



Commissioner's Notes

December 2011



A monthly newsletter from Commissioner Julian Tackett, Kentucky High School Athletic Association, 2280 Executive Drive, Lexington, Kentucky 40505 859-299-5472 ▪ www.khsaa.org

Nothing beats the holiday season in Kentucky. Not only does it mean a well-deserved break and time to spend with family for our school administrators, coaches and student-athletes but it also gives an opportunity for reflection on the year that is nearly complete.

The only way any of us can improve ourselves is through a healthy dose of reflection and self-evaluation. Think about some of the things you accomplished this year. Did it go as well as you hoped? Given the chance to do it again, what would you do differently next time? What went well and what didn't? Did you do all you could this year to become a stronger person and a better role model for your family, your friends and the children entrusted to your care each day? What would you like to do in the year ahead that you did not have a chance to accomplish in 2011?

If you honestly answered any of these questions with regret, the good news is the year is not complete. There are more than two weeks remaining in 2011 and that is more than enough time to form the new habits that will carry with you over to the new year. Set the example. We have seen more than enough questionable judgement in the news this year and it's time for someone - anyone - to stand up and set the example.

Keep this in mind over the holidays when your teams venture to other states or host teams from other states in your own tournaments. Set the example. You are representing not only yourself, but your school, your community and your state. Often this is the only chance you will have to make an impression on those you meet. How do you want people to remember you when they speak of your community? The impression that's left is entirely left up to you. Set the example.

RULES FOR KHSAA CONTEST OPPONENTS, IN STATE AND OUT OF STATE

As events are being scheduled, please note the criteria for out of state teams and tournaments and required sanctions:

• KHSAA MEMBERS VS. IN STATE TEAMS

All regular season games against in-state opponents must be against schools that also belong to the KHSAA. Students from non-member schools in Kentucky may not, under any circumstances, compete against KHSAA member school students in the contests defined within Bylaw 25.

• KHSAA MEMBERS VS. OUT OF STATE TEAMS FROM CONTIGUOUS STATES

All regular season games played against out of state opponents must be played against schools that are members of that state's association in Baseball, Basketball, Softball, Soccer, Football and Volleyball. The KHSAA office can assist in determining the status of those teams.



Though not required by KHSAA sanction paperwork is required for some contests against schools from Missouri, Tennessee and West Virginia.

• KHSAA MEMBERS VS. NON CONTIGUOUS OR OTHERS THAT REQUIRE NFHS SANCTION

KHSAA member schools hosting an event are to complete the online NFHS sanction form and include the processing fee if the contests includes any of the following criteria:

The event involves two or more schools and is cosponsored by or titled in the name of an organization outside the school community (e.g., a university, theme park, athletic shoe/apparel company);

Non-bordering state events if five or more states are involved;
Non-bordering state events if more that eight schools are involved; or

Any event involving two or more schools that involves a team from a foreign country. (The exceptions to this rule are Canada and Mexico).

The sanction process is completed online via the NFHS website. The processing fee scale is: 60 days prior to NFHS office, \$200, 15-59 days prior, \$200 + \$100 late fee, \$300, less than 15 days prior \$200 + \$300 late fee + \$100 no list fee, \$600.

When Kentucky member schools are participating in out-of-state contests, the host school from out-of-state is responsible for completing the sanction form through the applicable state association and the KHSAA member is responsible for ensuring this process is complete.

If you have any questions, please contact Marilyn Mitchell at the KHSAA office (859)299-5472 or email mmitchell@khsaa.org.

NFHS SPIRIT OF SPORT AWARD NOMINATIONS ACCEPTED

The KHSAA is now seeking nominations for the NFHS National Spirit of Sport Award. Eight sectional winners are selected and the overall winner recognized during the NFHS Summer Meeting. Nominations may be sent in the form of a letter detailing the group or individual's involvement in high school, along with details of accomplishments that deem him, her or the group worthy of the National High School Spirit of Sport Award.

Send any nominations to Butch Cope at bcope@khsaa.org. Deadline for nominations is Jan. 15.

KHSAA LOOKING FOR ANTHEM SINGERS

In preparation for the 2012 Houchens Industries/KHSAA Sweet 16® Girls State Basketball Tournament and the PNC/KHSAA Sweet 16® Boys State Basketball Tournament, the KHSAA is seeking students to sing the national anthem before each session.

If you have a student who would be capable of performing in front of a large audience while representing your school, please contact Darren Bilberry or Phyllis Sallee and submit a sample of their previous anthem performance.

SPORT UPDATES

Baseball

The Baseball Advisory Committee meeting will be Thursday, Jan. 19, at 11 a.m. (ET) for those members on the committee. The Baseball Assigning Secretaries will conduct their meeting also on Jan. 19, beginning at 1 p.m. (ET).

Basketball

Please double check your schedules for Title IX compliance and for an accurate game count.

Bowling

Bowling regional alignments will be released soon. We will be working with you to identify regional host schools and bowling centers.

Football

Schools are reminded that the spring practice schedule must be entered online by Dec. 15. There will be no extensions due to coaching turnover or change as the schedule is now to be made as part of the school calendar to avoid spring sports conflicts. To enter dates, go to www.surveymonkey.com/s/2012SpringPractice

Soccer

The Board of Control will vote on the new Soccer Alignment at their next meeting, scheduled for Jan. 25. It will take effect with the 2012 season.

