

Name Commissioner Julian Tackett
Topic Attendance on Behalf of KHSAA

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Meeting_Session Attended 2023 NFHS Summit and Legal Meeting

ON BEHALF OF MR. TACKETT, MR. COPE and MR. COLLINS Commissioner Tackett, Associate Commissioner Cope and General Counsel Collins attended the NFHS Summit and Legal Meeting in Indianapolis April 20 and 21.

The Summit dealt with key topics around issues facing states (primarily judicial and legislative), the NFHS Network and very good information on ensuring that states don't undervalue their events. It was reinforced that in many cases, Kentucky is somewhat unique because the vast majority of our events are not multiple-day duration and involve fewer room nights, which while helpful for our schools, may lead to fewer incentives for the tourism groups to put out dollars for appearances.

The Legal meeting began that afternoon with a comprehensive list of issues including the legal status of championship workers and very unusual court cases, and then an in-depth look at Name Image and Likeness and its impact throughout the country. In many cases, states have had to make emergency amendments to their rules (if they could get school support to pass them). We found we were fortunate not only to have more flexibility in our rules than most states but having the opportunity to be in on the authorship of the Kentucky NIL statute afforded us the chance to get some protections.

Takeaways to help Board and Staff

A comprehensive review of key cases throughout the country, work on the officials recruiting and retention issue and then a lengthy session on various transgender issues continued throughout the day. There was then a lengthy discussion of transfer rules and policies as well as an update on the latest intellectual property developments in this level of play.

A very informative session on combination teams (co-ops) gave our staff good information if that is a future direction we have to utilize. There was a good session on legislative monitoring and lobbying and the wisdom (or not) of using a lobbyist.

Mr. Collins was assisted by Mr. Tackett in a presentation to the group on the privacy of student records which they were able to inform the states of issues discovered in an in-depth case this past year.

The remainder of the meeting dealt with recent developments in implicit bias, innovations in state association governance, concussion litigation, state oversight of coaches, the latest in sports medicine and catastrophic injury concerns, and a plethora of new offerings with NFHSLearn.com.

This is an extremely useful meeting in our governance role and it was important for our staff to be present.