of the previous season and before the Dead Period as defined in Bylaw 24 provided no more than four players from any school participate in the same sessions at that game/camp. Any all-star game for which gear is issued under this exception shall be required to be considered an all-star game by the NCAA;
  - b. 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 between the last day of the previous season and before the Dead Period as defined in Bylaw 24, provided no more than four players from any school participate in the same sessions at that camp;
  - c. Any gear issued to a player in accordance with (a) or (b) above 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 in (a) or (b) above. This includes camps sponsored by outside entities if a member school’s coaches are present or any equipment is issued to participants; and
  - d. 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
  - e. 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.
- b) After August 1 and before the opening varsity game of the season:
- (1) 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.
  - (2) Scrimmage or practice games with players other than members of the squad that are held in NFHS corresponding week 6 or NFHS corresponding week 7 may involve full gear for those students who have completed the requisite acclimation and acclimatization practice periods as specified in Section 6(a) above.
  - (3) Scrimmages or practice games with players other than members of the squad that are held in NFHS corresponding week 5 may involve only the gear and students permitted by the acclimation and acclimatization practices periods as required.
- c) The first game shall not take place before the Friday eleven (11) weeks before 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 on the Saturday of the 11th playing week.
- (1) 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) 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.

g) 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;
    - a. Water breaks, rest breaks, and injury treatment shall not count against the 2-hour limit.
    - b. Weight training, conditioning, required meetings, required sport and skill specific film study, and teaching period/walk through simulations without equipment shall count against the 2-hour limit;
  - (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 before 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 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) After December 15, 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 (Level 0-"Air", Level 1-"Bags", Level 2-"Control");
    - b. Two days Contact (Level 3-"Thud", Level 4-"Live Action");
    - c. One day Non-Contact (Level 0-"Air", Level 1-"Bags", Level 2-"Control");
    - d. Two days Contact (Level 3-"Thud", Level 4-"Live Action");
    - e. One day Non-Contact (Level 0-"Air", Level 1-Bags, Level 2-"Control"); and
    - f. Two days Contact (Level 3-"Thud", Level 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) Intr Squad games may be held but shall be counted as one of the ten practice sessions;
  - (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; and
  - (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.
- h) 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 before July 15.
- b) There shall be no more than two (2) practice matches before the first regular season contest of that year.
- c) The first match shall not take place before the Friday before the Monday eight weeks before the week of the region tournament.
- d) The season shall consist of a maximum of twenty (20) rounds of golf against other school representatives (minimum nine holes) to be played before 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 before 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 the 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 before July 15.
- b) There shall be no more than two (2) scrimmages or practice games before the first regular season contest of that year.
- c) The first match shall not take place before the Monday eight weeks before the week of the district tournaments.
- d) The season shall consist of a maximum of twenty-one (21) games to be played before 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 the 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 before February 15.
- b) There shall be no more than two (2) scrimmages or practice games before the first regular season contest of that year.
- c) The first game shall not take place before the Monday nine weeks before the week of the district tournament.
- d) The season shall consist of a maximum of thirty-six (36) games to be played before 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 the 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
- Following the opening day of school, there shall be no organized practice before October 1.
  - There shall be no more than two (2) practice meets before the first regular season contest of that year.
  - The first meet shall not take place before the Monday twelve (12) weeks before the week of the region meets.
  - The season shall consist of a maximum of fifteen (15) meets to be held before the beginning of KHSAA state championship tournament competition (region).
  - The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the day before 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 the 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
- Following the opening day of school, there shall be no organized practice before February 15.
  - There shall be no more than two (2) practice matches before the first regular season contest of that year.
  - The first match shall not take place before the Monday ten weeks before the week of the region tournament.
  - The season shall consist of a maximum of twenty-two (22) matches to be held before 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.
  - The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the day before 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 the 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
- Following the opening day of school, there shall be no organized practice before December 1.
  - 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.
  - The first meet (indoor or outdoor) shall not take place before the Monday of NFHS Calendar Week 28.
  - The season shall consist of a maximum of nineteen (19) meets, to be held before 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.
  - The opportunity to participate in regular season outdoor contests season shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the day before 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 the elimination, there shall be no further practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.
- Sec. 13) SPORTS SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- VOLLEYBALL- GIRLS
- The first organized practice for the fall varsity (grades 9-12) season shall not take place before July 15.
  - There shall be no more than two (2) scrimmages or practice matches before the first regular season contest of that year.
  - The first match shall not take place before the Monday nine weeks before the week of the district tournament.
  - The season shall consist of a maximum of thirty-five (35) matches to be played before the beginning of KHSAA state championship tournament competition (district).
- Sec. 14) SPORTS SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- WRESTLING- BOYS
- Following the opening day of school, there shall be no organized practice before October 15.
  - There shall be no more than two (2) practice meets before the first regular season contest of that year.
  - The first match shall not take place before the Monday eleven weeks before the week of the region tournament.
  - The season shall consist of a maximum of seventeen (17) matches in each weight class to be held before 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.
  - The opportunity to participate in regular season contests shall end at all levels of play (grades 9-12) on the day before 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 the elimination, there shall be no further practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.
  - The KHSAA and the National Federation of State High School Associations shall establish official weight classes.
- Sec. 15) SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- OTHER SPORT-ACTIVITIES- ARCHERY
- The first organized practice shall not take place before October 1.
  - 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 the elimination, there shall be no further official practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.
  - During September, schools are permitted to designate a single two-week tryout period following which there shall be no further practice or competition outside of the defined season as detailed in subsections (a) and (b) above.
- Sec. 16) SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- OTHER SPORT-ACTIVITIES- BASS FISHING
- The first organized practice shall not take place before October 1.
  - 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 the elimination, there shall be no further official practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.
  - During September, schools are permitted to designate a single two-week tryout period following which there shall be no further practice or competition

