

**Full Board of Control
February 19, 2026 8:00 AM
KHSAA Offices
Lexington, KY**

Convene Board of Control, 8:00 AM

Present Board Members:

Greg Howard, Russell Thompson, Matt Wilhoite, Jim Demler, Damon Kelley, Gavin Washington, Brian Courtney, Michael Phillips, David Zuberer, Randy McCallon, Claudette Herald, Brandy Carver, Mandi Hudson, Noel Crum, Chuck Mullins, Donna Moir, Jeremy Roach, Terry Yeast.

KHSAA Staff:

Julian Tackett, Butch Cope, Darren Bilberry, Joe Angolia, Sarah Bridenbaugh, Rob Catron, Chad Collins, Jenny Elder, Kara Howard, Abby Jackson, Brian Milam, Jeanie Molloy.

Others Present:

David Couch KDE/KBE
DT Wells, Scott County District Athletic Director
Christy Otten, Gallatin County High School
Matt McGowan, Cornerstone Christian Academy
Kyle Helton, Trimble County High School
Joe Ritchie, South Oldham High School
Paul Holien, Oldham County High School
Kate Tucker, Collins High School
Jim McKee, Scott County High School

Attachments can be found at the following link:

<https://portal.ksba.org/public/Agency.aspx?PublicAgencyID=4374&AgencyTypeID=1&BeginDate=07-01-2025&EndDate=06-30-2026>

Legal Session for Update on Specific Items

Commissioner and General Counsel desire Board to go into Closed Session per KRS 61.810 (c) to review legal matters.

Motion Passed: Motion to go into closed session per KRS 61.810(c) and then subsequent motion to leave closed session and return to open session will be required passed with a motion by Jim Demler and a second by Gavin Washington.

17 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Absent, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Motion Passed: Moved to come out of closed session passed with a motion by Randy McCallon and a second by Jeremy Roach.

17 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Absent, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

No Action was taken in the closed session.

Public Comment Session:

As the KHSAA is subject by regulation to the Kentucky Open Meetings Act, an opportunity was afforded to anyone who attended the board meeting to make public comment.

Items Presented Regarding Meade County Correspondence on Region Move

An item was submitted by Meade County High School and the Meade County Public Schools to change regions in the alignment was presented. No action was taken at this meeting and the school has been advised that it would be presented in writing as part of the public comment session with appropriate review during the 2026-27 Board year.

Items Presented Regarding Fort Knox Correspondence on Region Move

An item was submitted by Fort Knox Junior/Senior High School to change regions in the alignment was presented. No action was taken at this meeting and the school was advised that it would be presented in writing as part of the public comment session with appropriate review during the 2026-27 Board year.

Items Presented Regarding Floyd County Correspondence on Region Move of Another School

An item was submitted by the Floyd County Public Schools to change regions in the alignment was presented. No action was taken at this meeting and the school was advised that it would be presented in writing as part of the public comment session. This information was shared with all potentially impacted schools with appropriate review during the 2026-27 Board year.

No other public comments were heard.

Cornerstone Christian Appeal - Region 8 Placement

Comments related to Agenda Item 29th Region alignment (Cornerstone Christian Move); Athletic Director Matt McGowan was present and voiced opposition to moving Cornerstone Christian from the 30th to the 29th District. Cornerstone had formally requested an appeal of its placement into District 29. The Board then discussed and considered the request from Cornerstone Christian.

Motion Passed: That the Board suspend the action taken in January, thereby making no change for 2026-27 and continue to review matters for future consideration passed with a motion by Noel Crum and a second by Greg Howard

16 Yeas - 1 Nays - 1 Abstained

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Abstain, David Zuberer-Yes,

Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-No, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Adjourn to Work Session

Re-convene Full Board of Control Meeting

Pledge-Russell Thompson

Reflection-David Zuberer

Success Through Unrequired Work. Mr. Zuberer delivered a reflective speech to the board, emphasizing the importance of "unrequired work" and hard effort as key factors for success, referencing Kevin Eastman's book. He encouraged the board to continue their positive work and collaboration, highlighting the group's excellence and the importance of addressing issues promptly. Mr. Zuberer expressed his pleasure in working with the board.

