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## KHSAA BOARD OF CONTROL ADOPTED POLICIES

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The Board of Control has established many regulations and policies during its regular meetings. The following are the primary policies that affect daily operations at the Association.

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### POLICY- HIGH SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP AND COMPLIANCE EXPECTATIONS

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Articles III and VI of the KHSAA Constitution detail the Board of Control's duty to develop standards for membership in the KHSAA and authorize the denial of membership applications for sufficient cause, and the following policies detail that duty.

#### SEC. 1) OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

- a) Membership Forms shall be distributed to current members on or about May 1 for the following year, along with the bill for membership dues.
- b) Membership applications shall also be distributed as requested from other prospective KHSAA member schools.
- c) Membership applications shall be due to the KHSAA by July 1. Previous member schools are generally given until their opening day of school to join without penalty.
- d) At the July Board of Control meeting, the Commissioner reports to the Board of Control on recommendations for approval of the membership list for the coming school year. The Board shall act on those recommendations.
- e) The deadline for the payment of membership dues is September 1.

#### SEC. 2) BASIC MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

- a) Under 702 KAR 7:065, Section 1, the KHSAA has been designated as the Kentucky Board of Education's agent to manage interscholastic athletics at the high school level in the common schools, including a private school desiring to associate with the KHSAA and compete with a common school.
- b) Any school desiring to associate with the KHSAA shall complete, sign and submit this application to the KHSAA together with the applicable dues, which the KHSAA Board of Control shall consider.
- c) The following are the criteria for membership in the KHSAA:
  - (1) The school shall have the 12th grade as the terminating grade and not enroll students in only grades K-5;
  - (2) The school shall be:
    - a. A public school under the auspices of the Kentucky Department of Education fitting into one of the following membership categories:
      - A1 (District operated general or multi-program school),
      - A5 (District-operated alternative education program with no definable attendance boundaries designed to remediate academic performance, improve behavior, or provide an enhanced learning experience. This designation should only be used for offsite alternative education programs, and the students may not be A1 enrolled at any other school);
      - B1 Laboratory or training school operated by college or university);
      - D1 (State Department of Education operated school),
      - F1 (Federal Dependent school); or
    - b. A non-public school (private, parochial or church-affiliated school fitting into one of the following membership categories:
      - J1 - Roman Catholic School,
      - M1 - Other religious school or
      - R1 - Private, non-church school)Each of these shall be certified by the Kentucky Board of Education consistent with KRS 156.160(3) (see KDE website for Certification Process for Non-Public Schools at <https://education.ky.gov/federal/fed/Pages/Non-Public-Schools.aspx>), be a current member of the Kentucky Non-Public School Commission, and be accredited by one of the listed approved accrediting agencies;
  - (3) The school shall agree, through this application and other monitoring methods, to adhere to and abide by the KHSAA Constitution, Bylaws, Competition Rules and all other policies and directives of the KHSAA Commissioner or Board of Control;
  - (4) The school shall pay the membership dues and all assessed fines by the imposed deadline;
  - (5) The Principal or Designated Representative shall be required to attend an annual in-person update (not including the KHSAA Annual Meeting of the Membership) concerning the rules, regulations and policies of the Association to provide feedback on Association ongoing activities and to clarify ongoing issues or concerns related to athletics.

#### SEC. 3) REASONS TO DENY OR REVOKE MEMBERSHIP

- a) The following is a list of reasons that the KHSAA Board of Control may either deny an application, suspend or revoke membership in the KHSAA:
  - (1) Failure to satisfy any of the Basic Membership Criteria enumerated above;
  - (2) Failure to adhere to and abide by any of the Agreements enumerated below; or
  - (3) A documented pattern of continual violations and a general lack of institutional control as defined in KHSAA Bylaw 27.

#### SEC. 4) SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP DUES

- a) Schools desiring to become a member of the Association shall pay a fee in accordance with their prior year's second-month enrollment on the following schedule:
  - (1) Schools enrolling less than 100 students and offering only individual sports or sport-activities shall pay \$500;
  - (2) Schools enrolling 1-400 students in grades 9-12 shall pay \$1000;
  - (3) Schools enrolling 401-610 students in grades 9-12 shall pay \$1500;
  - (4) Schools enrolling 611-899 students in grades 9-12 shall pay \$2000; and

(5) Schools enrolling more than 899 students in grades 9-12 shall pay \$2500.

b) The annual membership dues billing shall include any money in arrears by the member school for items other than membership dues.

#### SEC. 5) ELIGIBILITY FOR CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY

a) All full members of the Association shall be eligible to enter championship play sponsored by the KHSAA provided there are no other restricting reasons such as sanction under the provisions of Bylaw 27;

b) A new school formed by the local board of education from existing KHSAA member schools:

(1) Shall be immediately eligible for championship participation upon acceptance of the application for new membership upon approval of the Board of Control, provided it meets all of the criteria for membership, including having a full graduating class; and

(2) Shall be assigned a member of the staff for not less than two years to serve as a mentor to guide the school in the rules and regulations of the Association and to report to the Board of Control before a decision to renew membership;

c) Any other school applying for new membership:

(1) shall be ineligible for championship play during a candidacy period from the date of acceptance of the application through the end of the second approved year of membership and provided that at the end of this period it meets all of the criteria for membership including having a full graduation class;

(2) If approved by the Commissioner, the school on candidacy status is allowed to exhaust any contest contracts that were signed before joining the KHSAA;

(3) The candidacy school may, therefore, if approved, compete against those non-member schools in contests during this period;

(4) However, once those contracts are exhausted, the school in candidacy status will not be able to compete against non-member schools located in Kentucky;

(5) The playing season in all sports will end for schools in candidacy status at the end of the regular season in each sport;

(6) Shall not be eligible to compete in postseason play against other KHSAA schools until the end of the candidacy period; and

(7) Shall be assigned a staff member for not less than four years to serve as a mentor to guide the school in the rules and regulations of the Association and to report to the Board of Control before deciding to renew membership.

#### SEC. 6) COMPLIANCE AND EXPECTATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

a) Each school desiring to join the KHSAA shall agree to comply with certain specific requirements of the Board of Control. By signing this application on behalf of this school, the Principal or Designated Representative acknowledges that:

(1) The local Board of Education or School-Based Decision-Making Body has given the undersigned Principal authorization to apply for renewal of membership in the KHSAA for the above referenced Academic School Year;

(2) The school is a voluntary member of the KHSAA and complies with the KHSAA Constitution, Bylaws, Competition Rules and all other policies and directives of the KHSAA Commissioner or Board of Control;

(3) Under the KHSAA Constitution, the Board of Control is the final authority in determining Competition Rules (including assignment of schools to district, region, or class);

(4) The Principal/Designated Representative has read, understood and agree to abide by the KHSAA Constitution, Bylaws, Competition Rules, Due Process Procedure and all other policies of the KHSAA Commissioner or Board of Control as now enacted or later amended;

(5) The school will abide by all of the rulings and directives of the KHSAA Commissioner, Assistant Commissioners, Hearing Officer or Board of Control and at all times act in the best interests of the KHSAA;

(6) The school will self-report all violations of the KHSAA Constitution, Bylaws, Competition Rules, Due Process Procedure or all other policies and directives of the KHSAA Commissioner and Board of Control, and any ruling by the KHSAA and its Commissioner, Assistant Commissioners, Hearing Officer or Board of Control;

(7) The management of the athletic program is not in contradiction to state or federal law, including the submission of the proper materials on time as requested by the Commissioner to fully comply with 702 KAR 7:065, Section 3(15) as it relates to monitoring compliance with 20 USC Section 1681 (Title IX);

(8) The KHSAA may impose penalties as detailed in the Bylaws of the KHSAA against this school for violation of the KHSAA Constitution, Bylaws, Competition Rules, Due Process Procedure or all other policies and directives of the KHSAA Commissioner or Board of Control, and agree to timely adhere to and abide by all penalties assessed against this school under the Bylaws of the KHSAA or any other rule, regulation or policy;

(9) The school will comply with the principles of institutional control as defined within the Bylaws of the KHSAA and the KHSAA's published interpretations thereof;

(10) The school will comply on time with all requests by the KHSAA and its officials for information, records and reports;

(11) Any information submitted via the KHSAA online system using the secure login of an authorized school administrator shall be deemed to have been approved and signed off by the Principal;

(12) All records of the school, including financial, academic and attendance, are open and available for inspection by the KHSAA and its officials;

(13) This school has the financial aid need analysis for its student-athletes performed by an approved agency as listed in the KHSAA Handbook;

(14) This school releases to the KHSAA and its official representatives permission to release the demographic information related to the athletic program (including motion picture and still photographic images), all participation statistics (including height, weight and year in school, participation history and other performance-based statistics) and additional information as may be requested, and agrees that the students from this school may be photographed or otherwise digitally or electronically captured

- during KHSAA sanctioned or sponsored school-based competition and such product used in the course of regular KHSAA business including commercial and internet-based video and still images. All material, including images and recordings, may be used without permission or compensation, specifically related to the KHSAA and its events without such use constituting a violation of rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act;
- (15) The school has distributed KHSAA Form GE04 in its entirety, including the applicable student eligibility rules and the Physician consent and Parental permission forms to each prospective student-athlete, and this school properly maintains on file the written permission of the parents of each student-athlete and the required physician consent form until after the student graduates from the school;
- (16) The school has ensured that each student-athlete has insurance coverage up to the KHSAA Catastrophic deductible before allowing them to practice (including try out) or play; and
- (17) The school has maintained compliance with the Limitation of Seasons as published in the Bylaws of the KHSAA as it relates to the loss of school time for regular season athletic contests as well as properly monitoring the playing of scrimmage and regular season contests, and has not violated these provisions in any KHSAA sport, and this school will self-report any violations of these limitations.
- (18) The school will take responsibility for and pay, reimburse the host site or the KHSAA, or repair any damage to postseason facilities, venues, or sites by the school's teams, students, or fans;
- (19) Under KRS 160.445(4)(b), this school verifies the existence of a venue-specific emergency action plan to deal with serious injuries and acute medical conditions in which the condition of the patient may deteriorate rapidly. The plan is to reviewed and rehearsed by simulation each athletic season shall:
- a. Include a delineation of the roles of staff and emergency personnel [, methods of communication, available emergency equipment, and access to and plan for emergency transport;
  - b. If one is available, identify the location of a portable automated external defibrillator and the procedures for its use during an emergency; and
  - c. Be in writing, reviewed by the principal of the school, distributed to all appropriate personnel, posted conspicuously at all venues, and reviewed annually and rehearsed by simulation before the beginning of each athletic season by all licensed athletic trainers, first responders, school nurses, athletic directors; interscholastic coaches and volunteer coaches of each athletic team active during that athletic season;
  - d. Be available for inspection by the KHSAA as requested.
- (20) Under KRS 158.162, this school verifies that it has an adopted emergency plan which shall include:
- a. Procedures to be followed in case of a medical emergency, fire, severe weather, earthquake, or a building lockdown as defined in KRS 158.164; A written cardiac emergency response plan; and a diagram of the facility that clearly identifies the location of each automated external defibrillator;
  - (b) Such emergency plan shall be provided to appropriate first responders and all school staff;
  - (c) Such emergency plan shall be reviewed following the end of each school year by the school nurse, school council, the principal, and first responders and revised as needed;
  - (d) The principal shall discuss the emergency plan with all school staff before the first instructional day of each school year and document the time and date of any discussion;
  - (e) The cardiac emergency response plan shall be rehearsed by simulation prior to the beginning of each athletic season by all licensed athletic trainers, school nurses, and athletic directors; and all interscholastic coaches and volunteer coaches of each athletic team active during that athletic season; and
  - (f) The emergency plan shall be excluded from the application of KRS 61.870 to 61.884.
- (21) Under KRS 158.162 (e) verifies that it agrees to:
- (a) Maintain a portable automated external defibrillator in a public, readily accessible, well-marked location in every middle and high school building and, as funds become available, at school-sanctioned middle and high school athletic practices and competitions and:
  - (b) Adopt procedures for the use of the portable automated external defibrillator during an emergency;
  - (c) Adopt policies for compliance with KRS 311.665 to 311.669 on training, maintenance, notification, and communication with the local emergency medical services system;
  - (d) Ensure that a minimum of three (3) employees in the school and all interscholastic athletic coaches be trained on the use of a portable automated external defibrillator per KRS 311.667; and
  - (e) Ensure that all interscholastic athletic coaches maintain a cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification recognized by a national accrediting body on heart health.
- (22) The school shall send administrative representatives to one meeting per year (aka Regional Meetings) if the Association conducts such meetings.
- (23) The school will actively promote sportsmanship by managing contests and scrimmages, including activity handling situations that arise with individuals such as fans who are not in the direct jurisdiction of contest officials.

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### POLICY- PENALTIES - BOARD OF CONTROL FINE SCHEDULE

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In accordance with 702 KAR 7:065 and Bylaw 27, a monetary fine may be assessed against a member school or licensed official. In addition, other penalties such as suspension of an individual or athletic program may be imposed for the same or similar violations of the particular bylaw, rule or tournament regulation.

SEC. 1) A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$50 PER OCCURRENCE FOR::

- a) Failure to notify game officials of change in game site or time in a timely manner; or
- b) Late licensing by a contest official desiring a license.

SEC. 2) A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$100 PER OCCURRENCE FOR::

- a) Failure to provide proper game administration personnel at contest site;
- b) Use of non-licensed officials in a contest;
- c) Late submission of tournament results, financial report or remittance of tournament proceeds by tournament manager;
- e) Failure of a tournament/contest manager to report a tournament bracket in a timely manner or failing to report results as requested;
- f) Ejection of a player or coach for unsportsmanlike conduct;
- g) Late membership dues payment by school;
- h) Late submission of the names of the school's athletic personnel, utilizing the official KHSAA online process, no later than the Friday of NFHS week 4 on the standardized calendar; or
- i) Late submission from schools of game statistics in specific sports.

SEC. 3) A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$300 PER OCCURRENCE FOR:

- a) Filming or video recording of a scrimmage or contest by representatives of nonparticipating schools without approval of competing teams or tournament manager;
- b) Failure to complete the required KHSAA rules clinic for coaches or officials during the prescribed schedule. Payment of this fine does not prevent further penalties already prescribed for failure to complete the clinic from being imposed;
- c) Playing non-sanctioned contest against out of state schools; playing a non-member school or a school not permitted by the bylaws in a contest;
- d) Late submission of tournament information from schools including season statistics, team pictures and entry of required rosters;
- e) Late submission of any requested reports, or other required documents or late submission of any required form or report not otherwise detailed within this schedule;
- f) Late submission of the DP06 form by the sending school to the receiving school that delays the consideration of a ruling for the student;
- g) Late submission of the Annual Financial Aid Report Form from member schools;
- h) Failure to attend a regional meeting of the member schools, if such meetings are conducted, including make-up meetings; or
- i) Late submission of the annual GE01 membership application; or
- j) Failure to submit the seasonal verification of emergency and cardiac action plan rehearsals by simulation.

SEC. 4) A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$500 PER OCCURRENCE FOR:

- a) Failure of a member school to adhere to Bylaw 22 with respect to school representatives accompanying athletes to competition;
- b) Withdrawal from championship play in any sport after the draw for bracket positions, entry deadline or deadline for seeded district games has passed;
- c) Withdrawal from championship competition in competitive cheer after the deadline for declaration of divisions and after the results of the declarations have been made public;
- d) Ejection of player for fight/unsportsmanlike conduct in games when athlete's eligibility in that sport has been exhausted;
- e) A coach or an administrator publicly criticizing a game official or coaches criticizing specific contest officials by name, position or local association to media representatives (including social media);
- f) Late reporting of participation list or Annual Title IX report;
- g) A member of a school coaching or athletic staff making public media comments (including by social media) that criticize officials by name, position or contest assignment;
- h) A licensed official making public media comments (including by social media) that criticize a member of a school coaching or athletic staff by name, position or assignment; or
- i) Failure of the sending school to return to the receiving school the necessary forms to effect a ruling for a transferring student within fifteen (15) calendar days of receipt;
- j) Failure to adhere to the adopted policies regarding development and rehearsal heat illness and emergency action and cardiac emergency plans.

SEC. 5) A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$1000 PER OCCURRENCE FOR:

- a) Use of an ineligible player when the facts were present to prevent such usage;
- b) Participation in practice or contests by coaches not currently certified in the required KMA/KHSAA Sports Safety Course. Payment of this fine does not prevent further penalties already prescribed for failure to complete the course from being imposed;
- c) Failure to properly certify athletes with respect to age;
- d) Removal of team from field or court prior to completion of game;
- e) Team members leaving bench, sideline or dugout and coming into playing area during an altercation/fight or for any other reason related to unsporting conduct that are not specifically allowable by playing rule;
- f) Team involved in an altercation/fight before, during or after scrimmage or contest (from time of arrival to time of departure);
- g) Violation of sports season (Bylaw 23) by any sport or sport-activity team or squad;
- h) Excessive celebration or unsportsmanlike conduct by fans identifiable to a specific team entering the playing area following a contest; or
- i) Each violation of KHSAA rules when a specific fine is not explicitly addressed by this schedule;
- j) Use of athlete without proper physical examination or parental permission;

k) Failure to adhere to the adopted policies regarding development and rehearsal of heat illness and emergency action and cardiac emergency plans after initial imposition of penalty for this violation.

SEC. 6) A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$1500 PER OCCURRENCE FOR:

a) Violation of the required provisions regarding prime date scheduling of girls' basketball games;

SEC. 7) ADDITIONAL FINES AND PENALTIES

a) A fine may be levied against specific documented receipts or reimbursed expenses when violations are discovered;

b) In the case of restitution, the full amount of document fees may be assessed as a fine;

c) A fine may be levied against a member school either directly or by assessing tournament receipts, for the use of coaches at any level in grades 9-12 competition that do not meet the requirements of Bylaw 25; or

d) The complete itemized amount of repair necessary for damage to a postseason venue repair for any damage to postseason facilities, venues, or sites by the school's teams, students, or fans.

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## POLICY- INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL - MEMBERSHIP OBLIGATION - SELF REPORTING OF VIOLATIONS

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SEC. 1) INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL

a) The member school principal is ultimately responsible for all aspects of the athletic program, whether it is rules enforcement and reporting or eligibility certification. It is important that each member school through its Principal 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.

b) There are several principles that go into the concept of maintaining institutional control. 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. 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.

c) However, there are several things that demonstrate a lack of institutional control including the failure to implement proper preventive procedures; failure by members of the designated athletic staff to thoroughly investigate and report violations; failure to adequately disseminate and distribute compliance information; failure to adequately distribute compliance duties to allow for effective control; failing to make clear to all coaches and participants that rules violations will not be tolerated; failing to fully investigate and file reports as requested when potential violations are reported; or a head coach failing to create a compliant atmosphere with the assistant coaches.

d) The KHSAA enforces its rules based on the following premises: KHSAA regulations and information are readily available to the member schools and general public; the Principal or Designated Representative properly distributes information, rules manuals, communication, forms, and other needed materials to the members of the athletics staff; that meaningful education programs are conducted within the schools to ensure compliance; student-athletes are properly informed about rules prior to and during participation. Certainly, the compliance history of a school and its cooperative spirit during any investigation or inquiry will factor into any penalty decision regarding violations.

SEC. 2) APPLICABLE CONTROL AND SELF-REPORTING

a) Per KHSAA Bylaw 1, all member schools are expected to exercise institutional control within his/her school and to maintain institutional control of all phases of interscholastic athletic activities within a member school, including the activities of its student-athletes, athletic and school administration, coaching staff (paid and unpaid, head and assistant) booster clubs, parent groups, and all related entities.

b) Exercising that control requires the submission of "self-reports" when violations are determined and full cooperation with any ongoing review of a matter related to the conduct of the interscholastic athletic program.

c) Any self-report must be submitted on school letterhead via email attachment or provided online form and should include the following:

(1) Identify and list the bylaws and/or policies that have been violated;

(2) Provide a description of the circumstances leading to the reported violation;

(3) Provide the name of the student and/or coach (if applicable);

(4) List the contests in which the student participated (if applicable); and

(5) State any corrective actions taken by the school to deter this situation from happening again in the school's athletic program.

d) The Commissioner reserves the right to further review and investigate this matter or other matters with respect to potential, additional compliance issues which may be identified as a result of this communication. The association's position is to support the member school in a mentoring fashion where possible.

e) Sanctions will be issued in accordance with Bylaw 27 when any violations are confirmed. Sanctions include what is recommended by the member school as an action, or may include any other penalties deemed appropriate by the Commissioner that is contained within Bylaw 27.

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## POLICY- INFRACTIONS/PENALTY STRUCTURE

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SEC. 1) PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING PENALTIES

a) The Commissioner and Board of Control ("Board") each have a role in administering penalties for KHSAA Constitution or Bylaws violations.

b) Unless specifically covered in any bylaw, the standard penalties are listed in Bylaw 27.

- c) All matters considered by the Commissioner or the Board shall be conducted in compliance with the Due Process Procedure and any findings are appealable by aggrieved parties as defined in that procedure.

SEC. 2) MATTERS TO BE DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSIONER

- a) Reports of violations should be submitted to the Commissioner. If such evidence is presented in compliance with the Bylaws of the KHSAA as to warrant an investigation, the Commissioner shall direct an appropriate investigation of the allegation(s).
- b) At the conclusion of an investigation, penalties in accordance with Bylaw 27 may be levied by the Commissioner at his/her discretion.
- c) The Commissioner, per the Constitution, shall enforce all penalties provided for, and fix penalties for violations for which no penalties are prescribed.
- d) Penalties levied by the Commissioner shall be summarized for a report at a subsequent Board of Control meeting.
- e) Penalties levied by the Commissioner under Bylaw 27 in Board matters or for other actions not related to Hearing Officer Matters may be appealed to the Board of Control per the KHSAA Due Process Procedure.

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**POLICY- SPORTS SANCTIONING/SPONSORSHIP**

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SEC. 1) REQUIREMENTS FOR SANCTIONING A HIGH SCHOOL SPORT OR SPORT-ACTIVITY

- a) The KHSAA Board of Control sanctions (approved for practice and play and provides the Catastrophe Insurance for) all sports and sport-activities for which the KHSAA sponsors a state high school championship. Under this definition, the sports of baseball (coed), basketball (boys/coed and girls), cross country (boys/coed and girls, field hockey (girls), football (coed), golf (boys/coed and girls, lacrosse ((boys/coed and girls beginning in 2024-25), soccer (boys/coed and girls, softball (fastpitch girls), swimming (boys/coed and girls, tennis (boys/coed and girls, track and field (boys/coed and girls, volleyball (boys beginning in 2024-25, girls currently) and wrestling (boys/coed and girls are insured.
- b) The sport-activities of archery, bass fishing, bowling, competitive cheer, dance and Esports competition are insured for KHSAA region and state competitions only.
- c) This sanctioning shall allow students to participate in these sports and sport-activities as long as they are compliant with all applicable KHSAA bylaws regarding student eligibility.

SEC. 2) METHOD OF DETERMINING INTEREST IN NEW HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS OR SPORT-ACTIVITIES

- a) The KHSAA shall survey its membership every three (3) years to measure desire for a new offering or elimination of an existing offering.
- b) The KHSAA Limitation of Seasons shall not address a specific sport or sport-activity unless and until it meets the desired participation threshold to allow for the maximum opportunity to expose the sport to growth.
- c) The Board of Control may authorize a specific survey during the interim period between triennial surveys based on a majority vote of the Board of Control.

SEC. 3) SCHOOLS NECESSARY TO START NEW HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS OR SPORT-ACTIVITIES

- a) Unless otherwise approved by the Board of Control to address specific previously underrepresented populations, in order for the KHSAA to begin discussions concerning the possible sponsoring of a state championship in a new sport or sport-activity, there shall be at least fifteen (15) percent of the member schools desiring to participate in championship play by showing a favorable response on the interest survey and the sport or sport-activity having currently participating schools in at least three defined basketball regions.
- b) One of the key components for consideration is the presence of an already existing organized championship sponsored by another group.
- c) The presence of this amount of schools does not, in and of itself, guarantee the addition of championship play in that sport or sport-activity.
- d) The Commissioner shall designate contact staff for any sport or sport-activity that has a demonstrated interest of ten (10) percent of the member schools but less than fifteen (15) percent of the member schools, as such sport or sport-activity shall be considered an emerging sport or sport-activity.
- e) The Board of Control must review all factors surrounding the possible addition including a fiscal analysis and the possible impact of the addition on member school compliance with Title IX.

SEC. 4) SCHOOLS NECESSARY TO CONTINUE EXISTING HIGH SCHOOL SPORT OR SPORT-ACTIVITIES

- a) In order for the KHSAA to continue a playoff system for a sport or sport-activity, and unless there is otherwise prevailing action by the Board of Control to address specific previously underrepresented populations, there shall be at least twenty (20) member schools desiring to participate in championship play by showing a favorable response on the interest survey or by currently participating and the sport or sport-activity having participating schools in at least three basketball regions.
- b) The presence of this amount of schools does not in and of itself guarantee the continuation of championship play in that sport or sport-activity.
- c) The Board of Control must review all factors surrounding the continuation of the sport or sport-activity including a fiscal analysis and the possible impact of the addition on member school compliance with Title IX.

SEC. 5) GENDER REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION

- a) Pursuant to Acts Chapter 198 (SB83) of the 2022 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly as stated in KRS 156.070, Sec. 1 (2)(g):
  - (1) The sports and sport-activities of the KHSAA are classified as either Boys/Coed or Girls;
  - (2) The sex of the student for the purpose of determining eligibility is determined by that statute;
  - (3) The sports and sport-activities of the KHSAA designated for girls for students in grades (7) through (12) shall not be open to

members of the male sex and no provision shall be construed to restrict the eligibility of any student to participate in a sports or sport-activity designated as boys or coed.

**SEC. 6) SEASON DETERMINATION**

- a) The fall sports and sport-activities are: cross country (boys/coed and girls, field hockey (girls), football (boys/coed), golf (boys/coed and girls), soccer (boys/coed and girls), volleyball (boys/coed beginning in 2024-25, girls currently);
- b) The winter sports and sport-activities are: basketball (boys/coed and girls), swimming (boys/coed and girls), indoor track and field (boys/coed and girls beginning in 2023-24), wrestling (boys/coed and girls), Esports first season (boys/coed), competitive cheer (divisions and dance (divisions));
- c) The spring sports and sport-activities are: baseball (boys/coed), lacrosse ((boys/coed and girls beginning in 2024-25), softball (fastpitch girls), tennis (boys/coed and girls), track and field (boys/coed and girls), archery (boys/coed and girls), bass fishing (boys/coed and girls), Esports second season (boys/coed).d) For the purpose of spring sport participation and integration with Title IX, baseball and softball are not considered the same sport and such, baseball is considered to be boys/coed.

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**POLICY- SPORTS AND SPORT ACTIVITY DETERMINATION**

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**SEC. 1) SPORTS**

- a) The KHSAA Board of Control sanctions (approves for practice and play and provides the Catastrophe Insurance for) all sports and sport-activities for which the KHSAA sponsors a state high school championship. Under this definition, the sports of baseball (coed), basketball (boys/coed and girls), cross country (boys/coed and girls), field hockey (girls), football (coed), golf (boys/coed and girls), lacrosse ((boys/coed and girls beginning in 2024-25), soccer (boys/coed and girls), softball (fastpitch girls), swimming (boys/coed and girls), tennis (boys/coed and girls), track and field (boys/coed and girls), volleyball (boys beginning in 2024-25, girls currently) and wrestling (boys/coed and girls) are insured.
- b) The sport-activities of archery, bass fishing, bowling, competitive cheer, dance and Esports competition are insured for KHSAA region and state competitions only.
- c) This sanctioning shall allow students to participate in these sports and sport-activities as long as they are compliant with all applicable KHSAA bylaws regarding student eligibility.

**SEC. 2) CURRENTLY SANCTIONED SPORTS AND SPORT-ACTIVITIES**

- a) The sports sanctioned by the KHSAA are baseball, basketball, cross country, field hockey, football, golf, lacrosse, soccer, softball (fastpitch), swimming and diving, tennis, track and field, volleyball and wrestling.
- b) The sport-activities sanctioned by the KHSAA are archery, bass fishing, bowling, competitive cheer, dance and interscholastic Esports competition.

**SEC. 3) BYLAWS APPLYING TO BOTH SPORTS AND SPORT-ACTIVITIES**

- a) All bylaws apply to all sports and sport-activities at the varsity level with the exception of the following Bylaws that only apply to the sports with specific allowances and exceptions for the non-varsity levels (junior varsity and freshmen) are contained in the bylaws:  
Specific Bylaw 3 (Maximum Number of Years); Bylaw 6 (Transfer Rule- Citizens Of The U.S. And D.C. And Other Students Previously Enrolled In Member Schools); Bylaw 7 (Transfer Rule- Students Having J-1/F-1 Status and Transfer Rule- Non-U.S. Students Not Having J-1/F-1 Status); Bylaw 10 (Amateur/Awards); Bylaw 11 (Financial Aid); and Bylaw 22 (Contests, Sanctions, Contracts, Rules, Forfeitures, Faculty To Accompany).

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**POLICY- CHAMPIONSHIP SITE SELECTION AND EVENT CONDUCT**

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**SEC. 1) DISTRICT, REGION ROUNDS**

- a) Site selection for the district and region rounds of KHSAA championship play shall be conducted in accordance with the adopted Competition Rules of the KHSAA.
- b) The site selection is made by the Commissioner who is guided, but not bound by, direct input from the membership.
- c) The Commissioner shall ensure that the members of the Commission and other designated staff properly adhere to the competition rules including the designation of a local manager for each event, and ensure compliance with all adopted policies in the execution of these events.