Tennis

The Tennis Advisory Committee meeting has been set for January 26 at 1 p.m. at the KHSAA office in Lexington.

Track

We are hoping to have more wheelchair participants in the track programs across the state this year. Please check the website for information if your school has a participant that might be interested.

Volleyball

This reminder that the Board of Control approved a new Alignment for Volleyball for the 2012-13 season. Schools are reminded to meet and decide seeding and procedure questions prior to the start of the 2012 season. Please make sure you

forward the new rotation and seeding information on to the KHSAA Office as it will then be posted on the KHSAA website. The new alignment may be viewed at <http://www.khsaa.org/volleyball/20122013finalvolleyballalignment.pdf>.

Wrestling

The Skin Condition Form (WR111) has been updated. Please make sure you use the updated version.

2011-12 KHSAA Championship Dates

Feb. 17-18	Wrestling	Alltech Arena at Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington
Feb. 23-25	Pannell Swim Shop/ KHSAA Swimming & Diving	Wright Natatorium, Louisville
March 7-10	Houchens Industries/ KHSAA Girls' Basketball	E.A. Diddle Arena, Bowling Green
March 14-17	PNC/KHSAA Boys' Basketball	Rupp Arena, Lexington
March 23-24	Boys' and Girls' Bowling	Executive Bowl, Louisville
May 17-19	Boys' & Girls' Tennis	Lexington
May 17-19	Boys' & Girls' Track and Field	Owsley Frazier Cardinal Park, Louisville
June 7-9	Rawlings/KHSAA Softball	Jack C. Fisher Park, Owensboro
June 4-9	Kentucky National Insurance/KHSAA Baseball	Whitaker Bank Ballpark, Lexington

Thanks for all of your continued support!

Julian Tackett





NFHS EQUIPMENT, FACILITIES, UNIFORM AND RULES CHANGES

CHANGES EFFECTIVE IN 2011-12

Baseball:

Rule 1-3-2: Effective January 1, 2012 the bat which may be a wood or non-wood product shall be a smooth implement, from the top of the cap to the top of the knob. All non-wood bats shall meet the Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution (BBCOR) performance standard, and such bats shall be labeled with a silk screen or other permanent certification mark.

Boys Lacrosse:

All hollow crosse handles must have their open end covered with a plastic or rubber end cap manufactured for a lacrosse stick.

Girls Gymnastics:

Rule 6-1-3 Note: Vaulting – Beginning July 1, 2012, the landing area shall be a minimum of 18 feet by 8 feet.

Rule 8-1 Note: Balance Beam – Beginning July 1, 2012, the landing area at each end of the beam shall be at least 12 feet long and 8 feet wide. The working area under the beam is 15 feet wide by 15 ½ feet long.

Girls Lacrosse:

The goalkeeper's stick may be 35.5" – 52" in length (previously 35.5" – 48"). The goalkeeper's helmet must include a chin strap which must be fastened.

CHANGES EFFECTIVE 2012-13

Football:

Beginning in 2012 new rules will take effect on football jerseys.

Beginning in 2012, football gloves and hand pads must meet the NOCSAE test standard at the time of manufacture.

Girls Lacrosse:

Rule 2-13: Uniform Requirements- Beginning in 2013, all shirts shall be of a single, solid color.

Ice Hockey:

Rule 3-3-2 and 3-3-3: Goalkeeper Equipment – Leg Pads will be a maximum 11 inches wide and maximum 38 inches long. Blocker glove padding will be a maximum 8 inches wide and maximum 15 inches long. Catching glove will be a maximum 45 inch perimeter and a maximum 18 inch length across. The wrist cuff will be a maximum 4 inches by a maximum 8 inches.

Soccer:

Rule 4-1-1: Shinguards must meet the National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE) specifications. The NOCSAE seal and the appropriate height range of the player shall appear on the shinguard. Beginning with 2012 fall season, the NOCSAE seal and height range shall be permanently marked on the front of the shinguard.

Rule 4-1-1i1: Beginning with the 2012 fall season, all jerseys shall be numbered on the back with a different Arabic number at least 6 inches in height and on the front (jersey or shorts) with the same number which shall be at least 4 inches in height. Numbers shall be of contrasting color to the jersey (or shorts) and clearly visible.

Track and Field:

Rules 7-4-6, 7-5-11 new Note: High Jump/Pole Vault-Effective January 1, 2013, the crossbar shall be circular. Square with beveled edges or triangular crossbars shall no longer be legal for competition.

CHANGES EFFECTIVE 2013 -14

Soccer:

Rule 4-1-1b: Beginning with the 2013 fall season, the home team shall wear solid white jerseys and solid white socks.

THE FOLLOWING SPORTS HAVE NO CHANGES IN THE AREA OF EQUIPMENT, FACILITIES OR UNIFORMS AT THIS TIME:

Boys Gymnastics; Spirit and Wrestling.

THE CHANGES ARE IN SUMMARY FORM. FOR COMPLETE RULES, CONSULT THE RESPECTIVE CURRENT NFHS RULES BOOK.