outside of the defined season as detailed in subsections (a) and (b) above.

**Sec. 17) SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- OTHER SPORT-ACTIVITIES- BOWLING**

- a) The first organized practice shall not take place before 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 the elimination, there shall be no further official practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.
- c) During September, schools are permitted to designate a single two-week tryout period following which there shall be no further practice or competition outside of the defined season as detailed in subsections (a) and (b) above.

**Sec. 18) SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- OTHER SPORT-ACTIVITIES- COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING (INTERSCHOLASTIC SPIRIT)**

- a) The first organized practice shall not take place before July 15.
- b) The opportunity to enter competitive cheerleading contests ends at all levels (grades 9-12) for that academic year on March 1, with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA-sanctioned tournament play. Following the elimination, there shall be no further official practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.
- c) During April, schools are permitted to designate a single two-week tryout period following which there shall be no further practice or competition outside of the defined season as detailed in subsections (a) and (b) above.

**Sec. 19) SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS- OTHER SPORT-ACTIVITIES- DANCE**

- a) The first organized practice shall not take place before July 15.
- b) The opportunity to enter Dance contests ends at all levels (grades 9-12) for that academic year on March 15, with the exception that the varsity team may practice and play through its elimination from KHSAA-sanctioned tournament play. Following the elimination, there shall be no further official practice or play during the remainder of the academic school year.
- c) During April, schools are permitted to designate a single two-week tryout period following which there shall be no further practice or competition outside of the defined season as detailed in subsections (a) and (b) above.

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

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

- a) 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, dance, field hockey, football, golf, soccer, and volleyball.
- b) Only participants eligible during the spring semester may compete on the school teams.
- c) 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.
- d) Member school facilities may be utilized during the summer for sports that are not in season according to Bylaw 23 for semi-organized play both in and not in the presence of that school's coaches, provided:
  - (1) No activity may be mandatory for team members;
  - (2) No penalty may exist for team members failing to participate; and
  - (3) No activity may involve students who are not currently enrolled in the member school and are not currently enrolled in a school within the defined feeder pattern under the same local board of education without the expressed written consent of the Principal or Designated Representative of that student's enrolled school;

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

- a) 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 before 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.
- b) 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**

- a) From June 25 to July 9 (inclusive) each year:
  - (1) Students may not receive coaching or training from school personnel (either salaried or non-salaried) in any KHSAA-sanctioned sport or sport-activity;
  - (2) School facilities, uniforms, nicknames, transportation or equipment, may not be used in any KHSAA-sanctioned sport or sport-activity;
  - (3) School funds may not be expended in support of interscholastic athletics in any KHSAA-sanctioned sport; and
  - (3) 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 may be held.