**SEC. 2) STATE ROUNDS (INCLUDING ALL PRELIMINARY STATE ROUNDS)**

- a) The Commissioner shall coordinate site selection alternatives for all KHSAA events.
- b) The Board of Control shall have final approval for the dates and sites of each KHSAA state championship round and may assign specific location determination to the Commissioner.
- c) Once the dates and sites of each championship are determined, specific time schedules for the state rounds are set by the Commissioner.
- d) All parties interested in hosting KHSAA championship rounds shall have a demonstrated interest in hosting the events, and facilities appropriate for the championships.

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**POLICY- DEADLINE FOR ENTERING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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**SEC. 1) DEADLINE FOR ENTRY INTO KHSAA COMPETITION**

- a) Unless waived by the Commissioner, the deadline to enter a team in sports or sport-activity competition is:  
(1) September 1 for fall sports;  
(2) October 1 for competitive cheer and dance;

- (3) January 1 for winter sports, bowling and archery;
- (4) April 1 for spring sports and bass fishing; and
- (5) Prescribed deadlines for Esports competition.

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## **POLICY – SUSPENSION AND ALTERATION OF SPORTS AND SPORT-ACTIVITIES DUE TO STATE OR FEDERAL EMERGENCY ORDER**

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### **SEC. 1) ACTION DURING EMERGENCY DECLARATION**

- a) In the event of a lawfully declared state of emergency, including a global pandemic, weather related circumstance or other comparable situation, the KHSAA Commissioner in consultation with the Board of Control can make adjustments to seasons and allowable activity based on the present circumstances.
- b) The KHSAA Commissioner, Staff and its Board of Control bear a tremendous responsibility and burden in helping to ensure the safety of all students within its programs. The burden is equally great regarding the mental health and well-being of those students and the valuable and integral part that sports and sport-activities play in the development of the student. These sometimes conflicting responsibilities provide a balancing act of sorts as these determinations are made.
- c) While it is noted that without question, our Commonwealth thrives on as much local control as possible, though noting that in the arena of athletics, competitive balance, equity and opportunity will at times require statewide decisions.
- d) As an organization that is permitted to make carefully thought out, independent, responsible decisions regarding its activities, it is recognized that the satisfaction of everyone cannot be guaranteed and that the well being of the whole student must be a central focus. As such, revisions and accommodations will be required anytime the association faces an event of the magnitude of a global pandemic. For that reason, the association will continue to be assertive and decisive, and try at all times to strike a balance between the variety of options that may exist in a given situation.
- e) It is recognized that intermittent suspension or revision of KHSAA Bylaws, rules, regulations and other provisions may be required throughout the navigation of these emergency situations. Provided these revisions do not violate statute, the Commissioner's office will make every reasonable effort to ensure the opportunities in its designated areas that are so vital to student achievement. The Commissioner's office will labor with diligence to ensure new and updated information is provided to the membership in a timely manner while also recognizing that the situations surrounding the virus are ever-changing with continual movement of data points. The Commissioner's office will remain apolitical insofar as is possible, and keep its focus on what is best for the general student body.

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## **POLICY- PLAYING RULES AND QUESTIONNAIRES**

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### **SEC. 1) PLAYING RULES**

- a) The playing rules that govern interscholastic competition for KHSAA member schools are formulated by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) for the sports of baseball, basketball, competitive cheer (including dance), field hockey, football, lacrosse (effective 2024-25), soccer, softball, swimming and diving, track and field (cross country), volleyball and wrestling.
  - (1) Persons who are involved at the interscholastic level and are directly responsible to secondary schools write NFHS rules for the high school level of competition.
  - (2) According to NFHS policy, the KHSAA would forfeit its opportunity to appoint representatives to the NFHS rules committees if this Association were to make exceptions to, or modifications of, NFHS rules for varsity competition on a statewide basis.
  - (3) While members of the Association, the Association staff and the contest officials may not agree with every decision made by the rules committees, it is the NFHS policy to acknowledge and utilize our persons who have committee input, and respond to questionnaires when asked.
  - (4) Licensed Officials who wish to voice a concern or offer a recommendation to a specific sport committee may do so by writing to the appropriate member of the KHSAA Staff. Playing rules questions are more appropriately addressed to the rules interpreter for that particular sport.
  - (5) Any proposal to amend the playing rules of the NFHS must be submitted and approved by the Commissioner's office.
- b) The playing rules that govern interscholastic competition in golf for KHSAA member schools are contained in the Competition Rules of the KHSAA and are based on the rules of the United States Golf Association.
- c) The playing rules that govern interscholastic competition in tennis for KHSAA member schools are contained in the Competition Rules of the KHSAA and are based on the rules of the United States Tennis Association.
- d) The playing rules that govern interscholastic competition in the sport-activity of archery for KHSAA member schools are contained in the Competition Rules of the KHSAA and are administered in cooperation with the National Archery in Schools Program.
- e) The playing rules that govern interscholastic competition in the sport-activity of bass fishing for KHSAA member schools are contained in the Competition Rules of the KHSAA and are administered in cooperation with Major League Fishing and its Student Angler Foundation.
- f) The playing rules that govern interscholastic competition in the sport-activity of bowling for KHSAA member schools are contained in the Competition Rules of the KHSAA and in general congruence with the United States Bowling Congress.
- g) The playing rules that govern interscholastic competition in the sport-activity competitive cheer for KHSAA member schools are formulated by the NFHS for the sport-activity of competitive cheer and administered through a partnership between the KHSAA and Varsity Brands, Inc. (Universal Cheerleaders Association).



- h) The playing rules that govern interscholastic competition in dance for KHSAA member schools are formulated by the NFHS for the sport-activity of dance (via the Spirit Rule Book) and administered through a partnership between the KHSAA and Varsity Brands, Inc. (Universal Dance Association).
- i) The playing rules that govern interscholastic competition in Esports for KHSAA member schools are formulated by the KHSAA in partnership with PlayVS.

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## **POLICY- BASKETBALL PRIME DATE SCHEDULING**

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### **SEC. 1) BACKGROUND**

- a) In fairness to the participants in girls' basketball, and those within the programs including parents, students and fans, the Board of Control has developed this policy to ensure that there are opportunities for girls' basketball to be played on "prime dates".
- b) These dates historically are defined Friday night, any time on Saturday, and any time on Sunday. In addition, it shall be considered prime-date for competition held at the same site on the same night (doubleheader) where the girls' varsity and boys' varsity teams both play contests. Compliance with this policy neither expresses nor implies that a member school is in (or not in) compliance with Title 20, U.S.C. Titles, 1681-1688, et. Seq. (Title IX).

### **SEC. 2) BASIC REQUIREMENT (40% RULE)**

- a) Each basketball season, a member school shall meet one of two alternative methods of prime date compliance with respect to the scheduling of basketball games. The member school shall:
  - (1) Play at least forty (40) percent of its girls' home basketball games on a prime date, defined as Friday night, Saturday or Sunday, wherein tournaments shall only count as one game played toward this requirement; or
  - (2) Play at least forty (40) percent of its girls' basketball schedule (all games) on a prime date, defined as Friday night, Saturday; Sunday, or any day on Monday through Thursday which is part of a double header where both the boys' and girls' varsity teams play.

### **SEC. 3) ANNUAL PRIME DATE COMPLIANCE PROCESS**

- a) Each year, the KHSAA shall review all girls' regular season basketball schedules (hereinafter "current schedule").
- b) These reviews shall begin with the first legal regular season playing date and can be self-monitored by the member school.
- c) Schedules shall be posted on the KHSAA website in the manner as instructed by the Commissioner's office prior to the published deadline.
- d) Schedules shall be accurate and include entry and designation of games that are involved in tournaments, classics, festivals and other multi-game events.
- e) At the end of the regular playing season, the schedules shall be reviewed for final compliance with the requirement.

### **SEC. 4) PENALTY FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH THE PRIME DATE REQUIREMENT**

- a) Based on the final review at the end of the regular season, if a member school's total home games for girls' basketball do not comply with the forty (40) percent requirement, and this is the first such violation by the member school, this violation shall result in a penalty in compliance with Bylaw 27.
- b) Based on the final review at the end of the regular season, if a member school's total home games for girls' basketball do not comply with the forty (40) percent requirement, and this is not the first such violation by the member school, additional penalties shall be applied in compliance with Bylaw 27 including the cancellation of contests in sports other than girls' basketball.

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## **POLICY- RECOMMENDED OPTIONAL PRIME TIME BASKETBALL SCHEDULING**

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### **SEC. 1) PRIME TIME SCHEDULING**

- a) Prime time scheduling is a means to ensure fairness to the students, particularly girls, who perhaps have had disadvantaged scheduling in the past.
- b) More scheduling equity can be accomplished by scheduling boys' and girls' basketball games on separate nights with prime time starts for both or by scheduling doubleheaders and alternating boys' and girls' start times.
- c) The following schedule is recommended in the event that double headers are used to meet the Prime Date Requirement.
  - Sec. 1) One doubleheader (Optional As To Which Team Plays Second)
  - Sec. 2) Two doubleheaders (Girls Game Recommended to Be Second At Least Once)
  - Sec. 3) Three doubleheaders (Girls Game Recommended to Be Second At Least Once)
  - Sec. 4) Four doubleheaders (Girls Game Recommended to Be Second At Least Twice)
  - Sec. 5) Five doubleheaders (Girls Game Recommended to Second At Least Twice)
  - Sec. 6) Six doubleheaders (Girls Game Recommended to Be Second At Least Three Times)
  - Sec. 7) Seven doubleheaders (Girls Game Recommended to Be Second At Least Three Times)
  - Sec. 8) Eight doubleheaders (Girls Game Recommended to Be Second At Least Four Times)
  - Sec. 9) Nine doubleheaders (Girls Game Recommended to Be Second At Least Four Times)
  - Sec. 10) Ten doubleheaders (Girls Game Recommended to Be Second At Least Five Times)

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## POLICY- POSTSEASON EVENT MEDIA

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### SEC. 1) GENERAL MEDIA POLICY

- a) Credentials to each KHSAA State Championship event are issued by the KHSAA to working members of the media who regularly cover high school athletics.
- b) Credentials must be requested prior to the established deadline for each sport through the online credentialing system.
- c) Credentials should be requested by the sports editor/director for all members of their organization needing to attend an event.
- d) Credentials for freelance photographers and stringers must be requested by the sports editor/director at the outlet the freelancer will be representing.
- e) Media outlets are responsible for the actions of all individuals representing their organization, including compliance with KHSAA policies and procedures. No credentials will be issued outside of the online credentialing system.
- f) The KHSAA reserves the right to limit the number of credentials issued to media outlets when space is at a premium.
- g) Failure to adhere to the KHSAA policies and guidelines, as well as unauthorized use of the media credential, will result in the revocation of the credential and non-issuance of future passes.

### SEC. 2) KHSAA CHAMPIONSHIP CREDENTIAL GUIDELINES

- a) Credentials to each KHSAA State Championship event are issued by the KHSAA to working members of the media who regularly cover high school athletics in accordance with adopted policies and procedures.
- b) Credentials must be requested prior to the established deadline for each sport through the online credentialing system.

### SEC. 3) OWNERSHIP OF MEDIA AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

- a) The intellectual property, corporate, broadcasting and media rights to all State championship rounds of the KHSAA postseason championships belong exclusively to the KHSAA, including titling agreements and sponsorships.
- b) In addition, the KHSAA is in a long-term agreement with the NFHS Network as the sole source of distribution of the webcast.
- c) As such, the KHSAA is the only entity permitted to originate a live broadcast during the Sweet 16® (this includes the use of social media streaming platforms such as Facebook Live by media members).

### SEC. 4) CREDENTIAL APPLICATION PROCEDURES

- a) Credentials should be requested by the sports editor/director for all members of their organization needing to attend an event.
- b) Credentials for freelance photographers and stringers must be requested by the sports editor/director at the outlet the freelancer will be representing.
- c) Media outlets are responsible for the actions of all individuals representing their organization, including compliance with KHSAA policies and procedures at the event under the direction of designated staff.
- d) No credentials will be issued outside of the online credentialing system.
- e) The KHSAA reserves the right to limit the number of credentials issued to media outlets at these two events when space is considered to be at a premium.
- f) Failure to adhere to the KHSAA policies and guidelines, as well as unauthorized use of the media credential, will result in the revocation of the credential and non-issuance of future passes.

### SEC. 5) GENERAL CREDENTIAL ISSUANCE AND DISTRIBUTION POLICIES

- a) Credentials will be provided to established and recognized media outlets that cover high school athletics on a regular basis (including, but not limited to, timely reports of regular season competitions);
  - b) In all cases where there is consideration as to whether or not to credential an outlet, the level of regular season interscholastic coverage will be considered when applications are reviewed;
  - c) The distribution of credentials is conducted using the following priorities:
    - 1) Daily newspapers and wire services;
    - 2) Statewide media (TV, etc.);
    - 3) Media covering specific teams on a regular basis;
    - 4) Regional media;
    - 5) All other outlets (non-broadcast radio, weekly media, etc.).
  - 6) At any time, the KHSAA may request proof of a media outlets' legitimacy. To help the KHSAA protect access to its events, media members applying for credentials may be asked to provide samples of their work as well as information such as circulation numbers (newspapers/magazines), Nielsen Audio (formerly Arbitron) ratings numbers or similar information (broadcast), page views/hits (online entities);
  - 7) Credentials may be issued on a limited basis to valid websites that report timely results and have regularly covered and promoted interscholastic events.
  - 8) Credentials are not generally issued to message board websites or to websites that do not regularly contain Kentucky-based high school regular season content throughout the year;
  - 9) Athletic recruiting promotion organizations or media outlets that can be construed as primarily recruiting publications will not be issued media credentials;
- d) A credential grants the bearer, and only the bearer, access to KHSAA events, and does not include admission for children and family members;
  - e) Media passes will not be issued to persons under 18 years of age (with the exception of the single school media pass issued in compliance with student media policies as detailed);
  - f) Credentials may be revoked at any time for behavior deemed inappropriate for the intended use of the pass, including transferring a credential to someone other than its intended recipient, or using the pass to help others gain access to an event;

- g) Media members are expected to act professionally and objectively at all times, and cheering or cheerleading during an event is strictly prohibited and can result in removal from the press area;
- h) Freelance photographers not working for an accredited media outlet will be treated as commercial photographers and will only gain access to an event by paying the media rights fee for the event in question in compliance with published guidelines;
- i) Each team advancing to a state championship event can be represented by one broadcast team (radio or online), which will be designated by the participating school's principal and will be considered TEAM RADIO in accordance with these policies;
- j) The KHSAA reserves the right to grant or deny any requests on an individual basis;

#### SEC. 6) MEDIA OUTLET PHOTOGRAPHY AND PHOTOGRAPHERS

- a) Photography passes are provided to accredited news media outlets that meet the credentialing policies in conjunction with print and television outlets and their directly affiliated websites.
- b) Media outlet photography passes do not include the rights to sell the photographs unless sold by the outlet as part of its normal business procedures.
- c) For marshalling and identification purposes, the KHSAA will require appropriately credentialed photographers to be clearly identified.

#### SEC. 7) COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND PHOTOGRAPHERS

- a) Commercial and freelance photographers can obtain fee-based credentials, space permitting, by purchasing a limited rights license.
- b) Information regarding rights fee payments will be confirmed through the online credentialing system.
- c) While photographers own the intellectual rights to individual photos, the KHSAA owns the intellectual property rights to all state championship events; therefore, photos taken during these games are not for resale by individuals unless the requisite media rights fee has been paid by commercial photographers.
- d) The KHSAA reserves the right to deny credentials to commercial and freelance photographers who do not agree to these terms and conditions.
- e) Failure to abide by the KHSAA's policies and procedures could result in having your credential revoked and a loss of access to future events.

#### SEC. 8) SCHOOL MEDIA

- a) In an effort to assist its member schools with obtaining archival information about the school participation, and in an effort to support education curriculum opportunities for students desiring to enter journalism in any form, school media passes are available through the online system/
- b) Each participating team can be represented by one designated faculty or staff member to shoot photography.
- c) Any faculty or staff member approved for photography may not allow any sales of the photography to any individual and if sales are provided, the applicant should apply as a commercial photographer.
- d) Each participating team can have student media representatives apply for student media credentials and verification will be made by the school as to the legitimate curriculum and school interest in the approval.
- e) These credentials will not as a matter of practice be provided to these individuals not connected to a participating team.
- f) Any student media credential approved for media access other than photography will be assigned seating in the auxiliary seating area with other media representatives, and only for the games involving that school.
- g) Any student media credential approved for photography may not allow any sales of the photography to any individual and if sales are provided, the applicant should apply as a commercial photographer.
- h) Individuals granted photographer access will have access in the same manner as other media outlets, including restrictions to courtside press row access.

#### SEC. 9) WEBCASTING/VIDEO STREAMING

- a) KHSAA.tv is the exclusive home for video webcasts of all KHSAA state championship events.
- b) Live video webcasts of all games will be available at KHSAA.tv through the NFHS Network ([www.nfhsnetwork.com/](http://www.nfhsnetwork.com/)), which is a subscription-based service.
- c) A monthly subscription entitles users to every broadcast by the KHSAA and the more than 40 participating state associations.

#### SEC. 10) TEAM RADIO BROADCASTS

- a) Each team advancing to a postseason championship event can be represented by one (1) radio broadcast team.
- b) The station originating the broadcast will be subject to a Radio Rights Fee, which is paid online as part of the online credentialing system and must be paid prior to the event.
- c) In the event that multiple stations desire to originate a broadcast and where space is limited or otherwise restricted, the participating team may be asked to select (designate) a specific station that is to be permitted.
- d) Radio stations not permitted to originate a broadcast at the basketball championships can make arrangements with the Association to carry the KHSAA Network feed via the KHSAA online streaming partner.
- e) A radio station not chosen to broadcast by the participating school may apply for an auxiliary credential.
- f) As part of the Radio Rights Fee, a phone line will be provided for each radio broadcast team at the championship venue.

#### SEC. 11) PHONE/DATA SERVICE AT CHAMPIONSHIPS

- a) The KHSAA provides wireless internet access for working media members at each of its state championship events.
- b) Arrangements for phone lines for radio broadcast teams are made by the KHSAA and provided as part of the Radio Rights Fee.
- c) Any media member needing phone or data service above and beyond what is normally provided, should contact the KHSAA well in advance of the championship event.

#### SEC. 12) FACILITY MANAGEMENT

- a) The KHSAA is responsible for all media accommodations and operations at state championship events.
- b) These services include arrangements for press seating, designated interview areas, statistical data and internet service, among others.

#### SEC. 13) LOCKER ROOM ACCESS

- a) Due to the age of the majority of the participants, the KHSAA has a closed door policy in respect to locker room access at its championship events.
- b) No media members are permitted inside a team's locker room to conduct interviews, including media members who obtain a team/participant pass at a state championship event.
- c) No member school may alter this policy.

#### SEC. 14) KHSAA RADIO NETWORK/KHSAA.TV/NFHS NETWORK

- a) The KHSAA has developed a network for both radio broadcasts and video webcasts.
- b) The KHSAA holds the exclusive media rights to all broadcasts (including all live and delayed webstreaming rights) at all postseason championship levels, but permits participating teams to have one (1) radio station originate its own broadcast as detailed in Section 6.
- c) The KHSAA assigns the radio (and all other audio only) broadcasts to the host school for all rounds of play through the region with a requirement for the host to enforce and adhere to all regulations, rights and fees.
- d) The KHSAA Radio Network originates broadcasts at the basketball championships.
- e) Video webcasts produced by the KHSAA may be delayed at the discretion of the KHSAA.
- f) The KHSAA is a contributing partner to the NFHS Network.
- g) If video is produced by the KHSAA, following the conclusion of a championship event, videos will be available for on-demand viewing, and DVD copies will be made available for consumer purchases.

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### **POLICY- INCLUSION IN STATISTICAL RECORDS LISTING AND RECORDS BOOK**

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#### SEC. 1) BASIS FOR INCLUSION IN RECORD BOOK

- a) For a performance to be considered a state record, it must be accomplished by an individual(s) representing his or her varsity high school team in competition against other competitors representing their respective varsity high school teams.
- b) The KHSAA will consider record applications submitted by the member school and the school sponsors or sponsored that sport and that activity is sponsored and managed by the school consistent with all other sports or sport-activities.
- c) The KHSAA through its designated staff, can initiate record application procedures in the event of continued nonparticipation by the involved school.
- d) The KHSAA will accept, for consideration, all record applications approved by member school.
- f) The KHSAA through its designated staff will be permitted to add published performance listings from school record publications to the state records listings when appropriate.
- g) All records submissions are subject to normal record application and verification procedures, particularly those that establish career records or marks of particular notoriety.
- h) The KHASA Record Book will not list or will delete individual, team and institutional state records when action is taken subsequent to the establishment of the record rendering the record holder ineligible or necessitating forfeiture of a contest or contests.
- i) In order to count an outcome toward a career win-loss coaching total, a coach must be physically employed at that time as the coach of the contest, actively coaching and not ejected prior to the end of the contest.
- j) Wins, losses and ties recorded as part of a co-coaching arrangement shall be recognized as part of a coach's overall win-loss record and not separated.

#### SEC. 2) OTHER PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING A RECORD

- a) Multiple state records established by the same entity (individual or school) should be submitted on one form rather than utilizing a separate form for each state record; further, that an additional page could be attached to the original application form setting forth additional information concerning each state record established by the same entity.
- b) Any records form shall be submitted electronically through the approved instrument available on the KHSAA website, [www.khsaa.org](http://www.khsaa.org).

#### SEC. 3) STATISTICIANS MANUAL

- a) The NFHS has published a separate statisticians' manual for football, basketball, baseball/softball and volleyball.
- b) All statistical records submissions (including game by game statistics reports) are to comply with these guidelines and may be rejected if found non-compliant.

#### SEC. 4) SPORTS AND CATEGORIES LISTED IN RECORD BOOK

- a) The KHSAA Record Book will list one, and only one, set of records with regard to eras, regardless of rules changes or other evolutionary stages in sport.
- b) The KHSAA through its designated staff may list in the KHSAA Record Book, all sports for which the NFHS writes a playing-rules code and for which the KHSAA conducts a championship as well as golf and tennis.
- c) Like sports for boys/coed and girls should incorporate the same record categories.
- d) The KHSAA through its designated staff encourages applications in new categories for all sports and begin development of specific performance listings to assist in the expansion of limited sports sections.
- e) The KHSAA through its designated staff will list in the KHSAA Record Book, the complete record (including names of individuals or teams involved) when the record involved a "positive" record (i.e., most points scored, fastest takedown, most strikeouts

against).

- f) The KHSAA through its designated staff will not list marks in the KHSAA Record Book that are solely of a negative nature (i.e., most errors, most consecutive losses, most missed free throws, margin of victory, scores of losing teams in most points scored categories).
- g) The KHSAA through its designated staff will not list in separate categories, any records set by these special schools (i.e., prep, handicap, parochial). (Secretary's note: Records for these schools, and any other exceptions, will be incorporated into the high school listings as long as all prior qualifications are met.)

#### SEC. 5) DEFINITIONS

- a) The KHSAA through its designated staff will define as an athletic career the eligibility rules of the KHSAA.
  - (1) A student shall not have the privilege of participating in the same interscholastic sport for more than the first four seasons in a four-year school following enrollment in grade nine (9), and all competition shall have occurred while the student was eligible by all other rules for records consideration.
- b) For the purpose of recognizing a career mark in the KHSAA Record Book, "career" is defined as a minimum of two seasons.
- c) For the purpose of recognizing a season mark in the KHSAA Record Book, "season" is defined as all regular-season contests within state association limits, plus all contests in the state association-sponsored postseason up to and including the state championship contest.

#### SEC. 6) SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR SPECIFIC SPORTS

- a) Football
  - (1) The football section of the KHSAA Record Book will contain records from 11-player and eight-player games.
  - (2) The KHSAA Record Book will not publish any longest-play list in football because of the great number of those types of plays each year, including longest run from scrimmage, longest punt return, longest kickoff return, etc.
- b) Track and Field and Swimming
  - (1) For a track performance to be recognized as a state record, it shall have been made in the state championship meet.
  - (2) Beginning in 1998, no state track record shall be granted unless the time is recorded by fully automatic timing (FAT).
  - (3) No swimming state record shall be granted unless the time is recorded by automatic timing.
  - (4) The split time of the lead-off swimmer in either of the two freestyle relays (200-Yard Freestyle Relay; 400-Yard Freestyle Relay) cannot be recognized as a state record.
- c) Baseball/Softball
  - (1) Pitching performances must be accomplished in games of at least five innings (or 4.5 innings) in order to be included in the Record Book.

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### **POLICY- MEDIA, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND VIDEO RECORDING**

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#### SEC. 1) OWNERSHIP OF RIGHTS

- a) The intellectual property, corporate, broadcasting and media rights to all State championship rounds of the KHSAA postseason championships belong exclusively to the KHSAA, including titling agreements and sponsorships. No member school may approve or sign an agreement that includes rights to state contests (delayed or live). The KHSAA will be the sole provider of any webstreaming of KHSAA state championship play. The Commissioner is the manager of all State Championship play.
- b) The intellectual property, corporate, broadcasting and media rights to the postseason rounds prior to the state finals belong exclusively to the KHSAA, including titling agreements and sponsorships. No member school can sign an exclusive agreement for a postseason round (district, region, sub-section, section) without agreement between the schools and approval of the KHSAA Office including full compliance with the restrictions of the NFHS Network and the KHSAA participation in the network. The Commissioner is the manager of all rounds of other championship play, but in accordance with adopted Competition Rules, may designate a manager to assist at the local level. No streaming may be approved for any outlet without the payment of the requisite fee as mandated by the KHSAA / NFHS Network agreement, with the sole exception of a waiver for those schools participating in the School Broadcast Program of the NFHS Network. The fee schedule will be published annually by the Commissioner's office.
- c) The rights to regular season competition involving schools of the KHSAA belong to the KHSAA. Such rights shall, in the normal course of business, be assigned to the Principal of the member school for management. No member school shall sign an exclusive regular season agreement that would "Shut out" its opponent from any audio, video streaming or having the opportunity to do so.
- d) At all levels of competition during postseason play, control of media access and location at those contests is with the KHSAA. In general, the management of those rights may be assigned to the manager at the host KHSAA member school for the district, regional and sectional (semi-state) competition.
- e) At all levels of competition, including district, regional, sectional, and state competition in KHSAA sponsored tournaments and meets, managers are encouraged to make allowances for members of the television media to tape the contests at no charge to the media outlet, as long as the taping is for the sole purpose of newscast highlights.
- f) Entities desiring to tape the contest for delayed rebroadcast shall receive the permission of the event manager.
- g) At the state level, all negotiations for rights to a delayed broadcast, as well as any live telecast, shall be initiated with the Communications Director and Assistant Commissioner, and shall be approved by the Commissioner of the KHSAA.

#### SEC. 2) PARTICIPATING TEAMS VIDEO RECORDING AT KHSAA EVENTS

- a) At the discretion of the event manager, and if space is available and if such taping does not violate existing, acknowledged, written copyright protection or intellectual property agreements, participating teams in KHSAA events shall be allowed space, for the purpose of recording the contest.

- b) If space is deemed to be available, the tournament manager has the right to designate a specific area for the purpose of taping, and allow taping only in that area.
- c) It shall be solely the determination of the event manager as to space availability.
- d) The manager of all state final championships is the Association Commissioner.
- e) If the tournament manager deems that space is available, each participating school choosing to tape or film is required to sign a waiver indicating that the Association shall be held blameless for any and all liability to those parties involved in the taping, and that the school shall make no copies of the tape or film.

**SEC. 3) FANS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC VIDEO RECORDING (INCLUDING CONTINUOUS STREAMING) AT STATE CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS**

- a) The Association shall allow for the taping of KHSAA sponsored competition by persons whose equipment is totally self-contained, is for personal use, shall not be duplicated and the equipment can be operated from the confines of the seat that the person occupies.
- b) However, at the discretion of the event manager, taping may be prohibited if attendance figures or ticket sales indicate that the allowance of taping would impose on the comfort and view of other paying patrons.
- c) No support equipment, i.e., electric power supplies, tripods, etc. shall be allowed.
- d) The determination as to space availability and other technical requests shall be solely to the discretion of the event manager.
- e) If space is deemed to be available, the tournament manager has the right to designate a specific area for the purpose of taping, and allow taping only in that area.
- f) All requests for tape and film space at levels below the state championships shall be directed to the event manager, and his or her decision as to space availability shall be final.

**SEC. 4) ASSOCIATION TAPING PRIVILEGES**

- a) The Kentucky High School Athletic Association reserves the right to tape any of its state championship rounds, and to make the tapes available in a reasonable amount of time and at a reasonable rate.
- b) The Association list of events to tape includes all championship events sponsored by the KHSAA.

**SEC. 5) REGULAR SEASON VIDEO RECORDING PRIVILEGES**

- a) During the regular season, when granted authority by the KHSAA, the local contest manager (member school Principal) must approve any video recording of the contest.
- b) Parties taping without permission of the member school will be in violation of KHSAA Bylaw 15, and shall be subject to penalty under Bylaw 27.
- c) All parties must comply with any provisions of the NFHS Network agreements in those facilities utilizing that equipment.

