
POLICY- HIGH SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP AND COMPLIANCE EXPECTATIONS

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:

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 (per Bylaw 1) 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~~third 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~~ the candidacy period is exhausted, the school in candidacy status ~~will not be able to compete against non-member schools located in Kentucky~~ must fully comply with Bylaw 22;
- (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 provided the school meets all requirements within the sports sanctioning policy regarding postseason eligibility to participate; 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;