Items Referred from Work Session

Operations Reports

A series of reports to inform the Board of Control were conducted and, in the end, a summary motion to accept the reports into the record.

- Sports and Sport-Activities Reports from Staff
- Non-Championship Reports from Staff
- Arbiter Sports and Technology Update
Staff members provided updates on changes and enhancements to the KHSAA360 in conjunction with Arbiter Sports.

Reminders Regarding 702 KAR 7:065 and Evaluation Participation

Annually the general counsel for the Board of Control facilitates the required evaluation of the Commissioner in conjunction with the Board of Control members as specified in regulation. After the evaluation is completed, the Board approves a subgroup of the members meet and review the items. The evaluation uses standards-based criteria and allows the governing body to annually establish goals and objectives for its commissioner and perform a self-assessment. The Commissioner is under contract with the Board of Control as approved in the spring of 2024 to expire with the 2027-2028 school unless extended by mutual agreement.

Motion Passed: Accept the Operations Reports as submitted and direct any necessary action passed with a motion by Terry Yeast and a second by Gavin Washington.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Officials Division Report

- Officials Licensing Comparison and Arbiter Sports Update

- As of February 18, 2026, officials' registration for high school sports showed a slight increase for baseball, field hockey, softball, outdoor track, and wrestling, while registration numbers for all other sports appeared to have declined in comparison of the previous year.
- Disqualification Report and Comparison
 - Based on reports as of February 18, 2026, disqualifications for players are most frequent in football (263), soccer (130), and basketball (50). During this period, the total number of disqualifications for coaches in these same sports is 41.

Motion Passed: Accept the Officials Division Reports as submitted and direct any necessary action passed with a motion by Michael Phillips and a second by David Zuberer.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Regulatory Reports

- Status of Regulation Promulgation
- Status of Legislative Discussions
 - Commissioner and General Counsel, submitted status reports on several active legislative items:
 - HB 421: Public School Extracurriculars ("Play Fair Kentucky Act")
 - HB 626: Title IX Oversight & Employee Misconduct
 - SB 184: Title IX & Athletics Misconduct Reporting
 - SR 76 (Kentucky): A resolution honoring Frank Riherd, founder of Riherd's Scoreboard, for his contributions to high school athletics.
- Status of 2024-2025 Financial Aid Reports
 - Following a detailed review of 2024-25 school year data, Assistant Commissioner Sarah Bridenbaugh has requested additional information from four member schools. These schools have been contacted and must respond to ensure full compliance with Bylaw 11.
- Transfers and Eligibility Appeals Report
 - Incoming Transfer forms have slowed as of January per the reports
- Board of Control Election Status Report
 - Troy Johnson will replace David Zuberer as his term on the board will conclude with his retirement.

Motion Passed: Accept the Regulatory Reports as submitted and direct any necessary action passed with a motion by Mandi Hudson and a second by Noel Crum.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Finance and Business

- TPG Report
 - TPG Representative Sara Hacker reported they are at 87% of their sponsorship goal for this year. They continue to maintain a meaningful pipeline of active proposals and are working diligently to close the remaining gap.
- Office Donations
 - Through the "Operation Secret Santa" program, our staff donated new clothing and leftover sports equipment to families across the state as part of a staff project.

Main Office Maintenance and Update Report

- Gutter repairs are complete after the snow and ice storm in late January.

Motion Passed: Accept the Finance and Business Operations Reports as submitted and direct any necessary action passed with a motion by Randy McCallon and a second by David Zuberer.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Competition Rules Reports

Swimming Experimental Rule Status

- A brief review of the results and status of the Experimental Swimming and Diving Survey were discussed.
 - To address declining participation, the KHSAA implemented a three-year experiment starting with the 2026 championships, replacing the 11-dive format with a 6-dive sequence at the state level. This change, approved by the NFHS, follows a survey where only 14 of 43 responding schools favored the old format. We will monitor the impact by collecting participation and results data to share with national committees.