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**POLICY- TITLE IX COMPLAINTS**

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**SEC. 1) BACKGROUND**

- a) The Kentucky Department of Education complies with all Federal laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination and with all requirements of the U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Agriculture
- b) Any person alleging sexual discrimination by the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) its staff or third parties within their jurisdiction may file a complaint with the KHSAA administrative offices in Lexington.
- c) Any complaints alleging discrimination by local school districts, schools or their staff should be directed to the local level and handled according to local board policy.
- d) Complaints alleging discrimination by local school districts, schools or their staff that are submitted to the KHSAA will be referred to the Principal and Superintendent of the member school per the policies of the KHSAA Board of Control.
- e) The KHSAA is in compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, 20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq. (Title IX), and its implementing regulation, at 34 C.F.R. Part 106, which prohibits discrimination based on sex. The KHSAA, while not a recipient of federal financial assistance from the United States Department of Education (USDOE) or other entities, voluntarily subjects itself subject to the provisions of Title IX. KHSAA does not discriminate based on gender in employment or in any program or activity that it operates.

**SEC. 2) FILING OF COMPLAINTS**

- a) Complaints alleging discrimination under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 by the KHSAA or its staff may be filed with:  
 Compliance Coordinator  
 Darren Bilberry, Assistant Commissioner  
 Kentucky High School Athletic Association  
 2280 Executive Drive  
 Lexington, KY 40505  
 Phone: (859) 299-5472
- b) Complaints must be filed within one hundred eighty (180) days of the alleged discrimination and should contain the following information:
  - (1) Name, address, and telephone number of the complainant if known;
  - (2) The location and name of the entity or person delivering the service;
  - (3) The nature of the incident that led the complainant to feel discrimination was a factor;
  - (4) The basis of the complaint;
  - (5) Names, addresses and phone numbers of people who may have knowledge of the event; and

(6) The date or dates on which the alleged discriminatory event or events occurred.

#### SEC. 3) COMPLAINT PROCESS

- a) Upon receipt of the complaint by an individual or at the time of the compliance coordinator becomes independently aware of the actions that may constitute sexual discrimination, the compliance coordinator shall send an acknowledgment of the complaint and shall direct and investigation of the claim.
- b) The investigation shall be adequate, reliable and impartial including the opportunity for the parties to present witnesses and evidence.
- c) The compliance coordinator will render a determination and recommend specific actions to resolve the complaint within ninety (90) days of receipt.
- d) The compliance coordinator shall file a report to the KHSAA Commissioner.
- e) Any complaints received by the compliance coordinator will be maintained in a log including the date of receipt, determination, and action taken. The complaint log will be retained for a period of the current school year plus four (4) years.
- f) All parties shall be notified in writing within thirty (30) days of completion of the investigation the results of the investigation and any actions taken. The KHSAA shall maintain the confidentiality of the complaint and the name of the complainant as allowed by law.
- g) Any corrective actions shall be implemented within thirty (30) days of receipt and acceptance of a final report by the compliance coordinator.

#### SEC. 4) WITHDRAWAL OF COMPLAINT

- a) The complainant may withdraw his/her complaint at any time during the process by notifying the compliance coordinator in writing.

#### SEC. 5) APPEALS

- a) The complainant may file a written appeal of the compliance coordinator's resolution of the complaint within thirty (30) days of receipt of the written notice of resolution.
- b) Appeals shall be filed with the KHSAA Commissioner, 2280 Executive Drive, Lexington, KY 40505.
- c) The complainant shall be notified of the final resolution of the appeal within sixty (60) days receipt of the appeal.
- d) This appeal opportunity constitutes the second and final level in the agency's complaint process.

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### **POLICY- TITLE IX (TITLE 20, U.S.C. TITLES, 1681-1688, ET. SEQ.) EDUCATION PROGRAM**

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#### SEC. 1) BACKGROUND

- a) Title IX refers to a portion of the education amendments of 1972, a federal law that prohibits gender discrimination in education programs that receive federal funds and includes athletic programs. The Title IX statute as amended became law June 23, 1972 with the implementation of the regulation for high schools effective in July of 1978.
- b) The KHSAA Board of Control fully supports facilitating the requirements of Title IX for all KHSAA member schools.
- c) The KHSAA began monitoring and auditing equity within KHSAA member school athletic programs (boys and girls) at the beginning of the 1999-2000 school year.
- e) The annual internal Title IX school audits are conducted by KHSAA staff members as well as outside contractors.

#### SEC. 2) KHSAA TITLE IX MONITORING PER 702 KAR 7:065

- a) Duties of the KHSAA in managing high school athletics are set forth in 702 KAR 7:065. The regulation includes the following: "As a condition present to membership, require each member school and superintendent to annually submit a written certification of compliance with 20 USD Section 1681-83 (Title IX).
- b) Initially, during the 1999-2000 school year, each school received a publication entitled, Title IX Guidelines for Compliance at the High School Level as well as the KHSAA Title IX Audit Document.
- c) The original document contained forms and instructional material to allow personnel to evaluate the athletics program within the guidelines of Title IX, and submit this document to the KHSAA for review.
- d) As of 2011-2012, the process for submitting the reports is totally automated, with roster and participation data based on the rosters maintained by the membership throughout the school year.

#### SEC. 3) MAJOR COMPONENTS OF TITLE IX

- a) In its simplest form, Title IX is about providing participation opportunities for students as well as the evaluation of the benefits they receive while participating in sports, and measures these items in two basic areas, Opportunities and Benefits.
  - a) Opportunities. To assess participation opportunities a school may examine or determine if they comply with Title IX under one of three tests. To be compliant, a school shall pass one of the three tests:
    - (1) Athletic participation at a school is substantially proportionate to enrollment;
    - (2) School personnel shall demonstrate a history and continuing practice of program expansion that is responsive to the developing interests and abilities of the underrepresented sex; or
    - (3) School personnel shall fully and effectively accommodate the interest and abilities of the underrepresented sex.
  - b) Benefits. Once it is determined that equivalent opportunities are provided, an examination of the 12 major athletics program components is made to determine if equivalent/comparable benefits are provided to all athletes. There are twelve major areas of benefits to be analyzed:
    - (1) Equipment and Supplies (i.e. uniforms, shoes, bats, balls, replacement schedules, etc.);
    - (2) Scheduling of Games and Practice Times (i.e. prime date basketball playing opportunities for girls, comparable prime practice times and length, equivalent number of contest for comparable sports, etc.);
    - (3) Travel and Per Diem Allowances (i.e. comparable modes of transportation, meal monies, room accommodations, etc.);

- (4) Coaching (i.e. comparably skilled and experienced coaches, comparable coaching salaries, comparable coaching staff size, etc.);
  - (5) Locker Rooms, Practice and Competitive Facilities (i.e. comparable size locker rooms and amenities, lockers, practice facilities, etc.);
  - (6) Medical and Training Facilities and Services (i.e. comparable numbers of trainers, medical doctors [home and away], equal access to training facilities and weight rooms, etc.);
  - (7) Publicity (i.e. schedule cards, game programs, media guides, cheerleading quality, pep bands, mascots, trophy cases, recognition banners, dance teams [home and away], etc.);
  - (8) Support Services (i.e. support for coaches administrative needs, booster clubs, etc.);
  - (9) Tutoring;
  - (10) Athletic Scholarships (\*);
  - (11) Housing and Dining Facilities and Services (\*); and
  - (12) Recruitment of Student-Athletes (\*).
- (\* ) NOTE: Items j, k, l do not normally apply at the high school level.

**SEC. 4) ESTABLISHING AND MONITORING A LOCAL TITLE IX PLAN**

- a) As part of the KHSAA compliance model, each member school/school district shall be required to form a Gender Equity Review Committee (GERC) for the purpose of evaluating the total athletics program and handling issues at the local level.
- b) Each school or school district shall create a Title IX plan and a timetable for improvements at the local level. The plan shall include an evaluation of the entire athletic program and improvements if necessary on items such as practice times, facilities, coaching stipends and athletic budgets.

**SEC. 5) ANNUAL REPORTING**

- a) The KHSAA requires its member schools to annually submit Annual Report forms on or before April 30 for review by the KHSAA.
- b) Member school personnel shall establish a Title IX plan for regular review and for necessary improvements along with a timetable for completion.
- c) If a school is found to have serious Title IX compliance issues, the local school GERC shall be given the initial opportunity to correct the inequities and submit a timetable for such action.
- d) The recommended time period for such implementation shall be determined by the Commissioner and may vary depending upon the nature of the noncompliance issues and financial implications.

**SEC. 6) REQUIREMENT TO MAINTAIN FILE**

- a) In an on-going effort to assist in Title IX compliance, Kentucky public school districts are required to maintain a permanent Title IX File that is subject to review by the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA), the Kentucky Board of Education's designated agent to manage inter-scholastic athletics in Kentucky.
- b) As part of that file, each year, all public school districts must submit an annual Title IX report to the KHSAA for review.
- c) In addition, the KHSAA conducts systematic on-site reviews for items related to Title IX, and submits a compiled report of those visits to the Kentucky Board of Education on an annual basis.
- d) Each member school may utilize the repository of information stored and shared on the KHSAA website, [www.khsaa.org](http://www.khsaa.org), as its Title IX File provided the school representatives verify its complete contents and accuracy

**SEC. 7) LOCAL TITLE IX COORDINATORS**

- a) The Kentucky Board of Education requires that each school district designate two coordinators, a School District Title IX Coordinator and a High School Title IX Coordinator.
- b) The District Title IX Coordinator's main responsibility is oversight and monitoring of each high school within their district so that the district complies with Title IX.
- c) The primary responsibility of the School Title IX Coordinator is to coordinate the activities at the school level that are designed to promote gender equality in athletics.
- d) Together these individuals are responsible for ensuring that their schools meet the standards for Title IX compliance.

**SEC. 8) GRIEVANCES**

- a) To file a Title IX complaint for a failure to provide equal opportunity in athletics, the complaining party has the option of filing the complaint with either the local district that sponsors or manages the athletic program in which the alleged violation has occurred and/or with the U. S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights (USED, OCR).
- b) When filing a complaint with a local school district, the complaining party must review local board policies to determine the proper grievance procedure for that district.

**SEC. 9) COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY KHSAA**

- a) The Kentucky Department of Education has a Title IX Compliance Officer, but that Title IX Compliance officer is responsible for complaints that relate specifically to programs that it sponsors or operates.
- b) If the Kentucky Department of Education or the KHSAA receives a complaint that relates to failure to provide equal opportunity in athletics at the school district level, the KDE Title IX Compliance Officer of the KHSAA will refer the complaint to the local district.
- c) The KHSAA reserves the right to directly report any situation discovered through its education and reporting process directly to the Office of Civil Rights in Philadelphia.

**SEC. 10) SUMMARY**

- a) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits discrimination based on sex in education programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance.



- b) The U.S. Department of Education gives grants of financial assistance to schools and colleges, therefore, Kentucky public schools are mandated by law to ensure Title IX compliance.
- c) The Title IX regulation (34 CFR Part 106) includes not only the failure to provide equal opportunity in athletics, but also sexual harassment and discrimination based on pregnancy, and employment discrimination.
- d) The KHSAA staff continues to report regularly to the Kentucky Board of Education regarding this project, and in particular, with areas that may be identified as potential compliance issues. This report routinely includes an overall review of the Association's progress in assisting the member schools in achieving equity within the sports programs of the underrepresented gender.
- e) The KHSAA shall publish on its website, resource information related to the proper application of Title IX, and procedures to be followed in the event that individuals desire to seek remedy to alleged violations or noncompliance.
- f) The KHSAA, KBE, Kentucky Department of Education and Kentucky School Boards Association continue to work together to provide continuing education to the member school administrators to assist the schools in achieving gender equity in interscholastic athletics.

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## **POLICY- DISQUALIFIED STUDENT-ATHLETES AND NON-PLAYERS (COACHES, ETC.)**

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KHSAA Bylaw 21 addresses sportsmanship. In order to ensure consistency in terms of suspensions and penalties, the Board of Control has adopted the following policies relative to the ejection of student-athletes and non-players (coaches).

### **SEC. 1) PROTESTS/APPEALS**

- a) Per Bylaw 21, there are no appeals of judgment calls by game officials, including the judgment call making the determination that unsportsmanlike conduct should result in ejection.
- b) At the discretion of the Commission, review may be conducted in the event that the consequences of a playing rule are misadministered or in the case of ejection, the ejection party has been numerically or positionally misidentified.
- c) Human error is a part of coaching, playing and officiating, and the decision of the official, right or wrong, shall prevail.

### **SEC. 2) REPORTING EJECTIONS**

- a) The KHSAA shall develop and maintain an online system for managing ejections.
- b) The game official(s) shall complete the ejection report within twenty-four hours of the ejection.
- d) The member school principal or designated representative of the school with whom the player or coach is affiliated shall complete any required information and if desired, information requesting reinstatement.
- e) The player or coach is disqualified from further competition at that level until reinstated by a member of the Commission.
- f) An official or school may be fined, suspended or otherwise penalized in accordance with Bylaw 27 for failing to properly and timely report a disqualification or request reinstatement.
- g) KHSAA member school representatives are obligated to impose the minimum suspension penalty for the ejection per these published guidelines.
- h) In those rare cases when an ejection is not reported in a timely manner, including ejections which occur during out of state contests or those during school breaks, the penalties related to ejection must be imposed by the member school.
- i) School administrators should contact the Association office with any questions.

### **SEC. 3) PENALTIES FOR EJECTION OF ADULT NON-PLAYERS AND COACHES**

- a) The suspension is considered immediate and indefinite when the ejection occurs.
- b) The suspension is in effect for any further interscholastic competition on that day at all levels of play (i.e., the freshmen coach ejected during a game may not be in the gym for the any subsequent game that day, baseball/softball coach ejected early in a multiple game tournament may not be at the field or in any part of the stadium or venue during any subsequent games that day).
- c) The suspended coach or non-player may not participate in another contest at that level until being reinstated by a member of the Commission.
- d) Following review, the Commission may extend the suspension.
- e) When a coach is ejected from a scrimmage or contest, the coach is to leave the vicinity of the playing area and remove himself/herself completely from the area of the playing facility. In football and soccer for example, this means to leave the field and stadium area; in basketball, this implies leaving the building altogether (not simply relocating to another room); in other sports, completely leaving the venue.
- f) An ejected coach may not have any further communication with the game officials following the game.
- g) During the subsequent suspension period of any non-player (coach, administrator, etc.) the coach may not be on school property where the contests are being played and may not be at the venue if contests are played at a non-school site. The non-player may not communicate with the team at any point from the beginning of the contest until the end of the contest.
- h) For all sports and sport-activities except football, following the date of ejection, there shall be a minimum three additional games/meets/contests suspension for any coach or non-player ejected from a contest and shall be served in consecutive games/meets/contests that count against the limit of games/meets/contests contained in Bylaw 23.
- i) For football, following the date of ejection, there shall be a minimum two additional games suspension for any coach or non-player ejected from a contest and shall be served in consecutive games that count against the limit of games contained in Bylaw 23.
- j) For all coaches or non-players sitting out in an individual sport such as swimming, track or wrestling due to suspension, the penalty shall be for the entire meet schedule, not for a single event.
- k) If the ejection was during one of the preseason scrimmages, the penalty shall be served during the first regular season contest(s).
- l) If the ejection was for the final game/contest of the season and was a coach or non-player, the person ejected shall serve the required suspension in the next varsity level contest(s) at the member school for the suspended individual.

- m) For the second ejection during a sports season, the suspension shall be an additional game/contest/meet beyond the minimum suspension and may be cause for additional penalties that may include suspension for the remainder of the season.
- n) For the third ejection during a sports season, the suspension shall be cause for additional penalties including suspension for the remainder of the season.

**SEC. 4) PENALTIES FOR EJECTION OF STUDENT-ATHLETES AND OTHER STUDENT MEMBERS OF THE SQUAD**

- a) The suspension is considered immediate and indefinite when the ejection occurred.
- b) The suspension is in effect for any further interscholastic competition on that day (i.e., a freshmen ejected during the first game may not be in the gym for the subsequent varsity game, baseball/softball participant ejected in first game of multiple game tournament may not be at field during any subsequent games that day).
- c) The ejected participant may not participate in another contest at that level (JV, Freshmen, Varsity, etc.) until being reinstated by a member of the Commission.
- d) Following review, the Commission may extend the suspension.
- e) When a participant is ejected from a scrimmage or contest, the participant is to leave the vicinity of the playing area and remove himself/herself completely from the area of the playing facility unless the specific playing rules of the sport call for a different penalty option or the student would be placed in a position of not being supervised. In those cases, the administration of the player's team is responsible for ensuring that the student participates in no other unsportsmanlike activity or the school itself may face additional penalty under Bylaw 27.
- f) An ejected participant may not have any further communication with the game officials following the game.
- g) During the subsequent suspension period, suspended players may attend contest(s), but may not be in the game uniform or other school identifiable clothing and may not participate in any sport-related activity (warm-up activity) prior to or during the game, and will be classified as non-player personnel during that contest as it relates to playing rules enforcement. It is a local school determination as to whether or not this student may be in the vicinity of the bench or team area.
- h) For all sports and sport-activities except football, following the day of ejection, there shall be a minimum two additional games/meets/contests suspension for any participant ejected from a contest and shall be served in consecutive games/meets/contests that count against the limit of games/meets/contests contained in Bylaw 23.
- i) For football, following the day of ejection, there shall be a minimum one additional game/meet/contest suspension for any participant ejected from a contest and shall be served in the next game/meet/contest that counts against the limit of games/meets/contests contained in Bylaw 23.
- j) For participants sitting out in an individual sport such as swimming, track or wrestling due to suspension, this penalty shall include the entire meet schedule not for a single event.
- k) If the ejection was during one of the two preseason scrimmages, the penalty shall be served during the first regular season contest(s).
- l) If this was the final game/contest of the season, the ejection was for a student, and the ejected participant is a senior, the full penalty shall carry forward to the next varsity interscholastic contest(s) in any KHSAA sanctioned sport.
- m) If this was the final game/contest of the season, the ejection was for a participant, and this was in varsity (first team) competition and the ejected student is not a senior, the full penalty shall carry over to the next varsity season in the sport in which the participant was participating when ejected.
- n) If this was the final game/contest of the season, the ejection was for a student, and this was NOT a varsity (first team) contest, the full penalty shall carry forward to the next interscholastic varsity level contest(s) in any KHSAA sanctioned sport.
- o) For the second ejection during a sports season, the suspension shall be an additional game/contest/meet beyond the minimum suspension and may be cause for additional penalties that may include suspension for the remainder of the season.
- p) For the third ejection during a sports season, the suspension shall be cause for additional penalties including suspension for the remainder of the season.

**SEC. 5) PENALTIES FOR EJECTION OF INDIVIDUALS IN INCIDENTS EN MASSE**

- a) On rare occasions that a member school has multiple individuals leave the bench during an altercation or in the case when an egregious situation involves non-participating students (fans) or both participants (including coaches and fans), the Association staff may conduct a detailed review.
- b) In the event of such review, the Commissioner's office may levy additional suspensions or penalties to squad members (including coaches and other non-players identified with the team in any manner) in compliance with Bylaw 27.
- c) Schools unwilling to impose penalties on fans and other non-rostered participants may be subject to penalty under Bylaw 27 for failure to exercise institutional control as required by Bylaw 1 and the membership agreement.
- d) Non-rostered individuals (fans and others not appearing of the regular team roster) shall be penalized as if ejected under the policy on spectator ejection.

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**POLICY ON SPECTATOR EJECTION**

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**SEC. 1) CONDUCT AT MEMBER SCHOOL HOSTED CONTESTS**

- a) Any negative, inappropriate, derogatory comments or actions that brings direct attention to a supervisor or school administrator by a spectator or group of spectators are required to be addressed by the host school.
- b) It is recommended that a three-step process be used in the event that violations of conduct expectations do not immediately rise to the level of ejection or removal of a spectator is not requested by an official prior to a contest continuing:
  - (1) First warning – Directing the spectator or group of spectators to refrain from any negative comments or actions.

(2) Second warning – A personal discussion with the spectators or group of spectators on the school and KHSAA expectations and reminding the spectators or group of spectators of the next step, removal of the game or event, will be utilized if the behavior continues.

(3) Removal from the contest – The spectator or group of spectators will be directed to leave the facility for the remainder of the game or event. If spectators or group of spectators refuse to leave the game or event, play will be stopped until they vacate the premise

c) Any adult spectator (adult who is not listed on the current roster of coaches for the school) at any KHSAA sanctioned interscholastic event (scrimmage, regular or postseason contest) who is removed by school administrators or by law enforcement for unsportsmanlike conduct (whether or not referred by an official) shall be suspended from attending, at minimum, the next contest at that level of competition and all other contests at any level in the interim.

d) A school may take any or all these actions during or after an interscholastic contest

#### SEC. 2) SCHOOL IMPOSED ADDITIONAL PENALTY

a) Any penalty shall be monitored by the member school for which the individual is affiliated based on the circumstances of the ejection.

b) It is strongly recommended that any spectator removed from a game or event will have a minimum penalty of completing the NFHS Parent Credential course or a one game suspension before they are allowed to attend any interscholastic event.

c) Once the course is completed the spectator will provide a certificate of completion to the athletic department office.

d) Schools are required to communicate with the offending spectator on the sportsmanship spectator expectations.

e) It is strongly recommended that repeat offenders of this policy be considered for suspension from attending all school-related activities up to an including the remainder of the school year.

f) Depending on the severity of the behavior/comments or future disqualifications by the offending spectator KHSAA may get directly involved in the situation

#### SEC. 3) CONDUCT AT KHSAA SANCTIONED EVENTS

a) High school championship fans are the best in the world because of their enthusiasm, team support, and involvement.

b) The players, coaches, staff, and fans shape the image of each participating teams and the KHSAA encourages fans to create a high-energy environment supporting your team while maintaining a family-oriented atmosphere.

c) The KHSAA has established Rules of Conduct that will allow everyone in attendance at the events to enjoy all aspects of a contest and asks everyone conduct themselves in a manner that does not take away from other's enjoyment of the game.

d) Any violation of these rules could result in immediate expulsion from the venue and potential revocation of ticket privileges. These rules include, but are not limited to:

(1) Entering the playing field or interfering with the progress of the game;

(2) Refusing to show a ticket when asked by a venue representative, or scalping tickets to future sessions;

(3) Attempting to sit in seats for which you are not properly ticketed at reserve seat events;

(4) Using foul or abusive language or gestures;

(5) Threatening other patrons with words and/or actions;

(6) Fighting;

(7) Throwing or kicking any object in the venue;

(8) Interfering with other guests' ability to enjoy the game.;

(9) Wearing clothing with abusive or vulgar terminology or inappropriate photographs or symbols;

(10) Wearing obscene or indecent clothing;

(11) Displaying obscene or indecent signs;

(12) Standing on seats or chairs;

(13) Stepping over chairs from one row to another;

(14) Standing, sitting or loitering in aisles, stairs, ramps or other areas of conveyance;

(15) Placing food or beverages on walls, ledges or overhangs that may spill or drop on guests below;

(16) Disorderly conduct;

(17) Public intoxication;

(18) Having an open container of alcohol;

(19) Possession or use of drugs;

(20) Public indecency;

(21) Obstructing justice;

(22) Criminal trespass;

(23) Distributing or displaying handbills without prior consent; or

(24) Smoking or use of electronic cigarette products within the venue.

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### **POLICY- STAFF REVIEW OF VIDEO**

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#### SEC. 1) REVIEW OF CONTEST VIDEO

a) Upon request of a member school or contest official, a member of the Commission will review selected play situations and provide interpretations as to the proper application of the playing rules.

b) If requested, the results of such a review will be shared with the member school or requesting official and the appropriate Assigning Secretary and such video may also be retained for future training purposes, not to indict any school or official, but to ensure consistent rules application and serve as a resource for training material;

- c) Video SHALL NOT BE USED (per KHSAA Bylaw 21) to appeal/protest the judgment call of an official, and will not be used to revise or adjust that judgment, or the subsequent penalties that may have arisen or shall arise from that judgment;
- d) Video SHALL NOT BE USED during any contest for the purpose of assisting officials with making a game decision;
- e) Video MAY be used at the discretion of the Commission to appropriately and properly identify the offenders in a situation where it is possible that misidentification (officials unable to get number, transposition of number, etc.) and where either the member school or game official has requested such review or the Commission has been made aware of the possibility from another source.
- f) Video may also be used, at the discretion of the Commission, to review the possible misadministration/misapplication of the consequences of a rule or in the case of ejection, the ejection party has been numerically misidentified.;
- g) Video MAY be used at the discretion of the Commission and in compliance with NFHS playing rules, in a situation involving a fight, physical confrontation or ejection where the circumstances are potentially unable to be accurately observed and reported by the game officials.) and where either the member school or game official has requested such review or the Commission has been made aware of the possibility from another source. This could include identifying individuals that were not previously identified, correcting the numbers/names of incorrectly identified individuals, identifying individuals, including non-players or substitutes, who enter the playing area during an altercation, or assessing different levels of involvement in the incident for the purpose of administrative action.

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## **POLICY- VENUE VIDEO BOARDS/REPLAY BOARDS**

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### **SEC. 1) RESTRICTIONS AND ALLOWANCES ON VIDEO BOARDS**

- a) It is recognized that as technology advances, more facilities are adding video capability to the assets utilized at contests. To ensure the proper conduct of contests, and to ensure that such video is not used to the detriment of any school, coach, participant or contest official, the following specific restrictions shall be in place:
- b) Any live action being shown during the contest may only be the simulcasting of a media broadcast of the event, and no audio from the simulcast can be projected via the venue sound system;
- c) In the event of officials holding any type of conference to properly interpret or apply a game situation, video replays may NOT be shown during that conference and may not be shown until later in the contest or during a charged conference;
- d) Any replay of game action that is shown on the video board, shall be shown only once immediately following the play, only at full game speed, and without announcing commentary from any source;
- e) Replays of specific scoring plays and contest highlights may be shown during charged conferences or during breaks between periods, but should reflect a balance between participating teams and may not include announcer commentary;
- f) Game administration is continually expected to exercise prudent judgment and ensure that nothing shown on the video boards can serve to incite the crowd against either team or the contest officials. Failure to perform this expected discretion may result in penalties against the school for a violation of Bylaw 15, Practice of Sportsmanship.

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## **POLICY- PUBLIC ADDRESS ANNOUNCERS**

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### **SEC. 1) ROLE OF PUBLIC ADDRESS ANNOUNCERS – REGULAR SEASON**

- a) The public address announcer shall be considered a bench official for all events.
- b) He/she shall maintain complete neutrality at all times and, as such, shall not be a “cheerleader” for any team.
- c) Schools are highly encouraged to follow the protocol for postseason public address announcers, and to prompt the announcer to complete professional development available through a wide variety of athletic related services such as NASPAA and NIAAA

### **SEC. 2) ROLE OF PUBLIC ADDRESS ANNOUNCERS – POSTSEASON**

- a) The public address announcer shall be considered a bench official for all state series events. He/she shall maintain complete neutrality at all times and, as such, shall not be a “cheerleader” for any team.
- b) The announcer will follow the provided script for promotional announcements, player introductions and awards ceremonies.
- c) Other announcements are limited to:
  - (1) Those of an emergency nature (e.g., paging a doctor, lost child or parent, etc.);
  - (2) Those of a “practical” nature (e.g., announcing that a driver has left his/her vehicle lights on);
  - (3) Starting lineups or entire lineups of both participating teams (what is announced for the home team shall be announced for the visiting team);
  - (4) Messages provided by host school management; and
  - (5) Announcements that assist fans such as the fact that souvenir merchandise, souvenir programs and concessions are on sale in the facility.
- d) During the contest, the announcer:
  - (1) Should recognize players about to attempt a play (e.g., coming up to bat in baseball, punting, kicking or receiving a punt or kick in football, serving in volleyball, etc.);
  - (2) Should recognize player(s) making a play (e.g., “Basket by Jones” in basketball, “Smith on the kill” in volleyball, etc.) unless specifically precluded by playing rules;
  - (3) Should report a penalty as signaled by the referee including the proper identification of the offender;
  - (4) Should report substitutions and time-outs;
  - (5) Shall not call the “play-by-play” or provide “color commentary” as if he/she were announcing for a radio or television broadcast;
  - (6) Shall not make any comment that would offer either competing team an unfair advantage in the contest;

- (7) Shall not make announcements unnecessary to the conduct of the contest such as birthdays and other commemorations;
- (8) Shall not make any comment critical of any school, team, player, coach or official; or any other comment that has the potential to incite unsporting conduct on the part of any individual; and
- (9) Shall be certain of the accuracy of his/her statements before making them. When in doubt, the announcer should remain silent.

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## **POLICY- DISTRIBUTION OF TICKETS TO KHSAA EVENTS**

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### **SEC. 1) TICKETS - BASKETBALL (BOYS AND GIRLS)**

#### **a) Board of Control/Staff.**

- (1) Each current Board of Control member and currently employed KHSAA staff member shall receive two (2) complimentary tickets to each tournament.
- (2) Each person shall sign a statement upon receipt of the tickets that they are for personal use and will not be sold.
- (3) The Board of Control and staff also have the option of purchasing two seats adjacent to the complimentary tickets, and additional seats in a more desirable location in the arena.
- (4) Any tickets other than the complimentary tickets shall be purchased for full face value.
- (5) The Commissioner may also allocate event tickets at no charge to promote the association to its existing and prospective corporate partners or those assisting in the management of the event or events.