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

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**Sec. 1) DEFINITIONS**

**a) Level 1 Coaches**

An individual seeking a coaching position (or performing duties commensurate with a coaching position) at the high school 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 before 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 the 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 (or performing duties commensurate with a coaching position) at the high school 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:
  - a. Have graduated from a public or accredited high school and hold a provisional or standard teaching certificate;
  - b. Have completed sixty-four semester hours of college credit from an accredited college or university as documented by an official transcript;
  - c. Be a graduate from a public or accredited high school and comply with the local district standards for serving as an approved substitute teacher as approved by the Education Professional Standards Board; or
  - d. 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 provision shall complete these requirements before coaching in the first interscholastic contest; and
- (5) Before assuming duties, Level 2 coaches shall complete the training required and 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 as locally required.

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~~ 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 or assigned duties commensurate with those of someone designated as a coach in any sport or sport-activity.

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.
- (3) 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.
- (4) If a coaching announcement is posted by the district, the determination of qualifications shall comply with that announcement.

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 by local Board of Education policy.

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

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

- (1) All coaches (head and assistant, paid or unpaid) at any level in all sanctioned sports and sport-activities shall provide documentation of successful completion and current certification 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 that is approved by the KHSAA based upon industry standards.
- (2) ~~All certification for C.P.R., First Aid and AED Training must be completed with the requirements contained in 702 KAR 7:065. The 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) The NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching Course is the approved coaching education program in Kentucky. For those coaches hired before 2008-2009, the American Sport Education program is the approved coaching education program in Kentucky.
- (2) The cost of attending/completing course shall be the responsibility of the individual coach(es).
- (3) 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.
- (4) Level 1 individuals assigned to coaching duties (head or assistant, paid or unpaid), 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 as detailed in subsection b(1) above prior assuming coaching duties at any practice or contest.
- (5) Level 2 individuals (Sec. 1, subsection b(4)) assigned to coaching duties (head or assistant, paid or unpaid) shall take and complete all requirements for the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching Course as detailed in subsection b(1) before assuming coaching duties at any practice or contest.
- (6) The penalty for noncompliance with this section and failure to hold current valid completion credentials shall be immediate suspension from coaching duties or another penalty under Bylaw 27.

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

- (1) Each coach (head and assistant, paid or unpaid) 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:

- a. The content of the course shall include the elements specified in KRS 160.445 including the risk of concussion and head injury;
- b. The course elements shall be taught by a Certified Athletic Trainer, Registered Nurse, Physician or Physician's Assistant licensed to practice in Kentucky; and
- c. 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 (head or assistant, paid or unpaid) of a sport or sport-activity at all interscholastic levels shall have completed the sports safety course and medical symposium update before assuming coaching duties at any practice or contest.

(6) The penalty for noncompliance with this section and failure to hold current valid completion credentials shall be immediate suspension from coaching duties or another penalty under Bylaw 27.

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

(1) All coaches (head and assistant, paid or unpaid) shall annually attend/complete 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 27.

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 by 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 before 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 a 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 a 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.

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

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#### 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.

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### **BYLAW 27. IMPOSITION OF PENALTIES**

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#### 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 another 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 instead 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, region 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 scrimmage participation, including suspension for receipt of improper benefits.

(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

As an extension to the fine penalty listed above, a school 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

A school may be directed to vacate or strike individual records and performances; team records and performances including place finishes, and individual or team awards be returned to the Association.

k) SHOW CAUSE ORDER

- (1) 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.
- (2) 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.
- (3) 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.
- (4) 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.

l) SCHOOL EXCLUSION

If a school has been found to have unduly influenced a student to enroll, or there is a documented finding of Bylaw 6, Sec. 3, Bylaw 7, Sec. 5, or Bylaw 8, Sec. 8 of Athletic Advantage, the student may be restricted from enrolling at a specific school due to the influence. In this matter, a student would have the option to enroll at another school provided influence could not be documented.

m) DISASSOCIATION

- (1) If an individual or entity not under the direct control of a member school is found to have contributed to or been causal to, a violation of KHSAA bylaws, the disassociation of relations in all phases of interscholastic athletics may be imposed on a permanent basis, for the duration of the applicable period or for another specified period of time.
- (2) When a member school is required to disassociate with an individual or entity, such disassociation shall require that the institution:
  - (a) Refrain from accepting any assistance from the individual that would aid in support of enrolled or non-enrolled student-athletes;
  - (b) Not accept financial assistance for the member school's athletics program from the individual;
  - (c) Ensure that no athletics benefit or privilege be provided to the individual that is not generally available to the public at large, and
  - (d) Take such other actions against the individual that the institution determines to be within its authority to eliminate the involvement of the individual in the member school's athletics program.