

Commissioner Julian Tackett

**Topic**

Sports Report

**Sports Report**

**Sport**

Winter Basketball

**Positive Developments  
and Highlights**

This report will focus on solely the post season in basketball

**Issues of Concern  
(legal, playing Rules,  
fiscal management,  
etc.)**

The Association needs to continue to educate the membership on the submission of site selection and seeding criteria plans. With recent changes in the rules surrounding tiebreakers (changed in 2020-21 and remaining in place) as well as the massive turnover in Athletic Directors, many plans are outdated and need revision. This will be a focus in the offseason communication.

Simply put, these are issues around local decision making, and too many times the office administrators are put in the position of interpreting provisions that were made and decided by administrators no longer around. Focus will be on continued clarity so that little to no interpretation is necessary.

**Championship  
Update/Review**

The boys and girls basketball tournaments represent two of the three largest sources of gross revenue for the association. While costs continue to rise, it seems well worth the price to be able to provide this venue for the championships. It would be the staff's objective to use the absolute finest venues for all events, but we have to recognize there are some cases where Universities, etc. have conflicts with their own team schedules during our adopted season.

The boys tournament was slightly below the budgeted amount in terms of gross receipts, and certainly was not helped by the fact that 10 of the 16 teams began spring break the weekend of the tournament. In addition, due to the facility conflict at Rupp Arena and the necessary move to a later week, the tournament conflicted with the NCAA Region weekend. This conflict many years ago is why the tournament was moved to its normal week to avoid just such conflict. But this is a one-year conflict.

The girls tournament was slightly over budget in terms of gross receipts and both tournaments were a logistical success.

Obviously both of these events, over time, do better when "newer" teams make the field and the community excitement is higher. Several schools in both tournaments demonstrated this fact once again.

**Fiscal and Budget  
Issues and Review  
(attendance, etc.)**

Detailed above

Ticketing will be much easier next season as the renovation and necessary displacement of some patrons for the 2025 tournament will be settled in for a few years and no changes are anticipated for the next few seasons.

This will allow the association to return to an earlier time frame

for renewal sales, which is vital to overall success. The sooner that period can be completed, the better known the availability of seats becomes for new patrons, leading to stronger sales in both events.