#### **b) Complimentary Tickets - Boys' and Girls' Basketball.**

- (1) The Board of Control authorizes the Commissioner to issue a maximum of 500 complimentary sets of tickets to the Boys' and Girls' basketball tournaments, to be distributed in a manner decided by the Commissioner.
- (2) Included in this allotment would be the tickets listed above for the Board of Control and staff and other complimentary tickets deemed in the best interest of the Association.
- (3) Specifically approved are a maximum of forty-eight (48) tickets to be used in exchange sponsorships with automobile dealers in exchange for furnishing the association automobiles (eight (8) per automobile);
- (4) In addition, the Commissioner may issue two (2) tickets upon request for any former member of the Board of Control or staff member who retires following service to the Association office as a full-time employee, provided such are requested by the published deadline.
- (5) The Commissioner shall designate a section of seating to accommodate these seats.

### **SEC. 2) TICKETS – FOOTBALL, SOFTBALL, SOCCER AND BASEBALL**

#### **a) Board of Control/Staff.**

- (1) Each current Board of Control member and currently employed KHSAA staff member shall receive two (2) complimentary tickets to each tournament provided the request is submitted on a timely basis.
- (2) Each person shall sign a statement upon receipt of the tickets that they are for personal use and will not be sold.
- (3) (4) Any tickets other than the complimentary tickets shall be purchased for full face value.

#### **b) Other Complimentary Tickets.**

- (1) The Board of Control authorizes the Commissioner to issue a maximum of 400 passes to all championship games to be distributed in a manner decided by the Commissioner in the best interests of the Association.
- (2) Included in this allotment would be Board of Control members and staff members and any corporate exchange agreements.
- (3) In addition, the Commissioner may issue up to two (2) complimentary tickets upon request of any living former member of the Board of Control who has made such request prior to the start of postseason play in these sports.
- (4) The Commissioner shall designate a section of seating to accommodate these seats.

### **SEC. 3) TICKET PRICES AND POLICIES ON OTHER SPORTS**

- a) Ticket prices in all sports are reviewed annually by staff and reported to the Board of Control.
- b) The Commissioner may implement additional programs to charge a sponsorship fee for specific location privileges at KHSAA championships, and such shall be reviewed annually by staff and reported to the Board of Control.
- c) All other tickets shall be sold at the full face value based on the published prices.
- d) Officiating and coach association identification shall into be accepted for complimentary admission at any championships contest.

### **SEC. 4) ADMISSION OF CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING TEAM SPORTS TRAVELING PARTY**

- a) In the team sports of baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, soccer, softball and volleyball, a traveling party to include the team members (and cheerleaders as a support unit as appropriate to the sport) in uniform and an additional allotment as determined by tournament management shall be admitted.
- b) At the football and basketball championships, the band members shall be required to hold a ticket and an instrument for admission, with the adult supervisors to be included in team traveling party.
- c) At all other KHSAA events, the Commission may permit admission of the band (in uniform or carrying an instrument and participating and limited in numbers by tournament management) and necessary adult supervision.
- d) Bus drivers working for qualifying teams with appropriate identification shall be admitted through the designated pass gate and expected to assist with event ingress and egress of school representatives.
- e) All others within the school shall be expected to purchase admission.

### **SEC. 5) ADMISSION OF CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING INDIVIDUAL SPORTS TRAVELING PARTY**

- a) In the individual sports of cross country, golf, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field and wrestling, the qualifying individuals shall be admitted to the state finals with appropriate roster verification.

- b) Qualified coaches listed on the KHSAA online data system and current with the requirements of the coaching education course, rules clinic and sports safety course shall be admitted to the state finals with proper verification subject to limitations based on a published ratio of qualifiers to coaches/adults.
- c) The Superintendent, Principal and Athletic Director holding a valid current year Commonwealth Card issued by the KHSAA shall be admitted to the state finals with that card but only at the appropriate pass/team gate.
- d) All others within the school shall be expected to purchase admission.

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### **POLICY- TOBACCO USE**

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#### SEC. 1) POLICY AT KHSAA OFFICES

- a) The KHSAA maintains a smoke- and tobacco-free office.
- b) No smoking or other use of tobacco products (including, but not limited to, cigarettes, pipes, cigars, snuff, or chewing tobacco) is permitted in any part of the building or in vehicles owned, leased, or rented by the KHSAA.
- c) Employees may smoke outside of the building in designated areas during breaks and only in compliance with local regulations.

#### SEC. 2) POLICY AT KHSAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

- a) KHSAA events are smoke- and tobacco-free and most events are held in venues with prohibitions as well.
- b) No smoking or other use of tobacco products (including, but not limited to, cigarettes, pipes, cigars, snuff, or chewing tobacco) is permitted in any part of the facility inside the admission area.
- c) Patrons may smoke or use tobacco products outside of the admission area only in compliance with local regulations and venue and policies.

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### **POLICY ON ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO**

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#### SEC. 1) RESTRICTIONS ON SALES/DISTRIBUTION

- a) No alcohol is to be sold at any KHSAA state tournament venue (including district, region, section, subsection and state) that is leased or provided to the KHSAA for the purpose of conducting a state championship while such championship is being conducted.
- b) The Board of Control recommends that member schools make all school property, vehicles used by participants, and all contest and practice sites "alcohol-free zones."
- c) The Association, and any of its agents acting on behalf of the Association, shall not accept free or paid advertising in any form from any manufacturer of tobacco or alcoholic beverages, or entity whose primary sales focus is on the sale of these products.
- d) All KHSAA events shall observe relevant and applicable laws and regulations regarding smoking on the facility grounds.

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### **POLICY- ALIGNMENTS AND REALIGNMENTS**

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#### SEC. 1) ONGOING ALIGNMENT OF TEAMS

- a) On an ongoing basis, the Commissioner shall ensure that staff maintains a current alignment of teams in each sport with the following review points considered, but which may be altered by the Board of Control in specific instances:
  - (1) If a single school adds a team (or individuals) or deletes a team (or all individuals), the alignment may be revised on an ongoing basis by the Commissioner;
  - (2) The Board of Control may, at its own discretion, choose to realign all teams participating in a sport or sport activity, or teams in a specific area based on input from the Commissioner or submitted by schools desiring to change regions for geographic or travel reasons;
  - (3) A realignment may also be caused by a previously adopted alignment having an expiration of its valid period. This is especially important in the enrollment based sports (classified sports). Cross Country/Track and Field and Football are normally aligned on a four-year alignment period however that can be adjusted as needed with Board of Control approval;
  - (4) Cross Country and Track and Field shall have the same alignment;
  - (5) Football shall be aligned based on the average four-year enrollment of boys in the school, including the year in which the realignment project is completed, and the final alignment shall attempt to result in a final product being adopted six (6) to twelve (12) months notice to the member schools for scheduling purposes;
  - (6) Cross Country/Track and Field shall be aligned on a not less than every four year basis, using the average four-year enrollment of total students in the school (with single gender schools doubled for comparison purposes), including the year in which the realignment project is completed; and
  - (7) Specific parameters about each sport alignment shall be contained in the Competition rules for the Sport or Sport Activity.

#### SEC. 2) REALIGNMENT EFFECTING MULTIPLE TEAMS OR REGIONS

- a) Whenever a sport or sport activity is to be realigned, the Board shall direct the Commissioner to produce the necessary information as to seed discussion by the Board of Control.
- b) The criteria and factors to be used in developing a draft alignment shall adhere to the following steps:
  - (1) Identification as to whether or not enrollment classifications will be used;
  - (2) Plot/Diagram the location of all competing schools;
  - (3) Begin by looking at geographic clusters of schools. Geography (including specific travel route information) is an important criteria for placement in groups (regions, districts, etc.), but is not the sole determinant for placement;
  - (4) Travel routes must be reviewed as a potential factor, as well as the identification of the existence of multiple travel routes;
  - (5) In the non-classified team sports (baseball, basketball, field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, volleyball), the basketball alignment should be an initial framework, specifically the region boundaries;

- (6) If possible in the non-classified team sports, the school district boundaries should be important element, but the level of participation of the schools in the school districts are be factor;
- (7) The unique factors of each sport, particularly the individual sports, must be reviewed including available facilities; and
- (8) The participation and alignment history, both individual and teams, is a factor in consideration, but not the final determinant;
- c) When reviewing alternative suggestions for alignments, the Board shall prioritize the requests from the membership that effect the requesting school over those suggestions that result from suggestions about other schools without effecting the suggesting school.
- d) The following factors are NOT to be considered:
  - (1) Past success or failure;
  - (2) Enrollment (in a non-classified sport);
  - (3) Socio-economic status and student body composition;
  - (4) Type of school (A1, A5, B1, D1, F1, J1, M1, R1); and
  - (5) Specific desires of coaches (input for the Commissioner and the Board must be from administrative level).

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## **POLICY- USE OF DRONES AT KHSAA MEMBER SCHOOL SPORT AND SPORT-ACTIVITY EVENTS**

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### SEC. 1) BACKGROUND AND POLICY

- a) After considering the factors detailed in NOTAM 91.145 (b) and NOTAM 9/5151 (10/2010) as updated by NOTAM 4/3621 (10/2014), and until additional prescriptive regulations are adopted by the FAA, the KHSAA shall operate congruently with the FAA regulations and NOTAMs on model aircraft irrespective of the seating capacity of the facility (TFR 14 CFR 91.145 and Special Notes FDC NOTAM 9/5151 and NOTAM 4/3621).
- b) This means that at KHSAA sanctioned events (scrimmage, regular and postseason) there may be no use of drones for any reason, whether or not the facility has a capacity of 30,000 individuals.
- c) The published unofficial plain language interpretation is as follows:
  - (1) The FAA prohibits flight at and below 3,000 feet above ground level within a 3 nautical mile radius of all sporting event stadiums having a seating capacity greater than 30,000 people.
  - (2) This temporary flight restriction includes all Major League Baseball stadiums, National Football League stadiums, NCAA division one football stadiums, NASCAR Sprint Cup races, and INDY Car races.
  - (3) The temporary flight restrictions begin one hour prior to the start of the sporting event and end one hour after the sporting event has concluded.
  - (4) The KHSAA policy removes the restriction on seating capacity, and as a result includes all KHSAA sanctioned events (scrimmages, regular and postseason contests).
- c) Until further amendment by FAA regulations, if these devices are detected at a KHSAA sanctioned event (scrimmage, regular and postseason), contest officials are to stop play/activity and notify game/contest management.
- d) It is the responsibility of the contest management to ensure that, unless the device is a permitted exception under FAA rules (a broadcast rights holder with permission who should have documentation to verify this fact, Department of Defense device with applicable permits, law enforcement or air ambulance flight operations, it is not operating at the facility prior to the resumption of play.
- e) The specific FAA information is detailed on the FAA website at [www.faa.gov/](http://www.faa.gov/).

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## **POLICY- CATASTROPHIC INSURANCE COVERAGE**

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### SEC. 1) CATASTROPHIC INSURANCE

- a) The Kentucky High School Athletic Association shall maintain, at no additional cost to the member schools, catastrophic insurance coverage for all participants in interscholastic athletics while traveling to or from, practicing for, or participating in, an athletic contest sanctioned by the KHSAA during the period governed and defined by Bylaw 23.
- b) The policy is to be administered by a Kentucky based broker. The policy is only in effect during the defined Limitation of Seasons (Bylaw 23) and only during permissible activity.
- c) Unless otherwise approved by the Board of Control, the policy carries a \$25,000 deductible for regular season contests, and is considered "excess" insurance, which does not take force until all other existing sources of insurance by the participants' family and school have been exhausted.
- d) This coverage specifies that student-athletes are insured while representing a member school during the prescribed Limitation of Seasons and in compliance with all adopted KHSAA policies in the sports of baseball, basketball, cross country, field hockey, football, golf, lacrosse (beginning in 2023-24), soccer, softball (fastpitch), swimming, tennis, track and field, volleyball (girls ongoing and boys beginning in 2024-25) and wrestling and the region and state level competition in the sport-activities of archery, bass fishing, bowling, competitive cheer and dance.
- e) The specifics about policy limitations and allowances are available by contacting the General Counsel of the KHSAA.

### SEC. 2) SPORTS AND SPORT-ACTIVITIES COVERED AND NOT COVERED

- a) At the present time, this policy shall cover -
  - (1) Those students participating in all sports during the time defined by Bylaw 23 for which the KHSAA sponsors a state high school championship,
  - (2) Those students participating in all sports-activity programs for which the KHSAA sponsors a championship during the time prior to the region and state competition.

b) The policy provisions may be altered upon renewal due to market conditions.

**SEC. 3) INSURANCE COVERAGE BELOW THE CATASTROPHE DEDUCTIBLE**

a) According to Bylaw 12, a school shall ensure that all of its student-athletes are insured up to the deductible amount of the KHSAA Catastrophe policy before participation.

b) While there is no obligation on the school or school system to purchase insurance, it is required that the member school ensure that each athlete has appropriate coverage per Bylaw 12.

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**POLICY- LEGAL ASSISTANCE AND CONTINUATION OF LITIGATION**

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**SEC. 1) RETENTION OF COUNSEL**

a) The Board of Control may authorize the employment of a staff attorney and establish the salary, benefits and other details of the position.

b) If a staff attorney is authorized by the Board, the person shall be employed by the Commissioner pursuant to 702 KAR 7:065, Sections 8 and 9 and the KHSAA Constitution.

c) The Commissioner and General Counsel, with approval of the Board of Control shall have the authority to engage an outside legal firm(s) in defense of Association rules and for consultation.

**SEC. 2) CONTINUANCE OF LITIGATION**

a) Any case proceeding past the Kentucky Court of Appeals would require additional Board of Control approval to proceed.

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**POLICY- CONDUCT OF RULES INTERPRETATION CLINICS**

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**SEC. 1) BACKGROUND AND POLICY**

a) The online rules clinics are administered in all sports and sport-activities as a tremendous cost savings to the membership compared with traveling to central sites.

b) The online meetings also allow for consistent messaging and provide an additional layer of liability protection for the Association.

**SEC. 2) CONDUCT OF MEETINGS**

a) The rules clinic requirements contained in regulation for both officials and coaches may be satisfied with the KHSAA online clinic production.

b) Staff may conduct, at the discretion of the staff member based on the timing of the request and available rules information, one clinic at a statewide coaches association meeting in each sport, which shall count toward the clinic requirement.

c) Staff will continue to be available upon request to conduct update sessions and rules discussions at various other meetings, but that attendance at such meetings will not count for the rules clinic requirement.

d) With approval of the Commissioner and Board of Control, staff may conduct additional in-person rules clinics on a periodic basis among the member schools in specific sports or sport-activities.

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**POLICY- CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS/SPONSORSHIPS**

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**SEC. 1) CORPORATE SALES**

a) The Association actively seeks Corporate Partnerships/Sponsorships for its activities to help with the funding of the Association's operations.

b) The Board shall receive sales and status reports not less than three times annually from the staff and any retained outside sales consultants.

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**POLICY- RESTRICTIONS ON ADVERTISING/ SPONSORSHIP SALES, NIL GUIDANCE**

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**SEC. 1) ADVERTISING OR SPONSORSHIP PARTNERS/VENDORS RESTRICTIONS**

a) Advertising that is false, misleading, deceptive, offensive or in poor taste shall be subject to rejection and/or a requirement that it be edited.

b) All advertisements must comply with the applicable laws, rules and regulations of the countries or territories covered by the applicable transmission/broadcast.

**SEC. 2) PROHIBITED ADVERTISING OR SPONSORSHIP PARTNERS/VENDORS OR COMPENSATION BY STUDENTS IN COMPLIANCE WITH BYLAW 10**

a) Without limiting the generality of the provisions, certain categories of advertisements will not be accepted without the prior consent of the Board of Control.

b) These prohibited categories include the following:

(1) Advocacy Advertisements. An advocacy advertisement is any advertisement that advocates a political, religious or controversial public position, but not a specific candidate for office;

(2) Cigarettes, Vaping or Tobacco Advertisements, or advertising for entities whose primary sales focus is on cigarettes or vaping products;

(3) Betting or Gambling Advertisements;

(4) Weapons, Firearms and Ammunition Advertisements;

(5) 900 Phone Number Advertisements;

(6) Contraceptive Advertisements;

(7) Tattoo Parlor and Body Piercing Advertisements;

(8) "NC-17" Rated Movie Advertisements;



- (9) Adult Entertainment Advertisements;
  - (10) "R" Rated Movie Advertisements;
  - (11) "M" Rated Electronic (computer or video) Games Advertisements;
  - (12) Hard Liquor Advertisements, or advertising for entities whose primary sales focus is on alcohol products;
  - (13) Beer, Wine, or other Alcoholic Beverage Advertisements, or advertising for entities whose primary sales focus is on alcohol products;
  - (14) "High Risk" Investments (e.g., commodities, options, foreign exchange) Advertisements;
  - (15) "High Risk" Business Opportunities (e.g., "get rich quick" schemes and business opportunities) Advertisements;
  - (16) "High Risk" Health Offerings;
  - (17) Cannabis Products;
  - (18) Prescription Pharmaceuticals;
  - (19) Other controlled dangerous substances; and
  - (20) Collegiate NIL Collectives.
- c) The Kentucky Lottery Corporation shall not be considered a gambling entity as in (3) above, or high risk as defined in (14), (15) or (16) above.

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## **POLICY- OTHER FUND RAISING**

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### **SEC. 1) FUND RAISING PROJECTS**

- a) The Association, through the Commissioner and with knowledge of the Board of Control, may approve fund raising projects not included in the operating budget of the Association.
- b) Any new fund raising project shall be projected to receive no revenue for the first year to eliminate any budgetary dependence on the item.

## **POLICY- SPORTS MEDICINE - POSITION STATEMENTS OF THE NFHS SPORTS MEDICINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Unless action is taken to the contrary by the Board of Control, any official position statement of the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee of the National Federation of High School Associations (NFHS) shall be considered adopted by the KHSAA Board of Control.

In addition, the KHSAA shall recognize the Kentucky Medical Association Committee on Physical Education and Medical Aspects of Sports (KMA-SMAC) as its official Sports Medicine Advisory Committee and shall provide staff assistance as needed for this group.

### **POLICY- SPORTS MEDICINE - REQUIRED EMERGENCY ACTION PLANS**

#### **SEC. 1) REQUIREMENT AND COMPONENTS OF EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN**

- a) Each member school, through its Principal and Designated Representative shall:
  - (1) In compliance with KRS 158.162 and 160.445, each member school shall develop a venue specific, Emergency Action plan to deal with serious injuries and acute medical conditions in which the condition of the patient may deteriorate rapidly; and
  - (2) Shall maintain accurate records regarding any training required training under KRS 160.445 including the sports safety course and emergency and cardiac emergency action plans.

#### **SEC. 2) REQUIREMENT FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN (KRS 158.162)**

- a) Each member school shall:
  - (1) develop an emergency response plan to include medical emergency, fire, severe weather, earthquake, or a building lockdown as defined in KRS 158.164;
  - (2) develop a written cardiac emergency response plan; and a diagram of the facility that clearly identifies the location of each automated external defibrillator; and
  - (3) comply with all provisions of KRS 158.162, including cardiac emergency plans and requirements regarding automated external defibrillators as a condition precedent to membership.

#### **SEC. 3) ANNUAL REHEARSAL AND PLANNING FOR EXECUTION OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN (KRS 158.162)**

- a) Each member school shall:
  - (1) Plan and execute a simulation of an athletics event emergency (including heat and cardiac emergencies) as defined in KRS 158.162 and KRS 160.445 before the first contest of each sports season as contemplated in these statutes; and
  - (2) Plan and execute a strategy to require key elements of the plan to be reviewed and compliance and understanding attested by any coach or other staff member defined in the statute if such member is hired after the initial execution of the simulation, but require attendance at the next simulation conducted by the school in any sport.

#### **SEC. 4) PER CONTEST REVIEW OF EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN PROVISIONS**

- a) Prior to each contest, and routinely before practices, each school shall review:
  - (1) Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS);
  - (2) AED placement on the sidelines and at venue and emergency procedures in the event of cardiac issues;
  - (3) Sentinel seizure/agonal respiration awareness procedures;
  - (4) Backboard provisions including assignment of roles for responders;
  - (5) Face Mask Removal and tools in relevant sports;
  - (6) C-Spine injury protocol;
  - (7) Environmental risk status (e.g. heat, lightning, cold);
  - (8) Cool prior to transport provisions including cooling tub or TACO procedures;
  - (9) Lightning plan and assigned individuals from participating teams for collaboration; and
  - (10) Hemorrhage control kit and assigned roles.
- b) Contact information should be clearly recorded for:
  - (1) Athletic Trainer(s);
  - (2) Team Physician(s) who might be present that night/day;
  - (3) EMS Squad Status and on-site or on-call status; and
  - (4) Designated hospital in the event of transport.
- c) Practitioners should be clear in any signals and signs to be utilized
- d) Additional emphasis for consideration should be:
  - (1) Consider placing all equipment on stretcher for easy transport;
  - (2) Entire group should visually check and review any equipment guidelines well in advance of contest;
  - (3) Consider following responsibilities to be assigned to ensure smooth operations in an emergency, which may be adjusted to different personnel as part of the venue specific plan:
    - a. Athletic Trainer- Emergency Response Plan, Player Medical History, Multi-tool equipment removal (including face mask and helmet, Knowledge of equipment in play, backboard and Location (if EMS not on site), AED and other EMS supplies if EMS not on site (transition to EMS at appropriate time upon arrival);
    - b. Doctor or Assigned Medical Staff- Sports injury experience essential in selection, care coordination if necessary;
    - c. EMS Provider- AED, C-collar; Towel Rolls, Stretcher, Backboard and straps, 2 inch securing tape, sheets, King Airway, Cold Packs, BLS or ALS First Out Med Bag;
    - d. School Officials and Law Enforcement- Keys to Gates and Doors, Egress Routes, Directions to Hospital, Aeromedical landing coordinates, Scene control, equipment retrieval if necessary.

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**POLICY- SPORTS MEDICINE - PROTOCOL RELATED TO CONCUSSIONS AND CONCUSSED STUDENT-ATHLETES  
INCLUDING RETURN TO PLAY**

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This policy applies to all Interscholastic Athletics in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Released: June, 2010, Commissioner Julian Tackett, Updated per General Assembly Action, April, 2012, Reviewed per General Assembly Action, April, 2017

**SEC. 1) INTRODUCTION**

- a) In various sports playing rule codes, the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) has implemented standard language dealing with concussions in student-athletes. The basic rule in all sports (which may be worded slightly differently in each rule book due to the nature of breaks in time intervals at contests in different sports) states:
  - (1) Any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional. (Please see NFHS Suggested Guidelines for Management of Concussion in the Appendix in the back of each NFHS Rules Book).
  - (2) The NFHS also has recommended concussion guidelines through its Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC). These recommendations include:
    - a. No student-athlete should return to play (RTP) or practice on the same day of a concussion.
    - b. Any student-athlete suspected of having a concussion should be evaluated by an appropriate health-care professional that day.
    - c. Any student-athlete with a concussion should be medically cleared by an appropriate health-care professional prior to resuming participation in any practice or competition.
    - d. After medical clearance, return to play should follow a step-wise protocol with provisions for delayed return to play based upon the return of any signs or symptoms.
  - (3) To implement these rules, and based on KRS 160.445 and 156.070(2) as amended by the Kentucky General Assembly in 2012, the KHSAA has defined this policy and parameters to guide all interscholastic school athletic representatives and all KHSAA licensed sports officials. References to signs and symptoms of concussion are detailed by the NFHS through its SMAC upon consultation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

**SEC. 2) FOUNDATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

- a) The treatment of concussions and suspected concussions should be conducted within the recommended protocols and procedures of the Consensus statement on concussion in sport: the 6th International Conference of Concussion in Sport- Amsterdam, October 2022.” Drs. Cantu & Hainlain, among many others, were included as authors when this was published 6/14/23.

**SEC. 3) SUSPECTED CONCUSSION**

- a) A student-athlete suspected by an interscholastic coach, school athletic personnel or contest official of sustaining a concussion (displaying signs/symptoms of a concussion) during an athletic practice or contest shall be removed from practice or play immediately. The student-athlete shall not return to play prior to the ending of practice or competition until the student-athlete is evaluated to determine if a concussion has occurred.
- b) A physician or licensed health care provider whose scope of practice and training includes the evaluation and management of concussions and other brain injuries is empowered to make the on-site determination that a student-athlete has or has not been concussed. This will generally include an MD (Medical Doctor), DO (Doctor of Osteopathy), PA (Physician Assistant), ARNP (Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner), ATC (Certified Athletic Trainer); or LAT (Licensed Athletic Trainer).
- c) The player should be medically evaluated on-site using standard emergency management principles, and particular attention should be given to excluding a cervical spine injury. The appropriate disposition of the player must be determined by the treating health care provider in a timely manner. Once the first aid issues are addressed, then an assessment of the concussive injury should be made using the SCAT2 or other similar tool. The player should not be left alone following the injury, and serial monitoring for deterioration is essential over the initial few hours following injury.
- d) If any one of these individuals listed in (b) answers that “yes”, there has been a concussion, that decision is final and is not appealable.
- e) If medical coverage by a person empowered to make the concussion assessment is not on-site, and signs/symptoms of concussion have been observed, a concussion is presumed until such evaluation can be performed. If no health care provider is available, the player should be safely removed from practice or play and an urgent referral to a physician arranged.
- f) No student-athlete may return to practice or play in interscholastic athletics that day in the event that a concussion is diagnosed or presumed.
- g) A student-athlete may return to play at the time of a suspected concussion if it is determined by appropriate medical personnel that no concussion has occurred.

**SEC. 4) ROLE OF COACHES IN ADMINISTERING THE POLICY**

- a) Coaches are to be current in their certification regarding the KMA/KHSAA Sports Safety Course, including the specific segment(s) related to identifying the signs and symptoms of concussions.
- b) Coaches must review and know the signs and symptoms of concussion and direct immediate removal of any student-athlete who displays these signs or symptoms for evaluation by appropriate medical personnel.
- c) Coaches have no other role in the process with respect to diagnosis of concussion or medical treatment.
- d) It remains the ultimate responsibility of the coaching staff in all sports to ensure that players are only put into practice or contests if they are physically capable of performing.

- (1) Upon completion of the required evaluation, a coach may return a student athlete to play if the physician or licensed health care provider determines that no concussion has occurred; or shall not return a student athlete to play if the physician or licensed health care provider determines that a concussion has occurred.
- (2) If no physician or licensed health care provider described in paragraph 2(b) of this policy is present at the practice or competition to perform the required evaluation, a coach shall not return a student athlete to play who is suspected of sustaining a concussion. The student athlete shall not be allowed to participate in any subsequent practice or athletic competition unless written clearance from a physician is provided.

SEC. 5) ROLE OF CONTEST OFFICIALS IN ADMINISTERING THE POLICY

- a) Officials are to review and know the signs and symptoms of concussion and direct immediate removal of any student-athlete who displays these signs or symptoms.
- b) Officials have no other role in the process with respect to diagnosis of concussion or medical treatment.

SEC. 6) RETURN TO PLAY POLICY FOR A STUDENT-ATHLETE RECEIVING A CONCUSSION, AFTER THE MANDATORY REMOVAL THAT DAY

- a) Once a concussion has been diagnosed (or presumed by lack of examination by an appropriate health care provider), only an MD or DO can authorize return to play on a subsequent day, and such shall be in writing to the administration of the school after the completion of all concussion protocols.
- b) Such approval should not be given unless a stepwise protocol has been observed by all practitioners with separate periods for
  - (1) No activity;
  - (2) Light aerobic exercise;
  - (3) Sport-specific exercise;
  - (4) Non-contact training drills;
  - (5) Full-contact/competition practice; and
  - (6) Return to normal game play.
- c) It is highly recommended that each of these protocol steps be no less than twenty-four hours in length.
- d) It is highly recommended that no student-athlete return to play unless he/she has been properly recommended to also return to school.
- e) School administration shall then notify the coach as to the permission to return to practice or play.
- f) If an event continues over multiple days, then the designated event physician has ultimate authority over return to play decisions and such return to play may not be prior to the third day following the initial diagnosis, and until all steps of the protocol in Section (b) have been followed.

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**POLICY- SPORTS MEDICINE - KMA/KHSAA PROCEDURE FOR AVOIDING HEAT INJURY/ILLNESS, HEAT INDEX AND MONITORING**

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SEC. 1) INTRODUCTION AND CHRONOLOGY

- a) This procedure requires Analysis of Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) or Heat Index (which will be invalid after the 2023-24 school year), and Restructuring of activities and recommendations for cooling methods to prevent heat-related illness.
- b) Original procedure developed by the Kentucky Medical Association Committee on Physical Education and Medical Aspects of Sports (KMA-SMAC) to and for the KHSAA, and adopted by the KHSAA Board of Control as a recommendation for all schools, May 2002.  
 Following months of study, after one year of implementation and in an effort to help protect the health and safety of student-athletes participating in high school sports, the KMA-SMAC issued a recommended procedure to the KHSAA for immediate implementation in 2002.  
 This procedure originally called for determining the Heat Index using on-site devices to measure the conditions, and a guideline for activity to be conducted at that time based on the Heat Index reading.  
 Though other procedures and measurements were considered, the application of the Heat Index appeared to be most readily implementable on a statewide basis and appeared to be reliably tested in other areas.  
 Through the years of use of the procedure, regular adjustments were made in the reporting requirements and the on-site devices to be used.
- c) On-site procedures have been revised on multiple occasions and reported to the KHSAA Board of Control for consent and now, as part of the KHSAA Approved Board policies, have force of state regulation.
- d) In May 2005, the Board of Control, through its policies directed that all member schools comply with the testing and reporting requirements.  
 This statewide adoption as state regulation was the first of its kind in the country.
- e) In October 2006, the member schools of the Association overwhelmingly approved at their Annual Meeting a proposal to make such reporting not simply a Board of Control policy but a school-supported and approved Bylaw as it approved Proposal 9 to amend the KHSAA bylaws.
- f) In March 2007, the KMA-SMAC recommended eliminating all devices except the Digital Sling Psychrometer (DSP) as a means of measuring at the competition/practice site.
- g) In June 2009, the KMA-SMAC recommended that specific cooling procedures, including practicing in the event of an emergency, be implemented at the local school level.
- h) In August 2010, the KMA-SMAC recommended that the heat index monitoring procedures apply to the sports played in the spring in Kentucky's high schools.

