
POLICY- HIGH SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP AND COMPLIANCE EXPECTATIONS

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 sanctions 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 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 the candidacy period is exhausted, the school 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, shall have:
 - a. fielded a team and participated in a full varsity-level schedule equal to the average number of contests played throughout the state in that sport or sport-activity for a minimum of two seasons;
 - b requested not less than nine months prior to the first legal playing date to be entered into postseason competition; and
 - c. meets all requirements within the sports sanctioning policy regarding postseason eligibility to participate.
 - (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.