



# Kentucky High School Athletic Association

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February 17, 2018

TO: Members of the Board of Control

FR: Commissioner Julian Tackett

RE: Football Alignment Work Since Last Meeting

## **PLAYING UP TO HIGHER CLASS**

Following the January meeting, schools were given the option to play up to a higher class. The following schools chose to play into a higher class than the draft alignment would have had them placed.

- Withdrawal from District for the period - Fulton City
- 1A to 2A - Trimble County
- 3A to 4A - Boyle County, Central
- 4A to 5A - East Jessamine, Highlands, Western
- 5A to 6A - Barren County

## **OPTING DOWN TO LOWER CLASS DUE TO PLAYING UP**

Based on these playing up declarations, and the revision in the number of teams needed for the classes, the same number of teams in the higher division were given an opportunity to come down to the next lowest class to keep the number of teams in the classes balanced.

- 1A - Bracken County elected to be placed in the draft alignment in 1A following Fulton City's withdrawal. Betsy Layne elected to be placed in the draft alignment in 1A following Trimble County's move
- 2A - Due to the multiple moves, the next lowest enrolled team was given the opportunity to move from 3A to 2A to ensure that the "extra" team in 2A through 5A was in the lowest class. Morgan County elected to be placed in the draft in Class 2A
- 3A - Ashland Blazer and Rockcastle County elected to be placed in the draft alignment in 3A
- Class 4A - Logan County, Hopkinsville and Johnson Central elected to be placed in the draft alignment in 4A
- 5A - Muhlenberg County elected to be placed in the draft alignment in 5A following Marshall County declining to be placed in the draft alignment in Class 5A

NOTE: It should be noted that both Logan County and Johnson Central had elected to play into a higher class had they not been in the schools that were eligible to drop due to others playing up. These requests were withdrawn when the playing up decisions allowed for them to be placed in a lower class.

## **ONGOING**

The Commissioner has reached out to administrators at West Carter and Bath County with concerns and possible alternatives within the alignment. Ideally, if an alternative is feasible, it would be nice to have that as a part of the draft that is distributed, rather than a part of the amendments in May. The situation is fairly evident on the 3A and 2A maps and will be detailed at the meeting.

Following initial review, Bath County would prefer to remain in the enrollment class, placed in a geographic district. West Carter has requested to play in to a higher class in geographic proximity to Lewis County if possible. Both (and all schools) will have an option for feedback following draft distribution.

## **OTHER NOTES AND REQUESTS**

Requests for placement in lower class despite enrollment-

- Bourbon County - We wish to be classified as a 3A school. We must count males that are placed in Stoner Creek Behavioral Center. If we do not count these, it would change our numbers annually by 5-10 male students.
- Bryan Station - We would like to go down a division from 6A to 5A based on updated school enrollment and trend of male enrollments since the addition of a new school in our district. Our enrollment has decreased by

almost 400 students and male enrollments are in line with 5A schools, with District expectations for the school to decrease further.

- Fort Campbell - With the constant decline in the enrollment numbers we are getting less players for football and would like the KHSAA Board of Control to take this in consideration with the alignment of classification. We would request to be looked at for dropping to 1A this school year we are at a second month total enrollment of 430 and Fort Knox is at 390 and they are classified as 1A.
- Nelson County - We need to be put in a lower classification

### **GENERAL COMMENTARY**

- Breckinridge County - Breckinridge County High School would like to be considered for a district in the central time zone. We feel this benefits the students of Breckinridge County as well as our opponents from the eastern time zone.
- Casey County - We have been pleased with our district alignment being in the southeast part of the state as it has traditionally been.
- Christian County - Our School male enrollment has dropped the last 2 years because of redistricting. This trend will continue based on the most recent census/local data and relocation of the counties population to the southern portion of Christian County. Therefore, we would like to be considered as one of the teams in this area to be reassigned to a 4A classification. In addition, as our numbers regress so do our available funds. With the current outlook/projections for the farthest, west 5A district, it appears that travel and expenses related to travel will increase. Please feel free to contact us or our district office if you have further questions about our decline in enrollment. We would also like it noted that our male enrollment is similar to Hopkinsville High School, since our recent redistricting. Both school's male enrollments are within less than 100 students. Thank you for your time and allowing us a chance to voice our concerns.
- East Carter - We are willing to play up into 4A if another team is needed for the Ashland, Boyd, Rowan district. We are also willing to drive to Magoffin, Morgan, Powell if that district would work. We do not want to be in a six or seven team district, if possible.
- Harlan County – Wanting make sure the enrollment numbers that classify us as 4A keep us in 4A for travel purposes, preferably in a district with Clay County, Perry Central, and Letcher Central. We are currently 9th largest 4A school by the numbers and just wanting to make sure that is where we stay. Thanks!
- Middlesboro - We wish to play in a Class 3A district -If and only if we are not placed in a district primarily composed of eastern Kentucky or mountain teams. We wish to play up if and only if we remain in the current district with Somerset/LCA/Danville.
- Oldham County - We would request to be placed in a district in Lexington so that we can form two four team districts in Lexington.
- Pulaski County – Please give strong consideration to travel distances when dividing districts.
- Somerset - Somerset would like to stay in AA if it is placed in the East; otherwise, we would entertain moving up to AAA. Again, if we can be placed in the East!
- South Laurel – If we are placed in 5A District 7 as currently configured on the projected classification map for 2019-2022, we request to be placed in District 8 as currently configured on the projected classification map for 2019-2022 . With this being requested, we ask to remain in District 7 if configured differently than currently suggested. This limits our travel expenses and places us in a 4 team district as opposed to a 6 team district.

### **OTHER NOTES**

Frequently in commentary with administrators, the time zone and travel are frequently brought up. While it would be ideal if all the districts could be neat, four or five team districts, the layout of the state simply does not produce such symmetry.