- i) In August 2019, a phase-in was approved to transition from the use of the DSP to the use of the WBGT as the official device for heat measure, to be fully implemented before the 2024-2025 school year with further delineation within these policies. While the gold standard for heat index measurement is the WBGT, the KHSAA originally allowed the use of the DSP as the measurement instrument for heat index as the next best available and a cost effective alternative.
- j) Throughout its existence, these policies have been edited and clarified in accordance with the latest research reviewed by both the KHSAA and NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committees and the NATA and Korey Stringer Institute.
- k) The following revision dates have seen changes made and subsequently given regulatory approval:
  - (1) Revised by KHSAA Board of Control, February 13, 2003
  - (2) On-site procedures further revised and made mandatory for all schools by the KHSAA Board of Control, May 2005
  - (3) On-site procedures further revised concerning testing instruments, March 2007.
  - (4) Cooling Procedures modified as recommended by KMA-SMAC, June 2009.
  - (5) Heat Index expanded to spring sports, August 2010.
  - (6) Further revised, April, 2016 with clarifications.
  - (7) Revised, August, 2019.
  - (8) Updated, July, 2023 to reflect sunset of Heat Index provisions.

#### SEC. 2) DIFFERENCES BETWEEN WBGT DEVICES AND DSP MEASUREMENT OF HEAT INDEX

- a) The WBGT is:
  - (1) a measure that factors in the elements of heat index (temperature and relative humidity) but estimates the effect of temperature, relative humidity, wind and solar radiation on humans; and
  - (2) is generally measured in the sun (at outdoor venues) and uses temperature, relative humidity, wind speed, sun angle, cloud cover and the sun angle (at outdoor venues) to make its calculations;
  - (3) has no possible conversion chart to determine its calculation and must be measured by a properly calibrated device to yield a single measurement accurately; and
  - (4) is a measurement of ambient temperature, relative humidity, radiant heat from the sun and wind speed. When outdoor activities are conducted in the direct sun, the WBGT is the most pertinent to use. Although read in degrees, it does not reflect degrees of air temperature. A WBGT reading of 92 F may equate to a Heat Index reading of 104 – 105 degrees F.
  - (5) is the Gold standard for measuring the climate to determine if activity should be altered.
- b) The DSP Heat Index:
  - (1) is the traditional measure of what the temperature feels like to the human body when relative humidity is combined with air temperatures, also known as the apparent temperature;
  - (2) Is not to be measured in the shade, and uses temperature and relative humidity to calculate the heat index;
  - (3) may be manually calculated with accurate on-site temperature and humidity readings at the site of practice or competition.
  - (4) It is intended to provide outdoor restrictions for the elderly and adolescents during times of elevated temperatures.
- c) The transition to WBGT
  - (1) History shows that most exertional heat stroke deaths occur during August; however, athletes will be at risk whenever in the presence of elevated ambient temperatures with high humidity.
  - (2) For many years, coaches and state associations have utilized the Heat Index to determine safe conditions for exercise in a hot environment.
  - (3) Evidence-based research, first initiated with the military, proves that Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) should be the environmental monitoring measure during athletic participation in the heat.

#### SEC. 3) ON-SITE DATA MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

- a) All sports and sport-activities are impacted by this policy, and all organized activity (practice or play) is covered by the requirement.
- b) The policy calls for determining the Heat Index (Temperature combined with Relative Humidity) or WBGT at the practice/contest site.
- c) It is strongly recommended that member schools utilize the WBGT device for heat index in compliance with this policy, which will be the required instrument for the 2024-25 school year, however the DSP will meet the requirement for 2023-24.
- d) Measurements using a DSP or WBGT device shall adhere to the following provisions:
  - (1) The measurements will be taken ONLY using the DSP or WBGT device (exclusively WBGT beginning in 2024-25) at the site of practice or competition.
  - (2) No website, phone app or other computer programs can substitute and allow a school to remain compliant as only on-site readings are valid.
  - (3) It is important to note that media-related temperature readings (such as the Weather Channel, local radio, etc.) or even other readings in general proximity are not permitted as they may not yield accurate results when considering the recommended scale, and there is no website, phone app or other computer programs that can substitute and allow a school to remain in compliance;
  - (4) It is noted that the WBGT (Wet Bulb Globe Temperature) is the “gold standard” for heat determination, however, the digital sling psychrometer heat index is the alternative that can be considered before the beginning of the 2024-25 school year.
- e) The following procedures will be used to monitor environmental conditions via WBGT:
  - (1) Heat stress monitoring will be conducted on site at the activity location with a device on a tripod 3-4 feet above the playing surface.

- (2) The WBGT should remain exposed to the environmental conditions for >15 minutes before activity.
- (3) WBGT measurements should be taken every 30 min for the duration of the athletic activity.
- (4) If risk categories of consecutive measurements frequently reflect different levels of activity modification, the activity modification for the higher risk category should be followed.
- f) Neither the KHSAA nor KMA-SMAC has endorsed any particular DSP or WBGT device brand and receives no endorsement fee or other consideration for any device sold, and several models on the market will adequately perform the functions.
- g) The KHSAA or your local certified/licensed athletic trainer has easy access to catalogs with this type of equipment.

#### SEC. 4) DEFINITIONS AND REQUIRED PROCEDURES FOR TESTING

##### a) Definitions

- (1) Game/Contest: any KHSAA sanctioned event applicable to Bylaw 23.
- (2) Practice: the period of time that a participant engages in coach-supervised, school-approved sport or conditioning-related activity, with practices timed from the time the players report to the field until they leave.
- (3) Walk through: this period of time shall last no more than one hour and is not considered to be a part of the practice time regulation, and may not involve conditioning or weight-room activities or the wearing of protective equipment.

##### b) Required Procedures for Testing

- (1) The measurements should be taken at any practice or contest setting where the current temperature is at or above 83 degrees, regardless of what time of year.
- (2) If using a WBGT device, the measurements should be taken in the sun in a location where any applicable wind and solar radiation is present.
- (3) If using a DSP, any readings are to be taken at the exact location of practice at the specific competition/practice area where the activity will occur.
- (4) Thirty (30) minutes before the start of activity, DSP or WBGT readings should be taken at the specific practice/competition site, and periodically measured after that point until the end of the practice or competition.
  - a. In segmented competitions (i.e. track or cross country meets), this periodic measurement is appropriate and is not necessary between each and every event, except for the notations subsection Sec. b(4)(b) below.
  - b. In segmented competitions (i.e. track and field or cross country meets), additional measurements should be taken before any race of 1600 meters or longer, even if following a periodic measurement by less than thirty (30) minutes.
- (5) Readings must be taken on the practice and game site a minimum of every hour, beginning 30 minutes before the beginning of the practices and games.
- (6) The measurements should be recorded on KHSAA Form GE20 and these records should be available for inspection upon request.
- (7) All schools are to maintain measurement records in either a paper or electronic format for the duration of the district/school records retention schedule.
- (8) Activities must be altered per the adopted alternation table regardless of the device used.
- (9) If a reading is determined whereby activity is to be decreased (above 95 degrees Heat Index or above 86.9 WBGT), then re-readings would be required every thirty (30) minutes to determine if further activity should be eliminated or preventative steps are taken, or if an increased level of activity can resume.

#### SEC. 5) REQUIRED ACTIVITY ALTERATION.

##### a) WBGT Reading (Gold Standard, Required Device for Monitoring in 2024-25)

- (1) WBGT <82.0°F, Green, Very Low Risk for Heat Illness
  - a. All Sports
    - i. Normal activities
    - ii. Provide at least three separate rest breaks each hour of minimum duration of 3 minutes each during workout
- (2) WBGT 82.1°F - 87.0°F, Yellow, Low Risk for Heat Illness
  - a. All Sports
    - i. Use discretion for intense or prolonged exercise;
    - ii. watch at-risk players carefully;
    - iii. Provide at least three separate rest breaks each hour with a minimum duration of 4 minutes each.
- (3) WBGT 87.1°F - 90.0°F, Orange, Moderate Risk for Heat Illness
  - a. All Sports
    - i. Maximum practice time is 2 hours,
    - ii. provide at least four separate rest breaks each hour with a minimum duration of 4 minutes each.
  - b. For Football, Lacrosse and Field Hockey:
    - i. All helmets and shoulder pads must be removed for practice and conditioning activities.
    - ii. If the WBGT rises to this level during practice, football players may continue to work out wearing football pants without changing into shorts.
- (4) WBGT 90.1°F - 91.9°F, Red, High Risk for Heat Illness
  - a. All Sports
    - i. Maximum practice time is 1 hour.
    - ii. No post-practice or contest conditioning
    - iii. There must be 20 minutes of rest breaks distributed throughout each hour of practice, at least 10 minutes every 30 minutes.

- iv. In sports or sport-activities with multiple simultaneous contests or practices, the required monitoring and rest breaks shall be taken at the same time for all contests or practices;
  - v. All breaks should be taken in areas outside of direct sunlight;
  - vi. Have towels with ice for cooling of athletes as needed with full preparatory steps for on-site rapid colling in place; and
  - vii. Watch/monitor athletes carefully for necessary action
  - b. For Football, Lacrosse and Field Hockey
    - i. No protective equipment may be worn during practice.
  - (5) WBGT >92.0°F, Black, Extremely High Risk for Heat Illness
    - a. No Outdoor Workouts.
    - b. Delay practice until a cooler WBGT level is reached.
  - b) Heat Index (optional method through 2023-24 school year)
    - (1) Under 95 degrees Heat Index
      - a. All sports
        - i. Water should always be available and athletes be able to take in as much water as they desire;
        - ii. Optional water breaks every 30 minutes for 10 minutes in duration to allow hydration as a group;
        - iii. Have towels with ice for cooling of athletes as needed, with preparedness for change in conditions with full preparatory steps for on-site rapid colling in place;
        - iv. Watch/monitor athletes carefully for necessary action; and
        - v. Re-check temperature and humidity every 30 minutes if temperature rises in order to monitor for increased Heat Index.
      - (2) 95 To 99 Degree Heat Index
        - a. All sports
          - i. Water should always be available and athletes should be able to take in as much water as they desire;
          - ii. Mandatory water breaks every 30 minutes for 10 minutes in duration to allow for hydration as a group.
          - iii. In sports or sport-activities with multiple simultaneous contests or practices, the required monitoring and rest breaks shall be taken at the same time for all contests or practices;
          - iv. All breaks shall be taken in areas outside of direct sunlight;
          - v. Have towels with ice for cooling of athletes as needed with full preparatory steps for on-site rapid colling in place; and
          - vi. Watch/monitor athletes carefully for necessary action.
        - b. Additional Steps for Contact sports and activities with additional required protective equipment:
          - i. Helmets and other required equipment (by rule) should be removed when athlete not directly involved with competition, drill or practice, and it is not otherwise required by rule;
          - ii. Reduce time of outside activity,
          - iii. No more than one hour of activity per practice session in these conditions with at least four breaks of at least four minutes each during this hour;
          - iv. Consider postponing practice to later in the day; and
          - v. Re-check temperature and humidity every 30 minutes to monitor for increased Heat Index.
      - (3) 100 Degrees (Above 99) To 104 Degrees Heat Index
        - a) All sports
          - i. Water should always be available and athletes should be able to take in as much water as they desire;
          - ii. Mandatory water breaks every 30 minutes for 10 minutes in duration to allow for hydration as a group.
          - iii. In sports or sport-activities with multiple simultaneous contests or practices, the required monitoring and rest breaks shall be taken at the same time for all contests or practices;
          - iv. All breaks shall be taken in areas outside of direct sunlight;
          - v. Have towels with ice for cooling of athletes as needed with full preparatory steps for on-site rapid colling in place;
          - vi. Watch/monitor athletes carefully for necessary action;
          - vii. Alter uniform by removing items if possible and permissible by rules;
          - viii. Allow for changes to dry T-shirts and shorts by athletes at defined intervals;
          - ix. Reduce time of outside activity as well as indoor activity if air conditioning is unavailable; and
          - x. Postpone practice to later in day.
        - b) Additional Steps for Contact sports and activities with additional required protective equipment:
          - i. If helmets or other protective equipment are required to be worn by rule or normal practice, suspend practice or competition immediately and resumption may not occur until the index is 99 degrees or below;
          - ii. For sports that do not have mandatory protective equipment, reduce time of outside activity and consider postponing practice to later in the day; and
          - iii. Re-check temperature and humidity every 30 minutes to monitor for changes in Heat Index.
      - (4) Above 104 Degrees Heat Index
        - a) All sports
          - i. Stop all outside activity in practice and/or play, and stop all inside activity if air conditioning is unavailable.
- SEC. 6) REQUIREMENTS FOR HYDRATION AND REST BREAKS
- a) Rest time must involve unrestricted access to fluids (e.g. water or electrolyte beverages).
  - b) With sports requiring helmets (e.g. football, lacrosse, field hockey), the helmets must be removed during rest time.
  - c) The site of the rest time must be a in a shaded area.

d) When the WBGT reading is >85.0°F

- a. Ice towels, spray bottles filled with ice water or equivalent must be available to aid in the cooling process within the shaded area.
- e) Rest breaks may not be combined with any other type of activity and players must be given unlimited access to hydration.
- f) In the event of a serious Exertional Heat Illness (EHI), such as an athlete about to collapse, one who has collapsed, or who has a core temperature of 104° the principle of “Cool First, Transport Second” should always be utilized and implemented by the first medical provider onsite until cooling is completed (core temperature of 102 or less); or a minimum of fifteen (15) minutes if unable to obtain a core temperature measurement.

#### SEC. 7) EHS, EHI AND ON-SITE RAPID COOLING

- a) Exertional heat stroke (EHS) is relatively uncommon among exercise associated medical conditions, but is a frequent cause of exercise related death.
- b) EHI is more common than EHS and it is important to prepare all involved for any situation that might occur whether it is EHI or EHS.
- c) Medical evidence shows that early implementation of body cooling is the most effective method of decreasing mortality in EHS and a more positive outcome in the case of EHI.
- d) Many methods of body cooling, including tubs, iced towels (towels with water that have been frozen), water, fans, and shade, have been considered but cold water immersion (CWI) by either tub or Tarp Assisted Cooling Oscillation (TACO) is the most effective method for severe EHI or EHS.
- e) TACO is a method in which a combination of ice and cold water are added to an athlete once they have been placed on a tarp with the edges held up by clinicians to create a physical “taco” for the patient to be encased inside, and a demonstration of the technique can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A9gbbLISHh4>.
- f) The recommendations regarding rapid cooling are classified as essential (foundational to the implementation of treatment, should-have resources that are to be considered required and personnel directed towards implementation), and desirable (important in maximal implementation, should have resources and personnel directed towards implementation as budget and resources allow).
- g) These guidelines should be considered in the care of athletes who can be expected to be at risk of EHS due to the sport or the environmental situation of the activity.
- h) Sports, especially at risk, include football, with and without equipment, boys’ lacrosse, soccer, and long distance track.
- i) Other sports and activities, such as cycling, golf, baseball, lacrosse, tennis, track and field, and band (per the NFHS SMAC), may also be at risk due to long-duration exposure to extreme environmental conditions.
- j) It is essential and required that the school and school officials:
  - (1) Establish a written plan for emergency treatment of EHS, and conduct rehearsal related to the implementation of the plan;
  - (2) Know how to assess environmental conditions and determine when extreme conditions exist;
  - (3) Identify a specific spot at the athletic facility that has shade;
  - (4) Have immediate access to ice and bags containing ice;
  - (5) Have access to water, and provide water breaks; and
  - (6) Know the most effective sites for application of ice to the body;
  - (7) Provided examples of the motivation behind cooling first, such as the video found at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=X1-g3dVYvaM&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X1-g3dVYvaM&feature=youtu.be).
- k) Schools and school officials are to:
  - (1) Obtain and use, when environmental conditions are determined to be extreme, a tub or pool or tarp to ensure on-site rapid cooling;
  - (2) Provide a cooling tub filled with water and ice being available before practice or game, to be used in body immersion for maximal cooling and have personnel trained in this technique at it is the “gold” standard;  
NOTE: If used, this tub be large enough to place an athlete into the cold, ice and water filled tub and cool the athlete ensuring that both the groin and armpits are in the cooling ice and water;  
NOTE: In some events, such as distance running or golf, other methods may need to be used in an emergency due to proximity the tub and the need for immediate cooling; and this is to include rotating ice-water soaked towels to all other areas of the body which can be effective in cooling an affected athlete or having a tarp available to implement the TACO cooling method;
  - (3) Ensure that the athlete is monitored at all times when in the cooling tub, with individuals designated to control the head and neck at all times in case the athlete becomes unconscious;
  - (4) That the required emergency plan ensures that cooling of an athlete that is showing signs and symptoms of exertional heat illness is begun immediately including the availability of a CWI technique such as a tub or the TACO;
  - (5) Include in its required emergency action plan (EAP) the re-stating and practicing of the fundamental principle that the objective is to cool first, transport second, and that the potentially impacted athlete should be monitored continuously until appropriate emergency personnel arrive on the scene;
  - (6) Reiterate as part of its EAP that for heat illness emergencies, emphasis must be placed on Onsite Rapid Cooling prior to transport;
  - (7) The NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, in its November, 2022 revisions to its Heat Illness Position statement, reiterated that Immediate medical treatment and prompt rapid cooling can prevent death or minimize further injury in the athlete with EHS;
  - (8) The NFHS Statement also reiterated that while pools or tubs of ice water remain the gold standard to be used for rapid cooling



of athletes, rapid cooling is vital, and not only must equipment be provided, but all personnel should be trained and practiced in using these facilities for rapid cooling; and

(9) Have trained and authorized medical personnel routinely review and update the school's emergency action plan for athletic emergencies.

l) It is highly desirable that schools and school officials:

(1) Have a certified/licensed athletic trainer on staff to develop and implement these guidelines;

(2) Have immediate access to additional water and ice at all times;

(3) Provide shade breaks;

(4) Provide cooling fans when environmental conditions are determined to be extreme;

(5) Have close access to an air conditioned room; and

(6) Have access to and use iced towels that can be rotated to appropriate areas of the body, including the axilla, groin, and back of the neck.

l) It is desirable that schools and school officials:

(1) Have trained and authorized medical personnel in place to be able to monitor the rectal temperature of an athlete in an appropriate contained environment in the event of a heat emergency where an athlete is placed in a cooling tub to ensure the effectiveness and timeliness of treatment until appropriate emergency personnel arrive on the scene.

#### SEC. 8) CORRELATION OF ON-SITE RAPID COOLING AND WBGT TEMPERATURE

a) As part of its required Emergency Action Plan, all schools must have a comprehensive detailed plan including being properly prepared and equipped to initiate cold water immersion (CWI) or other approved cooling technique.

b) The plan should anticipate starting cooling techniques immediately, and concurrently with contacting EMS (Emergency Medical Services).

c) This must be followed during all official practice sessions on school grounds on any day in which the ambient air temperature is 83 degrees or higher.

#### SEC. 9) COLD WATER IMMERSION TUB GUIDELINES

a) WBGT <82.0°F, Green, Very Low Risk for Heat Illness

(1) Mandatory alternative cooling measures of a cooler with ice and towels or a tarp (TACO method) must be available at the practice, game and event site in case conditions change.

b) WBGT 82.1°F - 87.0°F, Yellow, Low Risk for Heat Illness

(1) It is required a 150 gallon cold water immersion tub or a tarp (TACO method) must be filled with water temperature of less than 60°F and accessible for cooling within 5-10 minutes of the practice/contest site.

(2) Remove external clothing/equipment prior to cooling or immediately after entering tub.

(3) Aggressively stir water during cooling process.

c) WBGT 87.1°F - 90.0°F, Orange, Moderate Risk for Heat Illness

(1) It is required a 150 gallon cold water immersion tub or a tarp (taco/burrito method) must be filled with water temperature of less than 60°F and accessible for cooling within 5-10 minutes of the practice/contest site.

(2) Remove external clothing/equipment prior to cooling or immediately after entering tub.

(3) Aggressively stir water during cooling process..

d) WBGT 90.1°F - 91.9°F, Red, High Risk for Heat Illness

(1) Maximum length of practice is 1 hour.

(2) For Football, Lacrosse and Field Hockey: No protective equipment may be worn during practice and there must be no conditioning activities.

(3) For All Sports: there must be no conditioning and there must be 20 minutes of rest breaks distributed throughout the hour of practice.

e) WBGT >92.0°F, Black, Low Risk for Heat Illness

(1) No Outdoor Workouts.

(2) Delay practice until a cooler WBGT level is reached.

#### SEC. 10) SUMMARY OF HEAT INDEX OR WBGT MONITORING AND HEAT ILLNESS PREPAREDNESS

a) Adherence to these guidelines represents a conscious effort by the interscholastic community to emphasize health and safety on a much higher level than any loss of competitive preparation.

b) Any further revisions or enhancements will be distributed to the members of the KHSAA.

#### SEC. 11) TREATMENT OF EXERTIONAL HEAT STROKE

a) All school representatives on site are to immediately implement the district provided Emergency Action plan to begin cooling immediately.

b) If the athletic trainer/medical staff is onsite:

(1) Utilize the principle of Cool First, Transport Second.

(2) When cooling, use CWI or other approved cooling technique, until core temperature is at 102°F.

c) If the athletic trainer/medical staff is not onsite

(1) Cool immediately until the athlete starts to shiver, or for a minimum of 15 minutes based upon the known cooling rate of 1 degree per 3 minutes.

(2) EMS assumes control of the EHS patient upon arrival and continues cooling for the minimum of 20 minutes or until rectal temperature is obtained.

## SEC. 12) REFERENCES

- [https://ksi.uconn.edu/prevention\\_trashed/wet-bulb-globe-temperature-monitoring/](https://ksi.uconn.edu/prevention_trashed/wet-bulb-globe-temperature-monitoring/)
- [https://ksi.uconn.edu/prevention\\_trashed/sports-medicine-policies-procedures/](https://ksi.uconn.edu/prevention_trashed/sports-medicine-policies-procedures/)
- [https://ksi.uconn.edu/prevention\\_trashed/heat-acclimatization/](https://ksi.uconn.edu/prevention_trashed/heat-acclimatization/)
- <https://www.nfhs.org/media/5919613/nfhs-heat-acclimatization-april-2022-final.pdf>

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## POLICY- SPORTS MEDICINE - SEVERE WEATHER/LIGHTNING POLICY FOR ACTIONS BY OFFICIALS AT OUTDOOR EVENTS

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### SEC. 1) LIGHTNING POLICY BACKGROUND INCLUDING PRACTICE

- a) Preparedness is the key to execution of any policy designed to help safeguard all individuals at a scrimmage, contest or practice.
- b) The following is a suggested list of steps from the National Federation of State High School Association (NFHS) Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) that should be taken in advance of any practice or contest, as amended January, 2021.
- c) These represent optimal standards and where they cannot be logistically implemented, best practice alternatives shall be developed as part of the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) or Emergency Response Plans (ERP) for after school activities.
  - (1) Assign staff to monitor local weather conditions before and during practices and contests.
  - (2) Develop an evacuation plan, including identification of appropriate nearby safer areas and determine the amount of time needed to get everyone to a designated safer area:
    - a. A designated safer place is a substantial building with plumbing and wiring where people live or work, such as a school, gymnasium or library.
    - b. An alternate safer place from the threat of lightning is a fully enclosed (not convertible or soft top) metal car or school bus.
    - c. For scrimmages and contests, this information should be relayed to the game officials and representatives of all competing teams.
  - (3) Develop criteria for suspension and resumption of practice which should mirror the policy directives in 2 for scrimmages and contests.
    - a. When thunder is heard or lightning is seen\*, the leading edge of the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. Suspend play for at least 30 minutes and vacate the outdoor activity to the previously designated safer location immediately;
    - b. 30-minute rule. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or lightning is witnessed\* prior to resuming play;
    - c. Any subsequent thunder or lightning\* after the beginning of the 30-minute count will reset the clock and another 30-minute count should begin;
    - d. When independently validated lightning-detection devices or mobile phone apps are available, this technology could be used to assist in making a decision to suspend play if a lightning strike is noted to be within 10 miles of the event location. However, you should never depend on the reliability of these devices and, thus, hearing thunder or seeing lightning\* should always take precedence over information from a mobile app or lightning-detection device.

\*At night, under certain atmospheric conditions, lightning flashes may be seen from distant storms. In these cases, it may be safe to continue an event. If no thunder can be heard and the flashes are low on the horizon, the storm may not pose a threat. Independently verified lightning detection information would help eliminate any uncertainty.
  - (4) Review the lightning safety policy annually with all administrators, coaches and game personnel and train all personnel.
  - (5) Inform student-athletes and their parents of the lightning policy at start of the season.

### SEC. 2) LIGHTNING POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

- a) Contest officials are encouraged to learn the weather forecast prior to contest time and to work cooperatively with home contest administration prior to making weather-related decisions.
- b) The Referee (Lead Official/Crew Chief) has authority once jurisdiction has begun as to suspensions and play, resumption unless events are held at facilities with advance lightning detection technology in which case the host facility representative may supersede the authority of the Referee (Lead Official/Crew Chief) and order postponement or disapprove play resumption.
- c) The Referee (Lead Official/Crew Chief) shall stop play in a contest or scrimmage at the first sound of thunder or sight of lightning at the site and ensure adherence to this policy.
- d) When thunder is heard or lightning is seen, the leading edge of the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning.
- e) If such sight or sound is observed, suspend play for at least 30 minutes and vacate the outdoor activity to the previously designated safer location immediately.
- f) Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or lightning is witnessed prior to resuming play.
- g) Any subsequent thunder or lightning after the beginning of the 30-minute count will reset the clock and another 30-minute count should begin.
- h) When lightning-detection devices or mobile phone apps are available, this technology could be used to assist in making a decision to suspend play if a lightning strike is noted to be within 10 miles of the event location but only if sight or sound has not been detected and such has been reported by game management to the Referee (Lead Official/Crew Chief).
- i) Contest officials and event managers should never depend on the reliability of new technology and, thus, hearing thunder or seeing lightning shall always take precedence over information (or a lack of indicators) from a mobile app or lightning-detection

device.

- j) Event managers shall determine, through all available data, the optimum time to begin returning individuals to the competition areas for warming up, etc., but in no case may play (competition) resume until the 30-minute count has elapsed.
- k) If severe weather appears to be of great length or intensity, the Referee (Lead Official/Crew Chief) shall work collaboratively with home contest administration and participating teams on decisions related to the resumption of play.
- l) All involved in suspension/resumption decisions should be familiar with any sport-specific rules that might be contained in the KHSAA Competition Rules.
- m) Final authority for the decision to resume rests within home contest administration in collaboration with the game officials.
- n) Safety of the public and participants is the most important factor in any decision of this type.

## **POLICY- SPORTS MEDICINE - AIR QUALITY CONCERNS WITH ATHLETICS FOR LOCAL DISTRICT CONSIDERATION**

### **SEC. 1) BACKGROUND (PER NFHS SMAC)**

- a) Air pollution is due to a mixture of solid particles and gases that may result from a variety of sources including wildfires, internal combustion engines, and industrial emissions. In people without lung disease, the immediate effects and long-term consequences of air pollution upon athletic performance are not well understood. There is some evidence to indicate that chronic exposure may adversely affect blood vessels throughout the body, but more studies are needed before making definitive statements. However, air pollution has long been known to worsen the symptoms of respiratory diseases such as asthma. When compared to adults, children may be more susceptible to having problems while exercising in polluted air.
- b) There are two key components of air pollution that cause respiratory problems, especially in people with underlying respiratory problems: ozone and particulate matter. Ozone is found in smog and is often at its worst in the late afternoon and early evening on hot summer days. It forms through a variety of complex chemical interactions, all of which require sunlight as a catalyst. Ozone can travel significant distances and, contrary to conventional wisdom, is more predominantly a rural pollutant.
- c) The particulate matter found in air pollution can be a hazard at any time of the year, especially when the air is still. Particle pollutants can be high near busy roads and factories, and at times when there is smoke in the air from wood stoves, fireplaces, or wildfires. Other potentially harmful air pollutants include carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides and sulfur dioxide. Smoke from late summer forest and grass fires has very high levels of particulate matter and is of special concern in the western U.S., often causing severe air pollution coinciding with the beginning of the fall sports season.
- d) It is important to realize air pollution may also occur indoors. Potential sources include tobacco smoke in any situation, dust in indoor rodeo arenas, and exhaust fumes from ice resurfacing equipment in ice arenas. Consequently, athletes with asthma should always have their medication available and be especially cautious in these venues.

