

KHSAA District/Regional Tournament Format Proposal

Rationale: By changing the format of the present district and regional tournaments to a more balanced, competitive, efficient, and financially rewarding system, the sport of basketball can progressively move forward creating more fan interest at the local level.

Positives

- Recreating local rivalries that would manifest into increased attendance and popularity of the sport at the grassroots level where the game first developed.
- Travel expenses would be decreased by the forced seeding at the district level.
- The pressure on the small districts that are no longer able to generate the interest and finances at the local level would be alleviated.
- The larger districts allow for better marketing potential, thus attracting potential corporate sponsorships.
- Two districts per region would offer better access to top rated officials.
- A sense of urgency created by more competitive district tournaments would carry over through the entire tournament structure.

District Tournament Format

- There would be two districts per region.
- The districts would be seeded requiring regular season home/home play.
- The district champions receive an automatic first round bye in regional play, making the district championship more meaningful.
- The district runners-up will retain a spot in the regionals.
- The district semi-final losers would play a preliminary to the district championship game as a regional "play in" game.
- Three teams per district advance to the regionals.
- Districts could act as conferences during the regular season creating more competition.

Regional Tournament Format

- Each regional tournament will have six teams.
- The regionals will require three days of play.
- The district runners-up and play in winners will compete in the first round.
- The district winners and the regional first round winners will play in the semi-finals.
- The regional winners advance to the Sweet 16.