Motion Passed: Accept the Competition Rules Reports as submitted and direct any necessary action passed with a motion by Chuck Mullins and a second by Matt Wilhoite.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

General Reports

HOF Selection Status

- A brief report was submitted on the status of the Hall of Fame selection class for 2026. There are 12 inductees and the event is set for Sunday, April 26, 2026 at the Central Bank Center in Lexington. Tickets are on sale online at <https://www.khsaatickets.org/>. An additional Hall of Fame item is to be considered later in the agenda.

Motion Passed: Accept the General Reports as submitted and direct any necessary action passed with a motion by Noel Crum and a second by Claudette Herald.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Items for Review for Possible Action at a Later Meeting

The following items will be moved to the next Board meeting, scheduled in May 2026

- Discussion of Strategic Plan Initiatives and Potential Data to Be Collected
- Opportunity for Classification Discussion
- Discuss District Seeding Procedures
- Opportunity for Potential Revisions in seeding procedures to coincide with the shot clock adoption in 2027-28 will be discussed
- Handbook Issues, Including Bylaws
 - First Reading Discussion of Issues around Bylaw 6, Students Representing Schools Below Grade Nine as well as mid-season transfers

The Commissioner and staff desire a discussion around Bylaw 6 regarding potential restrictions on mid-season transfers. If there is consensus on a path, the board could direct the final wording be drafted and presented at the May meeting.

Motion Passed: Accept the discussion and first reading, and direct the appropriate drafting of a proposal for final consideration. passed with a motion by Russell Thompson and a second by Matt Wilhoite.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Election of 2026-2027 President-Elect

The Board of Control annually elects from its membership, a President-elect to serve the following year, and then transition to the President position in the second year following.

Motion Passed: Approve the election of the next President-Elect, Claudette Herald, passed with a motion by Randy McCallon and a second by Terry Yeast.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Approve Minutes of January Meeting

Motion Passed: Approve the minutes of the January 26th meeting passed with a motion by Terry Yeast and a second by Gavin Washington.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Consideration of Special Induction - Dawahare's/KHSAA Hall of Fame

Since the Dawahare's / KHSAA Hall of Fame was founded, there have been three individuals / families inducted for their contributions to the KHSAA and interscholastic athletes throughout the Commonwealth. In 2004, the Board approved the special induction of the Dawahare family; in 2018, the Board approved the induction of Ted Cook and Ted Cook Tire, and in 2022, Bob Roberts and Roberts Insurance and Investments was selected.

Staff is recommending the induction of a fourth special inductee into the Hall of Fame. This recognition would be for the Riherd Family of South-Central Kentucky. The late Frank B. Riherd was a long-time supporter of the KHSAA as the owner of Riherd's Sports Shop and was the Association's trophy supplier for more than two decades. His daughter Lily and son Frank T. Riherd served the Association with its trophy needs for several years following the senior Mr. Riherd's retirement. Frank T. then collaborated with the Association staff and was the lead engineer and developer of the Riherd's/KHSAA Scoreboard, starting with the 1997-98 school year. Frank T. also served the Association on a daily basis as its web developer, building many internal tools for the daily management of the Association as well as continuing to manage the trophy operations for the KHSAA in conjunction with Riherds.com through the 2023-24 school year. Though his involvement will sunset in the summer of 2026, his legacy will live on through an updated version of the scoreboard project that will bear the family name.

This induction would be for the Riherd family, and the staff requests recognition for the entire family, including Frank B.'s widow Ora, sons Frank T. and Tim, daughters Lily and Nancy, and in honor of Mr. Riherd's late daughter Susan.

Motion Passed: Approve the special recognition of the Riherd family for recognition and induction at the 2026 Dawahare's / KHSAA Hall of Fame, sponsored by Roberts Insurance ceremony on April 26 passed with a motion by Damon Kelley and a second by David Zuberer.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Approve Financial Reports for July to Current

- Several reports were submitted for review by the Board; Balance Sheet, General Ledger, Income Statement and Check Report.
- Approval of this item would approve payments that have been made since the last meeting as well as the current budget status report.