### **SEC. 2) RECOGNITION AND MANAGEMENT (PER NFHS SMAC)**

- a) The Air Quality Index (AQI) is a system developed by the US Environmental Protection Agency that describes the general health effects associated with different pollution levels, as well as whatever precautionary steps may need to be taken if air pollution levels rise into an unhealthy range. During times of suspected high air pollution, the AQI should be checked prior to all practices and contests. A particular location's AQI can be found at <https://www.airnow.gov/>
- b) The AQI takes into consideration the five major determinants of air pollution: ozone, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, and sulfur dioxide. The measured pollutant concentrations are then converted into a number on a scale of 0 to 500. Higher numbers correlate to a greater level of air pollution. Under the Clean Air Act, the National Ambient Air Quality Standard is 100. An AQI level greater than 100 indicates that a pollutant is in the unhealthy range. As specific public health department recommendations may vary, it is critical that state associations and schools consult local or state health departments for guidelines on when outdoor activities should be modified or cancelled.
- c) Many western states have additional online resources to track air quality. These websites may use the AQI or a PM2.5 concentration. The PM2.5 describes fine inhalable particulate matter with diameters that are generally less than 2.5 micrometers. As a frame of reference, PM10 is less than the width of a single human hair and is small enough to get into the lungs while matter that is PM2.5 can only be seen with an electron microscope. Because it is so light and small, these tend to stay in the air longer than heavier particles and can penetrate deep into the lung tissue.
- d) Both the AQI and the PM2.5 are reported by a color-coded chart which remains consistent across these different tools. A red "unhealthy" day will be the same whether it is reported as an AQI or a PM2.5 value. The state or local health department is available to serve as a resource to learn more about how this data is reported.
- e) School personnel should locate the air monitors closest to practice and competition venues at <https://www.airnow.gov/>. Not all schools and venues will have a nearby monitor, and weather variation (wind) and geographic features (hills and valleys) can account for large differences between relatively close locations. Therefore, anyone assessing air quality must be familiar with the 5-3-1 Visibility Index Method. Based on previous air pollution research, we know that there is a correlation between air quality and visibility.
- f) The 5-3-1 Visibility Index Method is a simple way to use visibility to estimate air quality and health effects and is particularly useful with rapidly changing weather conditions, like smoke from wildfires. The key to successful use is preparation, as it requires knowledge of large landmarks visible from the venue. Using an online satellite map, locate three landmarks that can be seen from a specific venue. The landmarks you choose should be 1 mile away, 3 miles away and 5 miles away. If you use multiple venues, you will need to do this for each separate location. Standing with the sun behind you, look at the three objects and when the outline of the landmark can no longer be seen, then the visibility range is less than the distance marker. When the air is smoky and hazy, monitoring the AQI or the Visibility Index should be done at least hourly during competitions and practices as conditions can change quickly.

- g) Some students may be more susceptible to the health effects of poor air quality. The Preparticipation Physical Examination helps to identify those students with underlying ailments that make them more affected by poor air quality. Conditions that put students at risk include asthma, recent respiratory infection, and chronic heart or lung disease.
- h) All schools must have an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) in place for every practice and competition venue in case of respiratory or other medical emergencies. Students diagnosed with asthma should have an Asthma Action Plan that they follow if symptoms occur during or after exercise. If poor air quality persists over several days, at risk students will have symptoms triggered more easily than those without pre-existing conditions.
- i) If the health effect category is in a zone where your state or local health department discourages outdoor activity, all practices and contests should be moved indoors or cancelled. If activities are moved indoors, you must check with the maintenance staff to ensure existing HVAC systems provide properly filtered indoor air. If the HVAC system cannot appropriately manage the burden of pollutants in the air, indoor air quality may be worse than the outdoor air and it is not appropriate to practice or workout indoors. Furthermore, when moving indoors, Heat and Hydration Guidelines must be followed as temperatures may be hotter inside a gymnasium on a hot summer day than outside. If indoor practices are not an option, practices may be held earlier in the day to avoid warmer temperatures or moved to a location with better air quality.
- j) Please note that all of the above principles are not limited to athletic events and should also be followed for physical education classes and other outdoor activities involving physical activity in order to protect both students and staff.

**SEC. 3) AIR QUALITY INDEX (PER EPA)**

- a) AirData uses the Air Quality Index (AQI) in some of its reports and tables and to display data using the visualization tools. The AQI is an index for reporting daily air quality. It tells how clean or polluted the air is, and what associated health effects might be a concern, especially for ground-level ozone and particle pollution.
- b) Think of the AQI as a yardstick that runs from 0 to 500. The higher the AQI value, the greater the level of air pollution and the greater the health concern. For example, an AQI value of 50 represents good air quality with little potential to affect public health, while an AQI value over 300 represents hazardous air quality.
- c) An AQI value of 100 generally corresponds to the national air quality standard for the pollutant, which is the level EPA has set to protect public health. AQI values below 100 are generally thought of as satisfactory. When AQI values are above 100, air quality is considered to be unhealthy-at first for certain sensitive groups of people, then for everyone as AQI values get higher.
- d) The AQI is divided into six categories:  
When the AQI is in this range: ..air quality conditions are symbolized by this color:

Air Quality Index (AQI) Values	Levels of Health Concern	Color
0-50	Good	Green
51-100	Moderate	Yellow
101-150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Orange
150-200	Unhealthy	Red
201-300	Very Unhealthy	Purple
301-500	Hazardous	Maroon

- e) Each category corresponds to a different level of health concern. The six levels of health concern and what they mean are:  
 "Good" AQI is 0 - 50. Air quality is considered satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk.  
 "Moderate" AQI is 51 - 100. Air quality is acceptable; however, for some pollutants there may be a moderate health concern for a very small number of people. For example, people who are unusually sensitive to ozone may experience respiratory symptoms.  
 "Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups" AQI is 101 - 150. Although general public is not likely to be affected at this AQI range, people with lung disease, older adults and children are at a greater risk from exposure to ozone, whereas persons with heart and lung disease, older adults and children are at greater risk from the presence of particles in the air.  
 "Unhealthy" AQI is 151 - 200. Everyone may begin to experience some adverse health effects, and members of the sensitive groups may experience more serious effects.  
 "Very Unhealthy" AQI is 201 - 300. This would trigger a health alert signifying that everyone may experience more serious health effects.  
 "Hazardous" AQI greater than 300. This would trigger health warnings of emergency conditions. The entire population is more likely to be affected.

SEC. 4) POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DISTRICT IMPLEMENTATION

- a) No statewide policy directive exists in this area.
- b) However local districts and schools should strongly consider implementing guidelines that would clearly identify, via <https://www.airnow.gov/>, the risk to participation.
- c) Policy considerations should consider that readings of 100 to 149 (PM2.5) indicate that people with heart or lung disease, older adults, children and teens – take any of these steps to reduce your exposure:
  - (1) Choose less strenuous activities (like walking instead of running) so you don't breathe as hard.
  - (2) Shorten the amount of time you are active outdoors.
  - (3) Be active outdoors when air quality is better.
- d) Districts and schools should consider cessation of outdoor activities when AQI reaches 150 or higher (Unsafe) per <https://www.airnow.gov/>.

DRAFT

## POLICY- OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR THE DAWAHARES/KHSAA HALL OF FAME

The Kentucky High School Athletic Association entered into an agreement with the Dawahares clothing stores for that company to sponsor the Dawahares/Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. Since that time, more than 500 individuals have been inducted into this special group of athletes, coaches, officials and contributors to interscholastic athletics in the Commonwealth.

### SEC. 1) NAME

Until such time as a new title sponsor is obtained requiring a change, the name of this program shall be the Dawahares/KHSAA High School sports Hall of Fame (hereinafter "Hall of Fame"), a program of the KHSAA under the jurisdiction of the Board of Control, and shall be located in Lexington, Kentucky.

### SEC. 2) TITLE SPONSORSHIP

- a) For the period covering the induction classes of 1988 through 2012, such title sponsorship was contracted with Dawahares, Inc.
- b) The Association continues to seek a new title sponsor for this project.
- c) The Association may approve a "presenting sponsor" to appear following the title of the event in published references.

### SEC. 3) BASIC PURPOSE

- a) The Hall of Fame is organized as a means of recognizing, preserving and promoting the heritage of interscholastic sports in Kentucky.
- b) Many individuals have made extraordinary contributions and have had superb accomplishments in high school sports.
- c) The Hall of Fame honors the contributions and accomplishments of these individuals who are worthy of statewide recognition as examples for others to emulate.

### SEC. 4) GOVERNANCE

- a) The KHSAA Board of Control shall govern the Hall of Fame through these policies.
- b) The two-level selection process shall be governed and under the control of the Hall of Fame Screening Committee and the Hall of Fame Selection Committee as directed by the Commissioner.

### SEC. 5) CATEGORIES FOR NOMINATION

- a) Individuals may be nominated representing four categories. The categories of Athlete, Coach, Official and Contributor are included on the nomination form for expediency in understanding the primary area in which an individual is to be considered for one's achievements in interscholastic athletics.
- b) The grouping is for screening purposes to assist those making the nominations in understanding the type of information required as detailed below:
  - (1) Athlete: A former high school athlete whose achievements as a high school athlete were extraordinary and merit statewide recognition. Such athlete shall have completed high school eligibility in all sports at least ten years prior to being eligible for induction. Athletes who are being nominated are to be considered solely for their achievements in interscholastic athletics in this state.
  - (2) Coach: Age 55 or over, or retired and inactive as a coach for three consecutive seasons, coach whose accomplishments as a high school coach merit statewide comparison and recognition. Coaches would be considered on the merits of their high school coaching achievements alone.
  - (3) Contest Official: A former high school contest official, or current official who qualifies for fee-free licensing (more than 25 years in a single sport), whose contributions as a high school contest official merit statewide recognition. Contest officials are to be considered solely on the basis of their service as a high school official.
  - (4) Contributor: An individual who has made outstanding contributions to interscholastic athletics on a statewide scale in some capacity other than Athlete, Coach or Official, including such areas as athletic administration, state association administration, sports medicine and sports media.

### SEC. 6) DESIRED BALANCE OF DEMOGRAPHICS IN SELECTION CLASS

- a) In addition to the nomination criteria and classes listed in Section 5, the Board of Control has as a stated objective, other criterion to fulfill the desire of proper and adequate representation.
  - (1) Senior: An individual who is deceased, or at the time of consideration, has reached the age of 65.
  - (2) Sections: For purpose of the selection process, the sections of the state shall be bounded by the regional tournament boundaries in basketball. Section 1 shall be regions 1-4, Section 2 shall be regions 5-8, Section 3 shall be regions 9-12, and Section 4 shall be regions 13-16.
  - (3) Underrepresented Populations: It shall be the objective of this project to seek to identify, nominate and select a balance of individuals including those from previously underrepresented populations. Such populations shall include female participants in all categories in Section (a) of this Article and minority (African American and others) participants in all categories in Section 5, subsection (b).

### SEC. 7) DESIRED SIZE AND DEMOGRAPHICS OF INDUCTION CLASS

- a) The Selection Committee shall select the induction class for the following year. Each group of inductees shall include at least:
  - (1) A selection class consisting of a minimum of eight (8) inductees that shall be the pre-determined desired number each year;
  - (2) A minimum of one representative from each section as defined in subsection (2) of Section 9; and
  - (3) An appropriate demographic balance of all populations including those defined in subsection (3) of Section 9 with a minimum of one from each category.

### SEC. 8) REQUIREMENTS FOR NOMINATION

- a) In order to maintain the integrity of the program, the following criteria are established for nominations.
  - (1) Nominees shall exemplify the highest standards of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and moral character at the time of their

participation in interscholastic athletics and activities.

(2) All candidates shall be judged on their significant or long-term contributions to interscholastic athletics.

(3) Candidates whose careers ended 50 or more years ago and who are deceased shall be considered against the accomplishments of their contemporaries, as much as is possible. It is suggested that additional support material be included, such as letters from individuals who had some involvement with the nominee.

(4) All applications shall clearly indicate the status of each candidate as it relates to the defined categories in subsection (b) of Section 5 to allow for accurate comparison and consideration.

#### SEC. 9) NOMINATIONS PROCEDURES

a) The following procedures shall be utilized for nominations to the Hall of Fame.

(1) The Official Nomination Form shall be completed and submitted to and received by the KHSAA along with appropriate support materials three weeks prior to the meeting of the Screening Committee each school year for a candidate to be considered for the following year's class. Any nomination received by the Association that does not contain active and current address and contact information for the nominee (or family if deceased) shall not be considered.

(2) In addition to the Official Nomination Form, the following materials may be submitted for an individual to be considered for induction.

a. Letters of Recommendation. A completed nomination form may be accompanied by letters of recommendation from the person making the nomination, and other letters of support from appropriate individuals from the nominee's related high school career;

b. In cases where other support material is difficult to obtain, additional letters may be in order to substantiate the individual's accomplishments or contributions. Letters of recommendation for other awards of honors may not be used as substitute for this requirement;

c. A limited number of newspaper clippings, magazine articles, copies of scorebooks and statistics may be included to help substantiate the accomplishments and contributions of the nominee. These materials shall focus on high school accomplishments and contributions and be listed in chronological order; and

d. A head and shoulders photograph, preferably black and white, is to be submitted with the nomination form.

(3) Additional information and support documentation may be submitted with this form or may be requested by Association staff in order to process the nomination;

(4) All support material is to be submitted with the nomination in order to be considered at the next screening session.

(5) The completed nomination form and support materials may be submitted online

(6) Once the information forms are received by the KHSAA, all actions necessary to the selection process shall remain confidential.

(7) The Hall of Fame shall retain all information submitted.

#### SEC. 10) NOMINATION ELIGIBILITY

a) Nomination of the Hall of Fame may be made by:

(1) Representatives of Kentucky High School Athletic Association member schools;

(2) Appropriate Coaches, Officials, Administrators and Athletic Director Associations or members;

(3) Anyone else with connection or relation to the high school community or with knowledge of the nominee's background and data; or

(4) A representative of the KHSAA staff or Board of Control.

b) Nomination of Board of Control/Staff Members

(1) A currently seated member of the KHSAA Board of Control shall not be eligible for induction until such time as their term in office has expired.

(2) A currently employed member of the KHSAA staff shall not be eligible for induction until such time as they are no longer employed.

(3) Any such member of the Board of Control or staff that has been nominated for the Hall of Fame shall have the materials retained by the KHSAA, and the processing of the nomination, including all deadlines, shall be held in abeyance until the member is eligible to be considered. This period of abeyance shall not be included in any time periods that would result in the expiration of a nomination.

c) Term of Nomination

(1) Following initial nomination, a candidate shall remain eligible for induction for the following five years (July to June).

(2) After this time has expired, the candidate's name shall be required to be re-submitted on a new nomination form in order for that individual to be considered.

(3) Any nomination that does not meet the required criteria detailed in Section 5(b) shall have the materials retained by the KHSAA, and the processing of the nomination, including all deadlines, shall be held in abeyance until the nominee is eligible to be considered. This period of abeyance shall not be included in any time periods that would result in the expiration of a nomination.

#### SEC. 11) AMENDING THE INDUCTION CRITERIA

The Board of Control may amend or otherwise revise the induction criteria at any time prior to the convening of the Hall of Fame Screening Committee.

#### SEC. 12) HALL OF FAME SCREENING COMMITTEE

a) The Hall of Fame Screening Committee shall meet annually to screen candidates based on the criteria approved by the Board of Control to be submitted to the Hall of Fame Selection Committee.

b) The Hall of Fame Screening Committee shall have voting members as follows:

- (1) Up to nine (9) members of the KHSAA Board of Control, appointed annually by the President. It shall be the normal practice that Board of Control members in their first year, and rising to the third year of their term on the Board, serve on the Screening Committee. Only in the event of a vacancy on the Board of Control can a member serve on both the Screening and Selection Committees;
  - (2) At least three (3) members of the KHSAA executive staff appointed by the Commissioner with sufficient historical knowledge to participate in the process shall serve on the Screening Committee;
  - (3) At least eight (8) current or long-serving former members of the media; and
  - (4) The Commissioner shall replace any vacancies that occur on the Screening Committee prior to the conclusion of terms, or resulting from any termination of Screening Committee membership.
- c) The duties and responsibilities of the members of the Hall of Fame Screening Committee shall be as follows:
- (1) Attend the annual meeting of the Screening Committee, either in person or by electronic conference;
  - (2) Annually evaluate nominations of individuals submitted to the KHSAA by the prescribed deadline date;
  - (3) Approve only those individuals who had significant and or long-term contributions or accomplishments in high school sports and who meet the defined criteria;
  - (4) Evaluate and recommend changes to the induction criteria and guidelines on an annual basis
  - (5) After approving all worthy nominees, the Screening Committee shall recommend any changes to the numbers of candidates in each category, for both selection and screening, to the Board of Control; and
  - (6) Keep all action of the Screening Committee confidential. Violation of this provision shall result in removal from the committee.
- d) The voting procedures of the Hall of Fame Screening Committee shall be as follows:
- (1) KHSAA staff shall provide to the Screening Committee members a compilation of all nominees eligible for consideration and all support material at the upcoming Screening Committee meeting;
  - (2) Such listing of nominees shall be listed in a format where categorical representation is easily recognized;
  - (3) These listings shall be cross-referenced to ensure that each person eligible is listed in all applicable categories;
  - (4) This listing shall be provided to the members of the Screening Committee not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the Screening Committee meeting to allow for ample time to consider all candidates;
  - (5) Screening Committee members shall rank candidates in order of desired screening preference, with the top listed person receiving the higher number of points;
  - (6) The Screening Committee shall review candidates based on information available at the time of the Screening Committee meeting;
  - (7) The Screening Committee shall meet at a time and place designated in conjunction with a spring Board of Control meeting to conduct the screening process;
  - (8) The Screening Committee, provided adequate numbers of non-inducted nominees exist, shall forward not less than twenty-four (24) names (including those that remain eligible having been screened before) to the Hall of Fame Selection Committee for final consideration. It shall be the objective of this committee to keep the total number of screened individuals at or near the desired twenty-four (24) in order to offer continual consideration given the turnover in screening committee membership and expiration of nominations;
  - (9) The Screening Committee, by majority vote or consensus, may forward groups of individuals en masse in an effort to meet the requirements of subsection 3 of Section 6. If this step is taken in order to ensure a balanced pool of nominees to be considered by the selection committee, then the Screening Committee shall by majority vote or consensus, determine how this group screening impacts the policy of having twenty-four (24) forwarded to the Selection Committee; and
  - (10) No candidate shall be considered who is not part of the material distributed as detailed in item 1 above.

**SEC. 13) HALL OF FAME SELECTION COMMITTEE**

- a) The Hall of Fame Selection Committee shall conduct balloting annually to select candidates based on the list of candidates forwarded by the Screening Committee.
- b) The Hall of Fame Selection Committee shall have voting members as follows:
- (1) Up to nine (9) members of the KHSAA Board of Control, appointed annually by the President. It shall be the normal practice that Board of Control members rising to the second and fourth year of their term on the Board, serve on the Selection Committee. Only in the event of a vacancy on the Board of Control can a member serve on both the Screening and Selection Committees
  - (2) At least three (3) additional members of the KHSAA executive staff appointed by the Commissioner with sufficient historical knowledge to participate in the process shall serve on the Selection Committee. A staff member may be appointed to both the Screening and Selection Committees;
  - (3) At least eight (8) current or long-serving former members of the media;
  - (4) Other members may be added as necessary to ensure the integrity of the process including sponsor representatives; and
  - (5) The Commissioner shall ensure that the balloting is conducted in an anonymous fashion.
- c) The Selection Committee shall utilize the following voting procedures:
- (1) At the discretion of the Commissioner and President of the Board of Control, the Hall of Fame Selection Committee may meet as a group or may choose to do its balloting by proxy ranking;
  - (2) Hall of Fame Selection Committee members complete rating sheets which shall be viewed as preliminary notes to the process and return these to the KHSAA for tabulation or such may be done by any other form of electronic balloting;
  - (3) No candidate failing to be forwarded by the Screening Committee shall be considered;
  - (4) Selection Committee members shall rank candidates in order of desired induction preference, with the top listed person



receiving the higher number of points;

- (5) After the initial tabulation of results, additional candidates beyond the desired class maximum size may be selected to ensure that each of the desired populations is represented;
- (6) Totaling the votes for each candidate and applying the ratios established by the Screening Committee determines the induction class;
- (7) The annual voting results of the Selection Committee shall be confidential;
- (8) Inductees shall be announced at a pre-determined time following the final selection process and after the individuals have been contacted and indicated that they will be present or represented at the induction ceremony; and
- (9) Prior publicity concerning nominees is not appropriate and may result in elimination from future involvement in any phase of the selection process.

#### SEC. 14) APPOINTMENT AND PROCEDURES FOR VETERANS COMMITTEE

- a) At the discretion of the Commissioner and President of the Board of Control, a Veterans Committee shall be appointed to review the list of those candidates selected for induction.
- b) This committee shall review the list of persons selected for induction, as well as those screened and eligible for nomination.
- c) The Veterans Committee shall ensure that at least two (2) individuals are selected to the induction class whose career as a participant (as a coach, player, official or contributor) includes the time period of fifty (50) or more years prior to the induction ceremony.
- d) The Veterans Committee, from the list of screened and eligible nominations, has the authority to select these individuals and add them to the selection class prior to the formal announcement of the induction class.

#### SEC. 15) AMENDING THE SELECTION PROCEDURES

The Board of Control may amend or otherwise revise the selection procedures at any time for future classes.

#### SEC. 16) INDUCTION CEREMONY

- a) The Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony is held each year at a pre-determined date.
- b) Inductees shall be notified in writing if selected for the following year's class.

#### SEC. 17) PAST INDUCTEES

Information about the past induction ceremonies of the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame can be found on the KHSAA website, [www.khsaa.org](http://www.khsaa.org).

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**POLICY- AMENDED FEDERAL CONSENT DECREE OF 1971 (AMENDED 1987, 2008)**

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1. As provided by KRS 156.070, the State Board of Education, under its general powers and duties, has the management and control of the common schools. It is the judgment of the court that this responsibility and control cannot be avoided or relegated to the Kentucky High School Athletic Association and that the Board is accountable to see that the Kentucky High School Athletic Association, acting in a ministerial capacity, shall observe the requirements of the law in fostering and encouraging the participation in athletics of all who desire to so participate irrespective of race or color. Such participants shall be given a full and equal opportunity to have positions and places of responsibility in the high school athletic program in all its phases.
2. The Kentucky High School Athletic Association shall continue under its rules and by-laws in the structure of its present organization subject to the directives of this decree.
3. The constitution and by-laws of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association shall be changed and modified as follows:
  - (a) The members of the Board of Control shall be elected for a period of four years as now provided. There shall be 12 members of the Board of Control, at least two of which shall be black, and at least two of which shall be female.
  - (b) The Commission shall be composed of a Commissioner and four or five Assistant Commissioners, at least one of which shall be black and at least one of which shall be female.
  - (c) The Delegate Assembly shall not be limited in its membership to Principals of accredited secondary schools of good standing in the Kentucky High School Athletic Association, but shall be composed of Administrators, Principals or faculty members of schools or school systems. While it is not practical to require a percentage of blacks to be named as Delegates, the districts shall bear in mind that a reasonable proportion of the Delegate Assembly shall be blacks.
  - (d) Where the use of registered officials is required, the officials for each athletic contest in football, basketball and baseball shall be selected and shall be given to the schools involved at a reasonable time before the contest. Any head coach who objects to the selection of a certain official or officials to serve in contests in which his team will participate shall have a right to file a written protest with the Commission if filed a reasonable time before the contest. What is a reasonable time to be determined by the Commission? The Commission shall have a right to make any changes as it deems appropriate and in the best interest of the sport. It is recognized that to make out such a schedule is a very involved and tedious task and the Commission shall have authority to employ any assistance as it feels proper, subject, of course, to its supervision.
4. The Association shall establish a list of qualified officials to officiate in all high school sports and shall require that only such officials may officiate in interscholastic athletic competition. It may classify officials as Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 and in so doing may adopt the standards now employed by the Association.
5. Pursuant to paragraph 5 of the original Decree herein filed Kentucky High School Athletic Association was required to take affirmative action to recruit black officials in the sports of basketball, football and baseball and was further required to report to the court within 60 days from the date of the original Decree concerning such action. An affidavit has been filed in the record herein on November 15, 1971, showing the results of such action. Kentucky High School Athletic Association shall make available to all persons so recruited academic and practical training, including participation as officials in practice, junior varsity and similar contests. The objective shall be to cause such persons to become fully qualified to participate as officials in varsity contests as soon as practicable.
6. The Second Amended Answer of defendants, Kentucky High School Athletic Association and Ted Sanford, pleading the amendment of Article IV, Section 2(a) of the Constitution of Kentucky High School Athletic Association be and it is hereby ordered filed and entered of record herein.
7. Plaintiffs herein represent of record all blacks constituting a class so numerous to make it impracticable to bring them before this court. The questions of law and fact affecting the rights of those plaintiffs raised herein by pleadings and proof are common to all blacks and are typical of the claim of the class of blacks. Therefore plaintiffs herein represent of record as a class all blacks as a whole.

The Court is fully aware that at this date the high school football season is well advanced and it is not practicable to undertake to invoke the changes directed by this decree to apply to the high school football contests. The football season may proceed to its ultimate conclusion under the plan now in effect as provided by the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Constitution, Bylaws and tournament Rules 1970-71. In all other respects this decree is effective as of the date it is signed by the Court.

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**POLICY- REGIONAL POLICY BOARDS**

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**SEC. 1) FORMATION OF POLICY BOARDS**

- a) Each region (as defined by the boundaries of the basketball alignment) shall have an organization, which will hereinafter be referred to as a Regional Policy Board ("RPB") for the governance of policies related to grade 9-12 competition (freshmen, junior varsity and varsity).
- b) With the permission of the Commissioner, adjoining regions may form a joint Regional Policy Board.
- c) These RPB entities are formed in compliance with, and to ensure adherence to, the Federal Court Decree of 1971, as amended in 1987 and 2007.
- d) Questions and clarifications should be sought from the Supervisor of Officials. In these policies, varsity shall mean the highest level of school competition and those eligible to compete for KHSAA state championship play.

**SEC. 2) COMPOSITION, DUES AND OFFICERS****a) Composition**

- (1) Each RPB shall consist of equal representation from each basketball district within the region unless the decision is made to

have one member per school. It is recommended that there be one member per member school.

- (2) By 2/3 majority vote of all schools (Principals or Designated Representatives) in the region, the membership composition may be changed to include one representative from each school.
- (3) Voting representatives of each RPB shall be certified employees of an accredited member school, or member school system, within his/her district or be officially listed by the school as the Designated Representative in accordance with Bylaw 1.
- (4) Members shall be elected by the Principal or Designated Representative from each member school within the District, or if one member is to be selected per school, shall be so designated by the Principal or Designated Representative of the school.
- (5) If the RPB is composed of equal representation per district instead of one representative per school, members shall serve for a term of four (4) years on a staggered basis with the first such terms selected by lot.
- (6) All employed Assigning Secretaries shall be able to attend meetings of the Regional Policy Boards with voice but without voting privileges.
- (7) The annual term for RPB Members shall run from July 1st to June 30th each year.

b) Dues and Fees

- (1) The RPB shall elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman.
- (2) The officers shall hold the position for two (2) years per term and eligible to be re-elected.
- (3) Necessary elections shall take place during the month of May and all schools shall be notified no later than April 15th of the candidates seeking office.

c) Officers

- (1) The RPB shall elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman.
- (2) The officers shall hold the position for two (2) years per term and eligible to be re-elected.
- (3) Necessary elections shall take place during the month of May and all schools shall be notified no later than April 15th of the candidates seeking office.
- (4) Ballots must be returned to the RPB Chairman who shall coordinate the election process.
- (5) Votes shall be counted at the regularly scheduled May meeting.
- (6) The members may elect or appoint an individual to serve as Executive Director, Secretary, Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer to help ensure the maintenance of records and accurate accounting of finances. These positions may be held by members or non-members at the discretion of the voting members, but shall have no vote in any matters if not currently serving as a voting member.

SEC. 3) MEETINGS

a) Meeting Frequency and Notice

- (1) Each RPB shall meet at least once during the month of September (or in August or October as the school calendar permits).
- (2) Each RPB shall meet at least once during the month of January (or in December or February as the school calendar permits).
- (3) Each RPB shall meet at least once during the month of May (or in April or June as the school calendar permits)
- (4) The Chairman shall ensure that the KHSAA Commissioner is notified no later than the first day of the month in which any meeting is held as to the time and place of the meeting.
- (5) The Chairman may also call as many other meetings as deemed necessary to fulfill duties and the KHSAA shall be notified of the time and place.

b) General Provisions

- (1) All meetings are conducted in compliance with the Kentucky Open Meetings Act, including any interviews for the selection of new assigning secretaries. Business conducted and communication done electronically must be done in a manner that maintains the integrity of the Open Meetings Act.
- (2) A majority of the RPB Members must be present to conduct official business.
- (3) Minutes of the RPB Meetings, with a record of RPB Members and others in attendance, shall be forwarded to the KHSAA within thirty (30) days of the meeting.
- (4) Notification of scheduled RPB Meetings shall be sent to each Principal and Athletic Director of each KHSAA member school within the Regional Policy Board's respective region at the same time it is sent to KHSAA.
- (5) All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, unless otherwise stipulated by the KHSAA.

SEC. 4) RESPONSIBILITIES

a) Local Officials Associations

- (1) The RPB shall consider for approval the establishment of regional officials' association for the purpose of ensuring for the assignment of independent contractors to serve as officials to officiate grade 9-12 competition (freshmen, junior varsity and varsity) in baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, soccer, softball (fastpitch), volleyball and wrestling.
- (2) Only one regional officials' association may be approved for each sport by the RPB.

b) Officiating Fees

- (1) The RPB shall review the travel needs of the officials within the region(s) and recommend any additional fee (regional "add-on") to be added to the state approved compensation scale for varsity officials to adequately compensate the officials. Such additional fee may not be based on perceived merit or ability of the officials, but on the geographic travel concerns.
- (2) The RPB shall ensure that when the state approved compensation scale is adjusted for a specific sport, that no downward adjustment is made to the regional "add-on" for that sport, unless made in conjunction with a comprehensive review in all sports.
- (3) The RPB shall assist the KHSAA with monitoring of payment to officials to ensure that no official is compensated for a varsity contest at a rate below the state approved compensation scale.

