

15th Region Super-Regional Proposal

This proposal maintains the current length of the regular season without removing any games from the schedule. This proposal also maintains district tournament play for all four districts in the region. There are only a couple of small deviations from the current system which would now allow all 14 schools in the region to have an opportunity to advance in regional play.

In this proposal, district tournament play would begin on Monday at the same time as district play throughout the state. The highest seeded losing team (based on district seeding) of each of the four districts will be the first to draw into regional play. Those four teams will draw from the two remaining lowest seeded losing teams from the 57th and 58th Districts and from two possible byes into the second round. This draw will constitute the First Four as these two games will be played at the district tournament site of the higher seed. The winner of the two First Four contests will advance to the second round.

The regional tournament draw for the remaining rounds of the tournament will take place on Friday and will be conducted in same manner as traditional regional tourney draws. The four district winners will draw from the 1, 3, 5, and 7 slots in the bracket using the same procedures as in the past with all four district winners getting a bye directly into the quarterfinals. The first district runner-up to draw will select from the two even-numbered slots in the bracket on the opposite side of their district winner. This ensures the district winners cannot play the runner-up from their district until the championship game. This process will continue until all four district runner-up teams are placed into the bracket. The four runner-up teams in the even numbered slots on the bracket will host the two First Four winners and the two teams who drew byes into the second round. These four games will be played on Saturday at the sites of the district runner-up teams.

The two First Four winners and the two first round district losing teams drawing byes will be placed into the bracket for these games opposite of their district champion and on the same side but away from the runner-up in their district. In the event that both first round losing teams from a district advance through the First Four round of play, the lowest seed advancing from the district will be placed into the only remaining branch of the bracket after the higher seeds are placed into their corresponding positions.

Here is an example to illustrate how the bracket works. In this example, as of today, January 31, in girls' district play, the seedings would potentially be as follows:

<u>57th District</u>	<u>58th District</u>	<u>59th District</u>	<u>60th District</u>
Martin Co.	Lawrence Co.	Pikeville	Belfry
Johnson Central	Floyd Central	Shelby Valley	Pike Central
Paintsville	Prestonsburg	East Ridge	Phelps
Magoffin Co.	Betsy Layne		

In this example, we will advance the higher seeds through the first round of district play. Therefore, the losing teams from all four districts would be Paintsville, Magoffin, Prestonsburg, Betsy Layne, East Ridge, and Phelps. The four teams drawing for the first round of regional play would be Paintsville, Prestonsburg, East Ridge and Phelps. In this example, Paintsville and East Ridge draw a bye and Prestonsburg draws 4 seed Magoffin County and Phelps draws 4 seed Betsy Layne. As the higher seeds, the Prestonsburg game will be played before the girls' district championship game at the 58th District site and Phelps will play Betsy Layne at the 60th District site.

If the higher seeds continue to win, Prestonsburg and Phelps would advance. The 12 remaining teams will participate on Friday morning in the regional tournament draw for the second round through the championship. In this example, let's say that Pikeville draws the 1 seed, Lawrence County draws the 3 seed, Belfry draws the 5 seed and Martin County draws the 7 seed. Then, the district runner-up teams draw into the opposite brackets from their district winners. Let's say that Johnson Central draws the 2 seed, Pike Central draws the 4 seed, Shelby Valley draws the 6 seed and Floyd Central draws the 8 seed.

The four teams advancing from the first round (2 First Four winners and 2 byes) will play against the 2, 4, 6, and 8 seeds (district runner-up teams) at their home site on Saturday. Those teams would be placed into the bracket according to the rules outlined earlier. On the next page is how this example would play out in the bracket:

