

Proposed Athletic District Realignment

Prepared for Superintendents, Athletic Directors, and Principals

Purpose

This proposal recommends a district realignment designed to improve geographic efficiency, competitive balance, and operational sustainability across participating athletic programs.

Current Structure

Currently, district alignment includes one five-team district (Cordia), one four-team district (Buckhorn), and one three-team district (Breathitt, Jackson City, and Wolfe). There is another four team districts as well. This imbalance creates scheduling inconsistencies, increased travel demands, and competitive disparities.

Proposed Realignment

- Move one team from the five-team district 53rd (Cordia) into the current four-team district 54th and remove (Buckhorn) to the 55th.
- Reassign one geographically aligned team from the four-team district (Buckhorn) into the three-team district.

This adjustment will result in four balanced four-team districts.

Also, Cordia going into the 54th, the post season tournament host could be rotated between Perry, Hazard, and Leslie.

Buckhorn going into the 55th, the post season tournament host could be held at Buckhorn, their facility has the parking and could hold two girls games on one night, one boys game each night, or have two boys games and clear the facility. Or we could do the same as the 54th, rotate between hosting at Breathitt and Wolfe.

We want to keep the post season in the district that we are playing in.

Anticipated Benefits

1. Geographic Efficiency

Improved regional alignment will reduce travel time, transportation costs, and missed instructional time.

2. Competitive Balance

Equal district sizes promote consistent scheduling formats and fair postseason structures.

3. Operational Consistency

Balanced districts simplify scheduling coordination and administrative oversight.

4. Enhanced Student-Athlete Experience

Reduced travel and improved competitive balance support student engagement and program sustainability.

5. Baseball pitch count

53rd has more teams, therefore they have an advantage that the 54th, 55th and 56th don't have by having 5 teams in their district. They can rest more pitchers, so by evening out the districts with four 4 teams each, baseball team pitch count evens out.

Implementation

Pending collaborative discussion and formal approval, implementation could begin with the 2027 Athletic season. Coordination among district, policy board, and KHSAA leadership will ensure a smooth transition.

Conclusion

This realignment proposal supports fiscal responsibility, equitable competition, and strategic long-term planning. The recommended adjustment prioritizes student-athletes while promoting balanced and sustainable athletic districts.

Respectfully submitted,

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