- (4) The RPB shall establish contest fees for nonvarsity contests in grades 9-12.
- (5) Except for the travel needs (add-on) as detailed above, the RPB shall reject any request for varsity travel or non-varsity fee compensation increase unless it is in conjunction with the one every four-year review by the KHSAA Board of Control for that specific sport.
- c) Varsity Assigning Secretary Selection comprises the following steps:
- (1) Assigning Secretary selection shall annually be completed and executed by the KHSAA Commissioner with assistance from the Supervisor of Officials after receiving a recommendation(s) from the RPB. The recommendation of the RPB shall not be considered binding on any party;
  - (2) When an Assigning Secretary is being selected, the RPB should publicly solicit applicants for the position through the use of a variety of communication avenues such as internal discussion and recommendations of the RPB, media advertisement (including the KHSAA website, [www.khsaa.org](http://www.khsaa.org)), communication with the local officials' association, or communication with the member schools. The position announcement shall also be published by the KHSAA if requested by the RPB;
  - (3) It is recommended that local officials' organization's opinions be sought as to the person recommended for selection;
  - (4) It is recommended that the member schools of the region be consulted as to the person recommended for selection;
  - (5) The RPB, with assistance from the KHSAA, shall screen, including a background and criminal records check, all applicants desired to be recommended for hiring;
  - (6) The RPB shall interview prospective candidates and shall submit the names and background information for a minimum of two and maximum of three finalists to the Commissioner's office. Notification of the dates and times of the interviews shall be noticed to the KHSAA, and the KHSAA sport contact or Supervisor of Officials may attend and participate in the interviews;
  - (7) The Commissioner's office will then return to the RPB the names of the finalists not eligible for consideration for the position;
  - (8) The RPB shall make a decision as to a recommendation for the hiring of the assigning secretary and shall submit that recommended candidate's name to the KHSAA;
  - (9) The final hiring is subject to the sole discretion of the Commissioner and Supervisor of Officials;
  - (10) The KHSAA will then enter into a written agreement with the Assigning Secretary not to exceed one year;
  - (11) The RPB shall not hire any person for the position of assigning secretary whose name is not on the original list of candidates sent to the Commissioner's office;
  - (12) The KHSAA through its Commissioner or Supervisor of Officials may, of its own volition, terminate the contract of any assigner per these policies and the contract stipulations; and
  - (13) The RPB may request through the Commissioner or Supervisor of Officials, the termination of the contract of any assigner per these policies and the contract stipulations
- d) Non-Varsity Assigning Secretary and Other Assigning Assistance Selection comprises the following steps:
- (1) The RPB shall adopt a policy as to the assignment of non-varsity contests for grades 9-12.
  - (2) The RPB shall determine if the non-varsity contests in grades 9-12 are to be assigned by the Varsity Assigning Secretary, assigned by an additional individual, or acquired locally by the member schools provided that the officials are properly licensed;
  - (3) In the event that an additional individual is to be used for non-varsity assigning, the procedures outlined in Section (c) above shall prevail; and
  - (4) All individuals compensated in any manner to assist with the assignment, evaluation or training of contest officials shall be subject to approval by the RPB, including any relevant compensation.
- e) Varsity Assigning Secretary Compensation
- (1) The RPB shall establish annual payment fees for Kentucky High School Athletic Association member schools to have officials assigned by regional varsity assigning secretaries. Such factors as supplies, materials, administrative needs, travel, etc. should be considered in establishing this fee.
  - (2) The RPB chairperson shall work in conjunction with adjacent region's RPB chairperson(s) in the event that an assigning secretary is assigning contests outside of the home region of the assigning secretary. The fee for the assignment of contests outside the region shall not be the jurisdiction of the home region, but this collaboration will ensure that the games are assigned, and the assigning secretary is fairly compensated. In the event that an RPB has determined a "flat rate" for the assignment of games rather than a per-school rate, this would include the payment of fees for the assignment of contests for schools outside regional service areas.
  - (3) The RPB shall consider for approval, the amount of annual payment fees for licensed officials in local associations to be paid to the Assigning secretary for game assignment and evaluation duties.
  - (4) The RPB shall ensure that all state and federal income tax and other regulatory laws are fully complied with in the event of the hiring of a non-varsity assigning secretary.
  - (5) Compensation for all individuals involved in assigning as designated by the RPB shall be distributed according to the procedure adopted by the RPB and reported to the KHSAA by the RPB Chair. It is the strong recommendation of the Commissioner that the RPB designate a person to collect the fees from the schools and officials, and remit that amount to the KHSAA for distribution to the Assigning Secretary to ensure documentation and compliance with all applicable tax regulations. Documentation and compliance with all applicable tax regulations are the responsibility of the Assigner and RPB.
- f) Non-Varsity Assigning Secretary Compensation
- (1) The RPB shall establish annual payment fees for Kentucky High School Athletic Association member schools to have officials assigned by regional non-varsity assigning secretaries for grades 9-12 to include such factors as supplies, materials, administrative needs, travel, etc. should be considered in establishing this salary.
  - (2) The RPB shall ensure that all state and federal income tax and other regulatory laws are fully complied with in the event of

the hiring of a non-varsity assigning secretary for grades 9-12.

- (3) Compensation for all individuals involved in assigning as designated by the RPB shall be distributed according to the procedure adopted by the RPB and reported by the RPB Chair. It is the strong recommendation of the Commissioner that the RPB designate a person to collect the fees from the schools and officials, and remit that amount to the KHSAA for distribution to the Assigning Secretary to ensure documentation and compliance with all applicable tax regulations. Documentation and compliance with all applicable tax regulations are the responsibility of the Assigner and RPB.
- g) Deadlines and Policies for Member Schools
- (1) The RPB shall adopt policies that ensure the timely submission of game schedules to regional assigning secretaries.
  - (2) The RPB shall adopt penalties or standards that address noncompliance with schedule deadlines. The RPB shall ensure that each member school's schedule of games is forwarded to the respective assigning secretary by the deadlines listed in the Assigning Secretary policies. Member schools failing to meet these deadlines shall pay a fine which is payable to the Assigning Secretary due to the workload adjustments. Exceptions to these deadlines may not be granted unless approved by a majority of the RPB. Member schools failing to adhere to the provisions of this regulation may suffer disciplinary action, including probation, suspension or additional fines imposed by the Commissioner's Office or Board of Control.
  - (3) If any fee or other penalty is assessed for other compliance issues by the member schools (game changes, additions, deletions, differing number of officials, etc.), then such policies shall be considered for approval or declination of approval by the RPB.
  - (4) The RPB shall assist member schools in developing policies for the assignment of officials for athletic contests in which there are no regional assigning secretaries.
- h) Deadlines and Policies for Local Officials Association
- (1) The RPB shall consider for approval (or declination), any portion of the membership fee paid by the local officials association to an individual.
  - (2) The RPB shall consider for approval (or declination), any person assisting with recruitment, training and development within a local officials association. If any such individual is compensated, the RPB shall ensure that all state and federal income tax and other regulatory laws are fully complied with in the event of the hiring of an individual for such purpose.
- i) Recruitment, Training, Development
- (1) The RPB shall recommend policies to the KHSAA which will facilitate the recruiting, training and retention of sports officials as well as foster the relationship among assigning secretaries, officials and high school athletics.
  - (2) The RPB shall assist the KHSAA in identifying other areas where recruitment, training and retention of sports officials can be improved.
- j) Evaluation and Retention of Assigning Secretaries
- (1) The RPB shall annually review the job performance of each assigning secretary under the Regional Policy Board's jurisdiction and recommend retention or posting of the position to the KHSAA. Assigning secretaries shall be presented this review. Criteria for this evaluation may be developed by each RPB and other requirements may be found in the KHSAA listing of assigning secretary responsibilities. Copies of the evaluations shall be submitted to the KHSAA.
  - (2) The RPB shall request approval from the KHSAA for the hiring or re-hiring of any assigning secretary in time for contract preparation and scheduling obligations.
- k) Evaluation of Officials for the Purpose of Postseason Rankings/Ratings
- (1) The RPB shall ensure that coaches' ratings are gathered and compiled by assigning secretaries in all sports.
  - (2) Recommendations for postseason assignments should include coach evaluations combined with the rating of the assigning secretary.
  - (3) The collection of data shall be through the ArbiterSports platform to ensure that only those coaches that actually utilize the services of an official are able to evaluate that official.
  - (4) The local RPB shall determine the weight of coaches ratings and assigner ratings for a total evaluation of 100 points.
  - (5) The RPB approved system shall provide a minimum of fifty (50) percent of the final rating to the Assigning Secretary.
  - (6) The final results of any system shall be a guideline but not the final determinant in postseason assignments by the Commission.
  - (7) Assigning Secretaries in each sport shall annually evaluate all varsity officials in contest type environments within their local officials association.
- l) Scratches of Officials
- (1) In accordance with the Federal Court Decree, the RPB shall ensure that all schools in the region are afforded 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 and such privilege shall be solely within that region.
  - (2) Scratching of officials shall be done on an annual basis, and only in the preseason.
  - (3) The RPB shall determine the number of allowed scratches per school, subject to approval of the Commissioner, with a school that chooses to scratch an official being permitted no less than two (2) nor more than three (3) scratches.
  - (4) Scratches properly submitted in a timely fashion shall be honored by the Assigning Secretary.
  - (5) No RPB may summarily deny scratch privileges to a school for any reason.
  - (6) A member school of the KHSAA shall not take any action to prevent an athletic official from officiating a contest, including the use of a scratch because of the official's race, sex, religion or national origin, nor may a member school participate in a contest where such preventative action has been taken.
- m) Miscellaneous Officiating Regulations
- (1) The RPB shall ensure that no fee is approved for softball umpires that creates a difference of greater than \$10 when compared to the fee paid to baseball umpires.

(2) The RPB shall ensure that any limitation on the length of softball contests also applies to baseball.

(3) When considering the fee for softball and baseball contests to be paid by member schools to umpires, the RPB may adopt a per-inning fee (i.e. all 7 inning games will be paid one rate, all 5 inning games one rate) provided the total 7-inning fee is not less than the state adopted fee schedule amount.

n) Other Actions:

(1) The KHSAA shall have a right to penalize a RPB for noncompliance of KHSAA regulations and requirements.

(2) Such penalties may include fines levied against the Regional Policy Board, the decertification of regional officials associations and limiting or eliminating the use of officials from the affected regions for a defined period of time.

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## **POLICY- KHSAA LICENSED OFFICIALS GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS**

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### **SEC. 1) BACKGROUND**

a) In compliance with the Federal Court Decree of 1971 as amended, the KHSAA has guidelines to govern the licensing and assignment of high school (grades 9-12) sports officials. These policies exist to ensure adherence to that decree.

b) The KHSAA Board of Control, through the Commissioner's office, provides for the licensing and regulation of contest officials in Baseball, Basketball, Field Hockey, Football, Lacrosse (beginning in 2024-25), Softball, Soccer, Swimming, Track & Field and Cross Country, Volleyball and Wrestling, for the cancellation of such licensing for just cause, for the setting of licensing fees, and for the establishment of classification levels and requirements for those levels of license. Licensing to officiate other activities may be expanded as offerings are added to the KHSAA.

c) Officiating is not easy, and certainly not suited for every individual. An effective official needs to possess certain characteristics such as quick reaction time, confidence, calmness, consistency, good judgment, cooperation, knowledge of the rules, duties and mechanics, professional appearance, top conditioning, courtesy, a sense of humor, and courage.

d) The KHSAA believes that officiating is an important part of the athletic program. For this reason, considerable time, effort and money is spent on clinics, videos and materials designed to be used by officials and organizations to increase the knowledge and improve the techniques of officials.

e) The KHSAA Board of Control, through the Commissioner, has allowed for the designation of a member of the KHSAA staff to serve as the Supervisor of Officials Licensing for all KHSAA sports. This allows even more emphasis to be placed on recruitment of new officials and the retention of all licensed officials.

f) In athletics, the official represents the integrity of the contest. By his or her action, on and off the field, court or pool, the official must earn through unquestioned honesty, demonstrated ability, obvious devotion and full understanding of the contest, its players, coaches, fans and newscasters, the confidence and respect which are the all-important attributes for fine officiating.

g) To achieve officiating excellence, an official must combine his or her knowledge of the playing rules with proper officiating mechanics. The official must be responsible for participants in the contest receiving his or her best effort to the end that he/she will "reach into the rule", refuse to be intimidated by players, coaches or fans, give the play the full flexibility of his/her judgment, and implement his/her knowledge and ability with intelligent, understanding courage.

h) An official must possess an inner desire to continually improve and strive to be one of the best. Certainly, all officials will not succeed in becoming a top official, but most certainly, the official who lacks this desire to improve has stopped growing as an official.

i) The Commissioner shall ensure through the Supervisor of Officials Licensing, that these Officials Division Policies are reviewed on a not less than annual basis, and that the Board of Control has final authority on all policy related matters to ensure compliance with the Federal Court Decree of 1971.

### **SEC. 2) ASSIGNMENT OF OFFICIALS FOR CONTESTS IN GRADES 9-12**

a) Pursuant to the Amended Decree entered December 22, 1971 in E. Deedom Alston v. Kentucky High School Athletic Association, United States District Court, Eastern District of Kentucky, Lexington Division, No. 2274, where the use of licensed officials is required for an athletic contest in the sports of football, basketball and baseball, said officials shall be selected by a Commission, composed of the KHSAA Commissioner and the Assistant Commissioners. In addition, these requirements shall apply to the sports of soccer, softball, field hockey and volleyball, and beginning in 2024-25 with lacrosse.

b) The Commission has the authority, however, to contract with individuals to assist with this selection of officials to contests. Pursuant to this authority, the Commission may enter into independent contractor agreements with persons to directly assign regular season contests, known as "Assigning Secretaries". The Commission shall assign all officials for all KHSAA sponsored (district, region, semi-state, section and state) championship competition.

### **SEC. 3) KHSAA OFFICIALS DIVISION**

a) Under the provisions of the KHSAA Bylaws and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Court Decree of 1971, as amended, the KHSAA shall define the roles to be played and duties to be performed by persons within the Officials' Division.

b) All terms of contract positions within the Officials Division shall be set by the Commissioner in accordance with these policies, including length of appointment and salary.

c) The Office of the Officials Division shall be at 2280 Executive Drive, Lexington, Kentucky.

d) The Officials Division shall be responsible for the recruitment, and assignment of officials to events where the use of licensed officials is required and where the KHSAA provides licenses. The KHSAA Commission has the authority, however, to contract with individuals to assist with the assignment of officials per the Federal Court order.

e) Current specifications for the Officials Division are found in the KHSAA Bylaws. KHSAA administration of each sports program shall remain with the KHSAA Commissioner, Associate Commissioner and the KHSAA Assistant Commissioner with responsibilities for that sport. Programs involving recruiting, retaining and assigning officials in all sports shall be coordinated through the Officials

Division.

#### SEC. 4) DEFINITIONS

- a) Commission - The Commissioner and Assistant Commissioners (including any designated Associate Commissioner) shall comprise the Commission.
- b) Assigning Secretary - This refers to the person engaged by the Association in cooperation with the Regional Policy Board (RPB) to assign the scheduled contests for grade 9-12 competition (freshmen, junior varsity and varsity) to the members of a local association, as well as provide/coordinate local training and development efforts.
- c) Basketball Region - This term is used generically to define the boundaries of the current basketball regions. These shall serve as reference points throughout the state and are not intended to imply only basketball. All KHSAA schools are within a basketball region, whether they play basketball or not.
- d) Licensing - The process handled by the KHSAA to license an official. It is the prospective official's responsibility to fulfill any and all requirements of the process. This process may be outsourced at the discretion of the Commissioner and Board of Control.
- e) Board - The Board of Control of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association.
- f) Local Association - The group of officials formed under the auspices of an RPB and approved by the KHSAA to officiate contests for grade 9-12 competition (freshmen, junior varsity and varsity).

#### SEC. 5) WORKING CLASSIFICATION OF LICENSED OFFICIALS- (INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR)

- a) Officials licensed by the KHSAA are independent contractors. Officials licensed by the KHSAA are not employees of the KHSAA or a member school when serving as an official and have no insurance, tax withholdings or other benefits consistent with employment.
- b) The KHSAA automatically submits the proper membership fee to the National Federation Officials Association (NFOA) for membership in that organization from the license fee as requested by the official or applicant during the application process.
- c) Each official shall sign authorization to join a local association in specific sports, and to honor any game contracts where the assignment has been accepted.

#### SEC. 6) REQUIREMENT FOR LICENSING BY OFFICIALS

- a) Any person who officiates contests for grade 9-12 competition (freshmen, junior varsity and varsity) in baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, soccer, softball, swimming and diving, volleyball and wrestling between member schools of the KHSAA shall be licensed with the KHSAA. This provision shall apply to high school lacrosse (boys or girls) beginning in 2024-25.
- b) Any person who officiates contests for grade 6-8 competition as detailed in 702 KAR 7:065 shall be licensed with the KHSAA.
- c) Any person who officiates in Cross Country or Track & Field (including indoor beginning in 2023-24) in a meet involving more than four (4) schools shall be licensed as a track and field official with the KHSAA. Schools are recommended to use only those officials in cross country and track and field who are licensed in track and field by the KHSAA regardless of the number of teams.
- d) Each official will be issued an identification number through Arbitersports.com and the use of this and memorization of this number will assist the process of any inquiry.

#### SEC. 7) RECRUITMENT OF OFFICIALS

- a) The KHSAA is bound by Federal Court decree as well as by the very nature of its existence to recruit new officials. This has been done by many methods, most at the local level. The Officials Division has adopted the following standard procedures for recruitment of officials:
  - (1) The KHSAA shall ensure that local associations, through the Assigning Secretary, utilize any medium and format possible to recruit new officials;
  - (2) The regional colleges and universities in this state, as well as other institutions of higher learning, are encouraged to offer officiating classes as part of the curriculum. In addition, the KHSAA staff is ready to assist as guest lecturers, clinicians and instructors for these classes;
  - (3) The KHSAA staff and Board of Control are strong advocates of advanced camps to improve the skill of officials and is ready to assist as guest lecturers, clinicians and instructors for these camps, however such camps cannot be used as a required revenue generator for assigning secretaries beyond nominal cost for time and expenses to conduct the activities; and
  - (4) The KHSAA offers a discounted license for full-time college students (12 hours) with verification of a full-time class schedule in an effort to get them involved at an early age.

#### SEC. 8) QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSING

- a) The minimum standards for licensing of all officials shall be:
  - (1) Applicant for licensing to officiate high school age (grades 9-12, freshmen, JV, varsity) competition and competition for students in grades 6-8 shall be a graduate of an accredited high school or be at least eighteen years of age. The Commissioner, with approval of the Board of Control, may authorize a program to allow for the licensing of high school seniors, who may or not be eighteen (18) years of age and who are otherwise in compliance with licensing requirements and agree to be eligible to officiate only contests involving students below grade nine (9);
  - (2) Licensing fee shall accompany application form. The fee shall be returned if applicant does not meet requirements or if the proper amount is not enclosed;
  - (3) Able to physically perform the duties of being a sports official prior to officiating grade nine through twelve competition;
  - (4) Licensed with KHSAA and in good financial standing; and
  - (5) Submit to a Criminal Records and Background check upon request by KHSAA in accordance with adopted policy.
  - (6) The Commissioner may authorize a KHSAA Junior Officials program to license students ages 14-17 as starting officials, eligible to work only middle school games and below, but who shall be ineligible to officiate varsity high school contests.

#### SEC. 9) FEES FOR LICENSING AS AN OFFICIAL

- a) Each official or prospective official desiring a license shall pay a fee. The licensing fees are intended to cover costs of rules publications, postage and shipping, printed forms, membership in the National Federation Officials Association as requested, rules interpretation meetings, fees for Arbitersports.com usage in assigning, and other costs of administering the officials program.
- b) The fee which shall be published each year as part of the adoption of the standard minimum officiating fees, in order to license as an official with specific components as listed below:
  - (1) Administrative Fee - Each official or prospective official shall pay an administrative fee to license with the KHSAA. From this fee, the official will receive the membership dues into the National Federation Officials Association (NFOA) as requested, as well as other relevant news and mailings general to all officials. This administrative fee also helps fund other items designed to promote, recruit and retain licensed officials in all sports including recognition of postseason officials;
  - (2) Per Sport Fee for Each Sport Licensed - Each official or prospective official shall pay a fee for each sport in which he/she desires to license. For example, a person desiring to license in one sport would pay the Administrative Fee and the fee for the sport. If a currently licensed official desires to add a new sport or renew in a previous sport after the deadline, the fee shall be the same as the re-licensing additional sport fee, and process would be as described for all new officials;
  - (3) College, University, or approved High School Mentor Fees - Each full-time student (12 hours) at a college or university (with verification of schedule submitted to the KHSAA) will have the Administrative Fee and the Per Sport Fee reduced;
  - (4) Twenty-Five Year Officials - The fees for officials licensing in a single sport into their 26th year or beyond shall be waived for all sports, but each may be assessed the Administrative Fee. The licensing process shall be completed through the KHSAA prior to the acceptance of any assignments;
  - (5) Late Licensure Fee - Each re-licensing official shall be charged a late fee for failing to license by the published deadline in all sports. A late fine shall not be assessed for a re-licensing official who desires to add a first-time sport or for a new (prospective) official. Officials licensing after more than one year of lapse in licensing are not subject to the late fee; and
  - (6) Late Clinic Fee - A fee may be assessed to officials who fail to verify competition of the rules clinics in specific sports during the no-charge period. This fine shall be waived in a sport for first time licensing officials.

#### SEC. 10) LOCAL OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATIONS

- a) The KHSAA's officiating program for recruiting and retaining officials depends upon the involvement of local officials' associations.
- b) It is the ultimate goal of the KHSAA to have every official as an active and participating member of a local officials' association.
- c) Local associations have many roles, including:
  - (1) The recruitment and encouragement of new officials;
  - (2) Assisting the Assigning Secretary in administering training and rules discussion meetings for officials; and
  - (3) Monitoring the local association to ensure compliance to all KHSAA regulations and standards by member officials
- d) A local officials' association may be sanctioned by the KHSAA upon following the procedure outlined below:
  - (1) The Association is recognized and sanctioned by the Local RPB.
  - (2) There shall only be one such association for each sport within each local RPB and the sanctioning by the Local RPB is subject to annual review;
  - (3) Only duly licensed KHSAA officials are eligible for membership in a sanctioned local officials organization;
  - (4) The local group may adopt its own name and its proposed Constitution and Bylaws. The Bylaws of the local association may not set aside the rules of the KHSAA nor may these documents conflict with the assigned duties of the Commission, Regional Policy Board and Assigning Secretary;
  - (5) A list of the current officers of the local regional organization should be kept on file with the Commission;
  - (6) The local association may not make rules or policies that supersede KHSAA requirements for officials in terms of qualification of varsity roster status or placement in crews or groups or assignment to regular season contests as this is the specific discretion of the Assigning Secretary; and
  - (7) The local association may not make rules or policies that supersede KHSAA requirements for officials in terms of postseason qualification. That is the specific discretion of the Association as all assignments are made by the Commission.

#### SEC. 11) REQUIREMENT FOR CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK AND STANDARDS FOR REVIEW

- a) Beginning with the 2024-25 school year, a background check shall be submitted by each licensed official that has not had an approved background check during their time licensed by the KHSAA prior to being eligible to be assigned contests. The background checks will be done using the database of the Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts, the Kentucky State Police or other comparable firm.
- b) Once completed, the background checks will be reviewed within the following items leading to Licensing being denied any official or prospective official when the results confirm that the person has been:
  - (1) Convicted of a sex crime or criminal offense against a minor as defined in KRS 17.500;
  - (2) Listed as a violent offender as defined in KRS 17.165;
  - (3) Convicted for an unlawful transaction with a minor as set forth in KRS 530.064 or KRS 530.065; or
  - (4) Listed as a convicted felon, including being on probation, who has not had his or her civil rights restored.
- c) Once completed, the background checks will be reviewed within the following items leading to Temporary Suspension of Licensure. The Commission may, upon presentation of competent evidence, suspend the ability of a licensed official to be offered game assignments by local assigning secretaries for the following reasons:
  - (1) Convicted of a sex crime or criminal offense against a minor as defined in KRS 17.500;



- (2) Listed as a violent offender as defined in KRS 17.165;
  - (3) Convicted for an unlawful transaction with a minor as set forth in KRS 530.064 or KRS 530.065; or
  - (4) Listed as a convicted felon, including being on probation, who has not had his or her civil rights restored.
- d) Once completed, the background checks will be reviewed within the following items leading to Temporary Suspension of Licensure. The Commission may, upon presentation of competent evidence, suspend the ability of a licensed official to be offered game assignments by local assigning secretaries for the following reasons:
- (1) Being formally charged, indicted or convicted of a violation of KRS 17.500 (sex crime or criminal offense against a minor), KRS 17.165 (violent offender), KRS 530.064 or KRS 530.065 (unlawful transactions with a minor);
  - (2) Being indicted or convicted of any felony criminal act;
  - (3) Being indicted or convicted of a misdemeanor act involving the use or distribution of mind or body altering drugs, theft or an act involving moral turpitude;
  - (4) Any acts or omissions detrimental to the best interests of the KHSAA and interscholastic athletics, which could include but is not limited to:
    - a. Making derogatory remarks about officials, contestants, coaches or fans;
    - b. Instigating, inciting or being involved in disruptive incidents at contest sites or local association meetings or functions;
    - c. Making derogatory remarks or displaying critical actions or gestures against contest officials;
    - d. Sexual or other unlawful harassment;
    - e. Use of abusive or inappropriate language during the performance of the officials' duties or at any time from arrival at a contest venue to departure;
    - f. Providing unwarranted or derogatory news media releases, interviews or comments;
    - g. Improper or excessive communication with school representatives, media or general public regarding the evaluation or assignment of contest officials;
    - h. Terminating a contest before the normal end of regulation play without trying to secure the assistance of game management and security to rectify the problem; or
    - i. Improper or inappropriate comments using traditional or social media, or conduct unbecoming an official;
  - (5) Using mood altering substances on the date of contest;
  - (6) Being convicted of an offense for which the imposed punishment includes the suspension of driving privileges;
  - (7) Failure to timely (within 24 hours) and properly report the ejection of a player, administrator, coach, or spectator, or any other incident for which reporting is required by the Commission;
  - (8) Requesting or soliciting the opportunity to officiate an interscholastic contest from any coach, league or official thereof in the sports of baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, soccer, softball, wrestling, or volleyball, if those schools are in an area that employs an assigning secretary;
  - (9) Requesting or soliciting the opportunity to officiate a non-varsity interscholastic contest from any coach, league or official thereof in a sport or policy board area that mandates the assignment of that level by an assigning secretary;
  - (10) Failing to properly notify school authorities or assigning secretary when unable to work a contest or failure to properly appear for a contest; or
  - (11) Dishonesty in administration or completion of the Part 1 or Part 2 examination(s) or failure to complete the Part 2 exam if required.

#### SEC. 12) APPEAL RIGHTS

- a) The Commission through the Supervisor of Officials shall notify, in writing, any official or prospective official that their license is being denied or temporarily/permanently suspended.
  - (1) Any official or prospective official suspended or denied licensure may appeal the decision of the Supervisor of Officials to the Commissioner. In support of their appeal, the official or prospective official shall procure and submit a background check from the Department of the Kentucky State Police. The cost of this check shall be borne by the appellant. As a part of any appeal, the following shall be considered:
    - a. If suspension or denial of license is based upon the conviction of a felony, the Commissioner may restore or issue a license if more than five (5) years have passed since the completion of the sentence, parole, or probation that was issued in the matter (provided the offense was not classified as: a sex crime or criminal offense against a minor as defined in KRS 17.500; unlawful transaction with a minor as set forth in KRS 530.064 or KRS 530.065; or a crime that results in the individuals being listed as a violent offender as defined by KRS 17.165);
    - b. If suspension or denial of license is based upon any conviction of: sex crime or criminal offense against a minor as defined in KRS 17.500; unlawful transaction with a minor as set forth in KRS 530.064 or KRS 530.065; or a crime that results in the individuals being listed as a violent offender as defined by KRS 17.165, licensure will not be issued or reinstated unless such offense has been reversed by proper authority having jurisdiction over the matter; and
  - (2) Any official or prospective official may appeal the Commissioner's decision to the Board of Control no earlier than the next regularly scheduled meeting.

#### SEC. 13) LICENSING PROCESS FOR NEW (PROSPECTIVE) OFFICIALS IN ALL SPORTS

- a) An applicant shall complete an application online using the KHSAA designated application through [www.arbitersports.com/](http://www.arbitersports.com/)
- b) The application for a new (prospective) official license shall be received by deadlines as published on the KHSAA website, [www.khsaa.org](http://www.khsaa.org).
- c) All licensing fees shall only apply to that currently open year's officiating record.
- d) All requirements, including completion of the Part 1 Exam (which shall be an open-book exam), shall be completed no later than

the deadlines published on the KHSAA website, [www.khsaa.org](http://www.khsaa.org).

- e) If licensing is canceled due to lack of fulfilling these requirements, the year shall not be credited, no refund shall be issued and the amount paid shall not be carried to a future year and the applicant must start the process anew if desiring to license in the future.
- f) After a properly completed application and fee are received by the KHSAA, prospective applicants shall be mailed access to the electronic copies of the rule books for that sport, and shall receive instructions for the Part 1 Examination.
- g) Licensing is not complete and the applicant is not eligible to officiate grades 6-12 contests until this examination has been completed and a score of at least 70 percent is attained.
- i) The Part 1 exam can be taken twice to obtain the required score, but cannot be repeated once a score of 70 is achieved.
- j) Examinations are processed immediately and posted to the record of the official.
- k) Applicants failing to complete the required testing are not refunded fees and the prospective official will not be given credit for the year of service and would have to start the process anew if desired in a later year.