Motion Passed: Accept the reports as presented, approve expenses and approve the budget status until the next meeting can be held in May passed with a motion by Noel Crum and a second by Chuck Mullins.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Placement of Grace James Academy, 2026-2027

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1pSBTBLS-T6bjP7KfkgFKsKmlcliGDnY&ll=38.145840423182065%2C-85.65351403257796&z=12>

Grace James Academy will become eligible for postseason play after the 2026-27 school year. It is recommended that they be placed in District 22, which would balance the number of boys' and girls' teams, in that basketball district, provided each school continues to have a squad.

Motion Passed: Accept the recommendation to place Grace James Academy in District 22 effective with the 2026-2027 school year per map as shown passed with a motion by David Zuberer and a second by Randy McCallon.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Consideration of Site - Baseball State First Round

As was shared with the Board of Control in the Fall, The NCAA Super Region baseball dates normally overlap with the KHSAA State first round baseball dates. Though the association has enjoyed and appreciated a long-standing partnership with the University of Kentucky to host almost all of its spring events on campus, in order to properly and adequately plan for the KHSAA events, we need to know the site further in advance than we would know if we wait until we see the NCAA seedings. Therefore, we have reached agreement with the Lexington Legends to again provide us their ballpark for the state first round. We plan to continue to have our state semifinals and finals at the University of Kentucky, along with the softball tournament.

Motion Passed: Accept the recommendation that the state first round for baseball be set for the Lexington Legends Park for 2026 passed with a motion by Terry Yeast and a second by Chuck Mullins.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Consideration of Revision- Soccer Postseason Calendar

For several years the KHSAA Sports Medicine Committee has been concerned with the early start of fall sports, particularly the two high risk sports of soccer and football. With the opening of

the new stadium and an almost open door for us to hold our championships whenever we desire, the team has hailed the first weekend in November for our championships which is one week later than our normal corresponding dates.

There are a couple of options available to us at this point.

A) One option would be to set our finals and semifinals for that week, and leave the start of the season as is currently planned for 2026. This would essentially give soccer an extra week of play during the regular season or start District play earlier by agreement, but does not address the early August games that had been the concern. If we do that, we could do so in 2027, starting a week later and their season being same length as it is now and effectively over a two-season period, simply move our season one week later.

B) We could go ahead and play that weekend in November, and start the season a week later this year but staff is concerned that a number of schedules are already set for the year and this may impact a great deal of already planned contest in our schools. In many other states, seasons are not set far in advance, however, our schools have grown accustomed to being able to schedule long term.

C) A third option would be to play our games in the current week on the current schedule, and the championship date is available for 2026 but may not be available in future years. By playing that earlier weekend in October, we would face a strong likelihood of being displaced if the professional team happen, to qualify for the postseason.

Motion Passed: That the Board approve option A for implementation and begin the two-year transition of shifting the soccer season to start and end one week later than currently is done passed with a motion by Noel Crum and a second by David Zuberer.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes

Final Timeline for State Tennis Restructuring and Play

State Tennis Timeline Options

- Tennis Regions are currently scheduled for May 4-20
- Lacrosse Semifinals and Finals are May 18-20 for 2026
- State Track & Field is scheduled for May 21-23 for 2026 (a weekend earlier than normal)

	<u>Option A</u>	<u>Option B</u>	<u>Option C</u>
Region	May 1-17 Give teams three weekends for Regions	May 4-20 Start early by mutual agreement	May 4-19 Start early by mutual agreement
Seeding 1st Round at KHSAA	May 18 (Mon.)	May 21 (Thurs.)	May 20 (Wed.)
State 1st Round	May 20-21 (Wed.-Thurs.)	May 26-27 (Tues.-Wed.)	May 22-23 (Fri.-Sat.)

