
POLICY- ALIGNMENTS AND REALIGNMENTS

SEC. 1) ONGOING ALIGNMENT OF TEAMS

- a) On an ongoing basis, the Commissioner shall ensure that staff maintains a current alignment of teams in each sport with the following review points considered, but which may be altered by the Board of Control in specific instances:
 - (1) If a single school adds a team (or individuals) or deletes a team (or all individuals), the alignment may be revised on an ongoing basis by the Commissioner;
 - a. The Commissioner shall be guided by, but not bound by, the criteria in Sec. 2(b) of this policy.
 - b. Provision 2(e) of Sec. 2 shall be particularly emphasized in these considerations.
 - (2) The Board of Control may, at its own discretion, choose to realign all teams participating in a sport or sport activity, or teams in a specific area, based on input from the Commissioner or submitted by schools desiring to change regions for geographic or travel reasons;
 - (3) A realignment may also be caused by a previously adopted alignment having an expiration of its valid period. This is especially important in the enrollment-based sports (classified sports (currently Cross Country/Track and Field and Football) that are normally aligned for a specific alignment period; however, that can be adjusted as needed with Board of Control approval;
 - (4) Cross Country and Track and Field shall have the same alignment;
 - (5) Football shall be aligned based on the average two-year enrollment in the school and may include other factors at the discretion of the Board of Control, which shall be specified in the Competition Rules, including the year in which the realignment project is completed. The final alignment shall attempt to result in a final product being adopted six (6) to twelve (12) months' notice to the member schools for scheduling purposes;
 - (6) Cross Country/Track and Field shall be aligned within parameters as defined in the Competition Rules; and
 - (7) Specific parameters about each sport alignment shall be contained in the Competition rules for the Sport or Sport Activity.

SEC. 2) REALIGNMENT AFFECTING MULTIPLE TEAMS OR REGIONS

- a) Whenever a sport or sport activity is to be realigned, the Board shall direct the Commissioner to produce the necessary information as to seed discussion by the Board of Control.
- b) The criteria and factors to be used in developing a draft alignment shall adhere to the following steps:
 - (1) Identification as to whether or not enrollment classifications will be used or other means of dividing championships among members with similar characteristics, and if so, what other available factors will be used to apply the Competition Rules provisions.;
 - (2) Plot/Diagram the location of all competing schools;
 - (3) Begin by looking at geographic clusters of schools. Geography (including specific travel route information) is an important criterion for placement in groups (regions, districts, etc.), but is not the sole determinant for placement. In areas with multiple routes and groupings of schools, the Board may choose to defer to local input by the Designated Representatives of the schools when there is a 2/3 majority vote;
 - (4) Travel routes must be reviewed as a potential factor, as well as the identification of the existence of multiple travel routes;
 - (5) The Board may choose not to strictly prioritize geography and travel in the event that a member school would be unnecessarily displaced for a new school without significant KHSAA participation history.

- (6) In the non-classified team sports (baseball, basketball, field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, volleyball), the basketball alignment should be an initial framework, specifically the region boundaries;
- (7) If possible, in the non-classified team sports, the school district boundaries should be an important element, but the level of participation of the schools in the school districts should be a factor;
- (8) The unique factors of each sport, particularly the individual sports, must be reviewed, including available facilities
- (9) The participation and alignment history, both individual and teams, is a factor in consideration, but not the final determinant, and
- (10) In the bracketed team sports of baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, lacrosse, soccer, softball and volleyball, it is a desire, but not a requirement, that the district (or region in the case that districts are not used) contain no fewer than four (4) teams nor more than five (5) teams.
 - a. Geographic considerations may be given to making exceptions to this goal in order to prevent disproportionate travel for those teams involved.
 - b. A 2/3 majority vote of the teams assigned to the district (or desiring to be assigned) may also guide the consideration.
- c) When reviewing alternative suggestions for alignments, the Board shall prioritize the requests from the membership that affect the requesting school over those suggestions that result from suggestions about other schools without affecting the suggesting school.
- d) The following factors are NOT to be considered:
 - (1) Past success or failure, unless a universal factor is approved by the Board of Control during its review;
 - (2) Enrollment (in a non-classified sport);
 - (3) Socio-economic status and student body composition;
 - (4) Type of school (A1, A5, B1, D1, F1, J1, M1, R1); and
 - (5) Specific desires of coaches (input for the Commissioner and the Board must be from administrative level).