#### SEC. 14) REQUIREMENTS/DEADLINES FOR RE-LICENSING OFFICIALS IN ALL SPORTS

- a) All currently licensed officials shall be sent re-licensing information electronically when the system opens for the coming year . Included in this information shall be an explanation of any licensing procedure changes, officiating and licensing fees, and the link to the proper application for re-licensing.
- b) Prior to the published deadline of the upcoming licensing year - Licensing and fee payment is required of Previously Licensed Officials for the coming school year.
- c) A final deadline shall be published on the KHSAA website, [www.khsaa.org](http://www.khsaa.org) for receipt of the licensing application and fee as well as any required examinations. Applications received after deadline dates will be not be processed and prospective registrants will be eligible to resume the process when licensing is opened for the subsequent year.
- d) Each completed re-licensing form processed after the published deadline(s) shall be assessed a late fee. It is the official's responsibility to maintain address and contact information online if any has changed as the official will be liable for late fees without waiver.
- e) Access to the electronic copy of the rules books for each re-licensed sport as well as other required publications shall also sent electronically, according to availability and based primarily on the printing and shipping schedule of the National Federation.

#### SEC. 15) METHODS OF FEE PAYMENTS

- a) All payments to license will be made through [www.arbitersports.com/](http://www.arbitersports.com/) and shall be electronic payment.

#### SEC. 16) REQUIREMENT TO JOIN LOCAL OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION

- a) Each licensed official must join a local association to officiate contests for grade 9-12 competition (freshmen, junior varsity and varsity) if one is formed in sport and abide by the rules of that association.
- b) In wrestling, the only recognized association for the purpose of meeting this requirement is the Kentucky Wrestling Officials Association.
- c) Associations are not currently formed in Field Hockey, Swimming and Track and Field (Cross Country), and as such, membership is not required.
- d) An official who is an active member of multiple associations shall prioritize one local association per sport for the purpose of the assignment of postseason competition.

#### SEC. 17) RECIPROcity OF OFFICIALS/MOVEMENT BETWEEN STATES

- a) Officials may desire to officiate in more than one state or may transfer into Kentucky after licensing in another state. If concurrent licensing is desired, it would be necessary to license in each state and fulfill all of the requirements of each state. Many states accept such items as test scores, clinic attendance, etc. from an officials' tenure in a previous state. Kentucky does not honor rules clinic attendance or transfer of licensing levels from other states as those licensing requirements may not be uniform.
- b) The KHSAA shall recognize years of officiating experience in other states while not licensed in Kentucky and Part 1 examination scores of an official transferring into Kentucky after having been licensed as a contest official in another state that conforms to the playing rules of the NFHS.

#### SEC. 18) RENEWAL OF LICENSE AFTER LAPSE

- a) An official who does not re-license at least one year may re-license by completing the necessary forms and submitting the required fees.
- b) Officials shall always maintain credit for prior years of licensing.
- c) An official attempting to license after at least one year without licensing shall not be subject to the late fee.

#### SEC. 19) NFOA MEMBERSHIP AND INSURANCE COVERAGE

- a) A portion of the annual KHSAA administrative licensing fee for each official with the KHSAA shall be submitted to the National Federation for membership in the NFOA per the official's request.
- b) A benefit of membership is the representation of the organization on the rules committees in the various sports, giving officials a voice in those changes. Various awards are given by the NFOA as well as other amenities.
- c) The NFOA membership shall include an annual subscription to the NFHS Network beginning in 2023-24 for officials responding to the appropriate NFHS request.
- d) Those desiring to join the NFOA as indicated on the licensing application have catastrophic medical insurance provided by that organization and not provided directly by the KHSAA.
- e) For questions regarding insurance coverage under the program, please contact the NFHS in Indianapolis or see the program description on the KHSAA website, [www.khsaa.org](http://www.khsaa.org).

SEC. 20) CONFLICT OF INTEREST - GENERAL STATEMENT AND REQUIREMENTS TO AVOID CONFLICT

- a) An official shall not knowingly accept an assignment of a contest if any of the following conditions exist:
  - (1) If there is a KHSAA Officials Association that makes assignments through an assigning secretary and the assignment did not come through any authorized local association assignments procedure;
  - (2) If any official assigned to the contest is not fully licensed with the KHSAA;
  - (3) If the official or the official's spouse is employed by any school fielding a team involved in a contest;
  - (4) If the official is related by blood or marriage to a person (parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, brother, sister, brother-in-law, son-in-law, etc.) affiliated with a team or school involved in a contest;
  - (5) If the official and any person affiliated with a team involved in a contest are former or present teammates, roommates, classmates, business associates or close personal friends; or
  - (6) If the official or the official's spouse attended or worked at either school within the last ten (10) years, or has any other connection which would result in the perception of a potential conflict of interest.
- b) An official may accept assignment of a regular season contest or tournament only by fully informed written consent of the head coaches if any of the following condition exists:
  - (1) If the official has a child in school in one of the involved schools, or a child who graduated from one of the schools within the previous ten (10) years;
  - (2) If the official or the official's spouse is employed by any school fielding a team involved in a contest;
  - (3) If the official is related by blood or marriage to a person (parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, brother, sister, brother-in-law, son-in-law, etc.) affiliated with a team involved in a contest;
  - (4) If the official or any person affiliated with a team involved in a contest are former or present teammates, roommates, classmates, business associates or close personal friends; or
  - (5) If the official or the official's spouse attended or worked at either school within the last ten (10) years.
- c) An official shall advise the assigning secretary of all known conflicts of interest with schools normally served by the local association prior to any assignments for a season including the appropriate use of self-blocks in the assigning system.
- d) In the event an Assigning Secretary does not know of a conflict in accordance with a) and b) above, an individual official shall notify the assigning secretary of all known conflicts upon receipt of the schedule and the official shall not accept an assignment without first ensuring compliance with the provisions of this section.
- e) In the event a conflict with these provisions becomes known after acceptance of the contest, the official shall make such conflict known to the assigning secretary or assigning authority as soon as practical:
  - (1) If the conflict is under a) above, the official shall be removed from the contest or tournament without penalty; and
  - (2) If the conflict is under b) above, the assigning secretary, in accordance with local association policy, shall inform both coaches of the possible conflict and reassign the official in the absence of consent from both head coaches, without penalty to the official.
- f) It shall be a violation of these provisions for an official to work a contest in violation of these provisions and an official violating these provisions may have the license to officiate suspended for a period of time by the Association.

SEC. 21) ADVANCE CAMPS/CLINICS/TRAINING

- a) In many sports, local associations or other entities including the KHSAA may assist with advanced specialized training efforts for the purpose of allowing officials to voluntarily receive concentrated instructions and training.
- b) Such camps cannot be used as a required revenue generator for assigning secretaries beyond nominal cost for time and expenses to conduct the activities.
- c) Such camps are not required and shall not be construed as a condition of employment by an official.
- d) The sports specific contact within the Association can advise the officials in a specific sport as to the availability, and any relevant advantages for attendance.
- (e) Any advanced camp used as a requirement for consideration for postseason assignment by a licensed official shall produce a financial accounting to the RPB of that region where the requirement is present.

SEC. 22) RULES CLINICS

- a) Each year, the staff conducts or supervises the conducting of rules clinics in KHSAA sports, which deal primarily with rules changes.
- b) The planned clinic dates for the upcoming school year are in various publications and available on the KHSAA website, [www.khsaa.org](http://www.khsaa.org).
- c) These dates may be superseded due to conflicts, and the most current list shall be posted on the KHSAA website, [www.khsaa.org](http://www.khsaa.org).
- d) Clinic attendance may be required for the eligibility for assignment within the Competition Rules of a specific sport.

SEC. 23) PART 2 EXAMINATION

- a) The Part 2 Examination is administered online by the Association in most sports, can only be taken online, and can be taken a maximum of two times.
- b) Officials choosing to take the exam may only do so during the scheduled dates.
- c) The test may not be given in advance or after the testing date.
- d) After this testing window, there will be no other opportunities to take the test.
- e) It is recommended that all active officials take the Part 2 exam each year and within the Competition Rules, such completion may be part of the eligibility for assignment.

SEC. 24) ACCEPTANCE OF ASSIGNMENTS

- a) An official shall make the decision as to whether or not to accept assignments in the time and manner prescribed by the

appropriate Assigning Secretary.

- b) Failure to work an accepted contest, unless providentially prevented from doing so, may be cause for a one-year suspension of licensing in that sport.

#### SEC. 25) PAYMENT OF CONTEST OFFICIALS

- a) All payment for officiating services, if done on site of the contest, shall be in the privacy of dressing facilities.
- b) If payment for services is made onsite, it should not be by members of the coaching staff.
- c) If member schools are in a situation where payment cannot be made at the game site, it shall be made within seven (7) days to the contest official.
- d) If the submission of the social security number by game officials is required prior to payment, the request for this information shall be made to the game officials on approved Board of Education supplied forms, and the handling of this information shall only be by adult school representatives who are employees at the school who shall be liable for the inadvertent release of information.
- e) The KHSAA does not release social security numbers on its contest officials.
- f) Refpay (ArbiterPay), a division of ArbiterSports has been approved and recommended by the Commonwealth of Kentucky Auditor of Public Accounts as a permitted paying agent for contest officials to allow for electronic payment and required document processing.
- g) The use of Refpay (ArbiterPay) allows for the schools to NOT have to handle sensitive information such as the required forms with social security numbers of officials, and also manages required IRS tax information on behalf of the official.

#### SEC. 26) ARBITERSPORTS.COM USAGE

- a) The KHSAA contracts with Arbiter Sports to allow the usage of the website [www.khsaaofficials.org](http://www.khsaaofficials.org) for the licensing of officials and the assignment of all contests.
- b) It shall be a criterion for being a licensed official that the official shall release information from the KHSAA to this company.
- c) All assigning secretaries shall agree to utilize the features of the [www.arbitersports.com/](http://www.arbitersports.com/) system to record scratches and ensure that a scratched official is not assigned.
- d) All assigning secretaries shall utilize the "bill to" features of the [www.arbitersports.com/](http://www.arbitersports.com/) system to ensure proper notification of the fee due to officials and enable the use of the ArbiterPay system.
- e) All assigning secretaries shall utilize the school communication features, including the appropriate team / school name, to ensure notification to all schools.
- f) Each official and prospective official is required to establish a secure login [www.arbitersports.com/](http://www.arbitersports.com/).
- g) The login is done by entering the email address of the official, and a password established by the official.
- h) The KHSAA does not maintain password lists and cannot offer assistance in retrieving passwords. Officials should contact [www.arbitersports.com/](http://www.arbitersports.com/) by email at [success@arbitersports.com](mailto:success@arbitersports.com) or by phone at 1-800-311-4060.
- i) Much of the information needed by officials (test scores, re-licensing forms, clinic attendance registry, detailed address and phone listings for officials, etc.) is only available through this site.
- j) It is each official's responsibility to keep information updated on the [www.arbitersports.com/](http://www.arbitersports.com/) website. There will be no waiver of any late fees or obligations of an official due to email, mail or parcels not arriving due to incorrect address information (electronic or regular mail).
- k) The KHSAA shall maintain and archival list of past licensing records of officials after 1990-91 and prior to the 2023-24 school year in case needed by officials.

#### SEC. 27) OFFICIALS FAIL TO ARRIVE

- a) In the event a contracted official fails to arrive for a scheduled contest, the Assigning Secretary may have those officials who are present:
  - (1) Officiate the contest with less than the usual number of officials. However, the crew size shall be compliant with NFHS playing rules. (For example, a nonvarsity football game shall have not less than 3 officials as that is the minimum acceptable crew size). In this case, the contest official(s) who officiate the contest are entitled only to the compensation for themselves, no additional fee is due;
  - (2) Replace the absent official with a properly and currently licensed local official; or
  - (3) Cooperate with the involved teams to postpone/reschedule the contest.
  - (4) The minimum crew / officials shall be established in the Competition Rules to adapt to any shortage or surplus of available officials.

#### SEC. 28) FACILITY/GROUNDS FIT TO PLAY

- a) The Referee (Lead Official/Crew Chief) is to judge, in accordance with the sport's playing rules, as to whether or not the contest site is fit for play. He or she has the authority to cancel a contest due to unfit grounds/facilities, within the scope of those playing rules, or direct corrective action be taken prior to the event.
- b) If contests are canceled for this reason, the Association shall be notified by the official through the submission of an online incident report.

#### SEC. 29) CANCELLATION OR POSTPONEMENT OF CONTESTS

- a) It is the duty of the home school to properly notify the contest officials in case of cancellation or postponement of the athletic contest.
- b) If a contest is canceled and the officials were notified prior to departure, there is no financial liability on the part of the school.
- c) If a contest is canceled prior to the officials leaving home and the officials are not notified, the home school is responsible for the payment of a full game fee plus the local policy board travel allowance.

- d) If a contest is canceled due to circumstances that occur after the officials have left home but prior to the start of the contest, the home school is responsible for the payment of the local policy board travel allowance fee to the crew of officials, plus a fee of 1/5 of the KHSAA established contest fee to each official.
- e) If a contest is postponed after the start of the contest due to inclement weather, the officials originally assigned to the contest shall make every effort to be available for the completion date to fulfill the contract. The member schools shall not be liable for an additional contest fee for the officials to work the re-scheduled contest, but shall be liable for an additional travel expense (mileage) fee. Each local officials' association is to implement a policy for the remuneration of officials working a re-scheduled contest who were not originally assigned to the contest.

#### SEC. 30) IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENT

- a) It is important that prior to each contest, the Assigning Secretary and member schools verify that officials are licensed by the KHSAA.
- b) The official's responsibility in this situation is to be currently listed in the verification listings online.
- c) Under no condition shall an Assigning Secretary assign an official who is not properly licensed by the KHSAA to a middle school, freshmen, junior varsity or varsity high school athletic contest.
- d) It is the responsibility of the member school to confirm that each official is licensed and verification can be done via the KHSAA website, [www.khsaa.org](http://www.khsaa.org).

#### SEC. 31) DISQUALIFICATIONS - REPORTS (ONLINE ONLY)

- a) It is the responsibility of the ejecting contest official to report immediately (within 24 hours) in writing any unsportsmanlike conduct or other action on the part of the coaches, players, school administrators, spectators or any other type of incident that results in the ejection of a coach, player, administrator, or spectator from a contest.
- b) Instructions for submitting the report of disqualification will be provided through the [www.arbitersports.com/](http://www.arbitersports.com/) site.
- c) For the ejection of a player or coach, the official must report the name and school of the offender with the report, and will be penalized for failure to properly complete this important administrative step.
- d) Officials reporting disqualifications should keep the reports direct and to the point, reporting the facts as they occurred. Officials are to refrain from opinions and editorial comments about prospective penalties.
- e) Incidents such as the ejection of a nonplayer or other individual shall be reported to the KHSAA within twenty-four (24) hours using the online incident report.
- f) It is also the duty of each official to report any unusual incident which may or may not have led to unsportsmanlike ejection, but of which the knowledge is critical to the KHSAA in administering the sports program.

#### SEC. 32) PROVIDENCE

Officials are to take action according to the playing rules in cases of "Acts of God" or Providence.

#### SEC. 33) KHSAA PUBLICATIONS/SUPPLIES

- a) Each official is entitled to the electronic rule book for each sport in which they are currently licensed.
- b) If a separate Case Book is printed for a sport, it may be provided to each official at the discretion of the Commission.
- c) Additional materials for each sport, at the discretion of the Commission, may also be distributed.
- d) Additional copies of sports specific publications are available for purchase from the NFHS and Referee Enterprises via links on the KHSAA [Central Hub](#).

#### SEC. 34) SOCIAL MEDIA, OFFICIATING AND ELECTRONIC CODE OF ETHICS

- a) With the increased use of social networking through the internet and via mobile phone and devices, it is important for officials to understand the importance of maintaining an ethical approach while participating in various forums, chat rooms, and all forms of social media.
- b) Violations of this policy will be considered conduct "unbecoming" an official and subject a licensed official to licensure suspension.
- c) To malign or openly criticize another official in any form of electronic communication is considered not only unprofessional, but also undermines sports officiating in general.
- d) It is also unprofessional for officials to offer rules clarifications or interpretations through this medium without the expressed directive from the appropriate state high school association.
- e) Licensed officials have to be very careful with the use of social media. In many cases, closed discussion and understanding is important to consistency and rules enforcement. The line is crossed when an official states, "The call should have been", or "The rule should have been interpreted as", for those are statements that should only be made by those officially designated by the NFHS or state offices to make such interpretations. Internal discussion is likely a very good thing if the audience can be securely limited. A moderator or discussion leader can then say "we have had enough debate, we will get a clarification and post it online when we get it." That's the advantage of closed forums.
- f) Social networking sites can be wonderful communications tools. But there can be unintended consequences if they are used improperly. Because of their unique standing, officials need to be particularly careful when using those sites. Here are some reminders and guidelines:
  - (1) Consider social media communications as public at all times, even if created with private intentions.
  - (2) If you are going to use social media in any form, consider your communication may be read by anyone at anytime.
  - (3) Be aware that posts on social media are visible to the general public.
  - (4) Even if you limit access of your page to friends, it is likely that your post will be viewed by someone beyond the circle of people you intended to see it.
  - (5) Remember that you represent the officiating industry, your associations, your assigners and your partners. Act accordingly.

- (6) Promote officiating in a positive light and with a general feeling of pride and professionalism. You are an ambassador for officiating.
  - (7) You have a unique access to information. The same ethical restrictions that apply to any form of public speech also apply to social media.
  - (8) It is inappropriate to communicate specifics about your assignments, other officials, conferences/schools, coaches, players or any related personnel.
  - (9) Do not engage in specific play and or ruling evaluation/commentary, whether it be of a game you worked, one that you witnessed or in general about the impact of officials in any sporting event.
  - (10) Communications among officials for learning purposes should be done privately and not through the use of social media.
  - (11) Be mindful that email and other forms of direct communication can be made public.
  - (12) Be very sparing in the sharing of your personal information, including photos.
  - (13) Report fake profiles or posts to the appropriate authorities/governing bodies in a timely fashion.
  - (14) Follow specific conference, school and/or governing body social media policies.
  - (15) Find out and follow your association or chapter expectations regarding social media including state policies.
  - (16) Your association may not have hard and fast rules, but find out if it has an unofficial policy.
  - (17) Think twice before you post. If there is anything in your post that could be construed as a criticism of officials, of officials' decisions, or of schools, coaches or athletes...it's better left unsent.
  - (18) Assume that your post will be seen by the two teams you will see in your next game and the teams you worked in your previous game as well as your partner(s) in those games.
  - (19) Do not post anything relating to the schools you have worked or will work. It calls your objectivity into question.
  - (20) Do not include anything in a post that makes reference to an upcoming assignment. If teams want to find out who is going to be working their game, they should do so through official channels, not your tweet.
  - (21) Do not post details about other people's assignments, to playoff games for instance, until that information has been officially released. Don't use your page as a news service.
  - (22) Do not use social media to criticize state or local association policies, assigning practices, etc. as there are better and more appropriate ways to express those concerns.
  - (23) Do not make posts regarding calls made by officials in other games, whatever the level.
  - (24) You and your friends might debate the call you saw on TV, but debating the call on Facebook, Twitter or other forums and social media is a no-no.
  - (25) Accountability and integrity should always be our guiding principles.
  - (26) Jeopardizing your impartiality or professionalism should never be a part of your actions or posts.
  - g) It is also important for sports officials to realize that it is considered very unprofessional to carry a cell phone on the field or court, regardless of the reason.
  - h) Officials are encouraged to refrain from the use of any type of electronic devices for any communication while the official has NFHS rule book jurisdiction, including texting or other forms of messaging or communication except in the case of an emergency.
- SEC. 35) OFFICIALS UNIFORM COMPLIANCE
- a) Licensed officials are occasionally requested to support various charitable causes or recognition of events by making changes to the required official's uniform.
  - b) These requests usually entail officials being asked to wear a variety of colored uniform items, such as whistles, beanbags, flags, hats, wristbands, lanyards, etc.
  - c) These requests may also include the adding of special cause-related patches or other insignia to the uniform for special events.
  - d) While many of these causes are highly worthy, officials must find ways to support those causes other than by granting these requests to wear these non-standard uniform items.
  - e) Please be reminded that all KHSAA licensed officials should wear the standard uniform with no variation of colors, patches, or other changes in all sports without exception.

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## **BOARD OF CONTROL ADOPTED POLICIES STATEMENTS**

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Many decisions are made that are only recorded in the minutes of the Board of Control meetings although they establish precedent to guide the Commissioner in execution of the duties of that office. The Board of Control has also made several position statements to clarify the official stance of the Association on a specific matter, and how those provisions are to be applied including which awards shall be officially sponsored by the Association.

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### **POLICY STATEMENT- PARTICIPATION IN BOYS AND GIRLS BASKETBALL AND TEAM SPONSORSHIP**

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Any secondary school which maintains a basketball team for boys for other than intramural purposes, shall maintain the same program for girls. (KRS 157.350 (5))

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### **POLICY STATEMENT- APPLICABILITY OF REGULATIONS TO NINTH GRADE STUDENTS**

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Student eligibility rules apply to all students enrolled in grades nine through twelve no matter where enrolled (in the event of being enrolled at a feeder school under the same Board of Education). (November 1983 meeting)

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### **POLICY STATEMENT- ANONYMOUS CALLS AND LETTERS**

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Bylaw 26 requires all material submitted regarding the KHSAA for protests and reporting of violations to be in writing. If those reports are anonymous, the letters shall be forwarded by the Commissioner's office to the school administrator of the school in question, with no further action taken by the KHSAA unless that administrator reports a violation or further substantiated and signed information is received.

Anonymous callers shall be informed that the KHSAA staff has no authority to act on anonymous calls.

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### **POLICY STATEMENT -ACCEPTING CALLS FROM MEMBER SCHOOLS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

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The KHSAA staff prioritizes calls from the member school representatives.

The KHSAA staff receives hundreds of phone calls and electronic mail messages each week from member schools.

Because the KHSAA exists to serve the member schools, responding to their inquiries is the top priority. The large volume of calls from parents and students has dramatically affected our ability to serve the member schools.

School administrators shall remain the first and preferred contact resource for parents and students. The KHSAA shall refer calls from parents or students to the appropriate school personnel, and ask that the administrator contact the KHSAA if there is a need for a specific answer or rules clarification.

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### **POLICY STATEMENT -EMAIL/PHONE CALLS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND PARENTS**

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As of July 1, 2006 the KHSAA Executive Staff, as authorized by its Board of Control, is no longer required to accept calls from parents and students about eligibility and other KHSAA regulations. The KHSAA staff must prioritize responses to the member schools as it tries to balance an effective workload.

Reason For the Statement – The KHSAA needs your help in addressing a serious problem. The KHSAA staff receives hundreds of telephone calls and emails every week from our member schools. Because the KHSAA exists to serve those member schools, responding to their inquiries must be the top priority. The large volume of calls and emails from parents and students has dramatically affected our ability to serve our member schools.

Solution For Parents and Students – School principals or athletic administrators have always been the first and preferred contact resource for parents and students. This policy statement reinforces school personnel as the source to whom parents and students must direct their questions. As always, if a school administrator needs assistance in answering a question, they should contact a KHSAA administrator for a "final answer" and then pass it along to the parent or student.

The KHSAA understands that parent and student questions are important. We thank you for your understanding and for supporting our commitment to high quality service directly to our member schools, and through schools, to parents and students. This approach will ultimately be best for everyone involved.

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### **POLICY STATEMENT- SCHOOL NICKNAMES**

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(Adopted by Kentucky Board of Education, 2007)

The Board of Control has no prohibition on specific nicknames or mascots, but has adopted the Kentucky Board of Education resolution stating a formal position as approved February 8, 2007.

WHEREAS, the Kentucky Board of Education believes in the worth and dignity of all peoples,

WHEREAS, schools and school districts should set an example and provide leadership in their communicates in supporting and furthering human rights,

WHEREAS, schools should be places where all students feel welcomed,

WHEREAS, mascots, nicknames and other school symbols should represent the highest ideals of human dignity and help all students feel welcome and included in the life of the school,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Kentucky Board of Education urges all schools to review the appropriateness of their symbols and mascots and recommends that all schools and school districts abandon the use of symbols and mascots that are offensive to any group of people.

REAFFIRMED AT THE KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, in the city of Frankfort, this eighth day of February, in the year Two Thousand and Seven.  
Keith Travis, Chair, Kentucky Board of Education  
Kevin M. Noland, Interim Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Education (Feb. 8, 2007)

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### **POLICY STATEMENT- COACHING EDUCATION COURSE**

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The NFHS online Coaching Education course shall be the unit of study approved for Bylaw 25 compliance. The KHSAA will recognize and give credit for the Coaching Education requirement to those individuals holding credentials issued through the American sports Education Coaching Principles Course prior to the adoption of the NFHS online course, and to those who seek a coaching position with these credentials already completed. The KHSAA will recognize and give credit for the Coaching Education requirement to those individuals holding credentials issued using the blended version of the NFHS Course (part in-person, part online).

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### **POLICY STATEMENT- CERTIFIED/ LICENSED TRAINERS AT PRACTICES/ CONTESTS**

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The Kentucky High School Athletic Association has long recommended and continues to recommend, that medical coverage be present at all athletic practices and contests. Because of the unique skill set of Certified/Licensed Athletic Trainers it is recommended that one of these individuals be present at all practices and contests. It is also strongly recommended that the member schools utilize only Certified/Licensed Trainers per the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure, and not members of any other vocation making this claim but without this legal designation. While acknowledging the expense of provided a certified/licensed trainer, it is nonetheless noted that this shall be an integral part of your athletic planning process.

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### **POLICY STATEMENT- SECURITY PRACTICES FOR CONTESTS**

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While many schools have measures in place regarding safety and security at athletic contests, all members are reminded of the importance of this area. The National Federation and the Kentucky High School Athletic Association have made a strong effort in reminding all state associations and member schools of the importance of member schools understanding the necessity for adequate security. Crowd control has become a major emphasis across the nation and though many schools have provisions in place, it is important to take every precaution to protect the athletes, fans and general public at contests. While acknowledging the expense of security, it is noted that this shall be an integral part of your athletic planning process.

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### **POLICY STATEMENT- ETHNIC AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY & SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

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The KHSAA recognizes the cultural diversity of its member school athletes, coaches, fans and spectators. The Board of Control encourages each of its member schools to educate its participants and all parties involved in the sports program as to the need for a united approach to solving problems. Prejudice or discrimination within the athletic program on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, age, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or United States military service cannot be tolerated.

The KHSAA encourages each of its schools to unite in this effort.

The KHSAA has no tolerance for sexual harassment or discrimination based on race, color, religion, ancestry, age, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or United States military service. If those acts are discovered during the course of normal operations, all information shall be forwarded to the appropriate authorities.

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### **POLICY STATEMENT- RECOMMENDED CODE OF ETHICS FOR COACHING PERSONNEL**

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#### **SEC. 1) BACKGROUND**

The function of a coach is to educate students through participation in interscholastic competition. An interscholastic program should be designed to enhance academic achievement and should never interfere with opportunities for academic success. Accordingly, the following recommended guidelines for head and assistant coaches, whether or not they are paid, have been adopted for the voluntary use by member schools and districts:

- a) The coach shall treat each student with the utmost respect, and his or her welfare should be considered in decisions by the coach at all times.
- b) The coach shall be aware that he or she has a tremendous influence, for either good or ill, on the education of the student and, thus, shall never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character.
- c) The coach shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession. In all personal contact with students, officials, athletic directors, school administrators, contest officials, other coaches, the state high school athletic association, the media, and the public, the coach shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct.
- d) The coach shall take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse.
- e) The coach shall avoid the use of alcohol and tobacco products when in contact with players.
- f) The coach shall promote the entire interscholastic program, being cognizant of multi-sport athletes and those involved in other school activities and direct his or her program in harmony with the total school program.
- g) The coach shall master the contest rules and shall teach them to his or her team members. The coach shall not seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules.
- h) The coach shall exert his or her influence to enhance sportsmanship by spectators, both directly and by working closely with cheerleaders, pep club sponsors, booster clubs, opposing team members and coaches and administrators and contest officials.
- i) The coach shall respect and support contest officials. The coach shall not indulge in conduct which would incite players or



spectators against the officials. Public criticism, including through the traditional media or through the use of social media of officials or players is unethical and not permitted.

- j) The coach shall use social media in accordance with any adopted district policy.
- k) The coach shall not exert pressure on faculty members to give student-athletes special consideration or exert pressure on athletic or school administrators to cause undue delay in providing records of student-athletes no longer at the school.
- l) The coach shall not scout opponents by any means other than those adopted by the Association and shall adhere to the restrictions of Bylaw 15 (Sportsmanship) related to use of illegal equipment.
- m) The coach shall adhere to all KHSAA Bylaws, including policies and procedures. The coach shall be aware of and adhere to the restrictions of Bylaws 6, 7 and 8 wherein the coach's actions shall not create an athletic advantage for a transferring student (including students transferring after participating with a coach in outside competition) and Bylaw 16, Recruitment (Undue Influence) and restrictions on impermissible contacts and impermissible benefits.
- n) The coach shall be current in all coaching qualifications adopted by the Association as well as certifications required.

DRAFT