	School conflicts?	Keeps with the "traditional state tennis dates	School conflicts? Graduations? Holiday Weekend
Seeding- Final Round at KHSAA	May 22 (Fri.)	May 28 (Thurs.)	May 24 (Sun.) or 25 (Mon.) Holiday weekend
State Final Round	May 26-29 (Tues.-Fri.)	May 29-30 (Fri.-Sat.), Jun 1-2 (Mon.-Tues.)	May 26-29 (Tues.-Fri.)

Issues:

- What is UK's availability? Including the First-Round event dates?
- All three plans avoid conflicts with the USTA Southern Junior Tournament (June 4-9) in Mobile, Alabama.
- All three plans avoid conflicts with State Baseball and Softball (June 4-6).
- Plans A and C keep both championships in the same week, which will help with travel concerns.
- Play B could conflict with State Track in future years.
- For each first round, we would stress the first date for the competition and the second date for a rain makeup.
- Team Travel Issues for Four Consecutive Days and Nights?

Motion Passed: Pending concurrence from UK as to availability, direct staff to implement option A for the scheduling of the State Tennis Final Rounds of 16 passed with a motion by Claudette Herald and a second by Matt Wilhoite.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Next Steps - Triennial Survey Follow-up

Three potential new sports or sport-activities received enough interest to warrant further consideration for adoption as a KHSAA Championship. Each of these items will be considered separately. None of the items met the requirements to be adopted as full championships, but when the report was submitted in the fall the Board desired additional surveys to be presented to the membership.

It is the commissioner and staff's desire to have these surveys immediately following spring break, so the board could have them for discussion at the May and July meetings.

Follow-up Survey Related to Spring STUNT Competition

STUNT (COPE/BRIDENBAUGH)

- STUNT is a new female sport that incorporates skills derived from cheerleading.
- STUNT is an exciting head-to-head contest between two teams who execute skills-based routines in various categories.
- USA Cheer created STUNT as an opportunity for institutions to meet strict Title IX requirements of a sport.

- There is likely wisdom in more closely monitoring full stunt adoption as a collegiate sport in 2026-27 before adoption as a KHSAA championship.

Motion Passed: Accept the report and approve the distribution of a membership survey with results expected at the May Board Meeting passed with a motion by Gavin Washington and a second by Jim Demler.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Follow-up Survey Related to Fall Pickleball Competition

PICKLEBALL (COPE/ANGOLIA)

- Pickleball is played either as doubles (two players per team) or singles; doubles is most common
- The same size playing area and rules are used for both singles and doubles

Motion Passed: Accept the report and approve the distribution of a membership survey with results expected at the May Board Meeting passed with a motion by Michael Phillips and a second by Chuck Mullins.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Follow-up Survey Related to Girls Flag Football Competition

GIRLS' FLAG FOOTBALL (COPE/TACKETT)

- 7-on-7 format.
- No tackling - players "down" opponents by pulling flags.
- Focuses on speed, agility, strategy and teamwork.
- Can be played on a standard or modified football field (by state adoption);
 - 300' x 120'
 - 360' x 120'
- States report that holding it in the fall helps with officials' availability as a large portion of football officials also officiate baseball and/or softball.
- States report that in some cases where fields are natural grass, field availability in the fall can be challenging.

Motion Passed: Accept the report and approve the distribution of a membership survey with results expected at the May Board Meeting passed with a motion by David Zuberer and a second by Chuck Mullins.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Final Review - Classification Data for Enrollment Based Sports. Consideration of Multiplier or Other Adjustments - Non-Public Schools

State high school athletic associations use a multiplier for non-public school enrollment primarily to address perceived competitive balance concerns.

What Is a Multiplier?

A multiplier artificially increases a non-public school's enrollment number for classification purposes.

Example:

If a private school has 400 students and the multiplier is 1.35, its classification enrollment becomes:

$$400 \times 1.35 = 540$$

Why Associations Adopt Multipliers;

- Open Enrollment vs. Geographic Boundaries
- Public schools generally:
 - Serve a defined attendance zone
 - Cannot select students
 - Are generally limited by district residency rules, but may have flexibility.
- Non-public schools often:
 - Draw from multiple counties
 - Have no attendance boundaries
 - May have admissions standards
- Associations argue that broader geographic reach expands the effective talent pool beyond the raw enrollment number.

Transfer & Mobility Concerns

- Some states believe:
 - Non-public schools can more easily attract students interested in athletics
 - Families may relocate or enroll for athletic reasons
 - Even if recruiting is prohibited, associations may view the structure as inherently different.
- Each state handles this differently — some separate tournaments (in general, if they always have, they continue to do so), some use multipliers, some do nothing

Historical Competitive Outcomes

- In several states, private schools have:
 - Won championships at rates disproportionate to enrollment or level of membership
 - Appeared more frequently in finals
 - When public schools perceive structural imbalance, political and other pressure builds on the association to “do something.”
- The multiplier becomes a politically viable compromise compared to:
 - Separate state tournaments
 - Complete public/private splits
 - Eliminating classification altogether

- The multiplier is not the perfect answer, but represents a step toward equity
- Public-school superintendents and boards often advocate for adjustments, while non-public schools argue that:
 - They do not have district tax bases
 - They operate with fewer students overall
- Multipliers do not always move a school to a higher class

Arguments For the Multiplier

- Supporters say it:
 - Accounts for broader enrollment reach
 - Protects small rural public schools
 - Maintains unified championships
 Reduces dominance by a few high-performing non-public programs
 Arguments Against the Multiplier

- Critics argue it:
 - Penalizes schools solely based on governance structure
 - Assumes competitive advantage without proof
 - Could punish small faith-based schools with no athletic dominance
 - Does not account for sport-by-sport differences

The Core Policy Tension

- The multiplier debate boils down to this question:
 - Is enrollment size alone an adequate measure of competitive equity?
 - If the answer is “no,” associations look for structural or bracketing adjustments

Motion Passed: The Board adopt a multiplier of 1.35 to all schools with Fed-Org code of J1, M1 or R1 to be applied to all sports that are based on classified enrollments passed with a motion by Russell Thompson and a second by Noel Crum.

15 Yeas - 3 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-No Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-No, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-No, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Consider Use of Total Enrollment Population for All Classified Sports

For several months, there's been considerable discussion about taking the football classification back to using all four grades of both genders of enrollment for classification. It is recognized that a couple of schools might need an adjustment for the predominantly male sport of football, if you don't use the overall male enrollment. But, the use of overall enrolment would allow the board to use overall student enrollment for any classification discussion it might be having.

There appears to be a fairly easy remedy to those schools that have an extremely female population. If in fact we were to make an adjustment for those who had more than 60% female student population, it would only impact a couple of schools and would make things much more predictable for both our member schools and public.

The board simply needs to decide if it wants to use all male enrollment or use the overall student enrollment with an adjustment made for those schools that have extremely large female population.

Football Enrollment Data Report

A two-year enrollment report was submitted to the Board for consideration for 2027 and 2028 realignment.

Motion Passed: Accept the report and recommendation that the 2027 and 2028 football alignment be based on male enrollment, with the approved multiplier with Track and Cross-Country alignment based on total student enrollment passed with a motion by Randy McCallon and a second by Mandi Hudson.

18 Yeas - 0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

For the Good of the Order

Motion Passed: Adjourn passed with a motion by David Zuberer and a second by Damon Kelley.

18 Yeas-0 Nays

Greg Howard-Yes, Russell Thompson-Yes, Matt Wilhoite-Yes, Jim Demler-Yes, Damon Kelley-Yes, Gavin Washington-Yes, Brian Courtney-Yes, Michael Phillips-Yes, David Zuberer-Yes, Randy McCallon-Yes, Claudette Herald-Yes, Brandy Carver-Yes, Mandi Hudson-Yes, Noel Crum-Yes, Chuck Mullins-Yes, Donna Moir-Yes, Jeremy Roach-Yes, Terry Yeast-Yes.

Adjourned at 2:09 p.m.

----- Greg Howard, President	----- Date
----- Damon Kelley, President-Elect	----- Date
----- Julian Tackett, Commissioner	----- Date